Political cartoons found among Joe Moakley’s papers provided the inspiration for a fascinating exhibit of original editorial cartoons coinciding with the Democratic National Convention in Boston and the Republican National Convention in New York. “Campaigns, Conventions and Cartoons” showcases the work of America’s very best political cartoonists, including 19 Pulitzer Prize winners.

Among the nationally renowned cartoonists whose work is included are Paul Conrad of the Los Angeles Times (who also made Richard Nixon’s Enemies List), local favorites Jerry Holbert, Paul Szep and Dan Wasserman, as well as Signe Wilson of the Philadelphia Daily News, Charles Barsotti of the New Yorker and Tony Auth of the Philadelphia Inquirer. The exhibit includes 81 cartoons as well as bronze sculptures by Pat Oliphant.

The cartoons are both funny and thought-provoking as they revisit the more ludicrous moments of the Bush-Dukakis, Clinton-Dole and Bush-Carter races, while taking a fresh look at John Kerry and George W. Bush, trickle-down economics, foreign policy and even the Red Sox-Yankees campaigns. The stunning black-and-white and color drawings spanning several decades make one thing clear about politics: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Robert Bedard of RJ Bedard Associates, Washington DC, is the guest curator. The exhibit is sponsored by the John Joseph Moakley Archive and Institute and The Boston Herald.

The exhibit, at Suffolk University Law School’s Adams Gallery, 120 Tremont St., Boston, runs through August 18. The gallery is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Oral History Project Marks 30th Anniversary of Boston Schools Desegregation

The Moakley Archive Oral History Project is turning its attention to desegregation, an important issue in Boston’s recent history, through “Look Back to Understand: Cultural Memories of Boston’s Desegregation Crisis.”

The program is a component of the Boston Schools Desegregation Archives Project, a collaboration among 10 Boston-area archives that have joined forces to preserve documents and collect oral histories about events that still kindle high emotion today.

The archivists embarked on this project in advance of the 30th anniversary of the desegregation ruling. U.S. District Court Judge W. Arthur Garrity, Jr., found, in his landmark ruling on June 21, 1974, that Boston “had knowingly carried out a systematic program of segregation affecting all of the city’s students, teachers and school facilities.” The following fall, students boarded buses that would take them to newly integrated schools.

The John Joseph Moakley Archive will collect oral histories from people who were caught up in the desegregation process, including teachers, administrators, students and parents. This new effort complements
Researchers Use Archive to Probe Fire-Safe Cigarette Issue

John Joseph Moakley was a tireless advocate for creating a federal mandate that would require the tobacco industry to produce "fire-safe" cigarettes, and researchers from Tufts University and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute are poring through documents in the Moakley Archive as part of a research project on the relationship between the tobacco industry and organized labor.

Cigarettes are the leading cause of fatal home fires in the United States, and the congressman became involved in the issue of self-extinguishing cigarettes when a cigarette-caused fire killed seven members of a family residing in his district. He enlisted the help of an influential union in this effort.

In the late ‘70s and early ‘80s the tobacco industry courted the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and other fire service organizations by funding fire prevention education, hoping to use the resulting goodwill to enlist the IAFF in an effort to impede fire-safe cigarette legislation, according to Elizabeth Barbeau, a professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Center for Community-Based Research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

“What the documents we uncovered in the tobacco industry archives revealed was that Congressman Moakley thwarted the industry’s efforts in this regard by enlisting the IAFF as an ally in the fight for fire-safe cigarettes,” said Barbeau, who also is director of the Organized Labor and Tobacco Control Network. “But we didn’t know how Congressman Moakley was able to do this.”

The Moakley Archive documents have filled in all the gaps, according to Graham Kelder, project director of the Organized Labor and Tobacco Control Network and an adjunct professor in Suffolk’s Paralegal Studies Program.

“We now know that Congressman Moakley conducted a brilliant educational campaign to win the support of the IAFF and then used his skills as a parliamentarian to achieve something we’ve rarely seen: a federal law that’s actually bad for the tobacco industry,” he said.

In 1984 and 1990, Congressman Moakley drafted and sponsored two bills that began the process of mandating fire-safe cigarettes. The first set up a committee that found it was technically feasible to produce fire-safe cigarettes. Then the Fire-Safe Cigarette Act of 1990 mandated that the federal government develop a test to determine how "fire-safe" a cigarette was.

Although Congressman Moakley achieved several victories, there is still no federal law requiring tobacco companies to produce self-extinguishing, fire-safe cigarettes.

“Three things about Joe Moakley’s fight for fire-safe cigarettes say volumes about the kind of person he was,” said Kelder. “First, he took on this fight against overwhelming odds because he knew it was the right thing to do. He didn’t want to see more people die needlessly in cigarette-caused fires. Second, he never gave up. He achieved several victories against the tobacco industry and kept chipping away at them bit by bit, year after year. Third, out of respect for Congressman Moakley and as an acknowledgment of the importance of this cause, members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation continue to introduce and fight for fire-safe cigarette legislation.”

“This fight will be won some day, and on that day, the people fighting to enact this legislation will tip their hats to Joe Moakley,” said Kelder. “He didn’t give up, and neither will they.”

The research project is funded by the National Cancer Institute, and its goal is to publish a series of papers on the relationship between the tobacco industry and organized labor.

MOAKLEY LEGACY TOUCHES AUDIENCES STATEWIDE THROUGH TRAVELING EXHIBITS

The Moakley Archive and Institute’s two traveling exhibits are attracting diverse audiences across the commonwealth, ranging from citizens to civic leaders.

The original exhibit, John Joseph Moakley: In Service to His Country, focusing on the late congressman’s personal and political history, will have been shown across Massachusetts by the end of 2004.

The second exhibit, El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador, focuses on El Salvador, the civil war and the conflict’s impact on the Salvadoran people through photos and documents drawn from the Moakley Archive.

El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador is at Roxbury Community College through September 15, 2004. Then it travels to the Bristol County Superior Courthouse in Taunton, where it will be shown from September 15 through November 1, 2004. Congressman Barney Frank will appear at a reception at the courthouse at 10 a.m. September 20, 2004.

Enjoying a visit to the Moakley traveling exhibit in Salem are, from left, Florence Winiarz, Lynne Barrett, Rita Cosgrove, John Jakimezyk, Rita Downing and John Vabner.

Malden Mayor Richard L. Howard and Congressman Edward J. Markey share stories about Joe Moakley as they enjoy the John Joseph Moakley: In Service to His Country exhibit at the Malden Public Library.
MOAKLEY LEGACY COMMITTEE
Suffolk University’s Legacy Committee evaluates the efforts of the Moakley Archive and Institute.
Robert J. Allison, Associate Professor of History
Anne Marie Cammisa, Associate Professor of Government
John Deliso, Associate Dean of Suffolk University Law School
Sandy Matava, Administrative Coordinator, Public Management
Elizabeth McKenzie, Director, John Joseph Moakley Law Library
Joseph McEntire, Professor of Law
Rosemarie E. Sansone, Director, Office of Public Affairs

MOAKLEY ARCHIVE AND INSTITUTE STAFF
Beth Anne Bower, Archivist/Institute Program Director
Julia Collins, Associate Archivist
Steven Kalarites, Program Assistant

Foundation Promotes Public Service at Awards Ceremony
The John Joseph Moakley Charitable Foundation presented its 2004 public service award and educational scholarships at its third annual scholarship awards ceremony at Suffolk University Law School.

Jack Connors, Jr., the founding partner and Chairman of Hill, Holliday, Connors, Cosmopulos, Inc., received this year’s John Joseph Moakley Public Service Award in recognition of his philanthropic efforts. He has used the considerable talent and resources of Hill, Holliday to provide pro bono work for dozens of non-profit and charitable organizations. He also gives freely of his own time, serving on the boards of many local health care, educational and community institutions.

The Foundation also presented 20 educational scholarships, totaling $100,000, to students with a history of public service.

The John Joseph Moakley Charitable Foundation, Inc., was formed in 2001 to continue Moakley’s public service legacy.

Jade Jump, a Suffolk University student working with the Moakley Archive and Institute, is presented her scholarship award by Congressman James P. McGovern.

Suffolk Trustee Jeanne M. Hession, a Suffolk Law School classmate and friend of Joe Moakley, Service Award winner Jack Connors, Jr., and Congressman James P. McGovern.