# Being true to the work, and himself

South End singersongwriter JJR debuts Tonic

BY CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

Boston singer-songwriter, IJR, just released his first album, Tonic. The 12 catchy songs tell a heartfelt tale of a relationship gone wrong. Across the twelve piano-driven,

orchestrated songs, JJR musically tells the story of an infatuation, a deep love, infidelity, and finally, heartbreak

Minnesota native, Jon Richardson (JJR), currently resides in the South End and is completing his Masters at the New England Conservatory.

Richardson describes the first

Continued on page 2



Tonic album cover by JJR

### News from...

St. Stephen's Youth Program

A Day of Sanctuary

Sanctuary...what does it mean to you? Is it a cozy school library where you can curl up with a good book and travel to foreign lands? Is it coming indoors after a cold day of skiing to share a cup of hot chocolate with a friend? Is it sitting in a church, synagogue, or mosque watching the light through the windows and listening to familiar stories? Is it the warmth of community, safety, a sense

ofbelonging and peace? Who shoul have it? Who doesn't have it yet?

On Monday, January 16, 2017, at our Seventh Annual Martin Luther King Day of Action we experienced and talked about sanctuary in its many forms: improving the learning environment of a school, including its library; skiing with middle schoolers and teens in New Hampshire; learning more about about keeping our undocumented neighbors safe

Continued on page 4



Youth Enrichment Services ski trip

### **Editorial**

### Snow wars

Double standard for city property and walks?

BY SUE O'CONNELL

South Enders, veterans of many a winter, were shocked last week when city inspectors were quick

to ticket almost-perfect privatelyowned shoveled walks while passing city-owned unshoveled walk

In my Fort Hill neighborhood, Marcella Street is home to several city-owned properties. None had the sidewalks in front of them cleared. None. Even as late as Monday of

Continued on page 3



Hi @SueNBCBoston! While we don't have purview over all City land, we'll look into this right now Thank you! cc: @BOS311 @titoiackson

11:45am - 16 Feb 2017 - Hootsuit

Photo from Twitter

### **Obituary**

### A well-rounded life

Remembering Jeff Hull: artist, organizer, loving husband and father

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Fellow artist and veteran of the vibrant, independent Thayer Street artscene of the 1970s and 1980s Scott Hadfield called it "the end of an era" when his dear friend, painter, art educator, artist advocate and family man Jeffrey Hull, Sr. passed away earlier this month at age 65.

Hull is survived by his wife of 34 years, painter Deborah Kamy Hull; his children, potter Lucille Hull Nilan, 32, of Tacoma, Wash.; software engineer Jeffrey, Jr., 29 of Brooklyn; and trumpeter/composer



leff Hull, courtesy of the Hull family

Matthew, 25 of Boston; Jeffrey, Jr.'s daughter, Kiyoko, 13 months, and

Continued on page 4

### Linehan won't seek a sixth term

Bill Linehan, District 2 City Councillor, announced on February 15 that he will not seek a sixth term.

"I've decided that I'm not going to seek reelection," Linehan told The Boston Globe, who served on the council for a decade. "My intention is to finish the term."

Linehan was elected to city council office in 2007 in a special election to fill a vacancy left by James Kelly.

District 2 includes South Boston, the South End, and parts of the

So far, South Ender Michael Kelley, a former senior aide to former Mayor Thomas Menino Michael and liaison to the South End and Bay Village, and Corey Dinopoulos, community organizer who cofounded the the Olympics campaign Boston 2024, have declared they are running for the rare open council seat. Also running are Ed Flynn, son of former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn, Frank Ulip, who works at a software firm, and Peter Lin-Marcus, who runs a fitness startup company.



Check us out online at www.mysouthend.com

#### Richardson

Continued from page I

song being conceptualized back in April of 2016 while enrolled in a music theory class.

"I'd use little melodies I made up as a kind of device to pass these tests that are called 'harmonic progressions'...then, somehow, I had about 12 songs by the beginning of July."

While filming a movie out in Iowa, Richardson made significant progress on the album. The constant down time allowed him to focus on his craft and discover himself in greater depth.

"I wrote maybe— five of the tunes out there," he says. "I had this little notebook and I would just write lyrics while I was on the set of

this movie and then when I wasn't filming I was basically at the piano for about six hours a day."

In that time, he was able to reflect on a recent break up he endured, and used that event to fuel his creative process.

"That relationship that had started backin April had just ended, so the whole album is sort of about that relationship but it's also kind of a kaleidoscope of a lot of past boyfriends, too."

The album features more than 22 musicians, most from the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music, played on the album. The songs showcase a shouty brass and wind ensemble, a string quartet, and virtuosic cellist Joey Gotoff.

As Richardson discovered coordinating with so many musicians to find the time, energy, and space to record proved to be one of *Tonic's* 

most challenging tasks.

"One of the biggest lessons was how these projects require an entirevillage of people," he said. "Most of it was 100% live—one day there was a 12-piece band bass, drums, bass, piano these were, with one exception, all musicians from new England Conservatory here in Boston. All top-rate, brilliant players."

While the coordination and composition posed a huge work load for Richardson he explains that there is value in making it look easy.

"I think we tried to make it look sort of effortless and we tried to hide the work

because I think hiding the work is what makes art great."

What he doesn't hide from is making sure his story is one that is true and transparent. His songs detail personal love and loss and through this narrative, we hear his words as he would say them in everyday life. He describes how he would not write a song about having a girlfriend, or singing to a female subject so audiences could relate, because he has,

in fact, never had one. An important part of this project for Richardson was establishing a relatable narrative that accurately and honestly depicted his story.

"Look— I don't hear gay songs about gay relationships," he explained. "I don't hear thingsthathave happened to me and my friends reflected in singer/songwriters out there...there are plenty of gay artists, but they don't use gay pronouns when they sing about love."

In a project that features such a wide range or musical composition and talent as well as a roller coaster of emotion, it is understandable why Richardson would want to hide the hard work that went in to creating his art. What is for certain, however, is the art he creates will never come at the expense of hiding who he is.

An album release party for *Tonic* will be held on Wednesday March 1,6pm-9pm at The Black Rose – 160 State Street Boston, MA. *Tonic* is also available on iTunes

# NOW TWO LOCATIONS House of Siam

Open for Lunch & Dinner Come Experience our Beautiful Dining Room and the Freshest Thai Cuisine in Boston

592 Tremont Street (near Dartmouth Street)
Take out is available from 11:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily
617.267.7426

542 Columbus Avenue 617.267.1755



617-437-9400 www.jjbodner.com 8 Clarendon St Boston

JJBodner
Insurance Agency of Boston

CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THURSDAY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE SOUTH END NEWS?

HEAD OVER TO

MySouthEnd.com

#### PARKER HILL APARTMENTS

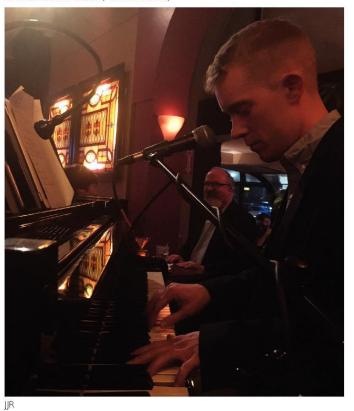
The Style, Comfort and Convenience you Deserve!

Heat and Hot water always included • Modem laundry facilities • Private balconies/some with city views • Plush wall to wall carpet • Adjacent to New England Baptist Hospital • Secured Entry • Elevator Convenience • Private Parking • Near Public Transportation and much more...

1 Bedroom available for \$1,600

Call today for more details and to schedule a visit: 888-789-8813

ASK ABOUT OUR MOVE-IN SPECIAL & NO SECURITY DEPOSIT PROGRAM



Get local and advertise your property in the South End News.

Call Jeff at (617) 464-7280 ext. 202 or email: sales@southendnews.com.

### St. Stephen's

Continued from page I

from possible negative actions; and standing in a circle of support with staff, local officials,

9:00 a.m. - Gathering for a Day of Action

Nearly 300 people from 45 organizations--including churches, synagogues, public schools, charter schools, neighborhood associations, Americorps groups, corporate businesses, and nonprofits-gathered at the Blackstone Innovation School, where over half of our B-READY elementary students attend school. It was our Seventh Annual MLK Day of Action there. We completed 25 projects to improve the school, including painting hallways and stairwells, cleaning windows, organizing and covering books, revitalizing the greenhouse and making teacher appre-

Special thanks to our Sponsoring Partners for this event: All Our Children, B-PEACE for Jorge Campaign, Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association, Ellis South End Neighborhood Association, Emmanuel Gospel Center, Jewish Community Relations Council, Motus (a Building Impact corporate partner), St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and Trinity Church in Boston.

10:00 a.m. - YLC and JCITs go skiing

The same morning, SSYP partnered with Youth Enrichment Services (YES) to take 33 middle schoolers and teens along with ten staff, alumni and volunteer chaperones to Pat's Peak in New Hampshire for a winter outdoor adventure. Once there, young people had formal lessons on how to ski or snowboard

Continued on page 6

### Jeff Hull

Continued from page I

other extended family members; and his cocker spaniel Billy, who in recent years was the conduit to new friendships and reconnection with old friends through their regular visits to Blackstone Square.

Indirectly, Hull leaves an indelible influence on countless students, colleagues and art lovers who were touched by his work and his actions. A prolific painter and sculptor whose abstracts were vivid with color and movement, Hull was the guiding light of the 1984 X Exhibit, an independently organized show by 10 Thayer Street artists that blossomed into an ongoing series, mounted in different venues over a 30 year span, despite the fact that the ten participating artists gradually migrated to other neighborhoods and cities over the years. "Every couple of years he would come up with a plot to have another iteration of X and he would organize it, find the venue and get everyone together I always participate because I loved the camaraderie," Hadfield said.

Hull was also a founding and active member of Artist Tenants of the South End, who strove to create affordable artist lofts in the South End in the face of incoming development and gentrification and was involved in the movement to organize adjunct professors. "Jeff was one of the most important advocates for artists in South End. He had an amazing amount of energy and spirit and he was willing to go out and engage the world on behalf of the artists of the South End," Hadfield said

In recent years, Jeff and Deborah Hull were active in the Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association and its college scholarship program, which awarded a scholarship to Matthew during his Bachelor's studies at Berklee College of Music. Hull was devoted to living his life and raising his family in the South End, despite the increasing pressure of rising housing prices.

When we had to move from Albany Street in 1996, he refused to look anyplace but the South End," Deborah Hull said. While Hull beat the odds, living an active life for almost 30 years after a 1987 heart transplant, he lost his 10 year battle with colon cancer on Monday, February 6, passing away peacefully at home with his family.

Jeff Hull was born on October 12, 1951 in St. Louis, Mo. Coincidentally, both he and wife Deborah, a Chicago native, earned bachelor's degrees in fine art at Kansas City Art Institute, overlapping by a year or two, but did not meet until came to Boston to earn their Master's



Photos by Michele Maniscalco

degrees at the Boston University of Fine Arts. Hull moved to Thayer Street in 1978, and married Deborah, also known professionally as D.K. Hull, in 1982

Hadfield recalled that the stood out in the Thayer Street community as the only married couple. Their oldest child, Lucy, was born on Thayer Street. Hull paid the bills for his growing family as adjunct professor at the Art Institute of Boston, Emmanuel College, New England

School of Art and Design and Northeastern University, also working as a house painter.

Hull undoubtedly left a mark on his students, as evidenced by the fond inscription one student wrote in a copy of the Vincent Van Cogh biography, "Lust for Life" that the student gave to Hull. The student wrote that he was glad he wound up in Hull's class "because I

Continued on page 5



Publishers:

Jeff Coakley [ext. 202] Sue O'Connell [ext. 215]

Editor-in-Chief:

Sue O'Connell [ext. 215] sue.southendnews@gmail.com

Editorial Design Manager: Daniel J. Raps danielj raps@gmail.com

Contributing Writers: C.D. Hermelin Michele D. Maniscalco Jack Maypole, MD Dog Lady

Display Advertising: Jeff Coakley [ext. 202] jcoakley@southendnews.com

Classified Advertising: classified ads@southendnews.com

Letters to the editor:

letters@southendnews.com

Calendar listings: sencalendar@southendnews.com

© 2017 South End News Inc. PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127 (617) 464-7280; FAX (617) 464-7286

The South End News is a copyrighted publication. Any stories or photos contained herein may not be reproduced in whole or inpart without the express written permission of the publisher. The South End News will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy. South End News is not responsible for damages due to typographical errors, except for the cost of replacing ads that have typographical errors caused by our negligence. South End News is published every Thursday.

www.southendnews.com Facebook.com/SouthEndNews





<u>Letters policy</u>
To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to 46 Plympton St., 5th floor, Boston, MA 02118; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

### Snow wars

Continued from page I

this week, one property—with the "owned by the city" white fence in front of it-remained unsholved.

How do inspectors know not to ticket those properties?

Being a good citizen, I contacted BOS311, both by phone and Twitter.

Within hours, one of the properties on Marcella Street was shoveled. Just one.

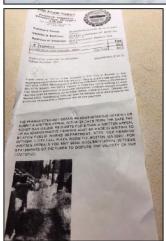
I contacted BOS311 and Mayor Marty Walsh and Councillor Tito Jackson. The response

"Hi @SueNBCBoston! While we don't have purview over all City land, we'll look into this right now. Thank youl cc: @BOS311@

How did I know what properties were owned by the city? I googled it. Maybe inspectors should google properties before they issue tickets. Or maybe DPW should have a list of city-owned properties and should dispatch crews BEFORE ticketing citizens.

Meanwhile on facebook













PUBLIC NOTICE

### D/B/A BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO SOUTH END URBAN RENEWAL PLAN,

PROJECT NO. MASS. R-56 FOR PARCELS 47, 54G, 54H, 56, AND 56A

Public Notice is hereby given that the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BRA") will consider at its scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 2, 2017, starting at 5:40 P.M. in the Board Room - Room 900, 9th Floor, Boston City Hall, One City Hall Square a proposed modification to the South End Urban Renewal Plan regarding Parcels 47, 54G, 54H, 56, and 56A. Said modifications will change the Permitted Land Uses of Parcels 47, 54G, 54H, 56, and 56A to include a combination of residential, commercial, office and parking. Parcels 47, 54G, 54H, 56, and 56A are located on portions of land that are currently occupied by the Gambro Building (660 Harrison Avenue), 100 East Canton Street, and an open-air parking lot in the South End and commonly known as "Harrison Albany Block." This Public Notice is being provided in accordance with a certain "Conciliation Agreement" by and among the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the BRA and others, dated as of January 16, 2001.

Teresa Polhemus Secretary, Boston Redevelopment Authority



### **Public Meeting**

### WASHINGTON PARK **POTENTIAL HOUSING SITES**

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**65 WARREN STREET** 

Dudley Branch Library Roxbury, MA 02119

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) will start a conversation with the Roxbury community regarding the disposition of some BPDA-owned vacant parcels of land as possible housing sites. The sites, located on Westminster Ave., Catawba St., Alpine St. and Alpine Pl., Dale, Maple, Townsend and Bartlett Streets, present an excellent opportunity to create housing in the Washington Park Urban Renewal and surrounding area. We encourage residents to attend to learn about the disposition present and the feedback to the BDDA. disposition process and give feedback to the BPDA.

MAIL TO: REAY PANNESI

Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 617.918.6239

PHONE: Reay.L.Pannesi@Boston.gov



BostonPlans.org @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



# We are the future of the **LGBT** community.

The world still has its challenges but things are getting better. From the way we first met on line to marriage equality to our daughter's upcoming Quinceañera our life together is more fulfilling every day. We keep up with events and entertainment on EDGE, because that's where we see our future at its brightest."

# the future of lgbt media

edgemedianetwork.com





## **Washington Street man** assaulted, his car vandalized

Washington Street resident David Hedison was assaulted by four men at 10:00 AM on Sunday, February 19 as he attempted to back his SUV out of his parking spot in Alley 716. which runs between East Springfield Street and Massachusetts Avenue and between Washington Street and Harrison Avenue.

One assailant opened his car door and tried to drag him out while another grabbed a brick from the ground, one assailant screaming "We know your car, we are the police, we are the devil." The suspects, whom Hedison described as dark-haired, white males in their 20s who appeared "very high and looked like death", fled the alley in a silver Toyota 4Runner, while Hedison, who had dialed 911 at the onset of the assault, followed them in his car to the Blackstone Square where the police caught up with him in his vehicle.

Hedison filed a police report at Boston Police Department (BPD) District 4 at 650 Harrison Avenue. After the attack, Hedison stated via e-mail that he was "very shaken up" and described the violent episode as "the worst event of my life."

After the assault, Hedison parked his SUV on the street in front of his home, only to find an X deeply scratched into the car door on the morning of Monday, February 20. Hedison said that BPD officers told him that the Toyota in which the four suspects were traveling was stolen and that it has been implicated in damage to other vehicles.

Hedison followed up his police report by e-mailing District 3 city councilor Frank Baker and Office of Neighborhood Services liaison Sam Chambers as well as D-4 community service officers Richard Litto and Sergeant Lucas Taxter about the assault and the subsequent vandalism to his car, stating that "I feel like I am being targeted... This is bigger than just a BPD issue.

On Monday, Taxter e-mailed Hedison to inform him that someone from D-4 would follow up with him shortly and Chambers responded, offering to share Hedison's e-mail with D-4 captain Wayne Lanchester. BPD Detective Darryn Brown has been assigned to the investigation. Hedison informed police that several neighbors on Mass. Ave. have security cameras that survey Alley 716 and he hopes that BPD will review footage from those cameras in their investigation

#### **Jeff Hull**

Continued from page 4

learned about drawing the truth. Not only that, I learned about drawing the truth so that people could touch it, smell it or believe it."

Both Deborah Hull and Hadfield described Hull as very involved in promoting other artists as lead organizer of X and of the authors' mural on the side of the Brattle Book Shop at 9 West Street, a collaboration featuring 20 artists. Deborah Hull said her husband also worked with galleries and shops to promote the work of artists by arranging and curating small drawing exhibits at venues such as A Street Framers and the Vessels Callery at 71 Thaver Street.

Hadfield marveled at Hull's capacity to pursue his passion for art and devote himself to his family, noting that he and many other artists find it difficult to share themselves with another person while dedicating themselves to their art. "As time passed and he began raising a family we saw less of each other, but Jeff was always good about coming to people's openings and being part of that social milieu. I can remember when the kids started popping up at the openings and a little toddler would pop up in the crowd," Hadfield recalled.

A proud dad as well as a jazz fan was partial to Miles Davis, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan and Chet Baker, Hull liked to take in

shows at Wally's Café at 427 Mass. Ave. when his son Matt was playing.

Deborah Hull attributed her husband's work-life balance to his bout with cardiomyopathyduring his mid-30s, which necessitated the heart transplant. "Jeff was very involved in the kids' upbringing but he always found time to paint," Deborah Hull said. Hull's children shared their fondest remembrances and most important lessons from their father. "He taught us to work hard, be creative and work with our hands. Work with your hands as much as your head and with your heart," Jeff, Jr. said. Lucy said her father taught her to "work hard and be dedicated to what you love to do, and if there are obstacles, you can get past them." Matt chose to relate a fond and funny memory of how his dad would pry him out of bed on the occasional lazy morning. "If there was a particular day when I was sleeping late or I couldn't get up, my dad would stand outside my room with a coffee cup and take really loud sips. The sound of that stood out so much when there was no other sound. It was so annoving, it was worse than a phone alarm, but at the same time, there was a lot of humor in that,"

Jeffrey Hull's life was a life well-lived. He was a prolific artist, a creator of exhibit opportunities for other artists, a teacher and an organizer. In the end, his finest creation was and is his remarkably lovely and talented

Service Guide Ads Get Results. For more information please call:

617.464.7280

# **SERVICE GUIDE**

### S.G. Harold Plumbing, Heating & AC

Specializing in Viessman Boiler Home Heating Repairs & Service Unico Air Conditioning • Radiant Floor Heating

Boston 617-522-1000

Unprecedented Service Tailored To You

MA Lic # 10589

#### **CLEANING SERVICES**



ekly, bi-weekly, or monthly gan-up jobs

Cleaning by Judy 617-501-9645

#### V.I.P. CLEANING SERVICES

#### RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

POST-CONSTRUCTION • POST-PARTY

· MOVE-INS / MOVE-OUTS WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY, MONTHLY, ONE-TIME •15 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

PLUS: PAINTING SERVICES Alex Hipolito: 617 309 0261



Fully Insured

Slate and Copper Work - Rubber Roof Systems Shingles and Gutters - Repairs - Lic. Contractor Reg. #100100

617-288-3448

Free Estimates • Over 40 years of experience

McDonnellRoofingBoston.com



Fully licensed and insured BBB accredited

RBUCKLEYMASONRY@YAHOO.COM 617-283-6691

WWW.RBUCKLEYCONSTRUCTIONINC.COM FREE CONSULT AND ESTIMATES

REPOINTING BASEMENTS DESIGN/BUILD CHIMNEYS STEPS CONCRETE STONE

### BRUNO GUERRIERO CONSTRUCTION, INC.

### **Water Proofing Solutions**

Basements • Facades • Chimneys

**FULLY INSURED** 



### **Emergency Repairs**

Roofs & Walls . Clean Outs

COMPLETE MASON CONTRACTOR

Custom Brick, Stone Work & Brick Pavers

ALL TYPES OF REPAIRS AND RESTORATIONS

Flood Damage Repair • Brownstone Repair • Stairs Restored • Foundations

BrunoGuerrieroConstruction.com MENTION THIS AD, GET 10% OFF

Brunosworld@comcast.net

(800) 444-5476

FREE ESTIMATES



### P. Stones Contracting, Inc.

Specializing in Historic Restoration, Brick Repointing, Brick, Block, Stone, Basement Floors, Caulking & Waterproofing.

Ornamental window sills, window headers and moldings. Fully licensed and insured. 15 years of sastified customers and referrals.

Office: 781-848-6922 • Fax: 781-848-6923 Cell: 617-592-0850 • pstonescontracting@hotmail.com

#### CONSTRUCTION • GENERAL • REMODELING

### The Dependable Handyperson

FINE PAINTING AND REFINISHING SMALL REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS DECK AND GARDEN WORK

Call Jean at 617-236-1795 dependablehandy@aol.com

### PRECISION WOODWORKING & GENERAL CONTRACTING

Commercial and Residential Builders

KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • ROOFING • DECKING • PAINTING MASONRY • TILING • WINDOWS & DOORS • BUILDING RESTORATION Finish Carpentry • Historic Windows •Slate and Copper Work

20 Years experience in the South End • License John O'Shca: 617-590-6650 e in the South End • Licensed & Insured



# Kynne Masonry, Inc

20 Years of Experience Working with Clients in the South End

Brickwork • Repointing Step Repair (Rebuild, Restore and Resurface) Chimney Repair • Basement Flood Repairs

Fully Insured and licensed. Please call for references and work samples Francis Rynne 617-510-2775 or 617-783-0516

#### ELECTRICAL



PROVIDING QUALITY **ELECTRICAL SERVICES** to the Boston Area

Residential & Commercial Free Estimates 24 Hour Service

Dedicated to Customer Service Since 1971

617.542.2000 www.ds-electric.com

Mass Licence #14580A

### South End News

### Service Guide Ads Get Results.

617.464.7280 • sales@southendnews.com

### News from...

## The Mayor's Office

#### **Community Meetings**

What: Back Bay/South End Station Re-Development CAC Meeting

When: Thursday, February 23rd at 6PM Where: Boston Common Hotel/Conference Center

40 Trinity Place, Back Bay

### Two South End Programs Recievve My Brother's Keeper Mini Grants

Mayor Martin J. Walsh in partnership with The Boston Foundation has announced the selection of 10 local organizations that will receive the first round of mini grant funding totaling \$50,000 that is being awarded through the My Brother's Keeper

(MBK) Boston mini grant program, which launched last August. The program is designed to support local organizations and entities working to help maximize MBK's impact in improving outcomes for young people of color.

"In Boston, we are proud of our national leadership in adopting My Brother's Keeper as a guide to how we work to increase opportunities in our neighborhoods," said Mayor Walsh. "An important part of our success is through partnerships with local organizations who work with our community every day to empower our young people to reach his or her potential. I thank The Boston Foundation for their collaboration on this effort, and congratulate all recipients on being recognized for their great work in expanding opportunities for young men of color."

The following organizations were

selected to receive awards ranging from youth in computers (Mattapan) \$500-\$7,000:

Castle Square Tenants Organization (South End)

More Than Words (South End) NUBIA After School Program (Rox-

Young Empowerment & Advancing  $Mentoring\,program\,(YEAM), Madison\,Park$ Development Corporation (Roxbury)

Breakfast IV Brothers (Dorchester) Achievers Boston, Sociedad Latina (Mission Hill)

Diamond Educators, Boston Public Schools & Department of Youth Services

BCYF Menino Community Boys & Cirls Club, STEM & Robots program (Roslindale)

Mattapan Tech, IT job training for

Alray Scholars Program (Boston) About MBK Boston

Mayor Martin J. Walsh launched MBK Boston in September 2014, accepting President Barack Obama's MBK Community Challenge as part of the White House My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative to create positive pathways for youth, especially boys and young men of color. Over the past two years, Mayor Walsh established the MBK Boston Advisory Committee which led engagement within the community and developed a set of guiding recommendations to support milestones across education, employment, public safety and second chances. To learn more about MBK Boston or to get involved, visit boston.gov/mbk.

### SCREENAGERS!

On Thursday, March 2, from 7-8:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Youth Programs, a youth development organization based in the South End, invites you to a community screening of "Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age," a documentary about one of the biggest family issues of our day, namely how our time on screens affects our family life, as well as our kids' development, social life and academics-and what we can

Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston saw that happening with her own kids and began a quest to uncover how it might impact their development. As with her other two award-winning documentaries on mental health, Ruston takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENACERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and also offers solutions on how adults can empower their kids to best navigate the digital world to find balance.

SCREENAGERS addresses the most pervasive parenting issue of our time head on—depicting teen struggles over social media, video games and internet addiction. The film empowers kids to best navigate the digital world and provides practical resources to help them do it.

This event is FREE and open to the public. Register and learn more here:

https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-st-stephen-s-youth-programs-1558

### St. Stephen's

Continued from page 4

from trained YES instructors. Youth then spent the morning and early afternoon engaged in experiential learning as they figured out many of the skills of skiing and snowboarding. Despite the many falls that come with early practice, students had a lot of fun! The shouts of young people encouraging and supporting each other rang out above all else.

ssypboston.org

#### 11:00 a.m. SSYP Alum installs canvas partition in a first grade classrooms at the Blackstone

SSYP Program Alum, Curry College Student and current SSYP Lead Counselor AlexMaizonettledagroup of five volunteers to construct and install a canvas partition in a first grade classroom. The Blackstone was built in the early 1970's when "open classroom" design was all the rage; it's a fad that has faded away because of the real challenges created in the absence of walls. The teacher requested this project to block out some of the distractions in the hallway and to increase space to hang student work. In preparation for the project,

Alex visited the classroom and the after-school students in the class were very excited to see Alex there!

#### 2:00 p.m. - Teen Organizers lead conversations about Sanctuary Schools

After lunch at the Blackstone, teen organizers from the B-PEACE for Jorge Campaign taught people about the Sanctuary Schools Campaign. The Campaign is a an effort to make our schools safeand welcome for all students and families, regardless of immigra-

City Councilors Tito Jackson and Ayanna Pressley gave inspiring speeches as part of the Sanctuary Workshop and we reflected on words from Dr. King.

#### 3:00 p.m. Feeling Connected

As people left the Blackstone Innovation School at the end of the day, everyone felt connected to the legacy of Dr. King by advancing his goal of creating "true education that combines intelligence and character." City councilors, clergy, staff, and Teen Organizers joined in reflection on the fact that we might celebrate Dr. King's legacy by providing sanctuary to all

#### 5:00 p.m. Coming in from the Slopes

At the end of the day, all those skiing and snow boarding adorned themselves with colorful glow sticks and did one final run down the bunny slope, glowing in the night sky. After taking off their equipment, the students danced at the lodge party, listened to a program that focused on the values of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and reflected on ways to increase opportunities for young people of color. Everyone-students and adults-came back hopeful, albeit exhausted thanks to this awesome opportunity with YES and SSYP!

We are grateful to friends like you for making this a Day ON, not a Day OFF. Are you looking for a way to feel more connected to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr? To support peace and better educational opportunities for all? Join us as a volunteer. We can use your help and heart after school, in the evening, in the summer, or even for just one day each year, like MLK Day 2018! For more information on volunteering, please contact betsy@ssypboston.org, or liz@ststephensbos.org







### **Boston Public Health Commission Boston Biosafety Committee Members**

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is seeking new community members for its Boston Biosafety Committee (BBC) from the South End/Roxbury, Fenway, and/or Chinatown neighborhoods. The BBC provides technical assistance and advice on issues related to regulation and permitting of biological research laboratories in the City of Boston. Community members should be able to commit to two years on the committee.

BPHC permits and regulates research laboratories in Boston and the BBC has a role in advising the Executive Director of BPHC. Community members of the BBC have a role in communicating information on biological safety to the public and providing input on community concerns.

The BBC meets when required for review of research projects, laboratory permit applications, or other times requested by the BPHC Executive Director. The time commitment will average five hours a month, with some months having no meetings and some months having meetings with materials to review in advance.

Community members interested in being on the BBC should contact Julien Farland, Boston Public Health Commission Director of Biological Safety, at jfarland@bphc.org or 617-534-2814.



### **Public Meeting**

### **BACK BAY/SOUTH END GATEWAY PROJECT**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

**40 TRINITY PLACE** 

Boston Common Hotel & Conference Center, Room 201 Boston, MA 02116

PROJECT PROPONENT:

Boston Properties, LP

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project is conceived as a transformative, mixed-use, transit-oriented redevelopment, which will revitalize an underutilized urban site and transform the adjacent public realm, and integrate and connect the surrounding Back Bay, South End, and Bay Village historic neighborhoods. The proposed project is comprised of up to approximately 1.26 million square feet of mixed-use redevelopment, consisting of a new office building with ground floor retail, two new residential buildings, a one- to two-story vertical retail expansion of the existing Back Bay Station building, and the partial redevelopment of the existing 165 Dartmouth Street Garage.

MICHAEL ROONEY Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201

PHONE: 617 918 4237

Michael.Rooney@Boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:

4/17/2017



BostonPlans.org @BostonPlans Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary