South End *News*

March 2, 2017 [Vol. 38 , No. 8]

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Inside

CSTO Celebrates

Black History Month, Chinese New Year

By Michele D. Maniscalco

The Castle Square Tenant Organization's (CSTO) 8th annual Black History Month and Chinese New Year celebration, held on Friday, February 24 at the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (BFIT), 41 Berkeley Street, was a very homey affair, showcasing Castle Square residents, programs and performers.

Over 200 Castle Square

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Deborah Backus greets guests. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

ASK DOG LADY

Advice on Pets, Life, Love

By Monica Collins

Dear Dog Lady,

My seven-month-old old little pup eats poop. Is this normal? How can I stop this behavior?

—Dorothy

Dear Dorothy,

Potty mouth behavior in dogs is disgusting. Dog Lady also has a dog that forages for feces. The behavior can send any doting owner into a swoon of "yuck." (Now, people, is there any better reason NOT to allow your dog to kiss you near or on the mouth?)

*You stop the bad manners by keeping your dog on a short leash and by giving a gentle jerk with a quick and firm "no" each time he or she swoops to pick up **##. You must be the vigilant one and you must stay on top of the behavior. When your dog pays you mind by abandoning the offensive snack, you can reward your pet with a bona fide dog treat.*

There are many reasons dogs do this: They might be missing something in their diets. Or they were not schooled well by their mothers in the natal nest. You can ask your veterinarian when you next go in for a visit. In truth, no one can definitively explain the whys and wherefores of canine coprophagia, which is the technical word for the pathology of eating dung.

The good news? Your attentiveness will pay off and, eventually, your young pup will be trained out of a bad habit.

Dear Dog Lady,

We have a seven-year-old black lab named Sooty who is a dog lover's dream come true. He is smart, funny, handsome, loyal and loving. He is extremely close to our daughter Ella who left the nest for college this year.

When we talk to Ella on Skype, she will often try to talk with Sooty We place the laptop close to him so he can see her but he doesn't seem to be able to recognize Ella on the laptop. We have tried holding a dog

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The Ellis women's event spotlights female entrepreneurs

By Michele D. Maniscalco

About 35 women packed the back room at Frenchie wine bistro, 560 Tremont Street, after work on Monday, February 27 for a women's gathering sponsored by the Ellis South End Neighborhood Associa-

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Photo by Michele Maniscalco

HOT Fun in the Winter

(Top) South Enders Michael Yohannes, 9, Cian O'Flaherty, 6, Nathan Yesehak, 8, and Abraham Kifle 12, look sharp in their shades on an unseasonably warm day during the February 23 Children's Winter Festival on Boston Common hosted by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Highland Street Foundation. (Bottom) Two-year-old Annemieke Meissner of the South End and her mom, Charlotte, take in the balmy temperatures on Boston Common February 23. A crowd estimated at 12,000 took advantage of the warm weather and flocked to the Common for the annual Children's Winter Festival presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Highland Street Foundation. Photos by Jon Seamans.

South End street cleaning is NOW

Read the SIGN!

The South End, North End, and Beacon Hill are participants in the City's early street sweeping program.

Castle

Continued from page 1

residents and South End neighbors enjoyed a hot meal and entertainment reflecting both cultures in the auditorium at BFIT. City Council District 2 hopeful Michael Kelley was among the guests, circulating among the guests to introduce himself and hear the community's thoughts and concerns.

Shortly after 6:00 PM, a group of youth from Castle Square performed the Lion Dance, shaking and winding through the audience and onstage to mark the Chinese New Year. Singer Vivian Cooley-Collier performed "Lift Every Voice and Sing", the Black American National Anthem, accompanied by the Boston Children's Orchestra. Cooley-Collier is known locally for her decades of performance in the "Black Nativity" and has also performed in the Juneteenth celebration at the National Center of Afro-American Artists and at the Boston Parks and Recreation Department's Park Arts Festival.

Following greetings by CSTO executive director Deborah Backus and president Ann Moy, guests viewed a slide presentation narrated in English and Chinese on the history of Castle Square Apartments, from the complex's construction as a low-income housing complex; its expansion over time from 192 to over 500 units; its pivotal year in 1987 when a developer bought the complex and CSTO was formed to preserve the complex's affordability for the future; and a major renovation in 2011 that added a teen and community center with a restaurant-grade kitchen; a technology center and a Deep Energy Retrofit throughout the residences of the complex that cut energy costs by over 50 per cent.

While last year's CSTO celebration brought in dance and musical troupes from around Boston, this year's festivities emphasized homegrown talent. Children from the Square Roots after school program for grades K2 through 8 recited poetry onstage and told a story of the Chinese Zodiac in a video called "What the Rat Told Me: A Zodiac Story".

The CSTO Teen Program offered presentations on black history and the tradition of Chinese New Year and a Castle Square-based troupe performed the elegant Fan Dance. The entertainment concluded with Cooley-Collier singing "This Little Light of Mine" and African drumming by Darius Ware and Stephen K. O'Neal.

During the program, CSTO volunteers served dinner, consisting of salad; chicken with gravy, mashed potatoes, greens, corn, corn bread and stuffing followed by a selection of cupcakes and Asian-style sweet rolls for dessert. Moy and Backus went from table to table greeting guests, Backus resplendent in an African-inspired dress and head wrap by Mattapan-based designer and entrepreneur Natasha Williams.

(Center) Deborah Backu (Bottom) Square Roots youth. Photos by Michele Maniscalco

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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.

Crowdfunding For Peters Park Graffiti Wall

BWashington Gateway Main Street (WGMS) in partnership with ALA Collective led by artists PROBLAK and Marka27, City Lights Performing Arts School, and Friends of Peters Park/Old Dover today announce details for the first ever South End community crowd funding campaign in support of the Peters Park Art Wall Project. The campaign kicks off today, Wednesday, March 1st at 6:00am, and will be live for thirty days closing on Thursday, March 30th at midnight The campaign aims to raise $12,000 to cover the costs of the artist, materials and supplies, as well as stipends for youth.

"This mural will be located in prominent public space in the neighborhood, so it is important that everyone have the chance to contribute, no matter how big or small, to this historically and culturally significant piece of art, " said Jenny Effron, Executive Director, Washington Gateway Main Street.

The Peters Park Art Wall was proclaimed a legal graffiti wall in 1986 in an effort to decrease vandalism in the South End. The City, in partnership with area organizations and businesses, seeks to continue the tradition of curating and programming the Art Wall, both for the enrichment of the neighborhood as well as the preservation and celebration of this area's diverse cultural history.

"For over 30 years the Peters Park Art Wall has stood as a neighborhood icon in Boston's South End. Artists and community members alike have viewed the wall as a symbol of creative and cultural expression," said Marka27 of ALA Collective. " It's an honor to continue the tradition of cultural expression through murals and street art, collaborating with a new generation of local Boston artists and youth. We are humbled and extremely grateful for all the community support that we continue to receive and look forward to another 30 years of the Peters Park Graffiti Art wall being painted".

The Mayor's Office and Boston Art Commission released an RFP for conceptual designs on January 26th that closed on February 26th. The RFP was open to all professional artists, artisans, or teams, with experience in public art, site responsive design, project management, and working with youth. The RFP was shaped by community feedback gathered by the City last fall and the successful proposal will celebrate and preserve a history of culturally relevant art for the next wave of artists and community youth.

Individuals as well as corporations and

Continued on page 5

Dog Lady

Continued from page 1

biscuit close to the screen. He loved the treat but went back to staring into space. Do you have any suggestions for teaching dogs to cross the great technology divide?

—Ella's Mom

Dear Ella's Mom,

Dogs bark but they have no byte. They are digital innocents. They understand technology only as far as you can throw a tennis ball. If they can't smell it, Skype doesn't exist. They can't taste it – except when you hold a biscuit near the screen. They can't relate to it in any way – except through the TV when some dogs get overly excited at the sight of other animals. They bark and jump at the screen because they presume the doggy through the looking glass is real. Alas, their hissy-fit is folly. Have you ever tried to say "hi" to a dog over the phone? Your voice may be initially soothing but, inevitably, the dog will walk away and lose interest.

Dogs are present in the present – not the far-off and illusory. They don't do holograms or ghosts in the machine. When Ella shows up in person, Sooty will be all over her. For now, a dog biscuit near the laptop screen will have to sustain him. Don't force your Lab to interact with something or someone he does not know or care about. When you talk to Ella on Skype, just let Sooty wander about without forcing him to care about air.

Dear Dog Lady,

We rescued a small Jack Russell/West Highland terrier mix two years ago. He was either one or two years old so now he's either three or four. We just love him. When we got him, he had full-blown heartworm, was very thin, and had a puncture in one of his eyes. He is now at a good weight and healthy as can be.

One thing I'm concerned about Toby is that I notice he cries during his sleep. Sometimes it turns into yelping. It was happening all the time when we first brought him home and still happens, but not as much. My heart breaks to hear him cry. I always gently pat him and let him know everything is okay when he's in this state.

If you have any suggestions for us to help him with his nightmares, I would appreciate it. I hate to think of what his life was like before he came to live with us to cause these.

—Suzie

Dear Suzie,

You have a Jack Russell/Westie mix and you rescued an angel. Please don't worry when your angel yelps in his sleep. He's not suffering; he's dreaming as dogs dream. It's perfectly normal.

Of course, you don't know what Toby is dreaming about. Neither does anyone else, so Dog Lady will opine. He could be having a nightmare but he could be chasing a squirrel in his subconscious, or galloping through a field of heather back in the old country (British Isles for Westies and Jacks), or cornering a rodent, a cat, or imaginary varmint. Your heart shouldn't break but you should be glad Toby is having a deep dream and he is peaceful enough to fall soundly asleep. Your patting him only wakes him to the real world, which isn't such a bad thing, but it interrupts the colorful subconscious activity.

Visit askdoglady.com and read the new blogs, "Shorty Knows" and "Dex and the City."

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

In the matter of: Briiana Katya Chery
Of: Boston, MA

To all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by Briiana Katya Chery requesting that:

Briiana Katya Chery

be allowed to change her name as follows:

Briiana Katya Greenaway-Chery

Docket No. SU16C0559CA

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IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Boston** ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: **03/02/2017**

WITNESS, Hon. Joan P. Armstrong, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 30, 2017 ***Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate***

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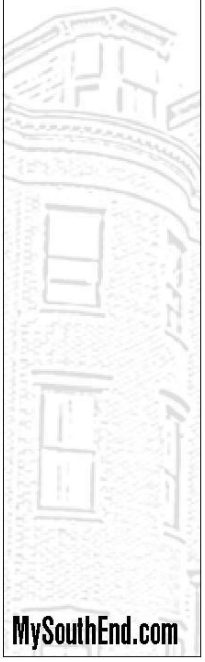

MySouthEnd.com

Pet of the Week

Keanu

Meet five-year-old **Keanu**! He loves people and playing fetch, tug, chase, you name it! He knows sit, stay and down. **Keanu** is a big boy so he might be too much for small children who he could accidentally knock down. He is a bit overweight so will need a weight management plan and encouragement to get outside and be active! (But you won't find a better TV watching pal anywhere!) He will also need a refresher on house-training and could use a good schedule to get on track. **Keanu** prefers to be the only dog in the house and cannot live with a cat. Please plan a visit to ARL today to meet him.
If you are looking for an wonderful companion, come visit **Keanu** at the Boston Adoption Center today or call 617.226.5602. The shelter is open Tuesday through Thursday 1-7pm & Friday through Sunday 1-4pm, excluding some holidays.

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Ellis

Continued from page 1

tion (ESENA, The Ellis), to mix and mingle, savor French-inspired snacks and wine, and to hear three female South End business owners and residents share experiences, ideas and concerns for the future. ESENA holds women's gatherings three or four times a year to give local women a chance to connect with each other and with the neighborhood organization.

ESENA president Betsy Hall explained, "Our primary goal for the Ellis women's events is to create opportunities for casual interaction and connection between women of all ages who are neighbors. The women who attended met friends and made new friends, which is our primary gauge of success."

After some introductory socializing, the ladies gathered in a circle to hear three speakers: entrepreneurs Hadley Douglas, who with her husband operates The Urban Grape, 303 Columbus Avenue; Megan Flynn, who owns M. Flynn jewelry boutique at 40 Waltham Street with her sister, Moria; and Sofi Madison, owner of Olives and Grace at 623 Tremont Street. A major concern expressed by both the speakers and guests was the challenge of supporting and retaining small businesses amid the skyrocketing rents and property prices in the South End.

In her remarks, Douglas talked about zoning and planning to continue offering opportunities for small businesses to open and thrive rather than reaching a point at which only banks and large chains can afford to operate in the South End. "It's just as vital for us (pointing to herself, Madison and Flynn) to say, 'This needs to be a small-business community' as it is for you to say, 'We need zoning, we need a plan to keep the South End the South End.' We can't do it without you."

Flynn chimed in, "Rents are a big issue for small businesses right now. You can already see it when your favorite boutique gets taken over by a real estate agency." Madison added, "Something that is difficult for me but important is to be transparent about asking all of you for your support for our businesses. As business owners, we try to be so strong for the community… As the rents are getting higher and the chains are starting to come in bordering this neighborhood, we might need to have this conversation more often, to feel empowered to preserve this neighborhood."

A guest from the Union Park Neighborhood Association (UPNA) said that UPNA decided not to include the large, new apartment buildings in their membership to avoid being overwhelmed by their numbers, and wondered whether zoning for large residential developments could be tied to including small businesses rather than large chains in their commercial spaces.

Douglas responded that she has been working with city councilor at large Ayanna Pressley, whom she called "A champion of small business and women-owned businesses", and a problem they have identified is a lack of zoning in the South End. Douglas pointed out that the Beacon Hill has an extremely strong neighborhood association and consequently, it is very difficult for large chains to open on Charles Street.

The speakers also discussed their support of local non-profit groups. Urban Grape's Douglas, who said she has a background in philanthropy, started a program called Urban Community through wich Urban Grape works with a single community non-profit for two months at a time. The current non-profit partner is Haley House, and Urban Grape is publicizing Haley House's programs on their blog, selling Haley House cookies, donating a

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(Bottom) Hadley Douglas speaks Photos by Michele Maniscalco

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Guest Opinion

Washington proposals put survival of Head Start at stake

ABCD fighting for future of poor children, families

SUBMITTED BY ACTION FOR BOSTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Proposals in Washington, DC to eliminate America's Head Start program threaten our nation's neediest children and families. Advocates fear dismantling of the longtime, effective antipoverty initiative that has put millions of low-income children and their families on the road to economic stability.

"The survival of Head Start is at stake," said John J. Drew, President/CEO of Action for Boston Community Development, the Boston-area antipoverty organization that provides Head Start services for 2,300 low-income children and their families in Boston, Malden and Everett.

"We are angry and frustrated at proposals surfacing from federal Cabinet officials, some members of Congress and conservative think tanks that will do irreparable harm to Head Start," he said. "Those recommendations will destroy this long-time effective program that is a lifeline to more than a million poor children and their families. The national commitment to America's poor children and families must not be lost."

Drew, a former Head Start parent, noted that another million children are waiting in line for a place in Head Start because this valuable program embodying America's commitment to low-income children and families is underfunded.

"Are we going to sacrifice our children to growing the military in America? Do we really need to make that choice?" asked Drew. He noted that 2015 census figures show that 4.7 million children under age 5 are living in poverty in one of the most affluent industrialized countries in the world. "It's time to change that, not make it worse," he said. "Are the rich and powerful just going to get more rich and powerful, tossing aside those with so much less? Head Start is desperately needed, now more than ever."

"It may be time for Head Start children and parents in Boston, in Massachusetts and across the country to march to tell our new political leaders to stop doing damage to their fellow Americans who were born 75 yards behind the starting line," said Drew. "If we can't stop this attack on the poor, then it is time to go to the streets!"

Investing in America's future

Head Start serves more than a million poor children and families nationwide, providing comprehensive education, health, dental, nutrition and social services for children from birth to age five along with intensive parent engagement. The program has a documented track record of lifting families out of poverty and revitalizing communities.

A recent NBC national news report on early education cited Head Start's long-term, research-supported positive outcomes in low-income communities, including reductions in grade repetition, high school drop-out rates and teen pregnancies.

A 2016 study by Nobel Laureate econo-

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Ellis

Continued from page 4

portion of the profits from certain wines to Haley House and organizing a volunteer group for the Haley House soup kitchen. Flynn said that M. Flynn has a budget allocation for charitable assistance to certain local non-profits.

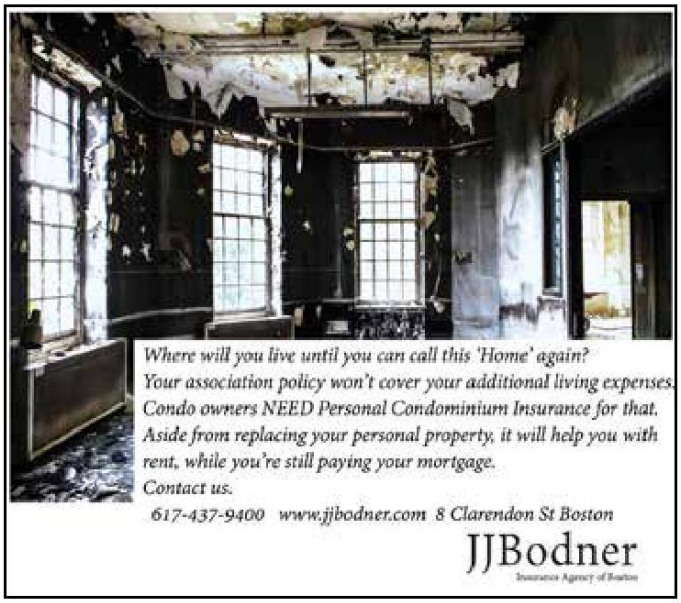
Since two of the three speakers/businesswomen work in family partnerships, they spoke a bit about the effect of working together on their personal relationships. Flynn, whose business partner is her sister, Moria, said that she and her sister have different business specialties, marketing and finance respectively, which works out well for them. She added, "When fights happen, they are filled with teras and red faces and it's pretty bad but one good thing is, at the end of the day, you're sisters and you have to get over it."

Flynn said she recently vacationed with her sister and "It was so great to be just the aunt and the sister instead of the business partner." Douglas, who works with her husband, mused, "Every single night I have to get into bed with my business partner whether I hate him or not. Most times I love him," she said with a smile, "But it's challenging!"

One guest brought up the idea of starting a South End business bulletin board on Facebook to find out about sales, special events and promotions at South End businesses, much the way Facebook's South End Community Board is a go-to site for community concerns and news about parking, crime, sanitation, new development, etc. The business owners were receptive to that idea.

Douglas announced the publication of "Drink Progressively", a "wine education and food pairing book", which will be released in September. It was a really amazing experience writing it: very hard, very fulfilling. Wine education can be so daunting, and we just tried to make it fun," Douglas said. Drink Progressively", named for the motto inscribed on the wall at Urban Grape, includes recipes by chef Gabriel Frasca of Nantucket's Straight Wharf Restaurant as well as recipes from Douglas's own family with guidance on how to match food with wine.

After the conversation with Douglas, Flynn and Madison, guests lingered until almost 7:30. In a follow-up e-mail The Ellis's Betsy Hall said she was pleased with the outcome of the women's event. "There were quite a few new faces, and we signed up four new members at the evening event."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Peter's Park

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businesses of any size are encouraged to get involved. Interested parties can participate by donating on Generosity or reaching out directly to Jenny Effron (jenny@gatewaymainstreet.org) at Washington Gateway Main Street for additional information about the program as well as partnership and sponsorship opportunities.

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Guest Opinion

Continued from page 5

mist James Heckman found that for every $1 invested in Head Start there is a $13 return to society.

"Head Start is a key element in closing America's inequality gap," said Drew. "But right now there is only enough funding to cover 40 percent of eligible children. It should be expanded, not cut."

Nationally, Head Start is an economic engine in distressed, low-income communities, employing more than 125,000 teachers and staff members, providing low-income parents with education and job opportunities, and partnering with small businesses and non-profit organizations to provide important services.

Head Start has served more than 33 million children and their families since 1965, providing pathways to success in school and life. Yesterday's Head Start children are today's lawyers, doctors, business executives and elected officials. The websites of hundreds of Head Start providers across America carry the success stories of these Ivy League graduates, professionals, working parents contributing to their communities.

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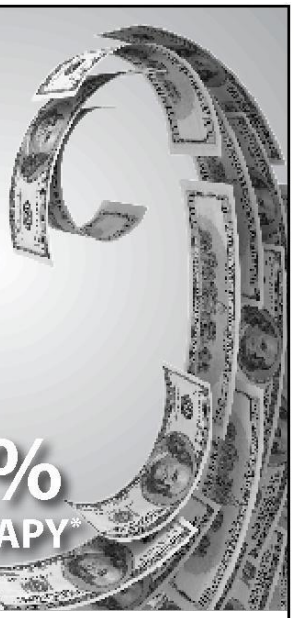

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