South End News

March 30, 2017 [Vol. 38 , No. 12]

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Inside

South End Residents to Run in Boston Marathon

For Mass General Hospital Team

Two South End residents will run in the 121st Boston Marathon on April 17th as part of the Massachusetts General Hospital's Pediatric Oncology Team, Fighting Kids' Cancer ... One Step at a Time, and the Emergency Response Marathon Team. The two teams, which include former patients and family members, Mass General employees and long-time hospital supporters, will join an estimated 30,000 runners along the 26.2 mile course that spans from Hopkinton to Boston's Boylston Street. Funds raised by the runners will benefit essential patient services as well as research and training programs at Mass General.

Running on behalf of the MGH pediatric team is South End resident Ross Porter. An emergency medicine physician assistant at MGH and South End resident, Danielle Lyons is running in support of the emergency response team.

The pediatric team, made up of 102 runners, aims to raise more than $1 million this year to support cancer research initiatives as well as quality of life programming such as art and music therapy; support groups; and child life specialists who help patients and their families cope with illness

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"Keg Party" benefits Art Wall

By Michele D. Maniscalco

Pouring rain didn't dampen the spirits inside Banyan Bar and Refuge, 553 Tremont Street, as about 150 guests ate, drank, danced and laughed on Tuesday, March 28 from 6:00 PM-10:00 PM at the Get Tapped benefit for a new mural on the Peters Park Art Wall. Labeled a "keg party" by its organizers, Get Tapped's atmosphere was casual,

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Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Honor Roll

South End Honor Roll

Boston College High School

Dylan Mullin 2020 of the South End achieved High Honors for the Second Quarter at Boston College High School. For High Honors Freshmen need a 3.6 quality point average and all grades "C+" or higher.

Noad Zacharias 2019 and Ryan Ridolfo 2019 achieved Honors. For Honors a student needs a 3.2 QPA and all grades "C-" or higher.

Boston College High School is a Jesuit, Catholic, college-preparatory school for young men founded in 1863. The school enrolls approximately 1600 students from more than 100 communities in eastern Massachusetts.

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ASK DOG LADY

Advice on Pets, Life, Love

By Monica Collins

Spoiler alert: The following two questions are big downers. However, the queries are important because they remind us about what every loving dog owner doesn't want to contemplate.

Dear Dog Lady,

Do you know when it's time for euthanasia? My dog is a medium-sized dog. She's outlived any dog her size at 17-plus years old. She walks beautifully up to three miles per day. She does have some cataract issues and hearing difficulties. She has to be coaxed to eat much of the time. Still, her mind seems pretty good, although she does have some nights when she will pace for an hour or so for no reason. My question: When do we put her to sleep? How do we know when the right time has arrived? I do not want to wait for a medical emergency as that is not what I want for her last moments.

Trina

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Guest Opinion

How We're Investing in our Boston Public Schools

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Education provides a solid foundation for a growing and thriving city. An investment in our children's education is an investment in Boston's future. We want the best future possible for our kids, and their school days filled with opportunity, growth, and promise.

That's why we're going to invest a record $1.081 billion in Boston Public Schools for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. This budget is the largest in BPS history, representing a projected $40 million increase since last year, and a $143 million increase since I took office in 2014. Our spending on education is now more than all other city departments combined! As I said, this is a necessary investment in our city's future and a top priority. There is no room to cut corners here. Boston Public Schools is well funded, has a long-term financial plan, and now has BuildBPS, a plan to upgrade the school buildings and classrooms our children step into each day. This budget advances the goals and plans that we've laid out and builds upon the momentum we already see in schools across the city.

The budgeting process is a long and complex one – especially when working with $1.081 billion

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Online

Check us out online at

www.mysouthend.com

Online

Dog Lady

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Dear Trina,

There is no answer to your questions from a stranger. Reaching this conclusion is the most personal, heartfelt decision you can make as a dog owner. Talk to your veterinarian and seek out other dog lovers who have lost pets. Maybe you will find some guidance in these conversations.

If your dog has good days and still enjoys life, this should guide you. Do not anticipate the end and do not try to spare yourself the trauma. Also, do not try to orchestrate her final scene. You will know when she has reached the end. This is the best advice Dog Lady can offer. You will know and there will be no doubt. Until then, enjoy your dear mutt Methuselah. You are so blessed to have her – and to have had her for so long.

Dear Dog Lady,

We have a 12-year-old yellow Labrador retriever named Daisy. She will be 13 in October. She gets around fine. Sometimes we think she's a pup; other times she moves a little slower. She is home during the day while we are at work and has the run of the house. There are no accidents or other problems. My question: What signs do I look for when its time? It seems she could go on for another year or two.

-Gary

Dear Gary,

If Daisy eats, walks and enjoys, it is not time for her to die. Dogs teach us to live in the moment so learn your lessons. Let Daisy enjoy her well-earned senescence and flower in her dotage. What you are now experiencing is the hardest part of having a dog. They age quickly and the years pass in a tumble. Before you know it, they slip getting into the car, or struggle to rise up off the floor, or look at you with wise eyes milky from cataracts.

As long as your dog shows all the signs to keep going, leave her alone and allow her senior moments. Make sure Daisy has regular veterinarian appointments and special treats--bones, bully sticks, tennis balls, whatever turns her on – along the way. Ask your veterinarian about the impending signs of death. Dog Lady would rather not dwell on these, preferring to think our dogs have miles to go before they sleep.

Dear Dog Lady,

Our four-year-old old female shepherd mix Olive will howl in sync with a siren when the sound is nearby. Whether she is inside or out, she'll stop what she's doing, stand at attention with ears up and then start howling until the siren is past. She doesn't mimic other noises. Your thoughts are appreciated.

-Linda

Dear Linda,

Howling at sirens is Olive is being Olive. She is female dog, hear her roar. She's obviously enchanted, invigorated, enamored by the sound of a siren and needs to join the chorus with a primal howl. She's not scared or she would cower and try to hide

She's not hurting anybody or threatening anyone. Do not try to train her out of this behavior or punish her for howling with the blare. Do not reward her either. You must merely stand back and appreciate your dog in all her female shepherd-mixedupness. Her

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Guest Opinion

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and more than 120 schools and buildings. In 2012, Boston Public Schools started using a weighted student funding formula to determine how to distribute dollars amongst schools. This approach encourages transparency, creates accountability, promotes flexibility, and simplifies the budget process by adhering to the principle that dollars follow the student. The formula takes into account many different variables, including student demographics, class size ratios, and number of students with special needs and support services. This ensures an equitable process and gives families the opportunity to choose a school that best fits their individual child. Lastly, it gives each school and principal the power to decide how best to use that funding. BPS is a large school district and different schools have different needs, so after determining each school's overall budget, details and funding decisions are left to the principals. Some schools will choose to spend funding on instituting a new math program, some an additional elective teacher, some both, some neither. Those interacting with our students and educators every day make that call. As far as public school funding options go, this levels the playing field the best way we know how.

Make no mistake, equity is a top priority of mine and Superintendent Tommy Chang. That's why this 2018 budget was proposed after a careful equity analysis to make sure funding is directed toward our highest-need students in order to close opportunity and achievement gaps. We also set aside an additional $1.25 million to boost those schools that are facing declining enrollment and need extra resources to flourish. And as I mentioned before, our weighted student funding formula gives all of our students in every neighborhood more opportunities to excel.

So as your child heads out on their first day of the next school year, what will they and you see? Historic investments to extend the school day and renovate and build schools, additional support services for homeless students, and greater access to a challenging curriculum for a more diverse group of students. We are adding additional classroom time for kindergarten through eighth grade, growing prekindergarten seats, expanding vocational programming and significantly increasing funding to our classrooms.

Our work is never done at Boston Public Schools, but I'm proud of the accomplishments of our district and our kids. In 2016, the four-year high school graduation rate climbed to a record high of 72.4 percent, marking a 13-point gain since 2006. Additionally, BPS has more state-designated Level 1 and 2 schools than ever before, with a combined 46 schools ranked among the highest-performing in the state. More than 600 additional students will be enrolled in our Level 1 and 2 schools next year, which means more families are taking advantage of the choice process and choosing a school that makes the most sense for them and their children.

I'll also continue to fight for more resources for our students and our schools. I recently filed comprehensive education finance reform legislation at the State House that aims to invest equitably in public education and expand access to high-quality education for students of all ages. This includes a proposal to close the "quality gap" in pre-kindergarten seats in Boston by creating hundreds more quality pre-kindergarten seats, using $16.5 million of

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Dog Lady

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wolf ancestors would be proud.

Dear Dog Lady,

I have a five-months-old "Morkie" (Maltese/Yorkshire terrier mix) that I acquired three months ago. She had been training with puppy pads from her previous owner. We continued on with the pads and she has been doing very well. But now we want to train her to go outside. How do we go about doing this?

Mind Pees and Qs

Dear Mind Pees and Qs,

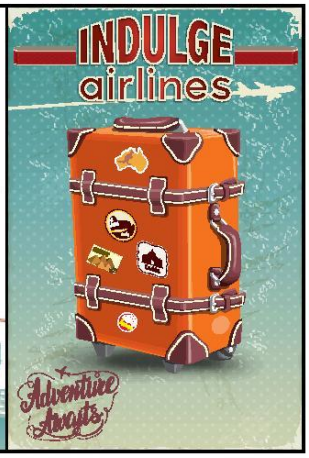
Good for you to want your Morkie to go outside, which is exactly where she should go. Whenever a dog relieves itself in the house without consequences, the beast believes indoors is the great outdoors – one big toilet with no boundaries. You should buy a crate and begin crate-training your pet. She is still young enough to learn quickly. Whatever you do, stop her immediately from soiling in the house.

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

Get Ready for the Adventure of a Lifetime!

Reserve your seat on the all-new Indulge Airlines, departing April 1, 2017 from the ASC International Airport.

It's the 8th annual Arlington Street Church fundraiser to benefit our beloved spiritual community. Get your passport ready!



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MONDAY, APRIL 3
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. Since last year's launch of PLAN: Dudley Square the RSMPOC meetings also include progress reports on the initiative.

All meetings are open to the public and community input is desired. RSMPOC meetings are held in the evening the first Monday of the month at the Dudley Branch Library at 65 Warren Street. PLAN: Dudley Square workshops are typically every third Monday of the month, location varies.

Please come join your neighbors and the City of Boston to help shape the future of the neighborhood! To find out more information or subscribe to email updates for the latest event notifications, please visit bit.ly/theRSMPOC or bit.ly/PlanDudley.

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Teresa Polhemus, *Executive Director/Secretary*

An auspicious Little Dog

The Little Dog Laughed,
Take Your Pick Productions, Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through April 8, 2017. 617-933-8600.

By Jules Becker

Will Hollywood finally accept out leading men? Also, does "Moonlight's best picture Oscar redeem an Academy that passed up "Brokeback Mountain" in favor of the mediocre "Crash"? These questions take on fresh resonance with new Hub company Take Your Pick Productions' wonderfully intimate Boston Center for the Arts revival of Douglas Carter Beame's still timely 2006 play "The Little Dog Laughed."

The talented out playwright ("The Nance," "Xanadu the Musical") had his own confrontation with Universal about turning his earlier play "As Bees in Honey Drown" into a screenplay. The Hollywood studio seemed to 'jump over the moon' to turn its Jewish gay novelist hero into a straight leading role for Leonardo Di Caprio. Despite threats of a law suit from Universal, Beame left the project—his integrity intact.

By contrast, Mephistophelian lesbian agent Diane in Beame's Tony-nominated play is prepared to do anything to conceal the sexual orientation of up and coming Hollywood actor Mitchell Green including accompanying him to major events. After meeting and spending time with an essentially decent and unassuming young man named Alex, Mitchell begins to believe that he is falling in love. For his part, Alex identifies himself as a straight man whose Westchester County girlfriend Ellen knows that he has sex with men for money. Whether bi-sexual or simply fluid in his relationships, he does come across as very comfortable with his own identity.

That comfort may be rubbing off on Mitchell, who clearly wants to spend more quality time with his new friend. To the consternation of Diane, he even invites Alex to accompany him to a play. Beame, who demonstrated his knack for complicated but ultimately clearly resolved plotting in "As Bees in Honey Drown," ramps up the tensions between Mitchell and Diane. A resourceful if sometimes ruthless agent, Diane is prepared to jettison much of a potential breakthrough stage part for risk-taking Mitchell and persuade the playwright to build up the actress' role. A surprising announcement by Ellen to Alex serves as a further catalyst for real moments of truth.

Will Mitchel throw caution and safe career choices to the wind with Alex? What impact will Ellen's announcement and own choices have on Alex? Will Diane impose her will on all concerned? Can she buy the happiness of others? As the play answers these questions, insights abound about the difference between success and true happiness. At the same time, Beame enriches his savvy play with a brilliant putdown of studio contracts talks and power lunches.

Not least of the play's pleasures is the vividly bitchy characterization of Diane. Her powers of manipulation and verbal cleverness rival those of con artist Alexa Vere de Vere in "As Bees in Honey Drown." Fittingly Beame has given the role a pivotal tirade about Hollywood hypocrisy and other outbursts that make the role a gem, one that rightly earned Julie White a lead actress Tony. Under Cassandra Lovering's sharp direction, Audrey Lynn Sylvia captures Diane's loneliness as well as her indignation and cynicism. A particularly nice touch of this thoughtful staging involves Sylvia facing theatergoers as Diane asks if everyone is happy. Her modulated performance keeps the often shameless agent from ever becoming a monster.

Victor Shopov is very persuasive as emotionally conflicted Mitchell. His verbal sparring with Sylvia's Diane has the right combination of fire and feeling. By contrast, Mitchell's evolving relationship and romance with Alex benefits from the strong chemistry between Shopov and Matthew Fagerberg as. Fagerberg finds Alex's likeability, remarkable transparency and poignant vulnerability. Aina Adler displays a cool as striking as Ellen's Mohawk and this sophisticate's rich attitude.

All four actors move smoothly around Marc Ewart's cleverly constructed scenic design as the characters' fortunes change. Michael Clark Wonson's lighting adds radiance to Mitchell and Alex's romantic moments.

Alex seems especially well-poised for a new beginning, and so does Take Your Pick Productions. "The Little Dog Laughed" proves a very auspicious debut.

BMC Appoints Michael Botticelli as Addiction Medicine Center ED

BOSTON– On the heels of the $25 million gift from John and Eilene Grayken to intensify Boston Medical Center's fight against the burgeoning opioid epidemic, BMC today named Michael Botticelli the first executive director of the Grayken Center for Addiction Medicine.

Botticelli, one of the nation's leading addiction experts, served as the Director of National Drug Control Policy at the White House under President Obama.

Botticelli was the first person to hold the position who was also in long-term recovery from a substance use disorder and who came from a public health background. His predecessors were law enforcement officials, doctors and a military general.

"Michael embodies every item on the wish list of what we wanted in the ideal Director of the Grayken Center and he is the perfect fit for the Center and its ability to lead in this battle," said Boston Medical Center CEO Kate Walsh. "Michael was instrumental in getting the fight against addiction to the top of the national agenda. He fought for additional funding, and worked closely with groups across the country to develop and replicate clinical treatment programs that work. But he also led the way on shaping our country's understanding of addiction as a disease, not a moral failing or character flaw, and that patients with substance use disorder deserve treatment not punishment. He is a true leader in addiction medicine."

This marks a return for Mr. Botticelli to Boston, where he previously served as Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, working closely with many BMC experts and others to extend successful models of care developed at BMC across the state and the nation. He has served in a variety of leadership roles for the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors. He was a member of the Advisory Committee for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. He has also co-authored many peer-reviewed articles that have significantly contributed to the field. Born in Upstate New York, Mr. Botticelli holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Siena College and a Master of Education degree from St. Lawrence University. He is also in long-term recovery from a substance use disorder, celebrating more than 28 years of recovery.

"I am excited and a bit in awe of the opportunity to work with this team to build the Grayken Center on the already strong foundation of great work in addiction medicine at BMC," said Botticelli. "BMC's international leadership in research, teaching, and clinical programming on substance use disorders and their consequences is well known. And the Grayken's extraordinary gift makes it possible to spark innovation on new models of treatment and care that will have real impact."

The Grayken Center's mission will focus on three aspects of addiction medicine:

Research – The Center will increase the pace of innovative research at BMC, already one of the most highly respected addictions research programs in the country, with a body of published work that has transformed addiction care. It will enable further multidisciplinary research on new approaches examining innovative care models.

Treatment –The Grayken Center will increase BMC's reach in developing and testing new care models, bringing together experts to establish metrics against which outcomes can be tracked and more advanced data and analytics infrastructure developed.

Training and Prevention –The Grayken Center will join with key government agencies and lawmakers to reduce barriers to addiction treatment. It will expand existing training programs for doctors, nurses and other clinicians on addiction medicine, and will develop educational materials for prescribers.

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Letters policy

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

Honor Roll

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University of New Hampshire

Victoria Clark of Boston has been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for earning High Honors for the fall 2016 semester. Clark is majoring in HumanDevelopmnt&Family Studies.

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

The University of New Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world.

UMass Dartmouth

Helen Teklehaimanot of Boston, MA has been named to the Chancellor's List in recognition of earning a Fall 2016 semester grade point average of 3.8 or higher of a possible 4.0.

The following UMass Dartmouth students have been named to the Fall 2016 Dean's list in recognition of earning a semester grade point average of 3.2 or higher of a possible 4.0.

Raymond Chen and Selines Diaz.

UMass Dartmouth distinguishes itself as a vibrant public university actively engaged in personalized teaching and innovative research, and acting as an intellectual catalyst for regional economic, social, and cultural development. UMass Dartmouth's mandate to serve its community is realized through countless partnerships, programs, and other outreach efforts to engage the community, and apply its knowledge to help address local issues and empower others to facilitate change for all.

University of the South Sewanee

Daniel Callahan Oakley of Boston has been named to the Dean's List at the

University of the South for the Fall 2016 term. To earn a place on

Sewanee's Dean's List, a student must earn a minimum grade point average

of 3.625 on a 4.0 scale. Daniel Callahan Oakley is the son of Eileen &

Daniel C. Oakley.

The University of the South, familiarly known as Sewanee, comprises a

nationally recognized College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a

distinguished School of Theology. Located on 13,000 acres on Tennessee's

Cumberland Plateau, Sewanee.

Wentworth Institute of Technology

The following local students have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology

for the fall 2016 semester.

Wei Cheng Liang, Yong M. Chen, Aaron Paternoster.

Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is an independent,

co-educational, nationally ranked institution offering career-focused

education through 17 bachelor's degree programs in areas such as applied

mathematics, architecture, business management, computer science, computer

networking, construction management, design, and engineering.

UMass Lowell

The following ocal residents have been named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the fall

2016 semester at UMass Lowell are:

Musye Gebrezgiy, majoring in economics

Rufino Henriquez, majoring in music studies

Steven Zhou, majoring in engineering

Eric Chan, majoring in information technology

Zihui Chen, majoring in psychology

Maya Chin, majoring in public health

George Liang, majoring in chemical engineering

James Tan, majoring in computer science

Merismar Isabel-Baez, majoring in philosophy

Mauricio Reyes, majoring in civil engineering

Marcus Fergus , majoring in business administration

Chester Obi , majoring in electrical engineering

Tiffany Obi , majoring in engineering

To qualify for the dean's list at UMass Lowell, a student must have completed no fewer than 12 graded credits for the semester and earned at least a 3.25 grade point average with no grade lower than C and without any incompletes.

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a high-energy campus in the heart of a global community. The university offers its more than 17,750 students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences

and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be ready for work, for life and for all the world offers. www.uml.edu

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Marathon

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and treatment. The emergency response team's 41 runners hope to collectively raise $375,000 to provide critical support for emergency care, disaster relief and disaster preparedness teaching and training at Mass General, efforts that benefit victims worldwide.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of John Hancock's partnership with the Mass General Pediatric Oncology Team. Since it was formed, the pediatric team has raised more than $12 million to support research and activities for children with cancer.

The emergency response team, which was guaranteed entries after the hospital's response to the 2013 marathon bombings, has raised over $1 million for essential programs and services.

"We are grateful to our runners and the awareness they bring to emergency preparedness and childhood cancer initiatives at Mass General," said Tom Lynch, MD, chairman and chief executive officer of the Massachusetts General Physicians Organization. "We look forward to celebrating as our teams cross the finish line."

To learn more about the Mass General pediatric and emergency response teams, please go to https://giving.massgeneral.org/boston-marathon.

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Keg Party

Continued from page 1

funky and upbeat, with a delectable menu of wings, banh mi sandwiches with assorted fillings and mini donuts from Blackbird Doughnuts; beverages of the night Pabst Blue Ribbon and the Ly-cheeky Monkey, a refreshing blend of tequila, vodka, lemongrass and ginger beer; rock favorites played by the Comancheros followed by a DJ spinning and mixing classic disco; and street artists painting a mural in the side room, all for the gentle price of $15 per ticket.

Montgomery Street resident Frank Hamm took the toga party designation literally and, in a nod to the movie Animal House, wore a toga to the party.

This being an election year for the Mayor and for City Council districts 2 and 7, both representing parts of the South End, Mayor Walsh and District 2 hopefuls Corey Dinopoulos, Michael Kelley and Ed Flynn glad-handed their way through the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd. Get Tapped was sponsored by The Gallows Group, Olives and Grace, M. Flynn, The Urban Grape and Washington Gateway Main Street (WGMS). Event organizers Sofi Madison of Olives and Grace, Jennifer Effron and Randi Grohe Lathrop of WGMS celebrated the success of the evening along with Sam Chambers, South End liaison from the Office of Neighborhood Services.

The beneficiary of the fundraiser, the Peters Park Art Wall, was designated in 1986 as a legal graffiti wall, and Mayor Walsh recently named South End native Genaro "Geo" Ortega to head the new mural project. Ortega, a mentor with Artists for Humanity and mural curator at Madison Park High School, will design the artwork and recruit local youth to work on the mural. He was joined at the benefit by Rob "Problak" Gibbs, founder of Artists for Humanity and with Geo, a member of the GN Crew, a group of graffiti artists who grew up in the South End.

Geo and Problak painted throughout the evening as guests looked on. Gibbs is pleased with the response the Art Wall fundraiser, which started with a crowdfunding drive, is receiving. "We're trying to continue history. We had a responsibility years ago that we didn't know to keep it going and now we are making sure it is in the right hands." Gibbs's colleague Victor said, "It's incredible that people care so much about art, about the South End and the legacy of the wall."

Donations to the Peters Park Art Wall mural are still being accepted at http://ow.ly/BBNF309URVh]

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Go Boston 2030

58 projects and policies to direct the City of Boston's transportation agenda for the next decade and beyond

Submitted by Mayor's Office

Mayor Martin J. Walsh released the Go Boston 2030 Vision and Action Plan that will direct the City of Boston's transportation agenda for the next decade and beyond. The plan is comprised of 58 transportation projects and policies that are designed to expand access to a variety of connected transportation options, improve traffic-related safety on Boston's streets, and ensure reliability of service for the City's residents, commuters and visitors. The Plan highlights projects already underway and presents a blueprint for the City to direct its capital plan funding.

"Go Boston 2030 addresses the transportation challenges that we face as a city and a region, and lays the foundation for how we can create a safer, more equitable transportation future," said Mayor Walsh. "Shaped by the feedback from thousands of residents, the action plan includes both short and long-term projects that will create greater transportation access that is reliable and safe for all users of our city's streets. Altogether, the initiatives in this plan will connect people to the region's fastest growing job centers, tackle transportation inequality, prepare our transportation networks for climate change and increase economic mobility for the people of Boston."

The "Top Policies and Projects" of the Go Boston 2030 Vision and Action Plan include:

Walking and Bicycle Friendly Main Street Districts - improve access into and around Boston's neighborhood commercial districts for people traveling on foot and by bike.

Fairmount Line Service Improvements and Urban Rail - provide improved connections for Dorchester and Mattapan with an increase to the frequency of service and better payment systems, and then introduce new rail cars to create a rapid transit line.

Columbia Road Greenway - create a neighborhood friendly street for those walking, biking, or traveling by bus along this corridor, that connects to Franklin and Moakley Parks.

Neighborhood Mobility microHUBs - develop prominent neighborhood access points to help residents select from a range of connected travel choices including subway, bus, bike-share and car-share.

Smart Signal Corridors and Districts - program traffic lights to work together to facilitate movement in congested parts of the City.

Mattapan to LMA Rapid Bus - design high-quality stops, signal priority, all-door boarding, and some exclusive lanes to create direct access from Mattapan and Southwest Dorchester to jobs and medical care in Roxbury, Mission Hill, and the Longwood Medical and Academic Area.

North Station to South Boston Waterfront Rapid Bus and Ferry - introduce direct bus service in exclusive lanes between the Seaport and northern commuter rail in tandem with ferry service.

Top Policies

Vision Zero Safety Initiatives - continue to implement innovative measures to reduce traffic-related fatalities and severe injuries due to crashes on Boston's local streets.

State of Good Repair - investments by the City to repair and maintain Boston's roadways and bridges for the decades ahead.

Restructure Bus Routes - work with the MBTA and local communities to develop a new network of bus routes that better match the travel needs of Bostonians.

Autonomous Vehicles - develop policies to prepare for self-driving vehicles and support on-street testing of autonomous vehicles.

"Boston is booming, with new housing and new businesses opening up and even more on the way," said City of Boston Chief of Streets Chris Osgood. "With the Go Boston 2030 Vision and Action Plan, we now have a framework to provide connections between Boston's neighborhoods and to new job centers, allowing people to access them using transportation options that are affordable, efficient and enjoyable."

"In 2015, Mayor Walsh directed BTD to develop a plan to make transportation improvements that would benefit all of Boston's diverse communities in all of the City's neighborhoods, in both the short and the long-term," said Boston Transportation Commissioner Gina N. Fiandaca. "An unprecedented public engagement process was undertaken that led to thousands of ideas and comments being submitted by residents and stakeholders. This Plan, and the aspirational goals and targets that are established and prioritized in it, is the direct result of that collaborative process."

Five thousand ideas were submitted to the City during the first round of the public engagement process, helping to set the project's goals and metrics. Moving forward from goals to specific projects, the public submitted another 3,500 policy and project ideas. After analyzing these ideas, nearly 4,000 Boston residents and others helped to prioritize them by voting for their top choices of projects.

Go Boston 2030 reflects a partnership between several public agencies and, in particular, complements the Imagine Boston 2030 and Climate Ready Boston initiatives.

The Go Boston 2030 public process will continue through the execution of individual projects, with policies and projects receiving a more in-depth planning process at the local level, including through further collaboration with residents and other stakeholders.

For more information on Go Boston 2030, please visit http://goboston2030.org/en/

Guest Opinion

Continued from page 3

surplus revenue already raised in Boston from the Convention Center Fund. I'm committed to working with our partners on Beacon Hill to get every student on a pathway to success from pre-kindergarten through college and career.

This budget was passed by the school committee and will be submitted to the Boston City Council for approval later this spring. I look forward to building upon our successes, listening to feedback, and striving to make Boston Public Schools better each and every year. As I've said before, we still have a lot of work to do, but together, we can provide a brighter future for our kids and our city.

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