South End *News*

April 27, 2017 [Vol. 38 , No. 16]

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Inside

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Inside

South Enders at BAC Spring Gala

Over 500 guests filled the first floor of 25 Drydock Ave in the Innovation and Design Building on Thursday, April 6th, for the Boston Architectural College's most successful annual spring gala to date. Creatively designed food stations throughout the colorful room provided guests with ample grazing opportunities from some of Boston's top restaurants and chefs. Funds raised at the gala directly support the Boston Architectural College's students with financial aid, innovative technology, and improvements to the college's Newbury Street campus.

(Left to Right) Gala sponsor Elizabeth Lowrey of Elkus Manfredi Architects with BAC alumnus Tom Trykowski and Joe Cacciola

USES shifts programming focus

Senior programs to end June 30

By Michele D. Maniscalco

In an e-mail sent to United South End Settlements (USES) supporters on Friday, April 21, president and chief executive officer Maicharia Weir-Lytle announced plans for a major restructuring of the 125 year old non-profit's programming to focus on helping families and children to overcome poverty and improve their prospects for future prosperity and to achieve increased sustainability through refocusing existing programs and eliminating others, notably services to seniors such as senior wellness and fitness classes, affordable home repair referrals, low-cost daily lunches and free, supplemental

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Victory Programs Dinnerfest RED sets new fundraising record

On Sunday, April 23 from 3 to 6 PM, Victory Programs celebrated another year of health, housing and prevention services with nearly 300 supporters at the 27th annual Dinnerfest RED Party + Auction fundraiser at Red Lantern on Stanhope Street in the Back Bay. This year's Dinnerfest raised more than $135,000, and set a new event record for the third year in a row with a 12% increase over

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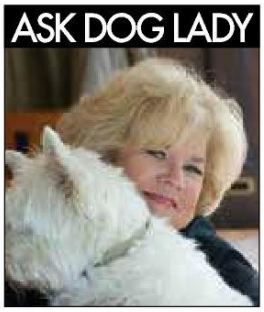
Photo by David Fox

ASK DOG LADY



Advice on Pets, Life, Love

By Monica Collins

Just curious. Has President Donald Trump gotten a pet yet? Is he the first president not to have a four-legged friend in the White House?

-Peter

Dear Peter,

No pets yet at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Kind of creepy, wouldn't you say? Actually, a fur-less Oval Office shouldn't be that surprising. President Trump has already smashed a lot of traditions and standards associated with the U. S. presidency. Yes, he's the first president in modern times who does not have a pet.

Alex Beam, the columnist, Ask Dog Lady friend, and fellow West Highland terrier owner, recently wrote a piece for the New York Times, "What Kind of Pet Should Donald Trump Get?" that is really worth the Google search if you haven't read it already. Writes Beam: "It seems emblematic of President Trump's blaring tone-deafness for the office that he doesn't even feign interest in recruiting a furry, fowlish or finny friend. Pets reap vast, humanizing rewards for presidents as al-

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New music from South End jazzman Arni Cheatham

By Michele D. Maniscalco

Against the backdrop of his own photography, Arni Cheatham celebrated the release of his latest CD, "Telacoustic", at the Piano Factory Gallery, 793 Tremont Street, on Sunday afternoon, April 2. Approximately 40 people joined Cheatham and his band: trombonist Bill Lowe, pianist Kevin Harris, bassist Timo Shanko and drummer

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Arni Cheatham (Left) Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Free Bike Tune Ups

Saturday, April 29 1-3 pm, O'Day Park (West Newton St. between Newland and Tremont).
A family-friendly afternoon of free bike tune-ups and ice cream. Come early for a free bike light!
Sponsored by Friends of O'Day Park in partnership with Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion, Blackstone Franklin Square Neighborhood Association and Pilot Block Neighborhood Association.

Rookie Ball Sign-Ups

South End Baseball will be holding Rookie Ball Sign-Ups (ages 4-7) on the following Saturdays:
April 22 and 29 from 10am-12pm at Rotch Park (49 Randolph St between Harrison and Albany)
May 6 at 10am at the Villa Victoria Plaza (50 West Dedham St between Tremont and Shawmut) before our Opening Day Parade–kids then march in the parade!
http://www.southendbaseball.com

bpda | Public Meeting

41 REGENT STREET, ROXBURY

MONDAY, MAY 8
6:15 PM - 8:15 PM

2400 WASHINGTON ST
Area B-2 Police Station
Horatio Homer Community Room
Roxbury, MA 02119

PROJECT PROPONENT:
CVJC, LLC

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
BPDA invites the community to attend a developer's presentation by CVJC, LLC to discuss their proposed development of a BPDA-owned parcel at 41 Regent Street, Roxbury. The Proponent proposes to combine the BPDA parcel with its adjacent land at 64 Alpine Street, to construct a 15 unit condominium, targeting middle-income buyers, including some income restricted units.

MAIL TO: **REAY PANNESI**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
PHONE: 617.918.6239
EMAIL: Reay.L.Pannesi@boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:
5/22/2017

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

USES

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groceries for low-income seniors.

The announcement results from a strategic planning process called Vison125 that began last fall, with USES staff, board members and consultants meeting among themselves and engaging with community members and leaders, elected officials, funders and others to determine the best way to serve South Enders in the face of changing demographics and to use its assets and facilities more efficiently to serve residents. Weir-Lytle, who took the helm at USES in February of 2015, expressed concern for the financial struggles she found at USES since arriving and stressed the need to revamp the organization's financial model as it realigns its program offerings. Word of possible disncontinuance of senior programs began to spread among participants.

On Friday afternoon, vice president Nikki Stewart responded via e-mail to the South End News's inquiry, writing, "We've always cherished our seniors, and have been grateful for the opportunity to contribute directly to their lives and to enjoy them for many years as a small but treasured group among our participants. Seniors are absolutely a rich part of the fabric of this community and our families. Though our programmatic refocus on families with children will not include our current Senior Services offerings, we do envision our impact will have a positive cumulative effect on every member of participating families, including seniors."

According to Stewart, the senior health and wellness classes currently serve approximately 160 participants. "To give context, we are serving approximately 950 individuals overall, so the senior health and wellness program makes up only 17% of our program participants," she explained. In a follow-up interview, Stewart said that although senior services at USES will end on June 30, the organization is talking with other social service groups, the city's Commission on Affairs of the Elderly and the Department of Neighborhood Development about transitioning existing programs to other agencies in the South End.

Elderly Affairs commissioner Emily Shea weighed in on the elimination of senior services at USES, commenting via e-mail, "United South End Settlements has been a great partner, and we are sad to see that programming end. Senior programming in the South End is very important to us, and we will be engaging in our competitive grant process beginning next month to offer funding to a range of programs across the city. We are grateful for the relationship we've had with United South End Settlements, and we will be working with them to identify other potential partners in the neighborhood."

Longtime community activist Frieda Garcia, who served as executive director of USES for 20 years, has remained involved with the organization through its senior activities. "For the last several years I have attended the Tuesday Tai Chi class taught by Rick Tousignant. He also teaches a class on Thursday, each with about 15-20 enthusiastic students.

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Dog Lady

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most every one of his predecessors has discovered."

Ever the good reporter, Beam has found an expert who can speak to this. He quotes Alan Beck, a professor of animal ecology and director of the Center for the Human-Animal Bond at Purdue University. Says Beck: "If you have an animal, you are somehow a better person. There are lots of studies on this. But I don't think the president even seems to care about that."

Dear Dog Lady,

My dog, Spooky, has seen my beaus come and go. My current (for the past year) beau got along smashingly with my pooch for about six months. Then, Spooky began to act destructive while he was staying with my guy at his home while I was traveling for work. Trash cans overturned, bathrooms wrecked, and even urinating on his couch. It became such a problem that Spooky no longer stays with my fellow while I travel, but with a friend (female and no problems). I love this guy, and he tolerates the dog despite the bad behavior. Any ideas on how to correct the problem and keep the both of the loves of my life in the same picture?

-Beth

Dear Beth,

You have to be part of this picture too. When Spooky wreaked havoc, you should have immediately stepped up to make things right with your beau by reimbursing for damages and cleaning – no matter if he gamely insisted the animal antics were OK. Staying with your female friend seems a more successful strategy. Still, don't tax your intimates. Friends don't let friends mind the dog.

When you leave town, arrange for reliable, professional dog care and pay for the service. Ask at your veterinarian's office, the local dog store, or neighborhood dog walkers for referrals to pet sitters. Use the app Wag or go to petsit.com, the web site of Pet Sitters International, a professional organization. You can search, via ZIP Code, for a referral to a Spooky sitter.

Dear Dog Lady,

I was raised by parents who were breeders, so when I noticed that my friend's Saint Bernard looked underweight I mentioned it to my friend and was told in a "none of your business" attitude that the veterinarian says she's "fine." That was months ago and the dog's spine and hip bones are very visible through her fur, her nose is always very dry, and she doesn't eat well. I sneak her food whenever I'm in the house, just dog food with warm water on it, and she wolfs it down eagerly, but the owner says she doesn't eat when food is offered to her.

How do I get my friend to take her dog's health seriously?

-Alicia

Dear Alicia,

We all know that minding our own business is the preferable course. However, in a case like this, you must ask your friend about her dog's condition. Sure, you risk being a Buttinski but, in the matter of a living creature's health and welfare, your meddling is warranted.

You have credentials. Tell your friend you come from a family of St. Bernard breeders. You know how a dog is supposed to look and her St. Bernard doesn't look well. Point out the bones and the dry nose. Arrive girded with names and contact information for a couple of well-regarded veterinarians as well as information about brands of prime dog food. Also, bring the contacts of a St. Bernard rescue organization. Offer the information without judgment.

Your friend may be overwhelmed caring for this animal. A Saint Bernard dog is the size of a small horse. The breed requires much food, good exercise, and a snowy Swiss mountain all their own. Their slobber runs in rivers. They are great dogs and renowned for helping humans in distress. Your friend, however, may not want to keep this sort of a high maintenance pet and will be relieved if you provide the opportunity for a way out.

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

Emerald Necklace Explorers

South End resident Ellie Cornish-Chu, with sons Dylan (left) and Lyndon, supported Party in the Park at "A Walk in the Park" Children's Tea and Fashion Show at the Four Seasons on April 9. The event, which featured a fashion show with clothing from Komodo, and children's activities from Zoo New England and others, was part of the Emerald Necklace Explorers Club, Party in the Park's first ever children's programming. WCVB's J.C. Monahan served as the emcee for the day. This year's Party in the Park luncheon, which benefits the Justine Mee Liff Fund for the Emerald Necklace, takes place onMay 17 at Pinebank Promotory. For more information, visitwww.emeraldnecklace.org.

USES

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Efforts are being made to get this class taught somewhere else in the neighborhood. I believe USES is also trying to get the other older adult programs picked up by other agencies. I can't imagine that it was an easy decision to make," Garcia said. Jovita Fontanez, another longtime South Ender who served as Boston's

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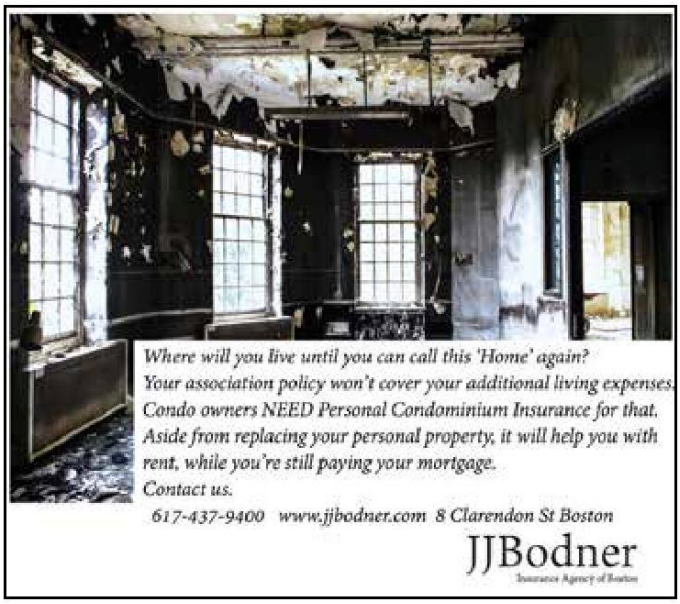

Arni Cheatham

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David Moore, nibbling on wine, cheese and fruit while the band showcased tunes from Cheatham's new release, a 7-song collection of standards and originals.

Among the photographs behind the band was Cheatham's own portrait of longtime friend and collaborator Lowe. Among the guests cheering Cheatham on were Pauline Bilsky and Harry King, president and vice-chairman of the board of JazzBoston. Three weeks later, Cheatham was back in the gallery, joining the Kurtis Rivers Quartet on a few songs at a Jazz Week concert sponsored by Jazz Boston, the first of Cheatham's three Jazz Week gigs. At 72, the esteemed saxman and photographer is on a roll.

Cheatham has made his home in the Piano Factory since its earliest days in the mid-1970s as an artist live-work space. A Chicago native who moved to Boston to study at Berklee College of Music, Cheatham not only made Boston his home but became an integral and active member of the Boston free-jazz scene, forming a band called Thing in the 1970s and becoming a founding member of the Jazz Coalition, a musician-advocacy group that preceded JazzBoston.

Cheatham's wide-ranging contributions to the group: from writing grant proposals to organizing music-education programs and concerts at hospitals, homeless shelters and other institutions, helped earn him a Jazz Hero award, bestowed by JazzBoston and the Jazz Journalists Association in 2013. Now in his early 70s, Cheatham is far from slowing down: he is a member of the Aardvark Orchestra and the Makanda Project, he continues to photograph birds, nature and human subjects and he and Lowe run JazzBoston's Riffs and Raps, an interactive music education program for audiences from toddlers to seniors.

Arni Cheatham (Left) Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Last summer, his bird photographs were exhibited at the Hammond Residential real estate offices at 505 Tremont Street and he also presented a series of free, monthly music appreciation workshops through the summer.

"Telacoustic" was recorded with three different musician lineups including Lowe, Moore and Shanko. The disc includes imaginative spins on familiar titles such as "My Romance" and "Cry Me a River" as well as Cheatham's own compositions, all woven together by Cheatham's rich, full saxophone, the voice of his triumphs, his struggles and his passion.

On April 23, Cheatham helped saxophonist Rivers and his quartet usher in Jazz Week at the Piano Factory, taking a few solos with Rivers's quartet and playing harmonies alongside his friend. The 4:00 PM show featured Rivers originals such as "Into the Shadows" as well as favorites "On Green Dolphin Street" and Stevie Wonder's "Isn't She Lovely". The band played surrounded by Izzy Vanhall's bold, vividly colored canvases of futuristic-looking human forms.

As Jazz Week continues, Cheatham will perform in the City Council chamber at Boston City Hall on Wednesday, April 26 at 11:00 AM at All Jazzed Up, a free concert to celebrate International Jazz Day. On Saturday, April 29 at 8:00 PM, Cheatham will perform with the Aardvark Orchestra in Democratic Vistas?, a free concert at the MIT Kresge Auditorium in Cambridge.

For further details about Jazz Week events, please visit https://jazzboston.org/jazz-calendar/

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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

Dinnerfest

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last year's event revenue. Victory Programs has a proud, 42-year history of standing on the front lines of emerging public health challenges impacting our community here in Boston. Every penny raised at Dinnerfest and the organization's other signature events is put right back into services that benefit the most vulnerable members of our community.

This year the event coincides with the opening of New Joelyn's Home, a state-of-the-art, 24-bed women's residential recovery program housed in a freshly renovated Victorian home in Roxbury. The opening of New Joelyn's Home represents the latest chapter in Victory Programs' efforts to rebuild their women's recovery services in the wake of the unexpected permanent evacuation and closing of the first Joelyn's Family Home in October 2014 when the only bridge to Boston Harbor's Long Island where the program was located was closed on short notice due to structural issues. Between the opening of New Joelyn's Home this year and the expansion of two other women's residential recovery programs, New Victories for Women and Shepherd House, Victory Programs has built back 98% of the women's residential recovery capacity it had when the bridge closed.

This year's Dinnerfest Co-Chairs Tiffani Faison, Richard Gordon and Scott Kearnan were instrumental in building relationships with participating restaurants and other in-kind donors to bring in high quality donations from some of Boston's most coveted establishments. "Tiffani, Richard and Scott each brought their passion for our mission to their work as event co-chairs," shares Shauna Helton, Victory Programs' Special Events Manager. "That passion, paired with the deep ties each of them have established through years of working in the restaurant and entertainment industries here in Boston, really allowed us to take our auction prizes to a whole new level which paid off in record fundraising." Victory Programs once again tapped professional auctioneer Kathy Kingston to energize the crowd during the Live Auction and Fund-A-Need portions of the event. Members of the Imperial Court of Massachusetts and the Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence volunteered at the event greeting guests and selling raffle tickets.

Despite the party atmosphere, this fundraiser serves to address a real, ongoing need for additional resources for public services like those provided at each of Victory Programs' 17 programs in Boston, Cambridge and Topsfield. Javier, a client from Victory House, Victory Programs' first program established in 1975, moved attendees by sharing his personal story of addiction and recovery during the height of the event. Jonathan Scott, Victory Programs' President and CEO shared his thoughts on this year's Dinnerfest: "Just fabulous. The whole event, the results, the energy, the everything. We can ALL be incredibly proud for creating and sustaining this wonderful gathering of friends and supporters."

About Victory Programs

Victory Programs has more than 40 years of experience opening doors to hope, health and housing for individuals and families in need. Since its inception in 1975, the agency has expanded to 17 health, housing and prevention programs providing shelter and recovery services to more than 2,300 people annually. Victory Programs has a storied history of responding to emerging needs in the community – from being one of the first agencies in Massachusetts to allow HIV positive clients into its addiction recovery programs in 1981 to launching a mobile prevention unit in 2015 to reach individuals and families in the community and better serve their needs. Throughout its organizational growth, Victory Programs' commitment to those struggling with homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and chronic illnesses like HIV/AIDS always remains its top priority.

Photos by David Fox

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INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

In the Estate of: Eva Xenakis
Also Known as: Evaggelica Xenakis & Evangeline Xenakis
Date of Death: January 24, 2017

Docket No. SU12P0551EA

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of William A. Xenakis of Cary NC, a will has been admitted to informal probate. William A. Xenakis of Cary, NC has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
PO Box 9667
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Pet of the Week

Brussell Sprout, Jalapeno and **Kiwi** are 3 guinea pigs about 7-weeks old. They are not bonded and can go home separately, but ideally guinea pigs should be housed in pairs or small groups, so they would definitely do best together or with another GP in the home. Guinea pig care is fairly easy to learn. They need an enclosure with lofts, ramps and space to move around, a minimum of 2 by 4 feet of floor space per pig. They should also get at least a couple hours of exercise time outside the cage every other day. They eat grain, hay and fresh fruits/veggies and need a secure hiding house, plus toys of wood or cardboard (toilet paper rolls, paper bags, etc). Gentle handling helps them get used to people. Feel free to ask a staff member to discuss enclosure designs with you. If you think **Brussell Sprout** and his brothers may be a good match for you, please plan a visit to meet them 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.

Also, be sure to check out our:
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Unveiling Vision125: An Update from USES

BY MAICHARIA Z. WEIR LYTLE
PRESIDENT AND CEO

Last fall, I shared with you that United South End Settlements (USES) had commenced a strategic planning process to maintain its strong, high-quality programming while also addressing a significant need to overcome years-long financial difficulties..)

I expressed that change was coming at USES, that the stakes were high, and that we'd be as transparent as possible at every stage of the process. That change is here. Our Vision125 strategic planning process enabled us to do some deep, careful, and critical thinking about the future of USES and how best to focus our limited resources on where we believe we can have the most impact. We are happy to provide you an update on our path forward.

We believe that as families stabilize, become more resilient, and connect to a diverse network, they and their children are more likely to develop the skills they need to succeed. As such, we are pivoting to a program model that will mobilize our diverse community to disrupt the cycle of poverty for children and families. Our approach is comprehensive, multi-dimensional and supports the whole family:

We will work with parents and caregivers to develop their own capacity to reach their goals through individualized one-on-on coaching and help them enter the workforce on a career trajectory that provides stability for their families.

We will provide children and youth with quality education and enrichment opportunities that promote their own development, expand their horizons, and ready them for school and beyond. Our youth will participate in a pathway of programming that includes early childhood education and out of school time programming including a summer sleepaway experience on Squam Lake in NH. All of our youth will receive a curriculum infused with arts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, math).

We will enable families to increase their social capital by building a network of disrupters who participate in our high-quality programs, as participants and volunteers, and through other networking and community building opportunities.

To achieve our new vision, we need to align our programs and operations to our new theory of change and renewed mission. This means we will work to transition our existing senior services programs to experienced organizations we believe can serve our seniors even better than we can while we explore how we engage seniors in the new model, shift the focus of our Workforce Readiness program from education to career preparation, and move from stand-alone vacation arts programming to agency-wide arts access for all of our youth. These changes will happen at the end of our fiscal year – June 30 – allowing time for a thoughtful transition.

Ultimately, we envision our impact will have a positive cumulative effect on every member of participating families in our community. If families with children are more stable financially and enjoying increased economic mobility, they'll be able to better support seniors in their lives as well, with more quality time and greater resources.

Maicharia Z Weir Lytle

One of the things we've learned how to do well over the past 125 years is to reinvent and revitalize our organization to continually meet the needs of the community through many eras of change. We're innovating again, in the tradition of the settlement house movement, and our work teaching, inspiring, connecting, guiding, and caring for others in our community will endure.

It's a privilege to be part of an organization that has weathered the winds of change for well over a century, and remains steadfast to a core mission that is rewarding and transformative for all whom USES touches. If you have any questions or would like to learn about ways to get involved, please email vision125@uses.org.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to continuing our partnership to support children and families, and keeping you updated as we make essential changes at USES to do so with more meaningful impact.

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BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

PROJECT NO. MASS. R-56 FOR PARCEL 30A

Public Notice is hereby given that the Boston Redevelopment Authority ("BRA") d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency will consider at its scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2017, starting at 3:30 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 Parcel 30A. Said modification will create Parcel 30A and set forth the land use controls. 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

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brookline CAN

Ashton Applewhite, Author

"This Chair Rocks!"

A Manifesto Against Ageism

Brookline Community Aging Network

Provides information to help residents remain engaged in the community.

Advocates to make Brookline an even better place to live for seniors and everyone.

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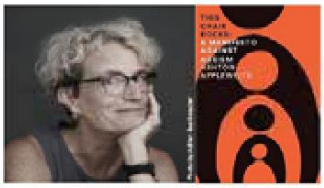

Thursday, May 4, 2017, 6-7:30 pm

Refreshments will be served from 6-6:30pm
Program with discussion runs 6:30-7:30 pm

Brookline Senior Center
93 Winchester Street, Brookline, MA
Free of Charge – please call 617-730-2770 to register.

People are happiest at the beginnings and the ends of their lives. The vast majority of Americans over 65 live independently. The older people get, the less afraid they are of dying. Aging is a natural, lifelong, powerful process. So how come so many of us unthinkingly assume that depression, diapers, and dementia lie ahead? That the 20th century's astonishing leap in life expectancy is a disaster in the making? Underlying all of the hand-wringing is ageism: discrimination that sidelines and silences older people. Applewhite has written a book, a blog, and she speaks widely – all tools to help catalyze a movement to make discrimination on the basis of age as unacceptable as any other kind. We hope that you will join us for an evening with her on May 4th!

Ashton Applewhite is a writer and activist based in Brooklyn, New York. She is a leading spokesperson for a movement to mobilize against discrimination on the basis of age. In 2016, she joined the PBS site Next Avenue's annual list of 50 Influencers in Aging as their Influencer of the Year. Applewhite has been recognized by the *New York Times*, National Public Radio, and the American Society on Aging as an expert on ageism.

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- 2235 Washington Street in Roxbury (walk-ins welcome)

Home visits provided

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