

Bikes Not Fights promotes peace in O'Day

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Approximately 60 people of all ages came together in O'Day Playground, 85 West Newton Street, on Saturday afternoon to play basketball and games, receive free bike maintenance and gear and to beat the balmy weather with free ice cream at the Friends of O'Day Park's Bikes Not Fights event.

The mission of the Friends group, which formed last year, is to re-



Alistair Pim changes a tire

Continued on page 3

Local historian previews South End history timeline

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Surrounded by copies of her previous books, "South End Character" and "Sitting Ducks", historian, author and South End News founding editor Alison Barnet introduced her current work in progress, a timeline of South End history to about 30 residents, mostly longtime South Enders, at the South End Branch Library, 685 Tremont Street, on the afternoon of Thursday, April 20. Barnet hopes to publish the timeline, which spans from the 1600s to the present, but has not yet decided on the exact format or projected

release date.

"I really shouldn't call it a timeline. It really should be a book," she said of the project, which currently numbers about 300 pages. Barnet discussed the scope and areas of interest of her timeline, her research methods and resources and some of the challenges she has faced to a roomful of inquisitive listeners. The seating for the late afternoon event was arranged in a circle around the second-floor room of the library rather than in front-facing rows,



Barnet shows the local-history archives

Continued on page 6

Play Ball!

SEBA Opening Day Saturday

This Saturday is South End Baseball's Opening Day! Come out and cheer on this season's players — among them the SEHS A's — and

their families as they march from the Villa Victoria to Peters Park for the 30th Opening Day ceremony.

Mayor Marty Walsh, Red Sox President Sam Kennedy and other VIPs are expected to visit. Kids will be able to enjoy pony rides, face

painting, the jumpy house, hot dogs, cotton candy and other treats. The march begins at 10AM and the festivities at Peters Park on Washington Street at 11AM.

Continued on page 2

SoWa Celebrates Local Artists with Annual Art Walk

SUBMITTED BY SOWA

SoWa Art & Design District, Boston's leading arts destination, is celebrating the talents of some of its most innovative minds on Saturday, May 6th and Sunday May 7th, 2017 at the annual SoWa Art Walk. From 11:00AM to 5:00PM, guests in attendance can explore and meet the artists behind the various contemporary galleries, open artist studios and boutique shops.

All are welcome to join and experience Boston's vibrant artistic community free of charge. The SoWa Art Walk tours include the following

locations: 450 Harrison Ave., 460 Harrison Ave., 46 Waltham St., 600 Harrison Ave., 59 Wareham St., 35 Wareham St., and 49 Wareham St. The SoWa Art & Design District seeks to support and preserve small businesses and entrepreneurs dedicated to crafting and curating exceptional artworks, products and experiences. The SoWa Art Walk is made possible by the over 150,000 square feet of subsidized studio rentals offered by CTI Properties.

The SoWa Open Market kicks off its 14th season on Saturday, April

Continued on page 4

Guest Opinion

Investing in Bay Village and the South End

BY MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH

This month, I am proud to put forth a budget for the City of Boston that will make Boston a better place to work, live, and raise a family. At City Hall, we've created a plan for our City that will keep Boston financially sound, while making targeted investments towards achieving a thriving, healthy and innovative Boston. Boston's operating budget totals \$3.14 billion, which represents an increase of \$143.7 million (or about five percent) over last year's budget.

What does this mean for you, your friends and family? When we proposed the City's budget, we did so knowing many in our City rely on the services we provide, whether

it's senior luncheons, homebuying workshops, recovery services or after-school programs for kids. We also funded projects to enhance our culture and identity such as increasing library services in neighborhoods and the Boston's Artist in Residence program, which brings art to unexpected corners throughout Boston. Our budget continues to invest in Boston's strongest asset: our people.

The City's budget is big — that's why I want to explain how it will affect your neighborhood.

Open spaces and parks are some of the greatest assets we have in our communities. They provide a space to gather, for children to play and a

Continued on page 2

Love Your Block

Neighborhood Clean-up Saturday morning, May 6

Formerly "Boston Shines," now re-named "Love Your Block," it's a citizen-driven, city-wide clean up program.

Join your neighbors and cleanup our neighborhood.

- **Peters Park** at the Shawmut Avenue section of the park, behind the baseball area.
- **Blackstone Square**, 1535 Washington Street
- **Franklin Square**, Washington Street between W. Brookline and W. Newton Streets
- **Bay Village**, at Church & Melrose Street.



Play Ball!

Continued from page 1

The South End Baseball Annual (SEBA) Fundraiser will be held on Tuesday, June 6th, 5:30-8:30 p.m., in the Trophy Room at The Chandler Inn. This crucial event brings in monies to help the league's operational expenses (SEB is a non-profit and all volunteer organization) and supports the Hugh Cham-

bers/Paul Rinkulis Scholarship Fund, which has awarded more than \$250,000 to help young people pursue their college education. Enjoy a great evening with neighbors and friends and support a wonderful cause. There will be complimentary appetizers, a cash bar and a terrific live and silent auction. Please visit southendbaseball.com to learn more and to purchase tickets (\$50 per person, which can also be purchased at the door the evening of) or a sponsorship.

Guest Opinion

Continued from page 1

chance to admire nature away from our busy streets. After meeting with youth groups who advocated for park improvements, we allocated \$2 million for the renovation of Ramsay Park, including the play lot, basketball courts, tennis courts, plazas, passive areas and lighting. We've also allotted \$1.98 million for improvements to Titus Sparrow Park, while the South End Library Park will receive a \$150,000 renovation, and we're investing another \$100,000 in Peters Park.

The South End Library Branch is getting a \$132,000 interior reconfiguration project that includes major electrical, telecom, paint and carpet upgrades. \$379,117 is allocated in fiscal year 2018 for the renovation and design of the South End Fitness Center Pool, which will include a rain screen wall, add ventilation, replace doors and exterior windows, and repair the pool.

Our streets and roadways are always a major priority when we consider investments in our city. This year, we will be giving \$3.8 million for road reconstruction improvements to Harrison Avenue, a street essential to economic development along the corridor

between East Berkeley Street and Herald Street. \$1.75 million allocated to conduct roadway improvements such as resurfacing, new pavement markings as well as new traffic signals to Washington Street from East Berkeley Street to Herald Street and Traveler Street.

It's our goal that our local improvements tie in to our ultimate goal of improving the safety, accessibility and sustainability of our city while also making it an enjoyable and affordable place to live and work. The short and long term investments are intended to lift up our neighborhoods in ways that take into account the needs and wants of the community. With this budget, we're preparing our city for the next year, and the years forward.

What's the next step for the budget? This month, I submitted the City of Boston's budget to the Boston City Council, where your City Councilor will review the proposed budget. Once the budget is approved, it will go into effect. This is the budget for fiscal year 2018, meaning the budget will take effect in July 2017, and run throughout the next 12 months.

I hope you'll take a few minutes to look through the budget proposal, online at budget.boston.gov. Together, I look forward to investing in our neighborhoods, and our people.

Crime Update

Convicted rapist facing new rape, attack charges

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Ronald Brown, who has been held since October on charges he tied two women up and raped one in a South End apartment was arraigned on a new indictment that charges him with multiple counts of breaking and entering, larceny and receiving stolen property, all in the South End in September and October, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office reports.

Brown, 53, a level-3 sex offender because of his 1986 conviction on two counts of aggravated rape, is also charged with videoing a naked woman through her apartment window, the DA's office reports.

He will be arraigned in Suffolk Superior Court.

Death Investigation in the Area of 180 Ruggles Street in Roxbury

SUBMITTED BY BPD

At about 8:53 PM on Friday, April 21, 2017, officers from District B-2 (Roxbury) responded to a call for a person shot in the area of 180 Ruggles Street in Roxbury. On arrival, officers located an 18-year-old male suffering from what appeared to be multiple gunshot wounds. The victim, suffering from life threatening injuries, was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The Boston Police Department is actively investigating the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. Anyone with information is strongly urged to contact Boston Police

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Bikes

Continued from page 1

place illicit activities in O'Day Playground with all-ages harmony, and Saturday's event met that goal. Bikes Not Fights co-chairs Barbara Collins and Nicola Truppin were joined by members of the Blackstone/Franklin Square and Pilot Block neighborhood associations (B/FSNA and PBNA), IBA (Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción), the Boston Police Department's (BPD) D-4 community service team and St. Stephen's Youth Program in setting up the

event, greeting guests and guiding activities.

The South End Community Health Center and several local businesses donated money, supplies and services for the event.

The BPD's ice cream truck was parked near the entrance to the playground with a police cadet, assisted by a small boy, performed the BPD's sweetest detail: handing out complimentary Klondike Bars and popsicles to visitors. Former B/FSNA president and scholarship founder Andrew Parthum offered a smile, a bicycle light and a helmet upon entry to the playground, while IBA CEO Vanessa Calderón-Rosado and senior program direc-

tor Rafael Medina circulated among guests and volunteers to ensure that everything was running smoothly.

The helmets and lights were contributed by the city's Boston Bikes program and community service officers Jorge Dias and Javier Pagan on behalf of the BPD. At the bike repair station, Boston Bikes's Kimel Williams was joined by PBNA's Alistair Pim and others in fixing flat tires and doing other maintenance, and Megan Doe, an Americorps volunteer with St. Stephen's Youth Program, engaged with guests in addition to helping organize on-site.

With sidewalk chalk provided at the craft

table, parents and children drew pictures of pets and creative designs and former B/FSNA and Friends member Nancy Wall Farrington drew a hopscotch board.

After the event, co-chair Truppin proclaimed Bikes Not Fights a success. In a follow-up e-mail, she wrote, "Bikes Not Fights is the first of what we hope will be a number of events during the year and our objective was to bring neighborhood families who live on the streets surrounding the park together for a fun, safe gathering with the purpose of tuning up and cleaning up their bicycles for spring and summer riding. We met our objective!"



(Top Left) Andrew Parthum, right (Bottom Left) Nancy Wall Farrington, Officer Richard Litto and Megan Doe. Photos by Michele Maniscalco



U.S. Department of Transportation
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Massachusetts Department of Transportation

**The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the
Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)
Announce the Release of the
Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and
Draft Section 4(f) Determination
on the
SOUTH STATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

This project is an effort to expand Boston's South Station terminal and related layover capacity to meet future demand. FRA and MassDOT invite the public to comment on the Draft EA, prepared in compliance with the federal National Environmental Policy Act, and Draft Section 4(f) Determination for the South Station Expansion project. The document summarizes the project's environmental benefits and impacts, and includes information similar to the DEIR (2014) and FEIR (2016), prepared in compliance with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act. To read the report and to learn how to make formal comments, please visit the project website listed below. **Comments are due by May 27, 2017.**

www.mass.gov/MassDOT/SouthStationExpansion

If you have questions about the project, please contact Steve Woelfel, MassDOT Office of Transportation Planning, at Steve.Woelfel@state.ma.us or at 857-368-8889.

For more information and to sign up for project updates, visit us online at the project website shown above. To request language services, please contact MassDOT's Director of Civil Rights by phone at (857) 368-8580, TTD/TTY at (857) 368-0603, fax (857) 368-0602, or by email to MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us.

Meet Author Ali Noorani

"There Goes the Neighborhood"

What really drives America's ongoing immigration debate? To answer this question, the National Immigration Forum's Ali Noorani interviewed nearly sixty local and national leaders across the nation, finding voices in faith, law enforcement, and business communities to paint a nuanced picture of

America that looks beyond the blaring headlines to understand how communities across the country are confronting immigration and the changing nature of the American identity.

In this book, Noorani reaches across the political spectrum to offer a new approach to politics, one that confronts problems and pushes all parties outside of their comfort zone in order to reach solutions. In the process, he helps readers realize that America's immigration debate is not about politics but about the

cultures and values that shape and define America. Especially now, when we feel our identity, culture, and values changing shape, the collective message from all the diverse voices in this inspiring book is one of hope for the future.

Ali Noorani will present at the health center in Q&A format with CEO Bill Walczak on Monday, May 8 from 6pm to 7:30pm. South End Community Health Center, 1601 Washington St, Boston



South End Neighbors

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SoWa

Continued from page 1

29th expanding its weekly celebration of the region's best makers to every Saturday and Sunday through October. The Open Market includes the SoWa Arts Market featuring over 100 talented, carefully selected artisans selling an array of quality handmade goods, including jewelry, art work, clothing, pottery, home goods, photography, ceramics, and more. Located in the parking lot at 450 Harrison Avenue.

For additional information and to view upcoming events, please visit www.SoWaBoston.com.



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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

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Crime Update

(continued from pg. 2)

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Community members wishing to assist this investigation anonymously can do so by calling the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or by texting the word 'TIP' to CRIME (27463). The Boston Police Department will stringently guard and protect the identities of all those who wish to help this investigation in an anonymous manner.

BPD Auto Theft Unit Continues to Take Illegal Off-Road Vehicles Off the Roads

SUBMITTED BY BPD

In the morning hours of Thursday, April 13, 2017, members of the Boston Police Auto Theft Unit with the assistance of the Boston Housing Authority Police, MA Environmental Police, Boston Code Enforcement, and the National Insurance Crime Bureau executed

the first phase of an ongoing enforcement operation focused on illegal off-road vehicles. This particular phase was focused on the improper and dangerous storage of these vehicles in Boston Housing.

Developments throughout the city. These vehicles have come to represent a constant annoyance in the city's neighborhoods because individuals operate them dangerously throughout public ways and parks.

As a result of the ongoing investigation, officers issued several violations and seized a total of 16 off-road vehicles that were observed to be stored in manners that presented fire, health, and safety hazards and in violation of City Ordinances, Boston Housing Regulations, and/or Mass General Laws. These seizures occurred at the West Broadway Housing Development (South Boston), the Mary Ellen McCormick Housing Development (South Boston), the Franklin Field Housing Development (Dorchester), Gallivan Housing Development (Mattapan), and Fairmount Housing Development (Hyde Park). The officers, as well as Code Enforcement officers, spoke with the residents to educate them on the hazardous conditions presented by the improper storage of these vehicles.

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— *Publisher's Weekly*

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All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number. Because of space limitations, letter should not be more than 200 words.

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History

Continued from page 1

which seemed to inspire more interaction among attendees, some of whom contributed their own experiences and expertise on certain subjects.

Barnet handed out a brief sample of the timeline, titled "Once Upon a Neighborhood", to inform the discussion and whet neighbors' appetites. The title was inspired by a line by Francina Roberson, whom Barnet called "the poet laureate of the South End." At the end of the talk, she opened the South End History Collection, located in a small room off the main meeting room, and showed some volumes of the archival, bound editions of the early South End News.

Barnet explained that the timeline began approximately two years ago when she and the other members of the library's South End History Collection Committee decided they each would write brief historical timelines of the neighborhood. Once they did that, Barnet collected and merged them, adding material from her own research.

"I don't know what happened. I became obsessed! I just kept going," she said. "I didn't

do it in chronological order, I added items as I found out about them or thought of them, often in the middle of the night. I woke up thinking 'Should I add brickmaking in the Neck?' I always had to have paper and a pencil by my bed," she quipped.

Describing her parameters of subject matter, Barnet explained, "There are certain things that are not in there because they don't interest me or the dates are hard to pin down. I did not want to get into very complex church history. I didn't want this to be a social services directory or a who's who. The timeline ends in 2015 because to me, after that it's all pretty much the same; more luxury condos, more high-rises.

Barnet described her various sources of information, including her personal library of hundreds of books as well as 68 notebooks she compiled herself on themes such as The Neck, settlement houses, social services, transportation and other topics filled with photos, clippings and her own notes about people, places and period. Barnet also has a considerable trove of interviews she has conducted with South End residents past and present since 2005.

If she cannot find what she needs at home, she heads to libraries and archives, and external resources such as libraries. "People ask where

I do my research. I start with what I have at home, which is just enormous. I have just about every book ever written that has even a paragraph about the South End. Upon exhausting her own resources on a given topic, Barnet jots down the questions she wants to answer and heads to the Boston Athenaeum at 10 ½ Beacon Street. "It's a break for me. On the days when I work at home, it's a nightmare. I get so tired!" Barnet extolled the virtue of our neighborhood as a living repository of history, where she can easily go out and check the location of former Mayor James Michael Curley and other sites of interest.

"I can't imagine living someplace like Ohio and having to guess what these places looked like in the 1850s." Barnet discussed going to see the home of Henry Hampton, founder of Blackside Productions which produced the acclaimed documentary series, "Eyes on the Prize" and many other works. Blackside's main office was near Shawmut Avenue and Worcester Street, Barnet said.

Subjects that sparked particularly lively give and take were the location of the colonial-era and early American gallows and the borders of the South End sparked a particularly lively discussion. Barnet said the location of the local gallows was hard to pinpoint, by some accounts

in the Boston Common, later moved to the current site of the Franklin Square apartments.

The latter location would concur with accounts of a gallows within the original expanse of the historic South Burying Ground on Washington Street, which originally encompassed the current site of the Franklin Square apartments before part of it was purchased and developed as a piano factory in the late 1860s.

The discussion also touched on a 17th century gallows located in the vicinity of Perry Street where people considered to have heretical religious beliefs were hanged. A query from the audience led to a brief recollection of Barnet's role as the first editor of the South End News, which began in 1980 and ended the following year due to her rocky working relationship with publisher Skip Rosenthal.

Local author Jean Gibran's question about the boundaries of the South End ignited lively debate. One man recounted hearing from historian and state representative Byron Rushing that the on diagonal bent of Columbus Avenue, Roxbury ended and the South End began around Dartmouth Street in the 1860s. Another neighbor wryly observed, "They call St. Botolph Street the South End when there is a crime there."



Photos by Michele Maniscalco



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THE TAKE
WITH SUE O'CONNELL

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