Tito Puente Latin Music Series heats up O'Day Playground

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Approximately 350 neighbors, undeterred by the hazy, hot and humid weather, gathered in O’Day Playground, 35 West Newton Street, on Thursday, July 5, to welcome the 13th season of the Tito Puente Latin Music Series, sponsored by IBA, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and Berklee College of Music’s Community Affairs and Campus Engagement (CACE) program. IBA CEO Vanessa Calderon-Redus addressed the crowd and introduced Berklee CACE associate director Abria Smith, who proudly noted that many of the performers were affiliated with Berklee, including dancers and vocalists from the Latin and African-inspired sounds of Puente’s band, Fania.

SEBA brings a lighter side to networking

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

In addition to its regularly scheduled Coffee Mornings on the third Wednesday of each month at the South End Battery, 34 Shawmut Avenue, the South End Business Alliance (SEBA) lets its hair down, so to speak, with its annual barbecue on June 28 at Above and Beyond Catering, 42 Plympton Street, on June 28 followed by a social at Bootleg Special, 404 Tremont Street on July 9, giving members a chance to meet, greet and converse on local business concerns after a few hours in a relaxed setting. SEBA president Eve Ward estimated attendance at the annual picnic at approximately 45 guests, who dined on updated versions of traditional picnic fare including quinoa salad with asparagus and snap peas, potato salad, coleslaw, black bean burgers and hamburgers, and homemade potato chips with parmesan onion dip. Dessert comprised a delicious assortment of cookies and small pastries. At the Bootleg Social, approximately 12 guests sat around a long table sharing appetizers courtesy of SEBA and cocktails.

ASK DOG LADY

ADVICE ON PETS, LIFE, LOVE

BY MONICA COLLINS

Dear Dog Lady,
I heard that Senator Elizabeth Warren got a dog. Good for her. I haven’t heard the chosen name for her dog, nor did I hear what kind of dog she got so I wonder if you could enlighten me.

— Marta

Dear Marta,
Yes, yes, the Massachusetts senator got a dog. Actually, a couple of weeks ago, she first announced her new dog, Bruce Mann, surprised her with a golden retriever puppy, tweeting, “There’s a lot of pain and confusion in the world out there — we decided to bring a little gentleness and normalcy into our lives.” The best reason to bring a dog into the family.

— President Donald Trump, a man with no empathy and no pets in his life, has recently belittled and badgered Warren. His son also mocked Warren, suggesting her dog be named “Stuffed Ball.” When the Trumps went low, Warren went high.

She made no comment about Junior’s stupid joke.

Last Saturday, Warren took to Twitter to announce the name of her dog in another tweet. This communication carried a picture of the senator cradling the most adorable puppy golden retriever. She wrote: “Friends, meet Bailey. We named him after George Bailey, the community banker in It’s A Wonderful Life — a man with no empathy and no pets in his life.”

— Continued on page 2

City of Boston’s Family Friendly Beach Is Open

The City of Boston’s “Family Friendly Beach” at the BCYF Curley Community Center in South Boston is open for your enjoyment. The beach is open seven days a week and offers families access to an enclosed stretch of beach on Boston Harbor, restrooms with changing tables, picnic tables with umbrellas, outdoor showers, beach game equipment, Wi-Fi and the use of an indoor area to get out of the sun. Experienced, certified lifeguards are on duty.

For information on the beach, and the City’s pools, visit Boston.gov/BCYF.
We are the future of the LGBT community.

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

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

South End Library

Continued from page 1

previously allocated for improvements that include an interior reconfiguration project.

"The South End Library is a very important asset to the neighborhood, and I am proud that we are investing in its future for our residents," said Mayor Walsh. "In this year's Capital Plan, we are designating initial funding for a public investment and also actively preparing for the next steps that will follow that study. I have made it very clear that I am fully committed to seeing this important project through, and I look forward to working together to complete the community in planning to prepare for the new future of the South End Library."

The investment includes $100,000 in FY19 for a feasibility study that will include neighborhood goals and develop an updated building program that reflects BPL's strategic vision for supporting the future needs of the neighborhood. The additional $400,000 is allocated in future fiscal years (FY20-23) for additional interior improvements based on the results of the feasibility assessment.

"I consider myself lucky to live in a city where its leaders are committed to making unprecedented financial investments in public libraries and, by extension, the economic health of neighborhoods. In the South End, that means investing in the educational and social well-being of one of the most socially and economically diverse communities in Boston," said Meleah Niemczyk, President of Friends of South End Library. "Combined with the Friends of the South End Library's private fundraising, this public investment will greatly improve the delivery of important Boston Library services and top-notch programming for the South End. The library's newly created seating, browsing, meeting and reading spaces will make the bench a shining example of what an engaged Friends group, supported by its elected officials, can do for what is indubitably the South End's most important civic space which, best of all, is free to all." Today's announcement builds on Mayor Walsh's commitment to bring all libraries into the 21st century and provide every neighborhood with a civic center for residents to learn, spend time and interact with each other, we are investing in the design process that will create a community. As part of its Imagine Boston 2030 Capital Plan, Mayor Walsh is designating $125 million over the next five years for investments in library projects throughout the city.

For more information on the Imagine Boston Capital Plan, please visit boston.gov. To follow the progress of other Boston Public Library projects, visit www.bpl.org/librarycapitalprojects.

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News from...

Boston Groundwater Trust

Boston Groundwater Trust (BGWT) update on hot spot areas

BGWT has traveled pipes along Stuart Street, in the Berkley to Dorchester area, and in the Saint James Avenue/ Providence Street area of the Back Bay, in the South End, along Cambridge Street, we continue to coordinate with EWSC on the best way to mitigate the low levels in some of the wells in the area. Along Montgomery Street in the South End some monitor deep wells were discovered during inspections. A solution is currently in the early design stages. EWSC will install 12 vibrating wire piezometers in Commercial Street to monitor the South End in the spring to look for leaks. We expect to update on these hot spots when the City State Groundwater Working Group meets in two weeks.

Project LightWell

Project LightWell: Groundwater Data. Sourcing program is up and running along Brookline Street Partners with project teams, LightWell the project consists of custom-designed, Bluetooth-enabled, translucent-Coman well caps. The well caps display real-time groundwater level data. Residents and visitors can interact with the data through the LightWell mobile app. Please visit our homepage at bostongroundwater.org for locations and additional information.

BGWT 2007-2018: Average Network Elevation vs. Precipitation

While we have wells that have been reading since 1999, 2007 is when we completed the bulk of our well network installations. Therefore, this 11-year period provides the largest amount of well data to work with. It’s helpful to look at the average vs precipitation and see the slight but important gains made. The repairing of underground infrastructure coupled with the installation of recharge systems plays a major role in helping us maintain groundwater levels and capturing the precipitation.

For more information, BGWT 1229 Berkeley Street Suite 410 Boston, MA 02116, bostongroundwater.org

Resources

Summer Programs for Kids

 Roxbury Community College is offering summer programs for kids. We have a 4-week Summer Arts Intensive program (ages 10-14) and two Summer STEM Weeks. Summer Arts features drama, theater, music, dance, creative writing, and dance. STEM Week 1 (ages 7-10) features in-depth chemistry and science experiments, computer, mini medical school, and creative writing. STEM Week 2 (ages 10-14) features LEGO robotics, Money Matters, creative writing, and a STEM career panel. All sessions meet Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, June 25 - July 26.

Roxbury Community College - 130 Columbus Ave, Boston, MA 02110 (STEM Weeks both take place on-campus; Summer Arts takes place up the hill from RCC at the UU Urban Ministry - 10 Putnam St, Roxbury. Visit http://www.rcrc.mass.edu/lsf/learning/about-courses or contact us at 617-999-2915 or lsf@roxc.edu.

Free Tennis Lessons at Almont Park

Free drop in tennis lesson for kids, adults, and seniors: Equipment provided. Saturdays 11am-1pm for ages 5-10, 2pm for kids 11 and older on Monday through Thursday evenings at 6pm for kids five and up. Almont Park, Almont Street, Mattapan, MA 02126. More information at www.franklinpark-tennis.org or 617-427-8000.

Franklin Park Tennis Association Summer Camp 2018

Summer camp with tennis, fitness, and fun, including arts and crafts, football, dance, soccer, swimming, and more. Weekly sessions from now through August 31. Melnea Cass Complex, 130 Martin Luther King Blvd, Roxbury, MA 02119. More information available at http://www.franklinpark-tennis.org/frpa-summer-camp-2018/. Vouchers from Child Care Options accepted, and minimal scholarships available.

Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series

36 free fitness classes every week in your city parks. Offers classes include Yoga, Summer, AfricBeat Bootcamp, Cardio Dance, Continued on page 6

South End Represents

Boston magazine’s annual “Best of Boston” issue has hit the stands. The magazine awarded plenty of South End businesses with “Best of Boston” awards.

Theater Company, Small SpeakEasy Stage

Coffee Shop: Barista Greek, Fine Dining: Kiva Neo-Taverna Wine Bar: The Butcher Shop Southern: Southern Proper Spanish: Toro


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SEBA
Continued from page 1

hoard with soaring real estate prices. Mark Haley, who owns Above and Beyond Catering at 42 Parnaby in 1998 has been active with SEBA for about 20 years. "SEBA's great," he said. Haley has been considering moving his business out of the South End for some years.

Haley said, "We are out of space, and we can't afford to grow bigger here because I can't afford the space. Parking for employees as well as housing [are a problem] for employees. It's too expensive to live in Boston so some of them are moving away." He continued, "We have five trucks, and the neighborhood is starting to complain about us parking our trucks everywhere. It's funny, because we've been here since 1998 and they haven't been around that long. There's a big going on, and it might be better to work in a more spacious area than we have here on Parnaby Street."

A Dorchester resident, Haley would like to find a workspace near his home. "We need a space close to downtown," Haley explained. He continued, "My landlord is awesome. If it weren't for him, I would never have stayed here this long!"

At the Neighborhood Special social, a conversation arose about the difficulties local businesses can face when real estate prices climb precipitously and investors enter the market, paying inflated prices for properties that they intend to rent rather than operate a business in. Martin Cohen, a diabetes researcher at Tufts University, weighed in on the phenomenon as it unfolded in his native Lower East Side of New York.

A perfect example is the West Village in New York. It went from local businesses that had been there for decades, and then they got Tony Burch and it exploded, and nobody could afford to be there. There wasn't any "There are places that are upscale and on a Madison Avenue. The whole neighborhood loses its character."

Cohen added, "Something that still working in the South End is that you still have those neighborhood businesses. They're not cheap although some of them are, like the Syrian dry-good store on Shawmut Avenue. It's beautiful that we have that next to South End Formaggi, which is extremely expensive." Ward said, "We (SEBA) have been working with planners and developers. I'm not sure we can entirely control the growth, but we can help people who want to do business here and be part of the community. What we are trying to figure out is how we can help integrate businesses that are going to be successful here. Affordable food is going to be a big factor. There are so few places that are affordable. We love the restaurants of course, but affordable food is important for the service people and other workers."

SEBA's next event spotlights the South End's past. On August 1 at 6:00 PM at the AC Marriott Hotel, 225 Albany Street, SEBA will host a talk by South End Historical Society executive director Larraine Pennacott on her book, "Boston's South End," which illustrates neighborhood history through postcards and other images from SEBA's extensive collection.

(Top) Mark Carrig, Jon Sarno at SEBA picnic. (Bottom) Eve Ward (left) at SEBA picnic. Photos by Michele Mansavio.
Calendar

Thursday, July 12
10 am - 1:00 pm
Artists in Residence Craft Workshops
Ringgold Park, 10 Ringgold Street
This series of arts and crafts workshops is perfect for artists ages 5-30. Local artists will lead hands-on craft projects, all materials are provided. Pre-registration by noon on Wednesday, registration is required. To register please email pad@mopobottom.gov.

Wednesday, July 18
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Friends of Titus Sparrow Park Summer Concert Series
Titus Sparrow Park, 200 West Newton Street

Stay by with your family and friends. Don’t forget your picnic blanket and machak July 18: Group Fantasia.

Thursday, July 12, 19, 26
The Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s annual PALS/ARTS program, sponsored by Holly and David O’Hare, is pleased to announce the return of its series of children’s arts workshops giving kids the opportunity to express their creativity while working on fun projects with local artists.
Ringgold Park, South End, between Malvern Street, Hanson Street, and Ringgold Street.

OneHood: Peace Basketball League
In partnership with the Blackstone Community Center, the OneHood Peace Basketball League invites young people from different neighborhoods across Boston to play basketball together.
Take a look at your summer schedule and come to as many games as you can!30 W. Breckinridge St., Blackstone Community Center Council

Friday, July 13
Game 1: 6:30 pm
Game 2: 7:30 pm
Game 3: 8:30 pm

Wednesday, July 18
Game 1: 6:30 pm
Game 2: 7:30 pm
Game 3: 8:30 pm

Full schedule and more info at www.readytoboston.org/blog/elevateonehood/peace-basketball-league

Dog Lady
Continued from page 1

guy who was decent, determined & saw the best in people," she wrote. "I always thought the role of GB was written for a Golden Retriever, but Jimmy Stewart did a nice job with it." So, another dog gets a happy home at Warren gives a subtle backhand swipe at the Trumps by appealing to our better nature.

Dear Dog Lady,
My dog Cesar likes to be a little cozy atmospheres but I hope that’s not true because he was diagnosed with cancer. Our neighborhood’s annual summer cookout is a big bash and we go every year with Gabby but this year the invitation says: "No dogs only. Please leave your pet at home." I would love to ask what prompted this new policy. I hope it wasn’t Gabby knocking over the bowl of Fruit salad at last year’s picnic. Would I be impolite if I asked the hosts?

Dear Rose,
Yes, such a query would be rude and unwelcome, just as wondering dogs do not belong at fireworks displays as they do not belong unleashed at summer picnics where bowls of food are displayed. Their tails can tip over salads and their pleading eyes can beg for shared bowls of meat—not to mention every other inconsiderate courtesy by dogs on the prowl amongst people. The name is "Ask Dog Lady" but this column advocates proper boundaries between people and pets. Dogs should not be included everywhere.
You were invited to a summer picnic. Have fun. Eat well, and be happy you have a dog to welcome you back home.

Write askdoglady@gmail.com

Cheers to SUMMER!
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Full schedule and more info at www.readytoboston.org/blog/elevateonehood/peace-basketball-league

Service Guide Ads
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For more information please call: 617.464.7280
Carnival Fit, Tai Chi, Walking Groups, Live Dancing, Salsa dancing and more!
June 4th – September 29. Times vary (see full schedule www.bplc.org/SummerFitness)
City parks all over Boston
www.bplc.org/SummerFitness

Paige Academy Summer Program

Summer enrichment programs for students ages 5-12. Students may select daily classes in African drumming and dance, art (pottery, painting, collages, and clay), and music (singing, writing, and more.)
July 3rd-August 28th, Monday-Friday 9:00AM-3:30PM
28 Highland Ave, Roslindale, MA 02119
The cost per session is $570 with a one-time registration fee of $50. For more information, contact our Administration and Finance Office at 617-445-6969.

Homes for Families Community Meeting

Monthly meeting engaging EA shelter providers, families, and others from the community with presentations and dialogues from a variety of groups including state agencies, researchers, community organizations and more. Email info@homesforfamilies.org to join the mailing list for details & preparations for each meeting.
The second Wednesday of each month from 11am to 1pm (with the exception of February and August).
45 Bowdoin St, Suite A, Boston, MA 02114
Please contact Ian Whitney at iwhitney@homesforfamilies.org for more information; RSVP is preferred but not required.

Parking Spot in the South End - $200/month
We are conveniently located in the South End of Boston, a few blocks away from the Boston Medical Center, just minutes from the heart of downtown, and a short walk to the neighborhoods fabulous shopping, dining and entertainment. The parking lots are off of Parkme Street.
PLEASE CALL WITH ANY INQUIRIES 617-427-7745

Resources (continued page 3)

Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims Providers Network Breakfast

The Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims Providers Network is a professional homicide response network for service providers serving families and communities impacted by violence. The network was established to build trust and foster collaboration among service providers, to develop and maintain a clear homicide response process for all families and communities, and to provide a space for service providers to practice self-care and receive guidance and support from their peers.
The third Tuesday of every month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
240 Temple Place, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111
Call 617-338-5564 or visit the website http://bostonsud.org/contact/or any questions

Housing Search Workshop

This workshop offers information and answers about how to conduct a successful housing search, including learning how to communicate with housing authorities, agencies, and landlords.
First and third Wednesdays of each month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
60 Temple Place, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111
Call 617-338-5564 or visit the website http://bostonsud.org/contact/or any questions

Immigration Consultants with Volunteer Attorneys

These consultations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call at least 1 week in advance for interpretation other than Spanish and/or disability accommodations.
First and third Wednesdays of every month from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Boston City Hall, Room 506
Please call 617-635-2980 or visit Boston City’s Calendar

Codman Square Neighborhood Council

The Codman Square Neighborhood Council discusses community events, announcements, and guest speakers. Please attend these very important meetings to understand what is happening in the neighborhood in which you live, work, and learn.
First Wednesday of every month from 7 to 9:30 PM
The Great Hall, 6 Norfolk Street, Boston, MA 02124
Visit the website for any questions https://codmanscouncil.wordpress.com/

Community Housing Clinic

The Office of Housing Stability’s Community Housing Clinic is a tremendous resource for residents — tenants and landlords — to talk one-on-one with a housing professional about landlord-tenant laws, learn how to access affordable housing opportunities and discover housing resources available to landlords and tenants. Tenants can learn about their rights if their building is sold, their rents are rising or they're facing eviction. Landlords can get information on how to enforce lease provisions, how to effectively communicate to resolve disputes and provide support for tenants. Every Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 PM
Department of Neighborhood Development, 26 Court Street Boston, MA 02108
Please call 617-635-4200 or email Lydia.edsards@boston.gov

$1 Friday Nights at Boston Children’s Museum

Every Friday every family can enjoy the entire Boston Children's Museum for $1. The museum includes an Art Studio, Construction Zone, and more.
Friday nights from 5:00 – 9:00 PM
Boston Children’s Museum, 308 Congress Street, Boston
Visit http://www.bostonsud.org/museum/visit/1-friday-nights-sponsored-target

Free Bilingual Playgroup

There is a free Jamaica Plain based playgroup in English and Spanish for children ages 1-5 years old. Each playgroup is 2 hours long, and parents should bring their children once a week. The playgroup takes place in a classroom setting and is geared towards preschoolers. Each playgroup includes free play, circle time, snack time, and a gross motor/sensory activity. Parents are responsible for providing their own snacks. This is an opportunity for parents to become familiar with Boston Public Schools and to meet other BPS parents. Open enrollment – register today.
Monday-Friday from either 9:00 – 11:00 AM, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, 12:30 – 2:30 PM, or 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Either the Mission Hill K-8 School, 20 Child Street, or the Early Learning Center West, 200 Heath Street in Jamaica Plain
Please contact Silvia at 617-821-9959 or at smichae2048@bostonpublicschools.org

JVS English for Advancement Program

The program has two components: Classes and Career Coaching/Job Referral.
Students receive free in-class language instruction (7-9 hours per week) in multi-level classes for up to one year. Class content focuses on job search and readiness skills. Students receive 1:1 career coaching and referrals from JVS coaches. The coaches draw on JVS's extensive network of employer relationships. Please note that eligible participants are legally authorized to work in the United States and have a primary goal of job attainment within 2-12 months.
Classes are held mornings and afternoons, (there is one evening class in East Boston.)
Classes include educational resources (at JVS Boston, 75 Federal Street 3rd Floor, East Boston (250 Summer St, East Boston), Lynn (20 Wheeler St, Lynn), Lawrence (168 Newbury St, Lawrence), and Lowell (50 Merrimack St, Lowell).
The first step to applying for the classes is to attend an information session. Sessions are held at 10AM every Friday at JVS. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required at: http://www.jvs-boston.org/EEU/. Information sessions are also held at other locations. Please contact Yannick Klion, Community Outreach Specialist at yklion@jvsboston.org or 617-399-3399.
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