# South End *News*

October 4, 2018 [Vol. 39 , No. 39]

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**Local news for and about Boston's best neighborhood**

## The Sounds of Jazz

### Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival

By Michele D. Maniscalco

On Saturday, September 29, Columbus Avenue was packed with music lovers who basked in the sunny, mild weather, strolling between the Mass. Ave. And Burke Street stages to revel in the sounds

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Tia Fuller's Diamond Cut. Photo by Michele D. Maniscalco

Face painting. Photo by Michele D. Maniscalco

## A Fine Fabric

**Vicuna,**
**Zeitgeist Stage Company, Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through October 7. 617-933-8600**

By Jules Becker

Donald Trump is never mentioned by name in the 2016 satire "Vicuna," but talented playwright Jon Robin Baitz ("Our Desert Cities") clearly meant for theatergoers to call him to mind when he wrote it. At the start of the play, businessman-presidential candidate Kurt Seaman—his last name surely alludes to the sexual adventurousness of the now President—is preparing for the last of three debates with a female opponent—herself never identified but unquestionably Hillary Clinton.

Quite simply Seaman is fitted for a suit made from the very expensive title fabric, one he hopes will make his candidacy magical. Ultimately, Baitz's play may need some tailoring of its own, but Zeitgeist Stage Company's area premiere at the Boston Center for the Arts proves custom-made.

Set in the recent past at the Manhattan atelier of aging bespoke Jewish tailor Anselm Kassar, "Vicuna" finds Seaman making what may be an impossible demand for the outfit in question three weeks before the debate.

Anselm has made such suits for Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan

*Continued on page 2*

## Fall Fest at Hayes Park

By Michele D. Maniscalco

Bright, mild seasonal weather helped draw approximately 100 people to the Hayes Park Fall Fest, which offered snacks and drinks, live music, kids' activities and a visit from a Boston fire department truck. City councilor Ed Flynn dropped in to mingle with residents.

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## ASK DOG LADY

### Advice on Pets, Life, Love

By Monica Collins

Dear Dog Lady,

I adopted a rescue dog in June 2017. She will be two-years-old this October. Whenever I stand or sit near my husband, she growls. The dog also rides daily with my husband in his car and stays downstairs with him at night until he comes to bed. I realize she's possessive but how do we stop the growling? It doesn't bother her at all when we are in the bed together.

—Odd Woman Out

*DearOdd Woman Out,*

*A veterinarian once told Dog Lady a story about a dog growling at a husband whenever hubby tried to get into bed. The vet claimed to have resolved the problem with food. Indeed, many dog problems can be cured with a heady dose of chicken.*

*Still, it's very important to give your dog boundaries. Providing her a sleeping area of her own and making her stay there should send the message that you, your bed and your husband belong to you, not her.*

Dear Dog Lady,

I have a three-year old Airedale terrier that is full of life. He has acted like a puppy his entire life. He is very friendly but gets too excited sometimes and still jumps on people. I have tried taking him out of the room, having the people ignore him

*Continued on page 5*

## News from…

## East Berkeley Neighborhood Association

Submitted by EBNA

Formerly "Old Dover." Our Name has changed... all else remains the same. Our monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16 at 6:30 pm at Project Place, 1145 Washington Street.

Please join us as we renew monthly meetings. Catch up with neighbors and all that is going on in our neighborhood and beyond.

**Tentative Agenda:**

- Safety and Security Update
- Development Updates:

A presentation and update from The Abbey Group, the proponents ofExchange South End (former Boston Flower Exchange, on Albany Street).

In addition, hear updates from Related Beal, currently developing the former Quinzanni's Bakery parcel at 370-380 Harrison Ave.

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## Fabric

*Continued from page 1*

and Henry Kissinger for $50,000. For this 'rush job' he charges $150,000—an amount Seaman readily accepts. The veteran tailor observes that such a suit provides "a look into the soul of a man."

There is a subtle moment when Baitz—both out and Jewish himself—hints that Anselm is gay and therefore all the more wary of Seaman himself.

Seaman's verbal attacks on the likes of women, immigrants and Muslims and his self-centered life a la Trump suggest that he may lack a real soul. By contrast, Anselm's Iranian-Muslim apprentice Amir Masoud comes across as both soulful about life and passionate about the tailoring Anselm is mentoring.

Working on Seaman's suit with a skill Anselm once possessed, Amir struggles to contain his anger about Seaman's anti-immigrant and racist views—an anger that could jeopardize the completion of the job and the safety of his parents as immigrants.

Complicating things even further is the entrance of Seaman's Ivanka-like daughter Sri-Lanka. Like Trump's daughter, Sri Lanka is married to the Orthodox Jewish son of a notorious real estate agent—here, too, a la unnamed Jared Kushner.

Baitz's character appears to have a more consistent moral imperative than her real counterpart as she pushes back against her father's arrogance and bigoted views in an effort "to prevent a catastrophe." In a different way, former Republican Senator and party leader Kitty Finch-Gibbon tries to avert a disaster by offering Seaman billions of dollars to drop out of the 2016 election.

Will Sri Lanka and/or Finch-Gibbon succeed? Will Seaman find his suit as magical as he hopes? Baitz supplies a surprise regarding the suit itself that audience members should enjoy. Equally satisfying is a kind of Sartrean epilogue that doubles as a wake-up call for the millions of Americans concerned about the demagoguery and dangerousness of a Seaman.

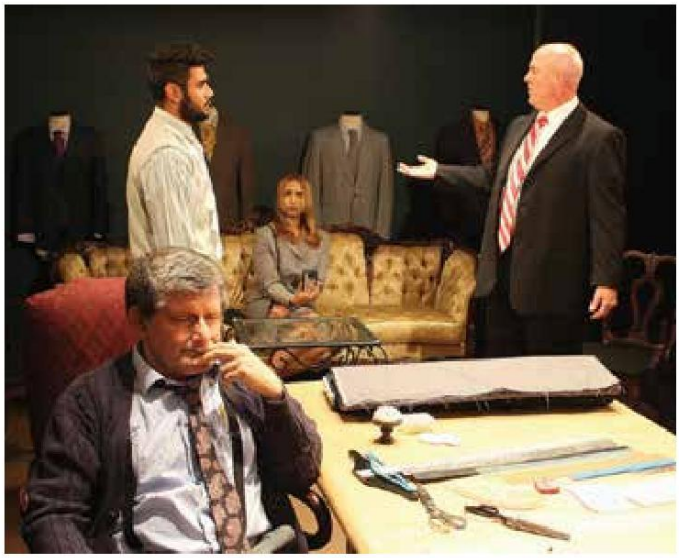
"Vicuna" may take its time arriving at that epilogue—judicious trimming is called for, but Baitz has written a prescient play that should prove timely many years from now.

Zeitgeist artistic director David J. Miller has assembled a cast as skillful as Amir's work on Seaman's suit. Steve Auger displays terrific authority as Seaman—properly cagey and egotistical in both speech and body language. Robert Bonotto—always a riveting Zeitgeist regular—smartly understate Anselm's general reserve and fires up his contrasting frustration. Jaime Hernandez, a standout as Amir, captures his escalating angst and enduring respect for Anselm.

Srin Chakravorty, scarily resembling Ivanka, wisely avoids impersonation and turns in a finely realized portrayal of Sri Lanka. Evelyn Holley has the right desperation as Finch-Gibbon.

Miller, always a design wizard transforming the Black Box Theatre, lines up handsome suit options on one side of the Atelier and authentic-looking fitting rooms on the other. Elizabeth Cole Sheehan's costumes for the male and female characters complement their very different roles. Michael Clark Wonson's nuanced lighting sharply reflects moments of diffidence as well as domineering.

If you think Baitz's play is a dry reiteration of today's headlines, think again. "Vicuna" has the look and life of fine fabric, and Zeitgeist has tailored it with painstaking care.



Robert Bonotto, Jaime Hernandez, Srin Chakravorty and Steve Auger in "Vicuña." (Courtesy Richard Hall/Silverline Images)

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# Jazz

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of the 12th annual Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival.

This year's festival was down one venue, as the Carter Playground stage and activities were not available due to recently-completed renovations, but music-lovers still had a broad and diverse array of talent to choose from on the two stages.

In addition to the music that filled the avenue from 12:00 noon until 6:00 PM, there were food vendors, artist and craft tables, and business and community organization information booths.

Bonnie Johnson, host of the Sunday afternoon program, "Colors of Jazz" on Worcester's WICN public radio, introduced the Mass. Ave. Stage headliner, singer Catherine Russell. The daughter of the late Luis Russell, music director for Louis Armstrong and jazz musician and vocalist Carline Ray, Russell is a touring artist and backing singer who has toured with David Bowie's band, Steely Dan, Rosanne Cash, Buster Poindexter, Cyndi Lauper and Madonna.

After her tenure with Bowie's band, Russell gravitated toward jazz and blues, and her set was filled with blues, swing and ballads made famous by Louis Jordan, Judy Garland, Louis Armstrong, Cab Calloway and Ray Charles, as well as a charming cover of the Chordettes' "Mr. Sandman".

The 62 year old singer surrounded herself with gifted young Berklee-connected musicians from across the country and around the world, including 17 year old drummer T.K. Jones of Virginia, keyboardist Anastassiya Petrova of Kazakhstan; bassist Charlie Lincoln of Minneapolis, Minnesota; guitarist Hunter Burgamy of New Orleans, trumpeter Steven Montecucco of Vancouver, Washington, pianist Kento Tsubosaka of Japan, Cameron McIntyre of Melbourne, Australia on clarinet, trombonist Stephan Tenney of Charleston, South Carolina and music director Colescott Rubin of Portland, Oregon, who played bass, sang and danced with Russell. The set ended with a lively cover of Ray Charles's "What'd I Say", culminating in a hard-driving drum solo by Jones.

Singer and saxophonist Tia Fuller's Diamond Cut presented mostly originals blending funk and '70s fusion sounds with more avant-garde rhythms, dissonance and modern-jazz guitar distortion, with classics such as Cole Porter's "I Love You". Her composition "Delight", which she described as "a prayer", is a dreamy, meditative piece led by Fuller's flowing, alto sax and her guitarist's

Vocalist and visual artist Veronique-Anne Epiter had a busy day participating in the festival, first singing at the 8:30 AM Bring Out the Music in You Beans and Cornbread Jazzfest Breakfast, a benefit for the South End Technology Center at Tent City held at the Columbus Avenue AME Zion Church, 600 Columbus Avenue. Epiter was there to sign and sell copies of "Moon Fever", her book of poetry, stories and essays as well as her drawings. Epiter, a former resident-artist at the Piano Factory who now lives in Beacon Hill, reported brisk traffic and a few sales at her table.

(Left) Catherine Russell and band (Right) "Colors of Jazz" host Bonnie Johnson, Photos by Michele Maniscalco

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# Fall Fest

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The festival was enlivened by hands-on activities as well as face painting and entertainment. Volunteer Bill Perkins staffed the apple-cider press, enlisting the help of children to pass the apples and crank the press.

Apple cider was also available at the snack table, along with pretzel bites, cookies and carrots. On the Warren Avenue side of the park, a BFD fire truck welcomed children to sit in the front seat and the interior, with firefighters explaining the workings of the truck and posing for pictures with the little visitors.

In the corner of the park, the Stacey Peasley Band had parents and kids dancing to pop favorites including The Temptations' "My Girl", Ben E. King's "Stand By Me", The Band's "The Weight" and Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues".

On a park bench, a talented face painter in a pink tutu deftly decorated children's faces, copying the flowers of her dress all over her face for a little girl named Charlotte and painting a tiger mask on her younger brother.

The park is named for James Hayes, who came to the South End from Ireland in 1927 and whose descendants still live on West Canton Street, and accordingly, two generations of the family were in attendance.

Claire Hayes reflected on the park that bears her family's name. "It makes me feel very proud. My grandchildren are fifth-generation South Enders." She continued, "This is a real neighborhood and people still help each other," recounting a recent incident in which neighbors noticed they had not heard from or seen a longtime resident and attempted to check on him.

Getting no response, they searched and asked around and learned he had fallen in his home and was recuperating in the hospital.

The Friends group's next event is a benefit at the Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont Street on Thursday October 18 from 6:00 PM-8:30 PM, which will feature wine, appetizers and the Friends group's annual auction. Tickets cost $40. For more information, please visit www.hayespark.org.

(Top) Pressing apples for cider. (Bottom Left & Center) Face painting. (Bottom Right) Councilor Flynn with the Hayes family. Photos by Michele Maniscalco

39/39

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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 PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

# Haley House News and Events

Submitted by Haley House

**It's Back: Haley House Annual Pie Drive**

The bakers at HHBC are already hard at work preparing for our Annual Thanksgiving Pie Drive, a fundraiser benefitting all of Haley House programs! Each 9-inch pie is $30 and hand-made by our bakers using locally sourced ingredients; the perfect complement to your Thanksgiving feast! Choose from five varieties: Apple Crumb, Blueberry Crumb, Pecan, Pumpkin, and Sweet Potato. This year, our pie quantities will be more limited than usual so make sure to get your orders in as soon as possible before supplies run out– the deadline is Tuesday, November 13th (unless we sell out earlier)! Interested in placing a group of orders? Become a Pie Captain! For more info, http://haleyhouse.org

**RESIDENCY: Home-Grown Arts @ HHBC**

RESIDENCY, a two-artist art show currently displayed at HHBC, features the work of artists John Paul Bednar and Tom King and is a testament to the positive impact of individuals coming together as community.

Bednar's abstract works are vibrant and complex, much like the artist himself. Bednar was a long time resident at Haley House and former soup kitchen guest, who passed away last month. Tom King's delicate and detailed sculptures reflect a time when he was in transition from homelessness to getting a place to live. He is a current resident and former guest of the soup kitchen, as well.

Tune into Art Is Life Itself (AiLi Live) on October 18 at 7pm for an interview with artist Tom King and stop by the bakery cafe if you haven't seen the works! They will be on display through the fall.

**Flatbread Brighton Pizza Party!**

How many pizza slices can you eat in one night? Join us at Flatbread Company in Brighton/ Brighton Bowl (76 Guest Street, Brighton) on Tuesday, October 16 for a night of fun, community, bowling, and PIZZA, all in the name of Haley House!

A portion of each of each pizza sold will directly support Haley House's mission (including take-out from Grub Hub and Uber Eats). The bar will be open for beer and wine lovers! We recommend coming early to grab a table for your friends

**Fall at the Farm: Slow and Steady**

The days are getting shorter, temperatures are dropping, and plant growth is slowing down for the season. The Haley House farm team is currently transitioning out of summer crops, so say goodbye to tomatoes, eggplants, squash, and sunflowers—they'll be back next year! In their place, fall cabbage, collards, kale, spinach and lettuce are being grown.

The farm team has also started building mini greenhouses over a handful of crops to keep them warm—hopefully all the way until December! They are also focusing on cover cropping (a type of planting that returns nutrients to the soil) and mulching for fall. Meanwhile, lots of great produce is still being sent to the Bakery Cafe and Take Back the Kitchen classes!

Want to get in on all of the farm fun? We continue to welcome volunteers.

**REPORT: Homelessness Among Those Formerly Incarcerated**

A compelling report written by Lucius Couloute for the Prison Policy Initiative highlights the challenges that people face transitioning out of incarceration into permanent housing. Couloute found that formerly incarcerated individuals are ten times more likely to be homeless than the general public, due to a "revolving door" of incarceration and policies that criminalize homelessness.

The report also outlines the contrasting trends within gender and race/ethnicity, highlighting that rates of homelessness are especially high among people of color and women. Also highlighted is that fact that while "203 of every 10,000 formerly incarcerated

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## Dog Lady

*Continued from page 1*

and shaking something loud when he is about to jump. Even when people have been over for a while he still gets too excited. Do you have any ideas or suggestions for his problem? Thank you so much. I am a big fan.

—Alex

*Dear Alex,*

*Hate to break this to you but the Airedale's problem isn't the dog's problem, it's your problem. You must be assiduous about training your terrier. Instead, it sounds as if you tried a little of this, such as shaking the can, and a little of something else, such as taking the dog out of the room. You haven't been absolutely consistent about training your dog. A concerted campaign to change annoying dog behavior takes weeks and months, not days. So get with one scheme.*

*A good place to start is by giving positive reinforcement to your pet for not jumping. Command your dog to sit and reward him with a tasty high-level treat (cooked chicken, freeze-dried liver chunks, for example) for mission accomplished. Do this again and again and again. Oh, and again. And again. Get the picture?*

Dear Dog Lady,

My male dog itches all the time. We give him Benadryl. He paces from room to room and will not lay down. He also stares at the ceiling lots.

—Connie

*Dear Connie,*

*Thank you for writing "Ask Dog Lady." Your question shows you are concerned about your dog and seek a solution. Dog Lady, however, believes you are barking up the wrong tree. This is a question for your veterinarian because it concerns your pet's health. You have a vet, don't you? Every dog owner should have trusted medical professional to turn to when a dog's physical problems are overwhelmingly obvious – like your dog's situation. Profuse itching can be caused by allergies, skin problems, infestations. A doctor needs to diagnose. Also, a medical professional should supervise and prescribe the Benadryl. Please take care of your pet.*

*Write: askdoglady@gmail.com*

## EBNA

*Continued from page 1*

- Cathedral High School Presentation

It is "Full STEAM Ahead" over at Cathedral. Learn what is happening at the high school, including the opening of the all-new Applied Learning Center.

- 200 Shawmut Ave - Parking Lot

Hear from representatives of the parking lot's operator on a request to extend their license to continue operating the lot.

- Business Spotlight: Urban Hound - A New Neighbor

Agenda Subject to change. Find us on Facebook @EastBerkeleyNA

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
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**In the Estate of:** Edward P Siegel
**Also Known as:**
**Date of Death:** February 4, 2018

Docket No. 18P1087

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Judith S. Siegel of Boston MA, a will has been admitted to informal probate. Judith S. Siegel of Boston MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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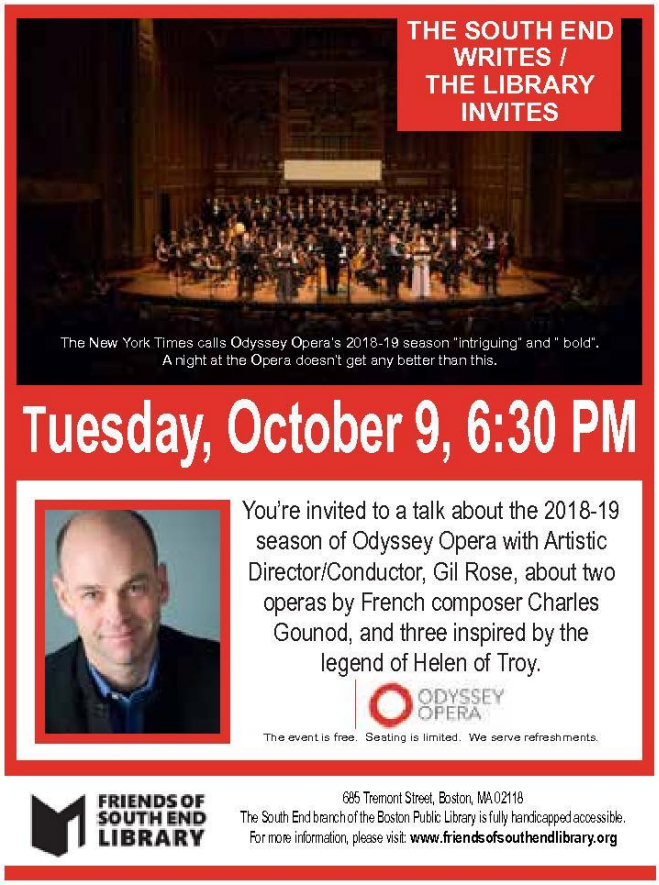


## Haley House

*Continued from page 5*

were homeless, nearly three times as many were housing insecure", illuminating a truer sense of the problem.

All of these issues are perpetuated by discrimination by public housing authorities and private property owners, lack of affordable housing, use of credit checks, professional references and incredibly costly security deposits are also major issues that bar formerly incarcerated people from transitioning out of homelessness.

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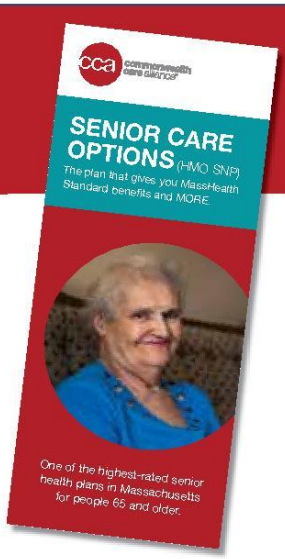


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### If you're 65+ and eligible for MassHealth Standard, call now for this free brochure about an important health plan option.

Commonwealth Care Alliance® is dedicated to helping you live safely in your own home for as long as possible. 65% of CCA Senior Care Options members actually qualify for a nursing home, but continue living independently at home with our comprehensive care and support. Our plan provides MassHealth Standard benefits and MORE – at $0 cost to you. And you can keep your own doctor!*

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*As long as the doctor is part of the CCA Provider Network

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Commonwealth Care Alliance (CCA) Senior Care Options Program (HMO SNP) is a Coordinated Care plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts/EOHHS Medicaid program. Enrollment in the Plan depends on contract renewal to provide benefits for both programs to enrollees. Enrollment is voluntary. This information is not a complete description of benefits. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. For more information, call CCA Member Services at 866-610-2273 (TTY 711), or read the Plan Member Handbook for a complete list. Benefits may change January 1 of each year. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium if it is not paid on your behalf. CCA complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sex, age, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability or geographic location. This Plan is available to people who live in the plan's service area, are aged 65 or older, and have Medicare and MassHealth Standard or just MassHealth Standard alone. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 866-610-2273 (TTY 711). ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 866-610-2273 (TTY 711).

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