## South End News

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

#### News from...

## Friends of the South End Library

The South End Writes Tuesday, May 28, 6:30 PM: Russ Lopez will talk about his lat-

est book, which covers the impact of the LGBTQ community in the Boston area since the 17th century. "Since the coming of Europeans to Massachusetts in 1620, LGBTO

people have been an important presence. They challenged gender, social, and sex norms in the 17th

Continued on page 5

## A clean school is a healthy school

All hands on deck to clean up around **Orchard Gardens Pilot School** 

BY SUE O'CONNELL

Parents, teachers and students at the Orchard Gardens K-8 Pilot School have been complaining about the large number of discarded needles, liquor bottles, trash and body waste on the school grounds.

Protective fencing has gone up in the rear of the school by Chadwick Street.

The community is asking for your help on Saturday, May 4, from 1-5pm to help clean the school grounds. Orchard Gardens Pilot School is located at 906 Albany Street, Roxbury.

More information can be found at the Orchard Garden Facebook page.



Discarded needles collected on the grounds of Orchard Gardens School. Photo from Orchard Gardens United Facebook Page

Photo courtesy City Councilor Ed Flynn

## **Easter Egg Hunts Abound**

South End children enjoyed a number of Easter Egg Hunts around the neighborhood. Excited searchers at the South End Library Park race

## Piano Factory artist named Educator of the Year

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Visual artist, teacher and Piano Factory resident and Piano Craft Gallery president Erik Grau was named Educator of the Year by the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools (BPS) and Boston Teachers Union (BTU).

Although he has only been teaching at the Higginson School for less than three years, Grau, who holds a Master of Fine Arts in

sculpture from Boston University and studied education at UMass. Lowell, has conducted Applied Behavior Analysis case supervision and consultation in over 50 BPS schools since 2011.

According to Higginson principal Marie Mullen, Grau is one of the youngest to receive Educator of the Year and he received it earlier in his tenure than his predecessors.

Grau's passion for art and education came together in the Piano Craft Gallery, 793 Tremont Street, on April 12 and 13 when the gallery hosted an exhibit of creations by K0-2 students from the Henry L. Higginson Inclusion School, 160 Harrishof Avenue, Roxbury. Images both realistic and fantastical, executed with notable talent, skill and detail in watercolor, crayon, paper, dioramas, cardboard sculpture and more, filled the gallery.

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BPS Educator of the Year Erik Grau and friends. Photos by Michele Maniscalco

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#### **Piano Factory**

Continued from page 1

The exhibit capped a week in which students from the school came to the gallery to learn about and produce art in two-and three-dimensional media and to write and illustrate autobiographical booklets.

Aprivate preview of the exhibit including Higginson school students, staff and Mayor Martin J. Walsh, took place on Friday, April 12 at 11:00 AM, with an opening reception from 6:00-8:00 PM that evening for Piano Craft Guild residents.

A the preview with Mayor Walsh, students gave readings and performed skits surrounded by their handiwork: sculptures, elaborate dioramas and cityscapes as well as drawings and watercolors. A member of the Boston Public Schools, (BPS) the Higginson school serves a wide range of students with differing abilities and circumstances, including homeless, autistic and learning-disabled children.

Mayor Walsh was visibly charmed by the performances, smiling broadly and applauding. Students created dioramas of land- and seascapes with carefully crafted trees, animals and other figures; models of the State House,

the Hatch Shell, the Leonard Zakim Bridge and the Piano Factory building, among other local landmarks.

The Boston Marathon model was truly multidimensional and multi-media, comprising a racecourse surrounded by wooden sides; model buildings along the path and crayon illustrations on the nearby wall depicting cheering family and friends. Piano Craft Guild management was sufficiently impressed with the model of their historic building to inquire about purchasing it for display.

Beaming as he was surrounded by dozens of students and several colleagues from the school, Grau spoke with great pride about the creativity and sophistication of the students' artistic offerings and the writings of their charming and candid autobiographical booklets.

"To see a five year-old write a whole paragraph about a learning experience is amazing," he said. In a collage of self-portraits in crayon accompanied by student musings on what they think of the Higginson school, one child said it all, "I like the Higginson. It's fun. We have gym and art and music."





Photos by Michele Maniscalco

## 8 bpda

### **Community Meeting**

### Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

Monday, May 6 6:00 PM - 7:45 PM **980 Harrison Ave**Boston Water and Sewer,
2nd Floor Training Room

Roxbury, MA 02119

#### **Event Description**

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. Since the 2016 launch of PLAN: Dudley Square, RSMPOC meetings also include progress reports on that initiative. In addition to the above, on May 5th the City will be providing an update on coordinated efforts to advance economic empowerment in Dudley Square. RSMPOC meetings are held in the evening the first Monday of the month at the Boston Water & Sewer Commission (BWSC) in the 2nd Floor Training Room. Free parking is available in the BWSC parking lot. For more information about the RSMPOC and the public meeting, please visit our webpage at this LytheRSMPOC.

Please come join your neighbors and the City of Boston to help shape the future of the neighborhood!

#### Contact:

Muge Undemir Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 617.918.4488 | mugzy.undemir@boston.gov

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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## **Unique Trigger**

## Trigger Warning,

Zeitgeist Stage Company, Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through May 14. 617-759-8836, 617-933-8600 or bostontheatrescene.com

#### BY JULES BECKER

Trust David Miller and Zeitgeist Stage Company to tackle issues as formidable as front page realities. Over the course of the company's 18-year history, its productions have largely been an impressive who's who of provocative modern plays—from powerful younger generation-focused dramas like "Spring Awakening" (the Wedekind play itself) and "Punk Rock" to topical works like the underrated musical "Enron".

Even so, the resourceful and versatile artistic director has been able to fit in works by comedy writer extraordinaire Alan Ayckbourn and the late great sharp-eyed visionary Edward Albee. Stagings of powerhouse modern classics like the Holocaust-set "Bent" and AIDS-focused "The Normal Heart" have poignantly demonstrated Miller's attention to different aspects of LGBTQ life.

Now Zeitgeist is ending the company's multi-IRNE and Norton Award run with a very topical world premiere Jacques Lamarre drama entitled "Trigger Warning."

As Miller explains in the staging's playbill, "Trigger Waming" is the result of a Zeitgeist commission and close work with the company at the BCA for two years. Lamarre, he reveals,

lives in Connecticut close to the sites of three mass shootings over recent years.

The playwright's unique perspective, Miller continues, is to tell the story of the play's shooting from the point of view of the family of the shooter.

Lamarre smartly opens his play—set in a Plainville, Connecticut—" today and the days that follow" at the home of the Murphys, the fictional middle class family in question. Gradually contractor Andrew—also called Murphy—and his realtor wife Jackie learn the details of the shooting and the enormity of what Travis has done.

Lamarre has purposely kept Travis unseen to focus on the reactions and feelings of the parents and daughter Meghan, whom her brother actually wounded during the shooting described as the worst in American history.

Andrew is an NRA member, a fact that now takes on heightened importance to all three. As guilt feelings abound, their seemingly tranquil family reaches a crossroads. Jackie and Andrew question themselves and each other as to what they did wrong and what they should have done. Meghan begins to find more comfort with her aunt Amy than with her parents.

Could Travis' crime have been prevented? As recriminations escalate, so do questions both on a personal level here and on a general level with regard to all such shootings and violence. Can schools and/or parents predict the volatility and dangerousness of a child like



Liz Adams and Steve Auger in Zeitgeist Stage Company's production of Trigger Warning Photo by David J. Miller

Travis? Could stronger gun control make a difference? Can mental health treatment helps? Can religion help? Can marriages and families withstand such extreme situations? Could even worse alternatives ensue? Lamarre essentially wants all theatergoers to question themselves and examine their own reactions, feelings and views as well as though of the Murphys.

Do not expect any facile answers from Lamarre. Do expect a thoughtful and highly intense drama (one appropriate for teenagers and up) very wellacted. Liz Adams captures all of Jackie's outrage and deepening vulnerability as the Murphys are more and more shunned. Steve Auger has all of Andrew's impulsiveness and frustration.

Adams and Augurs quick verbal volleys as parents and human beings are rightly disturbing Lilly Brenneman finds all of Meghan's growing hurt about her parents' seeming cluelessness about fully consoling her and her telling trust in her aunt. Kelley Estes properly

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## **Gathering to Aspire**

MASSGENERAL HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

Around 900 people came together for the MassGeneral Hospital for Children Aspire Spring Gala at the Four Seasons and raised more than \$2.6 million for autism research and care.

The 19thannual event supported Aspire, the highly successful, therapeutically-based program of the Lurie Center for Autism based in Lexington, Mass, Aspire helps children, teens and adults with high cognitive autism spectrum disorder and related profiles develop the skills necessary to be successful in their communities and workplaces.

Peter L. Slavin, MD, president of Masachusetts General Hospital; Scott McLeod, PhD, executive director of Aspire; Andrew Harris, Aspire program manager; the 2019 Aspire Spring Gala Committee of Stephanie and David Long, Tim Sweeney, Ann Marie and Daniel Gross, and Kim and Eric Karofsky (Terry and Tom Hamilton could not make it due to Aerosmith's Las Vegasschedule); Aspire program participants and their families; and corporations from all over the country were in attendance to celebrate the great success of the Aspire program.

"As Aspire continues to grow, we are engaging more and more clients with our new programing while broadening our reach in educating our communities about living and working with people on the autism spectrum," said Scott McLeod, PhD, executive director of Aspire, as he addressed guests. "Aspire is also



South Enders Dr. Ronald and Martha Kleinman. Dr. Kleinman is Physician-in-Chief of Mass-General Hospital for Children. Photo by Matt West.

making great strides with adult members of the autism community. Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to create specialized programs for this older population, and we're now working with more adults than before, helping them make changes to become successful and remain successful."

Throughout the Four Seasons space. event designer Rafanelli Events showcased this year's theme, "People Who Matter," through life-size illuminated portraits of Aspire participants, mentors and parents, and a poignant video of a collection of interviews revealing the impact an individual can make. Out-of-this-world food stations were sprinkled Muirfield Village course.

In honor of Aspire and autism aware-

throughout the rooms, along with eight luxury boxes where guests tried their luck with their key to open access to memorable prize packages, such as a Broadway experience and a golf getaway to the Jack Nicklaus-founded

ness, Boston's beautiful Zakim Bridge was lit up in blue.

#### Trigger

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underplays reasonable Amy except in fiery moments between the sisters. Holly Newman has Attornev Bates' curious calmness.

Naeemah A. White-Peppers, in a very welcome return to Zeitgeist Stage, plays three different characters—an FBI agent, a reverend and an angry neighbor—and keeps each one vivid and distinct-especially buck-passing

Reverend Tracy, who effectively excommunicates Jackie from his congregation.

Michael Flowers doubles as set and projection designer. His set has the right live-in simplicity for the Murphys. Special praise goes to his projection of coverage of the shooting over wall art and a framed photo of the parents and Meghan as though to say that they cannot escape from the aftermath's damaging hold. Michael Clark Wonson's lighting matches the drama's intensity.

"Trigger Warning" fires a cautionary call

to all parents and friends and family with haunting immediacy. For their part, Miller and Zeitgeist are ending an 18-year run with a gem of a production that makes their exit from the BCA Black Box all the sadder.

In his playbill farewell, Miller looks forward to being a part of audiences for the productions of many other deserving area companies. Still, the Boson arts community must not give up on saving Zeitgeist. This is a unique Hub keeper.

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Estate of: Anthony W. Iraca Jr.

may be requested in the Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SII17P1509FA

Date of Death: 6/17/2017 A petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by David J Hamel of Fall River, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, amended and other such relief as

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

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 5/16/2019.

This is NOT a hearing date but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 17, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate



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South End News is published every Thursday.





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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 BOXE14, Boston, MA 02127; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com



Advice on Pets, Life, Love

BY MONICA COLLINS

Dear Dog Lady,

I adopted Lovey, a six-year-old Maltese, from a local rescue group. She has many issues. She barks fiercely atmoving cars, school buses, joggers and other dogs on the street. She only eats her food alone in the kitchen and looks over her shoulder to see if anyone else is in the room. She is food aggressive.

She is very sad and hides in corners all over the house. She curls up in a ball like a cat. I do crate her when I leave the house. When I come home, she shows enthusiasm and pleasure to see me. She wags her tail and runs all over the family room like a creature possessed. This exuberant behavior gives me hope things could improve. I discovered that she came from a home of divorce where there was lots of shouting. I am a vibrant senior and live alone.

At the local pet shop, I heard about a play group for small dogs, which meets once a week for a couple of hours. I was thinking about trying this to socialize her.

-Frances

Dear Frances,

Yes, yes. A play group would be perfect. Scared, skittish dogs need the company of their own kind. Other dogs teach them to be bigger, braver, and bolder – in a good way.

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### **South End Library**

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century. They were welcomed into the upper reaches of Boston society in the 19th century. They contributed to the great effort to liberate LGBTQ people everywhere in the 20th and 21st centuries," he says.

Tuesday, June 25: Erica Ferencik, a Boston novelist, essayist, and former standup comic will be at the South End library with a slide show to introduce her second suspense novel, Into the Jungle. Her first thriller, The River at Night, was an Opera #1 Pick. The author did stand-up comedy for ten years at various clubs in Boston and New York and was a material writer for David Letterman during the early years of his national late-night show.

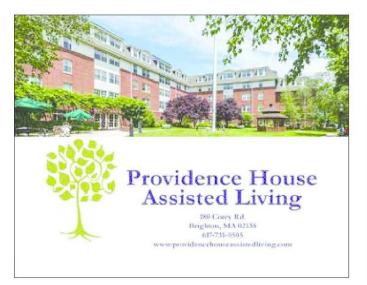
Library and Park Renovations

The Boston Public Library's projectteam is working with Friends of the South End Library (FOSEL) to determine which new seating arrangements FOSEL will purchase for the library and what will go where. Current estimates are the South End library will close

sometime in October for a month or two to install new flooring, put on a coat of paint, add electrical outlets and reupholster the banquette seating near the entrance, among other improvements. Around this time, the first step toward a BIG renovation and expansion will get underway with a so-called programming study of the building's capacity on one hand, and the neighborhood's 21-st century needs for library services, on the other. How to meld the two will be the subject of public hearings. That will take a year.

FOSEL has submitted funding requests to our state representatives to complete the redesign of Library Park with a permanent planting plan, irrigation system, curbing to prevent run-off and refurbishment of the LightWells. Previous efforts to secure such a grant from the Community Preservation Act did not succeed.

More information at www.friendsofsouthendlibrary.org. The South End Branch of the Boston Public Library is located at 685 Tremont Street.





The Exchange South End project approved at 540 Albany Street will bring life science and technology space to Boston's South End, and will include approximately 30,000 square feet of space for use by an existing or start-up business, and/or for not-for-profit affordable cultural space.

As we begin to imagine this space, we want input from you! Please participate:

- Take a brief survey at: bit.ly/ExchangeSouthEnd
- Open House: May 9, 6-7:30PM at Ruth Lillian Barkley Apartments, 1472 Washington Street
- Open House: May 15, 6-7:30PM at the Flower Exchange, 540 Albany Street

#### For more information, please visit ExchangeSouthEnd.com

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#### **Dog Lady**

Continued from page 5

Lovey sounds like a love. The dog never got the advantages of a calm home and keepers who were willing to train her. She still recovers from all that chaos. In addition to mixing it up with other dogs, Lovey needs a routine. Try to do the same things with her every day at the same time (more or less) such as walking and feeding. Dogs are creatures of habit. Because you're a vibrant senior, pounding the pavement with Lovey will be good for you too. Also, getting out will help her adjust to the joggers, buses and other dogs.

Her food aggression is most troublesome. Yet, as long as she eats alone at the same time in the same protected place she may overcome her fear. Also, give hera cozy safe place to retreat—a dog bed in a corner or at the back of a closet. The more peacefulness and security she feels, the more she will come around.

Dear Dog Lady,

We have a Shetland sheepdog. I have bought everything and tried everything and he still barks at everything! Is there anything I can do to stop this annoying behavior? He's very smart, but this is really hard on our family. Any help would be appreciated. Thank you.

Dear Comie

No, you haven't tried everything. Everything requires you give the dog much more exercise than you probably do; everything means you offer plenty of healthy distractions. Your pet comes from a hearty working breed of dogs with jobs. In the city, you can't give him a bunch of sheep to herd so you must find some other task so the Shetland sheepdog works through the boredom issues. You must think of creative ways to engage your pet—agility course, work, exercise and more exercise. When a dog barks at everything, the animal is in a state of confusion and chaos. Soothe the savage beast by providing an active lifestyle.

Write askdoglady@gmail.com

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