

Revitalization of South Ends Harriet Tubman Park –“Step on Board”

BY GARY BAILEY,
DHL,MSW,ACSW

There was a lot of activity this month at the Harriet Tubman Park located at the corners of on Columbus Avenue between Pembroke and West Newton Streets.

After a several of years of planning, fundraising a visit to the park by Boston Mayor Marty Walsh and the unwavering advocacy of South End resident Frieda Garcia , the



Continued on page 2 Harriet Tubman Park in the South End

Blackstone/Franklin awards \$33K+ in scholarships

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (B/FSNA) scholarship committee gave out a total of \$33,500 in awards to 12 rising high school seniors and three continuing college students at a reception on Tuesday, June 20 at



Continued on page 4 2017 B/FSNA scholarship recipients. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Local Elected Officials Endorse Mike Kelley

SUBMITTED BY THE
MIKE KELLEY CAMPAIGN

Senators Linda Dorcea-Forry and Joseph Boncore joined District 2 colleagues, Representatives Aaron Michlewitz and Byron Rushing, on Monday to announce their endorsement of Mike Kelley, joining his

growing and passionate team of local elected endorsers. Last week the Ward 5 and Ward 3 Democrats voted to endorse Kelley, making him the first candidate in the race to receive an endorsement from a Democratic Ward Committee.

The list of enthusiastic Kelley campaign endorsers also includes:

Representatives Liz Malia, Jeffrey Sánchez and Michael Moran, as well as City Councilor Josh Zakim.

Candidate Kelley announced in late March that he was seeking the City Council seat being vacated by Councilor William Linehan. The

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South End greets summer

With Soulstice in Blackstone Square

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The warm, pleasant weather drew a consistently large crowd at Washington Gateway Main Street's Summer Soulstice on Wednesday, June 21. For her swan song Soul-

stice before departing WGMS in mid-July, executive director Jennifer Effron pulled out all the stops with a series of stylistically varied and talented bands; a variety of food trucks; beer garden and samples from incoming local businesses Barre3 Studio, which gave a sneak preview of its exercise

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Carmelia Latin Jazz Band. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Fête de la Musique Summer Solstice Celebrations

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

This year's Fête de la Musique, renamed Lapin Fête de la Musique, not only commemorated the summer solstice but also saluted the tenure of the Community Music Center of Boston's (CMCB) depart-

ing executive director, David Lapin, who is retiring after 36 years at the helm. In addition to the customary concerts in Ringgold Park, Frieda Garcia Park and the plaza in front of the Community Music Center of

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Warren Avenue Breakdown at Frieda Garcia Park. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

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Tubman

Continued from page 1

has received a much needed sprucing up in the form of some replanting and refurbishing.

This refurbishing could not have happened at a better time. Visitors to the park have increased significantly since the announcement that Tubman's face will be on the twenty dollar bill. This was followed by the discovery of a rare and unknown portrait of the famed abolitionist that was sold at an auction in March 2017 and then it was announced that the portrait would be shared by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Library of Congress.

This verdant oasis which until now had only had minimal grown ivy ground cover now has a solar powered in ground irrigation system, among the plantings are hydrangeas, roses, Sunday Gloriosa White day Lilly, Spotted Dead nettle, and ornamental grasses, as well as the preplacement of an fir that had been damaged with mulch added as another type of ground cover. Next, the paths inside of the park are slated to have more stone dust added; and the benches cleaned and oiled.

The BSC Group developed the design, and Quincy's W.C. Caniff & Sons were in charge of the planting in the park. The crew was very amenable and accessible to curious neighbors and others about the work that was occurring. Support for the parks refurbishing has come from the Browne Fund and the City of Boston Parks Department; and the Mayor's Office.

The Tubman statue, is the first statue on city-owned property honoring a woman



Harriet Tubman Park in the South End

stands along with another statue -"Emancipation"-by Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller, which was commissioned to commemorate the centennial of the issuance of Emancipation Proclamation; the park is among the only in the country featuring works by two African American female sculptors.

Tubman biographer and Simmons College alumna Karen Larson speaking this past spring at the Harriet Tubman House/ United South End Settlements stressed that people needed to continue to advocate with the US Mint to ensure that Harriet Tubman does indeed make it onto the new 20 dollar bill-given the recent changes in administrations.

For now, "Mother Moses" as Tubman was affectionately called has a home that is worthy of her name and that neighbors and visitors from around the world can enjoy.

A mixed Los Meadows

Los Meadows,
Boston Public Works Theater
Company, Plaza Black Box,
Boston Center for the Arts,
through July 1. 617-933-8600 or
bostontheatrescene.com

BY JULES BECKER

To paraphrase a famous insight from Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman," attention must be paid to vulnerable humans. That kind of attention is just what Boston Public Works Theatre Company's acting artistic director Laura Neubauer is giving to homeless heroine Perdita Barry in her new effort "Los Meadows." In her playbill "Artistic Director's Welcome," Neubauer describes the real woman who inspired Perdita as one with "a clear need for connection and humanity." The earnest playwright intends "Los Meadows" to be her answer to the question "What happened to her family?" Unfortunately,

marriage and talks about child custody issues. She also has a fondness for liquor nip bottles. Liz may be the most grounded of the siblings as she has dealt with their father's funeral and his will and tried to deal with matters involving their mother and her welfare.

Even when more information is revealed about the siblings, audience members may find it hard to sympathize with them or identify with them. Regularly brief references to the men and children in their lives add up to little more than name-dropping. The sisters speak about the importance of having Mom home for Thanksgiving and Christmas, but ultimately director Olivia D'Ambrosio is not able to raise the better but also unsatisfying home-centered second act to the level of a truly affecting family reunion. Gale Argentine has her moments as lost soul Perdita, but Neubauer's very uneven play will have theatergoers searching for evidence that a woman living on the streets out of the contents of a store carriage has suddenly turned into



Robert Cope and Gale Argentine in Boston Public Works' production. (Courtesy Paul Fox/Boston Public Works)

Neubauer's wandering play often seems as lost in its Boston Center for the Arts premiere as its unfocused protagonist.

Major contributors to that lack of focus are Perdita's back story and the need for fuller characterizations of her three daughters. Early on, design factors sometimes have more to say about Perdita and her family than Neubauer's dialogue, in which the voice of her late husband Walter speaks of the couple's gambling in Las Vegas (a city the playwright calls "my old stomping ground"). Andrew Duncan Will's vivid sound design and PJ Strachman's thoughtful lighting do bring immediacy to an accident that leaves Perdita a widow. Ryan Bates' well-detailed scenic design

Questions may kick in between the lines for many theatergoers as daughters Liz, Cher and Tia talk about their wandering mother. Tia speaks of working for the Peace Corps but appears to have an ongoing problem with drugs. Cher despairs about an unsuccessful

a secure person able to safeguard her own health and well-being.

The best scenes in a very mixed bag are those in which Argentine and Robert Cope as a music-centered homeless man curiously named Otto Walters share moments of understanding and empathy. Cope does well evoking Otto's low-key philosophy of life. Lydia Jane Graeff initially convinces as Liz, yet even she struggles with a role that needs more dimension. Amie Lytle as Cher and Kira Compton need more subtlety to help roles that largely come across as caricatures.

Neubauer's play is the last of seven new plays presented by Boston Public Works Theater Company. The laudable three-season project, during which playwrights have produced their own work in the Hub, has resulted in such provocative and imaginative fare as "From the Deep" and "Hard and Fast." Regrettably the same cannot be said about "Los Meadows."

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Kelley

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preliminary election is September 26.

Since his announcement at Villa Victoria, Kelley has been meeting with residents and building broad-based support across the diverse neighborhoods of South Boston, South End, Chinatown, Downtown, and Bay Village, which comprise District 2.

"My candidacy for District 2 City Council is inspired by a belief that my parents instilled in me from a very young age: Putting People First. It is why I am so honored to have the endorsement of these elected officials who practice this belief every day in their work, advocacy and leadership."

Sen. Dorcena-Ford, whose 1st Suffolk District includes South Boston, Fort Point and the Waterfront, said: "I am supporting Mike Kelley because he's my friend and he understands the housing needs of every Bostonian. Growing up, Mike learned firsthand living in public housing how meaningful and transformative these programs are to families and children. I saw his passion, commitment, and dedication to service as the Director of Boston's Rental Housing Center, where Mike worked hand-in-hand with tenants and homeowners in Boston to make sure their needs were met."

Sen. Boncore's 3rd Suffolk & Middlesex District also includes a large portion of District 2. He added, "Mike understands the need for more rapid and reliable transportation. The neighborhoods of District 2 are some of the fastest growing residential and commercial areas in the entire city. We need to be doing all we can to make sure people can efficiently and quickly get around our city. I know Mike will advocate for this in the council and will work the way with the state authorities to get it done."

Rep. Rushing, whose 9th Suffolk District covers much of the South End in District 2, had this to say: "Mike has been a champion for this community since he was first its Community Liaison back in the mid-to-late 90s. He has been an unrelenting advocate for this neighborhood, and has worked tirelessly to make sure all residents felt welcome and safe here. Given our national political climate, it is more important than ever that we elect individuals who are focused on bringing us together and not tearing us apart. Mike Kelley is absolutely one of those individuals, and that is why I am supporting him."

Rep. Michlewitz, whose 3rd Suffolk District includes Downtown, Chinatown, Bay Village, and the South End in District 2, said, "I need a partner to work side-by-side with in District 2. One who has shown throughout his years in public service that he prioritizes constituent services, and bringing individuals and groups together to solve problems. I can think of no better partner than Mike Kelley, which is why I am endorsing his candidacy."

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B/FSNA

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the Gallery at Art Block, 725 Harrison Avenue.

The scholarships are given to South End residents to assist with books, student fees and other expenses. The scholarship program was initiated in 2006 by former B/FSNA president Andrew Parthum and has grown exponentially over the years in both the number of recipients and the dollar amount of the awards.

Parthum's contribution to the community was recognized with a proclamation from Mayor Martin J. Walsh, read aloud to guests by Office of Neighborhood Services liaison Sam Chambers. Leading up to the reading of the mayoral proclamation, Chambers said, "Andrew is so caring and we are so proud that he started this."

Parthum praised the volunteers "who have taken up the scholarship ball and run with it. Every year, we've exceeded expectations that I had. It's because of half the people in this room who have [put in] the time and effort to make this what it is today. I want to thank the scholarship committee for all of your time and effort."

Committee members took turns present-

ing the scholarships and sharing some of the students' interests and achievements. Introducing recipient Nicholas Antoine, a student at Bristol Community College who will transfer to Mount Ida College this fall, committee member Mark Ott described Antoine's volunteer work at IBA and his enthusiasm for his major, funeral home management.

"It's not very often that you hear someone say they want to go into funeral home management and it's not often that you hear them talk about it with the passion that he does. I look forward to not seeing you for a long time," Ott quipped. Parents beamed with pride in their children's hard work. Margo Wilder, whose daughter, Angel Wilder, will use her scholarship at Bridgewater State University this fall, said, "I wore sunglasses so no one would see me crying."

The 2017 B/FSNA scholarship recipients are: scholar-athlete Raconah Miles-Willis, who graduated from Charlestown High School and will attend Syracuse University this fall; Edwin Martinez, a mentor and counselor at St. Stephen's Youth program and graduate of John D. O'Bryant High School, who will enroll at UMass. Dartmouth this fall; a volunteer at the Room to Grow program and graduate of

Cathedral High School, Volinda Tellewoyan will enroll at Manhattanville College this fall; Boston Latin School (BLS) graduate Marguerite Blair, who volunteered as a tutor for other students, will enter Pomona College in the fall focusing on math and chemistry; Carl-Isaak Krulewitch, who performs with a jazz trio, graduated from BLS and will follow his passion at Berklee College of Music this fall; UMass. Boston student Hayley Calderon received her second B/FSNA scholarship this year as she continues her education in Political Science; Olaide Junaid will use the scholarship as she continues her education at Colby Sawyer College with plans to pursue graduate studies in physical therapy; an athlete and member of student government at Josiah Quincy Upper School, Kenny Mei will enroll at Northeastern University this fall; Shona Ortiz, a BLS graduate who enjoys reading, writing, drawing and playing guitar and ukulele, will attend Bowdoin College this fall.

Three students, Jason Liu, Josie Ortiz and Ksanet Tesfazion, each received \$3,500 Andrew Parthum Scholarships, which honor students for serving the community as well as

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(Top) Angel and Margo Wilder (Bottom Left) Parthum scholarship recipient Jason Liu and friend Lily Tang (Bottom Right) Scholarship recipients Carl-Isaak Krulewitch and Hayley Calderon, right. Photos courtesy of Michele Maniscalco

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Solstice

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Boston, the Lapin Fête de la Musique added a block party on Warren Avenue in Lapin's honor with food from local restaurants and vendors; a variety of performers from a marching band to CMCB classical ensembles; crafts and activities for kids and a visit from Wally, the Red Sox mascot.

Warren Avenue Breakdown, featuring CMCB faculty members Chuck Gabriel, bass; Mike Giordano, guitar; and drummer Andy Fordyce with two guest vocalists and

a keyboardist, brought Latin rhythms and swinging jazz to about 100 adults and children throughout the afternoon as they lounged in the grass and played on the playground equipment. The Revolutionary Snake Ensemble returned to Union Park, bringing a bit of New Orleans to the South End, while Ringgold Park welcomed back popular children's performer Wayne Potash. Participatory percussion group All Hands Drumming performed in Childe Hassam Park followed by singer/songwriter Kali Stoddard-Imari, playing a unique blend of jam band, American roots music and hip-hop sampling. One could hear the influences of Dave Matthews and Tracy Chapman in

Stoddard-Imari's songwriting and vocals. Stoddard-Imari also played at the Boston Center for the Arts Plaza in front of the Mills Gallery, followed by French-born Bertrand Laurence's American roots and blues music.

Warren Avenue was closed between Clarendon and Berkeley Streets for the block party in honor of Lapin, which boasted a wide variety of music, food and fun. Approximately 450 people stopped by to hear music from the Strolling Party Band; Stoddard-Imari; the Savin Hillbillies, a country & western/Irish music group with South End Community Health Center chief Bill Walczak on guitar; and CMCB's Intermediate String Ensemble,

Senior Wind Ensemble and Orchestra, the orchestra accompanying faculty member and soprano Czarina Schocker on a piece from "The Marriage of Figaro". Snacks from Pico, Vejigantes, Dan's TEA, Ben and Jerry's and Blackbird Doughnuts satisfied guests' appetites as they enjoyed crafts, games, balloon art and an instrument petting zoo and rode the mechanical tiger, elephant and bear provided by Safari Rides & Photos, operated by a gentleman in pith helmet and shorts who bore a striking resemblance to US president and adventurer Theodore Roosevelt.



(Top Left) Safari Rides & Photos at Warren Ave. block party (Top Right) All Hands Drumming at Childe Hassam Park. (Bottom) Safari Bob of Safari Rides & Photos. Photos courtesy of Michele Maniscalco

B/FSNA

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for academic accomplishment. Ortiz volunteers with the Crossroads for Kids program and received the President's Volunteer Service Award. She graduated from Snowden International High School and will attend UMass. Boston this fall. Tesfazion was one of a group of teens from the St. Stephen's Youth Program

who beautified Ramsay Park, inspiring Mayor Walsh to commit \$1 million to its renovation. A graduate of Boston Latin Academy, she will attend UMass. Amherst this fall. Liu, a graduate of Lincoln Sudbury High School, volunteers with the Square Roots program at Castle Square Tenants Organization and will attend UMass. Boston this fall.

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classes, and Anoush'Ella, which offered samples of its traditional Middle Eastern fare. Effron estimated attendance at the Soulstice at more than 800.

Business was brisk at the food trucks and beer garden, with Daddy's Bonetown Burgers, SaPa and Tenoch selling out. Anoush'Ella, the eagerly anticipated casual Middle Eastern

restaurant that will soon open across the street from Blackstone Square at 35 West Newton Street, gave away their entire supply of samples of their tasty homemade za'atar chips, labneh (seasoned yogurt sauce), walnut harissa (peppery sauce) and hummus at a festive table decorated with a saj pan at one end and a crate of bright produce at the other, reflecting their emphasis on fresh, homemade food.

"Anoush'Ella was a big hit," Effron said in a follow-up e-mail. Sleeping Monkey played a tight, synchronous set including Allman Brothers and Rolling Stones covers. Camelia

Latin Jazz Band Latin-jazz interpretation of "It's Impossible" "All of Me" Colombian-cumbia style and a salsa hit by Tito Rodriguez. Marcela Cruz topped off the evening with hip, urban singing and dancing.

Commenting on her last special event with WGMS, Effron said, "I am sad that it is my last as well, but also so happy that it went so well and I can depart on a high note. This was definitely our biggest Summer Soulstice to date!"



(Bottom Right) Anoush'Ella sample table. All photos courtesy of Michele Maniscalco

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
Estate of: Robert A. Coviello Date of Death: 5/10/2017		Docket No. SU17P1152EA	
To all interested persons: A petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Dolores Russo of Boston, MA and Tania Cassiraro of Needham Heights, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. And also requesting that Dolores Russo of Boston, MA and Tania Cassiraro of Needham Heights, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.		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 07/13/2017.			
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.			
The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.			
WITNESS, Hon. Joan P. Armstrong, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 6, 2017 Terri Klug Caffazzo, Register of Probate			

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SHE HAS A LOT TO SAY...
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