

Best Bees' Mother's Day workshop a family affair

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Best Bees Company, a bee-keeping services company and bee research center located at 839 Albany Street, drew a fair amount of new buzz at its DIY Day at SoWa, 500 Harrison Avenue, on Sunday, May 13, educating approximately 20 registered participants and many more passersby on the lives, ecological importance and care of bees.

Best Bees exhibited some of its wares, including a decorated hive enclosure and a tabletop-size hive frame. Participants who registered



Noah Wilson-Rich, right, exhibits beehive. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

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Hot fun in the summertime

South End Summer Arts Preview

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Again this summer, the South End will enjoy an embarrassment of riches in free, outdoor music and arts

programs in our local green spaces. Neighborhood groups including the Friends of Ringgold Park, Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD), IBA Arts and the Community Music Center of Boston (CMCB), Berklee College of Music and others.

The Titus Sparrow Park Summer Concert Series returns every Wednesday night at 6:30 PM with a varied menu of family-friendly party sounds. This season kicks off on Wednesday, May 30 with a fresh blend of hip-hop, R & B and jazz

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Ellis' Leo Delaney to retire

SUBMITTED BY ELLIS MEMORIAL

One of Boston's foremost non-profit leaders is stepping down this coming fall after leading the organization for 32 years. Leo J. Delaney, CEO of Ellis Memorial (Ellis), has announced his retirement and plans

for his transition are underway. Ellis Board of Directors will begin an executive search in the coming weeks. For over 132 years, Ellis has been an iconic early education leader in Boston's South End and has strengthened Boston's inner city working families with high quality education and care for children,

youth and vulnerable adults.

"Leo has been an incredible leader who has accomplished more than we could have imagined," said Larry Hughes, Ellis Board Chair. "The retirement of such a strong leader is always challenging for a lean

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Melnea Cass, front left, with Governor Francis Sargent. Courtesy of ABCD

Melnea Cass Day in The City of Boston

52 years ago on May 22, then-Mayor John Collins declared "Melnea Cass Day". This year, Mayor Marty Walsh did the same to honor the late civil rights advocate.

The Proclamation reads:

"Proclamation

Whereas: Melnea Cass, through her contributions to the City of Boston and her courage in the face of adversity earned the nickname "The First Lady of Roxbury"; and

Whereas: Melnea Cass's courage was fervently displayed through her advocacy for the elderly, the poor, women's civil rights, and communities of color; and

Whereas: Throughout her lifetime Melnea Cass was dedicated to her community. Her work reflected her passion. She held roles that engaged the community she loved, such as a Charter member of the Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), President of the Boston NAACP Branch, Chairwoman for

the Massachusetts Advisory Committee for the Elderly, and as one of the founding members of a community pillar - Freedom House; and

Whereas: Melnea's fight did not end with her roles. She was a community organizer having led the way in registering women of color to vote in 1920 after the Nineteenth Amendment was passed; and

Whereas: Melnea Cass is a Boston legend. Her name belongs amongst the historical figures with our city such as, Harriet Tubman, Malcolm X, Bruce Bolling, and Mary Evans Wilson; now

Therefore: I, Martin J. Walsh, Mayor for the City of Boston, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 22nd, 2018 to be Melnea Cass Day in the City of Boston.

I urge all of my fellow Bostonians to join me in recognizing Melnea Cass's everlasting contributions to our great City of Boston. Her work will live on, and so her dream of an equitable future will be realized."

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Summertime

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fusion from Pocket Radio5. Other performers include the Fifth Season Quartet, who present jazz with touches of classical and Bulgarian folk music on Wednesday, June 20, and Slim Jim and the Mad Cows, who bring their "country-fried metal" to the park on August 22. Also returning is the Children's Concert Series on Tuesday mornings from 10:00-11:00 AM at the Shady Triangle in Titus Sparrow Park. The fun begins on Tuesday, July 10 with folk-rock by Sara Wheeler. The Titus Sparrow concerts are free, all-ages and open to the public. See <http://titussparrowpark.org/events/seasonal-events/summer-concert-series/> for full concert listings.

The popular Monday night salsa lessons and dancing return to the Courtyard at Blackstone Community Center at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 11. Brought to you by the MetaMovements performing arts collective, the lessons are free and open to the public. For more information, see <http://mrnsalsainthepark.weebly.com/>.

Childe Hassam Park launches a variety of art and music events on Friday, June 15 at 6:00 PM with Artist in the Park: Public Art Installation Hil, continuing through August 8 with two sessions of Dog Portraits in the Park on Saturdays, June 30 and July 28 from 9:00-10:00 AM and the Children's Music Series every Wednesday, June 26 through August 8 except Wednesday, July 4 from 9:00 AM-10:00 AM. For more information, please visit www.ChildeHassamPark.com.

Stop and smell the roses on Saturday, June 16 on the 25th annual South End Garden Tour, brought to you by the Trustees of Reservations. The self-guided tour, which runs from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM, gives guests access to private gardens in the area bordered by Dartmouth Street to Rutland Square and between Columbus Avenue and Tremont Street. Tickets cost \$24 in advance or \$28 on tour day for Trustees members and \$30 in advance or \$35 on tour day for non-members. To purchase tickets, please visit <https://events.thetrustees.org/tickets/ItemShow.aspx?Dep=x58rDrwgV026U0ja8STjdA==&Cat=71t89CgdTM2Yv0riNJS4MQ==&It=cAOCsdlITU4=&d=06-16-2018>.

Celebrate the longest day of the year with music on Thursday, June 21 at Make Music Boston, a citywide afternoon of music of all genres. South End venue Childe Hassam Park will host soul singer/songwriter Melissa Fine from 1:30-2:30 and rock singer/songwriter Kyle Bourquin from 3:00-4:00 PM, and BCAP Plaza, 539 Tremont Street, will present the experimental classical group, Box Not Found. For details on all Make Music Boston venues and events, see <http://www.makemusicboston.org/>.

The Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA) reprises its monthly Music in the Square series with performances in scenic, relaxing, Worcester Square on the third Thursday of each month, June 21, July 19 and August 16 from 7:00-9:00 PM. Bring a picnic, some chairs and a blanket and enjoy the sweet sounds with neighbors and friends! Artists to be announced. See WSANA's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WorcesterSquare/> for upcoming details.

Fête de la Musique commemorates the summer solstice on Saturday, June 23 from 3:00-6:00 PM with more venues and performances at Ringgold Park, Union Park, Childe Hassam Park, Hayes Park, Frieda Garcia Park, Watson Park and BCA plaza, 539 Tremont Street. There will be live music, food samplings and family friendly activities. Artists have not yet been announced. Further details will be posted at <https://cmcb.org/events/fete-de-la-musique/>.

A neighborhood favorite, the Saint John the Baptist Creek Orthodox Church Picnic returns on Saturday, June 23 from 12:00-11:00 PM and Sunday, June 24 from 12:00-8:00 PM at the church's courtyard and parish hall, 15 Union Park Street. Dine on roast lamb, moussaka, souvlaki, gyros, spanakopita (spinach pie) and other Greek specialties homemade by church volunteers, followed by the bounteous array of Greek pastries and adult beverages. On Saturday night, Creek band Enosis sets the rhythm for traditional Greek dances. Free, all ages admission. See <http://www.saintjohnthebaptist.org/news.html> for further details.

BPRD's Artists In Residence Workshops for children ages 3 through 10 will return at Ringgold Park on three consecutive Thursdays, July 12, 19 and 26 from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM.

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Letters Policy

The South End News welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number. Because of space limitations, letter should not be more than 200 words.

e-mail:
letters@southendnews.com

Summertime

Continued from page 2

Local artists will lead the children in creating take-home art and craft projects. The series is free, and materials will be provided. To register, email parks@cityofboston.gov.

Progress has its price: Due to upcoming renovations to the South End Branch Library and Library Park, the Concerts at Library Park series will not take place this summer. Here's looking forward to the return of the concert series in the future when the library improvements are complete.

The Tito Puente Summer Concert Series returns to heat up the summer with Latin dance rhythms on three dates in O'Day Park, 85 West Newton Street, on Thursday nights in July. The fun begins on JULY 5 with a fusion of Latin, African and American styles by singer/percussionist ZAYRA POLA & 3NITY. On July 12, Orquesta El Macabeo combines salsa with punk and other genres to forge a unique sound. On July 19, Eguie Castrillo y Orquesta Mar del Norte brings salsa of the '70s and '80s to the park. Wear your dancing shoes!

IBA Arts presents a special 50th anniversary edition of Festival Betances on Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21 from 1:00-8:00 PM at Plaza Betances, 100 West Dedham Street. The festivities begin with a parade including community performing groups, elected officials, neighborhood organizations and more, and continues with two afternoons filled with traditional and contemporary Latin music styles; Puerto Rican street food and tropical soft drinks; crafts and the traditional greasy pole competition on Sunday afternoon. Musical acts to be announced. Visit <http://www.ibaboston.org/festivalbetances/> for more information. Admission is free, but an RSVP is requested at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/festival-betances-anniversary-edition-tickets-44459856628>.

Sidebar: Kids' sports

Rookie Rugby: Cheryl Brown 961-3085

BPRD's Watercolor Painting Workshop comes to Blackstone Square from 12:00 PM-2:00 PM on Saturday September 8, providing an opportunity for artists of all skill levels to express themselves with guidance from an instructor.

The Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival returns on Saturday, September 29 from 12:00 PM-6:00 PM with rock, soul, jazz, blues and more performed on three stages along Mass. Ave., as well as music education activities, food and craft vendors and information tables from community organizations. Artists have not yet been announced, but details will become available at <https://www.berklee.edu/beantownjazz>.

Now that you are in the know, go out and enjoy the summer

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Bees

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and paid \$15 for the workshop created their own bee hotels, learned how to harvest honey from the hive and received goodie bags containing a sample jar of Best Bees honey, a honey dipper, a small, botanical art print and a bar of honey soap.

As the event fell on Mother's Day, Best Bees founder and chief scientific officer Noah Wilson-Rich, Ph.D., and his staff were joined by his mother Lynne Wilson-Rich, a retired teacher who schooled children and adults on the lives and habits of bees as well as their vital role in our food supply and the ecosystem.

SoWa shoppers of all ages stopped at the Best Bees exhibit to observe the hive frame, roughly the size of a large book, which contained about 1,000 bees per Wilson-Rich's estimate and ask questions. Wilson-Rich said that although it was a cool, cloudy day, the temperature inside the hive was about 90 degrees, as the bees cuddled together for warmth around the queen.

Under a tent, participants crafted and painted bee hotels: small, wooden boxes with holes in them for the bees to rest and nest. Nearby, Wilson-Rich demonstrated scraping honey from a larger hive into a bucket with an uncapping tool, then dispensed the honey through a spigot into sample jars. Noting the varied shades of the honey in the hive, he explained that the lighter honey was made earlier in the season and the darker honey came in the fall, the difference in shade owing to the bees' contact with different flower species.

Commenting on the significant, worldwide die-off of bees in recent years, Wilson-Rich, whose business funds his research on bee health, said, "Bees are dying less so in cities. We are studying that to try to understand why. Boston is very good for bees." Wilson-Rich also pointed out that the diversity of plantings in urban gardens and parks is very beneficial to bees, as opposed to the more limited variety of plants growing in many less-populated areas.

Noah Wilson-Rich said afterward that the workshop was a success, generating several sales and many leads for the company's beekeeping services. He commented, "We were able to engage with everyone, doing the activities or not, because our staff were available to speak with the community about our mission, to improve bee health together with the community."

Lynne Wilson-Rich traveled from Connecticut to spend Mother's Day her son and assist with the workshop.

Noah Wilson-Rich said, "She's very sweet: she let me put her to work on Mother's Day. We like to do events together... We're both teachers at heart, so teaching the public about our work with beekeeping services was so rewarding." Lynne Wilson-Rich said proudly, "I think it makes Mother's Day all the more special. [Noah] is making the world a better place for all of us."



(Top) Lynne and Noah Wilson-Rich (Center) Decorating bee hotels. (Bottom) Putting honey in jars. All photos by Michele Maniscalco

39/20

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Opportunity Fund Grantees Announced

South End Open Studios a recipient

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with the Boston Cultural Council, today announced over \$33,500 has been awarded to 34 grantees in the second round of Opportunity Fund grants for 2018.

"This second round of the Opportunity Fund truly exemplifies the diverse and talented array of artists whose work touches every neighborhood of our City," said Mayor Walsh. "I look forward to seeing these individuals excel in their art and enhance their communities with these grants."

The Opportunity Fund was launched in August 2016 with the goal of supporting individual artists in activities that help them share their work with the public, teach others, continue their professional development and hone their skills. Through the Opportunity Fund, artists and educators are provided grants of up to \$1,000 for meaningful, one-time opportunities.

The Opportunity Fund reopened in October 2017 with double the amount of funding and a modified structure including grants that are separated into five different categories,

a rolling deadline for applications and new guidelines to help focus investment on artists of limited means and in communities with less access to cultural events or art-making. Including the latest round of funding, the Opportunity Fund has helped support 192 artists.

"As community arts organizers, the Opportunity Fund allowed us to offer programming we've been wanting to provide for years," said Porsha Olayiwola, a past Opportunity Fund grantee. "With the grant we received, The House Slam was able to offer ten writing workshops free to the public, while also paying artists for their work. The experience and space to hone one's craft under a practicing artist is a valuable resource that is imperative to the growth and transformation of individuals in our writing community."

Below is a sampling of the grantees selected for the second round of the 2018 Opportunity Fund:

Community Arts Experience Grantees

- Nancy Marks, a visual artist from Jamaica Plain, will use the grant to bring The Opioid Project, a series of community-based workshops and art exhibitions that highlight the complex social narrative of addiction while giving space and 'voice' to all those connected to the opioid epidemic, to several neighborhoods in Boston.

- Lauren Minihane-McGrath of Brighton will use the grant to hold an Allston-Brighton Paint with Pride Day that will be free and open to children of all ages from the Allston-Brighton community.

- Piper Ainsley of Roxbury will use the grant to build an art and music performance with the experimental music ensemble Patchtax called "The Allegory of Breaking Light," which will serve as the foundation for a one-day youth workshop in collaboration with Project Urbano in Roxbury and Jamaica Plain.

- Maia Dolphin-Krute of Allston will use the grant to support The Way We Live Now (2018), a performance-based civic engagement project that updates a Susan Sontag short story to facilitate public conversations about opioids, chronic pain, trauma and hope.

- Angelica Wilshire, a songwriter from Roslindale, will use the grant to support an acoustic live event and book reading at the Mattapan library, where she will share songs from her project in an acoustic session and read excerpts from her accompanying book.

- Anne Smart of the South End will use the grant to support the South End Open Studios in September.

- Nan H. Feldman of Fenway will use the grant to support the Fenway Open Studios in November.

- Abra Shen will use the grant to support the Longwood Chorus' community concerts at multiple hospitals in the Fenway neighborhood.

- Lorraine Fitzmaurice of Allston will use the grant to support the new LGBT vocal ensemble Quorum's spring concert at the Josephine A. Fiorentino Community Center in Lower Allston.

Field Trips

- Gail Boswill will use the grant to fund a field trip for fourth grade students from the David A. Ellis elementary school in Roxbury to go visit the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

- Beatriz Abascal will use the grant to fund a field trip for pre-kindergarten students at Conservatory Lab Charter School in Dorchester to visit the Museum of Fine Arts.

Local Arts Events

- Allentza Michel of Mattapan will use the grant to support the Mattapan Open Studios in June.

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Jill is a 13-year-old Silky Terrier with one eye removed due to a medical issue. Jill comes from a home with quite a few other dogs, which likely overwhelmed her. She is an independent girl not interested in cuddling, but who loves listening to you speak. Jill takes time to warm up to new people and sudden movement can make her nervous. If you are looking for an easy going, low maintenance companion that appreciates space, Jill would love to spend her retirement with you. Jill is in a foster home and arrangements will need to be made to meet with her.

For more information on **Jill**, or any of the other animals currently residing at the Animal Rescue League of Boston, please contact us at 617.226.5602. The shelter is open Tuesday through Thursday 1-7pm & Friday through Sunday 1-4pm, excluding some holidays.

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Funds

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Artist Career Development

• Robert Green, a visual artist from East Boston, will use the grant to purchase materials so he can paint a series that pays tribute to famous faces from Boston's past and present that will be displayed in downtown Boston.

Chiara Eisner of Roxbury will use the grant to create a compelling short documentary series called The Force of Nature Project that provides local immigrants from different backgrounds a platform to speak and be heard by the community.

Zakiyyah Sutton, a musician from Dorchester, will use the grant to support the creation of her first musical recording project, which will be a tribute to the African diaspora.

Nicholas Shea of Dorchester will use the

grant to support a cross-country bicycle trip, during which he will make art for a show that will happen at the end of the trip.

Eve Boltax, a violinist from Jamaica Plain, will use the grant to support a one-time professional development opportunity to study further with master Suzuki violin teacher Edmund Sprunger at the Oregon Suzuki Institute.

"The Opportunity Fund has allowed us to invest in individual artists while simultaneously bringing arts opportunities to underserved communities," said Julie Burros. "It's great to see the goals of the Boston Creates cultural plan advanced in this way, and we look forward to seeing the new arts opportunities the third round brings."

Applications for the Opportunity Fund are accepted on a rolling basis, and the review deadline for the next round of the Opportunity Fund is June 30, 2018.

Cathedral High School graduates the Class of '18

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK O'CONNOR

With the Cathedral closed for renovation, graduation exercises for the Class of 2018, the 87th in the school's history took place at the Mission Church in Roxbury on Saturday morning, May 12.

Welcoming all and serving as mistress of ceremonies was Dr. Helenann Civian, principal. The invocation was delivered by school chaplain, Fr. Kevin O'Leary. Delivering the salutatory address was Eliana Emari Jones

and the valedictory, Jeremy Toshitka Budrow.

Jeremy was also presented the Vigor In Arduis Award for overall excellence in academics and school spirit. A large number of graduates from the Class of 1968 attended and were presented Golden Jubilee diplomas. A 50th reunion is planned in the fall. Dr. Oscar Santos, head of the school presented diplomas to 65 graduates. Following the commencement, graduates celebrated with their families outside the great church amid a light falling rain.



Eliana Jones, salutatorian and Jeremy Budrow, valedictorian with Dr. Oscar Santos, head of the school

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Delaney

Continued from page 1

organization such as Ellis. Thankfully Leo has built a great team and has an engaged board to help us through the transition. While Leo will never be replaced, we are excited about a new generation of leadership to continue our mission of serving the working families of Boston's South End and Lower Roxbury."

In 1986, Leo Delaney joined Ellis as Chief Executive Officer just one year after Ellis celebrated its 100th anniversary. The organization was enduring financial difficulties and Delaney was given two years to assess the situation and develop a plan for Ellis' future. Delaney quickly turned Ellis into an anchor in the South End with continued services to the community and expanded its reach.

Under his leadership, the most dramatic improvements and expansion began a decade ago when Ellis embarked on a four-part Campaign for the Future. From creating the Ellis Children's Park on Chandler Street, turning a vacant lot into a playground for very young children, to acquiring and renovating 58 Berkeley Street and renovating 66 Berkeley, ultimately taking two historic buildings and opening a state-of-the-art Early Education Center, expanding its footprint in the South End and increasing programmatic capacity for children aged two months to 5 years and space for its school-age program and com-

munity focused events.

Delaney's final phase includes the June 2018 opening of Ellis at Madison Park. Working with longtime partner Madison Park Development Corporation, Ellis has embarked on a project to expand its school-age youth program site as part of Madison Park's construction of a new multi-purpose facility, which will have a significant impact for the families residing in Lower Roxbury. Finally, during Delaney's tenure at Ellis, he has successfully partnered with the Boston Public Schools by adding K-1 slots as part of Mayor Walsh's Universal Pre-K program.

"It has been my great honor to serve an organization that is deeply rooted in this beautiful community. Ellis has a talented and dedicated staff who work to advance its mission each and every day," said Delaney. "I am confident that the Board of Directors will choose a new leader who will maintain Ellis' long-held values while taking the organization to new heights."

"For over 30 years, Leo has done so much more than restore a high quality neighborhood program and historic buildings, he has restored hope to a community that needed the boost.

Through his creation of an Ellis campus in the South End and a satellite in Lower Roxbury, Ellis will continue to serve Boston's working families for generations to come, said Hughes.

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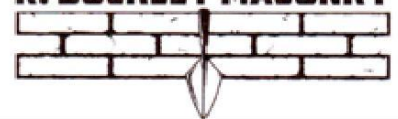
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