

Standing up for our Values

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Looking back on this week, I am so proud to be a Bostonian—and to be your Mayor. Last Friday, President Trump made good on his divisive campaign rhetoric, and signed a series of executive orders that are designed to promote American isolation, intolerance and fear. Boston didn't sit back and accept these

orders—our residents stood up against harming immigrants and refugees, and stood up for our values.

Forty-eight percent of Boston's children have at least one parent who was born outside the United States. I identify with those kids because I was one of



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It's important to remember the facts of the Holocaust

Rev. Irene Monroe

Trump's public statement commemorating International Holocaust Remembrance Day omitted any mention of Judaism, anti-Semitism or the Nazis' systematic program exterminating European Jewry. The omission was not only hurtful to remaining Holocaust survivors, their families, and friends, but the omission is dismissive of its six million victims during World War II.

While the president's generic

statement on suffering was intended to be an all-inclusive acknowledgment of other groups killed—gays, Gypsies, political dissidents, non-Aryans, to name a few—by the Nazis, Elie Wiesel, at the ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz in 1995, stated it best that "It is true that not all the victims were Jews. But all the Jews were victims." In other words, eliminating Jews was the central organizing principal for the rise of the "Third Reich."

In this Trump era of "post-truth" politics and "alternative facts" that unabashedly challenges, exaggerates, lies and outrightly negates legitimate facts, orthodox interpretations, and overwhelming evidence, the president's statement acknowledging the Holocaust and not mentioning Jews and anti-Semitism is similar to making a public statement acknowledging American slavery and not mention-

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SEBA "Warm in the Winter" this Saturday

The South End Business Alliance (SEBA) presents "Warm in the Winter" this Saturday, 12:30-6:30 pm, Cyclorama at Boston Center for the Arts.

539 Tremont Street, Boston. SEBA says it plans "to bring the South End community together under one roof to celebrate and support the neighborhood businesses and

organizations. Come out of the cold with friends, family and neighbors to visit an indoor collection of our neighborhood's businesses, shops and eateries."

The event is free and open to the public.

Events include

- Face Painting by Renee Boston Face Painters
- Community Music Center of Boston - Activity for Early Childhood
- Little Lovage Club - Activity for Ages 0-2 with Caregiver
- Last Call!
- With Special Guests: The Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Neruda's Book of Questions

February 3 & 4, 2017
@ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Villa Victoria Center for the Arts

Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción has linked their mission with Urbanity's to present an imaginative performance that uses themes of justice and fairness to empower and engage individuals through the arts. Urbanity combines their unique contemporary dance techniques with original compositions from Boston based composer, Beau Kenyon, to bring you a "visually arresting and musically stimulating" performance inspired by Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda. With double showings, one on Friday February 3rd at 7pm and one on Saturday February 4th at 7pm, we invite all ages to come and celebrate Boston's

diverse community.

Neruda's Book of Questions: An Exploration Through Music and Dance explores themes present in Pablo Neruda's Book of Questions through movement and live music. Utilizing Villa Victoria's beautiful architecture and history, this performance uses dance to highlight and transform space, from cascading spiral staircases to hidden alcoves and trap doors.

Exploring how time unfolds and experiences intertwine, Neruda's Book of Questions: An Exploration Through Music and Dance

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Alex Jimenez (front) and Mckhelen Alcindor (back) in rehearsal

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Heart of Gold Fundraiser, Thursday, Feb. 9, 6–8pm, at Estagon, 700 Harrison Avenue. Entertainment by the Hank Wonder Trio.

Tickets at <https://mkt.com/blackstone-franklin scholarship>

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Standing up

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them. My mother and father came to Boston from Ireland looking for opportunity. They found their American Dream, and I got to live mine by becoming mayor of the city that embraced us.

In Boston, immigrants make up nearly one third of our population. We welcome and we cherish those who are fleeing persecution or simply seeking a better life. Boston, and the United States, is a proud nation of immigrants. We know our success—and our nation's success—has always depended on the drive, talent, community, and culture of newcomers from around the world.

Last week, we held a press conference at City Hall, with a message for immigrants in Boston, fearful of the Administration's threats: our City will continue to support you. When I visit schools and have young children tell me they are afraid of having their mother or father taken away, something is wrong. I will do everything lawful within my power to protect our immigrant neighbors.

To do this, we'll continue to build trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. For everyone's safety, both documented and undocumented immigrants need to know they can report crimes without fear of being targeted over minor issues or mere suspicions. The Boston Police Department has worked hard to build this trust, and cities with "Trust Acts" are among the safest in the U.S.

On Saturday, we joined advocates, lawyers and elected officials at Logan Airport to protest the new Administration's anti-immigrant and anti-refugee policy. Lawyers worked for free throughout the night to assist those trapped in airports throughout the country, including Boston. With their hard work, the courts took action to temporarily halt the ban.

On Sunday, we joined thousands and thousands of Bostonians in Copley Square to show our support for our Muslim brothers and sisters who have been targeted by the Trump Administration. Organized by the Council on American-Islamic Relations, we voiced our support for the Muslim people that live and work in our City, and those who come to Boston hoping for a better life. Looking out across the square, Reverend Laura Everett asked who in crowd was Muslim—every hand went up, united.

President Trump wants America to become a nation that will turn its back on immigrants seeking a better life, on families who have risked their lives to leave a warzone, on bright young men and women coming to America to make our world better.

But we will not back down from our values that make us who we are as a city. We will fight for our residents, whether immigrant or not, and provide the best quality of life for all Bostonians. I will use all of my power within lawful means to

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Ward 4 Dems to elect delegates

Registered Democrats in Boston Ward 4, which covers parts of Back Bay, Fenway, and the South End, will be holding a caucus at the South End Library (Tremont Street) on Wednesday, March 29, at 6:00 p.m., to elect 16 delegates and 4 alternates for the 2017 Massachusetts Democratic Convention, where Democrats from across Massachusetts will gather to adopt a new Party Platform.

The Convention will be held on Saturday, June 3rd, at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell.

"Our caucuses are a great opportunity to strengthen our Party's organization and to welcome new participants who are interested

in getting involved in our Party," commented Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair Gus Bickford. "Delegates will be voting on our Party Platform in Lowell, and we want to make sure that every Democrat has a voice in this process. This is a time for all of us to come together and speak to our shared Democratic values."

The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats in Boston Ward 4, and the Democratic Committee welcomes all eligible participants. Any person who is not 18 years of age at the time of the caucus but will be 18 by the 2018 Primary date (September 11, 2018) may pre-register to vote with their City or

Town Clerk. Delegates will be divided equally between men and women, and all ballots will be written and secret. In the spirit of inclusion, youth, minorities, and people with disabilities who are not elected as delegates or alternates may apply to be add-on delegates, either at their caucus or online at www.massdems.org

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Town Committee normally meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the South End Library on Tremont Street. For more information on the caucus or the committee please contact Andrea Olmstead at Andrea.Olmstead@gmail.com 617-262-1775.

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Coldwell Banker, Hammond participated in "Great Holiday Coat Drive."

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage | The Hammond Group office located in Boston's South End neighborhood recently served as a collection site for the South End Community Health Center's (SECHC) "Great Holiday Coat Drive."

For three years, the office has collected donations of coats for children and adults, as well as children's mittens, hats, and toys. The donations are distributed to individuals and families either living in poverty or experiencing homelessness.

"The success of the SECHC annual drive relies on loyal and dedicated community partners like Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage | The Hammond Group. Their

continued support of our program makes a tremendous impact for individuals in need, not just during the cold winter months, but all year long," said Bill Walczak, president and CEO of SECHC.

The "Great Holiday Coat Drive" was established by the SECHC to address the growing need throughout Boston neighborhoods to outfit pediatric patients with warm winter accessories.

"There is a great need to outfit kids with appropriate winter accessories, and we are pleased to associate with the cause as a drop-off location," said Dave Stenberg, vice president and managing broker of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage | The Hammond Group.

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage | The Hammond Group South End office located at 10 Berkeley St. is part of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in New England. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is the largest residential real estate brokerage company in New England. With more than 4,000 affiliated sales associates and staff in approximately 90 office locations, the organization serves consumers in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Maine. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is part of NRT LLC, the nation's largest residential real estate brokerage company. For more information, please visit ColdwellBankerHomes.com.



South End Community Health Center's (SECHC) "Great Holiday Coat Drive."

Neruda

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incorporates dancers from ages 5-70 to explore life in a nonlinear language.

Alex Jimenez and Mckhelen Alcindor have joined the show, and Friday's performance will also feature a speech and book signing by Ilan Stavans, a distinguished translator and noted as one of the foremost scholars of Hispanic culture! Ilan lent his expertise to crafting the performance in its debut! Ilan's translations of Neruda work will be available for purchase at the performance.

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Photo by Michele D. Maniscalco

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Monroe

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ing blacks and racism.

It is of my opinion that we have normalized anti-Semitism in this country to the point it is not only pervasive, but sadly it is also invisible to some. For example, during Trump's campaign he was condemned by Jewish leaders for what appeared on his anti-Hillary poster the Star of David layered over \$100 bills. Trump barked back telling his critics the star was a sheriff's badge.

Since Trump has taken office, however, there has been a noticeable uptick of anti-Semitic assaults and sights of swastika signs across the country, even in an unlikely place like Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (CRLS), a bastion liberalism, tolerance and multiculturalism.

In early December, last year, the school newspaper "Register Forum" reported that swastikas were drawn on two bathroom walls. The third-floor boys' bathroom had a swastika next to the message "The power lost of this sign will be made great again with President Trump."

"I think we need to be realistic about the current trickle-down toxic messages seeping in everywhere, and in Cambridge, as we're seeing, their power to impede the commitment to social justice in our schools, and to test the fundamental values of "opportunity, diversity, respect" at CRLS," Elaine Schear shared with me, a parent of two CRLS alum-

nae, and co-Founder and Exec Director of Friends of CRLS.

At best, Trump's statement reframes the Holocaust, highlighting the event but not the magnitude of its human carnage.

Along with the 6 million Jews killed Nazi Germany's extermination plan of gay men is a classic example of how politics informed their science. Paragraph 175 of the German Criminal Code differentiated between the type of persecution non-German gay men received from German gay men because of a quasi-scientific and racist ideology of racial purity. "The policies of persecution carried out toward non-German homosexuals in the occupied territories differed significantly from those directed against Germans gays," wrote Richard Plant in "The Pink Triangle: The Nazi War Against Homosexuals." "The Aryan race was to be freed of contagion; the demise of degenerate subjects were to be hastened."

Although laws against lesbianism had not been codified, and lesbians were not criminalized for their sexual orientation as gay men were, German women were nonetheless viewed as threat to the Nazi state and were fair game during SS raids on lesbian bars, sentenced by the Gestapo, sent to concentration camps, and branded with a black triangle. As a matter of fact, any German woman, lesbian, prostitute or heterosexual, not upholding her primary gender role — "to be a mother of as many Aryan babies as possible" — was deemed

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Advertisement for Boston Public Health Commission Boston Biosafety Committee members

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is seeking new community members for its Boston Biosafety Committee (BBC) from the South End, Fenway, and/or Chinatown neighborhoods. The BBC provides technical assistance and advice on issues related to regulation and permitting of biological research laboratories in the City of Boston. Community members should be able to commit to two years on the committee.

BPHC permits and regulates research laboratories in Boston and the BBC has a role in advising the Executive Director of BPHC. Community members of the BBC have a role in communicating information on biological safety to the public and providing input on community concerns.

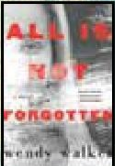

The BBC meets when required for review of research projects, laboratory permit applications, or other times requested by the BPHC Executive Director. The time commitment will average five hours a month, with some months having no meetings and some months having meetings with materials to review in advance.

Community members interested in being on the BBC should contact Julien Farland, Boston Public Health Commission Director of Biological Safety, at jfarland@bphc.org or 617-534-2814.

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Standing Up

Continued from page 3

protect all Boston residents—even if that means using City Hall itself as a last resort.

The next four years will be hard. But if this week has been a preview of what's to come,

I know Boston will not change its essential character of inclusiveness. We have American values, common sense and the United States Constitution on our side, and we won't quit—I hope Washington takes notice. And as Boston holds the Trump Administration accountable, I will be standing next to you.

Monroe

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anti-social and hostile to the German state.

For Trump to not acknowledge the victims of the Holocaust but rather to reference them by stating "in the name of the perished" glosses over not only the Holocaust's distinct historical circumstances, like how already existing prejudices and fears were stoked and amplified against Jews, but it also conceals and denies German Christian anti-Semitism, and it erases the unique stories of survival, bravery and resistance by Jews and their allies.

"Seventy-five years ago my mother's family was being murdered in Poland because they could not escape," Leora Tec shared with me. "My mother (Nechama Tec) survived the

war in Poland posing as a Catholic girl and sheltered by a Catholic family. She wrote about such rescue in her book "When Light Pierced the Darkness."


Tec is the Founder and Director of "Bridge to Poland," which offers tours to Poland focusing on Jewish life before and after the Nazi's occupation.

It's important to remember the Holocaust because history has a funny way of repeating itself. Ironically, Trump's immigration ban on Muslims was issued the same day the White House released his Holocaust Remembrance Day statement. And like the many of Jews who perished in the Holocaust because the U. S. government wouldn't grant them asylum so too will many Muslims.

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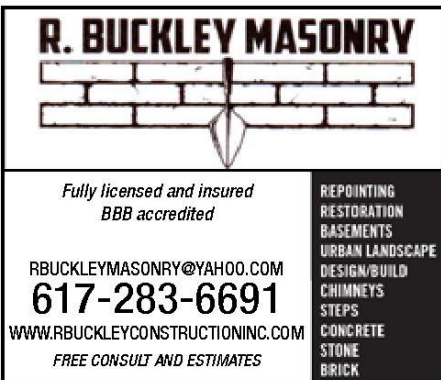


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