

Death Investigation at Southhampton and Topeka Streets

SUBMITTED BY
 BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

At about 6:40 AM on Sunday, September 24, 2017, officers from District C-6 (South Boston) responded to a radio call for a person shot in the area of Southhampton and Topeka Streets, South End.

Upon arrival, officers observed a male victim who appeared to be

in his 30's suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was transported to Boston Medical Center, where he was later pronounced deceased.

The Boston Police Department is actively reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. Anyone with information relative to the investigation is strongly urged to contact Boston Police Homicide Detectives at (617) 343-4470.

Community members wishing to assist this investigation anonymously can do so by calling the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or by texting the word "TIP" to CRIME (27463). The Boston Police Department will stringently guard and protect the identities of all those who wish to help this investigation in an anonymous manner.

Blackstone/Franklin group meets with good neighbors

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The September 19 general meeting of the Blackstone Franklin Neighborhood Association seemed to follow a general theme of welcoming good neighbors from the busi-

ness community and a neighboring association.

With about 25 people in attendance, Andrew Brand of the Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA) presented WSANA's concept of a Good Neighbor Policy for addiction

treatment and homeless services; recently appointed Washington Gateway Main Street (WGMS) executive director Andrew Malloy introduced himself to residents and Jamie Golden of Barre 3 Studio,

Continued on page 5

Mega-Project: Exchange South End

BY SUE O'CONNELL

Boston developer The Abbey Group has filed formal plans for its proposed \$1 billion-plus redevelopment of the former Boston Flower Exchange (off Albany Street).

The development is now called Exchange South End and plans detail transformation into a life science research and technology campus.

Exchange South End will be nearly 1.6 million square feet and contain four new buildings with



Credit: Courtesy Rendering

Continued on page 5

Again, low turnout at South End polls for preliminary election

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

While ballot figures by ward and precinct were not available at press time, Tuesday's preliminary election for mayor and City Council Districts 2 and 7 seemed to draw light turnout in the South End despite spirited races with a wide variety of candidates to choose from in each council race.

According to the unofficial election results posted on the Elections page of Boston.gov, Mayor Martin J. Walsh will face off with District 7 city councillor Tito Jackson on



Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Continued on page 4

COUNCILLOR DIST. 2

		Total
Number of Precincts	24	
Precincts Reporting	24	100.0%
Vote For	1	
Total Votes	9011	
Times Blank Voted	225	
Times Over Voted	4	
Number Of Under Votes	0	
<hr/>		
EDWARD M FLYNN	5083	56.41%
MICHAEL S KELLEY	2860	31.74%
COREY G DINOPOULOS	504	5.59%
ERICA J TRITTA	183	2.03%
JOSEPH F KEBARTAS	161	1.79%
PETER A LIN-MARCUS	124	1.38%
KORA R VAKIL	72	0.80%
Write-in Votes	24	0.27%

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www.boston.gov

A Fine Farewell for Mohr & McPherson

SUBMITTED BY RING COMMUNICATIONS

BOSTON, MA (September, 2017) — This November, patrons will say their final goodbyes to Mohr & McPherson — a long-standing landmark in Boston's retail space. After 26 years, founder Kevin McPherson will close his fine home furnishings store for good to retire, leaving behind years of memories, cherished customer relationships, and a legacy he's been building for over two decades. "The times have changed for brick and mortar," he says. "We've had a great run — both me and my store. But, it's time for us to change too."

McPherson opened his first location in 1990 with then partner John Mohr. A 1,000 square foot location on Concord Avenue in Cambridge, the first Mohr & McPherson served as more of a retail studio selling hand-crafted pieces by local artists. As the demand for more ethnically inspired home furnishings continued to grow — so did McPherson's vision. Eventually buying his partner out to be sole owner, McPherson began traveling the world to find new pieces to import back for his following of loyal customers. In just under ten years he expanded his empire, opened a second location on Arlington Street in the heart of what was known as Boston's "furniture district",

and filled his showrooms with stunning pieces from across the globe. "Back then, people wanted to outfit their rooms with pieces that had history or told a story," he claims, "and we had all of that"

McPherson continued to operate in and around Boston until finally settling in for the store's final chapter in 2007 in the South End — a neighborhood that quickly came of age around him. During the last decade, Mohr & McPherson saw a number of changes including the country's financial crisis, the explosion of e-commerce, and the emergence of the mobile-dependent consumer. "We tried to change with the times and keep up with

both modern and traditional trends," states McPherson. "We changed our look, tried to expand our inventory, lowered our margins, and more," he adds. "But, what people are looking for now is to spend less for furniture and to do it online. It's just time to move on."

McPherson, who has been splitting his time between Boston and Asia, will look to lock the doors for good before the holiday season starts. So, as the summer comes to a close, McPherson plans a bittersweet ending to his business and will use the upcoming months to sell the last of his furnishings at liquidation prices, give back to the Boston community, and ride off into the sunset.



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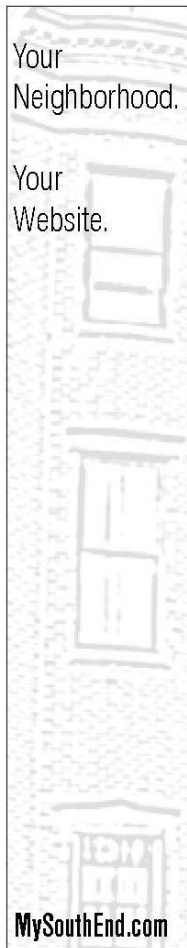
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Winners Of The Fay Chandler Emerging Artist Awards Announced

Exhibition Features Original, Contemporary Works Of Art Created By Bostonians

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the winners of the third annual Fay Chandler Emerging Artist Awards. The awards were celebrated during a recent artist reception for the Fay Chandler Emerging Art Exhibition in City Hall.

"The Fay Chandler Emerging Art Exhibition and Awards allows us to recognize and showcase artists who live and create in Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "Their work inspires us, recognizing that artists can emerge from every walk of life, no matter what background or age. I encourage everyone to come visit the City Hall galleries and view their incredible creations."

The winners include:

Myron Belfast, Best in Show Award

A Dorchester resident, Belfast was born in Trinidad and grew up in Cambridge. Belfast is a self-taught artist, who learned by watching the movements and techniques of other artists. Working primarily in charcoal, his work can be described as contemporary art-deco. Myron will be having a solo exhibition in the 5th floor Mayor's Gallery at City Hall January

23 - February 28, 2018.

Keith Maddy, Over the Age of 50 Award

A resident of the Back Bay, Maddy is a mixed-media artist working exclusively with cut paper and collage, using the medium as a form of drawing, painting and even poetry/story telling. Maddy meticulously hand-cuts source material from works such as vintage children's books, selected for specific colors, line quality, paper and content.

Mark Tortorella, New to Making Art Award

Tortorella is a self-taught artist who lives in the South End with his wife and two children. Two years ago, after a successful career in finance, Tortorella decided to follow a lifelong passion for creating art and began working as a professional artist. Tortorella works primarily in oil paints, on both board and canvas in the Tromp L'oeil style.

Fay Chandler was a Boston philanthropist and advocate for the arts. As an artist who started her career later in life, she serves as the inspiration for this exhibition and to artists of all ages. The awards are funded by a generous donation from the Galilean Fund in Fay Chandler's memory.

The show comprises 48 works by artists who were selected by a distinguished jury from an open call that drew 140 applicants. In addition to a cash prize, each winner will also be granted a one-year complimentary mem-



By Mark Tortorella

bership in the Fort Point Artists Community and will be granted an Artist Certification by the City of Boston.

Organized by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, the Fay Chandler Emerging

Artist Exhibition features fresh, original and contemporary works of art created by Boston artists. The art will be displayed at Boston City Hall in the Scollay Square Gallery through September 29, 2017.

Election

Continued from page 1

Tuesday, November 7, with Walsh netting 34,869 votes or 62.53 per cent over Jackson's tally of 16,202 or 29.06 per cent and competitors Robert Cappucci with 3,735 or 6.70 per cent and Joseph Wiley with 529 or 0.95 per cent, with 100 per cent of precincts reporting. In the District 2 race, South Boston resident Edward M. Flynn, son of former mayor and ambassador to the Vatican Raymond Flynn, led the race with 5,083 votes, or 56.41 per cent over longtime South End/Bay Village resident Michael Kelley, with 2,860 or 31.74 per cent of the vote.

South Boston-based web designer Corey Dinopoulos came in third with 504 votes, or 5.59 per cent. In District 7, Kim Janey led with 1,532 votes or 25 per cent, followed by Rufus Faulk with 719 votes, or 11.17 per cent and Deejo Jibril with 604 or 9.85 per cent. The top two contenders in each race will face each other in the general election on Tuesday, November 7.

Outside the Cathedral High school gymnasium, a family campaigned for Tito Jackson for mayor, the mom holding a puppy and the little boy holding a large Tito for Mayor sign.

Nearby, community activist and sports coach David Eastmond held a sign for Ed Flynn. Eastmond lives outside District 2, but lived on Northampton Street during Raymond Flynn's mayoral tenure. "I know [Ed Flynn's] father, and his father is a decent man even though he was from South Boston. That doesn't make him a bad guy. Ray Flynn is a decent guy, and the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. If [Ed Flynn] can fit in one of his father's shoes, he's a good man." South End resident Mike Gilroy held a sign for Joseph Kebartas, the South Boston-based, retired mental health specialist and veteran who was vying for the District 2 seat. Gilroy said, "He's probably the most progressive candidate in the race and he has interesting positions on the Biolab and the opiate crisis."

City Councilor At Large Ayanna Pressley stopped by the Cathedral High School gymnasium around 7:00 PM to greet poll workers and voters and to gauge turnout. Pressley was warmly greeted by Eastmond, who has been her friend since she first came to Boston.

Explaining her visit, Pressley said, "At large candidates are not on the ballot; we'll be on the ballot in November. I knew that anyone coming to vote today is a super-voter, and I wanted to make sure I am engaging people and engaging people, listening to them and reminding them when at large candidates will be on the ballot because there was a lot of confusion about that. Also, I wanted to get a feel for and see for myself whether we would meet the doomsday predictions about turnout or whether we would defy them. Given the



(Top) Ayanna Pressley, David Eastmond. Photos by Michele Maniscalco

number of people who have asked me, especially post [November 8, 2016], 'What can I do? I feel helpless,' my answer has always been, 'Vote.' Especially now, that you make sure your representatives on the local and state level share your values on racial, social and economic justice and ensure that you are electing people that will actualize those values on a municipal level." She continued, "I saw some signs today in Roxbury that said, 'I vote in every election.' That's what we need more people to do. There are people who will vote in every federal election and vote for president who won't vote on the municipal level when the issues are on the fore of people's minds,

whether it's development and gentrification, displacement, the state of our public schools, public safety, sustainability, climate readiness: those decisions are being made at the municipal level. So I wanted to see if we would exceed expectations on voter turnout."

Pressley observed from speaking to poll workers that some voters were confused because they came to the polls planning to vote in the District 2 race but discovered they were not in District 2. There was some confusion on district boundaries and Pressley expressed a desire to look into the matter further.

The deadline to register for the November 7 general election is October 18.

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Blackstone

Continued from page 1

which recently made its debut at 1511 Washington Street, gave a brief introduction of her staff and services.

Brand introduced himself to B/FSNA as a twenty-year resident of the Worcester Square area who has noticed a marked increase in drug activity and related crime over the past three years. Brand is a member of the South End Forum Working Group on Addiction, Recovery and Homelessness, which seeks to work with city officials and treatment providers on stemming illicit activities in the Melnea Cass Boulevard and Mass. Ave. (Mass/Cass) hub of addiction and homeless services.

Brand explained that WSANA members met with representatives of the shelters and clinics and found that while some had good-neighbor policies to address the negative behaviors of some clients, those policies were not consistent among the different service providers and “there was a lot of finger-pointing” among the shelters and the methadone clinics. The working group is trying to formulate a more coordinated approach on the part of providers to loitering, public opioid use, crime and other adverse activities.

Brand recalled the Old Dover Neighborhood Association’s (ODNA) discussions some years back with the Pine Street Inn, which resulted in Pine Street instituting behavioral requirements that were explained to residents as they entered the shelter, set up a hotline for residents to call with concerns and hired a former police officer and other security staff to investigate complaints of negative behavior and to do outreach with the subject of the complaint.

Brand said that it has enhanced neighborhood relations, decreased the burden on the police and increased neighborhood support for Pine Street. The working group hopes to have police, providers, neighbors and business

work together to define expectations and roles for addressing negative behavior in the Mass/Cass area. Brand pointed out that in addition to the police, Boston Medical Center (BMC) and Boston Public Health Commission have security staff with arrest powers, and the vision is for a hotline like Pine Street’s that would result in short response time and not only law enforcement, but outreach workers.

Brand said that the city suggested routing the calls through 311 to facilitate data gathering on incidents, with 311 dispatching the responders from the participating providers such as BMC and BPHC. Brand told B/FSNA that he has support for the plan from WSANA and the Chester Square Neighborhood Association and hopes B/FSNA will support the effort as well. He said the working group then hopes to convince BMC and Boston Health Care for the Homeless (BHCH) to commit resources to the Good Neighbor response. Brand explained that the state police would also be involved in incident reports at the Connector.

Regarding funding, Brand said the hope is to get the city, addiction service providers, the homeless shelters and BHCH to provide financial support. One woman in the audience suggested drawing the pharmaceutical companies into the discussion as a source of support for combating drug-related issues. B/FSNA voted unanimously to join the WSANA and Chester Square in supporting the concept and planning process.

Malloy, who took his place as executive director of WGMS in August, succeeding Jennifer Efron, is a South End resident who worked in development at Project Place for 4 years, becoming development manager there in 2014.

In his remarks, he gave a historical overview of the Main Street organizations, explaining that the Main Street program was spawned by the Trust for Historic Preservation and was brought to Boston in 1995 by then-city councilor Thomas M. Menino, with WGMS’s

inception coming in 1997.

“We really want to make [the Washington Street business corridor] a better place for our businesses and our residents. My charge is not just making it the center of business life but also the center of social life,” Malloy said. Specifically, he pointed to the social events WGMS sponsors such as the Summer Soulstice and American Therapy, a Franklin Square installation with an artist and a listening booth to hear residents’ concerns for themselves and the country. Malloy also touted WGMS’s partnership with Project Place, which provides workers to pick up trash along Washington Street twice a week, resulting in almost 300 pounds of trash removed each week.

Golden introduced herself and Barre 3’s services to the crowd. “Opening week has been amazing! It’s not just for women; we have a lot of men who are fully engaged and are founding members,” Golden announced. Golden told the audience that Barre 3 offers classes for children as well as adults and classes run seven days a week, with weekday sessions

starting as early as 5:45 AM.

In a separate development at the city level, City Councilor At Large Annissa Essaibi-George sponsored a bill last month that proposes a sort of Good Neighbor policy with medical businesses relating to the proliferation of needle sharps in public spaces, a common sight in Blackstone and Franklin Squares and in the WSANA and Mass/Cass areas. Essaibi-George’s bill, introduced in August, would urge pharmacies and other retailers that sell sharps to provide collection boxes where residents and users can drop them off safely. The bill would also ask purveyors of sharps to give customers advice on safe disposal at the point of sale and to keep an inventory of how many sharps were collected. The Committee on Government Operations held a hearing on the bill on August 11. Following the hearing, Essaibi-George has been talking to pharmacies and community groups to try to reach an agreement on a bill, according to an aide to the Councilor.

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Exchange

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commercial, technology, and life science research space, a 30,000-square-foot, publicly accessible park. Building C would be the tallest of the project’s four buildings at

282 feet. Developers plan 288 underground and 14 surface parking spots. the Exchange South End would contain a total of 1,159 parking spaces.

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To sign up to participate, e-mail or call the contact listed below. For more information, contact Antonio Rosario, BCYF Aquatics Manager, at Antonio.Rosario@boston.gov or 617-635-4920 ext. 2150. Team enrollment will continue through November or until each team reaches capacity.

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BCYF Blackstone Community Center

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Contact: Marco.Torres@boston.gov; 617-635-5162

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20 South Street, Jamaica Plain
Contact: Ramon.Espinal@boston.gov; 617-635-5195

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200 Heath Street, Jamaica Plain
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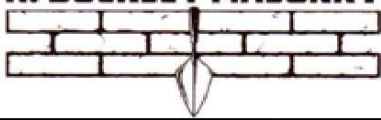
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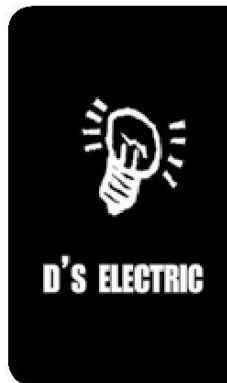
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Public Meeting

ROXBURY STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

65 WARRENT ST.
Dudley Branch of the
Boston Public Library
Roxbury, MA 02119

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. Since last year's launch of PLAN: Dudley Square the RSMPOC meetings also include progress reports on the initiative.

All meetings are open to the public and community input is desired. RSMPOC meetings are held in the evening the first Monday of the month at the Dudley Branch Library at 65 Warren Street. PLAN: Dudley Square workshops are typically every third Monday of the month, location varies.

Please come join your neighbors and the City of Boston to help shape the future of the neighborhood! To find out more information or subscribe to email updates for the latest event notifications, please visit bit.ly/theRSMPOC or bit.ly/PlanDudley.

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