Conservancy’s Annual Meeting Spotlights Environmentalist, New President

BY RUTH KHOWIAS

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy, now in its 19th year, held its annual meeting on March 22 at Mass. College of Art. After recognition of volunteers and remarks by chair Ben Taylor and new President Karen Mauney-Brodey, the keynote address was delivered by environmentalist Dr. John Francis.

Known as the “Planetwalker,” Francis became an environmentalist in the 1970s—before it was fashionable—after witnessing two oil tankers collide beneath the Golden Gate Bridge. A self-described hippie, he was horrified by the oozing sludge and dying birds, and decided to make a difference by refusing to ride in automobiles from then on. Everyone he knew told him that one person can’t change the world, yet Francis walked back and forth across the United States playing his banjo for 22 years. At one point, tired of arguing with people about whether one person can have a significant impact, he stopped speaking.

The silence lasted for 17 years, and Francis (who now talks quite a bit) says, “I realized the importance of listening. It’s the part of communication we don’t think about too much. I realized not just listening, I had stopped learning.”

In the course of his 17 years of not talking and not riding in cars, Francis was able to communicate with people all over the country about the importance of the environment (strangers invited him in and children took him to school for show and tell). He also earned a master’s degree and a Ph.D. He has written a book called Walking the Earth, is a visiting associate professor at the University of Wisconsin, an Education Fellow at the National Geographic Society, and now lectures all over the world. Francis said, “Environment is more than about pollution and endangered species. It’s about human rights and civil rights—how we relate to each other and how we treat each other in the physical environment around us.”

Francis began and ended his address by playing his banjo. Ruth Khowias lives in the West Fen.

LMA PONDERS STREET CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO RISING CYCLING DEMAND

BY ALISON PULITANS

Longwood Medical Area bikers convened last month at the Jimmy Fund Auditorium on Binney Street for an hour-long luncheon presentation on potential cycling improvements in the area. The room was packed, and David Read, vice president at Dana Farber and local cycling advocate, facilitated the meeting.

Speakers included Rick Corsi, the Department of Conservation and Recreation’s project manager for the Charlestown Greenway project, and Peter Furth, professor of civil and environmental engineering at Northeastern. Corsi announced that his project, a multi-use path connecting the Esplanade to Beacon Street and ultimately the Riverway, will hold a public meeting this spring and go out to bid in the summer. Furth, alongside planners Sarah Hamilton and Paul Nelson from MASCO (the Metropolitan Academic and Scientific Community Organization), discussed some improvements proposed for Longwood Avenue.

MASCO has contracted with Watertown-based transportation consultants VHB to design safer bike accommodations for the Longwood area. VHB’s design shifts the lanes on some blocks to create space for bike lanes, and includes the more controversial idea of restricting the far right lane on Longwood Avenue’s eastbound block between Brookline Avenue and Binney St. to bus and bike traffic only. The city is reviewing these concepts, which could be implemented as early as July. Another improvement targets Brookline Avenue, where flexible vertical posts called “defenders” will be installed alongside a segment of the existing bike lanes, creating a physical barrier between riders and drivers.

According to some advocates these are only incremental steps, as they only create bike lanes in one direction. Peter Furth’s presentation envisioned “informal flares” on Longwood Avenue that would eliminate underutilized left-turn lanes in order to create space for cyclists where the road widens, or “flares.” His plan creates both east- and westbound lanes on Longwood to accommodate the huge increase in area bikers. A 2016 survey of peak-hour traffic at the Longwood/Brookline intersection found that 39% were bikers according to data from the Boston Cyclists Union. This is a very high number according to MASCO’s Sarah Hamilton, who cautioned that eliminating left-turn lanes could be dangerous, as this design allows drivers to enter the bike lane in order to pass cars stopped to turn left.

The Livable Streets Alliance, a local organization promoting equitable transportation solutions, envisions a larger public engagement campaign, initially partnering with David Read on the Longwood Cyclists website launch and an online survey which is expected with area stakeholders this spring.

Fenwickian Finds a Job—and a Cause—Solving Families’ Housing Needs

BY EESHA PENDHARKAR

25-year-old Fenwick resident Drew Nemer doesn’t just have his own home to think about, he has about 200 more. His work at the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership (MBHP) has helped low-income residents find and maintain affordable homes.

Nemer works as a program representative in the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program, one of many different programs offered by the MBHP. The voucher is tied to a certain set of apartments that are controlled by companies and landlords, and we fill them with people who apply,” Nemer explains, describing his work at the MBHP does. When there’s a problem between the tenants and owners, any conflict, or tenants want to relocate, it’s Nemer’s job to resolve it. “I’m like their advocate,” he says.

Some of the people whose residency Nemer helps maintain have been in the voucher program for 30 years. MBHP is a nonprofit, governmental contracting agency that serves 5,500 households through the voucher program in Massachusetts. Nemer has complete belief in the organization’s ability to lift people out of poverty. According to him, the number of families seeking MBHP’s help in the past decade or so has doubled, so the work is more important than ever. “The rent prices in Boston are astro-

It all starts by having a home,” he says. “You need someplace to live before you get a paying job. There’s so many more chances of people getting rejected if they don’t have a permanent address.

Nonprofit work has been a part of Nemer’s life since his days at Brandeis University. He studied sociology and anthropology and was an advocate for social justice and women’s rights throughout his time in school. He worked at another nonprofit, the Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee, before switching to helping people find and sustain homes.

He began working at MBHP by assisting with the intake coordinating of Section 8, a federal program offering subsidized housing. During his few months there, Nemer helped approximately 150 individuals who had spent as much as 10 years on the waiting list for a lease. At the beginning of this year, he switched to his current position with the voucher program.

Nemer takes his dedication to helping people very seriously. “They look to us, and it’s a huge responsibility and a privilege,” he says. His daily work involves dealing with a lot of questions from those looking for affordable housing, and his way of speaking about them displays a genuine concern for their residential problems. “I’ve been touched by the people I’ve encountered,” he relates.

“I’ve met very nice, hardworking people, heard stories of people who’ve benefited greatly from this program.”

With MBHP’s impending move to Roxbury Crossing, Nemer says he’s looking forward to helping people from the Fenway, which has been his home for two years. His daily tasks include income monitoring of families residing in subsidized homes and helping resolve any problems that may arise due to changes in incomes, living conditions or family issues.

“A lot of it is paperwork, lot of it is calculations, but it cannot be done without the human element.” He thinks of his work like healthcare. According to him, people worry about their home like they worry about their health, and he acts like a doctor who they go to when they’re having health problems.

He says what he learns from his work at MBHP is balancing everyone who comes to him in need of trying and address all of their problems. As for future plans, he wants to build on the work he does now. “I hope to improve welfare in low-income people and make a world a much better place to live for everyone.”

Eesha Pendharkar is a graduate student at the Boston University School of Journalism. For more information on the MBHP’s work, visit www.mmbhp.org.

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SEERING THE FENWAY, KENMORE SQUARE, UPPER BACK BAY, PRUENIAL, LONGWOOD AREA AND HILTON HILL SINCE 1917 VOLUME 83 ISSUE 9 MARCH 31 APRL 28, 2017

ON PAGE 5

The Fenway News

MEET KAREN MAUNEY-BRODEY, THE CONSERVANCY’S NEW PRESIDENT. PAGE 3.
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
A LOT HAPPENED IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS
SINCE THE LAST ISSUE, INCLUDING...

The campaign to save the Citgo sign in Kenmore Square took many a twist last month, but the billboard now appears safe. Supporters took out two full-page ads in the Globe and used social media to push a Boston Preservation Alliance online petition past 16,000 signatures. Then, on March 15 came news that developer Related-Beal had reached an agreement with Citgo on a new lease agreement. In 2015 R-B bought the whole north side of the square from B.U. for $134 million, then moved to raise the sign’s rent from $250,000 to $2.5 million annually. Not surprisingly, Citgo balked. Details remain hard to come by, but Mayor Marty Walsh is reported to have pressured the two parties to reach a deal. — Boston Public Schools announced that Rachel Skerritt will become Boston Latin’s new headmaster. Skerritt, a 1995 graduate of the school, taught English there for seven years before moving on to other BPS positions, including headmaster of Another Course to College, a pilot school. In 2010 she joined the District of Columbia system, where she served as a principal and administrator. BPS Superintendent Tommy Chang called Skerritt’s qualifications and ties to the school “tailor-made to lead Boston Latin School into its next chapter of excellence and equity for all.” — Panopticon Gallery announced it will close its doors by May 1. The photo gallery has operated at various locations in Kenmore Square since 1971. The current exhibit, “Roger Farrington: Celebrity in Boston,” will close April 10.

PHOTO: CITY YEAR

We Cater!
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A BETTER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
City Year Boston announces that Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director of Peace Corps, will become Boston Latin’s new headmaster. Skerritt, a 1995 graduate of the school, taught English there for seven years before moving on to other BPS positions, including headmaster of Another Course to College, a pilot school. In 2010 she joined the District of Columbia system, where she served as a principal and administrator. BPS Superintendent Tommy Chang called Skerritt’s qualifications and ties to the school “tailor-made to lead Boston Latin School into its next chapter of excellence and equity for all.” — Panopticon Gallery announced it will close its doors by May 1. The photo gallery has operated at various locations in Kenmore Square since 1971. The current exhibit, “Roger Farrington: Celebrity in Boston,” will close April 10. — Crossroads Irish Pub, which reopened just three years ago, has closed for good according to Farrington: Celebrity in Boston. — Panopticon Gallery announced it will close its doors by May 1. The photo gallery has operated at various locations in Kenmore Square since 1971. The current exhibit, “Roger Farrington: Celebrity in Boston,” will close April 10.

PHOTO: CITY YEAR

City Year Boston is sponsoring five runners in this year’s Boston Marathon, and raising money for City Year service projects and programs for students and teachers in Boston public schools. City Year aims to bridge the gap between students’ needs and schools’ ability to provide for them.

You can find more information on the 2017 City Year Boston Marathon Team, including how to donate, at www.cityyear.org/boston/events/boston-marathon

Gerry O’Connell / Globe Staff

Fenway, Back Bay Runners Join City Year’s Marathon Team

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Gerry O’Connell / Globe Staff
Major Real Estate Shifts for West Fens, Roxbury

- Developer Cabot, Cabot & Forbes paid $145 million for the Fenway assets of former Boston Cab owner Edward Tunatunian, including the Boston Cab garage, 300-plus taxi medallions, and 2.1 acres of land on Kilmanack and Queenberrry streets. CC&F president Jay Doherty says the company plans to put housing on the property.
- The real estate website BLDUP reported (and other media confirmed) that Star Market bought the now-closed Gulf station at the corner of Park Drive and Boylston Street. The website cited registry records showing a price of $16,295 million. The parcel connects the main store lot with a satellite lot at the top of Peterborough Street, giving Star an L-shaped, 2.1 acres site at that corner. Star says it will expand parking, but West Fens residents know that the main and satellite lots are rarely filled. Might Star have other plans, like selling to a developer—or maybe developing the site itself?
- Just a few blocks south, across from Boston Police headquarters, the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) has given approval to a 1,000,000-plus square-foot project called Tremont Crossing. The mixed-use development would have around 720 apartments; developer—or maybe developing the site itself?

Majestically Reimagined

Tremont Crossing

The real estate website BLDUP reported (and other media confirmed) that the main and satellite lots are rarely filled. Might Star have other plans, like selling to a developer—or maybe developing the site itself?

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

The Fenway News caught up with the Emerald Necklace Conservancy’s new president Karen Mauney-Brodek. In the position since August 1, she arrived from San Francisco where she was deputy director of park planning, project manager, and in charge of the Community Opportunity Fund Program for the San Francisco Parks Department. Mauney-Brodek graduated from Columbia University, and her first job was with the New York City Parks Department, and when she left for graduate school at UC-Berkeley, she was director of the design build program. At Berkeley, she received a master’s degree in city planning and architecture.

The Fenway News: How familiar were you with Frederick Law Olmsted and the Emerald Necklace?
Karen Mauney-Brodek: I’m actually from Atlanta, and I grew up down the street from an Olmsted park. As a kid, the Olmsted park system in Atlanta was threatened with a proposed freeway right beside my elementary school. At age 8, in elementary school, I was out protesting with my parents, holding “Honk for No Roads” signs. People were camping out in tents along the proposed freeway route [my parents wouldn’t let me do that]. The controversy went on for quite a while, but eventually the park was saved from the freeway.

FN: What’s the difference between parks in San Francisco and in Boston?
KM-B: In San Francisco, the trees, plants, and the look of the parks are different from Boston. Here we have more of a native forest. But what the two cities have in common are community groups who really care about the parks and elected officials who care about the parks. Bostonians care about their parks and neighbors and communities. I feel I’m amongst friends.

FN: What do you like best about the Emerald Necklace?
KM-B: I love that it’s a necklace—a linear park. It travels throughout the city and runs along the Muddy River. I love the stone bridges and changing vantage points. Olmsted thought of the parks as a system. He saw sewer, drainage, and nature all as integrated parts. This landscape is resonant for me. Olmsted was a tremendous landscape architect but also a city planner.

What are your goals and plans for your presidency of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy?
KM-B: I want to make more Boston and Brookline residents aware of the Emerald Necklace. People don’t realize it’s designed to be together and reconnected. Maybe we need more signage. Also, better access and connection for pedestrians and bicyclists.

FN: What projects are you and the ENC currently involved in?
KM-B: Along with the Olmsted Tree Society, we’re going park by park pruning, removing, and replacing trees to keep the canopy healthy. The trees are dormant in the winter, so it’s a good time to do the pruning. Also, we’re very involved in the Muddy River restoration project. Phase 1 is done and will have an official opening on April 21. The design for Phase 2 is 65% done. The dredging and cutting of phragmites is supposed to start in 2018. We will continue to push for the successful completion of Phase 2.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens. The ENC has its headquarters 125 The Fenway. For more information, visit emeraldnecklace.org

Resolve to stress less and enjoy more this year?

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FENWAY CDC’S 44TH ANNUAL MEETING

Join city officials and your neighbors at our 44th annual meeting. Enjoy a light supper, thank departing board members and elect new ones, celebrate outstanding individuals—and hear a major announcement from FDCDC. To vote in this year’s elections, be sure to sign up or renew your membership by March 13.

Saturday, March 18
Saturday, April 15
Saturday, May 13

THURSDAY, APRIL 13
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Fenway Health
(9th floor)
1340 Boylston Street
West Fens

To RSVP, to join or renew your membership; to request interpretation [Spanish/Mandarin/ Russian]; to arrange childcare or transportation; or to get more info, please contact Margarita at CMargarita@FenwayCDC.org or 617-267-4637 x10.

FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOPS

Attend a FREE financial literacy course taught by Nicholas Josey, a Northeastern University alumnus and Executive Director of the Vinicita Institute. During the three-part series, he will share 20+ years of financial planning and advising experience that will provide participants with the knowledge for creating a solid foundation for their personal finances. Topics include:

- Cash Management
- Estate Planning
- Insurance • Investing • Retirement

Time: 10am - 12:30pm (all dates)
Venue: Northeastern Crossing, 1175 Tremont Street, Roxbury
Information & Directions: northeastern.edu/crossing

CASH MANAGEMENT

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FENWAY CDC’S 44TH ANNUAL MEETING

MAUNENY-BRODEK BRINGS PASSION, EXPERIENCE TO ROLE AS CONSERVANCY PRESIDENT

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Karen Mauney-Brodek: How familiar were you with Frederick Law Olmsted and the Emerald Necklace?
Whatever D.C. Does, Threats Lie Ahead for Mass. Health Care

ven if the Trump agenda never gets through Congress, we will need to make significant changes in our health care model in Massachusetts. Our health care model is showing signs of stress even without the funding loss that the Trump budget would impose.

The good news is that we have a very low uninsured rate—Massachusetts citizens have access to health care. And I’ll fight to protect that access.

Yet many who have coverage from their employer (whether public or private sector) are facing rising co-pays and deductibles, and many of those who buy their own insurance are facing premium increases that they cannot afford.

One of the most troubling indicators of stress is this: Over the past five years, the population with commercial insurance has actually dropped by 450,000 people, down from 65% to 58% of Massachusetts residents. In some instances, employers have dropped coverage.

In the same five-year period, while the uninsured rate has remained low and our economy has prospered, enrollment in the MassHealth has grown by 523,000 to almost 2 million people, nearly 30% of the state’s population.

MassHealth is the state’s combination of Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program. It is the single biggest state program. Alone, it accounts for almost 40% of the state’s budget.

Yet, with enrollment growth of 70% over the past 10 years, MassHealth’s total spending has roughly doubled. The governor has proposed $410 million in total state spending in fiscal 2018, an increase of $1.3 billion or 32% over estimated total state spending of $3.9 billion in fiscal 2017. Of that total increase of $1.3 billion, MassHealth accounts for $1.2 billion, making meaningful increases for other important priorities like local and education aid essentially impossible without new revenues.

The governor has proposed a new “contribution” of $2,000 per employer for employees who do not provide health care coverage for their employers. This proposal speaks directly to the problem of rising MassHealth enrollment—it might lead more insurers to preserve or restate coverage. At the same time, it would raise an estimated $300 million in FY2018—creating just a little headroom for other priorities.

The “contribution” would be required from all employers with over 10 employees and has drawn substantial opposition from the business community—it is certainly a substantial charge that willloom largest for businesses that are least profitable and/or pay the lowest wages.

Rising health care costs are the root cause of the stress in the system as a whole. Massachusetts has among the highest systemic per patient costs in the world. In 2012, we put in place a host of measures to control systemic costs, but those have not been sufficient to alleviate the pressure that many individuals and public and private organizations are experiencing.

The governor has proposed new direct controls on costs, but these also have attracted opposition.

We need to preserve access to health care. At this stage, I’m not offering a personal recommendation, but naming the problem and looking for ideas and resources.

William Brownsberger represents the Second Suffolk and Middlesex district in the Massachusetts State Senate. The Fenway News occasionally invites elected officials to write essays for FenViews on issues of concern to our neighborhoods.

To contact Sen. Brownsberger visit willbrownsberger.com, email william.brownsberger@masenate.gov, or call 617-722-1280.
T.C.’s Lounge Gives Way to Quirky Offerings of Love.Art.Sushi

BY JESSE TOLBERT

In the hole left in the building (and in our hearts) where T.C.’s Lounge once was, a new restaurant has quietly opened.

Love.Art.Sushi has been serving build-your-own sushi bowls, salads, and makis to Fenway students and residents since finishing construction earlier this year.

Bringing out from their first restaurant at the University of Connecticut, founders Ron Liu and Jessica Chiep have decided to keep the campus momentum running with their 1 Haviland Street location. But they’re not limiting themselves to the student set. “Our goal is to introduce a new take on a familiar food that’s a site—"From students during the semester to folks catching a Red Sox game, "Our goal is to introduce a new take on a familiar food experience to that campus.”

Neither Liu nor Chiep had much experience before opening at UConn. “Before we jumped into the restaurant industry, Jess was a cytoengenicist working at Brigham Women’s Hospital and I worked in corporate sales covering the South Boston area. We’ve always enjoyed cooking for ourselves and we saw an opportunity pop up at our alma mater, so we took a dramatic risk and left our careers to pursue bringing a different culinary experience to that campus.”

Beyond the relatively simple display of sushi bowl options, Love.Art.Sushi’s selection is somewhat complex. Check out their bulletin board and “How to Bowl” step-by-step guide, located at the front of the store, or ask their fun, friendly staff for assistance. They might respond by asking if you’d like your meal torched—just one of many innovative options on offer. From sushi burritos to fried gyoza, and with a long list of exotic, a la carte mix-ins, there’s plenty here to suit any appetite.

The team knows they have big shoes to fill at this particular site. Started in the ‘70s, mostly as a retreat from downtown’s throbbing night life, T.C.’s Lounge quickly became a community staple. Then, in March 2012, a malfunctioning beer compressor started a fire, that caused $250,000 in damage. The space was shuttered, and the owners were not granted a license to reopen.

But if you didn’t know about the fire, and if you weren’t a T.C.’s regular, you wouldn’t know that a tragedy had occurred on the premises. There was a hole in the wall where Big and Little Tony Consalvi left decades of hard work and well-worn memory behind, but the new space is sleek, modern, and comfortable, with clean lines and bottomless house drinks.

With new hours that began March 20, the Love.Art.Sushi crew have managed to keep their crew pleased from 11am to 1pm every day of the week. Perfectly placed almost directly across the street from Berklee College of Music, the restaurant is accessible to wandering college students and curious pedestrians.

They’ve spent the last couple of months training and tweaking during their soft-opening phase, and Ron Liu says he doesn’t think the restaurant has reached its maximum potential. But that should be expected to change, with a grand opening ceremony scheduled for Saturday, April 15, the weekend of this year’s Boston Marathon. Things will be anything but quiet then.

Jesse Tolbert lives in the Fenway. Love.Art.Sushi is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at 1 Haviland Street. For more information or to view their menu, visit loveartsushi.com
REVIVAL OF 1621 PLAY ABOUT WITCH TRIAL YIELDS LURID DIALOG, UNEVEN RESULTS

BY JOHN ENGSTROM

I usuall[y] you have to drag me kicking and screaming to see a student play. The Witch of Edmonton at BU caught my attention. Why? (1) It is a Jacobean play written and performed in 1621 about a woman accused of witchcraft, based on an actual legal case, and (2) I am now especially reading, page by page, the copious court records of the 1692 Salem witch trials: 990 documents in one enormous volume. These archival remnants of a bizarre outbreak are both sobering because of what they tell us about human nature—that gaslighting and gallifgation can extinguish lives—and gloriously absorbing because they offer a lurid preview of Gothic fiction and horror movies.

An intersection of my interests in offbeat theater and weird history doesn’t always present itself. So I was drawn to The Witch of Edmonton at the Museum of Fine Arts, you can relive the ducklings’ saga as well as other June at the Museum of Fine Arts, you can make way for ducklings, the art of robert McCloskey show.

BY RUTH KHOWIS

In her lurid confession, obtained by gaslighting and intimidation on the part of the judges, Sawyer disclosed that she had a “familiar” or “devil” in the shape of a talking dog that was alternately black or white, and suckled from a “teat” that was found by a three-woman jury to be located about Sawyer’s “Fundament.” Talk about not kissing. The source text of the drama was a 1621 chapbook on the case by the minister-back writer Henry Goodcole, called The Wonderful Discovery of Elizabeth Sawyer a Witch Late of Edmonton. Chapbooks and other readings on sensational subjects were the tabloid literature of the day. The supernatural character of the essay, mischievous-making canine is a highlight of the play. Like King Lear, The Witch of Edmonton has two intertwined plots: the witchcraft plot and a complicated bigamy plot that also ends unhappily. The intermediary between the two plots that I found most interesting is the Dog.

The BU production of The Witch of Edmonton started by reassuring us that we needn’t take these events too seriously, with an irreverent sound track that included such “magically themed” popular songs as “Invisibles” and “Witchy Woman.” These young amateurs know which side their bread is buttered! The only scenery, by Julia Mc X Barrington, who also co-directed and served in other capacities, was a nice-looking pair of dropcloths painted with skeletal tree branches. The performance was as uneven as you could expect from an endeavor that didn’t aspire to professionalism. Some of the acting bore the classic earmarks of bad amateur mummering: (1) a lack of verbal nuance and rhythmic propulsion, (2) uncontrolled mugging and gesticulation, (3) dropping character when not speaking, (4) delivering finely wrought Jacobean dialogue as if it were slangy, standard American. But both the Witch (Meg Boeni) and the Dog (Alis Jasuma) were creditable: they had their characters, lines and moves down cold. It’s intriguing to speculate on how this script would have been received by its original audiences, who possibly included the credulous James himself. Its view of witchcraft is skeptical and irreverent. The playwrights make it clear that Mother Sawyer is NOT a witch: she is a vulnerable, confused, elderly woman who is scapegoated and gaslighted by neighbors and local authorities into believing that she has made a pact with Satan. Off-color jokes about the situation abound: When Sawyer complains that she feels too stressed out and overextended to suckle the Dog from her “witch’s teat,” the Dog quips, “Bow wow—I’ll have it now!” How wrong—and brave.

Tanya Randall (left) and Roderick Eugene Jefferson (right)

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Tanya Randall (left) and Roderick Eugene Jefferson (right)

BY RUTH KHOWIS

Calling All Poets: Haiku Contest

White sheet of paper—Write something to the haiku! What you feel. Or see. Done so soon? Write more! Send all to Kaji Aso by April 15. Prizes too. What fun! (Write snappy, too, if you want) More details below.

Kaji Aso Studio’s 2017 haiku contest is underway! Prizes are $300 first; $150 second; $75 third; snappy $75. Send entries (typed or printed neatly) with your name and address. Include your email address or see SASE, and Saint Stephen St, Boston 02115. Include your email address on SASE. Submit before April 15. Kaji Aso Studio’s 2017 haiku contest is underway! Prizes are $300 first; $150 second; $75 third; snappy $75. Send entries (typed or printed neatly) with your name and address. Include your email address on SASE. Submit before April 15.
Step Into Matisse’s Studio at the MFA, April 9

A step inside the studio of revolutionary 20th-century painter. Henri Matisse is known for his colorful contributions to the world of painting, and for the first time you can see the prized and private collection of objects he kept and studied in his studio. At the Museum of Fine Arts from April 9 to July 9, you’ll be in the middle of a room with the objects Matisse drew inspiration from displayed alongside sketches, sculptures, and paintings. The exhibit is broken into five sections—The Object is an Actor, The Nude, The Face, Studio as Theatre, and Fostering Forms—all featuring works in media from different moments in the artist’s career.

Sat, 4/15

Take a 90-MINUTE WALK ALONG MASS. AVE. FROM HARVARD SQUARE TO SYMPHONY HALL led by social and architectural historian Stephen Klotz. Sponsored by Tufts Summer Adult & Continuing Education. $25; registration required by phone (617-673-2700) or at www.bu.edu/bpt.

Thu, 4/20 Sun, 4/30

BOSTON PLAYWRITE THEATRE teams up with BU’s School of Theatre to present Mary Connoy’s Every Piece of Me, about a prodigal daughter whose visit to her family in Ireland opens old wounds and suggests a path to redemption. 949 Comm Ave. Thu 7:30pm; Fri & Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm. Tickets $25-30. Check more info at www.bu.edu/bpt.

Sun, 4/23

The GARDENER MUSEUM WELCOMES THE HANDEL + HAYDN SOCIETY for a program of Mendelssohn and Brahms, including sopranos Margo Rood singing led by both composers. 1:30pm; tickets $36 general, $33 seniors, $24 members, $12 children 7-17; your ticket includes museum admission. www.gardnermuseum.org.

Wed, 4/26 Thu, 4/27

A Berklee/Boston Conservatory cast presents the WORLD PREMIERE OF ‘THE KISS,’ a musical story set in 1904 Vienna that seeks to unmask the woman at the center of Gustav Klimt and Egon Schiele’s painting 1918. Tickets $9 (free for Berklee students/staff); 7:30pm, Berklee Performance Center. Tickets at the box office or through www.bu.edu/events/kiss-0

Fri, 4/28


April Calendar

This month, the Financial District Calendar features a new 2017 tab for events held at the Financial District’s New Hotel. Check us out at FinDistrictCalendar.com for the latest updates!