

## FLOWERS, CANDLES, ‘GHOST BIKE’ MARK PARK DRIVE SITE WHERE CYCLIST DIED

Friends, family, and cyclists gathered in the rain on Sunday, Feb. 24, to remember Paula Sharaga, a retired Brookline librarian killed earlier in the week when a cement truck hit her bike at the corner of Brookline Ave. and Park Drive. The Boston Cyclists Union installed a “ghost bike” to mark the spot amid tributes to Sharaga and calls for better bike infrastructure.



PHOTO: MARCUS MECHAY

## MBTA Streamlining Affects Local Buses

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Six routes that travel through the Fenway and LMA are among 47 targeted for “faster, more reliable service” under the MBTA’s Better Bus Project. The agency will accept public comments on the changes until March 13 [at [MBTA.com/BBPfeedback](http://MBTA.com/BBPfeedback)]. On March 7, it will hold a public meeting to discuss both the Better Bus Project and a proposed fare increase at the State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, 6-8pm.

If approved by the MBTA’s Fiscal Management and Control Board (FMCB) in April, the route changes would take effect by Sept. 1. Chrystal Kornegay, executive director of MassHousing and a Mission Hill resident, was appointed to the five-member FMCB in January.

One of the most dramatic changes in Fenway routes would involve Routes 8, 19, and 47, which currently pick up and drop off passengers in the busway below the Ruggles Station concourse. Buses on these routes would no longer travel through the station on the way to the Fenway. Instead, they would stop at a new passenger waiting area on Ruggles Street, presumably alongside the extra lane used for The Ride parking. The T believes this change would save five to six minutes on each trip by avoiding the long wait at the traffic signal at the exit from the busway onto Ruggles Street. The #8 bus would also bypass South Bay Center, substituting stops on Mass. Ave.

Other significant changes could affect Fenway and LMA riders:

- **Route 65** now travels between Kenmore and Brighton Center but would originate at Ruggles, eliminating service on Brookline Avenue north of Longwood. Kenmore-bound riders would need to use the 8, 19, or 60 routes instead. The 65 would travel between Ruggles and the medical area on Huntington and Longwood avenues, connecting to current Brookline Avenue stops near the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Joslin Diabetes Center.
- **Route 60**, which now travels from Kenmore to Chestnut Hill, would stop on Route 9 instead of circling around and pulling into the parking lot of The Shops at Chestnut Hill, adding a seven-minute walk to or from the mall for passengers.
- **Route 8** between Kenmore and JFK/UMass and **Route 47** between Cambridge and South Boston would also change their approach from Ruggles to the LMA, using Huntington and Longwood avenues instead of Louis Prang Street and The Fenway. Frequent traffic backups and congestion on Louis Prang have been a perennial concern for planners, and rerouting buses away from the parkways (like The Fenway) has been a goal for park advocates. However, those routes would now bypass stops on Louis Pasteur near Emmanuel College and Boston Latin School.

The MBTA anticipates major improvements in the bus network over the next several years; it has framed these proposals as just the first step. Additional investment would be needed, as well as a buy-in from municipalities, to introduce separate bus lanes on some routes.

The proposed fare increases, if approved by the FMCB, would take effect in July. They would have the biggest impact on commuter rail riders, but the cost of a monthly Link pass (unlimited travel on the four subway lines and most buses) would increase from \$84.50 to \$90. Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu’s says that, before the comment period ends, she will present a petition to the MBTA opposing the fare increases and calling for the T to reinvent its pricing structure.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

## CIVIC AGENDA

### TUE. 3/12

Public meeting on Red Sox proposal for a 5,000-seat concert hall on Ipswich Street.

20 Jersey Street  
(State St. Pavilion)  
6-8pm

### THU. 3/14

Fundraiser for the Community Center honoring Lauren Dewey Platt.

6:30-10pm  
Tickets at [bit.ly/LoveFenway](http://bit.ly/LoveFenway)

### THU. 3/28

Fenway CDC holds its 46th annual meeting at Fenway Health

1340 Boylston Street  
6:30-8:30pm  
[FenwayCDC.org](http://FenwayCDC.org)

## Could Voting Help Bridge the Political Gap Between Students and Residents?

BY JULIA UBERTINI AND  
EVELYN NOREEN BLEED

Absentee voting has become a major trend among college students, due to the large percentage of students who study outside their home state, and students who vote absentee are not as civically engaged in their local community.

The number of voters who vote early or via absentee ballots has more than doubled in the past 15 years. In Boston alone, there are 35 institutions of higher education, creating a large assembly of individuals who use this voting option. Students often face a tough decision during election season: whether to vote in their home state or in the state in which they study. Absentee voting by a large student population affects the community by not allowing the two groups to face current issues together, thus eliminating the camaraderie that can arise from the engagement in civic duties such as voting.

Kristen Mobilia, a community leader and candidate in the upcoming District 8 Boston City Council race, said she has seen more voter participation from Fenway residents than students throughout her 2017 campaign and onward.

“[The students] want to be involved in different ways but it’s not on the local level,” said Mobilia. “The [midterm] election we just had is on the state and federal level.”

In previous years, students were unwilling to register to vote in Massachusetts and be a part of the election process here; they preferred to register in their home state. Although it remains unclear why, one might infer that such decisions were strongly influenced by the sense of home.

Hanna Pettit is a third-year Northeastern University student and the president of the Northeastern College Democrats. She was unsure about registering in Massachusetts, and eventually decided to register in her home state.

For three years, Pettit has lived in Mission Hill. “I feel like I have a root in the Boston community. So I am more sure that I want to switch my registration to Massachusetts,” she said.

Kristen Carson, the external vice president of the Northeastern University College Republicans has a different perspective. In the recent election, Carson sent in an absentee ballot to New York, claiming her vote mattered more in the local election there. She is not currently planning on changing her registration from New York.

Many students, including Carson, use “strategic voting,” choosing to stay registered in his or her home state because they believe that their vote will have a stronger impact on politics there.

In an informal survey sent to Fenway college students, out of 29 responses, 50 percent said they voted strategically. Responses mostly included remarks about votes carrying more weight in one’s home state and feeling uninformed about candidates in Boston.

Notably, one student replied “Massachusetts has a lot of students like me, so my vote counts more in my home state.”

“Strategic voting is really valuable,” said Pettit, the College Democrats president. “If you want to vote for your community you should register in your community but if you want to vote where your vote has more of an impact, I think that’s a valid reason to stay registered where you are from.”

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee conducts the official business of the Massachusetts Democratic Party in many communities, including parts of the South End and the Fenway. Jonathan Cohn chairs the committee.

Cohn said that if one’s vote matters more in their home state, then it makes sense to stay registered there in order to have a bigger impact. If one is a registered Democrat from California, then one’s vote does not really affect the political landscape too much by registering to vote in Massachusetts, when both states vote consistently Democratic.

However, there are reasons why it would be beneficial for students to register in Boston. If Fenway students register (and vote), politicians will be more obliged to listen to what they have to say in order to get re-elected, explained Cohn.

Cohn also said that students are citizens the city council should *want* to listen to. Even if they are not registered, students should still be aware of who their city council members are in case they need to address and civic issues.

University students are ultimately the ones most affected by future legislation and policy changes, and are also the most powerful agents of change for the future.

Carson, the College Republicans’ external vice president, has mixed feelings on whether or not students should register to vote where their college is.

“The biggest part about voting is that your vot[ing] is your right and it’s your own personal opinion and there’s not a wrong

VOTING on page 5 >

## A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS



PHOTO: STEVE CHASE

It’s not quite spring, but witch hazel is in bloom at the Victory Gardens entrance at Park Drive and Boylston. Typically chartreuse witch hazel blooms appear in late February or early March and will not die in a freeze at this time of year. It is sometimes confused with forsythia, which blooms bright yellow in March and April.



# A Prodigal Statue Returns

BY ALISON PULTINAS

In 1975 Neil “Ted” St. John Raymond, the owner of the former Record American property at One Winthrop Square, received permission from the Public Improvement Commission to create a park for the public in front of his newly renovated building. The *Record American* had merged with the

*Boston Herald* and sold the property in 1972.

Raymond wanted an historic statue and, apparently, the Boston Redevelopment Authority offered him the Fenway’s statue of Robert Burns, located in the Back Bay Fens near the Agassiz Bridge bridle path. The Boston Art Com-

mission also approved, allowing the bronze statue of Robert Burns and his collie dog to be moved from the Fens, where it had been erected in 1920, five years before the nearby Fire Alarm Office.

There are questions, of course, as to why this public art was moved downtown, seemingly without an outcry. Some Art Commission records hint at complaints of vandalism, neglect and, damage in the 1960s.

Burns presided over Winthrop Square, a low-profile but gracious green space between Otis and Devonshire streets in the Financial District, for decades. A 40-year licensing agreement governed maintenance of the park, with responsibilities shared between Raymond’s company (and successor owners) and the city. The land is owned by the Public Works Department not the Parks and Recreation Department.

In 2016, Millennium Partners submitted plans for a skyscraper at 115 Winthrop Square. Public review of the proposal was heated, as the tower would cast shadows on the Common and parts of the Public Garden. The developers announced their intention to seek an amendment to the state’s shadow-protection law in the legislature.

The Fenway Civic Association, along with many other advocates for city green space advocates, wrote comments. However, because FCA’s Matthew Brooks, Marie Fukuda, and Tim Horn knew about the “purloined statue,” their letters also asked for its return to the Fenway, knowing that the Winthrop Square

park would be renovated by the new developer next door. A year ago, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (formerly the redevelopment authority) asked Millennium to evaluate and respond to the request and a public agency review began, with Boston Parks, the Boston Landmarks Commission and the Art Commission all weighing in.

The statue’s original plinth in the Fens has been located, and the Parks Department has removed a Norway maple that would have blocked the statue’s return.

In February, the Art Commission voted to approve a plan to restore and move the statue. It will first be transported to Josh Craine’s studio in Watertown for necessary repairs. Depending on the schedule and location of the Muddy River Phase 2 work, the statue might have to remain with the restorer for some time.

In the words of BPDA Deputy Director of Urban Design David Carlson, “Millennium Partners will take responsibility for settling the sculpture in its new home,” meaning they will cover all related costs. FCA had asked for Millennium to fund five years of additional maintenance, but Raffi Berberian and Halle Auerbach Thomas of Millennium did not agree. The Commission vote included a proviso that Millennium and FCA together develop a suitable maintenance budget, working with the Office of Arts and Culture.

“We are pleased to sponsor the return of the Robert Burns statue to its original home in collaboration with the Fenway Civic Association. In its place, we have worked hard to create a unique and thoughtful landscape

design for the park at Winthrop Square for all of Boston to enjoy,” said Thomas, development project manager at Millennium Partners in a subsequent statement.

If you’re interested in what happens to Winthrop Square,

Millennium has submitted a design from Shauna Gilles-Smith of Ground, Inc. (the landscape architects who designed the plaza for MassArt’s Treehouse dorm) for BPDA review. It includes an elegant sculptural water fountain designed by Dan Euser of DEW Inc. Arts Commission members Lynne Kortenhaus, Mark Pasnik and George Fifield engaged in a rather humorous debate about whether the new fountain is public art (if so, the Art Commission must follow a strict review protocol). However whether its art or not, the Commission is responsible for all monuments, paintings, statues, fountains and memorials on City property.

There will be a homecoming for poet Burns at a date to be determined, “an opportunity,” said Matthew Brooks, “for 21st-century Boston to atone for a 20th-century misdeed.”

*Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.*



The Burns statue.



The statue’s original foundation sits near the Fire Alarm building in the Fens.

BY JOSÉ DA SILVA

Donald Trump wasn’t always this way. Don’t believe it? Take it from April Ryan, a White House correspondent for 22 years. Despite her famed clashes with the president, she said that President Trump is a new Trump.

“He wanted to be president, and he got there any way he could,” she said, at Blackman Auditorium at Northeastern on February 8.

The John D. O’Bryant African-American institute and Northeastern Crossing hosted Ryan to discuss portions of her latest book *Under Fire: Reporting from the Front Lines of the Trump White House* as a continuation of their Winter Gateway Speaker Series. She joined an auditorium full of students, professors, and area residents for a talk moderated by NBC 10 anchor Latoyia Edwards.

Like a good journalist, Ryan backed up her statement. She said that she has spoken with people who say that “Trump was not like this” 20 years ago.

Ryan also said Trump financially backed Bill and Hillary Clinton, and even her own cousin, who ran as a Democrat for local office in New York. Trump displayed an affinity for the Clintons at her cousin’s fundraiser, she said.

Bill Clinton was suppose to speak at the fundraiser, held in a Trump property. But Trump “monopolized his time,” preventing others from talking with him, Ryan said.

Ryan also discussed the now-famous moment when she asked President Trump if he was a racist. She asked the question during a ceremony on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, after Trump referred to places including Haiti and El Salvador as “s\*\*\*hole countries.” “It’s a sad day if a reporter has to ask a United States president if he’s a racist,” said Ryan.

She also said that she and other reporters of color are targeted and discriminated against by the Trump administration. Ryan claimed that the president has a “hatred of the press, disdain for the press.”

After covering the White House for 22 years, Ryan admitted she had “never seen anything like this before.”

The whole hour was casual, with Edwards and Ryan exchanging back and forth and speaking candidly to the crowd. Ryan often referred to her book as “a little ratchet” to laughter.

At the end of the hour Derek Lumpkins, Northeastern’s director of neighborhood partnerships and programs, honored Ryan with the Gateway Access Award. Inscribed on the award is: “For exemplifying resilience and compellingly championing for social justice, transparency, access to information, and defiance of systemic norms.”

“You so inspire all of us, in particular the departments that helped bring you here,” said Lumpkins. “We created a new award for you. This is called the Winter Gateway Speaker event, and so we have the Gateway Access Award.”

*José da Silva is a journalism student at Northeastern University.*



JOURNALIST RYAN DESCRIBES THE WORK OF COVERING TRUMP

# Love, Fenway



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Note: Our April issue will contain remembrances of Steve Sorkin and Richard Parker.

Barbara Brooks Simons

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

Barbara Brooks Simons, a longtime Fenway resident, passed away at her home on Symphony Road on Feb. 1. Barbara was born in Rockford, Illinois, in a year to which she would never admit. Her career as a writer and editor began at the age of 16, when she won a writing award from *Mademoiselle* magazine; she never looked back, graduating with honors from Northwestern University with a degree in journalism.

Barbara wrote over one hundred books, most of them educational or historical in nature; if you were a child between 1970 and today, it is likely you learned from a textbook to which she contributed.

Barbara had an illimitable curiosity about life: she was an avid traveler, a lover of music, and in addition to her writing, a voracious reader. She was always active—physically, mentally and socially—and was passionately involved in political, social, and environmental causes. A lover of arts and culture, she was a member of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Huntington Theatre, and the Handel & Haydn Society. For many years, she sang with the Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus, and she continued her graduate education at Oxford University in the last decades of her life. Barbara was an active member of Symphony United Neighborhood group (SUN), The Peterborough Seniors Book Club, and the Northeastern University Task Force, as well as serving on many Fenway impact advisory groups.

Barbara was also very dedicated to *The Fenway News*, which is run primarily by volunteers. She served as the president for more than five years, but her duties went beyond the role of president—she wrote articles, covered meetings and events, handled subscriptions, served on the fundraising committee, proofread every issue, collected mail from the post office box, deposited checks, restocked newspapers at Whole Foods, and led the board’s monthly meetings. Barbara loved haiku and instituted a *Fenway News* page featuring winners from the annual haiku contest organized by the Fenway’s Kaji Aso Studio, of which she was also an enthusiastic supporter.

Barbara is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Brooks, and son-in-law, Brett Schnittlich.

A memorial service was held at Emmanuel Church in the Back Bay on Feb. 23. Speakers noted her “optimistic and upbeat spirit,” her love of knowledge, and her appetite for life. One speaker described Barbara as “*Merriam-Webster, Encyclopedia Britannica*, and Google all rolled into one.” Plans are underway to dedicate a bench in the Public Garden to her and to scatter her ashes in Paris and on Cape Cod.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.



Lori Frankian

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

Lori A. Frankian, a 30-year resident of the Fenway, passed away on Jan. 28 after a lifetime battle with spinal muscular atrophy. She was 52. Lori was born in Worcester and attended Northeastern University.



Lori was known in the Fenway for her bright smile and glowing personality as well as neighborhood advocacy and an insistence on living life to the fullest. An advocate for children in foster care and for Boston’s homeless community, Lori also served as a volunteer case reviewer for the Department of Children and Families for more than six years. She was involved with homeless street outreach and the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans, where she touched the lives and lifted the spirits of countless men and women. She also served on the board of the Fenway Community Development Corporation and took a lead role in lobbying for reconstruction of “Restaurant Row” on Peterborough Street after a fire took out six community restaurants in January 2009.

A highly regarded member of Boston’s theater and film community, Lori worked as an independent casting director for industrial films, commercials, theater, and independent films. As an actor, she worked on local television spots and in live theater. Her on-camera work included *Spencer for Hire*, *The Next Karate Kid*, and *Against the Law*. Lori was featured on WCVB’s news magazine *Chronicle* and received a Personal Achievement Award from the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Lori is survived by her mother, stepfather, brother, sister-in-law, two beloved nephews, and her loving cat. There will be a summer celebration of her life. Donations to the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Lori’s name would be appreciated.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

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Brother Robert Paul Donovan, Jr.

BY HELEN COX

Brother Robert Paul Donovan, Jr. of the Order of the Brothers of Christian Unity died at the age of 79 on Jan. 17, after a serious and lengthy illness. “Brother Bob was dedicated to his vocation to comfort and support friends, relatives and strangers at wakes, funerals, and memorials. The center of his heart was his faith in Christ and his belief in ecumenical relationships with other Christian faiths,” said his longtime and devoted friend, Donald Chin. “It was Brother Bob’s deep love of Christ that sustained him during the last weeks of his debilitating illness,” added Barbara Fay, a neighbor of Brother Bob’s for 23 years.

Brother Bob was active with St. Cecilia’s Church, where he served as a “weekly reader” and a “eucharistic minister.” In the 1990s, he was a member of the board of directors of the Fenway Community Development Corporation and also served as treasurer. “Brother Bob was one of the founding members of the Belmont Chambers Co-op, where he lived for 32 years. He was especially helpful to us with its finances as well as other details surrounding the founding of a co-op,” said neighbor Grant Young.

Born in Boston, he and was the son of Robert Paul Donovan, Sr. and Alice Gertrude Donovan (née Bell) of Milton. He was predeceased by his younger brother William Joseph Donovan. Survivors include his sister Mary Louise Hutzenlaub of Westchester, Ill.; two nieces and two grandnieces; his longtime friend Donald Chin; godchildren Victoria Walsh, Seth Weidmann, and Jesse Saarela; and many who enjoyed his friendship over the years. Brother Bob’s ministry was devoted to the ill, hospitalized, and the grieving.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 2 at St. Agatha’s Parish in Milton. Interment will take place at Brother Bob’s beloved Weston Priory in Weston, Vt., at a later date.

Helen Cox lives in the West Fens.



Public Meeting

12-28 Landsdowne St. (Fenway Theater)

Tuesday, March 12  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

20 Jersey Street  
Fenway Park, State Street Pavilion  
Boston, MA 02215

Project Proponent:  
175 Ipswich Street, LLC

Project Description:  
175 Ipswich Street, LLC proposes an approximately 180,000 square foot, approximately 5,000 person capacity performing arts center. The proposed project is located on a 64,700 square foot parcel at the corner of Ipswich and Landsdowne streets, adjacent to Fenway Park. The proposed project also entails improvements to Fenway Park, including a new area connected to the back of the ballpark’s bleachers with concession stands, restrooms, and function space.

mail to: Tim Czerwienski  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.5303  
email: tim.czerwienski@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:  
3/25/2019

Save the Date

Improving Lives and Building Community  
Fenway Community Development Corporation



fenwaycdc.org

Thursday, March 28, 2019 6pm - 8pm

Fenway CDC’s 46th Annual Meeting  
Fenway Health, 10th Floor  
1340 Boylston Street, Boston

Finding Purpose and Living a Happier, Healthier Life

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Gina Vild and Sanjiv Chopra, Harvard Medical School

Invited Guest: Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley

Presentation of the Joyce Foster Community

Impact Award: Former State Representative Byron Rushing

Community Service Awardees: Eric Daniels, Kevin Matos, James Smith, and Danisha Wade

To attend this free event, please RSVP by March 22 at fenwaycdc.org or contact Margarita Mateo at cmargarita@fenwaycdc.org or 617-267-4637 x 10.

Fenway CDC, 70 Burbank Street, Boston, MA 02115



Neighborhood Newsline

Lawsuit Could Complicate Firm’s Bid to Open Fenway Pot Shop

Five companies hoping to open recreational marijuana stores signed contracts with the City in February. Among them was MedMen, a California-based chain that plans to open a recreational dispensary in a Samuels & Associates building at 120 Brookline Ave. All five firms anticipate final City approval at a March 12 meeting of the Boston Zoning Board of Appeal. They would then need to secure a license from the state’s Cannabis Control Commission, which will conduct extensive background checks and must approve the physical layout of the store before the doors can open. Complicating the process, a former top executive of MedMen recently filed suit against the company alleging that they defrauded investors, underpaid employees, and fostered an abusive culture of racism and sexism. CEO Adam Bierman denies the accusations.

Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Demand a Union at Northeastern

Colleagues, community groups, and labor leaders joined Northeastern full-time non-tenure-track faculty on Feb. 6 in support of a union election. Last November, when the group filed notice with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), to hold a union election, Northeastern challenged the filing, claiming that full-time faculty members are “managers” who cannot legally vote to form a union under US labor law. The university made it clear they wanted to go to a hearing at the NLRB rather than follow the precedent set by other U.S. universities and move forward with a union election. In a recent letter to President Joseph Aoun, Senator Elizabeth Warren called on Northeastern to drop the claim that non-tenure track faculty are managers, and allow faculty to decide for themselves if they want to form a union with SEIU Local 509.

MISSION HILL/FENWAY NEIGHBORHOOD TRUST

requests proposals from organizations seeking funding for projects and programs intended to serve residents of the Mission Hill and Fenway neighborhoods.

Please visit [www.missionhillfenwaynt.org](http://www.missionhillfenwaynt.org) to access the on-line application.



Proposals must be submitted no later than 5pm on March 31, 2019. Please email [hello@missionhillfenwaynt.org](mailto:hello@missionhillfenwaynt.org) with any questions.

FCA Holds Annual Meeting

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

The Fenway Civic Association (FCA) held its 57th annual meeting on Feb. 6 at the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS). After a welcome and remarks by Gavin Kleespies of MHS, FCA president Tim Horn, and several local politicians, FCA reviewed the highlights of 2018. These included three public meetings, six free concerts, three park events, 17 licensing reviews, 21 weeks of free park fitness sessions and participation in the Fenway Porchfest.

One highlight was a grant for redesign and improvement of the area around the Westland entrance to the Fens at the Johnson Gates. Horn noted that a contractor has been hired, but the start date is weather-dependent. FCA also secured development mitigation funding to support the Fenway Community Center. Already underway is restoration of the Kelleher Rose Garden with arbor repairs and hedge plantings.

Keynote speaker Karen Mauney-Brodek of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy discussed the Muddy River Restoration Project, Phase 2. Mauney-Brodek reminded the audience that the Emerald Necklace appears natural but was, in fact, entirely designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Some of its natural feel has come back with completion

of Phase 1 of the restoration project, which uncovered the river in the area across from the Landmark Center. For Phase 2, dredging by the Army Corps of Engineers will begin at Leverett Pond near Route 9 in Brookline. The dredging, focused on flood reduction, will be limited in scope. Thus, in the Fenway, the dredging will remove phragmites on the Victory Garden side, but not on the other bank of the river.

Removal of the phragmites, which choke the river and other vegetation, has long been a hot issue in the Fenway. State Department of Environmental Protection regulations have stymied past removal attempts. In a prior public meeting sponsored by FCA, Margaret Dyson of the Boston Parks Department explained that the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act prohibits altering wetlands, so that even an invasive species like phragmites cannot be managed. However, at the meeting on Feb. 6, Dyson said that the City has proposed an ecological restoration that would include mowing of the phragmites. It has been undergoing a series of permitting reviews. Mowing in the past has been unsuccessful, as it needs to be repeated on a regular schedule. Dyson promised that this time it would. Senator William Brownsberger added, “We’re going to get this done one way or another.”

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A LOT HAPPENED IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE THE LAST ISSUE, INCLUDING...

Real estate rental site Zumper.com reported that median rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Mission Hill rose 10% in the fourth quarter of 2018 the biggest jump in any Boston neighborhood—but Mission Hill remains cheaper than eight other neighborhoods, including the Fenway, according to the site. ➡ **The BSO reached a confidential settlement with principal flutist, Elizabeth Rowe, who sued the orchestra last summer for paying her less than a male colleague with a comparable job. She filed her suit one day**



**after the state’s equal-pay-for-equal-work law went into effect in July. All parties now say everything’s all patched up.** ➡ *Boston Business Journal* reports that the 1000 Boylston Street project (Air Rights Parcel 15) will require MassHighways to extend the enclosed portion of the Prudential Tunnel by 900 feet. Assuming the project wins all its approvals, the extension will result in lane closures during the work. The agency’s oversight

board also agreed to let MassHighways negotiate a longer ground lease for the parcel, up to double the current 99 years. ➡ **The Globe’s “Food” section gave Tiffani Faison’s Boylston Street snackbar, Fool’s Errand, a prominent (and very positive) review, praising both food and drink.** ➡ Meanwhile, down the block, the owners of Hojoko, Tim and Nancy Cushman, were trying to figure out what they’ll do with Julian Edelman’s beard, which *Boston Magazine* reports they won in a charity auction. Edelman underwent a televised shave on The Ellen DeGeneres Show after the Super Bowl; the winning \$8,500 bid will go to the Boys & Girls Club of Boston. ➡ **Good news on the D Line: The T has scrubbed all weekend work until Sat. and Sun., March 23-24, when buses will run from Kenmore to Reservoir. No word yet on whether this marks the end of weekend disruptions on the line.** ➡

MASSIVE TREMONT CROSSING MOVES ALONG

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Tremont Crossing, the behemoth project under review for more than a decade at the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), recently reached some milestones. The plan calls for 350,000 sq. ft. of stores, 727 apartments, a 1,371-car garage, the Museum of the National Center for Afro-American Artists, and 108,000 square feet of offices on the about seven acres owned by the BPDA between Madison Park High School and Boston Housing Authority’s Whittier development.


Announcements at a Project Review Committee session in January included approval by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission to move part of the Stony Brook conduit beneath the site; drafting of a memorandum of agreement between Madison Park High and the developers for shared easements; and new financing.

Investment partner Landmark Properties, based in Atlanta, has come back into the picture. It will build and manage the first 418 apartments and jointly finance the retail component.

The developer announced that it has letters of intent from Burlington (formerly Burlington Coat Factory), CVS, BJ’s, Regal Cinema, Brooklyn Boulders, a rock-climbing gym, and Title Boxing. There are no tenants yet for the office space, or financing for that part of the project. Jeff Feldman of Feldco Development has stated that the target market for the office space is Longwood Medical Area institutions.

In January, the BPDA extended the proponents’ tentative-developer designation for three months, with the caveat that designation would be rescinded if final designation was not granted by April 30. The project’s application for a planned development area comes up for a vote at the March 14 BPDA board public hearing at 5:30pm. BPDA is accepting comments online until March 8.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.



Northeastern University

WRITERS’ WEEK

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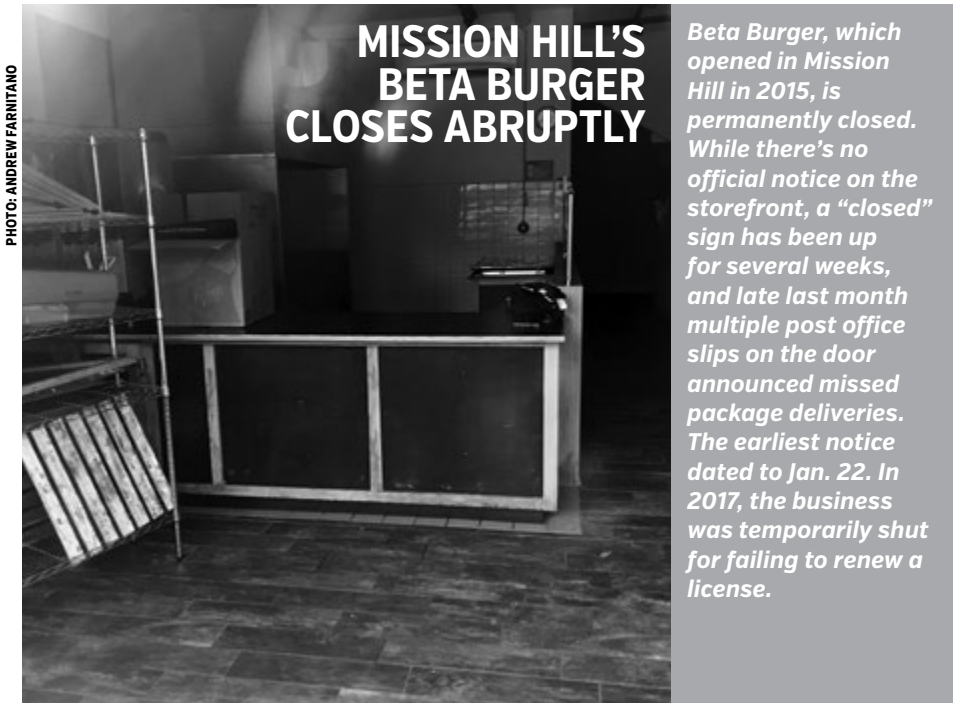


> **VOTING** from page 1  
way to do it,” said Carson.  
She focused on the fact that since most students only pay sales taxes where their college is, it may not be completely fair for them to vote where they aren’t paying tax.

“The interests of permanent residents and the interests of students are very different in the long run,” said Carson.  
Cohn continued to elaborate on the situation by stating that the voter turnout in college areas was higher than normal during the mid-

term elections. But high voter turnout may not coincide with high political engagement between the Fenway students and residents. Both groups should be held accountable for working together; however they tend stay within their respective comfort zones.  
Juliana Jackson, a third-year student at Simmons, said at her school students are politically engaged and knowledgeable about current political and governmental issues, but “stick inside their own bubble.”  
Jackson is part of several organizations on campus. She serves as political science liaison for the Northeastern chapter of Strong Women and Strong Girls and is also the secretary for the campus arm of Amnesty International. She said the clubs help students stay informed, but they don’t do much directly in the community.  
Pettit, while serving as the president of the College Democrats, participated in phone banking and canvassing events but has not been in frequent communication with the political leaders in the Fenway. Neither has Carson, but both groups are open to the idea of political correspondence with Fenway activists.  
Frequent communication between students and Boston residents could have a very beneficial effect on the community Mobilia explained. She stated that more

permanent residents and university students face similar issues, such as safety, policing, and transportation. Not working together may be a result of not emphasizing enough the importance of these topics to students.  
“You need to think about an issue that would really hit students and hit topics that are closer to mind for them. They could easily be writing letters, calling their state house or city hall to meet with their [elected officials],” said Mobilia.  
Pettit has tried to be more active in the community by telling friends about political occurrences happening in the area.  
“I am being a resource to people because I’ve been forced to become knowledgeable, so I am trying to relay that information to as many people as possible so that they feel more empowered to vote,” said Pettit.  
“If I wanted to, I could step out of politics and my life wouldn’t change so I should be voting for people who could be helped by politics,” said Pettit.  
“Being engaged in the community is a great thing for college students to do,” said Cohn. “Every student should feel that they are fully empowered to register here if they want to and to participate in the political system to its fullest.”  
*Julia Ubertini and Evelyn Noreen Bleed are journalism students at Northeastern.*



*Beta Burger, which opened in Mission Hill in 2015, is permanently closed. While there's no official notice on the storefront, a "closed" sign has been up for several weeks, and late last month multiple post office slips on the door announced missed package deliveries. The earliest notice dated to Jan. 22. In 2017, the business was temporarily shut for failing to renew a license.*

# Supporters of Guild House Tenants Regroup

BY ALISON PULTINAS

There’s reinvigorated activism objecting to the multiple evictions at Our Lady’s Guild House (OLGH) on Charlesgate West at the edge of Kenmore Square, the single-room occupancy (SRO) housing run by the Daughters of Mary of the Immaculate Conception, based in New Britain, Conn.

Beginning last summer, older and disabled tenants who had lived at OLGH for many years were not allowed to renew their leases. Those who remained are living in an atmosphere of fear and instability. Judge Mary Lou Muirhead recently heard some housing court cases related to OLGH. But Colleen Fitzgerald of the Fenway Community Development Corporation explained that the outcomes were not favorable.

City Life/Vida Urbana and the Fenway CDC organized a January public meeting at St. Cecilia’s Church, bringing together OLGH residents, community advocates, and members of St. Cecilia’s Social and Racial Justice Ministry.

Since the fall the two housing organizations—along with Sheila Dillon of Boston’s Department of Neighborhood Development and lawyers from Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) and Harvard Legal Services Center—had been in negotiation with the Daughters of Mary and their real estate agent, Marc Roos. Attorney Robert Russo, a specialist in landlord/tenant issues, and public relations professional Don Martelli represented the Daughters. During the negotiations, OLGH residents were asked to wait out the process, and no evictions were served. Not unexpectedly, the negotiations failed and the women who were denied renewed leases are anxious.

Margaret Turner, the GBLS attorney, has questioned why the sisters are turning long-term tenancies into short-term ones. Father John Unni of St. Cecilia’s attended the meeting and offered his support. The Archdiocese of Boston’s Planning Office of Urban Affairs had made an offer on the OLGH several years ago, but it was rejected.

The Daughters of Mary’s New Britain neighborhood is known as Little Poland; the church on Broad Street, Sacred Heart, was founded by Monsignor Bojnowski, who created the order in 1904. Of 200 acres on Osgood Hill that he bought in the early 1900s, more than half remain under ownership by

the Daughters of Mary. According to New Britain’s assessing data, the order owns seven buildings valued collectively at more than \$35 million. There are fields with solar panels, landscaped grounds, and city

views. Cell phone towers were previously on the property, The former motherhouse at 314 Osgood St. is now Marian Heights, low-income senior rentals with a separate adult daycare program, run by Mulberry Gardens. The sisters retained their apartments in one wing with a separate entrance and two parking spaces. According to a 2010 hartfordbusiness.com story about the renovations of the convent, fewer than a dozen sister lived at 314 Osgood in 2000. The former Polish orphanage, Rose Hill, is the Prudence Crandall Center, the oldest and largest domestic violence shelter in Connecticut.

Data from the *Official Catholic Directory for 2016* lists 21 members of the order, but current information isn’t readily available. A historical image on the website of New Britain’s Sacred Heart Church shows 50 sisters in habits standing proudly for a 90th-anniversary photograph in 1994. From 50 to 21 in 22 years is a major decrease. According to Georgetown University’s Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, most religious orders are facing a rapid increase in age and declines in membership. Worries about their own retirement plans and healthcare are a reality. Real estate assets are a significant resource.  
The Daughters also own two nursing homes, St. Lucian’s and Bojnowski Manor, in New Britain and the Sancta Maria Facility on Concord Avenue in Cambridge. Their partnerships with nonprofits and generous public funding have maintained these facilities for the future. The massive edifice for the Prudence Crandall home was renovated in 2009 with HUD funding; Marian Heights also benefited from federal housing dollars.

Given their experience crafting lucrative partnerships that further their mission, its surprising that the sisters did not consider similar strategies for three SRO properties the order owns in Boston and New York. Instead, they turned the buildings over to Boston realtor Roos to manage and market as short-term housing for students and working women (proof required). St. Joseph’s Home for Immigrants in New York, blessed in 1925 as a gift to the sisters, is now advertised as “exclusive rentals in prime locations in NYC.”

With extensive real estate holdings in three different dioceses in Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts, the Daughters of Mary come under pontifical authority, not diocesan. Is there a possibility of asking the Vatican’s Cardinal Joa Braz de Aviz, who heads the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, to investigate? Pursuing legal action with the Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey was a favored action at the January community meeting, as was following up with the state’s Board of Registration of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons to consider if violations have been committed.

As Fenway activist and former City Councilor Rosario Salerno said at the meeting, we have our voices and need to use them.  
*Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.*

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



*The former motherhouse, now Marian Heights, a low-income senior living rentals with a separate adult daycare program on site.*

## Trash & Recycling Pickups

- **BACK BAY:** Trash and recycling on Monday and Thursday
- **FENWAY:** Trash and recycling on Tuesday and Friday
- **MISSION HILL:** Trash and recycling on Tuesday and Friday

## STAR ENDS 24-HOUR OPENING FOR AREA MARKETS

BY SHRADDHA KAKADE

Star Markets in the West Fens, at the Prudential and on Comm. Ave. near BU have all ended their longtime policy of staying open around the clock.

The new hours for all three stores are 6 a.m. to midnight.  
“I’m surprised to learn that the store would no longer be open (late at night),” said Toby Avila, a local resident who’s been shopping at the Prudential store for more than 20 years.

“Most people who took advantage of this [24/7 service] were people who worked overnight. Those doing security, working in the clubs around here,” said Brittany Leslie, cashier and customer service agent at the Prudential store. “They would come here and get a couple of things but now they’re not able to.”

However, Teresa Edington, Star Market’s external communication & community relations manager explained that Star changed the hours to “better match the shopping patterns of our customers in those areas.” She added, “at Star Market, we continually evaluate our business operations to ensure we are delivering the best assortment of quality items when our customers want to buy them.”

While corporate believes most shoppers are not affected, Leslie explained that flyers went up around New Year’s to inform customers of the change, which took effect Jan. 6, but those who did not see the notices in time started to complain. Avila, who loves shopping at the Prudential Star for its convenience and cleanliness, wasn’t aware of the changes until they’d already gone into effect.

Jesus Gonzales, another customer service agent who has worked at the store for almost eight years, explained that nearby hotels would be most inconvenienced by the move, as both workers and guests utilized the overnight hours.

From hospital and restaurant workers to the bar crowd and students, all three locations had a loyal customer base from midnight to 6 a.m. and without many 24-hour options, it’s unclear what will take the place of the overnight Star Markets.

*Shraddha Kakade is the intern for the Fenway News.*







# The Arts

## Graciela Iturbide’s Stark Photos Open Your Eyes to Mexico’s Beauty, Paradoxes, and Injustice—and Stop You in Your Tracks

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

While museum-goers are flocking to view Ansel Adam’s famous collection of photographs, there is another photography exhibit at the MFA that is worth exploring. I discovered this extraordinary

my tracks. The black and white large photo featured an ethereal cloud of thousands of birds around a post. I was caught up in the sweep of it and felt as if I was floating in the image.

Iturbide has been photographing scenes of Mexico for five decades. In her black-and-white photographs, Iturbide captures everyday life and its cultures and rhythms in a dramatic way. Her photographs tell a visual story of Mexico since the late 1970s, including paradoxes, transition, and social injustice. Iturbide sees Mexico with both its beauty and challenges. She uses natural light, no flashes or telephotos, and just follows her curiosity. She began studying film at the age of 27, then switched to still photography when she met Manuel Alvarez Bravo, a modern Mexican photographer who became her mentor.

This exhibit is the first major presentation of Iturbide’s work on the East Coast and features approximately 125 photographs that span a five-decade-long career. Thirty-

seven of these photographs have recently been acquired by the MFA.

Various aspects of Mexican culture are highlighted, including

death and mortality, birds and their symbolism, funeral rites, and cultural practices. Iturbide has a deep fascination with her subjects. She particularly likes to photograph, and to live with, indigenous people. At one point, Iturbide immersed herself in Juchitan’s community of women. The resulting series of photographs feature strong, politized, emancipated women. Typical is a photograph called “INRI,” which features a woman standing on a corner holding a basket while in the background a man lies flat on the ground drunk. For Iturbide, the photograph is a metaphor that depicts: the women are solid, the men fall.

In perhaps her most famous photograph—the 1979 “Our Lady of the Iguanas,” another stop-in-your-tracks image—Iturbide has visited a local market where women are selling their wares. In an accompanying video, she explains, “This woman arrived with live iguanas on her head. I didn’t say put the iguanas on your head. She just showed up, and I shot intuitively.”

In another dramatic portrait titled “Angel Woman (Mujer Angel),” a traditional Seri woman with long hair seems to float through the desert. In “Fallen from Heaven,” a woman with a long white dress is gliding through a landscape; the photo cuts off her head. In both cases, Iturbide explains that she was just clicking the shutter aimlessly, not aiming, and the photo came out. In a video accompanying the exposition, Iturbide explains “Through my camera, I’m seeing something that I don’t see with my eyes.”

Iturbide also likes to combine symbols of life and death. She says death is a significant theme in Mexico,

as seen in the Day of the Dead celebrations. In one photo, she features a store window with mannequins in bridal gowns with rifles propped in front of them. In another, a couple walk arm in arm passing a mural of a large skeleton.

She is also fascinated with birds, both dead and alive. In her self portrait she holds a dead bird in one hand and a live bird in the other. In another photo, birds appear to emerge from an ominous cloud and descend above a cemetery.

A breakthrough for Iturbide came when she met the artist Francisco Toledo, who invited her to photograph Juchitan, his hometown in Oaxaca. In 1998, Toledo invited Iturbide to tell the story of the ecological relationship of Oaxacans with their native plants. At the newly opened Ethnobotanical Gardens of Oaxaca, Iturbide became fascinated with the damaged cacti, some ailing and bandaged, and shot from dramatic angles. “They were sculptures for me,” she says in the video.

Iturbide recently photographed the personal belongings of artist Frida Kahlo, working in Kahlo’s bathroom. Those photos will go on display as part of a larger MFA exhibition on Kahlo’s work that opens on Feb. 27. Artist Diego Rivera, Kahlo’s husband, locked the bathroom upon Kahlo’s death; it was only re-opened 50 years later.

In a video, Iturbide says, “I always shoot what surprises me.” You too will be surprised by this amazing exhibit.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens. “Graciela Iturbide’s Mexico” runs until May 12 at the Museum of Fine Arts.



“Our Lady of the Iguanas”

exhibit—“Graciela Iturbide’s Mexico”—while passing through a corridor as I was exiting the museum. As I walked along, “Birds on a Post” stopped me in

## New Community Center Show Maps the Faces of Massachusetts

BY CAMILLE PLATT

Matti Kniva Spencer, also known as “The Mayor of Fenway,” is a selfless soul, no two ways about it. His main focus, in all of his endeavors, is love, respect, and diversity. I had the chance to sit down with him and chat about his upcoming event, “Faces of Massachusetts,” with anecdotes and memories included along the way.

I met with Matti at the Fenway Community Center, where his photography series will debut on March 9. It will be on display until April 26. This is his sixth “Faces” series, and he spent months interviewing his 25 participants, who live, work, or attend school in various parts of Massachusetts.

When I sit down, I notice Matti has brought along two framed photos of subjects in his show. “That man looks so familiar,” I say to him. “How do I know him?” I ask to myself under my breath, but loud enough for him to hear. “He owns a shop in Cambridge,” he says. I realize it’s a store I had been to that same weekend, purchasing a few things for my home. “Small world! He’s a great guy, he’d give you everything if he could. He’s got such nice things in his shop.” And that’s how it all starts.

**CP: I know you’ve done five shows, this being your sixth—what made you start doing these series?**

*MKS: It started when I was a young boy. My father is Native American-Indian, and his brothers and sisters would come over, and they would talk about all kinds of things. As a boy, I was allowed to listen. That’s where I acquired a liking for story telling. They talked about each other, their friends, things they liked, things they didn’t. I remember they used to say “it’s good we’re acknowledging ourselves while we’re still alive,” as so often people are gone and we talk about them after the fact. It was such a big circle, and they stayed late—it gave me a chance to stay*

*up late when I was a boy!—and I learned so much from those stories. Years later, I volunteered at the Peterborough Senior Center, and I offered ideas when they needed something different. There’s so many seniors that have done nice things, and they aren’t usually recognized—so I mentioned my upbringings and my elders, and we decided this series I began would be a great way to honor people. So many seniors have been in my shows, as the first was so successful. And I decided I’d do another one—focusing on different age groups. I would interview men, women, and younger people, maybe attending school here. Some were born in different countries, different states, and what made it so popular was the diversity of people I focused on. You could find yourself in my show.*

**CP: What got you into photographing and art?**

*MKS: I was born in Lewiston, Maine. I have one sister, and eight brothers, and I was the last, (the) youngest. Everyone used to call me “The Last of the Mohicans,” sort of related to the Iroquois tribe, which is my father’s tribe. When I was ten, I was a hyperactive child, and my mother gave me a little Brownie camera, my first camera. She said, “You got out and take photos.” That was a way of calming me down. I was always out taking pictures, and then it was all black-and-white, the color wasn’t out then. I remember graduating to a Brownie camera that had the color film—that was exciting! And then I moved onto the Polaroid camera, eventually digital, and now I do all of my work with my iPhone. All my shows are in black and white, that’s the medium that I prefer.*

**CP: In terms of what you want people to take from this show.**

*MKS: I want to stress that behind every face, there’s a story. So often people don’t even know their neighbor, because they don’t take time to say hello, and that neighbor could*



Matti Kniva Spencer.

*be a person that has a really great story they’re looking to share, but never have the opportunity until someone asks. That’s what I want people to walk away with, especially at the opening, which is a great opportunity to meet the participants—I invite and have all of my participants at the opening—and in addition, many of them feature their own*

*works. The age range (of this show) is 15 to 90... (to me, a huge deal) An example is we’ll have a musician here, performing live, and a past participants will be performing as well alongside them.*

**CP: In terms of where the participants live, are they mainly close by or far?**

*MKS: It depends; it could be people from my building, people that I work with, and these are some of the people that I’ve met that have impressed me in different ways throughout the past few years. The important thing is to keep the series diverse. It’s important for everyone to see themselves. I often try to look and feature those with disabilities in my shows. I have two women that are in wheelchairs participating, and they talk about their experiences and their life overall. I want to stress the importance of the participants; it’s their show, my show really belongs to them. They’re the ones that make it.*

A great fact I learned about Matti is that he loves singing. “I’ve sung close to 2,000 songs. I sing in French, Spanish, English, and Portuguese” he tells me. He gives me some more insight into other participants, but I want to keep that a surprise, until “Faces of Massachusetts” opens on March 9.

Two things really struck me during this interview, and I think it’s evidence enough that this exhibit is not to be missed. Matti’s selflessness, and his final statement: “Let’s keep love alive.” I don’t think that will ever be something to shy away from. Let’s keep it alive.


Matti wishes to point out how wonderful the space at the Fenway Community Center is for hanging photos and other artwork. It’s so conducive for multiple photos here to look at around the walls, he says, and it’s so central, and so many people come in and out of the center to see it.

Camille Platt was born and raised in the Fenway.



# March

## CALENDAR

 THIS SYMBOL INDICATES THAT AN EVENT IS FREE.

### arts+ ENTERTAINMENT

Now ➔ Sun, 3/31

The Huntington Theatre pairs a revered classic and an irreverent spoof—running simultaneously. First, the classic: **ROMEO AND JULIET**, in a production the theater calls “astoundingly current [and] gorgeously realized.” At the Huntington Ave. Theatre. Tickets \$25-\$109. Tu-Th, 7:30pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sat-Sun, 2pm; added performances 3/20, 3/24, 3/27. For details and tickets, visit [huntingtontheatre.org](http://huntingtontheatre.org). And the spoof...

Now ➔ Sun, 4/7

...would be **SPAMILTON: AN AMERICAN PARODY**, the Off-Broadway send-up of Hamilton written and directed by the mastermind behind the brilliant Forbidden Broadway series. At the Calderwood Pavilion in the South End, 527 Tremont Street. Huntington has already extended its run, so move quickly if you want tickets. Tickets \$25-\$99 (but weekend shows start at \$77). Details and tickets at [huntingtontheatre.org](http://huntingtontheatre.org).

Now ➔ Sun, 5/19

The Gardner’s **BOTTICELLI: HEROINES + HEROES** scored some rare works from Italian museums for its examination of how the early Renaissance master appropriated Roman legends to create lessons on civic virtue for his Florentine patrons. With contemporary works by artist Karl Stevens, who has reinterpreted the paintings from their female protagonists’ point of view. Wed-Sun, 11am to 5pm; Thu until 9pm. Tickets \$15 adults/\$12 seniors/\$10 students/ free for members. Details at [gardnermuseum.org](http://gardnermuseum.org).

Sun, 3/3

**BEYOND BUBBIE’S KITCHEN** returns with plenty of noshing on modern interpretations of classic Jewish dishes prepared by 17 area restaurants. Wash it down with wine, beer, and cocktails. 5:30pm at the Back Bay Events Center, 180 Berkeley Street. Tickets \$36 advance, \$42 at the door. Get info or buy tickets at [jartsboston.org](http://jartsboston.org).

Sun, 3/3 ➔ Wed, 3/20

The Museum of Fine Arts presents “**FIVE WOMEN FILMMAKERS**,” showcasing groundbreaking directors from the US, UK, Colombia, and Argentina. Various dates and times. Tickets \$10 members/\$13 general. Find more info and purchase tickets at [mfa.org/programs/film](http://mfa.org/programs/film) or at the door.

Sun-Fri, 3/3–8 and 3/10–15

**DINE OUT BOSTON** returns with two weeks of cut-rate sampling menus at restaurants across the city. At press time, [www.bostonusa.com/restaurants](http://www.bostonusa.com/restaurants) didn’t show any Fenway, Kenmore or Mission Hill restaurants, but that might still change. Prices vary by restaurant, but all lunches are \$15/\$20/\$25 and dinners are \$28/\$33/\$38.

## SENIOR EVENTS

Events take place at the **Peterborough Senior Center** or **Fenway Community Center**. Find the Senior Center entrance by walking into the alley between 100 and 108 Jersey St. and looking left. For more information, call 617-536-7154.


- Tue, 3/12 at 1pm: **A CONVERSATION WITH YISSEL GUERRERO, CITY OF BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON FOR THE FENWAY.**
- Tue, 3/19 at 12pm: **PERFORMANCE FROM NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY STUDENTS ANGELA WANG, VIOLIN, AND SHE WAN LI, VIOLA.**
- Thu, 3/21 & 3/28, 11:30am to 12:30pm: **“STRONG WITH SIMMONS.”** Join Simmons students for a series of fun health workshops. Each session will include relaxation, exercise, and a delicious snack.

Mon, 3/4

Fenway Victory Gardens **2019 SEED SHARING & SWAP**. Gardeners officially kick off the 2019 growing season by swapping seeds with fellow gardeners. Refreshments provided. Lansdowne Pub, 9 Lansdowne St, from 6pm to 8pm. FREE

Tue, 3/5 ➔ Fri, 3/8

BU’s School of Theater presents **MY FAIR LADY**. The Broadway classic has undergone an interpretive retooling in recent years with a new focus on Eliza Doolittle’s push-back against Henry Higgins’s classist and sexist attitudes. We’ll see how this production deals with that. Studio One at the College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave. 7:30pm.

 More details at [bu.edu/cfa/news-events/events/](http://bu.edu/cfa/news-events/events/). FREE.

Thu, 3/7 ➔ Sun, 3/10

Boston Conservatory revives the 1967 Broadway hit **CABARET**. Based on stories by Christopher Isherwood, a young American writer and a British singer begin an affair in Berlin in 1931, navigating the demimonde, swirling around a cabaret where stage acts reflect political tensions as the Nazis rise to power. Tickets \$25/\$30; discounts for students, seniors, and other groups. Thu-Sat, 8pm; Sat-Sun, 2pm. Tickets and details at [www.bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/center-stage](http://www.bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/center-stage).

Fri, 3/8 ➔ Sat, 3/16

**MOVE YOUR FACE**, a wordless play, previews performances before world premiere in 2020 by Boston Theater Company. At Boston Playwrights Theater. <https://www.broadwayworld.com/boston/article/Boston-Theater-Company-Announces-MOVE-YOUR-FACE-20181219>. Wed-Thu, 7:30pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun 2pm.

Fri, 3/8 & Sun, 3/10

**HANDEL + HAYDN SOCIETY** pairs Beethoven’s magnificent Symphony No. 5 with the Over-ture to the Magic Flute and Weber’s Clarinet Concerto No. 1. Fri, 7:30pm; Sun, 3pm; both at Symphony Hall. Tickets \$25-104 at the box office or through [handelandhaydn.org](http://handelandhaydn.org).

Sat, 3/9

- Opening reception for the annual **SMALL WORKS EXHIBIT** featuring small paintings by local artists. Reception 6:30–8:30pm. The show runs until Wed, 4/10. At Kaji Aso Studio. 40 St. Stephens St.  Call 617-247-1719 for gallery hours. FREE
- Opening reception for **FACES IN MASSACHUSETTS 2019**, an exhibit of portraits of people living and working in Massachusetts by local writer and photographer Matti Kniva Spencer. From 3 to 5pm at the Fenway Community Center, 1282 Boylston St at Jersey St.  Shows runs until Fri, 4/26. Visti [fenwaycommunitycenter.org](http://fenwaycommunitycenter.org) for details. FREE

### COMMUNITY meetings

**MON, MARCH 4** Community Dinner at the Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, 165 Park Drive from 3pm to 7pm.

**WED, MARCH 6 & WED, MARCH 20** Fenway Fair Foods, 3-5pm, Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, 165 Park Drive. Get a bag of fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables for \$2. Everyone welcome! To learn more, contact Helen Murphy, [hmurphy@fenwaycdc.org](mailto:hmurphy@fenwaycdc.org), 617- 267-4637 x21

**TUE, MARCH 12** A public meeting on 12-28 Lansdowne Street, an approximately 86,000 square foot, approximately 5,000 person capacity performing arts center. The proposed project is located on a 64,700 square foot parcel at the corner of Ipswich and Lansdowne streets, adjacent to Fenway

Mon, 3/11

Swedish dance-floor queen **ROBYN** brings her infectious music to the House of Blues. Tickets \$66 and up from 888-693-2583 or [houseofblues.com/boston](http://houseofblues.com/boston).

Thu, 3/14

**THE GREAT MOLASSES FLOOD REVISITED: IMMIGRANTS IN AN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT**. Nearly 60 percent of Italian immigrants living in the North End in the early 20th century lacked legal citizenship, diminishing their political voice when the Purity Distilling Company erected a shoddily built molasses tank in their neighborhood. Presented by Stephen Puleo, Marilynn Johnson, and Jim Vrabel. 6–7:30pm. FREE but registration required. At Mass. Historical Society, 1154 Boylston St.

Fri, 3/15

The **[ BITSANDFLOW ]** series presents actors from Boston Conservatory at Berklee telling stories of the Fenway. The performance, *Partial View*, is based on interviews from the Fenway Memory Project, an ongoing oral history of the neighborhood. Directed by Tim Ney. 7:30pm at the Fenway Community Center, 1282 Boylston at Jersey Street. FREE

Sat, 3/16 & Sun, 3/17

Boston Gay Men’s Chorus presents **RAISE YOU UP**, a concert with music ranging from gospel to Broadway (*Kinky Boots*) to pop (Christina Aguilera and Whitney Houston) to choral theater piece (*Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*). Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. Tickets \$25-\$100. Details at [bgmc.org](http://bgmc.org).

Sun, 3/17

**MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL ON TOUR** featuring Cécile McLorin Salvant and Christian Sands. An all-star lineup from the longest-running jazz festival in the world comes to Berklee Performance Center. 7pm. Tickets \$45/55/65 from the box office (136 Mass. Ave.), by phone, or from [berklee.edu/events](http://berklee.edu/events).

Wed, 3/19 ➔ Sat, 3/23


**STAVE SESSIONS**, the low-priced contemporary arm of Celebrity Series, presents five concerts at Berklee’s 160 Mass. Ave. dorm. The carefully curated artists mix folk traditions from Appalachia, South America, and Anatolia with contemporary influences like Latin jazz and indie rock. Tickets \$35/\$10 (students). Doors at 7pm, shows at 8pm. Details and tickets at [celebrityseries.org/live-performances/stave-sessions/](http://celebrityseries.org/live-performances/stave-sessions/).

Sat, 3/23

**THE 4TH ANNUAL GARDENERS’ GATHERING**. A free day full of informative urban gardening workshops, engaging exhibitors, networking, and special guest speaker Aziz Dehkan, executive director of the New York City Community Garden Coalition. Mayor Walsh will deliver a keynote address and

Park. The proposed project also entails improvements to Fenway Park., 6pm to 8pm. Fenway Park, State Street Pavilion, 20 Jersey St. Contact Tim Czerwienski with any questions at [Tim.Czerwienski@Boston.gov](mailto:Tim.Czerwienski@Boston.gov) or (617) 918-5303.

**TUE, MARCH 19** The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee will meet at the South End Library 685 Tremont St. for a Q&A session with State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz and State Reps. Jay Livingstone, Aaron Michlewitz, and Chynah Tyler, followed by a panel discussion with transit experts Chris Dempsey for Transportation for Massachusetts, Stacy Thompson of Livable Streets Alliance, and Lee Matsueda of Alternatives for Community & Environment. 6pm. Email any questions to [ward4dems@gmail.com](mailto:ward4dems@gmail.com).

 present the annual Community Garden Awards. Shillman Hall, Northeastern University, 115 Forsyth St. from 10am to 5pm. FREE

Sun, 3/24

Steinway pianist Jenny Shin presents a concert of **MUSIC BY PHILIP GLASS**, including selections from his Piano Etudes, excerpts from film scores for *The Hours* and *The Truman Show*, and his latest composition for piano, *Distant Figure*. David Friend Recital Hall, 921 Boylston Street, 8pm. More info at [berklee.edu/events/](http://berklee.edu/events/). FREE.

Sun, 3/24 & Wed, 3/27

Gregory Peck stars in the 1962 classic film, **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**. A white lawyer in a small Alabama town defends a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman and implicitly violating the vicious social code. Sun 1pm, Wed, 12pm and 7pm. Tickets \$12.50 at [fathomevents.com](http://fathomevents.com) or the Regal Fenway box office.

Thu, 3/28 ➔ Sun, 3/31

Boston Conservatory presents **THE CONSUL**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning opera about refugees fleeing Eastern Europe in the aftermath of World War II. Tickets \$25/30, with discounts for students, seniors, and other groups. Thu-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. Tickets and details at [bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/center-stage](http://bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/center-stage).

Sat, 3/30

**PRESERVING A LOCAL AND GLOBAL TREASURE—THE RESTORATION OF THE MOTHER CHURCH**. Join the Boston Preservation Alliance for on a tour of the Mother Church and its history from 1894 to the present. Meet outside the Publishing House on the Christian Science Plaza. 11am–12:30pm. FREE

Sun, 3/31 & Mon, 4/1

Boston-based Community Supported Film selected and trained 10 immigrants from 10 different countries to produce short documentary films on their fellow new immigrants and refugees. The resulting 10 films, **NEW IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE VISIONS**, will premiere on Sun, 3/31, 2:30–4pm and Mon, 4/1, 6–7:30pm. Boston Public Library, Copley Square Central Branch, Rabb Hall, 700 Boylston St. FREE

## @ THE CENTER

These highlights from the Fenway Community Center’s calendar are free unless noted otherwise. Visit the Center at 1282 Boylston or check out the full calendar at [www.fenwaycommunitycenter.org/calendar](http://www.fenwaycommunitycenter.org/calendar)

- **LOVE, FENWAY, March 14 from 6:30pm to 10:00pm.** A benefit to support the Fenway Community Center. Honoring Fenway activist Lauren Dewey Platt. 6:30pm to 10pm. At the Community Center, 1282 Boylston St at Jersey St. Tickets are \$75 with a special discount available for Fenway seniors. For tickets go to [bit.ly/LoveFenway](http://bit.ly/LoveFenway).
- **COMMUNITY EVENT FEATURING SENATOR WILL BROWNSBERGER, REP. CHYNAH TYLER, REP. JAY LIVINGSTON, AND CITY COUNCILOR JOSH ZAKIM, March 21, 5:00pm to 6:30pm.** The event will be an opportunity for community members to meet some of their elected officials.
- **PRENATAL VINYASA, Saturdays at 9am.** Utilize breath work, yoga asana and meditation to connect with your baby, and prepare your body and mind for childbirth. Appropriate for yoga newbies as well as for people with regular practice. \$15 for non-members, \$10 for members.