

VOTING INFO

TIMELINE

- OCT. 24: LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE.** Visit www.RegisterToVoteMA.com. You'll need a valid Mass. driver's license or ID card.
- OCT. 28: LAST DAY TO REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT.** Request it online at www.MailMyBallotMA.com. If you vote by mail, you can follow the progress of your ballot at www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/track/trackmyballot.aspx.
- OCT. 17-30: EARLY VOTING**
- NOV. 3: VOTE IN PERSON.** All voting sites will follow CDC and state public health guidelines. *If you normally vote at Morville House or Symphony Towers, you'll vote instead at Matthews Arena on St. Botolph Street.*

EARLY VOTING

Sat-Sun, Oct. 17-18 | 11am-7pm

FENWAY PARK (USE GATE A ENTRANCE)

DEWITT CENTER
122 DEWITT DRIVE, ROXBURY

Mon-Fri, Oct. 19-23

BOSTON CITY HALL

- Mon-Wed-Fri = 9am-5pm
- Tue & Thu = 9am-8pm

Sat-Sun, Oct. 24-25 | 11am-7pm

SHELBOURNE CENTER GYMNASIUM
2750 WASHINGTON STREET, ROXBURY

MARGARITA MUNIZ ACADEMY GYMNASIUM
20 CHILD STREET, JAMAICA PLAIN

Mon-Fri, Oct. 26-30

BOSTON CITY HALL

- Mon-Wed-Fri = 9am-5pm
- Tue & Thu = 9am-8pm

You can also return your mail-in ballot at any early voting site.

DROPBBOXES

Deposit your mail-in ballot at *any* dropbox up to 8pm on Nov. 3. All boxes listed here are already open:

- ★ Boston City Hall, main entrance
- ★ Central Library, Copley Square
- ★ Parker Hill Branch Library, 1497 Tremont Street, Mission Hill
- ★ Roxbury Branch Library, 149 Dudley Street, Roxbury
- ★ Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 30 South Street, JP

Mission Hill Will Add Community Garden



The future site of the Gore Street Garden

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Along with residential construction on Tremont, Parker and Terrace streets, there's a new public greenspace coming to Mission Hill. A small City-owned lot on Gore Street, formerly the site of a six-family building razed in 1982, will be transferred to the nonprofit Mission Hill Health Movement (MHHM) for a future community garden. The official closing is scheduled to take place this month. The Public Facilities Commission, chaired by ISD Commissioner Dion Irish, voted on Sept. 16 to convey the property to MHHM.

MHHM's garden committee, with help from COGdesign, a nonprofit providing technical assistance, has worked on the plans since 2017. Students Daniel Janowiec and Anthony Boudreau—from Wentworth's Co+build community building program, based at the Center for Community and Learning Partnerships—contributed designs for raised beds and feedback on an irrigation system.

The garden will have native shade plantings and blackberry bushes along its borders. The design includes new fencing, infrastructure for managing stormwater, and pervious surfacing for the pathways. Community support for the project has encouraged MHHM, said Director Mary Ann Nelson. Given the strong interest in local food, Nelson said, MHHM plans to rotate plots to new gardeners every three years so that more neighbors can participate. Possible

innovations include planting beds for gardeners to "time share" plots and share produce.

The City's Department of Neighborhood Development (DND) conducted multiple meetings in 2017 to review requests for proposals for nine vacant lots in the neighborhood. Of those parcels, 6-8 Gore St. is the only one to be retained as green space. As Kara Verrochi, a garden committee member, wrote to the Community Preservation Act Committee in 2018, "Having attended all of the DND meetings, there is strong

concern among many residents that enough open space isn't being preserved in this neighborhood.... Maintaining some open parcels while agreeing to the development of others, was discussed among the residents at length."

The short block of Gore Street, formerly Gore Avenue [the name connects to 17th-century land held by John Gore, no relation to the former vice president] was radically altered in the late 19th century by the subdividing of Caroline French's estate. Wood-frame multifamily buildings went up on tightly constricted lots; the idea of public produce gardens didn't gain wide acceptance until the 20th century.

Last year the City's Grassroots program, which supports gardens and open space, awarded the project \$62,000. MHHM also applied for CPA funds but was unsuccessful. According to MHHM's chair, Betty Commerford, the group needs to raise several thousand dollars more to meet its budget. Donations from individuals are welcome [contact info@mhhm.org for details]. Wentworth Institute has also committed student labor for building the raised beds.

Delle Avenue resident and garden committee member Bob Francey and volunteer landscape designer Laura Feddersen from COGdesign will coordinate the construction process, expected to begin this fall.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

EVEN WITH FEWER STUDENTS, MOVE-IN JUNK PILES UP ON CALUMET STREET



Staggered dates spaced out college move-ins this year, but Sept. 1 still saw a large number of students moving to the area. Move-in and move-out trash accumulated at 226 Calumet Street on Mission Hill.

Making Sense of the Massachusetts Ballot Questions

BY MARY ANN BROGAN

With early voting starting in October 17, *The Fenway News* provides some background on this year's statewide ballot questions.

QUESTION 1

Question 1 would require car manufacturers to make vehicle-repair data transmitted wirelessly available to third-party shops, such as your own neighborhood auto mechanic. "Telematic" systems, now in 90 percent of cars, collect information during vehicle operation that can notify you of looming parts or system failures. Currently, only manufacturers and their authorized dealers have access to this information. An initiative passed in 2012 opened access to diagnostic information to anyone who wanted it, including owners, but it didn't account for the wireless technology now in use.

A yes vote would give access to diagnostic and repair information both to vehicle

owners and independent repair facilities through an app. Beginning in 2022, repair facilities would be able retrieve information from and send commands to a vehicle for maintenance, diagnosis, and repair.

Opponents contend the bill would leave car owners vulnerable to access by cyber-predators. If needed, prior to its taking effect in 2022, the state legislature would have an opportunity to tweak the language to ensure that repair shops only get access to relevant diagnostic and repair information. Advertisements opposing this question are funded by a trade association of auto manufacturers, while ads supporting it are largely funded by vehicle maintenance businesses.

QUESTION 2

Question 2 would change the way Massachusetts votes, implementing ranked-choice voting in primary and general elections for statewide offices, as well as congressional, state legislative, and district attorney offices,

starting in 2022. It would not apply to presidential elections or municipal elections.

Currently, Massachusetts voters choose their candidates by plurality; whoever receives the most votes wins. In an election with multiple candidates, a winner could amass only 20 percent of votes, and still win—as we saw last month in the Democratic primary for the fourth congressional district.

Under ranked-choice voting, votes would be counted in a series of rounds. You would have the opportunity to rank all candidates in order of your preference. If one got more than 50 percent of the votes in the first round, they would win the election. If no candidate reached 50 percent, then the candidate with the fewest votes would be eliminated. In a second round of counting, the tally would no longer include votes for the eliminated candidate. Voters who made that candidate their first choice would have their votes redistributed to their second-choice candidate. If

no candidate received 50 percent of the votes in this round, the process would be repeated until a candidate won a majority of votes.

This method ensures the winning candidate has the broadest appeal to a majority of voters. It eliminates situations where somebody holds office when, in fact, the majority did not vote for them. If ranked-choice voting is approved, it would go into effect in 2022.

Opponents of ranked-choice voting say that it could lead to voter exhaustion. They believe voters just don't want to go to the effort of ranking candidates, especially if there are more than three. Some opponents think that making the process of filling out a ballot more complicated, even if ever so slightly, could increase wait times at polling places.

Maine was the first state to pass ranked-choice voting, several Massachusetts cities, including Cambridge, already have it in place.

Mary Ann Brogan lives in the East Fens.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOODS: DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

BY ALISON PULTINAS

BU, NU Faculty Wrestle With Teaching

Boston University's Learn from Anywhere (LfA) hybrid model has teachers on campus talking to nearly empty classrooms while simultaneously teaching remote learners. Those attending in person are, of course, wearing masks. There are challenges in recreating the typical give-and-take of seminar discussions. For larger lectures, it might be a bit easier, as they usually involve less participation, but in smaller classes the interaction between online students and those in the classroom can be technically complicated.

BU and Northeastern, the two largest universities in Boston, have pursued similar instructional strategies for the fall semester. At BU, however, some faculty have publicly taken strong stances opposing administration policies. In August, Charles River and Medical School staff organized a protest caravan to push for a remote-work option for those who can work from home; free PPE for all BU students, staff, and faculty; and free COVID-19 testing to residents of the neighborhoods surrounding BU.

The last demand has not been met in Boston. At a recent Northeastern Task Force meeting, John Tobin, vice president for city and community affairs, explained that legally, the school's testing lab is not allowed to test people not affiliated with Northeastern.

Two assistant philosophy professors at BU, Russell Powell and Daniel Star, created the website allcaution.com for sharing feedback about their administration's policies. A repeated target of criticism is the reporting of COVID test results. Powell and Star say the percentages should reflect the number of people tested, not the number of tests. A recent post asked BU to report data on key questions, including:

- "What percentage of classes are operating in the hybrid mode?"
- In the classes that are operating in the hybrid mode, what percentage of students are attending in person?
- What percentage of instructors that are teaching their classes in the hybrid mode think they could provide a better learning environment for students if they were to instead teach remotely next semester (something that most are not presently permitted to do)?"

As planning starts for the spring semester, this data could be extremely useful.

Northeastern Pushes Projects

Gerald Autler, the BPDA planner long associated with reviewing development at Northeastern University, conducted a Northeastern Task Force meeting over Zoom on Sept. 22. The meeting touched on several initiatives.

840 Columbus Avenue
The design for the 925-bed tower at 840 Columbus Ave. has "evolved," according to Northeastern's campus planner Kathy Spiegelman. Previously Roxbury residents sharply criticized the building's size and height. But even with the design changes, the project remains huge, reaching 331 feet at penthouse height.

Some Task Force members also think the commitment to wealth development for Roxbury residents that was historically tied to this public parcel remains vague. Pat Flaherty of Mission Hill said that the so-called "flexibility" of the touted economic-development programs equal a lack of accountability.

The size of the proposed dorm could create a conflict between Fenway and Rox-

bury residents. Spiegelman said that the project will only net 175 new beds. The other 750 will replace existing beds in former Fenway apartments that Northeastern has converted into dorms over many years. No additional information was shared about the specific locations of those buildings.

Other updates
Vice President John Tobin and Spiegelman said that internal discussions have resumed about plans for Horticultural Hall at 300 Mass. Ave. and the Punters Pub site on Huntington Avenue. The office space formerly occupied by *Boston Magazine* at Horticultural Hall remains vacant and might become an additional student study area.

There will be a second Northeastern Task Force meeting and Boston Civic Design Commission review in October, but no dates have been announced. The annual University Accountability Report was due on October 1. It fulfills a legal requirement for sharing information with the City about current enrollment and lists the residences of students living off campus.

Owners of Building on Mission Hill's 'Fraternity Row' Win More Bedrooms

Another absentee landlord has won more bedrooms on Mission Hill. The owners of 190 Calumet St., a recently built two-family building at the top of the hill, went back to the Zoning Board of Appeals and applied to expand the first-floor apartment into the basement. Initial construction of the house in the side yard of an existing property required multiple variances in 2015.

The new permit will add two bedrooms to the six-bedroom house, a rental property on one of the neighborhood streets that have developed a "fraternity row" reputation.

The architect for the building, Tim Burke, said the landlord rents to young professionals, not to undergraduates.

At the Zoning Board meeting on Sept. 29, a representative of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services supported the project, despite opposition from two community groups, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services and the Community Alliance of Mission Hill.

Board member Mark Ehrlich made the motion to approve, although he said he did so with reluctance. After the other board members spoke in favor, chair Christine Araujo opposed the request, as she did not want to add density to the neighborhood.

Department of Neighborhood Services representative Shanice Pimentel stated that the applicant had received eleven letters of support and her office considered the increased density a minor change, which was not enough reason to oppose.

However, what Shanice Pimentel called "substantial abutter support" was later researched by Gary Walling, the elected

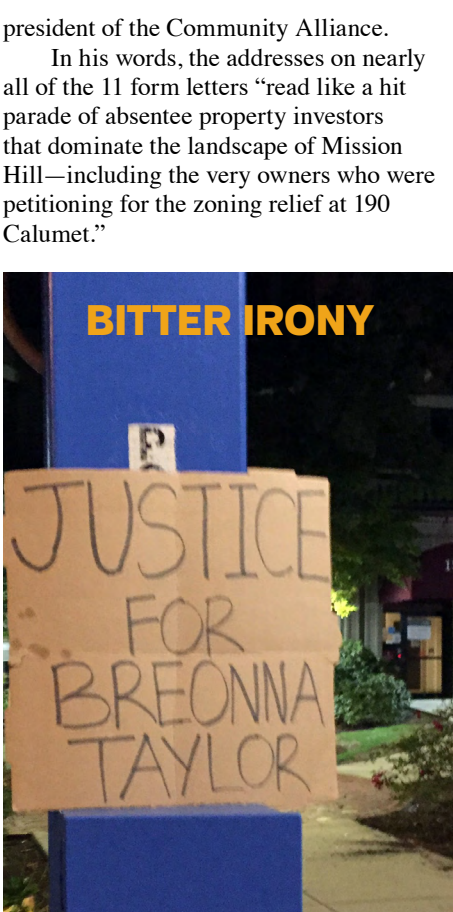


PHOTO: STEVE WOLF

Two days after a Kentucky grand jury failed to charge Louisville police with killing Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman shot during a mistaken raid on her home, this sign hung—on a police call box—outside Harvard School of Public Health housing on Park Drive.

Garden Light On Solstice Night

The Fenway Garden Society's security representatives, led by Bonnie Thryselius, organized "Take Back the Gardens" for the fall equinox, Sept. 22. Starting at dusk and running to 9pm, the evening brought community members into the gardens and the park after dark. Gardeners lit their plots with solar lights and battery-operated candles, hosted dinners with family and friends, and enjoyed the beauty and sounds of the night. It showed community at its best and demonstrated gardeners' resilience and creativity, despite their having to adhere to COVID guidelines. 48 FGS members checked in officially, but many more appear to have taken part.

PHOTO: BILLY BAIN

RECLAIMED SIDEWALKS, PART 1

A long fence bordering the Winsor School's athletic fields on Brookline Avenue has been rebuilt with horizontal ipe wood slats. The work wrapped up just in time for fall sports practices to begin. In addition, the sidewalk itself, which runs for several hundred feet across from the Shapiro Center at Beth Israel, was finally returned to public use after months of being closed for the fence work. The private girls' school has adopted a hybrid educational model for the fall; it cancelled athletic competitions but will allow club sports and team practices to continue.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NHM

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RECLAIMED SIDEWALKS, PART 2

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



After more than five years of construction work on the One Dalton hotel and luxury condos at Dalton and Belvidere streets, the sidewalk has finally reopened. There is intermittent striping for bikes alongside the building; it's unclear whether more work will be done on the street.

COVID TESTING

Fenway Health's COVID-19 testing tent has moved to the parking lot of the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral at 161 Kilmarnock St. Free tests are available to everyone; you don't have to be a Fenway Health patient. Testing takes place Monday-Friday, from 8am to 12 pm. Call (617) 927-6000 to make an appointment.



PHOTO: STEVE WOLF

About the only upside to our prolonged drought is that water-stressed trees can start showing fall colors early, like this maple in the Fens.

Up On The Roof: A Solar Boost

In July, the City of Boston began work to construct a solar PV canopy at Boston Police headquarters on Tremont Street, with generation tentatively slated to begin this fall. The 707 solar modules atop the carport structure will cut the power the main building draws from the grid by about 300,000 kWh annually, or the equivalent of the power to run roughly 40 homes in Massachusetts for a year, based on average annual use figures compiled by the US Energy Information Agency.



PHOTO: MAYOR'S OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & OPEN SPACE

MEETING ALERT

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has proposed installing parking meters along Park Drive (from Peterborough to Beacon), the Fenway (Boylston to Avenue Louis Pasteur) and Charlesgate East (Boylston to Newbury). DCR proposes to set rates at \$1.25 per hour but says it would honor resident parking stickers during the overnight hours. Meter income would support parks statewide. The agency will host virtual public meetings on Oct. 14 and 15 at 6:30pm to discuss this proposal. See page 11 for more information.

Resiliency Fund Doles Out Aid But Lacks Transparency

BY ALISON PULTINAS

In March, the City established the Boston Resiliency Fund as a division of the Boston Charitable Trust, an existing 501(c)(3)-designated fund managed by the City's Treasury Department.

Casey Brock-Wilson, director of strategic partnerships in the mayor's office, has stated that Vertex Pharmaceuticals launched the fund with a \$1 million donation. On the very first day, it received more than \$10 million from companies and foundations. Donations have come primarily from corporations, but individuals have also contributed.

The City has distributed generous grants to nonprofits on a rolling basis, twice a month, for pandemic-related relief. Organizations submit a short letter of interest, and a review committee of representatives from different City departments follows up. Grants have ranged from \$5,000 to \$1.25 million. The fund has distributed more than \$26.9 million to 348 nonprofits. According to Bonnie McGilpin, communications director at the BPDA, \$7.6 million remains in the account.

The City's website lists recipients but not the amounts given. After emailing the contact listed on the webpage (brf@boston.gov) with questions, a response came not from the Treasury Department or the press office but from the BPDA's McGilpin, who supplied these figures for Fenway-connected organizations.

- Judge Baker Children's Center: \$20,000 for weekly gift cards for food
- Fenway CDC: \$11,089 to collaborate with Fair Foods to distribute produce to 150 residents
- Fenway Health: \$60,000 for expanded coronavirus testing and \$30,000 to support telehealth services
- Caritas Communities: the organization serves the Fenway and received \$64,066
- Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age

Center: the Meals on Wheels provider for the Fenway, it received \$171,000

- Lifeboat Boston: \$7,370

In addition, McGilpin said, citywide grants to groups that serve the Fenway and Mission Hill include Fresh Truck, Greater Boston Latino Network, Greater Boston Food Bank, and others.

Mission Hill awardees included:

- Sociedad Latina: \$23,650 to assemble care packages of PPE for families and at-home kits with supplies and materials for their youth to participate in programming at home.
- Greater Boston Latino Network: \$275,000 to provide culturally competent support and information to the Latinx community across the city
- Whittier Street Health Center: \$60,000 for expanded testing and \$75,000 for expanded culturally sensitive outreach, enrollment, and linkage to testing and care
- Smart from the Start, Inc.: \$35,000
- MissionSAFE: \$10,000

City Councilor Michelle Wu, in a July 6 *Boston Globe* op-ed, questioned this old-style—some might call it paternalistic—approach to charity. "Our role is to serve not as a gatekeeper for grants but as a platform to organize for shared prosperity," she said.

Wu elaborated on her view subsequently on WGBH's Boston Public Radio program. "Whenever we're in a position where the mayor of Boston and the official platform of City Hall is soliciting money from donors [and] corporations, and then deciding which nonprofits get it in our city, that just creates a very disruptive and dangerous dynamic," Wu said. "Philanthropy is wonderful. We have a very generous city and a great deal of giving in Boston, but when that happens through city government instead of through nonprofits or foundations, we are distorting the political process."

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

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FENSVIEWS

IN MEMORIAM

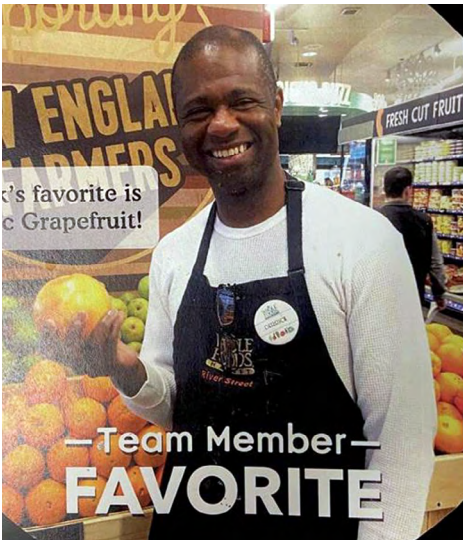
Derrick A. Johnson

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

East Fens resident Derrick A. Johnson died on August 26. He was 52. Derrick was well known for his kindness and his beautiful singing voice. He was originally from East St. Louis, Illinois, and he graduated from East St. Louis Senior High in 1985.

Derrick attended Berklee College of Music, where he was known for his singing voice. Scarlett Keys, a classmate, called him “one of the best singers and sweetest human beings I’ve known.” In one memorable performance, he sang *Ol’ Man River*—the Gershwin/Kern classic *Showboat*, written for the deepest bass voice—at Berklee to thunderous applause.

Derrick was an employee at Whole Foods Symphony for ten years. Both co-workers and customers remarked on his kindness and professional manner. He was a “wonderful, friendly, warm person,” said one shopper. Mali Sastri, another customer, wrote on a tribute page for Derrick, “I don’t know if he knew how much his enthusiasm and support



meant to me. I was one of those customers who would wait extra-long to be in his line—grateful for his warm smile and conversation.” Another customer said “Derrick was the person everyone loved,” while commenting on his tribute page.

Derrick was an active member of the choir at Annunciation Cathedral, and was reported to have the voice of an angel. Choir members remember him for his beautiful voice and smile.

Derrick was also an accomplished chess player. Visitors to Whole Foods, including Harold Brogan of the East Fens, remember his very penetrating discussions about chess. He had a spectacular knowledge of chess, said Brogan.

“His kindness will be missed,” said

Kate Finnegan of Kaji Aso Studio.

A funeral took place on Sept. 3 at the Davis Funeral home in Roxbury.

Derrick is survived by his mother and sister.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

IN MEMORIAM

Romin Koebel

BY CAROLINE AND PHILIP KOEBEL

Romin Koebel, Ph.D., ebullient patron of the Peterborough Senior Center for many years, long-time board member of the Fenway Community Development Corporation, and recent resident of Sherrill House nursing home, died on September 23. He was 85.

Dr. Koebel’s career as an architect turned “urbanist” spanned six decades, and he lived every minute of it: from his award-winning design of the city hall in Pforzheim, Germany, to his doctoral thesis on New York City zoning at MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning to faculty positions at The Ohio State University, University of Melbourne, Boston University, and other Massachusetts colleges to town planning ventures in Saugus, Hull, Wayland, Jubail, Saudi Arabia, and other municipalities.

Comfortable navigating cities the world over, Romin loved the Boston area, especially Olmsted’s Emerald Necklace parks. For many Boston-area students—at BU, or MIT’s Independent Activities Period, or the Boston Architectural Society—Professor Koebel’s lectures emphasized one life-long theme: “Natural areas and open space make cities better places to be in.”

In semi-retirement, Romin was an ambassador of the Fenway, its environs and its mixed-use development, particularly its cooperative housing, which is so important to the neighborhood’s many seniors and families. He rode the T into his late seventies to lend his distinctive voice in public comment on the “Big Dig” and other Boston area transportation



and development projects.

Romin was born August 10, 1935 in Loughton, England. Romin’s brother Michael was born in 1939. His parents were antifascist refugees from Germany, who returned to East Berlin after the war believing in the promise of socialism. When his father — folk hero Eberhard “Tusk” Koebel — died in 1955, his mother Gabriele moved the family to the West. Romin gained six step-siblings when his mother remarried widower Ernst Voos. Romin and his wife and their newborn son Philip emigrated to the United States in 1966. Daughter Caroline was born in New York City.

Before passing away, Romin was comforted by Fenway stalwart Jana Peretz and Philip from California, who arrived just in time. Caroline and family and friends shared loving memories and said their goodbyes via Skype. After surviving the coronavirus in May, Romin died from complications following a stroke.

Romin is survived by his former wife Suzanne, his children Philip and Caroline and their respective children in Pasadena, California, and Columbus, Ohio, his extended family abroad, and many devoted friends near and far.

Online services are planned for the coming months; an in-person memorial is hoped for next August, pandemic permitting. Please email to RominKoebelFamily@gmail.com for additional information on the online services and in-person memorial.

Philip Koebel lives in Pasadena, California. Caroline Koebel lives in Columbus, Ohio.

In Kenmore Square, Signs of the Time

BY ALISON BARNET

Much of Kenmore Square today is almost unrecognizable, with all the construction fencing and real estate signs. Still the “historic,” “iconic” CITGO sign reigns. It would be hard to picture Kenmore Square without it. But I can!

I was an English major at BU and already fussy about language when the CITGO sign went up in 1965, replacing the earlier green-and-white Cities Service sign—the oil and gas company’s original name—and a Kenmore Square fixture since 1940. I always liked the straightforwardness of the name Cities Service, a good description. There was also the interesting White Fuel sign atop the Buckminster Hotel with its oil derricks spraying colored lights.

In contrast to Cities Service, the name CITGO seemed contrived, silly, and similar to all the countless one-word words that have come into use since then, like SoWa, and portmanteau words like healthcare, many inspired by the internet. I like Trader Joe’s ad: the CITGO triangle with a huge triangle of Swiss cheese inside.

What’s now Kenmore Square was once Sewall’s Point, an uninhabited swamp originally “on the marshy shore of Brookline” (Patrick L. Kennedy). After

the Mill Dam was built from 1818 to 1821 across the Back Bay to today’s Kenmore Square, it changed “the shape of Boston more completely than any other single undertaking” [Walter Muie Whitehill]. Beacon Street became a roadway over the Mill Dam, but even as late as 1880, Kenmore Square was only sparsely developed.

By 1890, the Back Bay landfill project reached Kenmore Square, for the first time fully connecting it with parts of the city to the east. By 1910, Kenmore Square was the meeting of two major boulevards and known as Governor’s Square [Kennedy]. Governor’s Square was renamed Kenmore Square in 1932, after the transit station.

As a BU student, I walked through Kenmore Square twice every day in the mid-1960s on my way to and from the South End. As I and a friend passed J. S. Waterman’s funeral home on Commonwealth Ave., we always exchanged greetings with a man who stood outside. When one morning he wasn’t there, I went inside to inquire and found out he had died.

Many years later, there was another funeral home, whose name escapes me, at the other end of the Waterman’s block, and I’ll never forget this story. I was working for

KENMORE on next page >

THE Fenway News

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“Comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable.”

The founders of The Fenway News adopted this motto to express their mission of exposing and opposing the dangers the neighborhood faced in the early 1970s—rampant arson, predatory landlords, and a destructive urban renewal plan. If the original motto no longer fits today’s Fenway, we remain committed to its spirit of identifying problems and making our neighborhood a better and safer place to live.

> FREQUENCY <

The Fenway News reaches distribution sites on the Friday closest to the first of each month. Our next issue will appear on **Friday, October 30.**

> DEADLINE <

The deadline for letters, news items, and ads for our next issue is **Friday, October 23.**

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FENS VIEWS

Are Colleges’ COVID Protocols Tough Enough? Residents Weigh In

Students moved back to Boston last month, but this school year is anything but usual. Instead of relying solely on dorms, colleges and universities have leased space in hotels and apartment buildings to ensure that students are properly socially distanced. Colleges and universities have put testing requirements into place and have severely limited the number of students allowed to socialize at one time. Move-in dates were staggered, and most classes offer remote-learning options.

In one nationally publicized instance, Northeastern University

dismissed 11 first-year students caught without masks and ignoring distancing rules at a university-leased room at the Westin Hotel. In addition to their not being allowed to continue the semester from home, the university initially told the students their tuition would not be refunded. However, Northeastern later relented and agreed to refund the money.

The Fenway News asked residents how they feel about the students’ returning and how they feel about the approach area colleges and universities has taken to keeping students—and the community—safe.

HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL WITH THE STUDENTS BACK?

I feel safe with the students coming back.
JOHN O’NEILL

I do not feel safe with the students back.
SHERRIE LOOKNER

We were very concerned about the students returning. But the students seem to be wearing their masks on the sidewalks, which is a good sign. We’ve heard very few parties and are glad to know that the Boston Police Department set up a special line to report student parties. —**BRIAN CLAGUE**

I have mixed feelings regarding the return of students. It’s great to have them back—it really brings back a sense of normalcy. I am glad our small neighborhood businesses can thrive again. On the other hand, it gives me uneasiness. They don’t practice social distancing. When I go to the local parks, they congregate without any masks. I assume the spread of COVID will get worse before it gets better. —**VIVIAN KARGBO**

Not very. It is just too big an influx, from too many parts of the country that have not been at all committed to even the most basic safety measures. I am somewhat reassured by the low infection rates, but I think the danger lies in the coming weeks, as students get further into the semester and start to feel like no one is watching anymore. The New York Times is tracking college infection rates nationally, and it’s clear that many of the new infections on the east coast are directly related to college students.

There are too many college students living off-campus to feel like we are not at risk. It is especially frustrating after the hard work that we did here in Massachusetts to keep people alive and well.—**JOANNE MCKENNA**

In my neighborhood, on Hemenway Street and Westland Ave., I feel safe. But on Huntington Ave. at the Christian Science Center, groups of six or more sit or roam together, causing me to move into the street to social distance. Masks are worn, but I do not trust them 100 percent. —**BARBARA FAY**

I feel safe with all of Northeastern’s student body returning to class. Still, as a parent, I wouldn’t send my child to any brick-and-mortar education program, be it primary or higher education. Boston Public Schools ought to be 100 percent remote.

I have inside connections at Northeastern and know the university is taking extraordinary measures to test students and faculty every three days. I’ve seen the actual documents required to be on campus. Students testing positive are housed in a separate-entranced section of Davenport Hall—a brand new, sprawling, well-appointed building on Columbus Avenue. My friend, a faculty member, took me through a tour of sophisticated bar-coded mobile phone IDs required to enter any building. These IDs are WiFi-connected, even telling University’s security the holder is on campus. —**LUIS TORRES**

DO YOU THINK THAT OVERALL COLLEGES HAVE HANDLED THE PANDEMIC WELL?

Many of us as a neighborhood feel anger and unease about the handling of Boston University’s plans for handling their positive COVID cases.

BU has chosen to take everyone with COVID-19 and place them on their newly acquired Fenway Campus housing on Pilgrim Road and Riverway. There are private residences from 100-122 Riverway and 0-19 Pilgrim Road. And the most accessible parking is located right at this quarantine housing. These isolation buildings are located right at our vehicles and sidewalks. There are crews walking around in head-to-toe hazmat suits. There is nothing comfortable about living amongst this setting.

BU, in our opinion, is NOT acting as a good neighbor, as they have created a COVID-19 colony at our back door. There was ZERO communication of these plans on safety protocols, and how or why the neighborhood should feel safe. —**ANONYMOUS**

No, and the fact that Boston College has already had a spike shows that they should not have been allowed to set their own rules. I think at a minimum colleges and universities simply should not have been allowed to let students live off-campus in private housing. The idea of 800 freshmen living in an off-campus hotel is ridiculous, and the fact that colleges needed to set up quarantine dorms points to the fact that they should not have come back at all. If they could not keep students safe on campus, why did they push them out into the community where they make residents unsafe? I am grateful that Berklee College of Music respected their students, faculty and neighbors and stayed remote. I wish Boston University and Northeastern would have done the same. —**JOANNE MCKENNA**

Short of going 100 percent remote, which is the answer, the safest and right way to go; overall, I believe the universities are handling the health crisis well informed and conscientiously. —**LUIS TORRES**

I think BU and Northeastern are handling things well. The BU testing efforts are truly impressive. The Northeastern efforts at lowering of student population density is helpful. What’s going on at BC is quite frightening. Kudos to Berklee for keeping their campus closed for right now. I don’t know what’s happening at the other colleges, and we remain quite worried about the whole issue of the students returning. The colleges did fail miserably at impressing upon the parents the necessity of wearing masks during the move-in process. I don’t think I saw a single parent wearing a mask during move-in. Our neighborhood has had one of the lowest COVID rates in the city, and we know it’s because the students have been gone. For that reason, we remain quite concerned about their return. —**BRIAN CLAGUE**

They should have police on the street talking to students about safety protocols.
SHERRIE LOOKNER

I think overall the colleges are handling the pandemic well.
JOHN O’NEILL

I think the colleges are not educating the students about how to be healthier, how to improve the health of their internal immune system by encouraging nutrient-dense organic food, clean water, and stretching and exercise. See TheBodyisMedicine.com for recommendations for health. —**BOB COOLEY**

I’m not sure bringing students back was the best decision. I do not think colleges have done a great job, but it’s really through no fault of theirs. It’s impossible to say definitively what is best. I think they are putting their best foot forward despite the impossible task they face. —**VIVIAN KARGBO**

Yes, at least they have a plan, unlike our president. Enforcing it will take a lot of staff and cost a lot of money. The federal government should be helping with funds for the schools. Testing is crucial, but can cause false confidence. —**BARBARA FAY**

DID NORTHEASTERN HANDLE THE SOCIAL-DISTANCING-VIOLATION INCIDENT PROPERLY?

I believe Northeastern’s reaction was harsh. However, I completely understand why they felt obligated to take this approach.
VIVIAN KARGBO

I think Northeastern handled the social distancing violation correctly, but I feel badly for the parents.
JOHN O’NEILL

It is hard to tell. We know what they did in the immediate aftermath, which was great – but then when they almost immediately caved on tuition loss – that certainly sent a mixed message, especially since it seemed they were well within their rights to do it. We don’t know how they are currently monitoring the students living in the hotel, and we certainly don’t know how they are monitoring all the students living off-campus. I am staggered by how little control the City and State claimed to have over the universities. If the Mayor call tell private employers that they have to keep their employees out of the city, and then could only bring 25 percent of their workforce back, how on earth was he powerless to say the same thing to the colleges and universities? —**JOANNE MCKENNA**

Northeastern handled the student violations at the Westin very well. I’m glad they sent the kids home. I’m glad they initially refused to refund the tuition. That all sent a very loud, clear message to other students, and their parents, about the necessity of following COVID safety protocols. It doesn’t bother me that Northeastern later decided to apply the tuition to the next semester, because the initial refusal to do so is what might shock parents into impressing upon their kids that they simply must abide by public health guidelines if they want to go to school in person. I never thought I’d say this, but bravo to Northeastern for their handling of the Westin issue. —**BRIAN CLAGUE**

Glad they handled it this way as an example...College kids are kids. Where was Northeastern’s supervision at the hotel? —**BARBARA FAY**

> **KENMORE** from previous page

a lawyer who was involved in a real estate closing there. Making small talk before the formalities, he commented on what a good job the developer had done converting the old funeral home. The buyers fled.

Mid-block was Dr. Ernest P. Davidow’s office, an OB/GYN who courageously prescribed birth control for unmarried

women at a time when doing so was illegal.

In my last year at BU I lived at the Charlesview, an apartment building at 534 Commonwealth Ave. I remember the Kenmore Square movie theater across the street at 660 Beacon (no bookstore yet), and all kinds of practical places: the Kenmore Pharmacy, a shoe repair shop, optical shop, bank, and BU dorms as well as dorms for the Chandler School for

Women—an old-fashioned concept now. I walked past Walton Lunch. Along with Waldorf’s, Walton’s was one of a chain of “lunch systems” or cafeterias. Now it’s a Bank of America. There was also Brigham’s, where I went every night for an ice cream cone and gained a lot of weight. I never went to the “Rat,” the Rathskeller, at 528 Commonwealth Ave., which, with a number of other buildings, was replaced

by BU’s Commonwealth Hotel in the early 2000s.

In 1967, another sign appeared in Kenmore Square: Louise Day Hicks, South Boston opponent of school busing, running against Kevin White for mayor of Boston, declaring “You Know Where I Stand.” I was shocked to see this in Boston.

Alison Barnet lives in the South End.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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



As our faithful readers know, we were following the protests over a plan to cut more than 120 trees along Melnea Cass Boulevard before the *Boston Globe* got ahold of the story last month. Yes, the boulevard needs a makeover to improve bike and pedestrian infrastructure [objectively terrible], but the wholesale removal of trees required under the City's current plan has riled tree huggers and environmental-justice advocates alike. The *Globe* published multiple letters in support of the protestors following its story. A pediatrician from Children's Hospital, who's also affiliated with Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health, wrote that "The road was built on the rubble of homes occupied by people of color, and knocking down trees would double down on this racist legacy. Tree loss would worsen air quality and increase heat in one of the hottest spots in the city, damaging the health of the predominantly Black and Latinx community around Melnea Cass." 🌿 **Speaking of Children's Hospital, CEO Sandra Fenwick announced that she'll retire in 2021 after seven years at the hospital's helm.** 🌿 The delicious spectacle of former development partners brawling over the collapse of a deal for Air Rights Parcel 15 got even tastier last month. In August, a judge green-lighted a lawsuit by John Fish, owner of Suffolk Construction, against developers Stephen and Adam Weiner. In it, Fish claims the Weiners cost him a gazillion dollars by backing out of the deal in 2019. The father-and-son team shot back with their own filing in September, arguing that Fish killed the deal himself by failing, among other things, to secure an air rights lease from the State and by his inability to satisfy lenders, largely because he pledged his stake in Suffolk to secure loans, even though its debts minimized the company's value as collateral. ICYMI saved the best line for last, just like *Globe* columnist Larry Edelman: In dissolving the deal, "Stephen Weiner did John Fish a huge favor" the Weiners' new filing asserts, "when he saved John Fish from himself." 🍷

Phase 2 of Parcel 25 Work Begins in Mission Hill



In mid-September, the City, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services, and Boston Children's Hospital announced that construction has started on the second of three phases in the redevelopment of Parcel 25. Phase 2 will add 46 new units of affordable housing, underground parking, and a pedestrian plaza to the once-vacant former MBTA property across from the Roxbury Crossing T stop. When completed, the building will include 11 units affordable to households earning 30 percent of AMI (area median income), with set-asides for formerly homeless families and households with disabilities. One unit will be affordable for a household at 31 to 50 percent of AMI, and 34 units will be affordable to households earning less than 60 percent of AMI.

STREET CLEANING & TRASH PICK-UP

TRASH & RECYCLING PICK-UP

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

STREET CLEANING

The **CITY OF BOSTON** has resumed ticketing of cars parked in street-cleaning zones, but it hasn't resumed towing ticketed cars. Check the City website for pandemic restrictions at <https://bit.ly/2KJ3TXV>.

The **DCR** cleans state-owned streets along the Back Bay Fens on this schedule:

- **SECOND THURSDAY**
8:00am-12:00pm: The Riverway

• SECOND FRIDAY

- > 8:00am-noon: The Fenway from Ave. Louis Pasteur to Westland [includes inside lane] + Forsyth Way
- > 12:00-3:00pm: 8 to 54 The Fenway [includes inside lane] + Boylston + Charlesgate East + Charlesgate Extension

• THIRD TUESDAY

- > 8:00am-noon : Park Drive from Boylston St. to Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral [includes inside lane] + upper Boylston Street
- > 12:00-3:00pm: Park Drive from Holy Trinity to The Pierce, then from D Line overpass to Beacon Street

Visit <https://www.mass.gov/doc/fenway/download>

Neighborhood Newsline

Developer Hits Pause on Kenmore Hotel Plan

In September, Damian Chaviano of Mark Development withdrew the developer's proposed high-rise Kenmore Hotel from further Public Improvement Commission (PIC) review to, in his words, "fine-tune the overall design." That halted the controversial plan to redesign traffic patterns for Beacon Street and Commonwealth Avenue in the Square for the time being. However, Chaviano said that, "hopefully before the end of the year, we'll be back before you [the PIC]." Aisling Kerr has become BPDA project manager, taking the place of Tim Czerwinski, who has become planning director for the town of Milton.

Organizers Plan More BLM Standouts

Longtime West Fens resident Margaret Witham, together with the Mandela Legacy Committee, organized three Black Lives Matter standouts in the West and East Fens over the summer. At all three events, the committee set up a table and distributed flyers and BLM t-shirts. Several residents stopped by the tables to applaud the efforts, passing cars honked their horns in support. More standouts are planned for early fall.

Comments on 819 Beacon Proposal Due October 9

Developer SCAPE has proposed another project at 819 Beacon St., this one with roughly 280,000 square feet of mixed uses. It will include approximately 450 housing units, 53 patient-family housing units operated in partnership with Boston Children's Hospital, and 209 parking spaces. SCAPE filed a Project Notification Form with the BPDA on September 9 and addressed the first Impact Advisory Group meeting on September 14. The public comment period ends October 9. Send comments to Eddie Carmody, BPDA project manager, at edward.carmody@boston.gov.

Farmers Market Will Offer Vouchers to Boost Sales

Mass Farmers Markets (MFM), in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Food Access, has received a grant from the Boston Resiliency Fund to support the operation of farmers markets in the city for the 2020 season. As a result of the grant, MFM created the City of Boston Neighborhood Farmers Market Resiliency Program. The program will offer farmers market shoppers, including at the Mission Hill and Copley Square markets (see box, below), \$2.50 vouchers through October 9. Available to anyone at the farmers market, the vouchers can be used to buy fruits, vegetables, eggs, dairy, meat, or fish at the market—no qualification required.

As It Reopens, MFA Also Faces Union Organizing

In September, labor organizers working with employees at the Museum of Fine Arts filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board to hold a new union election, potentially to join UAW Local 2110. The move could affect hundreds of administrative, technical, and curatorial employees. A book about the Museum Independent Security Union for MFA guards, written by Michael Raysson, appeared last spring. The description of *The Art Of Organizing: The Boston Museum of Fine Arts Union Drives* says that "After a long, hard-fought battle, the workers won their election and became proud union members. But in time, they realized that the International was corrupt and in the back pocket of the museum [administrators]. Now the workers faced the toughest battle in labor: to quietly mount a campaign that would vote out the corrupt union and vote in a new independent one before the International could take over the local. It was a one-in-a-thousand chance. It was a chance they had to take." However, MISU's hard fought four-year contract, won in 2016, ended June 30. No word yet whether there is a separately negotiated new contract for the guards or if they might join Local 2110, if the new organizing effort succeeds.

Local Schools Make National College Rankings

US News & World Report announced its 2020 college rankings in September. On the list of national universities, Boston University ranked 42nd, Northeastern University ranked 49th, and Simmons University ranked 133rd.

Drop a Dime on Northeastern Students

Neighborhood residents who observe unsafe student gatherings— large groups not wearing masks and disregarding social distancing—should report them by calling (617) 373-TIPS or emailing SVCstudentaffairs@northeastern.edu.

NE Design Closes in the West Fens

NE Design T-Shirts, formerly located on Jersey Street, has closed after 30 years. The business previously offered branding and screen printing services.

Arts and Culture COVID Fund Grantees Announced

In early September, the City announced that they had awarded \$815,000 in grants to 146 local arts and cultural organizations as part of the Arts and Culture COVID-19 Fund. This fund, made available by the City of Boston's allocated CARES Act funding, was established earlier this summer to support small and mid-sized arts and culture nonprofits in adapting their programs, spaces, and operating models as a result of COVID-19. Local grantees include the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, the Longwood Symphony Orchestra, Kaji Aso Studio, and Sociedad Latina.

BPL Staffers Balk at Plan to Pull Book Ordering from Branches

The Boston Public Library Professional Staff Association, a union representing library workers, recently expressed concern about the Library's new system for purchasing books. The librarians in the branches have traditionally been responsible for ordering books for their community. However, the Library has a Collection Development department, which is now in charge of ordering for the entire system. The Library has cited changes in workflow, budgets, and ordering frequency due to COVID-19 as the reason for this change. Branch staff believe taking decision-making away from frontline librarians are the best people to decide which books to acquire for their branches.

Pandemic Shutdown Means Theater Work Can Start Early

With its 2020–21 season postponed, the Huntington Theatre's renovation project can move forward earlier than originally planned. The company expects to begin prior to the start of construction on the high-rise next door. The first baby step involved securing a groundwater conservation overlay district permit, which the Zoning Board approved on Sept. 29. Because all of the adjacent buildings sit atop wood pilings sunk into filled land, the City requires the permit to ensure that groundwater levels don't drop as a result of the construction. (If groundwater drops, exposing the wood to air, the pilings will rot and buildings begin to sink.) The project, led by Shawmut Construction, will renovate the façade and existing four-story backstage section of the theater. The Huntington will need to raise more money to proceed with all of the renovation plans and has applied for cultural facilities grants and other funding. Meanwhile, the high-rise developer filed the results of Tier II toxic-waste testing with the State. An observation well dug at 252 Huntington found tetrachlorethylene, known as PCE, but engineers from Haley and Aldrich determined there was no imminent hazard to nearby residents.

Farmers Markets

It's a great time of year for apples, pears, and cranberries. Also look for broccoli, carrots, and butternut squash. And, of course, pumpkins.

ROXBURY CROSSING T STATION (ORANGE LINE)		
Tuesday & Friday		11:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
COPLEY SQUARE		
Tuesday & Friday		11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
BRIGHAM CIRCLE		
Thursday		11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

TRANSPO WOES!

Recent MBTA decisions to cut service on the 55 bus route and move a bus stop on Mass. Ave. both took place without community input. The changes—and lack of public process—have riled many Fenwickians. *The Fenway News* publishes letters and an essay reflecting residents’ concerns.

Open Letter: Sited With No Community Input, New Bus Shelter Poses Health Risks

DEAR COUNCILOR BOK,

We write you on behalf of the First Fenway Cooperative, 143-149 Mass. Ave. in the Fenway, a limited-equity housing cooperative with 12 units. Our building has commercial units on the ground floor and residential units above. In 2019, we paid \$122,625.52 in real estate taxes to Boston.

As you are well aware, our neighborhood is undergoing rapid change, with the Samuels project beginning near the site of Hynes Green Line station, proximate to our 1894 Arthur Vinal[-designed] building.

This construction will have consequential disruptions regarding noise, pedestrian and vehicular traffic, air quality, commercial curtailment, physical effects on nearby buildings, and infestation.

We are writing because a bus

shelter has been built on the sidewalk just next to our apartments, near the corner of Mass. Ave. and Boylston. We were not provided with any notice about this decision. We believe this location is extremely ill-advised and will result in significant pedestrian congestion [the shelter leaves little sidewalk room at one of the busiest pedestrian spaces in Boston]. The shelter serves bus line #1, one the 15 busiest bus lines operated by the MBTA. It will promote air pollution and noise for our nearby apartments as buses stop, idle while loading [large numbers of people will wait for the bus here after walking over from the Green Line], and then accelerate to depart. Studies confirm an increase in air pollution near bus stops, and exhaust is particularly dangerous to health. The noise of buses braking and accelerating also contributes to ill health. Our building is not a high-rise, and our



The new bus shelter at Mass. Ave. and Boylston Street.

windows are not sealed like those in newer buildings.

We were not contacted about this significant change prior to the bus stop’s being used, and we strongly object to this siting.

We suggest that a much more preferable site for this bus stop is on Mass. Ave at Newbury Street. There is less residential impact, less pedestrian congestion, and the walk to and from the Green Line to the bus is shorter.

Finally, individuals who are

homeless, often struggling with problems such as substance use disorder, gather at the bus stop due to the lack of services and support.

We appreciate your assistance in bringing about a reconsideration, and, in the absence of a reversal, a meeting with the appropriate parties to discuss this decision.

(SIGNED)
BOB CASE, OSLA DEFIGUEIREDO-CASE, PATRICIA HARRIELL, YVONNE HORNE, JOANNE MCKENNA, JOHN PETER, KARLA RIDEOUT, ROSARIA SALERNO, AND JESSICA SORKIN

Route 55 Represents a Lifeline for Residents, Businesses

BY CONRAD CISZEK

The MBTA 55 bus route is a vital lifeline and link to residents of and visitors to the West Fenway, East Fenway, Back Bay, Bay Village, Beacon Hill, and Downtown Crossing neighborhoods of Boston. Most notably,

GUEST OPINION

the route is a link between the West and East portions of the Fenway. Many West and East Fenway residents utilize this bus route as a shuttle between the corner points of their neighborhood district to patronize businesses, attend medical appointments, and to make transportation connections to other local destination points and beyond.

While the East and West Fenway neigh-

borhoods may be viewed as in close proximity, making them walkable, many elderly and disabled residents may be unable to walk this distance. Moreover, many residents—regardless of age, agility, and health condition—rely on the bus route during inclement weather or to assist in carrying bundles accumulated from shopping in these respective areas. In fact, there are many instances where despite my fortunate health condition and capacity to walk, I have utilized this bus to transport myself and my accumulated packages and during periods of inclement weather.

When my late mother used to visit me, we would always take the 55 bus to patronize the movies, restaurants, and shops in the West Fenway or to go and from points in downtown Boston or Copley Square. Given her age and

health, she was unable to walk to the West Fenway. and the 55 bus served her visits well. Without the 55 bus, neither she nor I would have been able to benefit from the products and services of the small and large businesses in the West Fenway and other neighborhoods and they would have lost valuable business.

I was quite appalled to learn of the abrupt service reductions to the 55 bus, which I read about in a newspaper. There was no notice! There was no consultation of the residents of these neighborhoods, nor was there an invitation for community meetings for input! Why did the MBTA feel that they did not need to consult nor include the community in this decision?

The bizarre reduction of evening and midday service along with services to downtown Boston provide a tremendous disservice to residents and visitors and employees who live, work, and patronize these neighborhoods. Residents in the East and West Fenway utilize the 55 bus to commute to Copley Square or Downtown Crossing as it is an alternative to walking up and down the stairs and the other difficulties they may be subjected to using the Green Line. The 55 bus provides a one-stop ride from the West Fenway connecting it to many vital neighborhoods in the city and to downtown Boston. Many elderly and disabled prefer the 55 bus, as it is a much easier option of transportation.

The abrupt service cut provides not only a disservice to the residents of these neighborhoods, but also to many businesses

small and large and their employees situated in the West and East Fenway and adjacent neighborhoods. All of these stakeholders will be subjected to irreparable harm through the reduction of service, which will result in reduced traffic, patronage, and utilization of the products and services of the retailers in these neighborhoods. Businesses already negatively impacted by the pandemic will only be harmed further by these service cuts.

While the MBTA claims to be suffering hardships due to the economic downturn and the pandemic, it could hardly be stated that the continued operation of the 55 bus for a couple of hours in the evening and on weekdays and extending it to serve downtown represents a significant expenditure. The 55 bus under the previous schedule format comprised of one bus, one driver, and a minimal level of fuel.

I believe wholeheartedly that the MBTA has inflicted significant unnecessary harm on members of these neighborhoods for what are miniscule cost savings. Moreover, I believe that there are many other areas of operations and services that the MBTA could examine in its quest to reduce its costs. The 55 bus is a miniscule expenditure, but it is a vital service that many rely on. Therefore, I encourage fellow residents to contact the MBTA to let them know that you would like to see this service restored! Last, I encourage the MBTA to restore the 55 to its previous service levels and look elsewhere for cost reductions.

Conrad Ciszek lives in the East Fens.



Virtual Public Meeting

Simmons University
2019 IMP Projects

Monday, October 5
6:30 - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3kdc9PI
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 266 4061

Project Proponent:
Simmons University

Project Description:
Virtual meeting of the Longwood Medical Area Forum to discuss the Simmons University IMP Projects, including the mixed-use Living and Learning Center project.

This meeting will be held using Zoom. Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

mail to: Edward Carmody
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4422
email: edward.carmody@boston.gov

Close of Comment
Period:
10.14.2020

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

LETTER TO MBTA GEN. MANAGER STEVE POFTAK

Thank you for all your work in the Commonwealth during these difficult times. Our transportation system is faced with significant challenges in terms of resources, funding, and capacity—all of which have been exacerbated during COVID-19.

We write to you as concerned elected officials who have been made aware of recent cuts to MBTA bus #55 which are likely to have a detrimental effect on some of our most vulnerable communities. The #55 bus is a lifeline to many disabled and elderly folks living in the Fenway. Many utilize the #55 bus’s convenient route to do their daily food shopping, get to doctor’s appointments, or run other essential errands.

Prior to these cuts, the #55 bus would run all day, providing a safe, convenient, and accessible method of transportation for senior citizens and other residents of the Fenway. Our constituents were able to ride the #55 bus at any time of day, avoiding crowded peak times to protect themselves from potential COVID-19 infection.

These service cuts may lead to overcrowding of the #55 bus during peak hours, creating a heightened risk of infection. This harms our elderly and disabled constituents who are most at risk for contracting the disease.

Unfortunately, alternative forms of transportation are not viable for many folks in this population. For many in the West Fenway, Kenmore Square is too far to get to, preventing access to alternative bus routes or accessing the subway. Additionally, constituents have reported difficult accessing The Ride, citing long wait times, a shortage of drivers, and safety concerns regarding the pandemic.

We respectfully request that you reconsider the #55 bus schedule change and re-institute the previous, full-day schedule.

We are also eager to work with you around how to mitigate the aspects of the changes that are having the hardest impacts. Our public transit network should be prioritizing our elderly and vulnerable riders.

(SIGNED) WILL BROWNSBERGER, STATE SENATOR; JON SANTIAGO, STATE REPRESENTATIVE; KENZIE BOK, BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR



To Our Mission Hill and Fenway Neighbors:

The five Colleges of the Fenway (COF) have been your neighbors for almost 200 years. We have been through thick and thin—tough economies, wars and now, a pandemic. Despite these challenges, we have survived and thrived because we have worked together to create a healthy and vibrant Mission Hill and Fenway.

As college students return to our City, we understand the importance of protecting the health and safety of the communities that surround our campuses. In developing and implementing our campus reentry plans, the COF works with local and state public health officials, medical and public health experts, our Director of Environmental Health & Safety, and our Director of Emergency Management. Additionally, we are taking guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). Our main objectives are to ensure the health and safety of our communities and comply with local, state and federal guidelines for operating during the health crisis, while delivering a quality education to our students.

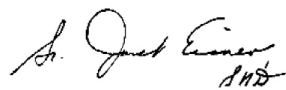
Our role as active partners in helping to contain the Commonwealth’s COVID-19 caseload depends on cooperation by all, including in our local neighborhoods. To that end, we expect our campus communities to comply with COVID-safe behavior both on and off our campuses, and are promoting the importance of social distancing, limiting social gatherings, wearing of face coverings when in neighborhoods, practicing good hygiene (particularly frequent handwashing), and other best practices.

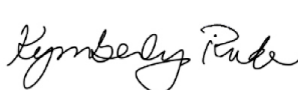
Here are details especially important to our Mission Hill and Fenway communities:

- Of our five member institutions (Emmanuel College, MassArt, MCPHS University, Simmons University, and Wentworth Institute of Technology) Simmons University and Emmanuel College are remote for the fall 2020 semester, with limited or no students living on their campuses. The remaining universities have greatly reduced on-campus learning by nearly 60 percent, with the majority of classes being offered remotely.
- Many students who returned to campus at MassArt, MCPHS and Wentworth are in single rooms
- We have received positive feedback from the Boston Public Health Commission on our reentry plans, including:
 - > Reduced on-campus operations
 - > Significant investment in testing of students, faculty, staff and vendors that is providing more routine testing for people in the city
 - > Development of teams within and across the institutions who regularly share information and best practices
 - > Education and monitoring of students to ensure compliance with COVID-19 protection guidelines, with consequences—up to and including suspension—for those who do not comply
- Ongoing commitment to work with community partners and advance community and City of Boston educational programs, including new and innovative ways to engage virtually

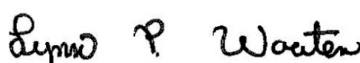
By working together, we can manage this crisis and continue to support our vibrant neighborhoods. We are investing significantly in testing to support the public health of the City and remain transparent in our efforts. We stand ready and together with you and with the City of Boston.

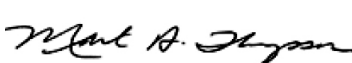
To review the re-entry plans for each campus, visit www.colleges-fenway.org.


SISTER JANET EISNER, SND
PRESIDENT, EMMANUEL COLLEGE


KYMBERLY PINDER, Ph.D.
ACTING PRESIDENT, MASSART


RICHARD LESSARD
INTERIM PRESIDENT, MCPHS UNIVERSITY


LYNN PERRY WOOTEN
PRESIDENT, SIMMONS UNIVERSITY


MARK A. THOMPSON
PRESIDENT, WENTWORTH INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

Open, or Reopened, for Business in Mission Hill

Tbaar Mission Hill recently opened at 754 Huntington Ave. (near right). The juice, boba tea, and dessert franchise will be operated by Yanning Huang. The chain has other locations in Brookline, Chinatown, and Quincy. The small space—formerly Green T Coffee shop, which closed in 2018—has undergone a speedy renovation. A five-minute walk away, on the short block of Smith Street off of Huntington Avenue, Squealing Pig, which closed in March, has reopened its doors.



PHOTOS: ALISON PULTINAS

Fenway Residents Launch Cocktail Mixes for the COVID Era

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN HARRINGTON



BY KELLY GARRITY

When the coronavirus pandemic hit, many bars and restaurants across Boston suffered devastating financial blows, forcing owners to close their doors for good. Despite the expansion of outdoor dining and reintroduction of indoor dining at the end of June, restaurateurs still face difficult choices about whether or not to stay open. Patrons have lost out as well, as they face limited dining and drinking options and are forced to bid farewell to cherished pubs and eateries.

West Fenway residents Dan Brett and Bobby Harrington hope to help solve both sides of this problem. At the end of August, Brett and Harrington launched a new platform, dubbed Dan Harrington, which offers monthly cocktail-kit subscriptions created and sourced by restaurants in and around

you can get wine, but the one thing you really can't get is one of those really good cocktails that you love getting at restaurants," said Brett.

Before restaurants were allowed to sell cocktails to-go in late July, they were creating kits for customers to take home, but Brett pointed out that patrons weren't necessarily aware of their availability.

"Some customers knew about them, but there wasn't that large of a reach," said Brett, "so our goal was to expose consumers in Boston to a bunch of different cocktail kits from bars and restaurants that they might not be familiar with. They could try them out, [and] if they like them, hopefully the response from there is they'll go and eat and drink at these bars and restaurants."

The pair got the idea for the name from a mentor, who recommended that they name the service as if it was a new

Blossom Bar's broken spanish cocktail mixer, delivered by Dan Harrington.

Boston.

"One of things that we were thinking when we were sitting at home was that you can go to your neighborhood liquor store and get beer and

at-home cocktail, like a lime rickey.

"So we were jumping through all these different names," said Harrington, and "he [the mentor] was like, 'What if you did Danny's first name and your last name—call it Dan Harrington,'" said Harrington.

"I haven't quite been able to say the name totally seriously yet," added Brett. "In some aspects it's definitely a vanity project," he laughed.

The cocktail kits do not include alcohol (Brett and Harrington don't have a liquor license at the moment), but they do come with all the other ingredients necessary to create a restaurant-quality craft cocktail in your home. The platform lists the kits by the type of alcohol that should be added, with options for tequila, rum, whiskey or "bartender's choice," the last of which Brett said has been the most popular so far. Each \$40 cocktail package includes two different drink kits. Each kit makes five drinks. Kits

can be ordered online at available at <https://www.danharringtondrink.com>.

Brett and Harrington deliver the kits themselves, including promotional materials and information about the bars, with the hope that customers will be encouraged to dine and drink in-person as well.

The pair hopes their service will continue to help restaurants not only as the colder weather starts to limit outdoor drinking capabilities for restaurants, but even in a post-COVID world.

"Even when there's a vaccine out, I think COVID has definitely changed a lot of consumers' eating and drinking habits, and how we think of the restaurant experience. So I think even in the future more people are going to be thinking, 'I want to take some of that restaurant experience and put it in the comfort of my home if I have that option,'" said Brett.

Kelly Garrity is a journalism student at Northeastern University.



Virtual Public Meeting

819 Beacon Street

Wednesday, October 7
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3bZFNF4
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 555 7722

Project Proponent:
Scape Beacon, LLC

Project Description:
This is a Public Meeting, held using Zoom, in regard to the 819 Beacon Street project in the Audobon Circle neighborhood. The project proposes approximately 500 units of housing, 53 of which will be patient-family housing units in partnership with Boston Children's Hospital.

mail to: **Edward Carmody**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4422
email: edward.carmody@boston.gov

Close of Comment
Period:
10.09.2020

New Mural Showcases Black Artists

PHOTO: STEVE WOLF



A complex mural joined the Museum of Fine Arts Huntington facade for the museum's reopening. The work brings together three "legendary" street and mural artists from New York—Cey Adams, Sophia Dawson, and Victor "Marka27" Quiñonez—and the first Black artists in residence at the MFA, Bob "Problak" Gibbs and Rob Stull. The complex imagery includes George Floyd's mother, holding Floyd as a child; the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; a masked BLM protestor; and the phrase "Don't Shoot!" in multiple languages floating across the image.

The Arts

FENSFund Names Contest Winners

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

Winners of the Silver Linings contest, sponsored by FENSFund, have been announced. The contest invited residents to submit 150-word essays with their ideas for what a post-pandemic world could look like. All entries appeared in the August 2020 issue of *The Fenway News*, and readers chose the winners by voting during August. The first prize winner received \$250; second prize received \$150, and third prize was a tie, so the winners split \$100. The winning entries appear at right.

Other entries addressed a wide range of topics, including *Artistic Origins of the Fenway*, *Protect Our Parks*, *Public Education—Equitable for All*, *Decrease Vehicles*, and *Look Regionally at Supplying Locally Sourced Food*. To view these entries, check out the August issue of the *Fenway News* at fenwaynews.org.

Along with this contest, FENSFund and Operation PEACE have jointly secured BPDA funding for an exhibit combining oral interviews and visual art to be shared by projection on a Fenway public space in spring 2021. Professionally produced video interviews with 31 Fenwickians have already been completed as part of that project.

The next phase will seek 75 pieces of art (which must fit into a set template and can be new or previous work sized to fit). To see the template or submit art, contact mallory@operationpeaceboston.org.

FENSFund is a grassroots nonprofit dedicated to enriching cultural life in the Fenway. You can contact them at fensfund@gmail.com.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.



FIRST PLACE

Free WiFi for Everyone

Install more free City of Boston Wicked Wifi locations, especially in the Fenway (there currently are none in Fenway) and especially next to Section 8 public housing. The cost is relatively negligible for the city compared to how much burden it is for those who are unbanked, who do not

have solid credit, and who have inconsistent/insufficient income. It is something relatively small that would make a disproportionately big difference for those who cannot afford it.

Not everyone is able to afford Internet access and that is a barrier to information dissemination and potential job opportunities and applications. Many of those unmet needs have been previously stop-gap met by in-person access at local senior centers, community centers and public libraries that are no longer open.

SECOND PLACE

Planter Boxes

Planter boxes could be lined up on both sides of Boylston Street starting from CVS

to the Landmark Center.

These planter boxes could be possibly seen as a landmark much like the Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls. The Fenway Victory Garden members could help put up these boxes with funding coming from the Fenway Civic Association and the Fenway Victory Garden.

THIRD PLACE (TIE)

People-First Streets

During the shutdown, didn't you love being able to cross Boylston without fearing for your life? Walking in the street when you needed more distance from others on the sidewalk? How tranquil the neighborhood felt with almost no traffic?

Why give that up? From here on, design and operate Boston's streets to serve people first, cars second. Give priority to infrastructure for biking, walking, and transit (because we will go back to riding eventually). The changes will benefit everyone—fewer deaths/injuries, less noise, cleaner air, reduced carbon emissions. First steps:

- Have the City formally adopt the principle.
- Accelerate build-out of Boston's existing plan for

a fully connected bike-lane network and commit to full physical protection of lanes on major streets.

- Make permanent restaurants' ability to use parking spaces for outdoor seating.
- Create an advisory board to make sure that new infrastructure fully benefits communities of color.

THIRD PLACE (TIE)

Art Memberships for Fenway Residents

It is shocking, but not surprising, that many Fenway residents have never been to any of the art institutions in the Fenway. This was brought home when a young Paris tourist stopped me in the Fenway and asked me where the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum is. I have been there, but many have not. Too often we seek vacations away from the Fenway, but the world comes to the Fenway. Why not establish an art membership for Fenway residents, rather than their seeking memberships for each institution? Perhaps the Fenway CDC and the Fenway Alliance could set it up, establishing income-based fees, or by donation only.

LAST CALL

Boston's Apollo, at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, closes October 12. The exhibit traces John Singer Sargent's relationship with Thomas McKeller, an African-American elevator operator at the Back Bay's Vendome Hotel, where Sargent lived. McKeller served as model for the murals displaying Greek gods in the rotunda of the MFA, murals at Harvard's Widener Library, and as the body in a portrait of Harvard President Abbott Lawrence. Sargent gave the preparatory drawings of McKeller for the MFA murals to Isabella Stewart Gardner, and the show displays the works for the first time, along with a deep dive into their historical, cultural, and political meanings.

Gingerly, MFA Returns To A Pandemic World

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

After a long wait, the Museum of Fine Arts opened its doors on Sept. 26—sort of.

The museum has undertaken a phased reopening, meaning that the hours will be shorter, visitors will be required to purchase timed tickets in advance, only certain galleries will be open, and the restaurants and coat checks will remain closed.

Initially, only the Art of the Americas wing and two special exhibitions—produced as part of the museum's effort to welcome more diverse audiences and showcase artwork by groups historically under-represented in major museums—will be available for viewing. The special exhibits, which had opened prior to the museum's shutdown in March, include “Black Histories, Black Futures,” a visually rich selection of prints from the MFA's vaults, curated by teens of color after being trained in the curatorial process. The second exhibit, “Women Take the Floor,” highlights the work of often-dismissed women artists—again taken from the

museum's holdings—and notable for a heavy weighting of 20th-century works.

Doors will be open just five days a week, from 10am to 5pm Wednesdays through Sundays. Thursdays from 10am to 11am will be reserved for high-risk visitors, and Wednesdays from 3pm to 4pm will offer more-affordable admission pricing (\$5 minimum).

Only 75 visitors will be admitted each hour, and visitors will be required to purchase timed-entry tickets in advance. Inside, the restaurants will be closed, there will be no coat check, and only one of the gift shops will be open. Of course, visitors will have to wear masks and observe the six-foot distance requirement.

Two major exhibitions originally scheduled to open in April will have a delayed opening. In mid-October, “Writing the Future: Basquiat and the Hip Hop Generation,” featuring more than 120 objects by Jean-Michel Basquiat representing the post-graffiti movement, will open to the public. In November, the long-awaited “Monet and

Boston: Lasting Impression” will open and run through February. This is the first time in a quarter century that the MFA has exhibited its entire collection of work by Claude Monet, considered one of the most important outside of France. Accompanying the Monet exhibit will be a smaller show: “Cezanne: In and Out of time,” featuring 12 works by Monet's contemporary, Paul Cezanne.

As part of the reopening—and the ongoing project of increasing inclusion and diversity in its programming—the museum installed a large mural installation on the Huntington Avenue lawn, dedicated to the victims of police violence. Created over the summer, the mural (see photo on page 9) represents a collaboration among five artists: three well-known street artists based in New York City—Cey Adams, Sophia Dawson, and Victor “Marka27” Quiñonez—and the museum's first Black artists in residence, Rob Stull and Bob “Problak” Gibbs.

To buy advance tickets, go to www.mfa.org or call 617-267-9300.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

Lyric Opera Plans A (Mostly) Virtual Season

BY KELSEY BRUUN

In September, Boston Lyric Opera announced it will postpone the productions previously scheduled for its 2020–21 season. Instead, the company will deliver opera and opera-inspired content through outdoor performances and a new online and streaming platform, operabox.tv.

For live events, Boston Lyric Opera introduces BLO Street Stage, a specially designed mobile stage bringing solo and small-group performances to Boston neighborhoods and surrounding communities. BLO will announce these performances, additional operALIVE events, and information about audience gathering protocols through the season. In spring 2021, BLO plans to host a major celebratory concert.

Boston Lyric Opera will move much of its fall 2020 artistic programming to operabox.tv, a new digital streaming platform. The service is available online at www.operabox.tv. It will also be available through an app and on Android TV, Apple TV, Roku,

and Amazon Fire TV in November. The platform is subscription based, with subscriptions available for purchase later this month.

Ticket holders for the 2020–21 season will have options to convert their tickers to upcoming live and online experiences.

Among new works planned for operabox.tv is the world premiere of a new eight-part episodic series, *Desert In*. An operatic story of love, loss and redemption in a strange, run-down motel in the American West, *Desert In* is being developed by composer Ellen Reid, 2019 Pulitzer Prize for her opera *prism*, and film and opera director James Darrah, who directed *prism*. Playwright and screenwriter Christopher Oscar Peña joins Reid and Darrah in building the series through a television-inspired “writers' room” approach that includes a number of today's best stage and screen writers and a curated group of additional composers.

Kelsey Bruun is editor of The Fenway News.

GARDNER'S 'APOLLO' GOES DIGITAL

The Gardner Museum will introduce five free digital programs in support of its “Boston's Apollo” exhibition. Four of the programs—including video tours, recorded lectures and panel discussions, and a cinematic performing-arts piece—are now available on its website and YouTube channel. The fifth program, “The Larger Conversation: Museums and Arts Activism,” goes up on Oct. 8. It features Black and Brown artists and educators in a lively discussion of using activism to critique and explore how museums and cultural institutions, historically leery of boat-rocking, can support social change.

October

CALENDAR

Tue, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, & 10/27

LIFEBOAT BOSTON FOOD PANTRY distributes fresh fruits and vegetables to residents in need. Get a free bag of produce from 4pm to 6pm. Boston Temple, 105 Jersey Street, Boston. For inquiries, please email lifeboat-boston@gmail.com. Register at bit.ly/lifeboatbostonregistration

Tue, 10/6

“OUR TURN NEXT”: SLAVERY AND FREEDOM ON FRENCH AND AMERICAN STAGES, 1789-99. Massachusetts Historical Society hosts this online event at 5:15pm. This seminar explores the black revolutionary figure on the U.S. and French stages during the last decade of the eighteenth century, as both nations struggled to put their principles of universal freedom into practice. Registration is required; Click [here](#) to register.

istration is required; Click [here](#) to register.

Wed, 10,7 & 10/21

FENWAY FAIR FOODS. From 3:30pm to 5pm, stop by the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral for a bag of fresh fruits and vegetables. Bags are \$2. For inquiries, please contact Jasmine Vargas at jvargas@fenwaycdc.org. 165 Park Drive.

Wed, 10/7

CLEAN WATER, GREEN SPACE, AND SOCIAL EQUITY. Massachusetts Historical Society hosts this online program exploring the past, present, and future of the Emerald Necklace, beginning with Olmsted’s vision, through the lens of social equity and environmental justice. 5:30pm. Registration is required; click [here](#) to register.

Thu, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, & 10/29

LIFEBOAT BOSTON FOOD PANTRY distributes fresh fruits and vegetables to residents in need. Get a free bag of produce from 4pm to 6pm. Boston Temple, 105 Jersey Street, Boston. For inquiries, please email lifeboat-boston@gmail.com. Register at bit.ly/lifeboatbostonregistration

Thu, 10/15 & Fri, 10/16

Join Fenway nonprofits Operation P.E.A.C.E. and FENSFund for the **“SILVER LININGS PROJECT,”** a community projection event at dusk. Recorded interviews and art submissions will be projected onto the large brick wall adjacent to the SDA Temple parking lot on Peterborough Street. Enjoy as

you walk by, or watch a livestream at home. For more information, please email info@operationpeaceboston.org.

Thu, 10/22

HAMILTON THE MUSICAL. In this Mass Historical talk, Dr. Richard Bell examines what the musical gets right and gets wrong about Alexander Hamilton, the American Revolution, and the birth of the United States. He will also discuss Hamilton’s cultural impact: what does its runaway success reveal about the stories we tell each other about who we are and about the nation we made? 5:30pm. Registration is required; click [here](#) to register.

COMMUNITY meetings

@ THE CENTER

Find relevant links and additional information on all activities at fenwaycommunitycenter.org.

- **Monday, Oct. 5 at 7pm: VOICE & JUSTICE.** On the first Monday of every month, share your voice with your neighbors and work toward racial justice one step at a time at this virtual lecture.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7pm: VIRTUAL DEATH CAFE.** This virtual event brings people together to discuss death, helping each them make the most of their lives.
- **Friday, Oct. 16 at 7pm: PAINT PARTY.** Paint your own canvas creation under the guidance of Claudia Shepherd, a professional artist. This monthly program will begin with a

Halloween painting.

- **Tuesdays at 6:30pm and Fridays at 9pm: AMANDA’S HOME MOVIES.** Great films and discussions twice a week. For more information, email fccfirstfridayfilms@gmail.com.
- **Wednesdays at 6pm: GUIDED MEDIATION.** Pallavi and Vaibhav—Fenway residents and licensed instructors—lead you in reducing stress, improving emotional health, and practicing self-compassion.
- **Wednesdays at 7:30pm: TRIVIA NIGHT.** Noncompetitive fun with neighbors and friends.
- **Thursdays at 7pm: GAME NIGHT.** Play Drawful and other online games, all suitable for all ages.

MON, OCT 5 LMA Forum, 6:30pm on Zoom. Register at <https://bit.ly/3cKPbNi> in advance to receive an email with a log-in link and instructions. The forum will discuss Simmons University’s institutional master plan and other LMA projects, co-hosted by the BPDA and MASCO. Toll-free call-in numbe: (833) 568-8864; meeting ID: 161 266 4061. Contact Edward Carmody at Edward.Carmody@Boston.gov with questions. **PUBLIC COMMENTS DUE BY OCTOBER 9.**

Wed, Oct 7 819 Beacon Street virtual public meeting, 6pm. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and give feedback. Register at <https://bit.ly/3ik7wC7> in advance to receive an email with a log-in link and instructions. You will also receive an email about technical assistance. The meeting opens at 5:45 for troubleshooting of any technical issues. To join by phone, download the Zoom application to see our presentation and access language interpretation. Toll-free call-in number: (833) 568-8864; Meeting ID: 161 555 7722. Email Edward Carmody at Edward.Carmody@Boston.gov.

Carmody@Boston.gov with questions. **PUBLIC COMMENTS DUE BY OCTOBER 9.**

ONGOING Free one-to-one financial coaching by phone. To schedule your personal session, contact Kris Anderson at kanderson@fenwaycdc.org or at (617) 267-4637 x29.

WED, OCT 14 & WED, OCT 15 The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is proposing to add curbside meters along the Fenway, Park Drive, Charlesgate East, and other parkways in the Fenway area and other parts of greater Boston. At these public virtual meeting, DCR will present information about, and obtain public input on, this proposal. Register for the Wednesday meeting [here](#). Register for the Thursday meeting [here](#). 6:30pm.

ONGOING Free Career Clinic telephone session. To schedule a personal session, contact Kris Anderson at kanderson@fenwaycdc.org or at (617) 267-4637 x 29.



We’re in this together, Boston.