

## Residents Demand Restoration of the 55 Bus

Fenway residents came through in the state’s environmental review of the MBTA service cuts; Environmental Secretary Kathleen Theoharides noted the neighborhood’s many letters in her decision, published March 12 on [www.eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us](http://www.eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us).

In response to the concerns of Fenway riders, MEPA Analyst Erin Flaherty followed up with the MBTA’s Andrew Brennan, who claimed “that apart from a few stops in the Fenway neighborhood, Bus Route 55 directly parallels the Green Line...[and] all of the Route 55 stops, including the stops within Fenway, are at most a 12 minute walk from the Green Line.”

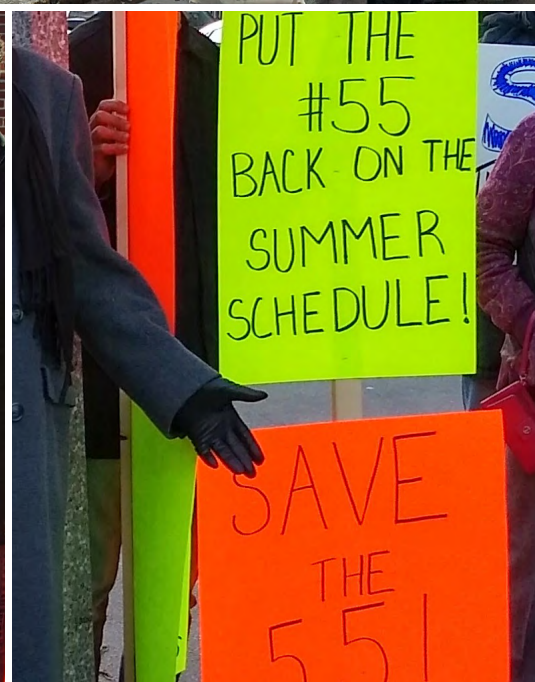
Unsurprisingly, the state decision on March 12 favored the T. However, in the days since, elected officials have stepped up to oppose the cuts, and the outcome for the 55 may yet change.

On Sunday, March 14, the MBTA suspended service on the route. Beginning that day and for the next two Sundays, roughly 50 residents, advocates, and allies held a “Waiting for the 55 Bus” stand-out from 5:30 to 6pm at the intersection of Jersey and Queensberry streets to protest suspension of the 55. Elected officials who have joined them include State Reps. Jon Santiago and Jay Livingstone and City Councilors Michelle Wu and Kenzie Bok (Wu and Santiago are running for mayor this fall). Standouts will resume on Sunday, April 11, at 5:30pm.

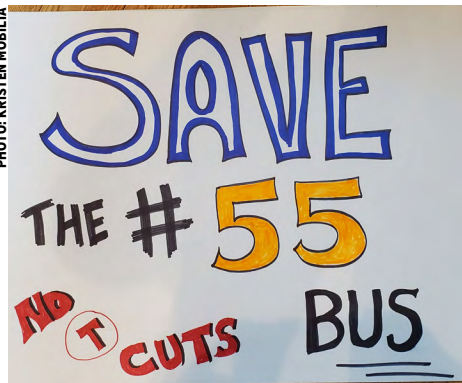
At the March 28 stand-out, organizers urged participants to call the MBTA’s Fiscal Management and Control Board prior to its meeting the next day. The board could rescind service cuts, and supporters hope that T officials will heed Congressman Stephen Lynch’s strong statement against the cuts, citing transit-agency aid included in the pandemic relief bill, which caused a stir in late March.



**MBTA RELENTS!**  
At deadline, word came that the MBTA will restore the 55 (with shorter hours) on its summer schedule. Look for full details in our next issue.



At top, City Councilor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu addresses the March 28 stand-out, held despite rainy weather. Above left, District 8 Councilor Kenzie Bok (back to the camera on March 14) has enthusiastically promoted the standouts.



### ...MEANWHILE, WOULD YOU COMMUTE BY TRANSIT IF IT WERE FREE?

Barely a week into her new job as acting mayor, Kim Janey staked out a key environmental-justice issue when she announced a pilot program for subsidizing MBTA and BlueBikes use by lower-income workers.

The City will hand out Charlie Cards and BlueBike passes to 1,000 people who work in five Main Street districts, including Mission Hill, Nubian Square, and Three Squares. With passes good for up to two months, the program will help City officials

study how subsidized or free change people’s commuting behavior.

The sign-up web page makes the case that more transit and bike usage will help ward off gridlock as more businesses bring more employees back to work. Many residents remain reluctant to ride transit because of coronavirus fears; if they choose to drive instead, the city would see a surge in driving and traffic-clogged streets later this year.

Janey hasn’t yet said if she’ll run

for mayor in November, but one of her city council colleagues—Michelle Wu, an announced candidate—has long championed making buses free. Wu frames the idea as both a social-equity measure and a way to wring greater environmental benefits out of the T.

You can enroll through April 19 at [boston.gov/freeride](http://boston.gov/freeride), where you’ll find more details. Or text *free ride* to 866-396-0122. City staff will review your application and mail you a pass if you qualify.

## Maskless Construction Workers Worry Fenway Resident

BY KELLY GARRITY

Last March, the COVID-19 pandemic brought Boston to halt. Businesses shut down, events were canceled or rescheduled, and construction in the city was put on pause. By late April, the city began one of its first reopening measures, allowing construction on some projects to resume.

Sites that were allowed to open were required to implement new safety measures to help prevent outbreaks of the coronavirus among workers, including requiring workers to practice social distancing and to wear appropriate PPE, such as masks or face coverings.

Fenway resident Eliot Wilder, however, says these practices have been ignored at 201 Brookline Ave., the Samuels & Associates project under construction at Brookline Avenue and Fullerton Street near his home. The site was shut down with the rest of construction projects last March, but opened again in April, said Wilder.

“The stipulations were that they had to employ all the proper protocols, mask wearing and social distancing, and it was kind of rolled out to the neighborhood,” said Wilder. “There was even a video on YouTube showing a supervisor coming and saying how it will be played out. And that’s actually never been the case.”

Last April the City released a *COVID-19 Construction*

*Site Best Practices Worksheet*, providing specific reopening guidelines. According to the worksheet, “all projects must develop a project-specific Safety Plan for COVID-19 that addresses the CDC, OSHA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidelines and best practices.” Additionally, each safety plan is required to have policies requiring PPE such as gloves, facial coverings or masks, and face shields during work and breaks.

However, Wilder said he frequently sees workers without masks at the Brookline Avenue site from his apartment window.

“Some guys are wearing masks, some guys aren’t, some have it like on their chin. I totally understand that it’s uncomfortable... but my concern is safety, and they’re really not adhering to it,” he said. It’s not only the fact that some workers are ignoring guidelines that has concerned Wilder, he said, but also the indifference some seem to feel toward these guidelines.

“The most telling thing, there’s a sign right in front as you enter that says masks must be worn at all times in big print. I was going by there the other day, and standing in front of the sign was a guy smoking a cigarette,” he said.

Wilder said he tried to bring the issue to the attention of City Councilor Kenzie Bok’s and State Senator William Brownsberger, though he was unsatisfied with the

responses he received.

“All the different agencies I spoke with kind of put it back on me to contact Samuels & Associates,” he said. Wilder said he was eventually put in contact with James Maguire, a senior safety manager at the construction company Suffolk, who Wilder said told him that the site was employing a three-strikes policy for workers not in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.

When asked about the Brookline Avenue site’s policies in an email, Maguire did not comment on the three-strikes policy, but did say that Suffolk was employing “appropriate disciplinary action for workers who do not follow our safety policies,” and maintaining “an open line of conversation with the surrounding community and appreciate the opportunity to address any concerns they may raise.”

Wilder acknowledged that the likelihood of contracting the coronavirus might be slim, but said he did not think that was a reason something should not be done to address the issue. “Passing one of these guys by without a mask, would you get sick from that? Probably not,” he said. “But there is that possibility and since they’re supposed to be doing it, why aren’t they?”

Kelly Garrity is a journalism student at Northeastern University.



# Long-awaited Symphony Station Upgrade Nears Launch



PHOTOS BY ALISON PULTINAS / RENDERING COURTESY OF THE MBTA

The photo at left shows the existing east entrance to Symphony Station’s inbound platform. A rendering, right, shows how the new entrance would look.



Blick Art Supply sits on the existing west entry plaza in this view from Huntington Ave. The rendering shows the proposed view from Mass. Ave. toward Huntington.

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Symphony Station, which some have called the worst on the Green Line, is getting an elaborate renovation. Updates will include 30-foot glass elevators on the inbound (Symphony Towers) side, underground restrooms, elevators on the outbound side next to Symphony Hall and Horticultural Hall, and accessible raised platforms.

Jorge Briones is the MBTA’s project manager; DHK, which designed Lansdowne (formerly Yawkey) Station and Courthouse Station in the Seaport, are the architects.

The project’s design phase started four years ago, but bids are not expected to go out until the summer or later. The MBTA public process essentially ended with the 75-percent design meeting held on March 3. However, one hearing remains with Boston’s Public Improvement Commission, which reviews all sidewalk and roadway projects. It has not been scheduled.

The Parks Department’s tree warden

also must sign off on the removal of a red oak on Huntington Avenue next to Horticultural Hall, where the T proposes a new set of emergency stairs for the outbound platform. The stairs will end at a headhouse instead of the typical exit hatch. A tree hearing was set for April 1.

In addition, the MBTA plan removes 15 trees by the Symphony Towers, but those trees are not subject to Parks Department review since the plazas are owned by the BPDA.

Under the current design, the elevator at 334 Mass. Ave. will stop at the train platform, the retail plaza level, and the sidewalk. Across the street, the elevator at 333 Mass. Ave. will have four stops, including access to/from the Symphony Towers West entry level.

The awkward tiered sidewalks on the inbound side, with businesses almost hidden on the lower level, is a legacy of the 1965 Fenway Urban Renewal plan created to eliminate so-called blight. The twin

Symphony Towers sit on the plan’s Parcels 5 and 9. Initially, the high rises were supposed to house families displaced by urban renewal. However, by the time they were completed in 1980, the City redefined them as low-income housing for seniors and the disabled.

A 1977 Land Disposition Agreement gave control of the plazas, owned by the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA), to the Towers’ developer, except for the portion used by the MBTA. The BRA retains the ground leases for the plazas.

The First Church of Christ, Scientist’s real estate venture firm, Church Realty Trust, held ground leases for the land under the apartment buildings for several decades. In 2017, Jack D. Train, the former director of real estate assets for the Church, negotiated a new arrangement with the nonprofit that owns Symphony Towers—Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF), based in Long Beach, California. Upon signing restriction agreements for both 333 and 334 Mass. Ave.,

prohibiting certain businesses, the land was conveyed outright to the RHF Holdings Group and the ground leases terminated.

The restrictions forbid liquor stores, marijuana shops, gambling dens, pornographic bookstores, and flashing signs. On Symphony East’s lower level, only the bubble tea franchise Kung Fu Tea, is currently open. Blick Art soldiers on at Symphony West. Will the store survive the MBTA’s construction project? And will the flagpoles and street clock on the plaza disappear?

Transit riders have waited a long time for accessibility for the Green Line at Symphony. There was hope that the state and federally funded Symphony Streetscape Improvement Project 10 years ago would include MBTA upgrades. The wait isn’t over, but there’s light in the tunnel.

*Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.*

PHOTO: STEVE CHASE

While nothing has been filed with the BPDA, John Copley of Copley-Wolff Associates last month hinted at future plans for the former Buckminster Hotel during a meeting about a different project. Copley, whose firm serves as landscape architects for the adjacent Fenway Center development, said he expects that a new Buckminster project could include stairs to Brookline Avenue. Sidewalk observers have noticed interior demolition as well as demolition of the two-story garage next door.



## New Life for Old Buckminster?

## Church Plaza Begins Re-emergence

Yes, it does feel as if the Christian Science Plaza has been under reconstruction for years. The First Church of Christ, Scientist, recently announced that some of the longest-running projects on the plaza and its infrastructure systems will end this year. But don't expect all the fencing to come down just yet.

- The rebuilt Reflecting Pool—the new design of which reduces its use of water—will be filled and the Children’s Fountain turned on by April 17.
- The lawn along Massachusetts Avenue has matured; but fencing will not yet be removed.
- Limited repairs of the brick plaza paving along the garage entry lane will begin in April. The work will be completed in small increments to allow for continued drive lane access to the garage.
- The repair and restoration of the church edifices continues to see progress. Scaffolding along the the west facade will be removed, and a pedestrian path will be reopened when cranes are not in use between the lawn and the fenced-in construction area.

To see more detailed information on the renovation schedule visit [plaza.christianscience.com](https://plaza.christianscience.com).



# Revamped Mission Hill Playground Plan Adds Hoops

RENDERING COURTESY OF BOSTON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



B. Chatfield of the Boston Parks Department is managing both the planned renovation for Copley Square and the redesign of the Mission Hill Playground. She held an unusual afternoon public meeting on March 3 to share design changes for the park project next door to Mission Church. The City's standard three-community-meeting process stalemated in February over unresolved differences among different constituents. The Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture, park designers, went back to the drawing board after hearing loud and clear that local school children, teens, and Tobin Community Center staff strongly desired a regulation basketball court. Final construction documents will be completed this spring, and Chatfield anticipates substantial completion by May 2022.

## Northeastern Opens Community Grants Program With New Social Justice Category

The application period for the annual Community Grants from Northeastern's Office of City and Community Engagement (CCE) has opened. The office has added the new Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award, designated for resident groups leading change in local neighborhoods. The application period runs through Friday, April 16.

The grants provide financial support to community organizations, nonprofits, or schools that engage with Northeastern students, staff, or faculty in partnership with the Office of City and Community Engagement.

Any Boston-based community organization, nonprofit, or school that currently engages or has previously engaged with Northeastern University students, staff, or faculty in partnership with the Office of City and Community Engagement in the last three academic years is eligible to apply. The funding process will favor proposals that focus on advancing equity and justice, and the office will award grants of \$1,000 for selected proposals.

Funding can be used for—but isn't limited to—program supplies, event supplies, volunteer recruitment/training, research, or anything else that will have an impact on equity and justice goals.

The Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award initiative will support resident-led initiatives having a local impact and identified by local residents.

Visit <https://communityengagement.northeastern.edu/news/cce-launches-2021-community-grant-application-and-new-neighbors-uplifting-neighbors-award/> for more information about the grants and the application process.

## FENWAY HIGH GIRLS CLAIM ANOTHER LEAGUE CROWN

The Fenway High School girls basketball team won the City League basketball championship for the fourth year in a row. On Feb. 27, they beat O'Bryant High School 42-37, ending their COVID-abbreviated season at 9 wins and 0 losses.



PHOTO: PATRICK O'CONNOR



### A PRE-PRU AERIAL VIEW

Beyond the Mother Church stretches the former Boston & Albany rail yard, which became the site of the Prudential Center. The large building at the middle right edge, Mechanics Hall, was demolished in 1958, also to make way for the project. The cleared lot just above Symphony Hall (lower left corner) is today the southern end of Church Park.



Fenway Community Development Corporation  
Improving Lives and Building Community

## 48TH ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY | APRIL 29, 2021 | 6:30-7:45PM

- The event is FREE.
- Registration is required.
- Special treats for first 100 people to register by April 10.
- Register today at [tinyurl.com/fcdc21](https://tinyurl.com/fcdc21) or scan the QR Code.
- Questions: Contact Hang Le at [hle@fenwaycdc.org](mailto:hle@fenwaycdc.org)



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Keynote Speaker: Chuck Collins, Institute for Policy Studies



# FENS VIEWS

## Vaccination and Recovery: A Nurse’s Perspective

BY MARY ANN BROGAN

It was just over a year ago that we were invaded by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, better known as COVID-19. In that year, we lost loved ones and friends and saw our neighborhoods stark and empty.

We move now in the comfort of spring and the hope of vaccines bringing brighter days. As a nurse who has spent many years helping people regain their health, I feel privileged to join the army of vaccinators marching forward to take back control of our health and defeat this virus.

Each day I spend at the vaccination center, I witness the gratitude of citizens feeling a little more protected as they experience the slight sting of the vaccine going into their arms. I have listened to stories of what living in isolation has been like for some. So many have not seen family members for more than a year and look forward to that hug or social interaction. It was a little surprising to me that so many really kept their

distance during this time and were proudly sporting their COVID hair styles. I appreciate the bittersweet reality of one man who shared that his wife died last year from COVID-19 as he was getting his vaccine.

Most are happy to get whatever vaccine is presented to them, although on the occasion of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine being given, I’ve heard many comments of being glad to get “one and done,” as the vaccine requires only one dose. All the vaccines are effective and will help us reach that herd immunity that will keep us all safer. While the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines both require two doses, no complaints were voiced as that second appointment was made.

There is an uncanny positivity in the vaccination centers. I have heard this from other people outside of my own experience. One woman described feeling like she’d hit the jackpot just getting that email invitation to make a vaccination appointment. One really does get the feeling that we are all in this together as we each do our part to get vaccinated and continue with wearing masks, social distancing, and handwashing.

Mary Ann Brogan lives in the East Fens.

### GUEST OPINION

## Goosy, Goosy Gander

BY JOHN ENGSTROM

O, woe is me, T’have seen what I have seen, see what I see!” cries Ophelia in the third act of *Hamlet*.

I felt something of Ophelia’s pain one afternoon last month, when I witnessed a blood fight between two angry Canada geese. They stood facing each other at the edge of Muddy River and proceeded to hit each other with their wings. Slapping, striking, pummeling. At considerable length and with a ferocity that I found both shocking and riveting.

This event had all the violence and aggression of a boxing match, but it was even more mind-blowing because the opponents

### GUEST OPINION

## Not Fare

BY ALISON BARNET

The suspension of the #55 bus and reduction of service on the #39 and the #1 prompt me to question other MBTA decisions, past and future.

Every time I get on a bus and the driver waves me on or opens all the doors and lets everyone on without paying, I think: “Will they make use of the upcoming \$250 million in federal stimulus funds?” However, instead of using the money to improve things, the T admits the money will be tucked away in its capital budget.

Taking a seat, I look up at the dearth of advertising messages. Before COVID, there used to be so many of them, and I’m sure it was a good source of revenue. I wish companies were willing to pay for them now.

The only messages left are COVID-related warnings, a police advisory (“If you see something, say something”), and a sticker remembering Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which always makes me want to organize a Boston bus boycott.

Gone too are signs asking cell phone users to keep it down and signs asking people to take off their backpacks so they don’t knock other riders for a loop. This was one of the first cell phone messages:

We know you’re proud / and love your phone

presented us with a part of nature—an unpleasant part—that we do not often see. Imagine going to the park with your family for a pleasant stroll and encountering a massacre in progress!

It did seem as if the other geese in the flock (that congregate at the Park Drive playing field) were deeply disturbed and exited the scene in droves with high-pitched shrieks of agitation.

The combatants, madly flapping their wings, swung around me on a hillside and paused for a skirmish at the edge of the field. Then they flew past me. The one pursued escaped being killed by disappearing into a clump of sedge. I looked closely at the mouth of the more aggressive one: it was distorted, twisted, clearly out for blood-letting. We romanticize nature as a benevolent panorama of beauty, forgetting that nature can also be brutal and ugly.

John Engstrom lives in the West Fens.

### GUEST OPINION

## Don’t Cut the 55 Bus, Extend It to Longwood for Riders, Revenues

Editor’s note: This letter is adapted from one sent to protest elimination of the #55 bus route, which ended service on March 14.

TO THE EDITOR:

Given the population increase in the Fenway with our new high-rises, I suggest that the MBTA actually extend the 55 bus route into the Longwood area to capture the huge market of young academics and hospital workers who choose to live car free in the Back Bay, the South End and Beacon Hill. The 55 would then connect the two biggest economic engines of Boston (Longwood and downtown) while STILL serving the needs of the elderly and anyone who chooses NOT to have a car and live IN the city.

This extension would only require a short addition to the existing route, and there’s plenty of time in the schedule (or was, prior to March 14) to add on to the route. The bus could easily extend its current outbound trip up Boylston along Brookline Ave. to the

LMA, run down Longwood and come back to the West Fens, rejoining the current route at Kilmarnock Street.

The 55 has long been a link for the Fenway’s elderly residents and for those with reduced mobility, especially now that the Muddy River Restoration Project has created a maze of chain-link fencing that daunts even the most courageous person on foot, day or night. But it’s not just the elderly who use the bus; pre-pandemic, I would see the bus filled every morning with people headed to jobs in the Back Bay or downtown. This extension could capture an even bigger share of riders, with rush-hour commuters filling the bus outbound to Longwood in the morning, followed by second big wave of inbound riders who would board at Queensberry and Kilmarnock and subsequent West Fens stops.

The MBTA obviously thinks enough people didn’t use the 55, but adding a Longwood loop could capture hundreds more riders each day with only a small adjustment of the route. Instead of cutting the #55, think about re-inventing it!

ED BALLO  
WEST FENS



### When Dinosaurs Roamed Boylston Street

The Boylston Street demolition went on for weeks, shaking my building and light fixtures as if I was in an earthquake. The equipment claws reminded me of dinosaur teeth the way they were biting and eating away at these buildings.

LISA FAY, WEST FENS

## THE Fenway News

Serving the Fenway, Kenmore Square, Audubon Circle, upper Back Bay, lower Roxbury, Prudential, Mission Hill, and Longwood since 1974

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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 remains online-only for the duration of the pandemic. Our next issue will appear on **Friday, April 30.**

### ► DEADLINE ◀

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

## WHEN YOU’RE LOCKED OUT, CALL US.

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### LETTERS



# @ THE CENTER

- The Fenway Community Center continues to host virtual activities. Find links for everything at [fenwaycommunitycenter.org](http://fenwaycommunitycenter.org).
- **Sundays, 6pm: ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS.** Practice American English with a native speaker in a relaxed, supportive group.
  - **Tuesdays, 6pm: NAVIGATORS USA.** An inclusive scouting movement welcoming all children and families.
  - **Wednesdays, 6pm: GUIDED MEDITATION.**
  - **Wednesdays/Thursdays, 8pm: GAME NIGHT.** Play Drawful and other online games suitable for all ages.
  - **Thursday, 6pm: ARTS & CRAFTS.** Have fun making a variety of easy crafts in a supportive group. Craft materials are available free while supplies last to those who register in advance.
  - **Fridays, 5pm: MOVEMENT MATTERS.** Join Boston Conservatory faculty and students in an hour-long dance class that incorporates gentle but challenging movement. All you need is a stable chair. All are welcome, no matter what skill or mobility level.
  - **Fridays, 6pm: VIRTUAL 5K.** Take little steps to improve your wellness with the support of a Capstone Senior from Northeastern's Health Science Program.
  - **Fri, April 2, 7pm: VOICE & JUSTICE.** Chair of the Harmony and Jazz Composition Department at Berklee College of Music, Professor George Russell, will discuss the importance of music, from traditional spirituals to folk and rock, in the civil rights movement.
  - **Fri, April 9, 7pm: VOICE & JUSTICE.** The Community Center welcomes Dr. Zebulon Vance Miletsky, whose book *Before Busing: Boston's Long Freedom Movement in the 'Cradle of Liberty'* will be published later this year by UNC Press. Miletsky is a historian specializing in recent African-American history, civil rights and Black Power, and urban history.
  - **Fri, April 16, 7pm: MONTHLY PAINT NIGHT.** Paint along with Claudia! No matter your artistic ability, you'll enjoy creating your own work of art. It's the perfect way to relax at the end of the week, too. FCC provides everything you need for this program.
  - **Sat, April 17, 3pm: VOICE & JUSTICE.** Bright Star Theatre returns with this 45-minute production designed to provide an honest and accessible portrayal of the American struggle for civil rights. Key figures from the time period are brought to life and celebrated for their dedication to securing equal rights in America.
  - **Wed, April 21, 6pm: FENWAY SCOOP.** Join a virtual community conversation combining updates from BPD Sergeant Paul A. DeLeo, Jr. (Community Service Supervisor, Area D) and celebrations of community members, groups, and businesses.
  - **Mon, April 26, 6pm: MONTHLY ARTS AND CRAFTS.** Try a variety of activities with Tribora and Laura Jean. All ages welcome! Materials provided.

## RELOCATED KENMORE POST OFFICE FINALLY OPENS

After almost two years, the former Kenmore branch post office has reopened at 512 Park Drive. The small retail branch is open Monday-Friday, 8am-5:30pm and Saturday, 8am-12pm.

## Fenway CDC Stands With The Asian American Pacific Islander Community

Dear Fenway Community Members:

Given the March 16th killings in Atlanta, a rise in violence against the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, and the history of systemic racism in the US and globally, we want to check in and ensure that our community has space to grieve these horrendous acts. Now more than ever, it's critical to acknowledge and condemn the horrible violence that has been spreading throughout this country and commit to fighting racism, xenophobia, and discrimination.

Fenway CDC acknowledges the roles that white supremacy, anti-migrant and anti-immigrant beliefs, and anti-Blackness play in the ongoing violence against the AAPI community. We are committed to the ongoing fight for social and racial justice. As an organization rooted in the community and built by brave housing rights organizers, we voice our support for the ongoing dialogues, protests, and vigils being held across the nation as we reckon with these tragic deaths.

We encourage you all to stand up and speak out against racism by [interrupting, questioning, educating, and echoing](#); to [support local AAPI businesses in Boston and Massachusetts](#); and to [educate yourself on the histories of the AAPI community in Boston and the US](#).

We are outraged by these murders and stand in solidarity with the families and communities of Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Soon Chung Park, Hyun Jung Grant, Suncha Kim and Yong Ae Yue. We acknowledge those wounded as well, including Elcias R. Hernandez-Ortiz. We reaffirm our commitment to standing against racism and fighting for affordable housing to make our community a space that is welcoming and supportive to all. We will continue to organize for change.



In peace and solidarity,  
FENWAY CDC STAFF & BOARD

## Fire Hits Mission Hill House



PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS

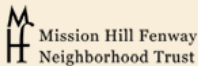
On March 8, firefighters from Engine 37 and Ladder 26 struck down a fast-moving fire at a three-family building at 59 Pontiac St. in Mission Hill. All residents were evacuated safely. The Red Cross responded and funded hotel rooms for those who needed them. The next day, Northeastern student Caroline Swenson started a GoFundMe page for the victims and quickly raised over \$5,000 plus donations of clothes and kitchen equipment through her social media contacts. Northeastern students who lived on the top floor were able to get into campus housing. The landlord, Thomas McElhinney, had bought the house in 1992 at a foreclosure auction. On March 23, two weeks after the fire, he sold the property to Kenville Mercury of Dorchester, financing the \$1.5 million mortgage himself. On March 26, BFD's Brian Atkins reported that the cause of the fire was still under investigation.

### S O X B O X

Sat, April 3	1:10pm	Mon, April 19	11:10am
Sun, April 4	1:10pm	Tue, April 20	7:10pm
Mon, April 5	7:10pm	Wed, April 21	7:10pm
Tue, April 6	7:10pm	Thu, April 22	7:10pm
Wed, April 7	1:10pm	Fri, April 23	7:10pm
Fri, April 16	7:10pm	Sat, April 24	1:10pm
Sat, April 17	4:05pm	Sat, April 25	1:10pm
Sun, April 18	1:10pm		

## MISSION HILL/FENWAY NEIGHBORHOOD TRUST

In response to the pandemic, the Trust has set a later deadline this year for proposals from organizations seeking funding for projects and programs intended to serve residents of Mission Hill and the Fenway. Please visit [www.missionhillfenwaynt.org](http://www.missionhillfenwaynt.org) for our on-line application.



Proposals must be submitted no later than midnight on April 30, 2021. Please email [hello@missionhillfenwaynt.org](mailto:hello@missionhillfenwaynt.org) with any questions.



# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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

The state’s mass vaccination site at Fenway Park moved to the Hynes Center and added FEMA as a cosponsor, which will guarantee it an extra 6,000 vaccine doses per week. 🏹 **The Black Boston COVID-19 Coalition kicked off a partnership with CIC Health at the end of February with an event that combined vaccinations, voter registration, and food distribution at the Reggie Lewis Center. New rules took effect at the site that day to reserve half of slots each day for people from communities of color recruited by the Coalition and other grassroots groups. As vaccine supplies increase, CIC Health aims to raise daily inoculations there to 2,500.** 🏹 Circling back to the Hynes, the *Globe* reports that the Mass. Convention Center Authority has suspended its plan to sell the Hynes to finance expansion of the main hall in South Boston. Trade shows and conventions vanished during the pandemic, but the authority has eked out some income from Berklee, which has rented space at the Hynes to use as classrooms. 🏹 **And in more Fenway Park news, add Bentley, Emerson and Suffolk universities to the growing list of schools holding distanced graduations at the ballpark in May. Northeastern announced early in the month that its ballpark graduation would take place May 8, with roughly 4,000 grads split between morning and afternoon ceremonies.** 🏹 John Westling, president of BU from 1996 to 2002, died. 🏹 **Nubian Square’s Haley House had a great month. First, it received a \$50,000 grant from the Nike Foundation in the first of four yearly rounds of funding for Boston groups addressing racial inequality through economic empowerment and education. Then it won a \$141,000 Community Preservation Act grant to help stabilize and repair the exterior of its cafe/bakery in the square. Haley House programs include affordable-housing creation, skills training for recently released prisoners, and distribution of tens of thousands of meals each year to low-income residents.** 🏹 The Ayer Mansion won a \$30,000 grant from the Community Preservation Act Fund, too. The National Historic Landmark, located just east of Charlesgate on Comm. Ave., is the last known building designed by artist Louis Comfort Tiffany. The project will restore inset Tiffany glass tiles and copper-clad doors at the entrance. 🏹 **The National Park Service announced that the Roxbury house where Malcolm X spent part of his childhood has joined the National Register of Historic Places. The house received municipal landmark status in 1998, according to the Associated Press.** 🏹 The Recording Academy—aka the people who put on the Grammys—tapped Berklee and Arizona State University to help it conduct a study of “women’s representation” in the music industry [aka

“Why is the field so dominated by men?”] and recommend ways to eliminate the imbalance. Women-identified artists only scored 23% of nominations for this year’s awards. 🏹 **Security guards detained Seamus Webster of Newburyport for breaking into Fenway Park. Boston Police took Webster into custody and booked him for trespassing and “breaking and entering during the nighttime” (ICYMI hopes readers share its love of old-timey New England legal infractions). The incident followed one in February in which two men broke into the ballpark, filmed themselves goofing around, then posted the video on TikTok. Because you never know what’s going to blow up in your feed. Or in your face.** 🏹 Tryouts for this season’s “American Idol” showered P.R. gold on our friends at Berklee. Current student Grace Kinstler and recent grad Brennan Hepler [who performs as Beane, not to be confused with the 1990s British TV character Mr. Beane] move on to “Hollywood Week” from auditions. A third winner, singer Keegan Ferrell, won a Berklee scholarship that brought him to Boston from Indiana, but he’s since transferred to Nashville’s Belmont University. 🏹

### Neighborhood Newsline

#### Star Market Finds a New Home at 401 Park

Samuels & Associates met with neighborhood groups last month to preview its latest vision for 401 Park (né Landmark Center, né Sears warehouse) in the West Fens. The developer plans to ask the BPDA to let it update its approved plan for the property to build new lab/ office space and apartments on the site of the Bed Bath & Beyond, its parking lot, and the loading docks that face Fullerton Street in the back. The plan revision would also add new public green space and rebuild the sidewalk that runs along the Green Line as a landscaped multi-use path for pedestrians and cyclists. Samuels has already amended the plan once to allow a change of use at 201 Brookline Ave.—500,000 square feet of lab and office space with ground-floor retail now under construction. At Samuels’ remote presentation to the Fenway CDC’s Urban Village Committee, residents zeroed in on the news that Star Market, now located at Boylston and Kilmarnock, will move to a new 50,000-square-foot space in the ground floor of one of the new buildings—essentially where Bed Bath and Beyond now sits. Star will then sell its current site to Samuels, along with the satellite parking lot at Park Drive and Peterborough and the decommissioned Gulf station that sits between them. Star paid just under \$17 million for the station in 2017. When the City revamped West Fens zoning in the early 2000s, it added “gateway parcels” at several locations with the intent of jump-starting development on Boylston. Despite the fact that the area no longer needs such incentives, the gas station site retains gateway status, which allows denser development and could conceivably yield a companion tower to the 33-story Pierce development across Boylston Street.

#### 601 Newbury Plan Advances With Few Changes

At a March 1 virtual meeting with BPDA project manager Michael Sinatra, attorney Jeff Drago described the revised plan for 601 Newbury. The plan now boasts 82 micro apartments marketed to “young professionals.” The floor plans are essentially the same as presented in 2020, but that plan included executive suites, which drew community criticism last year. At the meeting, Eric Daniels asked about average unit size, which Drago estimated at 300 square feet, or 12x26 feet. The existing building, with a legal address of 595-603, is a three-story brick structure leased for years by the Art Institute of Boston. It will get a four-story glass-and-metal panel addition. Drago described it as abandoned, but B.U. had bought it in 2015, then sold it to Everett developer William Thibeault in 2018. Resident John Bookston said that the Fenway Civic Association (FCA) has generally pushed back against short-term housing, and Alex Sawczynec, also from the Civic, said the plan still felt like hotel rooms. FCA President Tim Horn called the location odd and said that since it sits outside of FCA’s neighborhood, the organization itself would offer no comment. Residents of the Charlesview condos at 534-538 Comm. Ave. submitted comments to the BPDA before March 12 (the Article 80 small-project review limited rounds of public comments). They expressed opposition to the project.

#### Resiliency Fund Grants Reach Local Groups

The City recently announced that the Boston Resiliency Fund has stopped accepting applications. This list, supplied by the City Press Office, includes organizations in Fenway and Mission Hill that received funding in the last round of awards. The fund granted \$306,900 to Fair Foods, a citywide group that offers food pickups in The Fenway.

- Lifeboat Boston food pantry (fiscal sponsor: Boston Temple): \$30,977.
- Fenway Civic Association (fiscal sponsor: Fenway Community Center): \$13,782.
- Fundo Arcu: \$12,430.
- Greater Boston Latino Network (fiscal sponsor: Sociedad Latina): \$144,500.

#### Community Preservation Act Recommendations

In late February, the City of Boston Community Preservation Committee announced its recommendation of 67 projects in open space/recreation, affordable housing, and historic preservation. In the Fenway, the Committee awarded \$1,000,000 to help fund acquisition of 72 Burbank Street and construction of affordable housing on the parcel. It also awarded \$40,000 for the design and installation of a low-cost, activated-charcoal water-filtration boom system to help clear pollutants from the Muddy River. In Lower Roxbury, the group creating a Frederick Douglass memorial plaza and greenspace at Hammond and Tremont streets will receive \$400,000 for construction and infrastructure costs.

#### Analysis Finds COVID Drove Up Rental Vacancies

Last month, BostonPads.com released its annual analysis of trends in the city’s rental market. COVID-19, drove an increase in vacancy rates. Citywide the rate hit 5.44 percent, which marks a dramatic fourfold increase in the city from exactly one year ago. Vacancy in the Fenway stood at 11.17 percent, a 1,762 percent increase from last year. Mission Hill had a vacancy rate of 3.9 percent, more than triple its year-ago rate.

#### Street Cleaning Resumes—And Enforcement Comes With It

Street cleaning resumed citywide on April 1, and enforcement of street-sweeping ticketing—suspended during much of the pandemic—also resumed. Vehicles in violation are subject to towing. Failure to move a vehicle during posted street-sweeping hours results in a \$40 fine. The Boston Transportation Department has also resumed ticketing for expired inspection stickers and vehicle registrations. Expired stickers or registrations each carry a \$40 fine. Disability placards/plates that expired during the public health emergency will get a pass on tickets for now, given potential challenges for people to renew.

## 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 (APR.-DEC.)

Fenway streets get cleaned 12-4pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month [odd-numbered side] and the second and fourth Wednesdays [even-numbered side]. More info at 617-635-4900 or [www.cityofboston.gov/publicworks/sweeping](http://www.cityofboston.gov/publicworks/sweeping).

The **DCR** cleans state-owned roads 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 [www.mass.gov/doc/fenway/download](http://www.mass.gov/doc/fenway/download)

## FENWAY HEALTH



We Believe That Everyone Deserves Access To High-Quality, Affordable Health Care.

Has your employment situation recently changed?  
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617.267.0900 | [fenwayhealth.org](http://fenwayhealth.org)



# The Arts

## WITH ART AND TEA CEREMONY, STUDIO MARKS 15 YEARS SINCE KAJI ASO'S DEATH

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

On March 11, the Kaji Aso Studio on St. Stephen Street held a 15-year remembrance of the passing of their founder Kaji Aso (pictured). Executive Director of the gallery Kate Finnegan said, “Every year we do a Japanese tea ceremony in honor of Mr. Aso. This year, due to the pandemic, we are doing a virtual remembrance on YouTube.”

Born in Tokyo, Kaji Aso came to Boston in 1967. He was a professor at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts for 33 years. Aso was known as a multi-talented artist who painted in watercolor, acrylic and oil as well as producing sculpture, calligraphy, and poetry. His art is displayed in the Museum of Fine Arts and the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo. Thirteen of his works are registered as Japanese National Properties. An accomplished tenor, he loved music and used his voice to perform Italian opera as



well as Japanese music. He was an adventurer who ran and completed the Boston Marathon 36 times and led kayak expeditions down the Mississippi, the Nile, and other rivers.

In 1973, Aso founded an art studio and gallery at 40 St. Stephen St. with the goal of bringing together Japanese and western cultures in visual arts, music, poetry, philosophy, and theater. To that end, he built the first Japanese tea house in Boston, where traditional tea ceremonies are still performed. The studio also celebrates Japanese holidays with art, music, and poetry. In 2002, *Boston* magazine named him a “Bostonian We Love.” In 1980, he received a Distinguished Bostonian Award.

A YouTube presentation features photos and art of Mr. Aso as well as a tea ceremony in his honor. Visit <https://Youtube/5AL1h9H2Rsc>.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

## Giving Art A Green Light



PHOTO: STEVE CHASE

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy organized an art installation at eight bridges in the Necklace throughout February and March. The group saw the project as a way to “celebrate the power of our urban parks to bring us together, inspire us and light the way in challenging times.” The project lit up the Boylston Street bridges and those at Liff Park in the Fenway. Other bridges stretched up the Riverway—including the Longwood Bridge, shown here—to Franklin Park.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND TWO PALMS



## MASSART HOLDS VIRTUAL AUCTION APRIL 10

The 32nd MassArt Auction will take place on April 10 at 8pm using a virtual format for the second year in a row. But whether in-person or virtual, the auction always showcases both emerging and internationally renowned artists. This year's event will feature more than 325 works of art inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic.

At left, Lot #28 from the live auction, “Untitled,” by Stanley Whitney, 2020

Beyond raising funds for MassArt scholarships and academic programs, this year's events will include several pre-auction virtual preview parties and educational breakout sessions with art industry professionals. Information on specific events is included in our Calendar section on page 8.

The works featured in this year's auction span a variety of media, including painting, jewelry, sculpture and photography.

The Auction Committee selected the artwork from more than 1,400 submissions. Auction artists have the choice of contributing 50 percent or 100 percent of the sale to MassArt, and all proceeds go to student scholarships and academic programs. The auction has raised more than \$1 million for each of the past six years.

For additional information, visit [massartauction.org](http://massartauction.org). Visit [massartauction.org/bid](http://massartauction.org/bid) to register for the live and silent auctions.

## Woody's Grill And Tap

Note: In our March issue we spotlighted some favorite local restaurants in the West Fens. This month we cross the park to the East Fens.

BY MARY ANN BROGAN

Woody's Grill and Tap at 58 Hemenway St. has been a stalwart establishment in the East Fens for many years. Neighbors view Woody's as the “Cheers” of the East Fens.

At the beginning of the pandemic, Woodys joined the ranks of others and closed for several months. Along with other businesses, it has slowly reopened its doors.

Woody's is open for dine-in and takeout from 4pm to 9pm, Wed.-Sun. The menu features dishes made with fresh ingredients, showcasing vegetables and other local products.

While Woody's gears up to open seven days a week this month, their takeout menu is a significant part of current business. Delivery time can sometimes interfere with that perfect crispiness in a dish, and Woody's recognizes that certain

selections travel better than others. In the appetizer class, Woody's famous Buffalo wings, chicken fingers and roasted brussel sprouts meet the mark. Chopped salad, caesar salad, tabouli plate, and all sandwiches also travel well. In the entrée department, steak tips, rigatoni Bolognese, grilled salmon, and chicken piccata will not disappoint.

Woody's pizza has won awards, and the restaurant is known for its 500-degree wood-fired oven. Pizza is popular as a pickup item—customers come and get it hot out of the oven. Everything is made fresh, including the dough and slow-cooked tomato sauce. Specialty pizzas include Boston-made Pig Rock sweet italian sausage with fennel undertones and Pig Rock chipotle chicken sausage with cilantro lime. The Jamaican jerk pizza features pulled chicken and home-made jerk sauce made with Guinness. If the specialty pizzas don't inspire, make-your-own pizzas are always available with a wide variety of toppings.

So, what are you waiting for? Head to Woody's for a mid-week or weekend meal that is freshly made and locally inspired.

Mary Ann Brogan lives in the East Fens.

## Nasturtiums Take Annual Two-Week Bow at the Gardner



PHOTO: SIENA SCARF

The Gardner Museum brought back its hanging nasturtiums for a two-week run. Approximately 18 vines, each more than 20 feet long, cascade from balconies overlooking the museum courtyard. Canceled last spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the traditional display dates back more than 100 years and will remain on view through April 12—just two days shy of Mrs. Jack's birthday on the 14th.

## EATS BEAT

- Award-winning sushi restaurant **Uni** (at the Eliot Hotel on Comm. Ave.) has launched a taco truck that will target the Northeastern campus from 120 Forsyth Way, 11:30am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri. Visit [www.unit-boston.com/menu/tacos](http://www.unit-boston.com/menu/tacos).
- The Four Seasons Hotel at 1 Dalton expects to welcome a new lounge called **Trifecta** in May. It will focus on cocktails, sharing platters (how will that go over in a post-COVID world?), and high tea.
- The *Globe* reports that Irene Li has joined the board of **Commonwealth Kitchen**, a food-business incubator. Li, chef and owner at Audubon Circle's Mei Mei, will focus on the new Restaurant Resiliency Institute, designed to strengthen small restaurant owners' management skills and give them more tools to help them recover from the pandemic shutdown. Li told the paper that the issue remains

close to her heart—readers may remember that she launched a GoFundMe campaign for small, immigrant-owned restaurants in the first weeks of the lockdown last March.

- The *Globe's* “Tables” column ran a long list of restaurants reopening after pandemic-induced hibernation, with an emphasis on outdoor dining. They include **Café Landwer** and **Taberna de Haro** (also restarting indoor dining at 50 percent capacity) in Audubon Circle; **Rochambeau** on Boylston Street at the Hynes Convention Center; Tiffani Faison's **Tiger Mama**, **Orfano**, and **Sweet Cheeks** in the West Fens; and **Game On** and **Loretta's Last Call** on Lansdowne Street.

- Kenmore Square's **Eastern Standard** officially closed in February, along with sibling establishments Island Creek Oyster Bar and The Hawthorne cocktail bar. The ownership group had fought for months—sometimes in the press—to get landlord UrbanMeritage to lower its rent during the pandemic closure. Various media report that the four men behind the esteemed complex will split up: two will continue to run Row 34 in Burlington, a surviving restaurant; one will focus on Island Creek Oysters in Duxbury, and one, Garrett Harker, the public face of the restaurants, has yet to announce plans. In *The Boston Guardian*, Cornwall's Pub owner Pam Beale held out hope that Harker would return to Kenmore, possibly in the retail/office complex Related Beal is building on the north side of the square.



# April

## CALENDAR

### Fri, 4/2 ➤ Fri, 5/28

BU's Boston Playwrights Theatre presents the **23RD BOSTON THEATER MARATHON**. For 50 straight days (except Sundays), catch a reading of a 10-minute play by a New England writer followed by a Q&A. A different local theater group sponsors each reading. Free, but donations requested to the Theatre Community Benevolent Fund. Find more details and a full schedule at [www.bu.edu/bpt/](http://www.bu.edu/bpt/)

### Mon, 4/5

The 32nd MassArt Auction will take place April 10 at 8pm. This year's events will also

include several pre-auction virtual preview parties featuring educational breakout sessions with art industry professionals. Join MassArt at 6pm or 7pm for a **PREVIEW OF THE LIVE AUCTION ARTWORK**. RSVP at [www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-massart-auction-virtual-preview-party-tickets-145328486415](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-massart-auction-virtual-preview-party-tickets-145328486415).

### Tue, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20 & 4/27

**HEALTHY HABIT PROGRAMS YOGA SERIES.** This virtual class from the Fenway CDC integrates slow and mindful moving sequences with a focus on alignment, breath, flexibility, and strength. The class will end with 15 minutes of guided

mindfulness meditation. All levels and beginners are welcome. The class will progress slowly adding new postures/Asanas each week with mindfulness practice. Contact Anar Kansara at [akansara@fenwaycdc.org](mailto:akansara@fenwaycdc.org) to join.

### Wed 4/7

During this lunchtime session—another of the breakout sessions organized around the MassArt Auction—**MEET AUCTION ARTISTS** Daphne Confar and David Hilliard, remotely. 12pm. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-massart-auction-virtual-preview-party-tickets-145332281767>.

### Wed, 4/7 & 4/21

**FENWAY FAIR FOODS.** Fair Foods welcomes community residents to get a bag of fresh fruits and vegetables for \$2. Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, 165 Park Drive, Boston MA 02215. 3pm to 6pm. Call (617) 213-2295 for additional information.

### Wed, 4/21 ➤ Sat, 4/24

**STAVE SESSIONS.** This online music festival unwinds over four evenings, with premiere performances Wednesday through Friday nights, followed by a night of encores on Saturday, April 24. Launched by Celebrity Series Boston in 2015, Stave Sessions highlights musicians who take diverse approaches to their music and defy standard labels, crossing national and stylistic borders. The festival includes seven musicians and ensembles, and you can choose your own festival price. Learn more and sign up at [www.celebrityseries.org/live-performances/stave-sessions/?utm\\_source=wordfly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=StaveOverview%253AList2&utm\\_content=version\\_A](http://www.celebrityseries.org/live-performances/stave-sessions/?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=StaveOverview%253AList2&utm_content=version_A).

### Wed, 4/28

**FENWAY HEALTH'S FENWAY@50 GALA FOR ALL.** Fenway Health hosts a virtual gala to celebrate its 50th birthday. The event features a discussion on Fenway Health's dynamic response to COVID with experts, including Dr. Anthony Fauci; an online auction; and performances. Free, but registration is required. Register at <https://support.fenwayhealth.org/page/26341/data/1?ea.url.id=782548>. Send any questions to [nfoley@fenwayhealth.org](mailto:nfoley@fenwayhealth.org). 6pm.

### Thu, 4/29

Join the **FENWAY CDC FOR ITS ANNUAL MEETING**. Keynote speaker is Chuck Collins, Director of the Program on Inequality & the Common Good at the Institute for Policy Studies. The meeting will also include games, community updates, awards, and a raffle. 6:30pm. RSVP at [www.eventbrite.com/e/fenway-cdc-virtual-annual-meeting-buildings-for-our-community-tickets-138624460493](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/fenway-cdc-virtual-annual-meeting-buildings-for-our-community-tickets-138624460493).

## COMMUNITY meetings

**WED, APRIL 7 NORTHEASTERN TASK FORCE MEETING**, the BPDA-appointed advisory group on the proposed dormitory and academic building at 840 Columbus Ave. 6pm. This meeting will take place online. Register at [bit.ly/NUTF4-7](http://bit.ly/NUTF4-7), to receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting. If you call in by phone, you'll need to download the Zoom app to see the presentation. Contact Gerald Autler at [Gerald.Autler@Boston.gov](mailto:Gerald.Autler@Boston.gov) or (617) 918-4438 with any questions.

### THU, APRIL 8

Mission Hill residents will have the opportunity to meet William Moose, the **MISSION HILL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE BOSTON TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT** and Joseph Blankenship, Boston Planning and Development Agency transportation planner for Jamaica Plain and Mission Hill. They encourage Mission Hill residents, community groups, and organizations to be a part of this remote conversation. Send questions and comments to Henry Santana at [Henry.santana@boston.gov](mailto:Henry.santana@boston.gov)

or (617) 635-3688. 6pm. Zoom link is <https://harvard.zoom.us/j/91730829775>.  
• Join the **FENWAY CDC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE** for its monthly meeting, held virtually at 6pm. If you'd like to attend, email Sarah Jenness at [sarahalicejenness@gmail.com](mailto:sarahalicejenness@gmail.com) or Rich Giordano at [rgiordano@fenwaycdc.org](mailto:rgiordano@fenwaycdc.org) for more information. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81245644560?pwd=S01mUHpPSXFLSZA0ZHZjYmFXVjhydz09>. You can also join via phone by calling (301) 715-8592, entering meeting ID 812 4564 4560 #, then entering the passcode, 896896#.

**SAT, APRIL 10** Join the **WARD 10 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE** at 4pm for a virtual meet-and-greet with **MAYORAL CANDIDATE JOHN BARROS**. Committee members will email you a Zoom link around 11:30am on the day of the event. Sign up for the email list at [ward10dems.org](http://ward10dems.org). If you have trouble signing up or miss the email, reach out to [bostonward10@gmail.com](mailto:bostonward10@gmail.com). Ward 10 includes most of Mission Hill and a large slice of Jamaica Plain.

## SENIOR EVENTS

Due to the pandemic, the **Peterborough Senior Center** continues to host virtual activities. To receive Zoom links and call-in numbers, please email Mallory Rohrig at [mallory@operationpeaceboston.org](mailto:mallory@operationpeaceboston.org).

- April 8 at 11:30am: **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH CITY COUNCILOR KENZIE BOK**
- April 13 at 1pm: **JOHN O'NEIL PERFORMANCE**
- April 20 at 1pm: **COMMUNITY UPDATES WITH STATE SENATOR WILL BROWNSBERGER**

## Northeastern Seeking Nominations for the Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award



## N Northeastern City and Community Engagement

Do you know of a resident-led initiative having a local impact in need of financial assistance? City and Community Engagement at Northeastern is seeking nominations for the first **Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award!**

**Nominations will be accepted through Friday, April 16th.**

*The initiatives must be led by and primarily serving residents in one or more of the four neighborhoods Northeastern is a part of: Fenway, Mission Hill, Roxbury, or South End.*

For more info & to access the Nomination Form visit [tinyurl.com/neighbors-award](https://tinyurl.com/neighbors-award)