



COVERING THE FENWAY, AUDUBON CIRCLE, KENMORE SQUARE, UPPER BACK BAY, PRUDENTIAL, LONGWOOD, AND MISSION HILL SINCE 1974 • VOLUME 48 NUMBER 4 • APRIL 1 - APRIL 29, 2022

City Debates 57-Year-Old Fenway Planning Zone

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) have requested an extension of the Fenway's Urban Renewal Plan, which would otherwise expire this month. Initially intended to "sunset"

after 40 years, the plan went into effect in 1965, making it 57 years old. This would be its sixth extension since 2004; City Councilor Michael Flaherty has even talked of adding two more years.

A City Council committee chaired by Councilor Frank Baker met for more than three hours on March 22 and

discussed both extensions of nine urban renewal plans and Councilor Kenzie Bok's docket item on land trusts and eminent-domain powers. Panelists included BPDA real estate director Devin Quirk, BPDA attorney Eileen Brophy, Minnie McMahon of the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, and former District 8 Councilor Josh Zakim, now director of the nonprofit Housing Forward-MA.

The panelists discussed a BPDA memo that argues for extending the nine plans by eight months (ending on Dec. 31) "in order to evaluate the necessity of a longer-term extension." Bok, citing scheduling issues created by the December date, asked to make the date March 31. Flaherty countered that two years was more realistic and suggested six-month check-ins with the council. District 7 Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson said, "I don't understand the long-term concept." Quirk agreed, mentioning community skepticism as the reason for the shorter request.

The BPDA's 2019 official filing with the state Department of Housing and Community Development said that the agency "continues to use its UR tools within this area [the Fenway] to facilitate economic development through selective acquisitions and dispositions of parcels and air rights" citing the One Dalton project and the anticipated 1000 Boylston as examples.

After the six-year extension in 2016, the BPDA under the Walsh administration committed to an inventory of all the land disposition agreements (LDAs) made under urban renewal. These deed restrictions

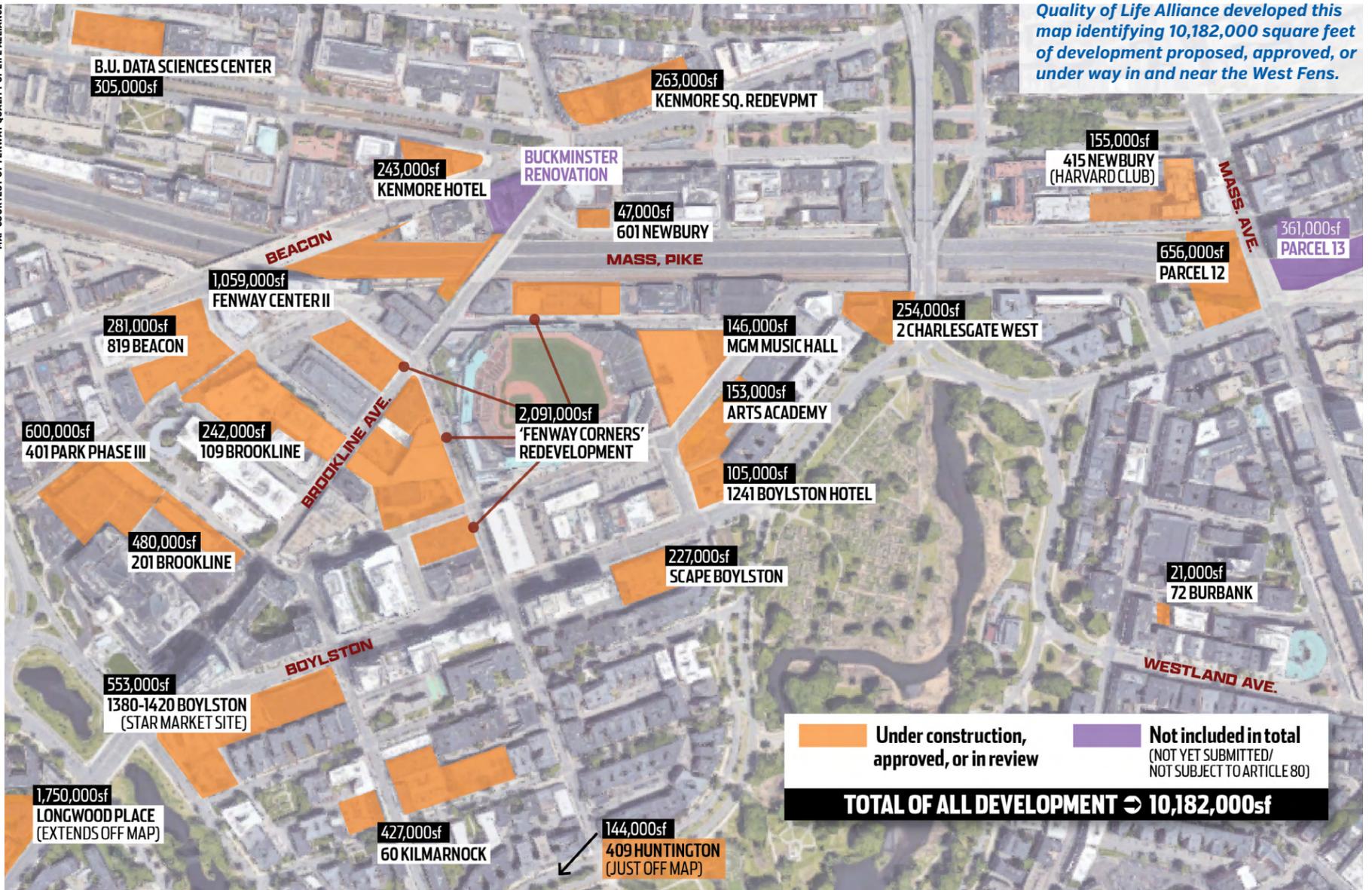
URBAN RENEWAL on page 5 >

CIVIC AGENDA

- **APRIL 15:** new deadline for public comments on the Fenway Corners Proposal. <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/fenway-corners>
- **APRIL 19:** VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH, a "big-picture conversation" with candidates hoping to win the Democratic nominations for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, and auditor. WGBH's Callie Crossley moderates two live-streamed discussions at 6:30 pm and 8:30pm. Sponsored by Ward 4 and Ward 5 Democratic committees. Free; register at <https://bitly/Vision4Commonwealth22>.
- **APRIL 20:** MEETING TO PRESENT CHANGES IN THE LONGWOOD PLACE PROPOSAL. Skanska has updated its request for a 5.8-acre planned development area along Brookline Ave. Virtual meeting, 6-8pm, registration required. Visit <https://bit.ly/3unmteM>.

HARDLY 'BLIGHTED' 57 YEARS LATER
The 1965 Fenway Urban Renewal Plan identified the East Fens as "blighted" and gave the BRA powers to promote redevelopment, mostly by institutions. The plan excluded the West Fens, but City agencies have used other tools to spur its development, which has reached a fever pitch. The Fenway Quality of Life Alliance developed this map identifying 10,182,000 square feet of development proposed, approved, or under way in and near the West Fens.

MAP COURTESY OF FENWAY QUALITY OF LIFE ALLIANCE



NEW MISSION HILL HOUSING COMES IN FORMS BOTH NEW AND FAMILIAR

Housing rising in Mission Hill includes a four-story building with 24 "compact living" apartments (also called micro-units), developed by Mitch Wilson, at 9 Burney St. (near right). The building replaces a parking lot and the three-family house at 11 Burney St. where former Governor Maurice Tobin lived in his teenage years. Construction at 725-727 Parker St. (far right) will yield a more traditional choice—a two-family home built by Habitat for Humanity. The Department of Neighborhood Development (now the Mayor's Office of Housing) sold the two lots to Habitat for Humanity for \$200 in 2017. Two families were chosen last year to live in both four-bedroom flats.



PHOTOS: ALISON PULTINAS

Not All The MFA's Artworks Live Inside the Building

BY ED BALLO

We're so fortunate in the Fenway to possess two of the best art museums in the United States.

Few neighborhoods in the U.S. (or the world) can make this claim! And while treasures abound inside the MFA, I want to focus on exterior artworks. I'll cover other works on the museum grounds in a future installment.

Using the Huntington Avenue entrance as "south," let's proceed around the building counterclockwise.

PHOTOS: STEVE WOLF



SOUTHEAST CORNER

Untitled (American sculptor Joel Shapiro, 1997). Shapiro was born in 1941 and grew up in Queens, New York. The young Shapiro must have been a true bon vivant, since his 1959 high school yearbook awarded him the title of "Man About Town." He served two years in India in the Peace Corps in the early 1960s and then went on to earn both bachelor's and

master's degrees from NYU.

His early sculptural works were inspired by Indian art, but by the 1980s his work began to take on the look and feel of *Untitled*. Some of his influences include the American sculptor Donald Judd and the pioneer modernist Romanian sculptor Constantin

Brâncusi. Shapiro enjoys creating pieces that depict the dynamism of the human form; dancing, falling or defying gravity. There's a sense of playfulness and approachability to his works, and it's hard not to smile when looking at one of his pieces.



EAST [FORSYTH WAY]

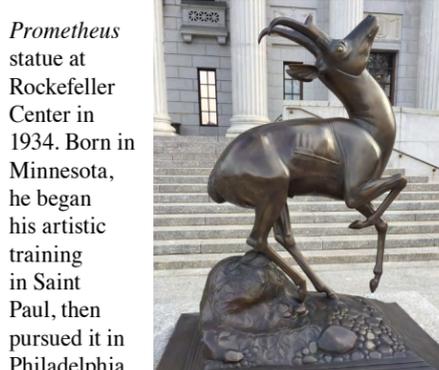
Art of the Americas Wing (2010 addition by Sir Norman Foster and Partners). One of the giants of contemporary architecture, Foster has shown admirable restraint and respect for the original Guy Lowell 1909 building. The exterior employs the same granite and the building heights match, yet a closer look reveals that the molding of the granite

around the base mimics that of the original building and ties everything into a unified whole. The horizontal I-beams in the walls "read" as traditional string courses and pair well with the limbs of the Shapiro sculpture. Inside, the dramatic glass atrium is one of Boston's most dramatic and soaring spaces, a true tour de force. The Boston Society of Architects recognized the addition for its high architectural achievement with the Harleston Parker Medal.

NORTH [FENWAY ENTRANCE]



Indian Hunter (American sculptor Paul Manship [1885-1966]; original work 1917; this casting, 2002). Manship created the gold gilt



Prometheus statue at Rockefeller Center in 1934. Born in Minnesota, he began his artistic training in Saint Paul, then pursued it in Philadelphia, and then New York City. A turning point for him was his selection for the prestigious Rome Prize, which allowed him to study in Italy from 1909 to 1912. While in Italy, his work began to reflect his interest in Archaic and Pre-Classical Greek art with its simplified shapes and forms. When he returned to America, Manship found that this pared-down style appealed to both modernists and conservatives, and numerous commissions followed. Manship is often considered a major precursor to the Art Deco movement. He maintained a workshop and artist retreat in Lanesville on Cape Ann, which lives on as the nonprofit Manship Artists Residency and Studios.

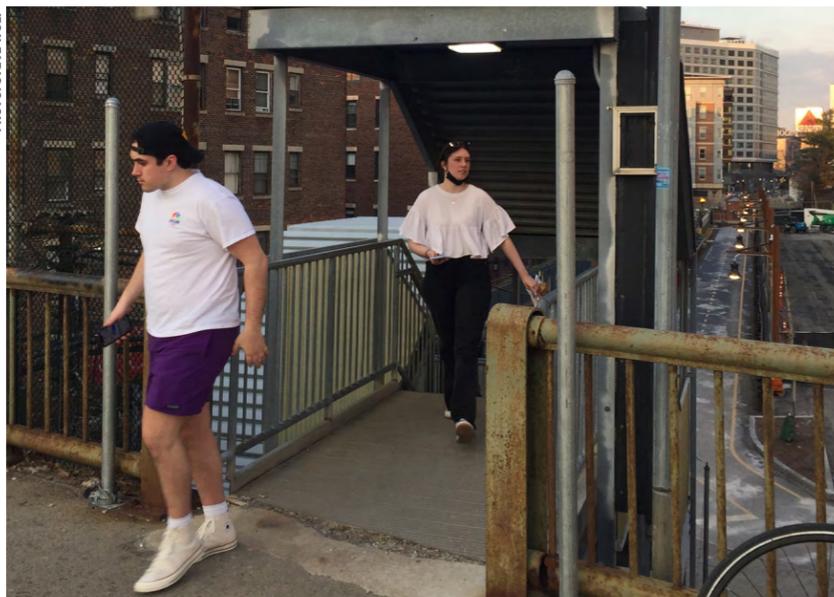
Ed Ballo lives in the West Fens. His periodic "Urban Detective" column presents small bites of local history to help decipher the city around you and enhance your appreciation of it.

CORRECTION

Last month, the Fenway News ran a photo of cones in the Charles River. The photo credit should have been Cathie Zusy. We regret the error.

STAIRCASE REOPENS AT FENWAY T STOP

PHOTO: STEVE WOLF



The MBTA has reopened the stairs connecting Park Drive and the D Line's Fenway Station, shortening access to the stop (although the stop still lacks an elevator). In the wake of a BU professor's death after he crashed through a rusted stairway at the JFK/Columbia stop on the Red Line, the T closed several stairwells across the transit system for inspection and repair.

CENSUS DATA COULD FORCE CITY TO REDRAW COUNCIL DISTRICTS

BY ALISON PULTINAS

City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo held a sparsely attended Redistricting Committee hearing March 24, where Councilor Kenzie Bok and resident Cindy Walling both testified about the divisions in Mission Hill, currently split among three districts.

Council district boundaries must be checked every 10 years to make sure they reflect diversity and federal census data on population growth or loss. No lines have been redrawn yet—the process has just begun.

Arroyo said the committee aims to have a final map ready in November 2022 to ensure at least 12 months before the first election held with the new boundaries. Outside groups, such as Drawing Democracy Coalition, have already gotten involved in the process.

At the hearing, Arroyo and Bok

warned about the dangers of "packing and cracking," terms for drawing districts intended to dilute the influence of specific, often racially defined groups of voters. Packing involves drawing boundaries to crowd as many members as possible into as few districts as possible. Cracking means splitting a defined group among multiple districts its members' ability to influence an election.

Dorchester resident Tim Davis explained that in the 1980s, Districts 4 and 7 were drawn to give African American candidates opportunities to win council seats. He questioned whether those boundaries now limit the voting power of minority populations.

Arroyo said the election department has begun a process to redraw precinct boundaries and his committee's drafts will work off of those maps.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

SENIOR EVENTS

All Peterborough Senior Center programs require masks. A vaccination card is required for programs at the Fenway Community Center. To attend these events, RSVP to Tracey or Sara at (617) 536-7154.

- Tue, April 5 at 11:30am: RMV PRESENTATION with Michele Ellicks at the Center.
- Tue, April 12 and 26 at 12pm: BINGO at the Center. Limited to 10 participants.

- Tue April 19 at 12pm: CURIOSITY KIT DISCUSSION at Peterborough Senior Center. Limited to 10 participants.
- Wednesdays at 1pm: TECH CAFE at Peterborough Senior Center. Limited to five participants. The last day of the semester is April 27.
- Thursdays at 11:30am: COFFEE AND CONVERSATION at Ramler Park. In case of rain, at the Center.

PLEASE JOIN THE FENWAY CDC FOR OUR 49TH ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL
7
VIRTUAL EVENT
6:00 TO 7:15

TO REGISTER, USE THE LINK (RIGHT) OR SCAN THIS QR CODE



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Ellen LaPointe, CEO of Fenway Health, will discuss how "We're All In This Together"

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS
Fenway Cares * Kris Anderson * City Councilor Kenzie Bok

FREE, BUT YOU MUST REGISTER AT
<https://tinyurl.com/FCDC49> or using the QR code.
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Questions?
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WWW.FENWAYCDC.ORG

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AREA SCHOOLS FACE RELOCATION, RENAMING, AND (HOOPS) REGRET

BY ALISON PULTINAS

EMK ACADEMY FOR HEALTH CAREERS

Once again, 11th and 12th graders from the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers (EMK) will relocate. This is their third site in 18 months.

After in-person learning resumed in 2021, students' long-term residency at Cahners Hall on Northeastern's campus was deemed no longer functional. Spring 2021 classes took place in Wentworth Hall on Wentworth's campus. September brought another move, to the vacant former Endicott Elementary on McLellan Street in Dorchester.

Boston Public School (BPS) Superintendent Brenda Cassellius announced last month that EMK juniors and seniors will move to a leased property at 384 Warren Street, also in Dorchester, by September 2022.

Founded on the premise of proximity to the Longwood Medical Area, the school has multiple locations. Its 9th and 10th graders will remain on Fenwood Road in the former Farragut Elementary. Families and administrators, however, continue to strive for a new building that can house all grades together.

MCKINLEY SCHOOLS

The multistep process of renaming the McKinley Schools began with the school communities in 2021 and, if all goes well, will end with a School Committee vote later this year.

The original name came from the 1920s-era elementary school in Audubon Circle, named in honor of President William McKinley, who was assassinated in 1901.

Moves to erase McKinley are not unique to Boston. In 2018, when a California community planned to remove a statue of him, Republican strategist Karl Rove wrote an opinion piece for *The Wall Street Journal* titled "The Pitchforks are Out for McKinley."

McKinley houses special education programs spread over three sites, including two in the Fenway-

McKinley Prep at 97 Peterborough St. and McKinley Middle at 50 St. Mary's St. The former Mackey Middle School on Warren Avenue in the South End is the program's largest facility. Its Dartmouth Street exterior carries a mural of former State Rep. Mel King, whose South End Technology Center has collaborated with McKinley students for more than two decades.

A year ago, retired BPS educator Edith Bazile posted an essay on schoolyardnews.com entitled "Fix Boston's McKinley Schools: Rename them 'Melvin H. King Schools' and reimagine their vision and purpose."

Participants in a March 22 public hearing suggested additional names to consider. School Head Cindie Neilson shared the list, which included John Lewis School of Change; Perseverance Academy; and names honoring Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Harriett Tubman, Ellen Ochoa, and Robert Moses. The next step is a vote on April 14 by the McKinley School site council.

Bazile wrote critically about the "McKinley Schools founded in 1978 for a population of students between the ages of 5 and 22 who have repeatedly failed in school due to primary emotional and behavioral problems as well as concomitant academic challenges. Since the McKinley design did not address the root cause of structural racism as a reason for referral to special education, the process disproportionately targeted black males.... Once they go in, they don't get out."

BPS's Cassellius also announced that intervention teams will study three low-graduation-rate high schools: Charlestown, Madison Park, and McKinley. The seven-member team, including three chosen by the Boston Teachers Union, will conduct a four-month study reviewing all aspects of school culture and offer recommendations for improvements.

FENWAY HIGH SCHOOL

Fenway High School hosted the final city championship tournaments for the Boston

PHOTO: PATRICK O'CONNOR



Fenway High School players who took part in the citywide all-star games on March 26 included Janiaya Printemps and Wynter Neal (left) and Tavaj Cope and Tahjae Sharpe (right).

Debate League on March 25. Spectators could watch simultaneous rounds held both in Spanish and English for middle school and high school debaters.

Fenway High also made headlines in March when the BPS Athletics Department failed to submit paperwork to the organizers of the statewide varsity basketball competition—news that made the *Boston Globe* editorial page on March 9.

Because students from the Dearborn STEM Academy play on Fenway High teams, both schools needed to register with the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) to join the competition. However, the Athletics Department, under director Avery Esdaile, failed to forward the Dearborn documents, despite multiple requests, until it was too late. The MIAA disqualified both the boys' and girls' teams, arguing everyone needed to obey the rules.

Fenway High had to forfeit its entire season, with far-reaching consequences. That, in turn, meant win-loss records changed for several suburban teams in Division 4, making them ineligible for the tournament.

Some suburban teams may no longer choose to compete against BPS schools because of this episode.

On the school website Head of School Geoffrey Walker said, "this was an unfortunate situation and I'm very proud of how our student-athletes and teams have handled themselves and I want to thank our basketball teams for living out our Fenway values throughout this season."

Superintendent Cassellius promised consequences for the athletics staff in an initial press statement, but the School Committee has not asked for updates.

In February, the girls' basketball team lost to John D. O'Bryant School of Math & Science in the city's semifinal competition. This was the first time in five years that Fenway High's team didn't win the city championship. Their playing time this year was cut short, as BPS had shut down winter sports practices and games for nearly four weeks earlier in the season. Several Fenway High players, both boys and girls, played in the city's all-star games on March 26 at Madison Park.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

ENC Begins Final Round of Seven-Year Tree-Pruning Cycle



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY

Boston's Emerald Necklace park system has more than 9,000 mature trees across seven miles and 1,100 acres. The Emerald Necklace Conservancy established the Olmsted Tree Society in 2013 to preserve and maintain the Necklace's tree canopy. Working with the Boston and Brookline parks departments, and the state's Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Society maintains the trees with pruning, soil enhancement, watering and other care. This year, the ENC will complete its first seven-year tree-care cycle for all 9,000 park trees; every tree in the system will have undergone inspection, assessment, and pruning. With more than 1,500 trees to reach this year—which happens to be the 200th anniversary of park designer Frederick Law Olmsted's birth—crews began working this month.

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Improving Lives and Building Community

FENSVIEWS

Russian Troops Out of Ukraine; No NATO Expansion

BY COLE HARRISON

The war in Ukraine is a disaster for the people of Ukraine and Russia and a grave threat to every person on the planet. The Russian invasion is illegal and immoral and must end immediately. The parties should sign an immediate cease-fire, Russia should promptly withdraw its troops, and diplomatic negotiations to resolve the dispute should be the top priority.

The United States should aid refugees and provide humanitarian and economic support to Ukrainians who are still in their country, as well as those fleeing the conflict. But we should also avoid escalation.

Sending more U.S. weapons to Ukraine, deploying more U.S. troops to Europe, and the draconian sanctions we have imposed on Russia are only escalating the crisis. This conflict has no military solution. Indeed, should it progress to an armed conflict between

the U.S./NATO and Russian forces it could escalate quickly to nuclear war. A “no fly zone,” proposed by Beltway

program, which was supposed to address education, public housing, clean energy, health care, and labor reform, died in the Senate, increased Pentagon spending will be a huge misallocation of taxpayer dollars.

The U.S. has imposed broad sanctions on Russia that are seriously damaging the civilian economy. Economic sanctions that punish the entire Russian people for the actions of their government should be lifted, and relations between U.S. and Russian banks restored. We should punish the oligarchs, not the entire Russian people.

A peace treaty will have to guarantee Ukraine’s neutrality and will have to address the internal divisions in Ukraine, including the status of Crimea, the rebellious Donbas region of eastern Ukraine, and the rights of its Russophile language and cultural minority. International peacekeepers and, after a period of calm, a referendum on the status of these regions, could be elements of a compromise solution.

Each day this war continues, the prospect of the unthinkable—an omniscidal war between nuclear powers—increases. The U.S. and Russia should begin the process of nuclear disarmament, beginning with reductions in nuclear weapons, a mutual commitment never to use nuclear weapons first, a freeze of all new nuclear weapons and delivery systems programs, and by joining the UN’s Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Even as images of the Ukraine tragedy nightly floods the airwaves, the Yemen war and resulting humanitarian disaster are completely ignored by the media, so that most Americans are unaware of them. Why the discrepancy?

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates began attacking Yemen in 2015, supported by the United States. The result has been 377,000 deaths, the world’s worst cholera epidemic, and tens of millions of food insecure people. Candidate Joe Biden called Saudi Arabia a “pariah state”, but as president he has continued to support the Saudi war effort. A resolution under the War Powers Act this spring is expected to put members of Congress on record on U.S. support for the Yemen war.

Our human family faces the multiple cascading existential threats of climate catastrophe, the ongoing global pandemic, extreme inequality, violent extremism, and nuclear annihilation. There is but one path forward: to expedite the transformation of this current crisis to peaceful international cooperation where the U.S., Russia and all countries recognize and act upon our mutually beneficial security needs.

Cole Harrison is executive director of Massachusetts Peace Action (masspeaceaction.org). He was a member of the Fenway News collective in the 1970s and 1980s.

GUEST OPINION

SEE PAGE 5 FOR A LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS DOING HUMANITARIAN WORK IN UKRAINE.

hawks, would amount to a U.S. declaration of war with Russia, as it would commit U.S. forces to shoot down Russian planes over Ukraine.

As is always the case with war, innocent civilians will bear the brunt of this violent tragedy and suffer the most. A devastating humanitarian and displacement crisis has already begun in Poland, Romania, and elsewhere. The U.S. should contribute generously to humanitarian aid programs to support displaced persons and other victims of this war.

All wars end with a peace treaty—it’s just a question of how many people are killed before that happens. Russia and Ukraine are talking seriously, but the U.S. has not yet spoken seriously about how the conflict will end.

NATO expansion led to the situation. NATO has moved ever eastward, adding 14 countries, including most of the members of the former Warsaw Pact, and it now presses up against Russia’s borders with nuclear-capable missiles. Russia felt vulnerable to attack, so it tried to make sure NATO would not station hostile troops in Ukraine. NATO, which is an anti-Russia alliance, needs to be retired and replaced with a new European security arrangement. When a powerful state feels insecure, its neighbors cannot be secure.

President Biden is expected to ask Congress for a \$813 billion Pentagon budget, continuing a series of rapid increases which Donald Trump began in 2017. Given that his Build Back Better

LETTERS

Massachusetts Needs Election-Day Registration, Which Faces Uncertain Future in Legislature

TO THE EDITOR

This legislative session, both the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate have taken important steps to protect voting rights and modernize our elections by passing versions of the VOTES Act (An Act Fostering Voting Opportunities Trust, Equity, and Security). Both the House and Senate bills extend the popular recent expansions of mail-in voting and early voting and strengthen protections for the voting rights of those currently incarcerated.

But there is a major difference between the two bills: same-day registration. The Senate’s bill embraced this time-tested reform, which would enable voters to register or update their registration at the polls. The House, by contrast, blocked inclusion of same-day registration or a narrower compromise, Election-Day registration (occurring only on Election Day itself) from the bill. We urge the conference committee working on a final version of the bill to include this vital reform.

Our neighborhood’s state senator, Will Brownsberger, has been supportive of this reform, as has State Senator Lydia Edwards, who will add much of the East Fens after redistricting. State Representatives Jay Livingstone, Jon Santiago, and Chynah Tyler, who all represent parts of the Fenway, have also voiced support, although Elections Committee chair Dan Ryan—who will soon represent much of the West Fens, along with Kenmore Square and Audubon Circle—has not. As Election Committee chair, he is one

of the six legislators working out the final details of the VOTES Act in the conference committee and has a major role to play in ensuring a robust final bill.

Residents of the Fenway are ready to welcome State Rep. Dan Ryan. But is he ready to welcome the neighborhood?

As the share of renters in the Fenway is high (89 percent), and the average age is low (with 79 percent of residents between ages 18 and 34), the voter-registration cutoff has a disproportionate impact. Last year’s municipal preliminary, for example, fell just two weeks after the city’s major move-in day, September 1. With our 20-day voter registration cutoff, many voters were shut out of the election or forced to travel to their old polling locations. Without policy action, this situation will be repeated this fall, with a state primary falling the day after Labor Day.

Studies have shown that allowing voters to register at the polls is among the best reforms for increasing voter turnout and participation in our democratic process. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia already have such laws, including our neighbors in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Vermont.

With voting rights under attack across the country, the least we should expect from our legislature here in Massachusetts is to embrace time-tested, well-researched policies to strengthen them.

SINCERELY,

JONATHAN COHN, MARY ANN BROGAN,
HELEN COX, RYAN HATCHER, LISA JEANNE
GRAF, CAROL LASKY, TIMOTHY MAHONEY,
KRISTEN MOBILIA, ANDREA OLMSTEAD,
LESLIE POND

Park Rangers Thank Fenway CDC for Help in Controlling Geese

EDITOR’S NOTE: The Fenway Community Development Corporation used funds from a Red Sox Community Benefits grant to pay for supplies the Parks Department uses in the addling Canada goose eggs in the Fens. The Boston Park Rangers expressed their gratitude in a letter to Madeine Lee, project manager at the Fenway CDC.

DEAR MADELINE,

We want to thank you, Leah Camhi and the Fenway Community Development Corporation for your generous support of our efforts in this year’s Canada goose egg-addling initiative. As you now know, our efforts can and do make a difference despite the overwhelming odds we face in addressing this serious and complex matter.

The equipment you so graciously donated will not only serve to help our mission become more efficient, but, more importantly, it will help in keeping our staff safe.

This is also an opportunity to thank you and the CDC for your support of the Boston Park Ranger service in general. We hope our collaboration helped in shedding more light on the other diverse roles that serve our overall mission in protecting and preserving Boston’s historic park system and open space.

We all hope this finds you well and again, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to furthering our collaborative efforts this season and well into the future.

SINCERELY,

GENE SURVILLO, CHIEF,
BOSTON PARK RANGERS

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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The Fenway News is published monthly by the Fenway News Association, Inc., a community-owned corporation dedicated to community journalism. If you’d like to volunteer to write, edit, photograph, distribute, or sell ads, please contact us at

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SUBSCRIPTIONS \$30/YEAR

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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 <

Our next issue will appear on
Friday, April 29.

> DEADLINE <

The deadline for letters, news items,
and ads for our next issue is
Friday, April 22.

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PHOTO: RUTH KHOWAIS



The Jazz Ensemble at New England Conservatory performed outside at the Fenway Community Center on March 17.

> **URBAN RENEWAL PLAN** from page 1 typically protect open space or affordable housing, like low-income units in the Susan Bailis Assisted Living Community or the Symphony Road Community Garden.

However, as Attorney Brophy pointed out, although those LDAs were time-limited (typically 30 years, with an option to renew for 20 more), protections will continue through restrictions tied to their receipt of public subsidies. Open space is also protected through the property owners, such as the Trustees of the Reservations, which man-

ages the Symphony garden.

The 524 acres under the Fenway Urban Renewal Plan include the entire Longwood area and the Northeastern and Wentworth campuses. The plan does not include Fenway Park or the West Fens, but it does include the Charlesgate West site—where Scape has proposed a residential tower—the Simmons and Emmanuel campuses, all of Massachusetts Avenue from Newbury to St. Botolph streets, and all of Huntington Avenue from Brigham Circle to Harcourt Street.

Bok's docket focused on the

potential for using urban-renewal powers for economic development to benefit low-income residents. Her examples included potentially acquiring "more parcels for public purposes such as deeply affordable, and cooperative housing, and for preservation of historical and cultural treasures, and as an extension of the Parks Department's new Parcel Priority Plan to acquire more space for urban wilds, raingardens, urban farms, urban forestry, and other sustainable uses."

On March 30, the full council voted to extend the original nine uplans for 12 months, as requested by Mayor Wu. They also voted to extend the Park Plaza, Brunswick-King, and Kittredge Square plans with a September check-in on the BPDA's analysis of impacted LDAs.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

Democrats Pick Convention Delegates

COMPILED BY KELSEY BRUUN

On June 3 and 4, Democrats will gather virtually and in Worcester to endorse candidates for state-wide office, including governor, lieutenant governor, secretary, attorney general, treasurer, and auditor, ahead of the party primary this September.

Local ward committees selected delegates last month:

- **WARD 4:** Amelia Aubourg, Shaina Aubourg, Mary Ann Brogan, Margaret McKenna, Andrea Olmstead, Anne Renahan, Jane Siegel, Janet Slovin, Gary Bailey, Harold Carter, Justin Cambridge, Andrew Carter, Will Dathan, Ryan Hatcher, Haroon Khan, Alex Mootafian, Ben Siegel, Grant Young (First Alternate), and Tim Mahoney (Second Alternate).
- **WARD 5:** Kenzie Bok, Gretchen Bennett, Kathy Judge, Patricia Amend, Julie Livingstone, Susan Smith, Hilary Bacon Gabrieli, Kathleen Gallivan, Cindy Korb, Sharon "Sheir" Franzetta, Creelea Pangaro, Diane Barry, Leslie Pond, Jay Livingstone, Sharon Durkan, Bob Binney, Robert Whitney, Alexander Bok, Josh Zakim, David Crossman, Daniel Lyon, George Paul Caron, Armen Youssoufian, Anthony Baez, Patrick McDonough, Paul Demakis, Bret Bero, Eleni Syrpis (First Alternate), and Gaye Bok (Second Alternate).
- **WARD 10:** Eve Harmon, Lois Hayes, Julianna Fernandez, Katie Genovese, Mary Nelson, Paulomi Joshi, Christopher Freiss, Bruce Bickerstaff, Patrick Walsh, Andrew Bloniarz, Richard Giordano, Patricia Flaherty, and six Jamaica Plain residents.

Kelsey Bruun is the editor of the Fenway News.

HOW YOU CAN HELP IN UKRAINE

Certain groups appear repeatedly on lists of charities doing humanitarian work in Ukraine. Working from lists compiled by CNN, NPR, Fidelity Investments, and The Washington Post, we found some key players:

UKRAINIAN GROUPS

- **SUNFLOWER OF PEACE**—Works with children but has pivoted to medical supplies. US arm is based in Boston.
- **VOICES OF CHILDREN**—Regional group

that addresses psychological needs of children, now working nationwide.

- **KYIV INDEPENDENT**—Local journalism site praised for its effective coverage, critical to countering disinformation.

INTERNATIONAL GROUPS

- **DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS**—Impartial medical humanitarian assistance in Ukraine and six neighboring countries. Ukrainian refugees have fled.
- **INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE**—Providing food, clothing, blankets and other essentials in Ukraine and Poland. Also working in Yemen and Syria.
- **UNICEF**—The venerable UN agency has delivered 1,000 tons of health, hygiene, and educational supplies to Ukraine and refugee centers in nearby countries.

Reading our print edition? Download this issue from our website; you'll find live links to all these groups and the lists we used in this article.

Spring Brings Bluebirds...and Bluebikes

New Bluebike stations have arrived in the neighborhood. There are now 18 bike docks at the corner of St. Alphonsus and Tremont streets and more on Forsyth Street, just off of Huntington Avenue. Several other stations have returned after winter hibernation: Brookline Avenue at Burlington Avenue, Newbury Street at Hereford, and at Northeastern's North Lot.



PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS

[ADVERTISEMENT]

TUTOR WANTED!

Tutor wanted to help a blind person use an Apple 12 iPhone. Paid position. Please call (617) 963-4767 for details.

CARDINAL VISITS SAINT CECILIA

PHOTO: PATRICK O'CONNOR



Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley visited Saint Cecilia Parish on March 6. After mass, he greeted parishioners with Father John Unni.

COMMUNITY meetings

WED, APRIL 6 The Red Sox host a **COMMUNITY MEETING**. Neighbors can join us in the Ford Clubhouse at Fenway Park or by Zoom at <https://redsox.zoom.us/j/95992418780?pwd=WUx6ZGhxdjBheHBHZWtGcGNjRWhtQT09>.

WED, APRIL 6 & TUE, APRIL 12 The MBTA filed its **FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN** on March 24, with a 30-day public comment period. View the plan at <https://bit.ly/mbtacapitalplan>. The agency hosts two virtual meetings for public comments:

- April 6 at 6pm; register at <https://bit.ly/mbtacapitalplan1>.
- April 12 at 7pm; register at <https://bit.ly/mbtacapitalplan2>.

THU, APRIL 7 Join Fenway CDC for its **49TH ANNUAL MEETING**, held virtually. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/FCDC49>. 6pm. Contact Hang Le at hle@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 267-4637 x10 with questions.

THU, APRIL 14 Join the Fenway CDC for its monthly **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

MEETING, held virtually at tinyurl.com/FCDCorganizing. 6pm. Contact Cassie White at cwhite@fenwaycdc.org or (857) 217-4370 or Ishraq Boutaleb at iboutaleb@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 807-0050 for more information.

TUE, APRIL 19 Boston Ward 4 and Ward 5 Democrats host **MARATHON TO SEPTEMBER AND BEYOND: VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH**, a "big-picture conversation" with candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, auditor, and secretary of the commonwealth. Hosted by WGBH's Callie Crossley. Two sessions: 6:30pm and 8:30pm. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/Vision4Commonwealth22>.

WED, APRIL 20 The BPDA hosts a meeting to present changes in the **LONGWOOD PLACE PDA PROPOSAL**. Skanska has updated its request for a 5.8-acre planned development area along Brookline Ave. Virtual meeting, 6–8pm, registration required. Visit <https://bit.ly/3unmteM>.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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

How hot is commercial real estate in the Fenway? This hot: a property sale in the Fenway ranked as the second most-expensive transaction in the entire country in 2021. Yep, 401 Park, which Samuels & Associates sold to Alexandria Real Estate Equities—the 800-pound gorilla of Kendall Square—for \$1,162,080,000. (That modest \$80k looks so lonely!) Real estate website CommercialCafe compiled the list, which ICYMI found thanks to Scott Van Voorhis's *Contrarian Boston* newsletter. **☛ A big pile of money from suburban real estate will find its way to a new and very urban home. A \$12.5 million gift from the Cummings Family Foundation—starting in the 1970s, the company built an office-park empire north of Boston—will bolster the Franklin Institute as it prepares to move from the South End to Nubian Square. The two-year college, started with a bequest from Ben Franklin, primarily serves students of color. According to *Globe* columnist Adrian Walker, the gift represents four times the school's miniscule endowment.** **☛ Fenway Health joined the Massachusetts Medical Society in urging the FDA to end restrictions on gay and bisexual men's donating blood, a policy rooted in a Reagan-era homophobia and HIV panic. In a letter to the agency, the two groups argued that sophisticated testing can now easily detect any virus in donated blood and that rules should be based on individuals' behavior, not assumptions about entire groups.** **☛ A third-year Northeastern Law School student joined a panel on NPR's "1A" program to dissect the treatment of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson during hearings on her nomination to a seat on the Supreme Court. Simone Yhap, the student, heads the National Black Law Students Association.** **☛ Mission Hill State Rep. Nika Elugardao was one of six representatives to score above 90% on a Beacon Hill report card issued by Progressive Massachusetts.** **☛ A senior at John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science will become the 2022 Boston Youth Poet Laureate. Angeliqua Leynneyah Verona Birkett will receive a \$2,000 stipend, mentoring from the current laureate, and have a collection of her poems published.** **☛ In case you hid in a cave last month, baseball players and major league owners agreed on terms for a new contract, ending a 99-day lockout of players. The Red Sox play their home opener on April 15.** **☛ State Rep. Jon Santiago and his wife announced the birth of a son, Rafael.** **☛ Gov. Charlie Baker resurrected a plan to sell the Hynes Convention Center for redevelopment; the plan had fallen victim to the pandemic. Baker dropped it into a larger economic-development package he wants the legislature to adopt. According to the *Globe*, a 2020 report found that the site could support up to 2.3 million square feet of development (roughly twice as much as space as the Prudential tower holds), but the Mass Pike tunnel beneath the site complicates that projection. Back Bay businesses, which howled in protest the first time around, have reacted with caution; expect to hear more about this.** **☛ Speaking of the gov, observers spotted him grooving to the Dropkick Murphys at the House of Blues on St. Patrick's Day. His moves, seen in a video on Twitter, reinforce an old adage: "White men can't dance."** **☛**



Dashboard

TRASH & RECYCLING PICK-UP

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

STREET CLEANING

The City of Boston resumes street cleaning (and towing) on April 1. For more information, check the City's web page with temporary transportation information, <https://bit.ly/2KJ3TXV>.

MISSION HILL/FENWAY NEIGHBORHOOD TRUST

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

Please visit www.missionhillfenwaynt.org to access the on-line application.



DEADLINE: Submit your proposal no later than 5pm on April 30, 2022. Please email hello@missionhillfenwaynt.org with any questions.

Could Back Bay Sheraton Become A Dorm?

Värde Partners and Hawkins Way Capital, owners of the Sheraton Boston, are considering converting the hotel's 427 rooms into dorm units. The plan has met pushback from hotel workers and their union, which contend the conversion would eliminate dozens of jobs for mostly immigrant workers of color. Conversion could help reduce the numbers of students renting apartments in the area.

Mayor Wu Submits Plan for \$27 Million in CPA Funds

In late February, Mayor Michelle Wu recommended Community Preservation Act funding for 52 projects, totaling more than \$27 million. The recommendations included \$14.6 million in affordable housing projects, \$6.1 million for historic preservation projects, and \$6.4 million for recreational-use and open space projects. The Boston City Council still must approve the proposed spending in a vote scheduled to take place on April 5. Projects in *The Fenway News* coverage area include:

- **Huntington Theatre:** \$100,000 to restore and repair character-defining elements of the 1924 theater entrance, including doors, balconies, balustrades and masonry.
- **Evans Way Footbridge Restoration:** \$650,000 for restoration and rehabilitation of the missing Evans Way footbridge.

MBTA Releases Five-Year Capital Plan

The MBTA filed its 2023–2027 Capital Investment Plan March 24, opening a 30-day comment period. View the plan at <https://bit.ly/mbtacapitalplan>. (Page 5 has registration info for public-comment meetings on April 6 and 12). The plan's biggest allocation, \$783.4 million, would fund for new fare-collection systems. Projects of local interest include:

- \$83.2 million for Symphony Station
- \$40.1 million for Hynes Convention Center Station
- \$72.9 million for Ruggles Station, Phase 2
- \$85.9 million E line accessibility and capacity improvements at stations between Northeastern and Heath Street (to accommodate larger, Type 10 trains)

Northeastern Advances in Cyber Competition

In late March, Northeastern University won the Northeast Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, an annual event where collegiate teams compete against each other to secure corporate networks from unknown adversaries. Northeastern competed against ten other teams from the northeast and will continue on to compete virtually at the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, April 21–23. Northeastern last made the national competition in 2016.

Late-Night Culture Hawks Have A New Destination—The MFA

Taking a page from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, last month the MFA began welcoming visitors until 10 pm every Friday.

SOXBOX

Fri, April 15	2:10pm	Tue, April 19	7:10pm
Sat, April 16	4:10pm	Wed, April 20	7:10pm
Sun, April 17	1:35pm	Thu, April 21	1:35pm
Mon, April 18	11:10am		



Virtual Public Meeting

Longwood Place (305 Brookline Ave.)

Wednesday, April 20
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/36MtGws
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 780 1559

Project Proponent:

Skanska USA Commercial Development Inc.

Project Description:

This is a Public Meeting in regards to the Longwood Place (305 Brookline Avenue) development proposal. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss updates to the proposed Planned Development Area (PDA) Development Plan. The meeting will include a presentation followed by Q&A and discussion from the public.

The proposal includes the redevelopment of approximately 5.8 acres, consisting of approximately 1.7 million gross square feet of residential, office/laboratory, retail, restaurant, commercial, community space, and parking. The proposed PDA Area will be organized around approximately 2.3 acres of new public open space.

作为波士顿居民和利益相关者, 本会议的信息对您来说是至关重要的。可以提供翻译服务以传达本会议的内容, 您无需承担任何额外费用。如果您需要翻译服务, 请通过以下方式联系: Edward.Carmody@Boston.gov 617-918-4422。会议定于 2022 年 4 月 20 日, 请在会议前 5 天内申请口译服务。

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

BostonPlans.org | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

The Arts

BRAVURA SINGING HIGHLIGHTS BSO'S STELLAR CONCERT STAGING OF 'WOZZECK'

PHOTO: WINSLOW TOWNSON



BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons conducts 'Wozzeck' with soprano Christine Goerke and baritone Bo Skovhus.

much longer opera, *Lulu*, continues Berg's experimentation, but the composer did not live to finish or see it performed.)

But *Wozzeck* is first and last an opera about madness. When—after horrific abuse, betrayal, and humiliation—Wozzeck does crack, it takes a great singer-actor to vocalize Berg's musical Expressionism and, through acting, project the character's despair, rage and hallucinations. The tortured character of Wozzeck demands an actor who could play King Lear.

The BSO had such an actor-singer in the powerful Danish baritone Bo Skovhus as Wozzeck. Skovhus actually did play Lear, but not in the Shakespeare tragedy; he sang the taxing title role of *Lear*, a dissonant modern opera based on Shakespeare by German composer Aribert Reimann.

Like Maria Callas and other singers who have prized good acting in opera, Skovhus as Wozzeck gave a classic demonstration of "less is more." He achieved maximum effect by minimal means. Even when he wasn't singing, he was expressive. Seated stage front with his shaved head in his hands for much of the evening, he was a picture of dejection and isolation.

Wozzeck is an archetype of the "lone wolf" anti-hero made into a whipping post for anyone who decides to pick on or betray him. When the character breaks into apocalyptic prophecy or psychotic raving, Skovhus at Symphony Hall managed to sing with power and nuance and project the man's suffering in such a way that his emotions were palpable even if you were seated far away. In short, he presented us with Wozzeck's soul.

Between Skovhus' elemental tour de force and Nelsons' confident "driving," everyone through the storm of Berg's orchestration, we left Symphony Hall shaken but grateful for such luminous music making in our midst.

But tragedy was in the hall as well as on the stage. Symphony Hall was less than half full for this important event.

John Engstrom lives in the West Fens.

BY JOHN ENGSTROM

People new to opera are often struck by a disparity between powerfully layered music and lame, insipid dramaturgy. The music outshines the libretto. Not so, however, for those exceptionally strong and daring operas that once seen, are never forgotten. These works are so searingly dramatic and human that they become a part of your soul.

Take Alban Berg's one-act opera *Wozzeck*—a harrowing piece that was performed to perfection on Saturday, March 12, at Symphony Hall in the second of two concert presentations of the opera by a sensational-sounding Boston Symphony Orchestra and soloists under conductor (and BSO music director) Andris Nelsons.

The score that Berg composed for depicting the squalid life and downfall of a crazed soldier in 19th-century Germany is both eclectic musically and quintessentially modern. It ranges from the clashing colors, jarring contrasts, and morbid atmospherics of Expressionism, to flashes of dissonance, music that is more purely tonal, and a heavy use of leitmotifs.

Berg wrote of the many musical forms he wove into the score: "fugues, inventions, suite and sonata movements, variations, and *pas-sacaglias*." He divided the opera in three acts, with musical interludes between them. The whole middle section is composed symphonically. Berg dips into early cinema technique with "cross-cutting" between symphony and chamber orchestras. There is a lot going on in both the musical and dramatic spheres.

But it all hangs together magnificently because of Berg's inspired fusion of text and music. Something about the story ignited him. The negative vision of life that *Wozzeck*'s story dramatizes lay painfully close to the bone. The horrors and devastation of "The

Great War," as World War I was called, were fresh memories. (Berg himself was enlisted when he started writing *Wozzeck*).

At Symphony Hall, the instruments and soloists functioned as a unified ensemble under Andris Nelsons' electric conducting, which was both transparent and brisk in its traversal of Berg's tremendous musical arc.

Wozzeck is one of the shorter works in the bulging repertoire of opera—at Symphony Hall it took ninety minutes (without intermission) to perform—but it makes up in intense, throat-catching drama what it may lack in grandeur. Berg fashioned his own libretto after a fragmentary German play by Georg Buchner about an ugly true crime that involved a desperate soldier in an army-university town accused of murdering his mistress. (Audiences for the BSO opera program could follow the text from English-language titles projected on a screen.)

Out of this lurid material and a radical, experimental approach to opera, Berg created a work of stunning, visceral impact, a music drama that remains as vital and timeless today as it must have been in its Berlin world premiere of 1925. But the opera (and Berg) suffered under the Nazis, who banned both as "degenerate."

There were many highlights in the Symphony Hall *Wozzeck* under Nelsons. The most riveting and unforgettable came right after the murder—"under a blood-red moon"—of Marie, *Wozzeck*'s common-law wife (sung with opulence and feeling by soprano Christine Goerke).

The instruments quietly sound a single, drone-like note of B, which then swells, builds, and gets louder until it fills the hall, then bursts into a shattering climax that engulfs the whole space. Under Nelsons, this nightmarish musical vision sounded like a cross between a chorus of universal woe and the climax of an

Hall (and sometimes at Tanglewood). In 1987, Seiji Ozawa conducted a "semi-staged" *Wozzeck* concert with Benjamin Luxon in the title role and Hildegard Behrens as Marie. Other BSO concert operas of recent note include two that Nelsons conducted: *Salome* and *Elektra*, the latter with Goerke, who shared the star billing in *Wozzeck* with Bo Skovhus.

In addition to the principal vocalists, Nelsons had at his disposal an international group of A-list opera singers with A-list credentials. British tenors Christopher Ventris and Toby Spence, with German bass Franz Hawlata, embodied *Wozzeck*'s various tormentors with fierce acting and vocal finesse. Mezzo soprano Renée Tatum, tenor Mauro Peter, bass baritone Zachary Altman and baritone David Kravitz fused music with acting to fine effect.

To keep up with Berg's relentlessly athletic and demanding music, the singers must navigate a shifting collage of "languages"—arias, sung speech, and ordinary speech, folk songs, tavern dancing—the composer devised for the piece. (His later and

FENWICKIANS HIT THE ROAD FOR ART

PHOTO: ROBERT KORDENBROCK



The Fenway Community Center took 14 residents to the *The Institute of Contemporary Art* on March 4. Here, members of the group learn about the work of Roxbury-based artist Napoleon Jones-Henderson, focus of a solo exhibition.

New Look for Open Studios: Added Day, Outdoor Exhibit

Fenway Studios has revamped its Open Studios format for 2022. The event will take place on April 30 and May 1. On April 30, from 11am to 5pm, attendees will be welcomed inside to meet artists in their studios and view their work, available for purchase. On May 1, attendees can both visit the artists in their studios and an outdoor exhibit under a tent, open from 11am to 5pm. The outdoor will feature live cream truck. May officially opening of a new artist work To accommodate Ipswich Street from Charlesgate intersection with (essentially the building and St. On both days, host a food drive to pantry and ask a non-perishable



portion of the event music and an ice 1 will also mark the The Fenway Gallery, and exhibit space. the outdoor event, will close to traffic East east to the Boylston Street block with the studio Clement's Shrine). Fenway Studios will benefit a local food attendees to bring food item to donate.

NEIGHBORHOOD ARTSLINE

MassArt Opens 33rd Fundraising Auction

The 2022 MassArt Auction—the college's largest annual fundraiser—has opened, with more than 325 works by artists ranging from emerging to internationally renowned. It combines a virtual silent auction, open through noon on April 10, and a live auction on April 9, returning as an in-person/virtual hybrid. The college has installed all artwork in an exhibition on campus and invites guests to make an appointment to preview it. You'll find more information, including a link to the virtual component, at massart.edu/auction.

Berklee Has Lots to Crow About, from Video Games to Grammys

- Berklee's Film Scoring Department will launch a new major to prepare students for careers in video-game and interactive-media design. Students will work with top game-design programs around the country.
- Berklee plays an integral role in the plot of *CODA*, the Apple+ movie filmed in Gloucester that won the Academy Award for Best Picture. The film features musical contributions from Berklee students and alumni, who performed on set and in the studio for the film. Nicholai Baxter, a Berklee grad, served as the film's co-music producer and co-wrote its end-credit original song, "Beyond the Shore."
- Finally, Berklee will be well-represented at the Grammy Awards on April 3. Alumni picked up 43 nominations, and will compete in a range of categories, including Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best New Artist.

April

CALENDAR

COVID PRECAUTIONS KEY

- ✓ Proof of vaccination or negative PCR text within 72 hours
- Ⓜ Masking required
- Ⓡ Reduced seating capacity
- Ⓩ Remote viewing

Sat, 4/2

COPLEY SQUARE LIBRARY BOOK SALE.

Support the BPL by buying used books from the City-Wide Friends of the Boston Public Library. 10am–4pm.

Wed, 4/6 & 4/20 Ⓜ

FENWAY FAIR FOODS. Fair Foods offers community residents a free bag of fresh fruits and vegetables. Mask required. Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, 165 Park Drive. 3–4pm. Contact Anar Kansara at akansara@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 267-4637 x23 for more information.

Thu, 4/6 & 4/20 Ⓜ

LOWER ROXBURY/SOUTH END FAIR FOODS.

Fair Foods offers community residents a free bag of fresh fruits and vegetables. Mask required. Newcastle Saranac Community Space, 607 Columbus Ave. 12–3pm. Contact Diego Soler at dsoler@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 267-4637 x15 for more information.

Thu 4/6 ☞ Sun, 4/10

Boston Conservatory's Center Stage presents **RENT** in the show's 25th-anniversary year. Thu-Sat, 8pm; Sat-Sun, 2pm. Purchase tickets at bostonconservatory.berklee.edu/events/rent.

Fri, 4/8 ✓ Ⓜ Ⓩ

BENJAMIN ZANDER AND BOSTON PHILHARMONIC present Mahler's Symphony No. 3 with mezzo-soprano and Chorus Pro Musica. 8pm at Symphony Hall; pre-concert guide, presented by Zander at 6:45. Tickets \$30-100 and info at www.BostonPhil.org.

Mon, 4/11 Ⓩ

Northeastern hosts the inaugural **FUTURE OF WORK SYMPOSIUM** as a hybrid event. 11:30am. Visit careers.northeastern.edu/future-of-work-symposium to register.

Tue, 4/12 Ⓩ

HEALTHY HABITS: YOGA AND MINDFULNESS. Free class held over Zoom. Contact Anar Kansara at akansara@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 267-4637 x23 for registration info.

Wed, 4/13 Ⓩ

THE FORESTS AND THE TREES: THE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD. Climate Reality–Metro Boston hosts a virtual screening of *Forests*, from the acclaimed documentary series "Climate Emergency: Feedback Loops." *Boston Globe* reporter Sabrina Shankman moderates the subsequent panel with Susan Masino, professor of applied science at Trinity College; Janet Sinclair, co-founder of Save Massachusetts Forests; and David Meshoulam, executive director of Speak for the Trees Boston. 7–8 pm. Details, registration at <https://bit.ly/ForestsTreesMA>. FREE.

Sat, 4/9

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston hosts its annual **ASL DAY**, a celebration of Deaf culture for the Deaf community and friends. Coinciding with National Deaf History Month, the program includes American Sign Language tours, performances by DEAFinitely Dance, art-making kits and more. Presented in partnership with Boston Deaf Night Out and the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. 10am–5pm. Visit mfa.org for the full schedule.

Sat, 4/9 & 4/16

MISSION HILL SPRING CLEANUP DAYS. Meet at Mission Hill Main Streets, 1542 Tremont St., across from Mission Church. Trash bags, brooms and gloves provided. Sign up at (617) 232-0182 or by email at mainstreetsellenwalker@gmail.com.

Thu, 4/14 Ⓩ

MA COMMISSION ON CLEAN HEAT–PUBLIC MEETINGS. Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) invites you to learn about the work of the Commission on Clean Heat and policies for building decarbonization. Virtual meetings with a short presentation then public comments.

When registering, indicate if you wish to provide comments during the meeting.

- For the 1–3pm session, register at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vprO7JFbQOGC-gHuOEjt4g.
- For the 6–8pm, register at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F-GdaeFtTiSppEntXPdJBg.

For more information or accessibility accommodations and/or language services, email GWSA@mass.gov.

Sat, 4/16 ☞ Sun, 6/25

How can we turn the climate crisis into hope for our shared future? A majority of Americans are anxious about the climate, yet only a small percentage know how to make a positive impact. The Peabody Essex Museum's exhibition **CLIMATE ACTION: INSPIRING CHANGE** highlights local and regional climate issues and opportunities. Of 30 featured artists, most work in New England—including 10 award-winning young artists who participated in "Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis," an international student art contest held in 2020. Details and tickets at <https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/climate-action-inspiring-change>.

Thu, 4/21 Ⓩ

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND THE OFFSHORE WIND REVOLUTION. The U.S. offshore wind revolution is underway, bringing a unique opportunity to reduce carbon emissions dramatically, create jobs and build a new—and more just—energy system. How? And how do we make sure communities of color, women and other underserved populations can help plan and can reap the benefits? WBUR's environmental reporter Miriam Wasser moderates a conversation about the promises and pitfalls of offshore wind in New England. Panelists TBA. 6:30pm. In-person and virtual tickets available at <https://www.wbur.org/events/756474/environmental-justice-and-the-offshore-wind-revolution>.

Sat, 4/23 Ⓜ

MUDDY RIVER CLEANUP 2022. The Emerald Necklace Conservancy's largest annual volunteer event has brought hundreds together every year to pick up litter, remove invasive plants and assist with park

maintenance throughout the 1,100 acres of the Emerald Necklace. 10am–12pm in each park of the Emerald Necklace, including the Back Bay Fens and Charlesgate Park. Visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/volunteer/muddy-river-cleanup-2022/ for more information and to register.

Tue, 4/26 ☞ Sat, 5/6

Check the calendar for **BOSTON DESIGN WEEK** (50 events, 10 self-guided walking tours, nearly 20 museum shows). Nearby events include a **200th birthday party for Frederick Law Olmstead** (4/26 @ 6pm); a **tour of Charlesgate Park** (4/29 @ 5pm); a walking **tour of the Muddy River restoration work** (4/30 @ 11:30am); a **tour of art on the MIT campus** (5/4 @ 5:30pm and 5/6 @ 11:30am); and **personal tours of drawings, prints, and ephemera with an MFA curator** (5/6 @ 3:30, 4:30, and 5:30pm). More at <https://www.bostondesignweek.com/>

@ THE CENTER

The Fenway Community Center is now open six days a week. Visit <https://fenwaycommunitycenter.org/> for more details. Masks and vaccines required.

- Mondays, 3:00pm: **FCC MOVIES.** Enjoy an array of movies.
- Mondays, 5:30pm: **MYSTERY GROUP.** Strange phenomena have long plagued the town of Cooper's Rock. You'll have to fight supernatural forces threatening to overrun the town.
- Wednesdays, 4:00pm: **GUIDED MEDITATION.**
- Saturdays, 12:00pm: **MOVEMENT MATTERS.** A gentle, low-impact dance program led by Boston Conservatory at Berklee students.
- Fri, April 8, 6:30pm: **FIRST FRIDAY FILM SERIES** presents *Pan's Labyrinth*.
- Fri, April 15, 3:00pm: **PICKLEBALL.** Get moving with this cross between tennis and ping-pong. Non-competitive, fun for all ability levels.

Northeastern Seeks Nominations For The Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award



Do you know of a resident-led initiative having a local impact in need of financial assistance?

The Office of City and Community Engagement at Northeastern is seeking nominations for our

Neighbors Uplifting Neighbors Award!

Nominations will be accepted through Monday, April 11th.

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 the South End.



For more info & to access the Nomination Form visit bit.ly/neighbors-award-2022 or scan the QR code.



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