



THE Fenway News

HYPERLOCAL NEWS FOR THE FENWAY, AUDUBON CIRCLE, KENMORE SQUARE, UPPER BACK BAY, PRUDENTIAL, LONGWOOD, AND MISSION HILL SINCE 1974 • VOLUME 50 NUMBER 4 • MARCH 29 - MAY 3, 2024



rites of spring

Wed, 4/3

Street Sweeping Returns

Visit cityofboston.gov/publicworks/sweeping to look up your street and see when it gets cleaned. *The Fenway News* "Dashboard" links to the schedule throughout the season.

Tue, 4/9 at 2:10pm

Red Sox Home Opener

The season's first home game will bring crowds, traffic, and the enervating drone of helicopters (because local TV news can't

think of another way to package a home opener story). Plan your day accordingly.

Mon, 4/15

Support Fenway Cares in the Boston Marathon

Nehal Munshi—who works with Brigham & Women's Community Health Care van—will run to raise funds for Fenway Cares, the mutual-aid group that distributes food to food-insecure residents. Visit givingain.com/champion/nehah-munshi-955033 to support Munshi's run and Fenway Cares.

NU Plan to Tear Down White Hall Hits A Speed Bump



PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS

Northeastern wants to demolish White Hall—built as apartments in the 1920s—but its desire to wait for its new IMP to announce plans for the site has hit a roadblock under Landmarks Commission regulations.

BY ALISON PULTINAS

In March, Northeastern University's campus planning office submitted an application to the City to demolish White Hall, a large dormitory at 17 Forsyth Street on the corner of Huntington.

The City's zoning code requires review by staff of the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) before any building 50 years or older may be torn down. The regulations allow a 10-day window for the public to weigh in on a building's significance and historic context. The BLC staff then determines whether to hold a hearing for imposing a 90-day delay before the Inspectional Services Department may issue a demolition permit. The process then moves to a public hearing by the full Commission, whose members presumably base their vote on whether alternatives to demolition require more consideration.

Northeastern's application remains in limbo, however, because it lacked needed information—a proposed plan for how the site will be treated after demolition—according to Chelsea Blanchard, BLC staff architect.

According to the application, submitted

for Northeastern by Viktorija Abolina, "the renewal of Northeastern's IMP [institutional master plan] is planned for 2025 and will identify through a public process a redevelopment of this site. The site will be cleared and fenced in until the start of construction for a replacement institutional building upon approvals from the City of Boston."

Contractors were working in the building before the student move-in last September. However, an emergency assessment of water damage affecting the masonry shut the entire building down, including the Qdoba restaurant and a daycare center at the rear that faces Fencourt, the private way that runs between Hemeway and Huntington. The daycare center relocated to Kerr Hall in late December.

In 1961, Northeastern converted the five-story, 100-year-old building—originally the Roosevelt Apartments—to a men's dormitory, most recently permitted for 475 beds. The Roosevelt Company's 1925 application for a building permit described the future occupancy as 30 families.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

Healey's BPL Visit Draws Picket Over Massport Private-Jet Plan

BY LESLIE POND

On Feb. 27, about 15 concerned Boston-area residents, part of the coalition Stop Private Jet Expansion at Hanscom or Anywhere (SPJE), held a demonstration outside the Boston Public Library. They were seeking to block the Massachusetts Port Authority's (Massport's) proposal to more than double Hanscom Field's private jet capacity, the statewide SPJE coalition, with more than 70 partner organizations, cites concern about climate impacts and inequities.

The friendly demonstration greeted Gov. Maura Healey as she arrived for an "Ask the Governor" segment on WGBH's *Boston Public Radio* with hosts Jim Braude and Margery Eagan at the BPL's Newsfeed Café. According to Corinne Doud of Mothers Out Front

is appealing to Healey to support stopping the expansion. Hanscom Field operates separately from Hanscom Air Force Base.

On March 6, the coalition hosted a webinar, with more 600 registrants, that offered context to explain why it is important for Massachusetts residents to join the SPJE movement. The bottom line, as stated by SPJE member Alex Chatfield in an email: "climate change has evolved from a future problem to a current emergency," with the ten most recent years being Earth's hottest on record. And as stated in the slides, private jets have a "high environmental cost, low societal benefit" and "benefit a few, subsidized by you."

Webinar speakers included Naomi Oreskes, a Harvard University geologist and historian who studies climate change and the role of disinformation in blocking climate action. Oreskes emphasized that with major climate-change impacts such as the wildfires, flooding, heat waves, and droughts



Bedford, as Gov. Healey left the library, demonstrators shouted, "don't let Massport burn up your climate legacy!"

During the radio show, Roger Rosen—active with SPJE and a member of the grassroots climate organization 350 Mass—asked Healey, "...private jets are the worst form of travel per passenger mile for their carbon footprint.... Do you agree that Massport's plan to massively increase private jet flights from Hanscom is simply incompatible with the benchmarks laid out in the Massachusetts roadmap bill on climate that is now state law?"

Healey responded, "...I'm certainly well aware of the concerns about emissions caused generally but certainly from our transportation industry, which I think as you know accounts for about 40 percent of greenhouse gas emissions [in Massachusetts].... [T]his matter is before our office in terms of MEPA review right now. So I'll make any announcements at the appropriate times through that process, but I certainly appreciate your advocacy..."

Since Massport—which owns and operates three airports, including Hanscom Field and Logan, and the Port of Boston, among other properties—reports to the governor, the coalition

PHOTO: LESLIE POND



Protesters at the BPL on Feb. 27 wanted Gov. Healey to block Massport's expansion of Hanscom Field to accommodate more high-pollution private jets.

happening around the world, taking action with SPJE matters. In the U.S., transportation represents the number-one source of carbon pollution from fossil fuels, responsible for 29 percent of the total.

"About half of that pollution comes from aviation.... A typical trip in a private jet produces 45 times as much carbon pollution [per passenger mile] as the same trip on a commercial flight.... We all need to heat our homes. We all need to get to work.... But no one needs to fly in a private jet.... And when they do, they undermine the progress we are making elsewhere,"

Oreskes said. "Just one year of private jet emissions at Hanscom negates 50 percent of all the carbon pollution that is avoided by all the solar photovoltaic power in Massachusetts. And if the proposed expansion goes ahead, that 50 percent will become 70 percent."

Neil Rasmussen, president of Save Our Heritage, and Chuck Collins, co-author of the report *Hanscom High Flyers: Private Jet Excess Doesn't Justify Airport Expansion*, presented data to make the case against any new private luxury jet infrastructure, from both

the climate and equity perspectives. Chatfield, who also represents the Town of Lincoln on the Massport community advisory council and is a member of several other climate-related campaigns, provided additional information that debunks what the coalition considers are proponents' misleading claims.

Webinar speakers encouraged participants to share information broadly, sign a petition to Healey, and submit a comment to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office about the Draft Environmental Impact Report submitted by the private developers proposing the expansion, among other actions.

To hear an overview of the expansion plan and learn how to respond to the DEIR, register for the Mothers Out Front State-wide Action Call on Tuesday, April 2, 12-12:45pm at secure.everyaction.com/65RaDu2YnkSW6IG9mhUQLg2. The call is open to everyone, and registrants will receive the recording.

To view the March 6 webinar recording and slides; sign the petition to the governor; submit a comment on the DEIR to MEPA before May 10, hear *Boston Public Radio's* Feb. 27 "Ask The Governor" segment; and more, visit stopprivatejetexpansion.org.

Leslie Pond lives in the West Fens.

FENWAY VIEWS

Fair and Equitable Housing: A Call to Action

BY RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE

Finding a home—either to rent or to buy—should be an exciting and meaningful process. It brings stability, peace of mind, decor choices, and responsibility.

However, discriminatory practices, coupled with the high cost of housing, can make the process stressful, daunting, and unfair. In a society where housing is fundamental to stability and dignity, we cannot continue to ignore the injustices that persist. That's why we have fair housing laws on the books.

Fair housing laws protect every individual's right to housing, free from unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin. These laws ensure equal access and opportunity for all, but their enforcement requires our commitment to continued advocacy.

GUEST OPINION

In my first term as city councilor, through our collective efforts, we made strides in advancing fair housing initiatives. My office has successfully fought for and secured an increase in funding for the Mayor's Office of Fair Housing, which works to prevent discrimination and ensure fair and equitable access to housing for all residents. This funding included an additional \$200,000 for Fair Housing testing programs to ensure we are engaging in enforcement.

Every year, I sponsor a resolution with my council colleagues supporting April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Boston, in part because of the anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, but also to recommit ourselves to creating equal housing opportunities in every neighborhood across Boston.

Yet, despite victories, challenges persist. Many prospective tenants and homeowners remain unaware of their rights or lack the resources to exercise them. Misinformation and discrimination continue to plague our communities, perpetuating this inequality.

Recently, a lawsuit filed in Suffolk Court brought to light a sting operation that uncovered widespread illegal discrimination by large realty groups against renters with housing vouchers, in violation of Massachusetts state law. This kind of discrimination exacerbates segregated housing patterns and highlights a broader, systemic civil rights issue within the housing market.

As someone who recently navigated the housing market, I witnessed firsthand the barriers that exist. In 2022, I was in the market to purchase my first home. Even as a lawyer, I saw the

discrimination and systemic barriers in housing opportunities. I'm grateful that I was able to take a first-time home buyers' class with Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA), which helped prepare for the process of homeownership and empowered me to ask questions during the process. We must expand such resources and support services to make housing opportunities accessible to all.

Together, we must uplift awareness and education about fair housing, and the benefits of equitable housing for all members of the city, not just our direct neighbors. We must transcend traditional outreach. We should be innovative, and leverage not just our personal relationships and local connections but engage a wider and diverse audience. Our narratives of housing as a human right is one of interconnectedness. We all desire a safe, stable, and prosperous community to call home. By sharing your thoughts on the positive impacts of fair housing, we can challenge and change the narrative around affordable housing and diversity.

Fair housing can also be about more than discrimination and increased opportunities. It involves simplifying application processes, providing counseling and translation services, and revisiting zoning laws that hinder affordable-housing development. By addressing these systemic issues, we can create a more inclusive and equitable housing landscape.

I can tell you firsthand that equitable housing opportunities for all remains an imperative yet elusive goal, despite best efforts. On April 8 join me at City Hall at 10am as the City Council holds a hearing I sponsored on addressing and improving fair housing practices citywide, along with Councilor At-Large Henry Santana's hearing on preventing discrimination against prospective tenants using housing vouchers.

In collaboration with community partners—like the good work of those at the Fenway CDC—we must also engage beyond our own communities, beyond our neighborhood borders. Equitable housing is not a privilege, it is a fundamental right. Let us commit to sustained action, collaboration, and the courage to confront systemic barriers. Together, we can build a future where every individual has a fair chance to find a place to call home.

If you believe you've experienced housing discrimination, please call the City of Boston's Office of Fair Housing and Equity at 617-635-2500, and/or the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination at (617) 994-6000.

Ruthzee Louijeune is an at-large Boston city councilor and president of the Boston City Council.

So... Who Were Those People on My Primary Ballot?

BY JONATHAN COHN

If you voted in the presidential primary in March, you saw some familiar names on the ballot—a current president, a former president, other presidential candidates that you'd been hearing about in the news for months upon months (even though their chances were by then slim to nil).

But you may have noticed a long list of other familiar names: some of your neighbors. That's because in Massachusetts, Democratic,

GUEST OPINION

Republican, and Libertarian ward and town committees are elected on the presidential primary ballot every four years.

Each of Boston's 22 wards (the political subdivisions composed of a collection of precincts) has a Democratic committee. Only two—West Roxbury's Ward 20 and Brighton's Ward 22—have a Republican committee. And none of them has a Libertarian committee.

But what are these committees? The existence of such political committees is built into Massachusetts General Law (Part I, Title VIII, Chapter 52), but their function is less spelled out. They must hold a meeting after their election to select officers, and they have to hold caucuses every year to elect

delegates for the state party conventions. These party gatherings can be pep rallies in odd-numbered years, but during election years, they determine ballot access for our September primaries.

The committees can consist of elected officials, City Hall staff, State House staff, and local activists who have volunteered on campaigns over the years (or are just getting started). District 8 Councilor Sharon Durkan, former District 8 Councilors Kenzie Bok and Josh Zakim, and State Rep. Jay Livingstone, for example, are all members of the Ward 5 Democratic Committee. Former state representative and secretary of the Department of Veterans' Services of Massachusetts Jon Santiago is a member of the Ward 4 Democratic Committee. But most of the members aren't so titled. They're just your neighbors. (See the sidebar at right.)

These local committees can host educational events about city and state issues, listening sessions with state and local elected officials, social events, and candidate forums. The Boston Wards 4 and 5 Democratic Committees, for example, have hosted at least one (well-attended!) candidate forum each year since 2018 (except for the pandemic's 2020) and will do so again later this year. Their 2021 mayoral forum was the first of a busy season.

If you recognized a name from your ballot, the best thing to do would be to reach out to the person you recognize and ask them what their committee is doing. If you want to get involved, let them know. And if your committee has open seats, think about whether you want to jump in. Democracy starts local.

Jonathan Cohn is the secretary of the Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee. He lives in the East Fens.

Ward 4 Democratic Committee members from the Fenway (including East Fens/Symphony and the Medical area):

- Amelia Aubourg
- Harold Brogan
- Mary Ann Brogan
- Christopher Cantwell
- Jonathan Cohn
- Lisa Jeanne Graf
- Ryan Hatcher
- Carol Lasky
- Timothy Mahoney
- Andrea Olmstead
- Sheneal Parker
- Grant Young

Ward 5 Democratic Committee members from the Fenway (including Kenmore Square and most of the West Fens):

- Suzanne Comtois
- Kristen Mobilia
- Sharon Hucul

Ward 21 Democratic Committee Members from the Fenway (including Audubon Circle and some of the West Fens):

- Michael Gaffney
- Daniel Lander

Fenway News

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

FENWAY NEWS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ahmed M. Abdelfattah • Mary Ann Brogan
Judy Burnette • Steve Chase • Helen Cox
Mandy Kapica • Ruth Khowais
Carol Lasky • Leslie Pond
Alison Pultinas • Steve Wolf

EDITOR: Kelsey Bruun

DESIGN/PRODUCTION MANAGER: Steve Wolf

CONTRIBUTORS (WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, PROOFREADERS):

Ahmed M. Abdelfattah, Ed Ballo, Alison Barnett, Mary Ann Brogan, Will Brownsberger, Steve Chase, Jonathan Cohn, Helen Cox, Tracey Cusick, John Engstrom, Stan Everett, Lisa Fay, Marie Fukuda, Katherine Greenough, Steve Harnish, Ruth Khowais, Carol Lasky, Leslie Pond, Alison Pultinas, Patrick O'Connor, Mallory Rohrig, Mat Thall, Chris Viveiros, Steve Wolf

BUSINESS MANAGER: Janet Malone

DISTRIBUTION: Reggie Wynn

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

The Fenway News,
PO Box 230277, Astor Station
Boston, MA 02123
fenwaynews@gmail.com
fenwaynews.org

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$30/YEAR
(\$20 FOR LIMITED INCOME)

©2023 FENWAY NEWS ASSOCIATION, INC.

"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. While the Fenway has changed since then, we remain committed to the spirit of identifying problems and making our neighborhood a better and safer place to live.

> NEXT ISSUE <

Our next issue will appear on
Friday, May 3.

> DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS <
The deadline for letters, news items,
and ads for our next issue is
Friday, April 26.

**FAMILY-OWNED AND -OPERATED
FOR 50 YEARS—AND COUNTING!**

Mass Ave Locksmith

Lockouts ★ Master Key Systems
High-Security Key Systems
Mailbox Keys ★ Keys Made by Code
Door Closers ★ Deadbolts

125 St. Botolph St.
617-247-9779
MassAveLock@
verizon.net

Open 9-3, Monday-Friday

CORRECTION

Last issue, in a newline on page 5, we referred to the Berklee College of Music as the Berklee Institute of Music. We regret the error.

Tense Hearing Over Chabad Proposal Continued to April

BY ALISON PULTINAS

A tense, unsettling meeting in Mission Hill on March 7 ended with a continuance and the possibility of an even more contentious hearing on April 4.

The hearing brought together the Mission Hill Triangle Architectural Conservation District (ACD) commissioners; Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) staff; and proponents for the Chabad-Lubavitch project proposed at 1615-1617 Tremont St.

It began with the recusal of two ACD commissioners, Cindy Walling and Ellen Moore, both residents of Worthington Street. Joshua Sydney, representing Rabbi Hirschy Zarchi of the Chabad of Cambridge, had submitted a 12-page letter to the BLC asking its staff to review potential conflicts of interest because of individual comment letters Walling and Moore submitted last year during the Zoning Board of Appeal process.

Sydney's letter (shared with this reporter), however, also questioned whether Walling and Moore—simply because of their connection to the Community Alliance of Mission Hill and Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services (MHNHS)—could discharge their duties impartially as ACD commissioners. At last summer's zoning hearing both community groups submitted letters of opposition based on the size of the building.

Yet, at that hearing, attorney Joseph Hanley, consulting for the Chabad, stated that the MHNHS opposition letter was supportive of the programs and very welcoming toward the Jewish community. The organization expressed concern about approval of excessive height that could set a precedent in the historic block along Tremont Street.

In September, the proposal received 11 requested zoning variances for the roughly 18,000-square-foot development. A proviso qualifies that zoning decision as “subject to BPDA Design Review with attention that the renovations conform with standards of the Mission Hill Triangle Architectural Conservation District.” Whether final authority rests with the Triangle Commission or with the BPDA urban-design reviewers may still be in question. The standards and criteria for the historic district specifically direct that new construction be consistent with or complementary to the neighborhood's historical and architectural character and appearance.

City Councilor Sharon Durkan forcefully

supported the Chabad project on March 7 and conveyed support from other councilors, both current and former. She also said, “A lot of us are watching what happens here tonight.”

Bruner/Cott architect Jason Jewhurst prepared a design that combines 1615 and 1617 in a way that tightly fits the multiple requirements for the proposed social and religious center, including suites for families visiting local hospitals, office space, kitchen facilities, and a roof deck.

The plan for the site aims to fill a need for Jewish gathering places, Zarchi explained. Like a similar venture combining parcels that the Chabad is undertaking in Cambridge, the Tremont facility will offer young families a daycare program. The group recently purchased a property on North Harvard Street in Allston that could potentially expand similar services to another Boston neighborhood.

Chabad supporters who spoke both at the BLC hearings and last year's zoning hearing mentioned concerns about the lack of synagogues in the city and anticipation of Chabad's presence so close to the medical area. The largest synagogue in New England—Temple Israel on Longwood Avenue—is nearby, although its affiliation with Reform Judaism means that it doesn't observe many of the traditional practices that characterize Chabad and other Orthodox Jewish sects.

Landmarks staffer Rachel Eriksen asked that public comments address the design and the historic context, not the future uses. However, that seemed hard for commenters to do, with programming tied so directly to the building's size. Zarchi asserted that “we absolutely cannot remove a floor.”

Toward the end of the hearing, BLC's Eriksen read the staff recommendation: “To be more consistent with the historic and architectural character and appearance of the neighborhood, staff suggests a reduction of the scale of the proposed new building, such as through the use of setbacks on upper floors, the elimination of the top story of the building, and reducing the visibility of the proposed roof deck and mechanicals.”

In an emailed response to a question about the Chabad's other Mission Hill property at 5 Worthington St.—a single-family rowhouse the group purchased in 2017—Zarchi stated that “5 Worthington is not under discussion. Until our project gets built at 1615 and 1617 Tremont, we will be using it for the organization's purposes.”

Triangle residents remember 5 Worthington as the longtime home of former Salvation Army Sergeant Major Edward T. Gooding and his wife Catalina and their ministry of compassion for the downtrodden. According to ACD Commissioner Ellen Moore, some residents saw a sign of prophetic destiny when the Chabad-Lubavitch organization bought the property.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

OUR BACK PAGES



THE FENWAY NEWS 1974-2024

Note: Over the next year, as The Fenway News celebrates its 50th anniversary, we'll take a look at highlights from the paper's past in a series we call “Our Back Pages.”

Ross Gelbspan, a former Boston Globe reporter, died in January. What, you might ask, does that have to do with The Fenway News?

The answer: in summer 1997, the paper organized a neighborhood presentation by Gelbspan. After many years as an environment reporter, he'd left the Globe in 1994 to write a book detailing the fossil fuel industry's campaign to sow doubt about the science behind climate change. “I learned,” he said in a YouTube presentation quoted in a Washington Post obituary, that “the coal industry was paying a handful

of scientists under the table to say nothing was happening to the climate.”

His book “The Heat Is On” had just come out, which helped draw a crowd to the sweltering community room at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church on Peterborough

Street. East Fens resident Sajed Kamal—an expert on renewable energy and founder, with his wife Rosie Kamal, of the group Solar Fenway—covered the story for the paper. “Ross left an important mark on the Fenway,” Kamal said after Gelbspan died, “both in 1997 with his visionary warning on climate change and in 2007, when he attended the inauguration of a solar electric system (a project of Solar Fenway) at Fenway Views, housing owned by Fenway CDC.”

—STEVE WOLF

TimeOut MARKET
BEST OF THE CITY, UNDER ONE ROOF!
 15 KITCHENS. 2 BARS. ENDLESS ENTERTAINMENT
 401 PARK DRIVE, BOSTON

bpda | **Virtual Public Meeting**

2 Charlesgate West

APRIL 4
6:00PM - 7:30PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/48Tv8rt
 Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
 Meeting ID: 161 480 3716

Project Proponent:
SCAPE CHARLESGATE LLC

Project Description:
 The BPDA is hosting a virtual Public Meeting for the proposed 2 Charlesgate West project located in Fenway. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR) that was filed and its potential impacts. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public. The meeting is scheduled for 4/4/2024. Please request interpreting services no later than 5 days before the meeting date.

Se encuentra disponible el servicio gratuito de interpretación de la información brindada en estas reuniones. Si necesita servicios de traducción, contáctese con: scott.greenhalgh@boston.gov(617.918.4271). La reunión está programada para el 4/4/2024. Por favor, solicite los servicios de interpretación a más tardar 5 días antes de la fecha de la reunión.

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次会议的内容,您无需承担任何额外费用。如果您需要翻译服务,请通过以下方式进行联系:scott.greenhalgh@boston.gov (617-918-4271)会议定于2024年4月4日,请在会议前5天内申请口译服务。

mail to: **Scott Greenhalgh**
 Boston Planning & Development Agency
 One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
 Boston, MA 02201
 phone: 617.918.4271
 email: scott.greenhalgh@boston.gov

Close of Public Comment Period:
4/22/2024
 Website
bit.ly/2-Charlesgate-West

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans
 Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

AGASSIZ ROAD

Last issue, we asked readers to send their ideas for new names for Agassiz Bridge and Road. This led to a robust discussion over email. We will compile the responses for our May issue.

DASHBOARD

TRASH & RECYCLING PICK-UPS

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

STREET CLEANING

Street cleaning (and towing) resumes on April 1. In the Fenway, you need to check both City and DCR schedules to see when cleaning takes place on your street. Find City info at <https://tinyurl.com/s9fyarf8>. See the DCR schedule at <https://tinyurl.com/4usvd8w3>.

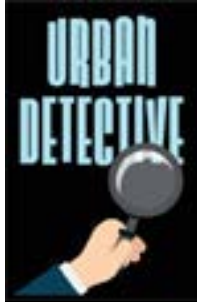
SOX BOX

TUE, 4/9 2:05PM	SAT, 4/13 4:10PM	WED, 4/17 7:10PM	SUN, 4/28 7:10PM
WED, 4/10 7:10PM	SUN, 4/14 1:35PM	THU, 4/18 1:35PM	MON, 4/30 7:10PM
THU, 4/11 7:10PM	MON, 4/15 11:10PM	FRI, 4/26 4:10PM	TUE, 4/30 2:05PM
FRI, 4/12 7:10PM	TUE, 4/16 7:10PM	SAT, 4/27 7:10PM	THU, 5/1 1:35PM

Monument Recalls Forgotten Irish Firebrand O'Reilly

BY ED BALLO

Standing proudly at an important juncture of Boylston Street, where it enters the Fenway, is the striking memorial to Irish poet, journalist, and activist John Boyle O'Reilly (1844-1890). Although nearly forgotten today, his fire burned so brightly during his lifetime that funds were raised and the memorial was complete only six years after his premature death at the age of 46.



The first part of O'Reilly's life contained all the elements of a Hollywood blockbuster. At 22, he was a part of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, also known as the Fenians. Arrested for treason by the British and found guilty, he was sentenced to death, which was commuted to life given his tender age.

For over a year, he found himself in some of England's most notorious prisons and at-

tempted two unsuccessful escapes. By October 1867, it was decided to ship O'Reilly to a penal colony in Western Australia—and this would be the last prisoner ship to Western Australia!

In prison in Fremantle, he became a model prisoner, to the extent that he enjoyed many liberties and freedoms, including the friendship of the warden and his daughter Jessie. O'Reilly entered a romantic relationship with Jessie, who bore his child.

His escape from Australia was nothing if not bold, involving clandestine passage on American whaling ships and transfers from ship to ship to avoid British ports of call. Finally arriving in Philadelphia, O'Reilly made his way to Boston, which with its large and supportive Irish community would be a better fit and platform for his ambitions and activism. Settling in Charlestown, he began to give lectures and write poetry.

His first lecture, entitled "England's Political Prisoners," was a huge success. He was offered a position as a reporter for the Boston-based Catholic newspaper *The Pilot*. By the



PHOTOS: ED BALLO

late 1880s however, O'Reilly's health began to decline, and he was plagued with insufferable insomnia. On the night of August 9, 1890, he took some of his wife's sleeping medication—which contained chloral hydrate—and never woke up. The public announcements listed his death as heart failure, but the death register indicated "accidental poisoning." He is buried at Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline, not far from Joseph and Rose Kennedy.

Moving to the monument itself, we see on the street side a bronze bust of O'Reilly (above left); the park side boasts an allegorical figure group depicting (above right) Erin (from Éirinn, the Gaelic term for Ireland), seated between her sons Patriotism on her right and Poetry on her left.

The sculptor, Daniel Chester French, is known for the Concord Minuteman statue and his large, seated Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. French was raised in Concord and was a neighbor and a friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Alcott family. Abigail May Alcott, Louisa May's older sister, an accomplished artist in her own right, taught the young French, encouraging

his artistic pursuits. A reporter for the *Boston Post*, seeing the still-unfinished work in French's New York studio in 1895, called it "unsurpassed by any similar work of art in the United States."

Charles Howard Walker (1857-1936), an architect, designer, and educator from MIT, designed the monument itself.

The stone employed is Milford granite—quarried in central Massachusetts—exhibits either yellow or pink tones, rather than the more frequently seen uniform grey of Quincy or Cape Ann granite. This stone enjoyed great popularity between 1870 and 1940, and some landmark structures built of it include the Boston Public Library, the (demolished) Penn Station in New York City, and the original building of the American Museum of Natural History, also in New York. The stone is still quarried today in Hopkinton by the Fletcher Granite Company.

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.

O.L.G.H. OPENS TENANT SEARCH

After a battle to save it as affordable rental housing, Our Lady's Guild House is looking for tenants. For now, the building will keep its SRO format, offering furnished private rooms with shared bathrooms, kitchens, and living areas. In keeping with its historic

mission, the building will only accept women as tenants until renovations are completed. The upside of these unique conditions? Paying \$1,200 a month (utilities included) to live in Kenmore Square! To find out more, visit www.LiveOLGH.com or call (716) 424-6783.

With A Possible Ballot Question This Fall, Forum Probes High-Stakes MCAS Testing

BY ALAIN JEHLIN

The price of a ticket at a theater is x dollars. The manager uses the function $t(x) = 100x - 4x^2$ to predict $t(x)$, the total ticket sales in dollars. What is the ticket price that results in the maximum ticket sales?

That's one of several questions from last year's 10th-grade Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System test, better known as the MCAS. It was one of several that the Ward 4 Democratic Committee asked audience members to tackle at a public forum on the test. The forum took place at Simmons University on March 16.

Currently, high school students must pass the MCAS to get their diplomas.

The legislature is considering a proposal to end that requirement. Proponents gathered more than 100,000 signatures to put a proposal on the ballot this November that aims to replace the test with a requirement that local districts certify that their graduates have met state high school standards.

Under state law, the legislature gets first crack at crafting a law that would preempt a voter initiative to create a new law. If legislators don't take action, supporters of the ballot question can gather roughly 12,500 more signatures and force a vote on Election Day.

If the question is approved, MCAS would still be administered, but students wouldn't have to pass the tenth-grade test to get a diploma, just as a third grader doesn't have to pass the third-grade MCAS to move on to fourth grade.

The Ward 4 Democratic Party Committee organized the forum to discuss the impacts of MCAS on students and their learning.

The ticket-sales problem is tough, but it wasn't the first hard question put to participants during the meeting. Before tackling the math portion of the test, they took on "What do you want your children to get out of school?"

There's no one right answer to that one, and a wide range was offered, including the ability to relate to different kinds of people, set high personal expectations, and become responsible citizens.

After working on the ticket-sales problem and several other released MCAS math and English questions, participants discussed whether the skills measured by those questions match up with what they hope children will get out of school.

Suzie McGlone, an eighth-grade teacher at the James W. Hennigan K-8 School, shared

that several of her former students from Orchard Gardens K-8 School came back to visit recently and told her, "Your eighth-grade ELA [English language arts] class was so much more challenging than the class I'm having right now in ninth grade. We're only focusing on the [MCAS] test."

McGlone said that when she taught at Orchard Gardens, she was reprimanded and eventually forced out because she didn't want to build her instructions around MCAS.

In addition to McGlone, forum panelists were Boston Arts Academy tenth-grade student Jay'dha Rackard; her mother, Janina Rackard-Vickers, an educator at the Curley K-8 School in Jamaica Plain; Dr. Sheneal Parker, who leads the Henderson Lower Campus (K and 1); and BPS Special Education Parents Advisory Council board member Lisa Jeanne Graf. (Parker and Graf live in the Fenway.)

Jay'dha Rackard said the test causes her and other students tremendous stress. "It's a constant conversation," she said, especially since, at an arts school, they also need to focus on their art concentration.

Her mother said that for many students, a low mark on MCAS destroys their belief in their own futures. "I say to my students, 'What does your future look like? Where do you want to see yourself?' And a lot of them say, 'I didn't pass the MCAS. So what does my future look like? I don't know.'"

The panel moderator was Margaret McKenna, a fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School Institute of Politics, a former university president, and former chair of the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. McKenna is also a former member of the Boston School Committee.

McKenna said the test is especially unfair to English-language learners, students who have recently arrived from non-English-speaking countries. "You just have to imagine if you went to China, and somebody put you in a classroom and expected you to take a consequential test in Chinese," she said. "It wouldn't be so easy."

Participants included District 7 City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson, whose district includes parts of Ward 4. The forum was co-sponsored with the statewide education advocacy organization, Citizens for Public Schools.

The answer to the ticket-price question: A price of \$12.50 would maximize sales.

Alain Jehlin is an education writer, editor of the *Boston Parents Schoolyard News* blog, and member of the *Citizens for Public Schools* executive board.

Come to Fenway CDC's 51st annual meeting!

APRIL 25

5:45-8:00pm | 300 The Fenway (Simmons University)

Join us at Simmons's Linda K. Paresky Conference Center for an evening of community updates, awards, delicious food, a raffle, socializing, and more!

Keynote by Steven Farrell, incoming Executive Director of the Fenway CDC.

Community Service Award recipients:
Juan Pérez, community artist • outgoing CDC board members • the "Co-ops In Service To Our Neighbors" program at Northeastern.



- **FREE, but registration is required at tinyurl.com/FenwayCDC51 or by scanning the QR code.**
- **Interpretation services available in Spanish, Mandarin, and Amharic.**
- **Questions? Contact membership@fenwaycdc.org or call (617) 267-4637 x10.**

SCAN TO REGISTER



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

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

More than 3,000 grad students went on strike at BU on March 25, following eight months of negotiations over improved pay and healthcare benefits, among other issues. The grad assistants argue that BU lowballs their pay by classifying jobs as half-time when they require far more than 20 hours a week. As of March 27, the two sides appeared far apart; according to *Globe* reporting, at least \$20,000 separated the salaries the university had proposed and the salaries the students had proposed. BU has directed departments not to pay grad students while they strike.



➡ **The City received two housing proposals for 4.5 acres of Boston Water & Sewer Commission parking lots near the corner of Harrison Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. One team would build 300 units of affordable housing with some available for ownership; the other bidder proposed all rentals. Both would set aside 80 income-restricted apartments for seniors.**

➡ **Waltham's Mighty Squirrel Brewing opened a 13,000-square-foot taproom at One David Ortiz Way. The location on the backside of the Bower building, a block from Fenway Park, will offer beer on tap (of course), nonalcoholic drinks and food—and notably, in Boston's late-night-dining wasteland, a 10pm closing.**

➡ **The long construction nightmare at Mass. Ave. and Boylston Street appears to be winding down, with new sidewalks open and plantings going into the public plaza. Samuels & Associates announced that it will call the complex "Lyrik Back Bay" and said George Howell Coffee, the North End's Pink Carrot, and a tea house will open in the fall. CarGurus, Lego, and a citizenM hotel will occupy the buildings.**

➡ **A branch of Brookline's Far Out Ice Cream, serving "New Zealand-style creamy treats," has opened at TimeOut Market, per the *Globe*.**

➡ **Pescador's March closing after barely a year in Kenmore Square carries a tantalizing whiff of karmic payback. A bitter public dispute with the owner of the Hotel Commonwealth's retail spaces forced Garrett Harker to close three restaurants there, including beloved bistro Eastern Standard—which recently reopened just up Beacon Street in the Bower building (yes, right above the Mighty Squirrel). No word yet on a replacement.**

@ THE CENTER

The Fenway Community Center is open six days a week. Visit fenwaycommunitycenter.org for details.

- Thu, April 4, 5pm: PORTRAIT DRAWING with Norman Finn
- Sat, April 6, 10:30am: LOVE YOUR BLOCK CLEANUP
- Mon, April 8, 6pm: NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES WITH BPD D4
- Tue, April 23, 6pm: BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

PHOTO: BRUCE MARTIN



BERKLEE TOWER WINS MAJOR DESIGN AWARD

At its awards gala on March 7 the Boston Society for Architecture awarded the prestigious Harleston Parker Medal to the Berklee College of Music building at 160 Mass. Ave. (at Belvidere Street). William Rawn Associates designed the Roger H. Brown Jr. Building, which combines upper-floor dorm rooms; a 400-seat dining hall that doubles as a performance space; ground-floor retail; and a below-grade recording studio that the college calls the largest at any educational institution in the U.S. The Parker Medal recognizes "the most beautiful piece of architecture, building, monument, or structure built in the metropolitan Boston area in the past 10 years." Another area structure, BU's Center for Computing & Data Sciences (aka the "stack of books"), was a finalist and received the evening's People's Choice Award.

—ALISON PULTINAS

NEWSLINES

Northeastern's 840 Columbus Dorm Inches Closer to Approval

Developer American Campus Communities would build Northeastern's proposed new residence hall at 840 Columbus Ave. on the Roxbury edge of campus. The high-rise would be student apartment-style living, not a traditional dorm. After winning approvals from the BPDA board and the Civic Design Commission in March, the project will move to the Zoning Commission. BPDA Project Manager Quinn Valcich said the date will be either April 17 or 27. At the BPDA board hearing, both Richard Giordano of the Fenway CDC and Tim Horn of the Fenway Civic Association spoke in favor of the project. A promised community benefit, once the City issues a building permit, is a \$1 million contribution to the Mayor's Office of Housing "to advance housing stabilization and wealth creation in the immediately adjacent neighborhoods of the Proposed Project. Distribution of such funds shall be based upon mutually agreeable criteria between the Task Force, the Mayor's Office of Housing, and Northeastern."

Fenway Transpo Plan, Secretly Stalled, Back on Track

Brittany Comak, assistant director of communications for the BPDA, recently conceded that the *Fenway Transportation Action Plan* had fallen behind schedule (it was supposed to begin the design phase this spring). Comak said in a statement that the plan, "was functionally on pause for a couple of months while the BPDA's transportation planners were pulled into working on finalizing a transportation plan in a different neighborhood. Thankfully, this brief pause overlapped with a holiday/new year season that has seen associated stakeholders busy as well." The statement added that, "With the department now with the capacity to dig into *FTAP*, things are getting up and running again, and we are very eager to support and engage in the process."



COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION: OPEN NOW!

Community Grants are available to local community organizations, non-profits, or schools that engage or partner with Northeastern students, faculty, and/or staff. The goal is to fund programs and events that benefit our neighbours and build a strong relationship between Northeastern and the surrounding community.

» Any Boston-area community organization, NGO, or school that has connected with Northeastern University students, employees, or professors in the last three academic years is eligible to apply

» Priority will be given to Fenway, Mission Hill, Roxbury and South End community organizations, non-profits, and schools

Apply by 04/10/2024 [5pm]

Scan here to start your application!



@nuengaged

communityengagement@northeastern.edu

MONTHLY 'FREE MARKET' PUTS RESIDENTS IN TOUCH WITH THEIR INNER MARIE KONDO

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

Do you want to get rid of clutter? Now you can. Free Market at the Fenway Community Center allows area residents to bring in unwanted clothes, jewelry, kitchen items, furniture, books, and craft items to exchange with others. The popular event takes place on the second Tuesday of each month and is organized by the Fenway Community Development Corporation (FCDC). One thousand pounds of items are rehomed or recycled every month.

Free Market is the brainchild of Sage Carbone, director of community programs at FCDC. It started in April 2023. "We get a lot of clothing and knickknacks," Carbone said. "People love it. I've received overwhelmingly positive feedback."

Carbone says that Free Market is an opportunity for people to declutter their homes, but it has also become a community event where people share stories about the items they bring. "Sharing helps to build community in an organic way."

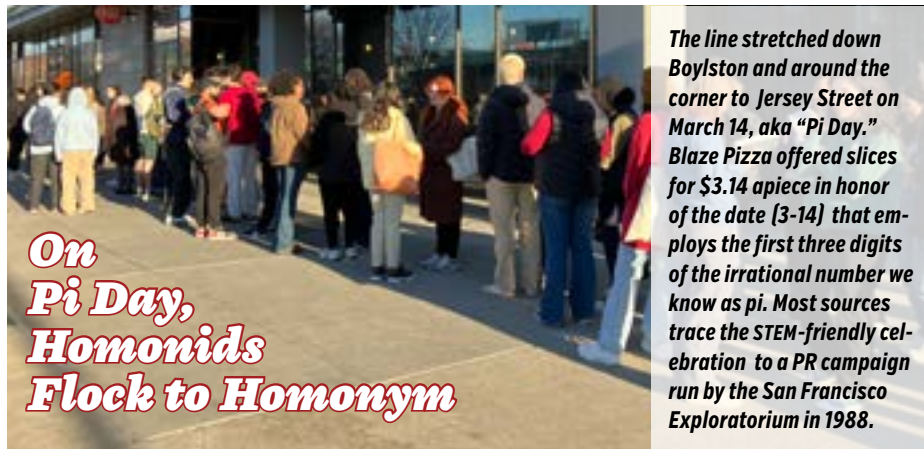
Recently, Free Market received a neighborhood grant from Berklee College of Music. Carbone plans to use the grant to make the space better. She will purchase wardrobes, display boxes, and new signage as well as begin offering snacks and drinks.

When items are left over—Carbone says that her office and her car are full of them—they don't get thrown away. Items are recycled and donated. Shelters get the clothes, free libraries get the books, pet supplies go to the MSPCA, and toiletry items go to Never Ever Give Up, a community outreach run by the Northeastern University Police.

Want to donate items but need help with pick-up? Contact Sage Carbone at scarbone@fenwaycdc.com. Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.



PHOTO: STEVE WOLF



On Pi Day, Homonids Flock to Homonym

The line stretched down Boylston and around the corner to Jersey Street on March 14, aka "Pi Day." Blaze Pizza offered slices for \$3.14 apiece in honor of the date (3-14) that employs the first three digits of the irrational number we know as pi. Most sources trace the STEM-friendly celebration to a PR campaign run by the San Francisco Exploratorium in 1988.

PHOTO: STEVE WOLF

LATIN SCHOOL ICES STATE HOCKEY TITLE



PHOTO: PATRICK O'CONNOR

Boston Latin's boys hockey team celebrated winning the Division 2 state title on Sun., March 17, in Boston. They beat Tewksbury 4-2 and ended the season at 17-8.

—PATRICK O'CONNOR

SENIOR EVENTS

To attend, RSVP to Tracey or Sara at (617) 536-7154. For information, visit operationpeaceboston.org. Events this month all take place at the Peterborough Senior Center.

- Tue, April 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2pm: MUSIC4 WELLNESS with Berklee College of Music
- Thu, April 11, 12pm: 10-minute CHAIR MESSAGES

- Tue, April 16, 11:30am: Viewing of the movie GREASE
- Thu, April 18, 12pm: Presentation on PHARMACOLOGY with Maria Tumang, Brigham & Women's Hospital
- Thu, April 25, 12m: SAFETY & SCAM presentation with Boston Police Officer Elizabeth Evans



Virtual Public Meeting

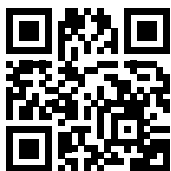
WIT 2024-2034 IMP Task Force Meeting

APRIL
16
6:00PM - 8:00PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3x7HHSU

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 140 8731



Project Proponent:

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Project Description:

The BPDA is hosting a virtual Public meeting to discuss the recently filed 2024-2034 Wentworth Institute of Technology Institutional Master Plan ("IMP"). The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of IMP, the potential projects listed within the IMP, and discuss potential impacts and mitigation. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the Task Force.

Please note that the purpose of this meeting is different from that of a traditional community meeting. As part of the development review process, Task Force members work closely with BPDA staff to identify the impacts of a project and recommend appropriate community benefits to offset those impacts. Task Force meetings prioritize discussion between the project proponent (i.e. the developer) and Task Force members.

mail to: **Nick Carter**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.5303
email: nick.carter@boston.gov

Close of Public Comment Period:
4/30/2024
Website
bit.ly/BPDA-WIT



Virtual Public Meeting

WIT 2024-2034 IMP

APRIL
24
6:00PM - 8:00PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3vomgMU

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 064 6619



Project Proponent:

Wentworth Institute of Technology

Project Description:

The BPDA is hosting a virtual Public meeting to discuss the recently filed 2024-2034 Wentworth Institute of Technology Institutional Master Plan ("IMP"). The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of IMP, the potential projects listed within the IMP, and discuss potential impacts and mitigation. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public.

mail to: **Nick Carter**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.5303
email: nick.carter@boston.gov

Close of Public Comment Period:
4/30/2024
Website
bit.ly/BPDA-WIT

The Arts

Artist Dinorá Justice Remixes Nature and Gender

BY LESLIE POND

In “Dinorá Justice: The Lay of the Land,” the aptly named exhibition at the MFA, Justice’s colorful paintings are mesmerizing and meaningful: subtle interpretations and re-imaginings of historical narratives about gender and landscape.

Inspired by a strong connection to nature and well-known paintings of reclining women by 16th- to 19th-century Western male artists, Justice’s *Portraits* series challenges the traditional patriarchal view—literally turning it inside out—by portraying women in the natural world instead of indoors.

On her webpage, Justice writes that she “started the *Portrait* paintings in late 2016, when I was thinking of the biases regarding traditional associations of nature with the feminine. The linguistic heritage of the expression *Mother Nature* feminizes the environment, and gives our patriarchal system permission to extend its logic of subjugation and exploitation to nature, with the disastrous results that are pushing us to the brink of climate catastrophe.... In my paintings I



PHOTO: LESLIE POND

Dinorá Justice’s “Portrait 61, after Ingres’ ‘La Grande Odalisque,’” oil and acrylic on canvas.

substitute trees, plants and flowers for drapery and furniture, forcing a visual relocation of the female form from the realm of the intimate to

that of the universal.”

By expressing this relationship between feminism and the environment in her

paintings, Justice invites us to reassess our understanding of both and see the lay of the land in new ways.

An exhibition placard relates a broader context for why this is important now: the inequity of artists who identify as women having been mostly left out of historical records and museums. A 2012 poster by the artists collective Guerrilla Girls calls out the MFA: “Do women have to be naked to get into Boston museums? Plenty of the nudes in the Museum of Fine Arts are female, but only 11 percent of the artists are women.” Yet overall, the number remains the same: according to a recent *Burns Halperin Report*, between 2008 and 2020 only 11 percent of museum acquisitions in the United States were works by women artists.

Justice, a graduate of the School of the MFA at Tufts and Newton resident, was selected for a SMFA Traveling Fellowship, which funded her research in Paris and Florence on gendered power dynamics in depictions of women.

Leslie Pond lives in the West Fenway. “Dinorá Justice: The Lay of the Land” closes on April 14. Learn more about the *Burns Halperin Report* on diversity in the artworld at studioburns.media/category/the-burns-halperin-report.



LAST CALL

ENDS SAT, 4/6
Fluid Matters, Grounded Bodies

This exhibit explores how colonialism has gone hand-in-hand with the destruction of the environment and sexual identities. Gallery 360 in Northeastern’s Curry Student Center. Details at <https://tinyurl.com/y8stye> FREE

ENDS SUN, 4/13
Dinorá Justice: The Lay of the Land

Justice embeds women in landscapes, not interiors, to rewire the way we view the Western art canon. Hours, tickets, and details at mfa.org

ENDS SAT, 4/27
Getting Around Town: Mapping Four Centuries of Transit in Boston

A rich survey of how Bostonians have moved around and how transport systems have shaped the region’s geography. tinyurl.com/3jxaeapa FREE

BAA Students Deliver Stellar Tribute to Tina Turner

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



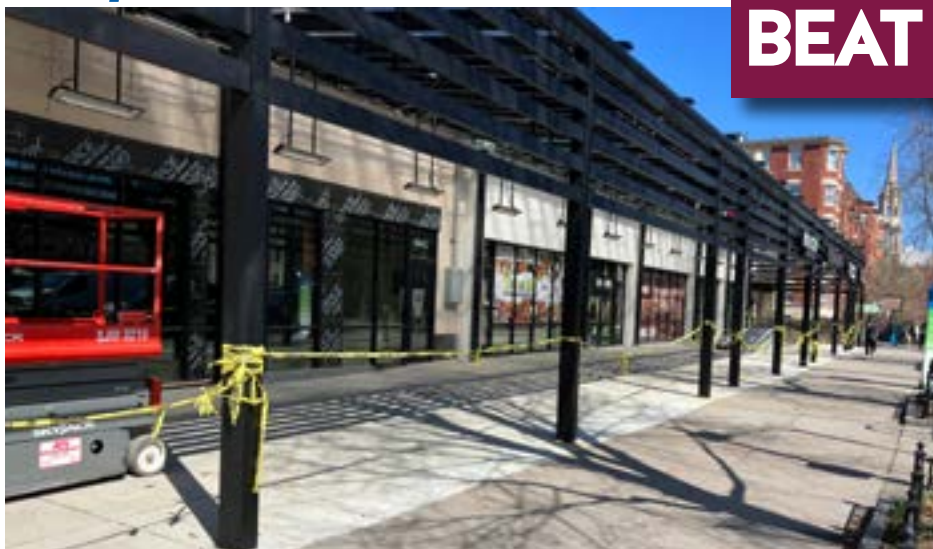
The talented students of the Boston Arts Academy presented a multimedia production of “Simply the Best: Tina Tribute” with more than 40 singers, dancers and musicians. As one audience member exclaimed afterwards, “They should go on tour!” The school’s new theater at 174 Ipswich St. provided a perfect showcase for students learning lighting and audio production during four performances, March 21-23. Simultaneous video screenings brought the performers even closer to the audience and included footage from Turner’s own concerts. Reasonably priced tickets included a \$5 option.

—ALISON PULTINAS

New Restaurant Row Nears Completion in Audubon Circle

EATS BEAT

PHOTO: STEVE WOLF



The wraps have come off a months-long reconstruction project in the 1000 block of Beacon Street in Audubon Circle. The rehab introduces updated storefronts for restaurants between Brookline Bank and Gyu-Kaku Japanese Barbecue at the intersection with St. Mary’s Street. The building now boasts a covered, steel-framed arcade with heat lamps for sidewalk dining. “Coming soon” signs on the storefronts promise five restaurants focused on cooking traditions originating in Asia, from India to Japan.

The Art Of Taking The Bus

PHOTO: STEVE WOLF



Across Ipswich Street from the MGM Music Hall sits one of six Fenway sites hosting an art exhibition organized by the Public Art Fund. “Let Me Know When You Get Home,” features photographs by Clifford Prince King, a New York photographer and filmmaker, in displays that normally show ads. Among 31 shelters participating citywide, five are in the Fenway: two shelters near the Shell Station on Ipswich; the inbound shelter on Jersey Street; and shelters for outbound buses on Brookline Avenue at Fullerton Street and Park Drive.

—STEVE WOLF

April

CALENDAR

Now ⇨ Wed, 4/10

VITA FREE TAX PREPARATION. For help with filing your taxes, drop off your documents at the BPL's Kirstein Business Library & Innovation Center on Weds., 4–7:30pm and Sat., 10–4pm. Central Library in Copley Square. Learn more at bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/65a9951446e59233004f7828, or email vita@cfmp.us.

Now ⇨ Sun, 4/21

- **AS THE WORLD BURNS: QUEER PHOTOGRAPHY AND NIGHTLIFE IN BOSTON** explores community photographic practices, queer nightlife, and gay liberation in Boston, with a focus on the vibrant gay culture and activism of 1970s Boston. SMFA at Tufts, 230 The Fenway. Tue-Sun, 11am–5pm. For more information, visit <https://artgalleries.tufts.edu/exhibitions> FREE
- A companion exhibit, **CHRISTIAN WALKER: THE PROFANE AND THE POIGNANT**, surveys the work of artist, critic, and curator Christian Walker (1953–2003). An SMFA grad, Walker explored the intersection of race and sex, first with documentary photographs made in Boston 1974–84 and later with more experimental techniques. SMFA at Tufts, 230 The Fenway. Tue-Sun, 11am–5pm. For more information, visit <https://artgalleries.tufts.edu/exhibitions> FREE

Tue, 4/2

FLAMENCO FOR ALL DANCE CLASS at the Boston Public Library. Yuling Spanish Dance leads a fun and energetic class for all ages. Register at bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/65bc35e88f2b073a00cf99fd. 6pm. Central Library in Copley Square. FREE

Thu, 4/4

- **PORTRAIT DRAWING CLASS** with local artist Norman Finn. Fenway Community Center. 5pm.
- The **RECLAIMING FOLK SERIES** celebrates people of color in folk music. The program includes a 60-minute performance

by three local artists of color—Naomi Westwater, Pamela Means, and Kim Moberg—each of whom will play original songs and a traditional folk song by a musician of color. Register at bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/65d033f24990f54200698d40. 6pm. Central Library in Copley Square. FREE

Wed, 4/10

Hosted by the Colleges of the Fenway and the Muddy River Restoration Project Maintenance and Management Oversight Committee, the **18TH ANNUAL MUDDY RIVER SYMPOSIUM** explores civic engagement in fostering local, sustainable

ecosystems. Featured panelists include activists from the Victory Gardens. Paresky Center, 300 The Fenway. 6pm. Register at tinyurl.com/2VCWRSPJ.

Sat, 4/13

MassArt hosts its **ANNUAL ART AUCTION**. The college's largest fundraiser each year, the auction celebrates both emerging talents and internationally acclaimed artists. Led by Karen Keane—chair of MassArt's board of trustees and chairman emerita at Bonhams Skinner—the auction will take place both in-person and virtually on the Bidsquare platform. Learn more and register at massart.edu/auction.

Wed, 4/17

Harvard's Countway Library hosts the **LONGWOOD MEDICAL AREA HARVARD STAFF ART SHOW OPENING RECEPTION**. The show, displayed on the first floor of the library, remains on view through Mon, July 8. For more information, including a list of participating artists, visit staffartshow.harvard.edu. 10 Shattuck St, 4:30pm.

Sat, 4/20

Join the Emerald Necklace Conservancy for the **16TH ANNUAL MUDDY RIVER CLEANUP**, organized in partnership with the in partnership with American Rivers' National River Cleanup®. The event takes place throughout the Charles River Watershed, but you can sign up to work in a park near the Fenway or Mission Hill. Register at emeralnecklace.org/volunteer/muddy-river-cleanup-2024.

Thu, 5/2

The Fenway Alliance launches **JOYWALK**, an "after-hours, open studio setting" with free entry to nine neighborhood institutions that create or display art, including the Gardner, Fenway Studios, the Arts Academy, and Kaji Aso Studios. 12pm to 8pm. Visit fenwayculture.org for details.

COMMUNITY meetings

WED, APRIL 3 RED SOX PUBLIC NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING. Doors open at the Ford Clubhouse (enter at 70 Brookline Ave.) at 5:30pm; program begins at 6pm.

WED, APRIL 3 Wentworth Institute of Technology hosts the **KICK-OFF MEETING** for its Institutional Master Plan Task Force. Members of the task force and members of the public will join the Wentworth team to begin the public-review process for the college's 2024–2034 Institutional Master Plan. Note: this is not an official BPDA public or task force meeting. Beatty Hall, 550 Huntington Ave. 5:30pm.

THU, APRIL 4 The BPDA hosts a virtual public meeting for the proposed **2 CHARLES GATE WEST PROJECT**. The meeting will review project proponent Morro's Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR) and potential project impacts. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public. Register at bit.ly/48Tv8rt, or call in at (833) 568-8864, using the meeting ID 161 480 3716. Contact Scott Greenhalgh at scott.greenhalgh@boston.gov with questions.

TUE, APRIL 10 The **FENWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION** hosts its **61ST ANNUAL MEETING**. Socializing, followed by a welcome and short presentation by the board. Then, the City of Boston's Waste Reduction team will discuss how recycling really works, what can and cannot go into the recycling bin, where different recyclable materials go, and ways to reduce waste in

Boston. School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, 230 Fenway. 6pm.

TUE, APRIL 16 The BPDA hosts a **VIRTUAL TASK FORCE MEETING** to discuss the **2024-2034 WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN (IMP)**. The meeting will provide an overview of IMP, potential projects listed within the IMP, and potential impacts and mitigation. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the task force. Register at bit.ly/3x7HHSU. Contact Nick Carter at nick.carter@boston.gov with questions. 6pm.

WED, APRIL 24 The BPDA hosts a **VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING** to discuss the recently filed **2024-2034 WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IMP**. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the IMP, the potential projects listed within the IMP, and discuss potential impacts and mitigation. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public. Register at bit.ly/3vomgMU. Contact Nick Carter at nick.carter@boston.gov with any questions.

THU, APRIL 25 The **FENWAY CDC** hosts its **ANNUAL MEETING**. It will share the CDC's accomplishments of 2023, recognize Community Service awardees, and get a preview from new Executive Director Steve Farrell, about this year and beyond. Paresky Center 300 The Fenway. Doors open at 5:45pm, program starts at 6:30pm.

KAJI ASO STUDIO INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS



*Flying together
celebrating 50 years*

Oscar Jiang, piano

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 | IN PERSON | 3 PM

Sumie Kaneko, koto & shamisen

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 | IN PERSON | 3 PM

Japanese Cultural Afternoon

Calligraphy Demonstration—Michiko Imai

Haiku Contest Announcement

Japanese Songs—Mikiko Sato

SUNDAY, MAY 5 | 3 PM

FREE • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

KAJI ASO STUDIO, 40 ST. STEPHEN STREET

RSVP to administrator@kajiasostudio.com

THANKS TO
OUR FUNDERS



Joy walk



A Fenway Cultural District Art Gallery Crawl

BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY • FENWAY STUDIOS • HUNTINGTON AVENUE YMCA •
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM • KAJI ASO STUDIO • MASSART ART MUSEUM •
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BOSTON • NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S GALLERY 360 •
SIMMONS UNIVERSITY'S TRUSTMAN ART GALLERY • THE FENWAY GALLERY AT FENWAY STUDIOS

Join us on May 2nd,
from 12pm to 8pm,
for a Fenway art gallery crawl!



For details, visit

www.fenwayculture.org/joywalk

PRESENTED BY THE FENWAY ALLIANCE
WITH SUPPORT FROM MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL AND BOSTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

