

Quarterly Newsletter

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50th Annual Meeting & One Halleck St Ribbon Cutting!

On Saturday, June 22, 2024, we celebrated our 50th Annual Meeting & One Halleck Street Ribbon Cutting! This celebration brought together over 200 community members. The day was filled with fun activities for everyone, including balloon twisting, face painting, and delicious slushies to keep everyone cool. Our official business meeting highlighted our achievements from over the decades. Important community members were recognized for their service, including Bruce Keary, MHNHS's clerk and longest-serving community member; Irene Keys, a senior member of the Roxbury Crossing Planning Initiative and resident of the Alice Taylor Development; Shynnah Cuerto, our first youth board member; and Youngmei Chen from Eastern Bank, our lender for Phase 2. A video reflecting on our 50 years of building community was shared, and raffle prizes added a bit of excitement to the day.

The most significant moment was the ribbon cutting for One Halleck Street. We welcomed 46 new units of affordable housing and families to this new project. This moment symbolized our commitment to working hand-in-hand with the Mission Hill community to plan for and deliver housing and services to residents of Mission Hill. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors. We would like to also thank Merengue for catering the event, Soul of Boston for providing awesome lively music, and Estrellas Tropicales for their vibrant performance, all of which made the celebration truly unforgettable.

A special thanks to all of our generous sponsors for their invaluable support in making the 50th Annual Meeting & One Halleck Street Ribbon Cutting a success. We would also like to extend our gratitude to **Kiana Cintron** for her amazing work on the shirt design, adding a creative touch to our celebration.

50th Annual Meeting & One Halleck Street Ribbon Cutting Sponsors:

New England Baptist Hospital
Eastern Bank
Needham Bank
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
John Jackson
Metro Housing Boston
AEW/Lincoln Properties
Maloney Properties

MassArt
Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services
Noble Wickersham & Heart LLP



Community Members and residents cutting the One Halleck St ribbon!



Award Recipient Eastern Bank Senior VP Youngmei Chen, MHNHS Staff Director of Real Estate Ricardo Sanchez, and MHNHS Board Member & Eastern Bank Branch Manager Judene Williams



MHNHS Board VP Richard Giordano, City Councilor At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune, MHNHS Board Member Mitch Hilton, and State Representative Chyna Tyler



City Councilor & MHNHS Board Member Henry Santana and his staff Wilmer

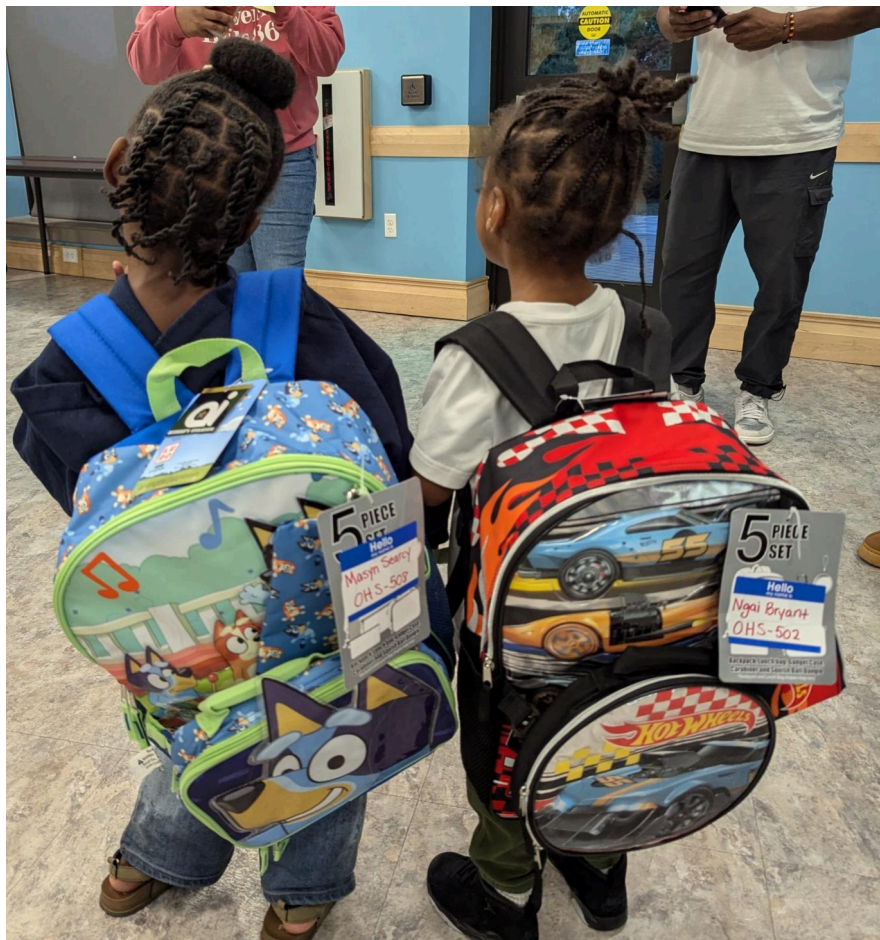
Back-to-School BBQs

SCHOOL IS COOL! On August 26th, residents of Frawley-Delle and 706 Huntington gathered at "The Yard" behind the Tobin Community Center (Thank you **MHNHS Board Member John Jackson** for hosting!) to celebrate the beginning of the new school year as a community! Our youngest residents (and their families!) enjoyed BBQ, face painting, balloon hats, ice cream, and, of course, backpacks full of school supplies! New England Baptist Hospital co-hosted this event with Mission Hill NHS again this year and, in addition to the delicious BBQ food, provided backpacks full of supplies for the year to all our young residents! Many thanks to **NEBH President David Passafaro** and **Chris Dwyer** for another successful event! Thank you to HallKeen Properties for providing an ice cream truck and help with set up! Thank you to all who attended!



On September 3rd Mission Hill NHS's youngest residents are going back to school with supplies and style thanks to New England Baptist Hospital! Residents of One Halleck St, One Gurney St, and Maria Sanchez House came together to celebrate the beginning of the new school year with backpacks, BBQ, music, raffles, bubbles, and more! Thank you to Maloney Properties for the Cookie Monstah ice cream truck and bubbles! We had over 100 residents attend our Back-to-School BBQ, and DJ Alan LaBella kept everyone dancing! This year, Lilo & Stitch, rainbows, Bluey, and Nike were our most popular backpack requests! Thank you to **President David Passafaro, Chris Dwyer, and New England Baptist Hospital** for supplying all backpacks packed of school supplies and co hosting this event!! Thank you to **Johanna Sena and Wentworth** for providing DJ Alan LaBella and additional parking! Thank you to Maloney Properties for providing bubbles and the Cookie Monstah ice cream truck!

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!



Two of our youngest residents are sporting a Bluey backpack and a Hot Wheels backpack!



Many residents danced with DJ Alan La Bella, provided by Wentworth



Residents lined up to get some ice cream from the Cookie Monstah, provided by Maloney Properties



Over 100 bookbags were overflowing with school supplies, generously provided for our families by New England Baptist Hospital. NEBH President David Passafaro pictured above with One Halleck St residents.

Summer on The Hill: Community Activities

This summer at Mission Hill NHS has been vibrant and full of activities! Thanks to the generous support of the **Mission Hill Fenway Neighborhood Trust Fund**, we've been able to offer a variety of events that have brought excitement and bonding to our community.

Our **weekly knitting classes** have become a cherished gathering for our senior residents. Each week, participants come together to learn new techniques, share stories, and work on their projects. These sessions not only encourage creativity but also foster connections among neighbors.



The **Jazz Concerts at Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park** have been a summer highlight, with residents gathering to enjoy live performances in one of our neighborhood's most beautiful outdoor spaces. Thank you to **Ivory Jones and White Chocolate featuring Pat Loomis, Fabiola Mendez Trio, and Clear Audience**-- for three wonderful performances this summer!



We also held a **Fitzgerald Park cleanup**, where community members volunteered their time to help keep our park clean and welcoming. Special shoutout to our super volunteers: **Ricardo Sanchez, Victoria Garcia and Nora Mehler (President of Northeastern Club Running)** for cutting down the sumac to clear the vista to the Mission Hill Church. Thank you to MHNHS staff member **Emily James** and a community volunteer for cleaning the dog park and redistributing gravel. We also appreciate the **AEW** co-op volunteers for weeding around our pine trees and removing trash throughout the park. Special thanks to **MHNHS Board Member Ellen Moore** and community member **Tricia Fitzgerald** for their work on the basin.

The cleanup helped ensure that Fitzgerald Park remains a safe, green, and enjoyable place for everyone to relax and gather.



Our **Tai Chi classes** in Fitzgerald Park, held every Tuesday, offered residents a peaceful and health-focused activity. Led by experienced instructors, these classes have helped participants improve their balance, flexibility, and mindfulness, while enjoying the calming atmosphere of the park.



In addition to these activities, our **monthly bingo sessions**, generously sponsored by **Wentworth Institute of Technology**, have been a fantastic way for seniors to engage in some light-hearted fun. Complete with prizes, refreshments, and light music, these sessions have created a lively and enjoyable atmosphere where our older residents can relax and socialize. Bingo has quickly become a beloved tradition here at Maria Sanchez House.



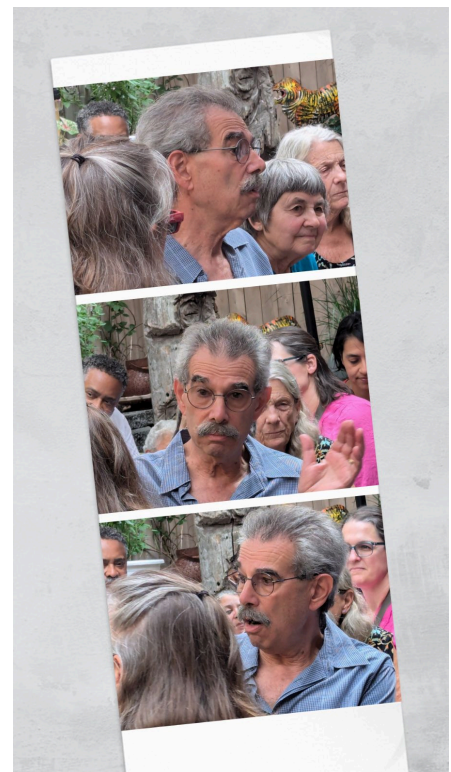
This summer's activities have truly reflected the heart of Mission Hill and the work of Mission Hill NHS to build stronger bonds among our residents and enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. We're excited to continue this momentum into the fall and beyond, with more opportunities to come for community engagement and enrichment.

MHNHS Board Member and Mission Hill Activist Celebrates his 75th Birthday!

This summer, we celebrated **Richard Giordano**, a longtime board member and dedicated activist, on his 75th birthday!

Richard's tireless dedication to special causes, such as Bikes Not Bombs, and especially his commitment to Mission Hill over the years has been invaluable. He has advocated for affordable housing and worked to strengthen our community.

We're grateful for his leadership and passion and wish him many more years of success and happiness.



Board Member Spotlight: David Welch



Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services congratulates **Board Member David Welch**, who was recognized by his long-term employer, New England Baptist Hospital.

David was the head of security at the hospital for decades, defining this role for years to come.

NEBH honored his long dedication to the Hospital and Mission Hill community by naming The David J. Welch Security Command Center and celebrating with a luncheon.



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