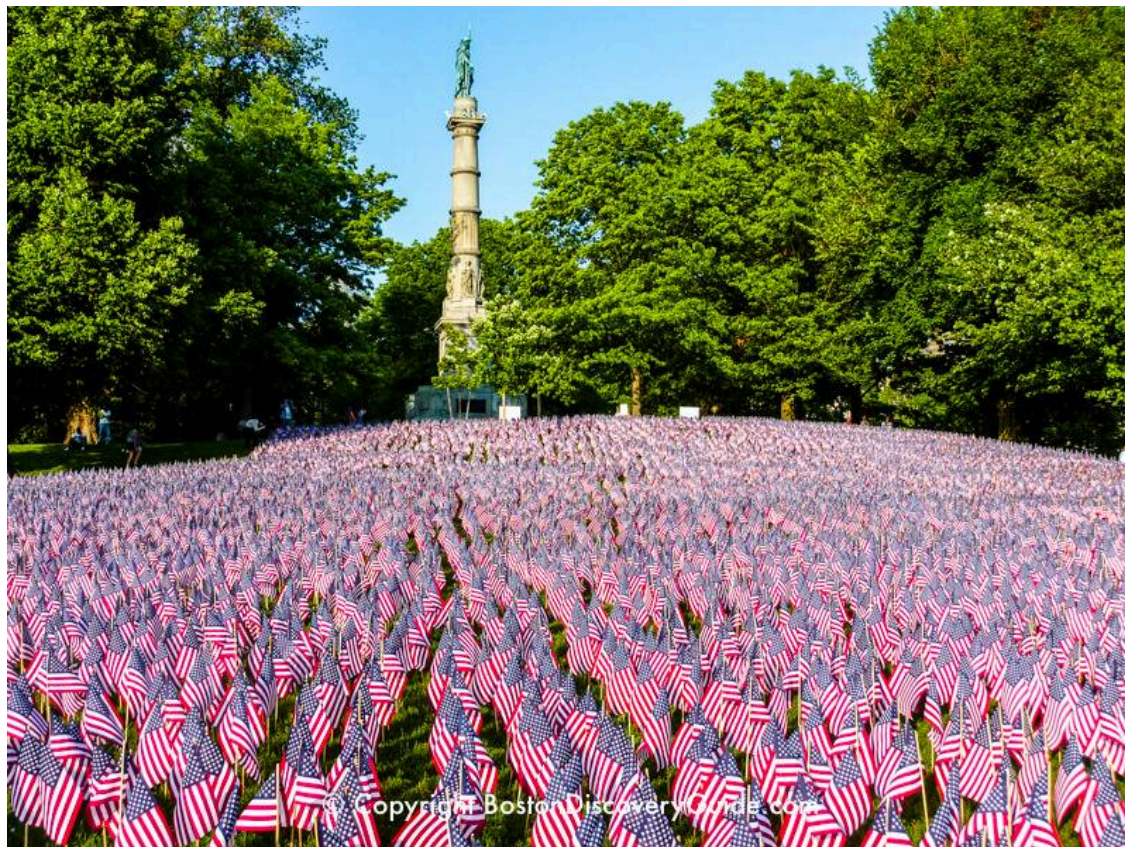




**NEIGHBORS
CONNECT**
AGING WELL TOGETHER

555 AMORY STREET
JAMAICA PLAIN, MA 02130
617.522.6700
WWW.ETHOCARE.ORG



May is Mental Health Awareness Month, dedicated to reducing stigma and promoting wellness in America since 1949.

In May, Cinco de Mayo is on May 5th, Mother's Day is on the 10th, and Memorial Day is on the 25th.

NEIGHBORS CONNECT NEWSLETTER MAY 2026

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Reoccurring Events Calendar

1st	9:30 Walkers: Ward's Pond 10:30-12:00 (or Tue.) *Men's Gp. 11:00-12+ *Care Partners Support Group Each 2 wks 4:00-6:00 Book Club	9:00 Walkers: Franklin Park	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Bussey Gate 10-12 Aging & Spirituality #2 3:00 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate**	9:00 Walkers: Forest Hill Cemetery	10-12 Current Events 1:00-2:30 One-Time Events committee 3:00 Walkers: Jam. Pond**	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**
2nd	9:30 Walkers: Ward's Pond 10:30-12:00 (or Tue.) *Men's Gp. 11:00-12+ *CPSG Each 2 wks	9:00 Walkers: Franklin Park 10:30-12:00 80+ Group 3:00-4:30 (AC) Advisory Council Mtg.	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Bussey Gate 2:00 Film Group 3:00 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate**	9:00 Walkers: Forest Hills Cemetery 10:30 Recruitment Outreach & Communication Comm. (ROCC)	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**
3rd	9:30 Walkers: Ward's Pond 10:30-12:00 (or Tue.) *Men's Gp. 11:00-12+ *CPSG Each 2 wks 2-4 Reading Aloud	9:00 Walkers: Franklin Park 2:30-4:00 Knitting Group 3-4:30 Social & Support (S&S) Committee	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Bussey Gate 2-3 Poetry Discussion Gp. 3:00 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate**	9:00 Walkers: Forest Hills Cemetery 2:00 Aging & Spirituality (Gp 3)	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond** 4:00-6:00 Wine & Cheese (day, time may vary, Spring-Fall)	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**
4th	9:30 Walkers: Ward's Pond 10:30-12:00 (or Tue.) *Men's Gp. 11:00-12+ *CPSG Each 2 wks	9:00 Walkers: Franklin Park 1:30-3 Story Telling 2:30-4 Lasting Words Writing	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Bussey Gate 3:00 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate**	9:00 Walkers: Forest Hills Cemetery 10-11 Living Alone 2:00-3:15 "Teach Tech to Me"	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**
Last	9:30 Walkers: Ward's Pond 10:30-12:00 (or Tue.) *Men's Gp. 11:00-12+ *CPSG Each 2 wks	9:00 Walkers: Franklin Park	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Bussey Gate 3:00 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate**	9:00 Walkers: Forest Hills Cemetery	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**	9:30 Walkers: Arboretum Main Gate	3:00 Walkers: Jamaica Pond**

* Note—Men's Group and Caregivers meet every 2 weeks. Days of month varies.

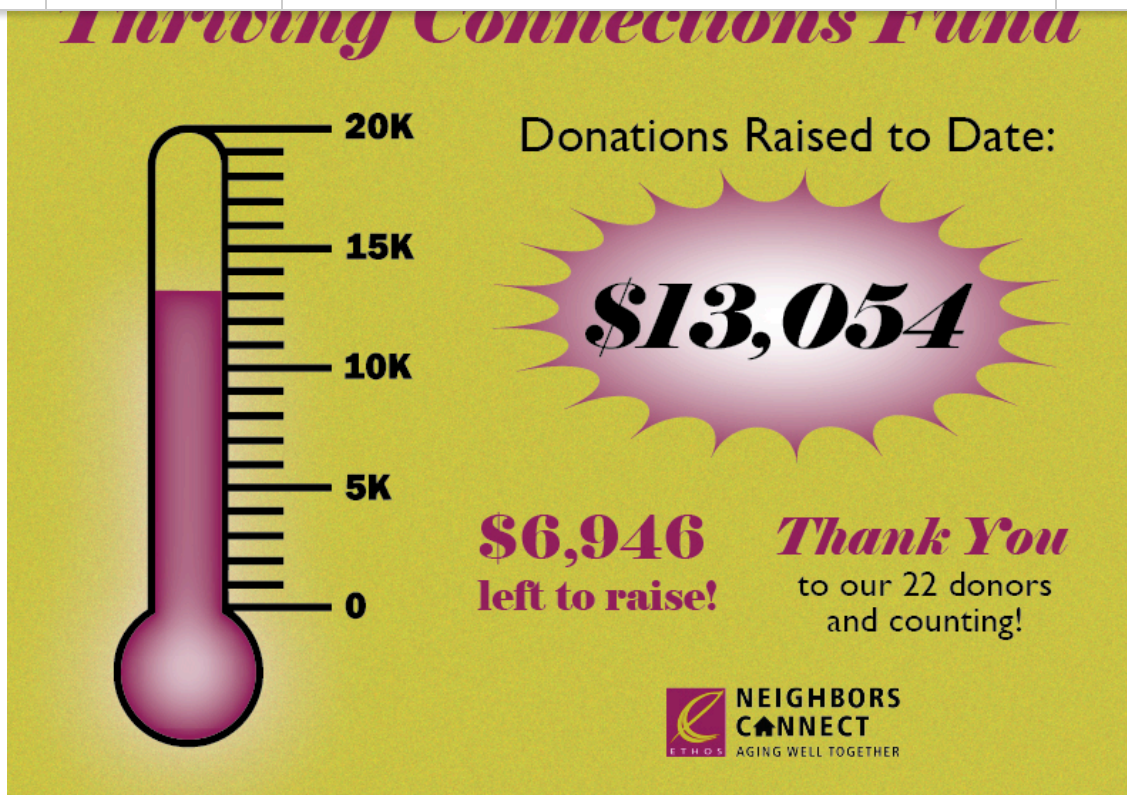
**Afternoon walking on hold at the moment.

***Occasionally monthly activities are scheduled on a different day and/or time. Please check with the Activity contact to verify the actual meeting time for the current month.

New Member Welcome

Please welcome our newest members to Neighbors Connect:
Kathryn Riley

Happenings in the Village



There's Still Time to Support Neighbors Connect!

Every Donation, No Matter the Size, Strengthens Our Community

As you already know, Neighbors Connect is conducting an essential fundraising initiative **until the end of our fiscal year on July 1st**. In February, ten dedicated members pledged to each donate one thousand dollars to our organization, which kicked off our donation match challenge! We notified our broader membership, emphasized the need and purpose of fundraising, and began receiving generous contributions from our community to help sustain our future.

In March, we expanded the reach to their friends and family through a letter and email, and encouraged members to share it with their loved ones to consider making a tax-deductible donation. So far, the Thriving Connections Fund has received **\$3,054** from the broader membership, bringing us to **\$13,054** total, which is just **\$6,946** short of our **\$20,000 goal!** If we receive around **\$2,350 each month** for the next three months, we will reach an important milestone that will help us sustain and expand our programs and services!

With just **three months left** to make our goal, it's more important than ever to consider a contribution to Neighbors Connect. Please consider supporting us today, and join the group of twenty two members who have already contributed

Contact Love Droster for donation instructions at ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934.



Can Friends & Family Contribute?

Your Loved Ones Can Join Our Fundraising Efforts!

Now that we've kicked off our donation matching challenge, we are asking friends and family of Neighbors Connect members to consider contributing to our mission! This is a wonderful opportunity for those who care deeply about their loved one's quality of life and want to make a lasting difference.

Studies show people are happier and healthier when they support others and that it feels rewarding to give back. If Neighbors Connect has had a positive impact on someone's life, this is a meaningful way to honor and support them.

Early March, Neighbors Connect members will receive a mailed letter and email with information on our organization and donation instructions to share with their loved ones. Members can help by forwarding this letter to family and friends, or bringing them a printed copy so they can be part of this effort! Together, we can ensure that many continue to age with friendship, purpose,

Contact Love Droster for donation instructions at ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934.



Coming to City Hall Plaza this May!

ADU Showcase

Need more space in your home? Consider an ADU!
Take a tour of a **model detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)** and imagine what it might look like in your backyard.

TUESDAY, MAY 12 THROUGH SUNDAY, MAY 17
TOURS AVAILABLE FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM
INFO SESSIONS EVERY DAY AT 12 PM

ADU RESOURCE FAIR:
SATURDAY, MAY 16 FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM



LEARN MORE AND RSVP:

Scan the QR code or visit
bit.ly/m/ADUshowcase

CITY of **BOSTON**



Housing

Accessory Dwelling Unit Showcase

Learn More About What to Consider

can be rented out for people who need help with extra income, and they're a way for older adults to remain in community, by downsizing and living with family nearby. Caregivers can also reside in ADU's if someone is in need.

The City of Boston started an incentive 2 years ago by providing financial assistance for those interested. An Accessory Dwelling Unit can be up to 900 square feet, and the City has partnerships with banks providing loans, and their Housing Department is running a grant program.

If you'd like to learn more, there will be a showcase held on Thursday, May 14th at City Hall Plaza. The Age Strong Shuttle will pick up Neighbors Connect members to head over together around 11am for a 12-1pm info session.

More details to follow upon RSVP and don't forget to wear your Neighbors Connect pin!

RSVP on Band or contact Love Droster at ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934.



June 4th From 1:00pm to 2:30pm EST on Zoom

12pm to 1:30pm CST/11:00am to 12:30pm MST/10am to 11:30am PST

Are you looking to connect with LGBTQ+ folks from other Villages? The Rainbow Network is hosting a peer run drop in space for LGBTQ+ Villagers to connect and build relationships. Meetings will be every other month on Zoom. Join us on June 4th to celebrate Pride month and kickoff this new group!

Note: Registration information will only be accessible to the group facilitator Gia Schultz (she/they) and VtV staff member Travis Mowers.

Register at: <https://shorturl.at/F14pd> or email travis.mowers@vtvnetwork.org

New Peer Space for LGBTQ+ Villagers

Broaden Connections In Your Community

The Village to Village Rainbow Network is excited to share that they are launching a new peer space in June focused on helping LGBTQ+ Villagers connect and build relationships. This group will meet every other month via Zoom and will be facilitated by a Rainbow Network member.

If you are a LGBTQ+ Villager and want to connect with folks from other Villages, you should join them on **June 4th from 1:00pm to 2:30pm EST** to

Note: Registration information will only be accessible to the group facilitator and VtV staff member Travis Mowers.

Register at: https://www.vtvnetwork.org/content.aspx?page_id=4091&club_id=691012&item_id=2930868





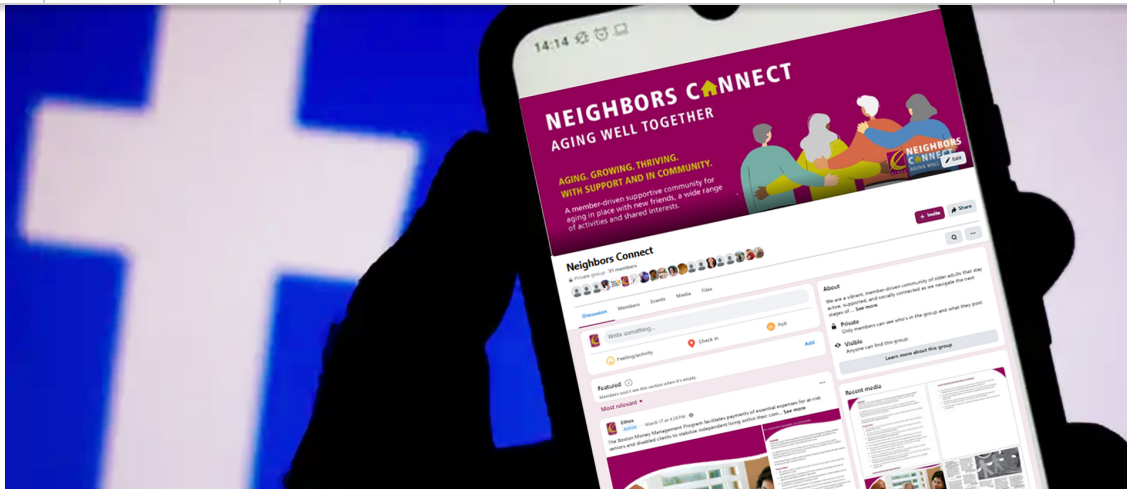
Powisset Farm Walk Recap

Views Are Worth the Drive!

On Friday, April 10th, Neighbors Connect members got to roam around the countryside of Dover at Powisset Farm, a Trustees of Reservations property about 12 miles from Jamaica Plain. The walk was a gentle hour and a half and members go to see farm animals, visit the farm store, and immerse themselves in a new natural landscape.

With our walking group being so popular, Neighbors Connect members are encouraged to find new locations to explore with the group! Have a place in mind? Contact Love Droster and we can arrange for a group outing.

You can learn more about Powisset Farm here: <https://thetrustees.org/place/powisset-farm/>



Share Our Group with Your Facebook Friends

91 Members & Counting!

You can help our community grow by sharing our Facebook group with your friends! Simply create a post on your Facebook page about why you enjoy being a part of Neighbors Connect, and include the link so others can easily join.

Your personal recommendation makes a big difference and people are more likely to check us out when it comes from someone they trust! If you love being a part of Neighbors Connect, we encourage you to spread the word and invite others to be part of our wonderful community. Use the link below when posting about Neighbors Connect or inviting someone to join our group.

Join our Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/14HnYeFEsDu/>

Privacy Disclaimer:

When someone requests to join the group, they must answer two questions about how they found out about us and what neighborhood they live in. Love monitors these requests, accepting or denying them depending on people's answers and their Facebook profiles. The Neighbors Connect Facebook group is private and request-based to ensure the safety and privacy of our members. We never post personal information of any members and are able to expel people at any time if they break the group's rules or guidelines.

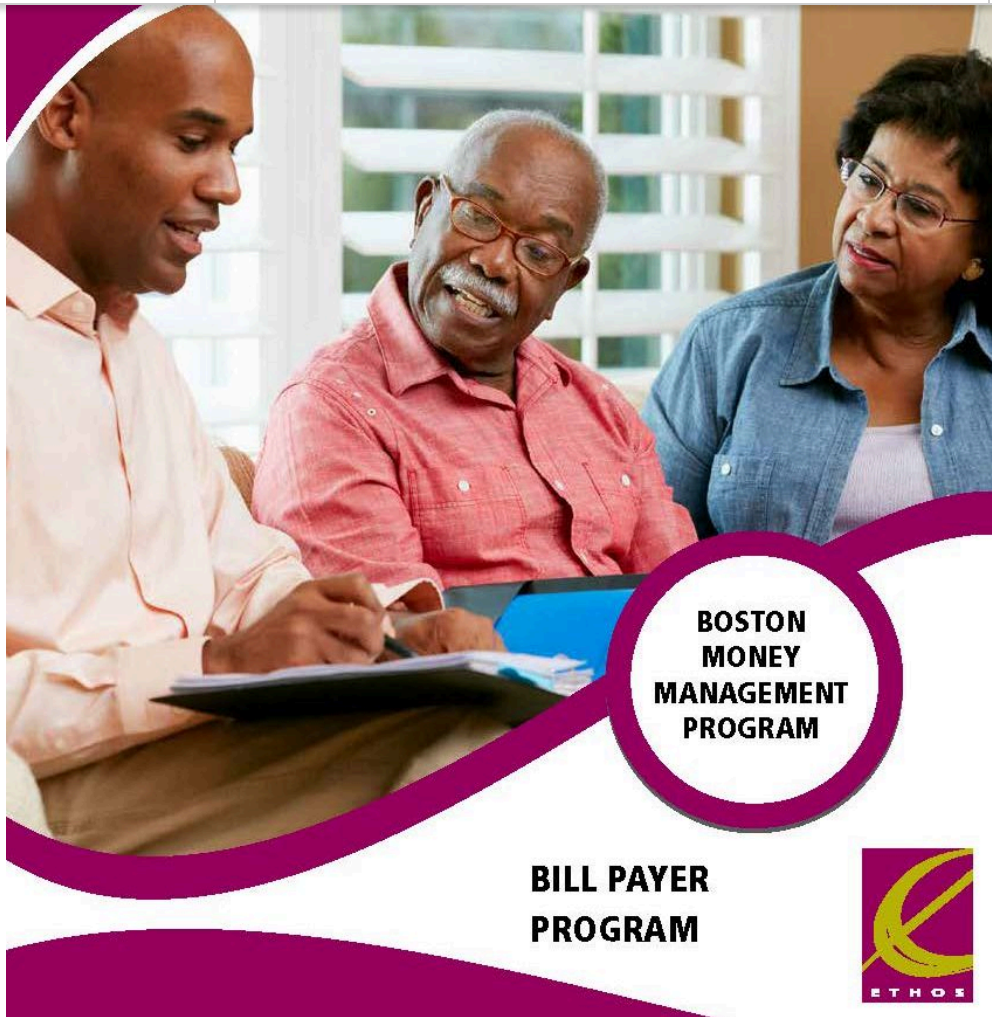


April's Morning Connection at The Joint

Delicious Meals All Around

Neighbors Connect members gathered at The Joint in Jamaica Plain for Morning Connection last month. The local restaurant is one of our favorite spots to host this type of casual event where folks can come together over a nice meal. The Joint has been kind enough to host us on many occasions, and their menu has a variety of cuisine for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Keep reading to find out details on the next Morning Connection in May at Evergreen Eatery!



Ethos' Money Management Program

Get Help Paying Bills On Time & Balancing a Checkbook

The Boston Money Management Program provides high quality volunteer Bill Payer services to maintain older adults' financial stability and security by facilitating payments of essential expenses, stabilizing one's independent living within their community.

The Bill Payer Program matches trained volunteers to guide and assist older adults with their monthly bill paying and bank statement balancing. Just fill out a referral form on our website and you'll get matched with a compatible volunteer and regain control of your essential expenses and finances.

Follow the link, scroll to the bottom to find & download Referral Form:

<https://www.ethocare.org/services/counseling-supportive-services/money-management/>



Teach Tech To Me

Join a Session to Learn About Facebook and More!

The Teach Tech to Me group at Neighbors Connect has been around a long time! Do you have questions about our engaging with our Facebook group? You can get help with any computer & smartphone questions thanks to Neighbors Connect's Tech Support volunteers.

Bring your charged device, laptop, tablet, or smartphone to the Roslindale Branch Library located at 4238 Washington Street. Head to the Conference Room to meet on the 4th Thursday of any month from 2:00pm to 3:15pm. Parking is available at the municipal lot on Taft Hill Terrace.

RSVP on Band or contact jimkilgoreboston@gmail.com to attend a session



Walking Group

Come Walk With Us!

What happens when you walk for an hour?

After 2 minutes, blood starts flowing faster, waking up your muscles and brain.

After 5 minutes, heart rate picks up, boosting circulation and oxygen supply.

After 10 minutes, joints loosen, stiffness fades, and mood starts lifting.

After 15 minutes, your body burns fat for energy, stress begins to drop.

After 30 minutes, endorphins kick in, improving mood and lowering anxiety.

After 45 minutes, blood pressure and cholesterol levels start improving.

After 60 minutes, body shifts into fat-burning mode, metabolism stays elevated for hours.

Walking Schedule:

- Monday, 9:30AM: Ward's Pond, meet at intersection of Perkins St. and Jamaicaaway in JP
- Tuesday, 9AM: Franklin Park, meet at corner of Williams St. and Forest Hills St. in JP
- Wednesday, 9:30AM: Arnold Arboretum's Bussey Gate entrance on Flora Way in JP
- Thursday, 9AM: Forest Hills Cemetery Headquarters, 95 Forest Hills Ave, JP
- Saturday, 9:30AM: Arnold Arboretum Headquarters, 125 Arborway, JP

Join us for up to an hour walk! We welcome walkers of any speed and can guarantee you will meet some of the most interesting people in all of Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Roxbury, Mission Hill, and Brookline! Walking has many health benefits including improving mood, cognition, memory, and sleep cycles. Walk proud and reduce stress with your

Interested members, please contact Love Droster at 617-477-6934 or ldroster@ethocare.org

Do It For You DIFY Group

WANTED: Small Jobs Around Your House!

Bernie Gredler, Adam Reeves, Jim Kilgore, Bob Malsberger and Fabrien Rosen are in our Do It For You group. They help Neighbors Connect members with small repairs and projects that our members could not do themselves. Whatever it is, contact Bob Malsberger at robertmalsberger@gmail.com with a brief description of the project and a picture if you have one.



Someone will go to your home to evaluate the project and determine if it is within the scope of work that they can do (no big electrical or plumbing jobs, please). Let the DIFY Group give YOU a helping hand today!

A promotional poster for a senior chorus concert. The background is a scenic landscape with a green field in the foreground, trees in the middle ground, and a sunset sky in the background. At the top, there is a logo for 'JP Jubilee' with colorful musical notes. The text 'JP Jubilee' is in a large, blue, serif font, with 'A SENIOR CHORUS' in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it. The title 'WE are EARTH' is in a large, green, outlined font, with 'spring concert' in a smaller, green, cursive font below it. The concert details are listed in white, sans-serif font: 'RACHEL HASSINGER, MUSIC DIRECTOR', 'AVI RANDALL, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST', 'SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2:00 PM', 'St. John's Episcopal Church', 'One Roanoke Avenue', 'Jamaica Plain', and 'Donations gratefully accepted'. At the bottom, there is a small white daisy flower icon and the website 'www.JPJubilee.com' in a white, sans-serif font.

JP Jubilee
A SENIOR CHORUS

WE are EARTH
spring concert

RACHEL HASSINGER, MUSIC DIRECTOR
AVI RANDALL, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2:00 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
One Roanoke Avenue
Jamaica Plain

Donations gratefully accepted


www.JPJubilee.com

Upcoming Neighbors Connect Events



Wine & Cheese Singalong Party

Friday, May 22nd at Suzanne & William Presley's House

This is the first Wine & Cheese of the season, with a special twist! Join Neighbors Connect members at 37 Arborway in Jamaica Plain for refreshments and drinks from 4-6pm. Bring snacks to share, non-alcoholic beverages are welcome, and invite your friends and neighbors to come be a part of the fun and learn about our organization!

For the singalong, Suzanne is creating a playlist of some of our favorite tunes with lyrics that will play on the TV screen. If you have a song in mind, email it to Suzanne (presleysuzanne@gmail.com) no later than May 18th so she has time to prepare. Get ready to mingle, shmooze, and sing your heart out as we kick off the season's Wine & Cheese!

RSVP on Band or contact Love Droster at ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934.



Morning Connection

Tuesday, May 26th at Evergreen Eatery at 10:30am

Join Neighbors Connect members and friends at May's Morning Connection at Evergreen Eatery in Jamaica Plain! Located at 154 Green Street, Evergreen serves a variety of foods from omelets and waffles to burgers, pizzas & ample mains. Meet up with neighbors for a casual brunch and conversation and feel free to invite friends that are interested in learning more about our program! Check out Evergreen's menu here: <https://www.evergreeneateryjp.com/>

NOTICE: If you RSVP to this event and are unable to attend, please reach out to Fabrien Rosen (gra667@gmail.com) (617-323-4433) to notify her of the change so we can provide the restaurant with an accurate head count.

RSVP on Band or contact Love Droster at ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934.

Presentation by Neighbors Connect



Join us for a presentation on local murals and art in Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. Photographer and member of Neighbors Connect, Jon Truslow, made his images into large murals on walls in senior residencies in Roxbury and JP. Come learn about his process, what inspires his work, and get information on our membership program with Neighbors Connect! Friends and neighbors are welcome.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ADDRESS	RSVP
Thursday, June 4th	2-4PM	Jamaica Plain Boston Public Library	30 South Street Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	617-477-6934 or LDroster@ethocare.org

Neighbors Connect is a program for people who wish to age in place with social, educational and in-home service supports



MORE INFORMATION ON NEIGHBORS CONNECT
CONTACT MEMBER SERVICES COORDINATOR AT
617-477-6934 OR LDROSTER@ETHOCARE.ORG

Outside Events



Lilac Sunday at the Arnold Arboretum

Sunday, May 10th from 10am-3pm

Experience the springtime bloom of the Arboretum's renowned collection of over 400 lilacs. Visit for tours with Arboretum experts, hands-on programming, picnicking, and more.

Located primarily on the edge of Bussey Hill Road in the heart of the landscape, the lilac collection at the Arnold Arboretum is among the premier collections of these plants in North America. Of the thousands of flowering plants in the Arboretum (many of which can also be enjoyed at this time), only the lilac is singled out each year for a daylong celebration. Pack a picnic, wear your Neighbors Connect pin, and make your way to the lilac collection on Bussey Hill Road!

Find more information at: <https://arboretum.harvard.edu/events-2/lilacs-at-the-arnold-arboretum/>

FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Please visit **BAND** for the latest information on Neighbors Connect activities. Not on **BAND** yet? Email **Jim Kilgore** for support. You also may also email Love Droster at

Submission deadline for the June issue of the Neighbors Connect Newsletter is May 15th, 2026.

Neighbors Connect is Largely Member Funded

Every dollar—and donation—is meaningful and much appreciated.
We can accept donations by check or **credit card**.

Ethos for Neighbors Connect
555 Amory St.
Jamaica Plain, MA 02132

For more information about donating, contact Love Droster at
Ldroster@ethocare.org or 617-477-6934

NEIGHBORS CONNECT BUSINESS SPONSORS

Platinum Tier:



Silver Tier:





COMPASS

Thank you to our Neighbors Connect Business Sponsors for their generous support! For more information on how to become a business member of Ethos' Neighbors Connect Program, please visit www.ethocare.org.

More About Neighbors Connect

Neighbors Connect is a membership-based program of Ethos, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote the independence of the elderly and disabled. While Ethos offers a very comprehensive continuum of care, most aging-in-place services are available only to those who meet specific age, financial and/ or clinical eligibility standards. Neighbors Connect is an initiative that opens up Ethos expertise and care to southwest Boston residents who want to age-in-place but who do not meet most qualifying service criteria.

Membership in Neighbors Connect is open to all adult residents of Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Mission Hill, Roxbury and the town of Brookline, on an annual basis, based upon payment of a non-refundable fee. Annual membership is \$595 for an individual membership; \$995 for couples in a household and \$425 for Social Membership.

A full individual or household membership entitles residents to effective, high quality free or discounted benefits and services that promote successful aging-in-place. These include:

- One free home safety inspection.
- One free personalized in-home needs assessment.
- Free, unlimited access to Ethos-vetted volunteer help.
- Free evidence-based healthy aging trainings.
- Unlimited access to Neighbors Connect seminars, forums and social, cultural and recreational activities.
- Unlimited access to Ethos case management services at special, members-only discounted rates.
- Unlimited access to Ethos-vetted direct-care professionals at special, members-only discounted rate.
- Unlimited referrals to pre-screened non-care-related vendors and service providers.

In addition to standard benefits, members will have the opportunity to be involved through the Neighbors Connect Advisory Council, its various committees and interest groups.

CLICK TO JOIN NEIGHBORS CONNECT

Advisory Council

Adriane Von Lichtenberg
(Co-Chair)
John Cipolla (Co-Chair)
John Mangat-Rai (Clerk)
Alexa Dailey
Bob Malsberger
Claire Bonfilio
Diane Abrams
Eileen Crittle
Fabrien Rosen
Jim Kilgore
Kathleen Sullivan
Kathy Evans
Peter Engel
Tracy MacNab

Ethos Staff

Loren Singer
Chief Executive Officer

Margery Gann
Chief Operating Officer

Robert Connors
Chief Community Services Officer

Love Droster
Neighbors Connect Coordinator

More About Ethos

As a state-authorized Aging Services Access Point (ASAP), Ethos administers the Money Management, Nutrition, and SHINE Programs for the entire city of Boston and also coordinates all the non-institutional home and community-based services for elderly and disabled residents of the southwest Boston neighborhoods of West Roxbury, Hyde Park, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain, and Mattapan.

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