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# THE NORTH END

## REGIONAL REVIEW

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### North Washington Street Bridge western sidewalk closed

by Phil Orlandella

The pedestrian crossing on the western side of the North Washington Street Bridge has been closed to become a worksite, according to MassDOT.

Those seeking to use a sidewalk to travel across the bridge will be directed to the eastern sidewalk. Signs will be posted.

Once closed, the western sidewalk will become a work zone. Following the closure, crews will secure the area with temporary concrete barriers and fencing in preparation for demolition activities, to begin installation of temporary supports for the 115-kilovolt electrical line across the bridge.

The closure began to the north (towards Charlestown) of the stairs leading to Lovejoy Wharf. The stairs and elevator to the wharf as well as the dual way to 160 North Washington Street including the Converse Store will remain open. The Harbor Walk below the North Washington Street Bridge, which will be rebuilt as part of this project, will also remain open at this time.

### ABCD NE/WE NSC TREATS SENIORS TO THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON



The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) held its annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Friday, Nov. 16. Those who attended were served with a full Thanksgiving spread. Close to 70 seniors attended the luncheon. See more photos on Page 7.

### Councilor Edwards co-sponsors ordinance to assist elderly homeowners

Councilor Edwards cosponsors ordinance to assist elderly homeowners with overdue tax payments

by Phil Orlandella

District One (North End) Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Councilor Ed Flynn have co-sponsored an ordinance, which will provide assistance to older Boston homeowners who are behind on their tax payments.

Passed by the Boston city Council, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh has apparently signed the measure that will opt into Massachusetts General Law

which gives municipalities the ability to offer payment agreements to older homeowners with low income, struggling to repay their overdue taxes.

“As a city, it’s critical we take every step possible to keep our elders housed and to support Bostonians in building and retaining wealth over generations,” Councilor Edwards said.

“This ordinance is a win-win, help and economically vulnerable taxpayers keep their homes while meeting tax obligations to the city,” she added.

(EDWARDS Pg. 3)

### FOCCP seek donations for Harbor Fireworks display

By Phil Orlandella

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) last New Year’s Eve rekindled the annual Boston Harbor Fireworks display with generous donations from numerous sources.

In 2016, the Harbor was dark by midnight New Year’s

Eve. Businesses were impacted and Boston residents and those that came to town for the fireworks were disappointed, according to FOCCP.

Taking the bull by the horns, FOCCP sponsored the effort to bring in the New Year in style coordinating two-barge fireworks display on the Harbor that lit up the sky at midnight.

FOCCP has been fundraising to provide another Harbor event to bring in 2019 in style, but is still in need of additional funding in order to be sure that this December 31 isn’t dark and thousands of people will enjoy the firework display bringing the New Year in with the bang.

For information or donations visit [www.foccp.org](http://www.foccp.org).

## Aaron Michlewitz named NSC Hero

By Phil Orlandella

State Representative Aaron Michlewitz at a recent ABCD Community Heroes Celebration was honored for his outstanding support and efforts to make a difference in the lives of the most of vulnerable people in his district.

The local Neighborhood Service Center, 1 Michelangelo Street nominated Rep. Michlewitz as their Hero.

“As an elected official it is my

duty to serve my constituents and help them with any services they may need,” Michlewitz said.

“Having ABCD as a partner helps me to properly serve my district efficiently and effectively,” he added. “ABCD goes above and beyond for the citizens of Boston.”

Rep. Michlewitz has been an outstanding friend of ABCD and the local Neighborhood Service Center since 2005, as a legisla-

(MICHEWITZ Pg. 3)



Rep. Aaron Michlewitz receiving his Neighborhood Service Center Hero award at the recent ANCD Community Heroes celebration.



# Forum

'Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.'  
BILL OF RIGHTS, Amendment I

## CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAPPENING NOW

The report released last Friday by 13 U.S. government agencies concurring in an assessment that the effects of climate change will result in a 10 percent decline in the U.S. gross national product and the loss of \$1 trillion in real estate by the year 2100 is sobering -- if not depressing -- and should be a wake-up call to our elected officials to take action immediately to lead the world in reversing the effects of man-made contributions to climate change.

The U.S. report comes on the heels of a similar study released by the United Nations two months previously that essentially stated that we are reaching a point of no return with climate change -- that even if the goals set by the Paris accords (from which the U.S. withdrew) are met, they probably are not sufficient to halt the deterioration in our environment and the negative effects of climate change.

In addition, there were two big stories in the New York Times this weekend about climate issues.

The first story detailed the ever-increasing use of coal in third world countries such as Vietnam, India, and Pakistan to generate electricity. Coal production is a dying industry in the U.S. and other Western nations, but its low price and availability in third world countries, including China, has made it the fuel of choice in the undeveloped world.

Even those who refuse to accept the science of climate change will admit that coal plants contribute greatly to air and water pollution -- and the multitude of new plants in Asia will have effects on our country even from half a world away.

The second story pointed out that the palm oil industry is destroying the rain-forests in Indonesia -- with the result that 35 times more carbon is being released into the world's atmosphere than from all other sources combined.

We don't pretend to be experts on anything, but, to paraphrase Bob Dylan, we don't need a scientist to tell us which way our climate is heading.

The evidence of the past 12 years of unprecedented climate events: Superstorms Katrina, Sandy, Harvey, Maria, and Michael; the past few years of destructive wild fires in California; the loss of sea ice in the Arctic; and the destruction of coral reefs because of warming ocean temperatures -- is right in front of us and brought into our living rooms almost on a daily basis.

Hopefully, the ubiquity of these catastrophic climate events is not numbing us into a sense of unreality such that we fail to see the big picture.

A report prepared by scientists hired by the oil industry in the 1960s predicted that carbon dioxide emissions would cause global warming with catastrophic effects -- and a study commissioned a decade later by none other than Exxon confirmed those findings.

In our view, climate change is happening faster than even the worst-case scenarios of the past and present have predicted -- and with the window to take action rapidly closing, we are not optimistic about the fate of our planet.

## REGIONAL REVIEW

- FOUNDED IN 1967 -

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## Friends hold Boat Trip to Thompson Island

By Phil Orlandella

Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands will hold its annual "Seafarers Island Holiday" boat trip to Thompson Island, where participants can enjoy and explore meadows, beaches, forests and a 40-acre saltmarsh through a guided tour.

The New Year's Day event, Tuesday, January 1, 2019, a

tradition since 1980, will have an indoor warm-up space with hot drinks.

Dress warmly and pack a lunch, no food will be sold on the boat or island. Park policy is no pets and no alcohol.

Visitors to the island have seen snowy owls, white owls, migrating ducks and seabirds.

The boat MV Freedom departs from Massachusetts

Bay Lines, 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston, at 12 p.m. and returns to the dock at 4 p.m. Boarding begins at 11:30 a.m. The nearest T Station are South Station (Red Line) and Aquarium (Blue Line).

For tickets and information visit [www.fbhi.org](http://www.fbhi.org) or call 781-740-4290. In case of inclement weather, check the FBHI website and phone for updates.

## Trellis lighting at Columbus Park lit for season

By Phil Orlandella

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) held a Trellis lighting at the park

with a huge crowd of people showing up for the annual event.

Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh through the switch lighting up the Trellis with blue

lights.

Santa Claus, Rudolph and Frosty made appearances at the special event. Entertainment and refreshments were served.

## North End Christmas Luncheon Dec. 13 at Filippo's

By Phil Orlandella

North End families and elderly will benefit from the annual North End Christmas Fund Luncheon held at Filippo's Ristorante, 283 Causeway

Street, North End.

The special holiday benefit luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 13 at 12 p.m. Donation is \$20 per person. Tickets can be purchased at NEW Health on Hanover Street or by calling 617-643-

8105. Admittance by ticket only.

This community event has grown each year and has been moved to the restaurant from the Nazzaro Center Hall to accommodate more people.

Visit [www.northendregionalreview.com](http://www.northendregionalreview.com)

## OPINION BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

### DIVIDING THE CENTER INTO THREE SITES NOT FEASIBLE

A group of North End residents are circulating a petition relating to the Nazzaro Community Center relocation.

They have reportedly gathered more than 1,000 signatures supporting the rehab of the current Center with all the current programming and to build a second site for a new gym, pool and other activities placed on the new site.

This suggestion would require the Center staff to cover three locations when the pool is taken into consideration.

In addition, in order to rehab the Nazzaro Center, there will have to be a closure of one year or more with no place to relocate existing programs and activities, including the senior center.

While it's great to see the community attempting to come up with relocation ideas, spreading out to three sites and a closure of the Nazzaro Center, might not be feasible.

Worrying what will become of the current Center if it's relocated is a genuine concern and should be addressed but not at the expense of having a new center built from the ground up.

### LET THE CONSTRUCTION AT NORTH END PARKS BEGIN

All the public areas with the exception of the two pools along Commercial Street will undergo a massive renovation by the City of Boston Recreation Department as committed by Mayor Martin J. Walsh.

Construction will begin this Spring 2019 and reportedly be completed in the Spring of 2020. Work will be done from the abutting Steriti Skating Rink to the edge of the walkway leading to the pools.

Once the project starts there will be some indefinite closures

of the softball field, Puopolo Park, the soccer field and Langone Little League Field.

Some other temporary closures will include the bocce courts, the basketball court, the children's playground in the open space between the rink and the Little League Field, especially during the seawall repairs.

Apparently, there will be no major problem accessing the pools, which will remain open for the duration of the project.

Boston Parks Department is still working with residents, other organizations, schools and the North End Athletic Association (NEAA), which coordinates most of the activities and programs on the public space.

Plans call for the first ever artificial turf place in Puopolo Park that will help with the drainage problems and stop the many delays and postponement of games each year due to flooding.

In general, current plans for the major construction of the area have been basically supported by the neighborhood.

Reportedly, the City will hold still another public meeting to address the plans once again with community residents.

### REPRESENTATIVE MICHLEWITZ RAISES NEMPAC SCHOLARSHIPS

A Corn Hole challenge hosted by Representative Aaron Michlewitz raised scholarship funding for students to attend various programs at the North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC).

This is not the first time this event has been held to help students learn at the popular Center and it's certainly not going to be the last time.

Helping students by providing scholarships to NEMPAC is a worthwhile endeavor that should fiddle on.

### MICHLEWITZ (from pg. 1)

tive aide to Speaker Sal DiMasi and since his election to the State Legislature in 2009.

A North End resident, Rep. Michlewitz is well recognized by seniors and other residents for his outstanding services to the neighborhood.

"He has personally assisted neighbors with keeping the

community clean and safe," according to NSC.

A regular at NSC events Michlewitz advocates for the neighborhood through donations of buses for field trips, turkeys and gift cards for the holidays," NSC noted. "He continues to support monthly senior events at the Center."

### HOLIDAY PACKAGE THEFT A REALITY

It's getting close to Christmas when thousands of packages being delivered on a regular basis, most of them placed on doorsteps and in hallways, setting up a perfect situation but these (Grinches) to swipe in the blink of an eye.

Residents should watch for deliveries and pick them up immediately and place indoors.

When not at home people should ask their neighbors to keep a watchful eye out for deliveries or call them if possible, advising if a package is on the doorstep.

Stealing packages has always been a problem, especially during the holiday season.

These culprits are well aware that the holiday season brings packages to many homes and they monitor the area, ready to swipe whatever they can get their dirty hands on, spoiling Christmas for many people.

Call Boston Police for more tips on how not to be a victim of package theft.

### RESIDENTS PLEASED WITH POLICE RESPONSE

Now that District A1 Boston Police are consistently patrolling Cuttillo Park and responding to 911 calls from residents about apparent drug use and sales in this area may have come to an end, along with the sale of merchandise.

Some residents told the Review that things at the public park tucked away between Stillman and Morton Streets have improved.

In addition, the park has been cleaned up removing leaves and other debris and a very active Friends of Cuttillo Park has been formed.

Rep. Michlewitz remains closely involved with senior issues and needs.

He is a Committee member for the NSC annual Buona Sera dinner and the Chairperson for the North End Nursing Home that tackled the battle to keep the Nursing Home in the neighborhood.

# Saint Agrippina Christmas program

By Phil Orlandella

As it has done for 24 years, Saint Agrippina DiMineo Society will hold a Christmas program for North End kids only.

Santa Claus will be at the Chapel with gifts for the children. All children will receive a photo with the jolly old gent and a gift.

The holiday event will also feature face painting, balloons, and gift bags. Many characters

will also be on hand to entertain the children.

Those wishing to attend the Christmas program must confirm by December 3 that they will participate, and provide children's names, age, gender, address and phone number, by calling 617-363-2678.

The event will be held on Sunday, December 9 from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Chapel, 459 Hanover Street. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## Nazzaro Center priority usage list established

By Phil Orlandella

The Nazzaro Community Center staff and Council is cooperating in every way possible to provide frequent and reasonable use of the Center's space, and ensure an orderly and equitable sharing of the public facility.

The Center has established

a number of criteria for the building use, with priority given to in-house programming and activities.

Other groups will be prioritized in the following order, City of Boston sponsored activities, local non-profit groups, neighborhood resident organizations and outside neighborhood groups and organizations.

## North End Holiday Shop and Stroll

By Phil Orlandella

The annual North End Holiday Shop + Stroll is once again been put together by several local businesses.

Each season the event offers stylist shopping locally while exploring the festive streets of the North End and its trendy boutiques, galleries and specialty shops.

Participants can enjoy exclusive holiday cheer, food, drink,

creative pop-ups and entertainment at fifteen independently owned shops in the historic community on Friday, November 30 from 5 to 8 p.m..

Participating stores include: Ensemble, Heart and Sole, Injeanius,

LIT Boutique, North Bennet Street School, Polkadog Bakery, Sedurre, Sol Optics, Exhale Spa, I Am Books, Iveyes, Loft + Wine, MyStryde, Salmagundi and Shake the Tree.

### EDWARDS (from pg. 1)

Mayor Walsh praise the ordinance saying, "In Boston we are committed to taking care of everyone who wants to live in our City, including older residents who help make Boston the world-class city it is today."

The measure will allow payment agreements of up to five years – forgive 50% of the accrued interest will be granted to eligible low-income seniors that meet the requirements for the residential and senior

exemptions.

The legislation also improves the assess ability of tax related documents by providing residents with details about how to access the property tax information in multiple languages.

This will be coordinated as part of the City of Boston's Office of Languages and Communication Access city-wide implementation plan.

### RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION HOSTS NEIGHBORHOOD FALL PARTY

The North End / Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) hosted a Fall Party on Nov. 8, at the Pilot House. NEWRA members and friends mingled while enjoying food and

drinks. City Councilor Lydia Edwards was also on hand to talk to residents about neighborhood issues.



Photos by Michele Morgan

The North End Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 144 held its annual parade in

### NORTH END VETERANS DAY PARADE

Boston's North End on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Ceremonial stops were made at the Iraq/Afghanistan memorial at Old North Church, the VFW plaque on the Prado and during a Mass at St. Stephen's Church.



Black Magenta Yellow Black

# ZBA approves two North End requests and defers another

By Phil Orlandella

Three requests relating to the North End developments were discussed at the City of Boston Zoning Board of Appeal on Tuesday, November 13 according to Neighborhood Services Liaison Maria Lanza.

She noted, "Two of the three were approved and the other was deferred at the request of

the applicants."

An application by Frank Scire to change the legal occupancy at 64-66 Salem Street from retail to retail with liquor store was deferred.

Scott Dabney's request to make minor repairs at 33 North Margin Street was approved.

Plans call for enclosing existing first floor entryway and to increase living space of the fourth-floor unit into existing

fifth floor. Also, to come play a small addition to the fifth floor and install a new roof deck for the exclusive use of the top unit.

A request by Lee Thomas to get six units at 40-42 Fleet Street, install a new structure floor framing, new retaining wall system, and new finishes of six units and common area was approved.

# Annual Christmas Parade set for Dec. 9

By Phil Orlandella

The North End Athletic Association (NEAA) will conduct its annual 2018 North End Christmas Parade through the streets of the neighborhood starting at Puopolo Park at 1 p.m. with the arrival of Santa

Claus by helicopter on Sunday, December 9.

Hundreds of children and families turn out for this special holiday event each year to meet Santa and many other characters that will be a part of the parade, which everyone participates in.

The parade is held in asso-

ciation with the Taste of the North End, the Nazzaro Center, North End Against Drugs and the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events.

In case of inclement weather, the parade will be held on the following Sunday, December 16 same time, same place.

# Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour and Tree Lighting coming to North End

By Phil Orlandella

Boston's holiday tradition of lighting trees and a visit by the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley will take place in the North End on Sunday, December 2 at 2:30 p.m.

The holiday tradition due to major improvements in the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) has been relocated to Cross and Hanover Streets.

This is the 23rd year the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will continue the festive events while bringing holiday

spirit to children in the North End.

Sponsored by Bank of America the holiday event includes a visit by Santa Claus, holiday performances, tree lighting and more according to the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, which is committed to providing fun and free public events for Bostonians and visitors to the City.

"I'm excited to kick off this holiday season by visiting neighborhoods throughout Boston with our trolley tour and tree lighting," Mayor

Martin J. Walsh said.

He encourages everyone to attend the seasonal family-friendly celebration. "This is a great time for us to come together and celebrate our neighbors, our city and our communities," the Mayor said.

Micela Chamberlain, Bank of America Massachusetts President noted, "The bank is proud to continue our support of Mayor Walsh's Enchanted Trolley Tour, a long-standing tradition that brings joy and excitement to neighborhoods and families across Boston."

# Annual NEMPAC Messiah Concert on Dec. 12

North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) and the Boston Landmarks Orchestra present their Annual Messiah Concert on Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held at the St. Leonard's Church at 320 Hanover Street, North End, and is free and open to the public.

The concert will be directed by music director Christopher Wilkins and will feature the Boston Landmarks Orchestra, One City Choir, NEMPAC Youth Choir, and Professional Soloists including Teresa

Wakim, Soprano; Emily Marvosh, Contralto; Ethan DePuy, Tenor and Junhan Choi, Bass.

The NEMPAC Youth Choir, conducted by music director Alexandra Dietrich, will perform a special prelude to the concert. The youth choir includes singers from the St John School Honor's Choir, The Eliot K-8 School Choir, and the NEMPAC Winter Concert Choir.

This concert is sponsored by Lucia Ristorante and the Frattaroli Family in Loving Memory of Mark F. Frattaroli.

Seating may be limited and it is recommended that attendees RSVP online via eventbrite if they are planning to attend at [www.nempacboston.org](http://www.nempacboston.org).

If you are interested in participating as a sponsor of this event or to purchase a program ad, please contact Sherri Snow at [ssnow@nempacboston.org](mailto:ssnow@nempacboston.org). If you are a member of the NEMPAC Leadership Circle, no reservation is required for this concert, seating will be reserved for you!

For tickets and/or general information, please contact [ssnow@nempacboston.gov](mailto:ssnow@nempacboston.gov).



R.P. Hale sits at the ready in front of a Harpsichord. Hale will be playing 18<sup>th</sup> Century Advent music on these classic instruments during the weekend event.

# Traditions of the season at the Paul Revere House

*Free with Admission to the Revere House*

Why did New England colonists consider Thanksgiving "the one day above all others"? Which Bostonians kept Christmas and which did not? What types of gifts were exchanged at New Years? Learn the answers while helping us celebrate the holiday season in the style of colonial Bostonians with 18<sup>th</sup> century music, culinary delights, and crafts.

Festivities will be held on *Saturday, Dec. 1 and Sunday, Dec. 2 from; 9:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.; sample warm, mulled*

cider and treats baked from period recipes all day. Visit with Rachel Revere, portrayed by History At Play's Judith Kalaora, from 11:00-3:00 throughout the site. Craftspeople working in traditional methods will demonstrate and sell wares from 12:00-4:00 in our Education and Visitor Center. R.P. Hale will play 18<sup>th</sup> c. Advent music on the harpsichord and hammered dulcimer from 12:00-4:00 in the Pierce/Hichborn House.

# NEAA Christmas Parade makes its way through the North End

By Phil Orlandella

A festive and exciting North End Christmas Parade featuring the arrival of Santa Claus at Puopolo Park draws hundreds of people to the popular season-

al tradition.

Presented by the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) many families greeted Santa and participated in the parade, which also featured many recognizable characters.

# Winter hat and glove drive for the homeless

By John Romano

The North End Friends of St. Francis House will be having our annual Winter Hat and Glove collection for the homeless. The Drive has started and will run through Monday, December 10.

We are collecting men's and women's brand new Winter hats and gloves, no used items will be accepted.

We are also collecting brand new men's and women's white basketball socks.

All items may be dropped off at the Greenway Realty Group office, 155 Endicott Street. If you cannot get to a store, you can drop off a cash donation to Olivia and we will purchase the items for you.

The North End Friends of St. Francis House thank you in advance for your generosity.



### ELIOT SCHOOL PEACE POSTERS ON DISPLAY

By Patricia Sabbey

Eliot K-8 Innovation School sixth and seventh graders recently had the opportunity to participate in a Lions International Peace Poster Contest facilitated by the Boston Host Lions Club. The theme of the contest, Kindness Matters, was introduced to the students by Lions members, Mary DiMasi and Felix Padiel. Students were encouraged to think about acts of kindness and the positive ripple effect that acts of kindness have on society.

Eliot School Principal, Traci Walker Griffith, was an enthusiastic supporter of the Peace Contest and the inclusion of the Peace Contest as part

of the art curriculum. The art teacher, Rachel Rizzo, integrated this project into the school curriculum for her sixth and seventh grade classes.

An independent artist judged the entries on originality, artistic merit, and expression of the theme. Mary and Felix stayed in close touch with Rachel and her student teacher, Ms. Kwak, and celebrated the completion of the posters by talking with and praising each student for their entry.

Four posters created by sixth grade students, Hale McGivern, Sawsane Salhi, Liam Lally and Catherine Cox, and three posters created by seventh grade students, Jonathan Wu, Princess Rivera and Sebastian Loc Peffers, were chosen as

finalists.

The winning poster was from a seventh-grade student, Sebastian Loc Peffers. His poster will be submitted to the Lions District level contest with the other winners from the various other eastern Massachusetts Lions Clubs. The Eastern Massachusetts winner will be sent to the next level of the Peace Contest and the winning poster from the United States will be sent to the Lions International judging committee.

The finalists were all given gift certificates by the Boston Host Lions Club which has supported the Lions International Peace Poster Contest for Boston students for well over ten years, and looks forward to continuing the contest next year.

Lion Chris Sabbey worked with Jennifer Hawes, North End Branch Head Librarian, to display more than 60 posters on a rotating basis at the North End Branch Library.



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# SENIORS ENJOY ABCD NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

By Johannah Malone

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) held its annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Friday, Nov. 16. The turnout was impressive, with nearly 70 seniors from both the North End and West End neighborhoods enjoying a hearty meal of turkey, stuffing, potatoes, corn, salad, and more. There was still plenty of room for pumpkin pie.



City Councilor Lydia Edwards greets constituents.

State Senator Joe Boncore and City Councilor Lydia Edwards made the rounds with their legislative aides to wish their constituents a happy Thanksgiving, and to donate some much-needed gift cards for the purchase of turkeys and other holiday staples. Representative Aaron Michlewitz, having to be out of town, sent Legislative Aide Patrick Lyons with gift cards and to visit with seniors.

Additionally, the center gratefully acknowledges Greg and Caryn Antonelli of GTA Landscaping; Steven Colarusso of Antonio's Cucina Italiana in the West End; Al and Maryann Giorgio of La Famiglia Giorgio's; and Mary Guarino and the team at Church on the Hill for turkey

donations. Regina Cleri for the fifth year in a row organized a food drive to stock the center's food pantry shelves, as did Strada 234. Robin Sidell of North Street Grille held a community night at her restaurant and gave a generous check to purchase turkeys. Thanks to all mentioned and many more, no one who came to the center's doors went without a bountiful feast for Thanksgiving.

All served had a hearty meal at the luncheon with turkeys and food to take home to enjoy in the following days. It is the NE/WE NSC's goal to give each senior or family in need a gift card or turkey, and thanks to its benevolent support, the center can.



Andres Molina ABCD NE WE NSC Advisory Board Chair Maria Stella Gulla.

NE/WE NSC Advisory Board Chair Andres Molina helped with serving the hungry crowd as he does every year. In attendance also were NE/WE NSC Advisory Board Member Victor Brogna, as usual on trumpet, and the dulcet tones of "Ain't She Sweet?" filled the drop-in center against the backdrop of lively chatter.

Maria Stella Gulla, Director, gave a moving tribute to Barbara Maldero for her support of the NE/WE NSC through the years, such as personally donating to many holiday meals and encouraging neighborhood sponsors of events with desserts.

The center revived the tradition of honoring monthly birthdays, and the group shared in birthday cake in honor of the November birthdays. Going forward NE/WE NSC will be observing birthdays on the last Friday of each month. Those interested in celebrating a birthday should let staff at the center know.



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# Overwhelming community support for K of C Affordable Elderly Housing

By John Fiumara

Ausonia Council No. 1513, Knights of Columbus, are very thankful for the tremendous community support for their efforts to develop 23 affordable elderly apartments, new council quarters and a community room (available to everyone in the neighborhood) at their building at 41 North Margin Street.

As the project has moved forward, the development team, comprised of the East Boston Community Development Corporation (EBCDC) and Affirmative Investments Inc., along with the Knights have participated in numerous meetings with community groups, neighbors and government agencies to make this much needed affordable housing for our senior residents become a reality.

The community outreach

phase of the City's Article 80 development process culminated at the November meeting of the North End Waterfront Residents Association where the project was enthusiastically supported without a single vote in opposition. Months earlier, the development proposal received a great vote of support from the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council. The Boston Planning and Development Agency has already voted to approve the housing complex as well as using linkage housing funds from Boston Properties' North Station development to subsidize the affordable housing. The City's Department of Neighborhood Development will also provide housing funds and Mass. Housing and Community Development will issue state tax credits to subsidize the 23 elderly apartments,

which will be 100% affordable and guaranteed to remain affordable.

No proposal, regardless of its good intentions and need in the community, happens without lots of assistance. Grand Knight John Pagliuca said, "the Knights of Columbus wants to acknowledge and express our sincere appreciation to everyone who has helped us thus far". From the initial proposal discussions, the Knights have worked with and been encouraged by Mayor Martin Walsh and his administration and our local officials: Senator Joseph Boncore, Representative Aaron Michlewitz and City Councilor Lydia Edwards. The local newspapers and internet sites have disseminated information about the project to accurately educate the neighborhood about the development.

Government officials who have played a significant role include:

- \* Sheila Dillon, Housing Chief/Director of Neighborhood Housing and Development (DND)
- \* William "Buddy" Christopher, Commissioner, Inspectional Services Department and staff
- \* Henry Vitale, Executive Director, Boston Water and Sewer Commission and staff
- \* Maria Lanza, Mayor's Office
- \* Christine O'Keefe, DND
- \* Kelly Shay, DND
- \* John Campbell, Project Manager, Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA)
- \* Tim Davis, Housing Policy Manager, BPDA
- \* Michael Cannizzo, Architect, BPDA
- \* Mass. Housing and

Community Development staff

\* Historical Commission staff

Letters of support from many community organizations, abutters, residents and public officials have been extraordinary and growing each day. A partial list of supporters includes:

- Senator Joseph Boncore
- Representative Aaron Michlewitz
- City Councilor Lydia Edwards
- City Councilor Michael Flaherty
- City Councilor Anissa Esaibi-George
- North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council
- Nazzaro Community Center
- North End Athletic Association
- North End/Waterfront Community Health Center
- North End Against Drugs
- North End Music & Performing Arts Center
- St. Mark's Society
- North End Waterfront Residents Association
- Regional Review

The final phase of the Article 80 development process will be a Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing at City Hall scheduled for Dec. 11. Once the project receives a vote from the ZBA, Ausonia will grant a 99-year building/land lease to East Boston Community Development Corporation and Affirmative Investments. After the development team receives final plan approvals and selects a contractor, the Knights and development team will update the community about the time table and construction schedule.

## NORTH END LIBRARY PROGRAMS

### EVENTS FOR ADULTS

- Friday Films  
Friday Dec 7 1 p.m. The Thin Man
- Friday Dec 14 1 p.m. White Christmas

One-on-One Computer Assistance for Adults by Appointment - Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Call 617.227.8135 to reserve a 30-minute spot for personalized assistance with PC computing, laptops, iPads, tablets, the BPL catalog, and online resources. Laptops are available to use or you can bring your own.

Mah Jongg Club - Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Come and play the American-style variant of this tile-based game that originated in China and requires skill, strategy, and calculation. Beginners are welcome. No sign up is required.

Friends of the Library Holiday Open House - Saturday December 1 - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Great food, festive live music, raffles, and fun! All ages welcome.

Crafts in the Courtyard (for adults) - Thursday, December 6 - 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Calling all crafty grownups: join us to make adorable, festive, mini pinecone elves! Call to register at 617-227-8135.

Games People Play - Tuesday,

December 11 - 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Scrabble, chess, Pictionary, Bananagrams, cards anyone? Boost your brain and meet new friends with our variety of board games. All ages welcome. Meets in the library's atrium.

Adult Book Discussion Club - Wednesday, December 19 - 6:30- 7:30 p.m.

December's book is Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World." Copies of the book are available to check out at the library's front desk.

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Preschool Films - Fridays December 7, 14, 21, 28 -10:00 a.m.

Lego Free Build - Wednesday, December 5 at 3:30 p.m.

Storytime - Mondays December 10, 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Teen Book Club - Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Kids Craft - Thursday December 13 at 10:30-11:15 a.m.

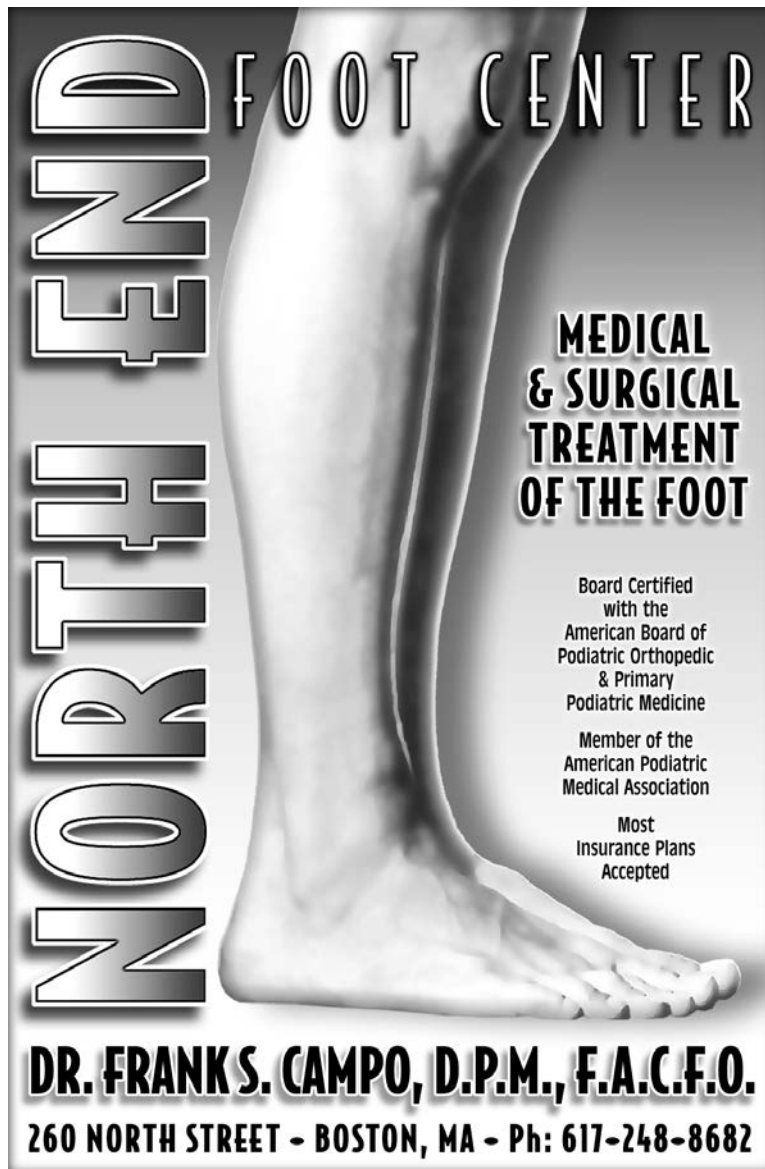
Holiday Rugsrats and Cookie Decorating - Wednesday December 19 at 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Cool Runnings (film) - Wednesday December 26 at 5:30 p.m.

Snowflake Creation - Thursday December 27 at 2:00 p.m.

Noon Year's Eve Celebration - Monday December 31 at 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Homework Help - Wednesdays at 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.



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## Columbus Day Committee Santa Skate Toy Drive

By Phil Orlandella

Santa Claus and his North End elves will participate in the annual Santa Skate Toy Drive hosted by the Columbus Day Committee on Saturday, December 1 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Steriti Skating Rink on Commercial Street.

The holiday activity will feature holiday music and caroling, face painting, refreshments

and a raffle.

Santa and friends will be available for photos with all attendees who are asked to bring an unwrapped toy for a child (13 and under).

Helping to present the seasonal festivities are the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Bruins, Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Senator Joe Boncore and City Councilor Lydia Edwards.

## MassDOT updates North End on Bridge Project

By Phil Orlandella

Another community public meeting regarding the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project was held on Nov. 27 at the Nazzaro Community Center.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) project team presented updated information on construction activities, impacts, traffic management while seeking comments from the general public. The hall was full of residents. Other interested people but no members of the business community that will also be affected by the bridge projects.

This fall, utility operations began and, in the spring of 2019, MassDOT will begin significant construction operations, which are expected to be completed by 2023.

Vehicle and pedestrian traffic between the North End and Charlestown will be impacted in one way or another through the duration of the project. Already the western sidewalk has been closed and signs have been posted.

Plans are in place to build a temporary bridge alongside of the current bridge to help lessen traffic woes.

During construction, the roadway system will be two lanes in one direction and one lane in the other and will eventually switch directions.

Besides general traffic and pedestrian usage, the bridge is a critical link in the MBTA bus network, providing passage for several Haymarket design bus

routes from the North including 92, 93, 111 and 426.

The project on the 118-year-old bridge is being carried out to improve the functionality of the bridge and ensure reliable travel through the area, according to MassDOT.

The full scope of work includes replacing the existing structurally deficient bridge, providing multi-modal amenities including widened sidewalks, separated bicycle lanes, bus rapid transit lanes, increasing intersection safety and capability, and improving the navigation channel.

## CUTILLO PARK GETS MAJOR CLEANUP

By Phil Orlandella

District One Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards joined in at the Cuttillo Park cleanup last Saturday morning, November

10 on a cold and rainy morning. Organized by Maria Lanza, Liaison of Boston's Neighborhood Service, in conjunction with the City of Boston Parks and Recreation

Department and the newly formed Friends of Cuttillo Park community group, the cleanup went well with many bags of leaves and debris removed from the public park.



Cuttillo Park cleanup volunteers.

Photos by Phil Orlandella

## December events at the Nazzaro Center

By Phil Orlandella

The Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street is gearing up for a very busy December schedule that includes several holiday events, a movie, a recital and a drama show, according to new Director Steven Siciliano who is officially on the job.

For additional information call 617-635-5166.

### December Events

#### Saturday December 1st

Nazzaro Center/Virgil's Winter Wonderland Holiday Event  
(4:30-6:30)

Hot Coco, cookies Christmas Carolers,  
Community Event @ Nazzaro Center Courtyard

**Donation for Salvation Army**  
(Bring basic toiletries to event)

#### Monday December 3rd

Dance Recital in Gym  
(6-7)

#### Friday December 14th

Movie Night in Community Room  
(7-9)

#### DR. Seuss "Grinch"

Cost: \$10:00 per child  
Hot dogs, Popcorn, Drinks  
**Non Members welcome age 7 & Under**  
**must be accompanied by an adult at all times**

**All Proceeds go directly to CANshare**

#### Wednesday December 19th

Children's Christmas Party  
(Members Only)  
(3-6)

#### Thursday, December 20th

Drama Show in Community Room  
(6-7)

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*'Tis The Season! Ho! Ho! Ho!  
Merry Christmas*

**St. Agrippina DiMineo Benefit Society**

**24<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Christmas Program for  
North End Children Only**

**SANTA CLAUS IS COMING WITH GIFTS FOR  
ALL THE NICE BOYS & GIRLS.**

**on Sunday, December 9th from 12:00 to 2:00 pm  
at St. Agrippina's Chapel at 459 Hanover Street**

- ★ All who wish to attend please call **617-363-2678** between November 19 and December 3rd. To confirm you must supply your child's name, age, gender, address and phone number so that we can report to Santa's elves.
- ★ Please, you must confirm no later than **December 3rd**. All children 10 and under will receive a picture with Santa and a gift. Children must be present & accompanied by an adult. Also: Face Painting, Balloons, Characters, Gift Bags. Please Bring a Camera!
- ★ Saint Agrippina's Christmas Program is for North End Residents Only.



*Don't miss seeing "Santa Claus"*

**"VIVA ST. AGRIPPINA**

**JUST A MERRY GOOD TIME**

*God Bless America*



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### RUFF GIVING MONTH

RUFF has coordinated Giving Month to support Boston Animal Control (BAC) during the month of November 2018.

Items are being collected at PolkaDogBakery, 57 Salem Street. For a list of acceptable items visit RUFF North End Dog Group.

### PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

The North End Public Safety monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Nazzaro Community Center at 6 p.m.

### NEWNC MONTHLY MEETING

North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, December 10, at 7 p.m. at the Nazzaro Community Center.

### NEWRA MONTHLY MEETING

North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Nazzaro Community Center.

### NORTH STREET GRILLE NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT TO BENEFIT COMMUNITY

North Street Grille, 229 North Street will host "Neighborhood Night" on the first Thursday of each month from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m..

The owners will donate 30% of the proceeds to neighborhood organizations.

Dec. 6, donations will go to ABCD for the purchase of supermarket gift cards for the holiday season.

Jan. 3, donations will go to NEAD for the annual scholarship fund.

Feb. 7, donations will go to NEAD for its Annual Drug Awareness Day.

### NEMPAC OFFERS TWO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) is offering two programs, First Steps and Family Music Makers, for children ages six months to three years of age.

To learn more about First Steps and Family Music Makers

call 617-227-2270 or visit [www.nempacboston.org](http://www.nempacboston.org).

### FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) will bring in the new year (2019) with a firework display on Tuesday, December 31, with two barges of firework at midnight on the Boston Harbor.

### COMPLIMENTARY WINE TASTING

V. Cirace and Son, Inc., 173 North Street, North End offers complimentary Wine tasting on Fridays from 5-7 p.m. All are welcome to participate by visiting the award-winning shop. For details call 617-227-3193.

### REVIEW SEEKS NORTH END NEWS

The Regional Review would like to hear from residents and the business community regarding North End news. Send letters, stories and photos to [deb@thebostonsun.com](mailto:deb@thebostonsun.com) or [editor@reverjournal.com](mailto:editor@reverjournal.com). Please include a phone number so the newspaper can call responding with questions.

### NSC CHRISTMAS PARTY

The North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) will hold its Christmas Holiday Party on Friday, December 14 at 12:30 p.m. For details call 617-523-8125. Performance by NEMPAC at 3:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

The next North End Public Safety meeting with District A1 Boston Police will be held at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street on Thursday, January 3 at 6 p.m.

### NEWNC MONTHLY MEETING

North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) will hold its next public meeting on Monday, January 14 at 7 p.m. at the Nazzaro Community Center.

### NEWRA MONTHLY MEETING

North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) will hold its next public meeting on Thursday, January 10 at 7 p.m. at the Nazzaro Community Center.

### OLD NORTH GUEST SPEAKER

John Shattuck, former US Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and

Labor will be the guest speaker at the Old North Speaker series on Thursday, Dec. 6, from 6-8 p.m.

### ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR AND TREE LIGHTING

Due to major improvements taking place at the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) the 2018 Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour has been moved to Cross and Hanover Streets in the North End.

The trolley tour and tree lighting will take place on Sunday, December 2 at 2:30 p.m.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FOR NORTH END CHILDREN

Saint Agrippina DiMinea Society will hold its 24th annual Christmas Program for North End children (only), on Sunday, December 9 from 12 to 3 p.m. at its Chapel on 459 Hanover Street. For details call 617-363-2678.

### NORTH END HOLIDAY SHOP + STROLL

The 12th annual North End Holiday Shop and Stroll will be held on Friday, November 30 from 5 to 10 p.m.. 15 local businesses are participating.

### N.E. LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Friends of the North End Library will hold a Holiday Open House in appreciation to North End neighbors.

The party will be held at the Library on Saturday, December 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The free party will include food, a raffle and good conversation.

### NAZZARO CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Nazzaro Community Center will hold its Christmas Party from members on Wednesday, December 19 from 3 to 6 p.m.. For details call 617-635-5166.

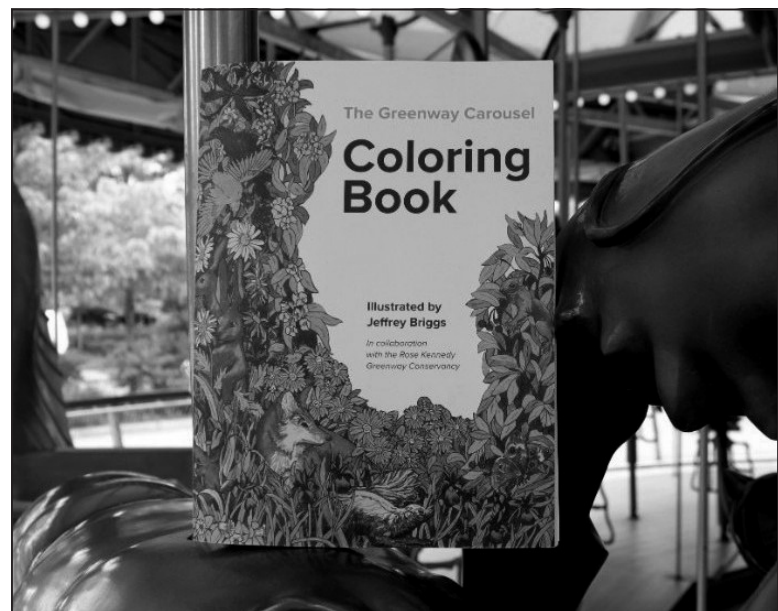
### NORTH END CHRISTMAS PARADE

The 2018 North End Christmas Parade hosted by the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) will be held on Sunday, December 9 beginning at 1 p.m. with the arrival of Santa Claus at Puopolo Park.

### NORTH END CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The North End Christmas Luncheon to benefit North End families and elderly will be held on Thursday, December 13 at 12 noon at Filippo's Ristorante Ballroom, 263 Causeway Street. For tickets call 617-643-8105.

### SCENE ON THE GREENWAY



▲ As we head into November, the #GreenwayCarousel will be spinning Fridays & Saturdays from 11a-7p and Sundays from 11a-6p. Stop by for a ride on your favorite New England carousel creature and be sure to check out the signature Carousel Coloring Book, now available for sale online.

▼ As the days get shorter and the temperatures drop, the seasonal mum plantings along The Greenway are bringing some brightness to the park.



### TRADITIONS AT REVERE HOUSE

Paul Revere House, North Square will present traditions of the seasons on Saturday, December 1 and Sunday, December 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Free with admission to the Revere House. For details visit [www.paulreverehouse.org](http://www.paulreverehouse.org).

### NEMPAC PRESENTS MESSIAH CONCERT

North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) will present the fourth annual Messiah Concert on Wednesday, December 12 at 7 p.m. at Saint Leonard's Church, 320 Hanover Street. For details email [ssnow@nempac.org](mailto:ssnow@nempac.org).

### ZOO HOLIDAY CARAVAN

The Coca Cola Holiday Caravan will take place on

Saturday, December 8 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Franklin Park Zoo. Take a family photo with Santa and a fun craft. For details call 617- 541-LION.

### SANTA SKATE TOY DRIVE

The Columbus Day Committee will hold its annual Santa Skate Toy Drive on Saturday, December 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Steriti Skating Rink.

### TRIP TO THOMPSON ISLAND

A New Year's Day Boat Trip to Thompson Island will be held on Tuesday, January 1 at 12 noon by the Friends of Boston Harbor Islands, Inc. For details call 781-740-4290.

TWELFTH ANNUAL NORTH END  
**HOLIDAY**  
**SHOP & STROLL**

Kick off the holiday season in style! Shop local while exploring the festive streets of Boston's "Little Italy" and its trendy boutiques, galleries, and specialty shops.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

**5PM TO 10PM**

*Enjoy exclusive holiday cheer, food, drink, creative pop ups and entertainment at 15 independently owned shops in Boston's historic and charming North End.*

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**Loft & Vine**

**MyStryde**

**Salmagundi**

**Shake The Tree**

*Follow us at [Facebook.com/ShopNorthEnd](https://www.facebook.com/ShopNorthEnd) for the latest event details.*