



CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

MEETING SANTA CLAUS



Photo by Marianne Salza

Charlestown Chamber of Commerce board members, Jane Gricci, Jimmy Lister, and Nancy Johnsen, with Santa, during the annual Winter Wonderland and Stroll at the Training Field on Saturday, Dec. 8. Many residents turned out to celebrate the coming of Christmas. See more photos on Page 12.

Observation wheel a possibility at Navy Yard

By Seth Daniel

When the half-dozen concepts were being floated for the activation of the Navy Yard, one rose above the others – but in a literal sense.

That proposal by Upton + Partners – led by renowned Boston builders Budge and Jake Upton – stood out for its use of a Ferris wheel, or observation wheel at the foot of the DryDock 2, as well as

innovative ideas to create mixed-use buildings on repurposed cruise ships.

Upton's proposal was one of six that were to be on display for the public by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) last night, Dec. 12, in a meeting that came beyond the paper's deadlines. However, in an interview with Jake Upton this week, he detailed his company's excitement for the effort at the Navy Yard and

their project to help fulfill it.

Upton has proposed putting an observation wheel at the foot of DryDock 2, and then floating in re-build former cruise ships at other locations in the Navy Yard – including on the precarious and condemned Pier 5.

“We’re really excited for a dynamic proposal really firing up and designing an interesting space on a boat that can be re-purposed to have dynamic spaces to provide unique experiences that everyone wants to have when they come to the Navy Yard,” he said. “These boats would have modern-day amenities. My analogy is how we rehabilitated old Mill buildings. You can be very dynamic in creating modern spaces with historic timbers and beams. We’re applying that method we learned to boats in the Navy Yard.”

The observation wheel would be the most visible part of the plan, providing what Upton said would

(NAVY YARD Pg. 3)

Defective materials in turf field could be grounds for replacement

By Seth Daniel

The turf field at Charlestown High School on Medford Street has been described as the “heart” of the Town, but that “heart” has been defective from the get-go, and City officials are now looking at situations in other parts of the country where cities have won settlements to replace these defective fields.

The turf field has been the source of great discussion for sev-

eral months as the wear and tear on the 11-year-old field has begun to reach critical mass. Last month, the Parks Department did repairs to the field to “tie it over” until it can be replaced in the Capital Budget – which would be years away.

Many believe the well-used field for a Town that is once-again brimming with children and youth sports of all types cannot wait sev-

(TURF Pg. 3)

Boston Pops hit the road for Spaulding

By Seth Daniel

Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart said it's a pleasure to give people something to sing about, and just about every night through the Christmas season, the Pops does just that at Symphony Hall with their traditional sing-along.

However, it's a far different gratifying feeling, he said, to travel to Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital

in Charlestown and give patients there who have been recovering from all sorts of trauma a moment of singing to distract them from their long recoveries.

That's what the Pops did Tuesday as they traveled to Spaulding for the ninth year to do their special holiday concert in the

(SPAULDING Pg. 8)



Jolly Old St. Nick joined Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart on Tuesday afternoon at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in the Navy Yard for a rousing rendition of 'Here comes Santa Claus.' The 9th annual Spaulding-Boston Pops concert is a chance for the group to bring their music in the holiday season to patients who have been on a long and challenging road to recovery. Lockhart said it's great to be able to give people something to sing about.

CNC COMMUNITY CORNER

The Spaulding-Charlestown Neighborhood Council Community Partnership Fund announces the fourth year of awarding grants to eligible non-profit organizations. The first tutorial for applicants will be held Monday, Dec. 17, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on 23 Adams St. If you cannot make this date a second tutorial will be hosted on Wednesday Jan. 9, 2019. Please note that attending one of the tutorials is required for submission of a grant application. Applications will be due on Friday, Jan. 18, 2019 by 5 p.m. Additional information will be available on the CNC website <http://www.charlestownneighborhoodcouncil.org> on the Community Fund page.

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

EDITORIAL

REMEMBER THOSE LESS FORTUNATE

With Christmas just two weeks away, most of us will be rushing about -- either to the stores and malls or online --- as we do our last-minute holiday shopping in hopes of finding that "perfect" gift for our family members and loved ones.

Although the vast majority of Americans have much to be thankful for because of a strong economy and a record-low unemployment rate, there are many of our fellow citizens who have not shared in the general prosperity.

Statistics tell us that millions of Americans of all ages, including those in our own communities, have been left out of the new economy, often through no fault of their own. Too many Americans, including children, either live in shelters or temporary housing arrangements because the strong economy ironically has left them out in the cold -- literally -- thanks to high rents and soaring real estate values.

For these millions of Americans, the reality is that the holiday season brings little joy.

We would note that psychologists tell us that the Biblical directive that giving to others is the best gift that we can give to ourselves is indeed true.

So we hope that our readers will take the time and make the even the smallest effort to do something for those who are less fortunate. Whether it be donations to local food banks and toy programs, or even as simple as dropping a few dollars in the bucket of the Salvation Army Santas, there is something each and every one of us can do to make the holidays brighter for others.



CAROLING IS FUN, BUT DO NOT WASSAIL AND DRIVE.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CHARLESTOWN IS NOT FOR SALE

Dear Editor:

Although unaware to most of us, Charlestown is being methodically put up for sale. A recent decision by the Boston Zoning Commission is precedent setting. It allows Hood to exceed the allowable maximum height of 115 feet by building to 275 feet, which will alter the landscape of Charlestown forever. Despite being presented with more than 700 Charlestown resident petition signatures, WE THE PEOPLE 02129 are being ignored. In the meantime, Hood is buying its way into the hearts of our community by sponsoring various events.

The current situation with Hood is just the tip of the iceberg. If this development becomes a real-

ity, similar buildings will follow, especially on the I-93 corridor, creating a wall to Cambridge and a canyon for Charlestown.

WE THE PEOPLE 02129 are being left to deal with....

- Air-quality issues caused by pollutants making Charlestown #1 in incidents of ASTHMA in the City of Boston for children and adults

- TRAFFIC GRIDLOCK with emergency vehicles being unable to get through congestion

- DENSITY - The average per square mile in Boston is 14,000 residents. Charlestown currently has 17,000 and if this rate of development continues, it will increase our population to 24,000 residents.

- A proposed "cannabis" store will add to the traffic gridlock.

If you feel, as we do, that

Charlestown is worth saving, please join us.

Parents of young children and elderly citizens should take note of the health conditions being created. The time is now to act and let our voices be heard. Send us an email at wethepeople02129@gmail.com and indicate you want to be provided with more information as it becomes available. Please join us in saying "enough is enough"....

Please join us and add your name to our petition....SAVE CHARLESTOWN! <https://www.thepetitionsite.com/124/881/902/stop-zoning-exceptions-and-high-rise-development-in-charlestown.-now/>

Thank You...WE THE PEOPLE 02129 .

Irene Kershaw and others

GUEST OP-ED

How we're working to replace the North Washington St. Bridge

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

The North Washington Street Bridge, also known as the Charlestown Bridge, has been an important connector between the North End and Charlestown for more than a century. I'm proud that now, it's getting the upgrade it deserves. We recently began construction to replace the bridge with a new one that meets the needs of today's residents and commuters. The new North Washington Street Bridge will encourage green transportation. It will be a beautiful new landmark where the Charles River meets the Inner Harbor, complementing the iconic design of the

nearby Zakim Bridge. It will be what we call a complete street: one that works well for pedestrians, cyclists, bus passengers, and drivers alike.

The new bridge will have two vehicle lanes going in each direction, a dedicated inbound bus lane, separate cycle tracks in each direction, sidewalks on both sides with scenic views, and lush landscaping. We believe this is a necessary project, and it's also a great opportunity to make this bridge safer and more accessible for everyone who uses it.

It's important to us that we minimize disruptions and ensure that the construction happens as effi-

ciently as possible. While the new bridge is being built, there will be a temporary bridge next to the existing one. It will be in place for about two years. It will have two inbound lanes, one outbound lane, and one sidewalk. It will maintain access for all modes of travel during the heaviest periods of work.

Community engagement and stakeholder input is very important to the success of this project. Our state partners at MassDOT are managing the project and have already hosted three community meetings in the North End, the West End, and Charlestown. They

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

Myles' Musings

By Myles Striar

George H. W. Bush Passes On

We did not always see things his way

Rated him as less than great,

But when it came time for him to call it a day

We realized that by his demeanor he would

rate

Among those who best could demonstrate

The civil qualities we yearn for in a President

We look around feeling, it is true,

That there are so few, it becomes evident,

Capable of leading as did H.W.



CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

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TURF (from pg. 1)

eral years.

If experiences with field replacement by the installer, FieldTurf, in other areas are any indication, there might not be such a long and costly wait for relief.

A source outside of the Town, but intimately connected to the situation in Charlestown, contacted the Patriot-Bridge last week with details about the defective materials used in the Charlestown field when it was installed in 2007. That defective material is known as Duraspine and is the fibers used to imitate grass. An outside supplier made the product for FieldTurf, and it was learned to be defective a few years ago. Now FieldTurf makes its own fiber.

In other locales, fields with the same problem have been replaced at no cost or at a discount, particularly when the warranty was still in place.

“Area schools, towns and public agencies have spent millions of dollars installing synthetic turf fields in recent years,” said the source, who requested anonymity. “A number of important national class-action lawsuits have just been launched against the main supplier of synthetic turf fields in Massachusetts...The product installed in Charlestown is at the heart of at least 15 different fraud lawsuits around the country. The defective Charlestown turf should have been replaced under warranty and at no cost to the taxpayer - like well over a hundred of these defective fields have been throughout the country. The company is trying to ‘run out the clock’ on the warranties and leave taxpayers on the hook for the pricey replacement.”

Unfortunately for the Town’s turf field, it’s warranty ran out in

2015, but City officials this week said they had no idea that the materials used were defective.

The heart of the problem is that the outside supplier provided the FieldTurf company with Duraspine materials. At some point around 2009 or 2010, and that date is disputed, the company learned their supplier had used the defective Duraspine materials. That led to a settlement between the supplier and FieldTurf, and FieldTurf has replaced several defective fields across the country because of it.

“Do the responsible public officials even realize they have been completely defrauded; do they know they are possibly plaintiffs in one of the many class-action lawsuits filed against the company?” said the source.

City officials this week said they did not know about the defective materials, and they have forwarded the information to the City Legal Department to look at what can potentially be done for Charlestown and the other five effected fields across the City.

“We were not aware of the litigation between different communities and FieldTurf USA,” said Ryan Woods of the Parks Department, noting that he has forwarded the information to the City’s Legal Department.

He said the same company installed fields at five different Boston parks since 2007. The installation in Charlestown cost approximately \$1 million.

All of the above considered, FieldTurf told the Patriot-Bridge that the highly publicized problems in other locales are likely exaggerated.

“We are committed to honoring our warranties and working with

our customers to address any issues if they arise,” read a statement from FieldTurf. “It’s important to note that the Charlestown High field was installed in 2007 and has lasted well beyond its standard 8-year warranty term. Since we first became aware of the issue with Duraspine, we have been responsive to our customers experiencing issues with their fields. The Duraspine issue has not impacted safety - only how a field looks as it wears - and has been limited to high-UV environments. Worldwide, less than 2 percent of Duraspine fields have been replaced under warranty because of issues with the Duraspine fiber. FieldTurf discontinued the sale of Duraspine in 2010 and transitioned fully to its own self-produced fibers in 2011 - and we have introduced many successful fibers since then.”

Reed Catlin of the Charlestown Lacrosse and Learning Center has been closely monitoring the field for some time, and has been drawing particular attention to its problems recently. He said while the field has done well, maybe the defective product led to it breaking down faster than it should have - especially since no one knew that the materials were defective until now.

In the springtime, he estimates that more than 200 young people use the field every night for sports activities between lacrosse, soccer, and softball. That number doesn’t include the use by the high school and adult leagues though, so there is likely much more use than that.

“In the grand scheme to things, ours is good, but it doesn’t mean it hasn’t had issues,” he said. “Even if it performed admirably, there still were defective materials used,

and maybe those materials led to it breaking down sooner than it should have, even if it was beyond the eight-year warranty...It’s a big capital expense that won’t be able to be done for many years. If they had a large windfall of cash because of some settlement, it would get us re-turfed quicker and that would be nice.”

Several media reports, as well as the source that contacted the Patriot-Bridge, have indicated that there are class-action lawsuits in the works. However, FieldTurf said those reports are misleading and should be taken with careful measure.

“There continue to be media reports of a ‘class action’ lawsuit against FieldTurf, but this is misleading, as the Courts have not yet approved any class action against FieldTurf, and they have not yet even decided whether most of the claims are valid,” read the statement. “Importantly, the New Jersey Attorney General’s office and the Federal Trade Commission have both closed investigations into FieldTurf without finding any wrongdoing.”

That suit was filed in March 2017.

For the Record

From the Dec. 11 Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing, City Hall (parties have 21 days to appeal any decision already made):

•24 Cambridge Street/610 Rutherford Ave. Applicant: John Macletchie

Combine 15,843 sq. ft. parcel, and 3,143 sq. ft. parcel and lot A - 449 sq. ft. parcel. Subdivide said new parcel into proposed lot 1 (10,655 sq. ft.) and proposed lot 2 (8,780 sq. ft.). On proposed lot 2 demolish existing 2 story building and erect new 23,890 sq. ft., 22 unit building.

• 54 High St. Applicant: Jimmy Carroll

Change of occupancy from Four Apartments and Store to Five Apartment. Interior renovations to 1st floor New Kitchen, bathroom, electrical and plumbing as per plans.

• 26 Mystic St. Applicant: Patrick Mahoney, Esq.

Construct new rear third floor addition on existing footprint of second floor. Extend living space to basement for Unit 1. Interior renovation for Unit 1 and 3.

•62 Perkins St. Applicant: Richard Chute

Construct a new 3 story, Three (3) Unit Residential Condominium. There will be a Roof Deck on Building.

•SHARE WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO EDWARDS/LEO MCCARTHY PLAYGROUND, Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Edwards Middle School. This is the third in a series of community meetings. The preferred design plan based

on community input received at the first and second meetings will be presented.

For more information, please call Allison Perlman at the Boston Parks and Recreation Department [617-961-3035](tel:617-961-3035) or email Allison.Pperlman@boston.gov.

•Abutter’s Meeting for 40 Warren St.

A meeting to discuss a change occupancy/renovate of existing 2nd Floor Parking Garage to create new office space in conjunction with adjacent connected office building. Thursday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m. Where: Charlestown Branch Library, 179 Main St.

•Abutter’s Meeting for 24 Elm St.

A meeting to discuss a Change Occupancy from two-family dwelling to three-family dwelling. Full interior renovation. Construct new rear addition. Extend living space to basement for Unit 1. Propose four additional off-street parking to a total five off street parking. Monday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m. Where: 24 Elm St.

•Abutter’s Meeting for 17 Parker St.

A meeting to discuss a proposal to change occupancy on a two-family dwelling to three-family dwelling. Extended living space and additional unit at garden level; add two new windows at garden level front, new bathroom and new kitchenette, rebuild interior stair from front main Hallway. When: Weds., Dec. 19, 6 p.m. Where: 17 Parker St.

NAVY YARD (from pg. 1)

be a destination for local residents and tourists. He said it would provide a vista that no other area in the Navy Yard does, and would also give visitors something unique to do on the Yard - using technology inside to contemplate history and also future sea level/climate change.

In addition, the proposal would bring two to three mixed-use repurposed ships to various berths in the Navy Yard, and those ships could serve as hotels, marketplaces, food halls, shared-work spaces, and even an innovative, proposed public school boat near Menino Park.

One of the boats would be targeted for Pier 5, which was revealed to be in horrendous shape last month by the BPD. The cost to make it safe for a public park space would be in the millions, and to make it safe for construction would be even more expensive.

Upton said they are very aware of

that, and because of the cost-saving measures for constructing mixed-use boats, his company can put more investment into fixing the pier.

“That’s kind of why my proposal works,” he said. “The costs are low to re-purpose the boats because you don’t need a foundation, the elevators are there, the heating and cooling systems are there and you can build it off-site and float it in so neighbors aren’t disrupted by construction. We’ve had marine engineers down to look at all the piers and docs. We’re very aware of the cats associated with the reconstruction of that pier. We looked at a conventional building, but that pointed us back to the boats. We believe the numbers pan out for that and why it’s a good idea. We understand it’s a different idea than what people are thinking about, but we believe it really responds to the RFP very well.”

The floating school is proposed as a measure to help with the overcrowding in the schools in Charlestown, something that has come up over the last few years as more children from the neighborhood enter the schools and new development for families continues to press on.

Upton said the boat would have 28 classrooms, lab space, an auditorium, a cafeteria, a gym and all modern amenities. It’s a solution he said could benefit the needs of the community, the Boston Public Schools and further activate the Navy Yard.

“Boats have a real opportunity to provide us with great solutions because they are more efficient and can provide solutions to problems the community has encountered for a long time. It would be an innovative model for the city and for the world.”

Kennedy Center Toy Drive concludes Friday, Dec. 14

Staff Report

Charlestown residents can still help Charlestown children and families this holiday season by participating in the Kennedy Center's annual holiday drive and sponsor-a-family program.

However, time is of the essence,

says Crystal Galvin of the Kennedy Center, who noted that the deadline to help is Friday, Dec. 14.

"We simply cannot do this work without the support and generosity of our community," said Galvin. "On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and families we serve, thank you. I encourage you

to spread the word about the wonderful programs and services the Kennedy Center provides the community, and thank you in advance for your consideration and continued support."

Each year, the Center receives more than 300 requests for holiday assistance from families

throughout Charlestown. For a small amount of money, donors can dramatically improve the holiday season for an entire family. Many of the families served by the Kennedy Center are surviving on extremely limited incomes and struggle to afford even the most basic necessities. The holiday season can be particularly difficult for these families.

The Kennedy Center is asking the community to keep the holidays joyous for all by sponsoring a family or making a monetary donation by Dec. 14.

All proceeds go directly to Charlestown families in need. For anyone interested in sponsoring a family, Kennedy Center staff will send information on the sponsored family as well as a brief description of their circumstances.

The items purchased will be distributed to families by

Kennedy Center staff. After the holidays, donors will receive a formal thank you letter and donation receipt for tax purposes. Monetary Donations and gift cards are also accepted. Cash will be used to purchase gifts for any wish lists that were not sponsored.

Please mail checks to John F. Kennedy Family Service Center

Attn: Holiday Gift Drive
23A Moulton St.

Charlestown, MA 02129

Online gifts can be made at www.kennedycenter.org/donate.

To learn more about the programs and services the Kennedy Center provides, and to make a donation today, please contact Crystal Galvin at (617) 241-8866 ext. 1352 or email cgalvin@kennedycenter.org or visit www.kennedycenter.org.

CHRISTMAS TIME ON SOLEY ST.



Neighbors on Soley Street gathered once again on Dec. 1 to decorate their street for the holidays. Here, a host of neighbors pause for a photo as they outfit the street with wreaths, bows and lights this year.

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

POLICE/COMMUNITY MEETING: Meet the police & discuss public safety issues on the last Wednesday of every month at the police station, 20 Vine Street, at 6:00 p.m., 2nd floor, community room.

POLICE RELATED INFO: Contact the District A-1 Community Service Office at 617-343-4627.

REPORT DRUG DEALING: Contact the District A-1 Confidential Drug Line at 617-343-4879.

CHARLESTOWN POLICE STATION: Contact at 617-343-4888.

RESERVE THE COMMUNITY ROOM: Contact Christine Vraibel at christine.vraibel@pd.boston.gov.

Larceny – Bike
12/03/18 - A victim on

Chestnut Street reported he locked his bicycle - a Pure Fix with orange rims - to a pole in front of his home, but when he returned, he observed the lock was broken and the bike was gone.

Larceny – Building
12/08/18 - A victim on McNulty Court reported she left her purse in the common hallway of her building, but when she returned, it was gone. A check of the area was to no avail.

Drugs - Class A Trafficking
12/08/18 - As a result of a traffic stop in the area of Sullivan Square, two individuals were placed under arrest for trafficking in a Class A substance (heroin).

ATTENTION CHARLESTOWN!!!

"Today's decisions are tomorrow's consequences!"

WE THE PEOPLE 02129
must speak up to protect our town and our future

SAVE CHARLESTOWN

from...
Traffic Gridlock
Asthma & Related Illnesses
Excessive Density
Safety Concerns & Risks

JOIN US, the time is now . . .
WE THE PEOPLE 02129

Visit our website: WeThePeople02129.org
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★ Happy Holidays!

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Tell them you saw it in the Charlestown Patriot-Bridge.

A CHERISHED BOSTON TRADITION

ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR

Mayor Martin J. Walsh held the 23rd annual Enchanted Trolley Tour in Charlestown's Thompson Square on Sunday, Dec. 9. Hundreds of residents flocked to see Santa Claus and Mayor Martin Walsh on the Trolley. After being delayed one week, the Tour returned for the highlight of the Christmas season.

PHOTOS BY EMILY HARNEY



Emily Wishansky, Jacob Wishansky and Emi Welch.



Tommy Welch, of the Boston Public Schools, and his son, Samuel, pose for a photo in Charlestown's historic Engine 50.



Sammy and her Dad, Andrew Myerson.



Zoe Skiadous (L) and Lena Skiadous (R) sit with Santa at the Enchanted Trolley.



Mayor Martin Walsh and Santa welcome everyone to the Enchanted Trolley.



Ashlya O'Niell and Brianna Hollien of Charlestown.



Jill Celata, Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Owen Ottaviano and his mom, Courtney.

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

have been helping us keep people informed and will continue to do so throughout the entire process. Their updates are posted regularly at mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement

Here's what's happening right now: MassDOT is preparing the site for construction and relocating utilities. On weekdays, inbound traffic is reduced to one lane approaching Keany Square from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and outbound traffic is reduced to one lane at Keany Square from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beginning Monday, December 17, the Lovejoy Wharf stairs leading to North Washington Street near the Converse building and the adjacent section of the Harborwalk passing under the North Washington Street Bridge will be closed to all pedestrians. The eastern sidewalk over the bridge remains open and available

for all pedestrians and cyclists, with crossings at both Keany and City Squares.

Traffic patterns will change from time to time throughout the project. Drivers should give themselves extra travel time, expect lower speeds, and take extra care when driving. I ask that everyone pay attention to all signage and police details and move carefully through the work zones. The maximum allowable noise level will vary by time of day, with the lowest levels allowed overnight. Additional requirements and provisions are in place to control dust, hazardous materials, water quality, rodents, and other potential impacts of construction.

While we know that several of our neighborhoods have been heavily impacted by the ongoing construction of roadways and bridges, it's important to keep in

mind that in the long run these are all valuable improvements that will benefit our community for years to come. We certainly understand that the disruptions can be frustrating, and that is why we're doing our best to minimize impacts in the short-term, while working on long-term solutions for these bridges and roads.

We encourage residents to contact their neighborhood liaisons with questions or concerns. Maria Lanza is the liaison for the North End and the West End and can be reached at Maria.Lanza@boston.gov. Quinlan Locke is the liaison for Charlestown and can be reached at Quinlan.Locke@boston.gov. For any other concerns, residents can call 311, the City's 24-hour constituent hotline.

Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.

BUNKER HILL ASSOCIATES AWARD MORE THAN \$20,000 IN GRANTS INVESTING IN CHARLESTOWN

By Seth Daniel

The Bunker Hill Associates handed out \$20,300 in grants on Weds., night, Dec. 5, under a new giving process that has played out this fall for the storied organization.

President Kim Mahoney said it has been a very successful year and the Associates had revamped their giving process to include an application process and a presentation process.

“We’ve worked very long and hard over the last 33 years for what we’ve done for the community to help,” she said. “The presentations this year were very well done and very impressive. This means a lot to the community to get this help and it means a lot to us too. Grow up and watching this organization grow is very exciting. Each and every one of these organizations should be commended because they all do great work in the community.”

The Associates made \$4,000 grants to:

- Charlestown Boys & Girls Club
 - Harvard-Kent Parents Association
 - Kennedy Center
 - Charlestown Working Theatre
- In a new twist, they also gave

(GRANTS Pg. 7)



Kristin Johnson and Tony V accept a \$4,000 grant from Associates President Kim Mahoney.



The David M. Whelan Scholarship awarded \$1,500 to the Harvard-Kent Leadership Scholarship. Pat Desmond accepted the grant from Associates President Kim Mahoney and Whelan's sister, Jacqueline Chaisson.



Associates President Kim Mahoney awards a \$4,000 grant to Becky Adamonis of the Harvard-Kent Parents Association.



Rachel Channen of the Charlestown YMCA accepts a \$1,000 mini-grant from Associates President Kim Mahoney.

Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



Merry Christmas, Charlestown! We would be so honored if you would come worship with us Sunday as we celebrate Christmas and Jesus' birth.

CHRIST CHURCH CHARLESTOWN MEETS

10:00 - 11:15 AM ★ THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

HARVARD-KENT ELEMENTARY AT 50 BUNKER HILL ST

Worship for adults in cafeteria; classes for children ages 0-4 and grades K-5. Parking on Bunker Hill Street and school lots.



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Precision Medicine Initiative, PMI, All of Us, the All of Us logo, and "The Future of Health Begins with You" are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Derrick Gallagher, director of the Charlestown Boys & Girls Club, accepts a \$4,000 donation from Kim Mahoney.

TO PLACE YOUR AD
781-485-0588

GRANTS (continued from pg. 6)

out mini-grants to help with special projects. Two organizations received \$1,000 grants, including the Charlestown YMCA and the Charlestown Community Center.

In a special moment, the Community Center noted it was using the money for new swim suits for the revamped swim team. However, even with the grant, it left them \$800 short.

Mahoney then announced that she was using \$800 from the President's Fund to make up the difference.

The final grant came from the David M. Whelan Scholarship Award fund, and had \$1,500 going to the Harvard Kent Leadership Scholarship program.



A gathering of the Bunker Hill Associates and the winners of their grant monies for this year under the new application and award process. More than \$20,000 was given out to local organizations.



Bob McGann and Jason Feinberg accept a \$1,000 mini-grant from Associates President Kim Mahoney. The funds were to be used to buy swimsuits for the new swim team at the Charlestown Community Center. However, they were still \$800 short, and Mahoney announced that she would provide the \$800 from the President's Fund.



Terry Kennedy of the Kennedy Center accepts a \$4,000 grant from Associates President Kim Mahoney.

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Cyan Magenta Yellow Black

SPAULDING (continued from pg. 1)

gym for patients and staff.

"We do an incredible amount of concerts through the month of December, about 50 in all between Thanksgiving and New Year's," he said. This is a wonderful opportunity for us not to just sit in Symphony Hall and have people come to us, but to go to people who might be unable to go and be touched by the music that we can provide... It's great to give people something to sing about. We see a lot of volunteers and staffers, as well as patients in differing degrees of disability, and all of them seem to take away something that's good for them. That's one thing about music and the concert experience is that people take away from it what they have to take away from it."

David Storto, director of Spaulding, welcomed the Pops again on Tuesday, and said it has grown into an incredible tradition

at the hospital. He said he is proud of the partnership and grateful that the Pops are willing to travel to Charlestown during their busiest season.

Joining the effort with the Pops was the Spaulding Tabernacle Choir, a group of volunteers doctors and staffers from Spaulding who sing several numbers during the special concert.

Dr. Randie Black-Schaffer started the Spaulding Tabernacle when the Pops first came to the hospital.

"They were hesitant to allow us to sing at first, but now they have come to embrace us and they have special numbers they do with us," she said. "This is something we enjoy a lot. We come together every year for the concert, and we also sing carols through the hospital during the holidays."

Dr. Black-Schaffer was actually part of the genesis of the concert effort at Spaulding.

A member of the Pops, percussionist Dave Hollender, actually had a stroke several years ago and received treatment at Spaulding. Dr. Black-Schaffer was his doctor and helped him to recover. After recovering, he asked Lockhart if they could do the special concert at the hospital. Nine years later it has become a tradition.

"He came away with really inspiring stories about the staff and professionals here and the dedication of this place of healing people with very serious challenges to overcome," said Lockhart. "He asked as a favor to him if we could come do this concert and that has become a tradition now for nine years. It really means a lot to all of us. We can all see ourselves in other people's shoes who are here and realize we have an opportunity to really do some good here."



Conductor Keith Lockhart directed the Pops on a variety of holiday favorites Tuesday at Spaulding.



The Spaulding Tabernacle Choir, under the leadership of Dr. Randie Black-Schaffer (left), helped the Pops with the holiday music.

CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

Weekly Standings

December 8, 2018

	W	L	T
Bryan's Pals	8	0	2
MPTA	7	2	1
A/1 Zume's	1	8	1
Duce 2	3	6	1

Players of the week for 12/8/18

A-1 / Zume's - Taelyn Donahue, Kieran Savage
 Bryan's Pals - Logan Hennessy, Quinn Hennessy
 Duce 2 - Sadie Stearns, Jameson Donovan
 MPTA - Kaelyn Theriault, Luca Kalushi

TOWNIE TIDBITS

BY SAL GIARRATANI

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO SHANNON AND HER CREW

That was a great Page 1 photo of Shannon Lundin White with hubby Mark. I was glad to see she finally had those twins of hers. She seemed just to be getting bigger and bigger. I am sure she's glad the pregnancy is over too. I'm sure being pregnant and the summer heat is not the most comfortable time of the year. Apparently though, Shannon looks pretty comfortable now with her whole family starting with DADDY, Tatum and now little Brynn and Olivia.

The whole family showed up at the First Church of Charlestown Breakfast with Santa and Bazaar, a new Charlestown tradition. This year's event was the largest ever. Shannon and Mark will have to return every year with the kids. That could be a new tradition for their family and all the families who loved this rather new Christmas event.

BABY, IT'S STUPID OUTSIDE

As I have been reading about all this political correctness around the Christmas holiday, the liberals have gone from bad to worse. They seem to have moved on from banning Nativity scenes and salutations like "Merry Christmas" to attacking children Christmas stories and 75-year-old Christmas songs.

As I have been listening to this stupid controversy I have to say this is all liberal nonsense. How stupid and silly it is to be attacking "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" because it is supposedly about bullying poor Rudolph or Charlie Brown for being a racist for putting Franklin a cartoon character of color, at his own table.

Finally, I love listening and singing "Baby, It's cold outside." Hasn't this song been around for some 45 years? Why is it, we are only now making the guy in the show another Harvey

Weinstein? It is a funny song and mostly quite innocent about romance. Compare that to all those rap songs and videos showcasing booties all the time and the bigger the better. Talk about objectifying women. Hey, at least the old song is about a young couple fully clothed.

Someone was being interviewed about Charlie Brown and Franklin. He said he never saw how bad it was until recently. He never thought it was racist as a little kid but now feels it is. Why are we sucking all the joy out of old shows and songs that have been a part of Christmas tradition for all of my life?

People need to get a life. There is no micro-aggression going on, except in the minds of those without one. I suspect most of them will go into treatment for PRSD as in Post Rudolph Stress Disorder following the holidays.

Merry Christmas to all especially all the snowflakes at this time of the year seemingly falling flat on their faces.

BE THE TALK OF THE TOWN

The Charlestown Patriot Bridge is interested in publishing the memories of Charlestown residents in print. If you or someone you know would like to share your experiences, please send email t.editor@charlestownbridge.com

REALITY MEETS A VISION



Photo by Katy Rogers/Rendering courtesy Encore Boston Harbor

FROM VISION...TO REALITY. Pictured above is one of the first renderings of the proposed casino that was distributed to the media in 2015 after careful planning. And below is the reality, as Encore Boston Harbor tested its complete outdoor lighting program on Tuesday night – giving a quick view of what the finished product will look like at night lit up in a bronze hue. The test went well and lit up the evening sky to the west of Charlestown. In about six months, such bronze lighting will be visible every evening.



New York developer fences off street, but remains mum on 40 Warren project

By Seth Daniel

Fences have gone up on Warren Street around the parking garage-office building that has stood for several decades as a reminder of urban renewal efforts in City Square.

Those fences come from New York developer DLJ Real Estate Capital, who purchased the property from Nova Partners earlier this year. Nova had held the property since 2004, and last year had it approved for redevelopment. That project, which includes adding a third floor to the property and adding retail on the front of the first floor, will likely be taken up by DLJ Real Estate Capital.

However, who would know? DLJ partner Tony Banta has refused to speak to the Patriot-Bridge on two occasions this week, noting he was too busy to speak to the community paper.

When the City approved the sale of the property last spring,

Banta also didn't return calls to the Patriot-Bridge.

However, an abutter's meeting has been scheduled at the Charlestown Library for this Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. The agenda for that meeting indicates they will talk about how they will "change occupancy/renovate of existing second floor parking garage to create new office space in conjunction with adjacent connected office buildings."

Fences on the tight-quartered Warren Street have reduced the travel lane to about the width of one car, and without much notice to the community from Banta and DLJ Realty.

The New York company recently set up a Boston office, headed by Banta, to expand its holdings in the Hub. The company has been buying properties in the Downtown Crossing area, and now seems to be expanding its reach to Charlestown.

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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

THE CHARLESTOWN LIONS CLUB IS COLLECTING COATS

The Charlestown Lions Club is collecting coats for children, babies and adults until January 7, 2019. Our Charlestown Cooperative Bank has generously offered to be the collection site for the coats again, and they may be dropped off at the bank during regular banking hours. All coats must be in good condition with no rips, tears, broken zippers or permanent stains and all pockets should be emptied. The coats will be delivered to Anton's Cleaners in Somerville where they will be cleaned free of charge and then distributed to those in need of warmth this winter.

COULD YOUR DOG BE A PET THERAPIST?

Each week at Mass General Hospital, a group of dogs bring joy and comfort to patients through the Pet Therapy Program. Mass General's Volunteer Department is seeking volunteers to expand the Pet Therapy Program. Candidates must have a dog who is at least one year old, enjoys and is comfortable with being with people, and is willing to be screened through MGH's designated certification agency. Must be available to visit patients on a weekly basis. Regular hours for Pet Therapy are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. However, hours can be flexible. Contact Jackie Nolan at 617-724-1753 for more information.

ON HONOR ROLL AT BC HIGH

The following local students have been named to the Boston College High School First Quarter

Honors Roll:

For High Honors a Sophomore, Junior or Senior must have at least a 3.80 quality point average and all grades "C+" or higher. Freshmen need a 3.6 quality point average and all grades "C+" or higher.

For Honors a Sophomore, Junior or Senior must have at least a 3.20 quality point average and all grades "C-" or higher. Freshmen need a 3.165 quality point average and all grades "C-" or higher.

James Kenneally 2020 Honors
Daniel Sigmund 2019 High Honors

Joseph Flanagan 2020 High Honors

William Moody 2020 Honors
Christopher Reed 2020 High Honors

Joseph Broderick 2022 High Honors

John Flanagan 2022 Honors
Charles Reitz 2022 Honors
Alexander Velsmid 2022 Honors

Boston College High School is a Jesuit, Catholic, college-preparatory school for young men founded in 1863. The school enrolls approximately 1600 students from more than 100 communities in eastern Massachusetts.

HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY

The Harvest on Vine Food Pantry is requesting boxes of cereal and small bags of rice, two items that empty the shelves fast. Any donation on non-perishable foods that you could make would also be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be dropped off at the Food Pantry at 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The Cooperative Bank at 201 Main St. and at the Parish Center on 46 Winthrop St. (across from the Training Field). Financial donations can be sent

to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46 Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA 02129. For more information, call Tom MacDonald, director, at 617-990-7314.

CHRIST CHURCH CHARLESTOWN HOLIDAY SERVICES

Christ Church Charlestown wishes our community Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. We'd love for you to come worship with us at 10 a.m. at Harvard-Kent Elementary on either Sunday, Dec. 16; we will not meet for worship on Dec. 23 or 30.

CHARLESTOWN LIONS CLUB COLLECTING FOR DISASTER RELIEF

The Charlestown Lions Club is collecting donations to go to disaster relief. The donations will be used to benefit those affected by the local gas explosions and recent hurricanes in the South.

ALL proceeds will be donated - there are no administrative costs.

Checks may be made out to Charlestown Lions Club - LCIF and sent to:

P.O. Box 290474, Charlestown, MA 02129 If you have any questions, please email Moe Gillen Towniemoe@aol.com.

MICRO HOCKEY IS BACK!

Charlestown Youth Hockey has opened registration for Micro Hockey, which is a Learn-to-Play Hockey program for boys and girls, 5 to 8 years of age, who have not yet played organized team hockey. Only basic skating skills are necessary. Younger players may qualify after a coach evaluation. The program will run on Saturdays from 10 to 11:45 a.m. The first session will run through

DECORATING CITY SQUARE



The Friends of City Square Park gathered on a very frigid Saturday morning, Dec. 8, to decorate the gas lights with holiday wreathes. Every year, Cornerstone Corporation generously installs beautiful Christmas trees in the Park. We thank our local supporter and all of our members who help to make the Park what it is today. Happy holidays from The Friends of City Square Park. Featured in the photo: David Donovan, Robert Benoit, Grace Bloodwell, Tracy Zimmerman, Tracy Hoeger, Ali Alimi, Mason Alimi, and Sandra Butler.

March 9. Space is limited. To register or obtain the required equipment list, go to WWW.CYHA.COM and click on the MICRO HOCKEY tab. Email questions to MICROHOCKEY@CYHA.COM.

FAMILY SUPPORT MEETINGS

New family support group for people suffering from alcohol or other addictions is meeting Mondays at 7 p.m. at the First Church in Charlestown. For more information call Shawn 781-733-1327.

CHARLESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

The Friends of Charlestown High are presenting Night on the C-Town a fundraiser featuring music, food, raffles, and more. Dec. 13, from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Check it out at <https://NIGHTONTHEC-TOWN.EVENTBRITE.COM>.

WINTER ART LABS

FOR KIDS AT ESSEM ART STUDIO

Register for Art Labs at Essem Art Studio facilitated by artist, creative, and fellow Charlestown mom, Sophia Moon. Art Labs are loosely facilitated activities that permit exploration and creative play so little ones can develop confidence in creating art and self expression through various mediums—acrylic paints, watercolors, color pencils, modeling clay, and/or miscellaneous art/craft supplies. Art Labs can be modified for all ages and are also meant to be interactive so if you are bringing your little one(s), come ready to have fun and get messy. All materials are provided. All children must be accompanied and remain under the care of a parent/guardian at all times. If you would like to book a private party/event, please email us at hello@essemartstudio.com.

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324-330 Bunker Hill Dev	324-330 Bunker Hill St LLC	324-330 Bunker Hill St	\$2,500,000

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Charlestown boys basketball falls to Brockton in season opener

By Cary Shuman

The Charlestown High School boys basketball team lost to Brockton High, 70-54, last Friday in its non-league season opener.

Hugh Coleman was making his debut as Charlestown's head coach following a highly successful reign at Brighton High School where he led the Bengals to their

first state championship.

Senior point guard Tim Smith led the Townies with 17 points and six assists. Junior forward Julian Curry had 11 points and seven rebounds.

The Townies have a challenging non-league schedule this season, with games against Lynn English, Xaverian, New Bedford, and Snyder High School (New

Jersey). They'll also play Brighton, East Boston, O'Bryant, New Mission, and West Roxbury.

With a 21-game schedule, Coleman said the goal in the regular season is to qualify for the MIAA Tournament and earn one of the four berths in the Boston City Championships.

"That's our goal," said Coleman, who is trying to restore

Charlestown as the king of Boston and Massachusetts basketball, a position it held during his tenure as an assistant on Jack O'Brien's staff. "We have a tough schedule, but we feel we can reach our goals if we continue to work hard."

Coleman was set to lead Charlestown in to action Wednesday night against Lynn English, who is coached by Antonio

Anderson, a former University of Memphis star who went on to play for the NBA's Oklahoma City Thunder. Coleman mentored and coached Anderson in Lynn. Derek Coleman, Hugh's younger brother and a former Charlestown High and Robert Morris standout, and Antonio Anderson, were friends and basketball teammates.

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TOWNIE SPORTS

NICE "TOWNIE" NIGHT

In women's college hockey action, Salem State improved to 3-7-1 with a 5-0 lambasting of Anna Maria. Leading the way for the Lady Vikings were senior wing Danielle Kelley (a dominating performance with an eye-popping 9 shots on net, a plus 5 rating, a goal, and 2 assists) and junior center Rose Sullivan (2 goals, 2 assists, a plus 4 rating, 4 shots on net, and 12 of 17 faceoffs won). Also pitching in was talented senior wing Jacqueline Sindoris who added 4 shots on net.

During a 4-2 setback to Williams in men's hockey, Amherst (3-3-1) freshman wing Sean Wrenn contributed 2 assists and 3 shots on net and is fast emerging as an impact player for the Mammoths.

HOME, BOYS, HOME

The men's collegiate hockey players can now return home to

help their parents with chores as Christmas break has arrived. As usual, several "Townies" are making their presence felt on the ice. UMass-Dartmouth junior backliner Patrick Wrenn (3 assists) is a team leader and gives the Corsairs a physical presence in front of the net. Worcester State freshman phenom Will Ahearn (4 goals) has already received MASCAC player-of-the-week recognition and is fast emerging as an elite forward for the Lancers. Amherst freshman wing Sean Wrenn (goal, 3 assists) has capitalized on his opportunities and is seeing plenty of regular duty for the Mammoths.

LET THE DEFENSE BEGIN

As the number of "wannabees" line up in an attempt to dethrone Division 4 state hoop champion Pope John XXIII, Coach Leo Boucher and the Tigers served notice that they are ready and

waiting for all "comers." Despite a sluggish first quarter on opening night, PJ rounded into form and vaporized a much-improved St. Joseph Prep to the tune of 85-41. Senior forward Conor Kelly helped the cause with 15 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists and 4 steals.

TIME FOR A BREAK

As the women's hockey collegians head into their well-deserved Christmas break, several "Townies" are enjoying sensational campaigns. Northeastern freshman Micaela Sindoris has been a pleasant surprise for the #3 ranked Huskies and is sure to emerge as an elite forward in the not-to-distant future. The Salem State trio of seniors Jacqueline Sindoris (8 goals, 41 shots), Danielle Kelley (5 goals, 4 assists, 34 shots) and junior Rose Sullivan (4 goals, 4 assists, 54% faceoffs won) have sparked the Lady Vikings to a 4-game unbeaten streak (3-0-1) heading into the break. The sudden surge has seen Salem State outscore their opponents by a 16-3 margin and given hope for a first-ever New England Hockey Conference playoff bid.

A SHOOTING STAR

At the Billerica High School fall sports award banquet, junior Nolan Houlihan was recognized for his selection as a Merrimack Valley Conference All Star. In his first year as the starting quarterback, all Nolan did was set a school record in his first game with 6 TD passes. He was also chosen as the team captain for the 2019 season.

CHARLESTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE HAS CHRISTMAS LIST ITEMS

Charlestown Little League still has hats, shirts, pullovers and other items left for sale for Christmas gifts. Email the league at charlestownlittleleague@gmail.com and let them know what you'd like. Also, the team store is open on its website, which has more options for fan wear.



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Shawn Black Photograph

CHARLESTOWN HOLIDAY STROLL SHOPPING LOCALLY

The Charlestown Chamber of Commerce hosted a Winter Wonderland and Holiday Stroll on December 8, at the Training Field to promote small business holiday shopping. Children had their pictures taken with Santa and danced around an inflatable airplane piloted by Saint Nicholas. More than 150 residents explored the 20 vendors that displayed handcrafted jewelry, scarves, and candles, and also provided information about finances and pet wellness.

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Hillary and Kevin O'Rourke with Frankie.



Annemarie and Francesca Coronella with Kathleen O'Hearn, of K&K Candle Company.



Ross and Beckett Trethewey.



Santa and Andrea Gorman, of the Mark and Michelle Gorman Scholarship Fund.



Josephine Mae Butler.



Above: Sawyer and Logan Ziegler with Santa.



Left: Noah Gilman, checks out the inflatable airplane.

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