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SUNTRANSCRIPT

50 CENTS

**THURSDAY,
December 11, 2025**

INDEX

Police	2
Editorials	4
Classified	11
Business Directory	11

INDEPENDENT



08805 93062 7

Newspaper Group

NEWS Brief

**2ND ANNUAL
FESTIVAL OF
WREATHS AND
HOLIDAY CRAFT
FAIR DECEMBER 14**

The International Order of Odd Fellows, (IOOF) Zenith Lodge #42, at 196 Winthrop Street invites the community to celebrate the season at their 2nd Annual Festival of Wreaths and Holiday Craft Fair. Starting November 15th and running thru December 14th, every Saturday and Sunday from 2pm–6pm, the Zenith Lodge will be open for visitors to purchase raffle tickets for the festive display of one-of-a-kind wreaths created and donated by local artists, nonprofits, businesses, and friends. A light menu of delicious hot soups and cider will be available to enjoy.

This year’s proceeds will benefit two Winthrop High School students, chosen to represent the town in the IOOF “Pilgrimage for Youth Program” — a life-changing journey of learning and friendship.

The festival concludes with a Holiday Craft Fair on Sunday, December 14th featuring a special visit

See NEWS BRIEF Page 2



PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

The annual Amy’s Breakfast with Santa was held this past weekend at St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Shown clockwise from top: Families enjoying the festive tradition.

Student volunteers serving pancakes, eggs, and sausages to parishioners.

The Calla and Graygor Families taking changes on raffle items.

Santa arriving at Amy’s Breakfast with Santa.

See more photos on Page 6.



Town misses out on state tree grant

By Adam Swift

The town missed out on a recent \$100,000 Cool Corridors grant from the state’s Division of Conservation Services and Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

According to Hilary Dimino, the state office’s manager of the tree planting program, Winthrop ranked eight out of 18 applicants for the grant, but did not receive it because the town is not in compliance with the MBTA 3A Communities Act.

In a letter to Assistant Town Manager Cheryl McCormick, Dimino stated the town likely would have received the grant if it was in compliance with the state law.

“If you would like to re-apply for the Cooling Corridors grant program in the coming fiscal year, please ensure that your community is in compliance with MBTA Communities

See GRANT Page 2

Town council accepting letters of interest for Precinct 6 seat

Staff Report

The town council is accepting letters of interest to fill out the remaining term of Precinct 6 Councilor

John DaRos.

DaRos resigned from his position after two years on the council last month.

“As in the past, we will ask for letters of interest

from anybody, the requirement being that you just reside in Precinct 6,” said Council President Jim Lettierie at last week’s council meeting. “We will be accepting letters of interest, you can address them to (Town Clerk) Denise (Quist) or myself on the council.”

The council will be accepting the applications for approximately the next two weeks, according to Lettierie.

During the council’s session

See COUNCIL SEAT Page 3

SMALL TOWN, BIG LIGHTS Winthrop shines bright for the holiday season

Special to the Transcript

The seaside town of Winthrop sparkled with holiday magic this past weekend as the community came together for the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce’s 34th annual holiday lighting celebration, proudly themed “Small Town, Big Lights.” With a huge turnout from residents and visitors, the event showcased the town’s beloved traditions, seaside charm, and strong community spirit.

The celebration took place on November 28th in French Square / Town Center, where brilliant lights illuminated the heart of town, reflecting the warmth and togetherness that make Winthrop truly special during the holiday season.

“This year’s theme, Small Town, Big Lights, captured everything we love about Winthrop,” said Diana Aliberti, Executive Director. “We may be a small

See HOLIDAY LIGHTS Page 3



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WINTHROP POLICE BLOTTER

The following incident reports are among the calls to which the Winthrop Police Department responded on the listed dates. The log is a public record and available for review. All persons who are arrested or charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

MONDAY, NOV. 24

0758: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Kennedy Rd. for failing to obey the officer’s hand signals while directing traffic and for obstructing a vehicle that was turning. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0914: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Tafts Ave. and Mugford St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The of-

ficer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1127: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Drive for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1129: An officer ordered a tow of a motor vehicle that had been on the 72-hour list on Shirley St.

1401: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Revere and Shirley Sts. for the civil moving infraction of a crosswalk violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1442: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of violating the hands-free law. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1454: An officer stopped

a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of a marked lanes violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1753: Officers arrested Ty Joseph Garcia, 23, of 57 Moore St., for the criminal offenses of two counts of assault and battery, two counts of assault by means of a dangerous weapon, and breaking and entering in the daytime with intent to commit a felony and placing a person in fear.

2129: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

2124: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pleasant St. and arrested the operator, Pablo Garcia Saucea, 33, of 62 Cottage Ave. for

the criminal offense of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

TUESDAY, NOV. 25

0112: An officer issued parking tickets to vehicles without resident parking stickers on Bowdoin St.

0116: An officer issued parking tickets to four vehicles without resident parking stickers on Grovers Ave.

0151: An officer issued parking tickets to nine vehicles without resident parking stickers in the Grovers Ave. neighborhood.

0151: An officer issued parking tickets to five vehicles without resident parking stickers on Revere St.

0219: An officer issued parking tickets to three vehicles without resident parking stickers on Sea Foam Ave.

0232: An officer issued parking tickets to four vehicles without resident parking stickers on Pearl Ave.

0841: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0858: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Crest Ave. for the civil moving infraction of a crosswalk violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1043: An officer stopped a person operating a dirtbike near the town library. The officer called the owner of the dirtbike and spoke to the operator, who is from out of state and was unaware that it was illegal to operate a dirtbike on a public roadway. The officer followed the operator back to the home of the owner.

1124: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle parked within 20 feet of an intersection at Hillside and Prospect Aves.

1404: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of an unsecured load. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1414: An officer directed a person operating an electric scooter on Main St. not to operate it in the middle of the roadway.

1437: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1448: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1812: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for a civil moving infraction. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1830: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a ver-

bal warning to the operator.

2203: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Drive for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2350: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shirley St. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26

1415: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Read St. and issued a citation to the operator for the criminal offense of operating a motor vehicle with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation and for the civil infraction of a stop sign violation. The motor vehicle was towed.

1824: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1925: An officer directed the operators of two vehicles parked in the Fire Lane at Twist and Shake on Shirley St. to move their vehicles.

1934: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of a lights violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1949: A Moore St. resident reported finding a loose dog. The caller agreed to hold the dog until the owner came by to pick it up.

2039: A person called the station to report that a bag with about 20 Amazon boxes was lying in the street on Cottage Park Rd. The packages belonged to residents in the area and all were delivered.

2138: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2134: An officer dispersed persons in motor vehicles from Hannaford Park, which is closed after dark.

THURSDAY, NOV. 27

0117: An officer issued parking tickets to two vehicles without resident parking stickers on Walden St.

0119: A officer dispersed a group of persons from French Sq.

0831: An officer ordered a tow for a vehicle parked too closely to the corner at Pearl Ave. and Shirley St.

FRIDAY, NOV. 28

0045: An officer directed persons playing music loudly in their apartment on Beach Rd. to turn down the volume.

0745: An officer issued a

parking ticket to a vehicle parked in the No Parking Here to Corner section at Deane Ave. and Revere St.

1345: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Dr. for the civil moving infraction of a marked lanes violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1435: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle parked in the No Parking Here to Corner section at Jefferson and Winthrop Sts.

SATURDAY, NOV. 29

0235: An officer directed a homeowner hosting a large and loud party on Quincy Ave. to turn down the music.

0827: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a motor vehicle from Governors Park.

1121: Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle accident at 841 Shirley St. One of the operators received a citation for the civil motor vehicle infraction of failing to yield. Both vehicles were towed.

1217: An officer ordered a tow for a motor vehicle with an expired registration that was blocking a driveway on Pleasant St. The officer also issued a parking ticket for blocking the driveway.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

0104: An officer issued parking tickets to three vehicles without resident parking stickers on Walde-

Grants // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Law,” Dimino stated in the letter.

The Healey-Driscoll administration recently announced \$632,000 in grants from the Cooling Corridors program, which focuses on planting trees in identified hotspots, along popular walking routes, and in Environmental Justice neighborhoods across Massachusetts.

Winthrop Tree Warden Tom Derderian said he is disappointed in Winthrop losing out on the grant.

“The grant would have

allowed the town to purchase a much needed mobile watering tank to help our young trees survive summer dry spells and of course many, many more young trees,” Derderian said.

The tree warden explained that there is no money left for a spring planting, so the town will have to look at other ways to raise money. He said the “Cool Corridors” grant is meant to help communities grow trees to provide shade in an ever hotter environment to cool

areas frequented by people vulnerable to heat radiating off hot, black asphalt.

In addition to this public health benefit trees moderate rain runoff during sudden storms and take up ground water with their roots and evaporate it into the air through their leaves easing the stress on the town’s drainage systems, Derderian said.

“Trees are also beautiful and thus enhance property values in the town as well as contributing to a higher quality of life,” he stated.

“The town has been losing total tree cover for many years as big, old trees with large shading canopies reach the end of their lives and have to be removed. A tree with a 36” diameter is replaced by one with an inch and a half diameter.

“In sixty years it will match the tree it replaced,” Derderian continued. “But every little tree planted will not necessarily live to be fully developed so many more trees need to be planted than are removed. Winthrop has many magnificent century-old trees.”

Derderian said street trees are now living in a harsher world than the one that the big old trees grew up in.

“The trees planted 100 years ago did not face such hot, dry summers, so much pavement, so much air pollution (there was no airport then) as well as road salt, and damage from the hugely increased auto and truck traffic,” he said. “Many of our trees suffer from motor vehicle strikes to their trunks and large trucks hitting their limbs on the street side. Our trees will require a great deal of tender care.”

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PROJECT: Saratoga Street Shoreline Restoration Project

LOCATION: 1257-1263 Saratoga Street, East Boston, MA 02128

PROPONENT: Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport)

The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form (“ENF”) to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before 12/10/25. This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (“MEPA,” M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from: Fiona Vardy (Foth): Fiona.vardy@foth.com; (401) 910-7720, or Chris Busch (Massport): cbusch@massport.com; (617) 568-3524

Electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Boston, Massachusetts. The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, receive public comments on the project, and then decide if an Environmental Impact Report is required. A site visit and/or remote consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit and/or remote consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov or the MEPA analyst listed in the Environmental Monitor.

Requests for language translation or other accommodations should be directed to the same email address. Mail correspondence should be directed to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.

By: Massachusetts Port Authority

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News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from Santa, who will be giving gifts to the children from 2-4pm. The Wreath Raffle drawing will be held at the end of the fair.

“Festival of Wreaths is our way of sharing cheer and supporting Winthrop’s future,” said Sandra Joneck-Schiff, event organizer. “Each wreath represents hope and unity, tells a story, and together we all help our students begin their own.”

Wreaths can be submitted during the month of October and Crafter tables are \$25.

For more details on donating a wreath, signing up as a crafter or volunteering, please contact Sandra at 617-407-3438.

The Odd Fellows Zenith Lodge thanks the Winthrop community for their Support

WPD HOSTS CHRISTMAS PARTY



The Winthrop Police Department’s annual Christmas Party fundraiser, held at the Winthrop Yacht Club on Saturday, December 6, 2025, celebrated the Winthrop Police Explorer program. Pictured above are Hannah Barrett, this year’s winner of the Vincent Crossman award for Winthrop Police Explorer of the Year, as well as State Rep. Jeffrey Rosario Turco, State Senator Lydia Edwards, and Councilor Kurt Millar.

Mary Lou Heighton reappointed to housing authority

Staff Report

The town council and the housing authority unanimously approved the re-appointment of Mary Lou Heighton as the tenants' representative to the Win-

throp Housing Authority at a joint meeting last week. "She's been a great member of the tenants' board for many years and on the regular housing board as the representative of the tenants' group," said housing au-

thority member Peter Gill. Housing Authority Director Peg Lyons noted that the local tenants' association is required by the state when a community has a housing authority. "It's composed of any-

body who lives in a public housing unit, there's a board that meets and has events monthly, and Mary Lou has been active on this board for at least 15 years that I'm aware of – setting up the events, setting up the meet-

ings, and listening to the tenants," said Lyons. "She was nominated and voted unanimously by the tenants of the Winthrop Housing Authority for staying on as the board member representative, and I would endorse

that, as well." Council President Jim Letterie said the council has heard nothing but fantastic things about Heighton, and thanked her for wanting to continue her service on the housing authority.

News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seaside community, but our traditions and the way we support one another shine brighter than ever." "This year we worked to design a tree lighting that would maximize French Square, celebrate Winthrop, and create a memorable landscape for all," said Marc Chapdelaine, President of the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce. "We look forward to building on this momentum and making next year's event even better."

Event Highlights Included:

A Grand Lighting Ceremony with a lively community countdown to Lighting the Christmas Tree and surrounding trees.

Free Horse & Buggy Rides that delighted families throughout the evening.

Live Performances by local dancers, athletes, and Victorian Carolers.

Popcorn and Hot Chocolate Giveaways, spreading warmth and cheer.

Family-Friendly Activities and festive photo spots sprinkled throughout the venue.

A joyful Santa's Arrival with treats for children and

free family photos.

Local Vendors and Favorites offering seasonal goods, warm drinks, and sweet treats.

The holiday festivities continued throughout the weekend with a strong show of support for Winthrop's local businesses during Small Business Saturday. Shoppers enjoyed special tours of shops, promotions, decorated storefronts, and the popular Jolly Trolley Shopping Event, which transported families and visitors around town to explore participating stores and restaurants.

The Winthrop Chamber of Commerce extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who made the 34th year of this cherished celebration possible—especially our Platinum Sponsor, The Winthrop Foundation, whose generosity helped bring the spirit of Small Town, Big Lights to life. Other event sponsors were Swetts Liquors, Twist and Shake, Webster Federal Credit Union, Bright Beginnings, Rockland Trust, LED Marque Boston, Mr. Freeze HVAC, Boyd and Turner Residential.

Additional thanks go out

to all the volunteers and the entire community for their

energy, enthusiasm, and support.

For information on events and membership, please visit www.winthropchamber.com



Council Seat // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ond scheduled meeting of the new year on Jan. 20, Letterie said it will likely be reviewing and vetting the potential candidates with a possible vote on either that day or at a meeting in late January or early February. More information on the process can be found on the town council section of the

town website, including an article highlighting the expectations of a town councilor. Those expectations include regular meeting dates and subcommittee expectations and the council attendance policy. "Councilors are expected to have or gain a very good

working knowledge about the budget and are expected to attend several of the Finance Commission meetings concerning the budget," the expectations letter states. DaRos's term expires in January of 2028.

Real Estate Transfers

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Benitez, Ashley D	Warren J Clifford Jr Ft	89-91 Sagamore Ave	\$830,000
Masse, David	Dinuccio, Thomas L	Palmyra St	\$600,000

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OUR Opinions

THE MAHA MOMS ARE RIGHT ABOUT TOXIC WASTE

As our regular readers know, we have been highly-critical of the so-called Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement led by Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the least qualified and least knowledgeable person ever to lead the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), whose policies regarding vaccines and scientific research threaten the health of millions of Americans.

However, last week some prominent MAHA activists sent a petition to President Donald Trump urging him to fire Lee Zeldin, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, over a series of recent decisions by Zeldin that will pave the way for the use of proven harmful chemicals that ultimately will contaminate our air, our water, and our food.

“Rather than supporting your initiative to ‘Make America Healthy Again’, which millions of Republicans and independents alike embraced, Administrator Zeldin has prioritized the interests of chemical corporations over the well-being of American families and children,” the petition reads.

Also supporting the petition is the group Moms Clean Air Force (MCAF), which seeks to protect children from the effects of air pollution and climate change.

“With every proposed deregulation, he (Zeldin) is allowing families and children to be exposed to more soot, more mercury, more methane, more toxic chemicals, more tailpipe pollution, and more climate pollution,” said MCAF founder and director Dominique Browning. “Lee Zeldin must go.”

And what have we heard from RFK Jr., the man who says he wants to make America healthy again and who himself was an environmental lawyer, had to say about Zeldin’s kow-towing to the chemical industry?

Crickets -- and that says all we need to know about RFK’s supposed commitment to Americans’ health.

HAPPY HANUKKAH

The eight-day observance of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, starts this Sunday evening, December 14, and will culminate on Monday, December 22.

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days by lighting the candles of the Menorah, one on each day of the eight-day celebration. (The Menorah itself consists of nine candles, one of which typically stands above the rest and is used to light the other eight.)

Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees in 166 BCE when the Maccabees liberated the Jewish people from the Greek-based rulers who essentially had outlawed the Jewish religion.

When the triumphant Maccabees captured the city of Jerusalem, they quickly entered the Holy Temple, tossing out the images of the Greek gods that had been installed there by the occupying rulers. When the Maccabees went to light the Menorah candles in the Temple, they thought they only had one day’s worth of oil. However, the candles remained lit for eight days -- hence the miracle of the Festival of Lights.

Hanukkah is a joyous occasion for Jews world-wide, marked by gatherings of friends and families and the playing of traditional games such as the dreidel and eating traditional -- and delicious! -- foods such as latkes.

We wish to take this opportunity to wish our friends and readers of the Jewish community a happy, healthy, and joyful Hanukkah season.

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

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The Revere Journal welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be e-mailed to editor@winthroptranscript.com Letters must be signed. Anonymous letters will not be accepted

Forum

Council approves transfer for stormwater design funds

By Adam Swift

The town council approved a \$58,000 transfer from the capital stabilization account for engineering costs for stormwater system design in the Tileston, Girdlestone, and Pico area at last week’s meeting.

“This \$58,000 is to complete the drainage design for the Pico, Girdlestone, Tileston project,” said public works director Steve Calla. “It will get us through final design and permitting. In order to get through the permitting piece, we will still need to secure an easement, and we are actively

working on that; we have started the discussions.”

Council President Jim Letterie asked if the funding would get the project through to final design review next spring. Calla said that would likely take place at the end of May.

“This will take us for the stormwater for Tileston, Girdlestone, and Pico, this does not include the seawall which we have to handle for Pico,” said Letterie.

Once the design piece of the stormwater project is complete for the area, Calla said the potential construction would take about a year.

However, Calla noted the construction won’t be starting in May unless the town gets funding. He said there won’t be a final construction cost estimate until the design is complete, but estimated the cost at around \$4 million to \$4.5 million.

“As far as the permitting piece, that is the real unknown, it depends upon ... can’t even start the permitting piece until the easement is secured,” said Calla. “We are hoping for May 30.”

Letterie said the town is currently in discussions for the easement between the yacht club and Woodside.

Celeste Ribeiro Hewitt of

the town’s climate commission said the commission will likely hold a summit to not only address the Pico, Girdlestone, Tileston area, but also other hotspots and initiatives in the town.

“Getting this in bits and pieces, it’s hard to string together ... so it would be important to understand for most folks – this is the engineering piece and we have the funds earmarked, (and) where the rest of the funds are being earmarked from,” she said. “It would be great if we could have a full overview and discussion.”

THE MORE Things Change ...

Items selected from past issues of the Winthrop Sun, The Winthrop Review, The Winthrop Visitor, The Transcript and The Sun-Transcript

10 years ago
December 10, 2015
Senior Center Director Nancy Williams said that thanks to the efforts of Jack Connors and Partners Health Care, and Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo, the Senior Center has completed some upgrades that will bring the 24-year-old building on Harvard Street up to more recent building codes.

The Winthrop Board of Health gave a local restaurant owner until December 1 to comply with the state's smoking regulations, but as of press time, the board has seen no evidence of compliance.

One of the major focuses of Monday night's School Committee meeting was the debate as to whether the district should go forward with the familiar MCAS test or to move over to the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) test.

The Big Short and Star Wars Episode 7: The Force Awakens are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

20 years ago
December 15, 2005
The Board of Selectmen, Brian Perrin, Marty O’Brien, and Susan Bolster, held the last meeting ever of the board this past week. Town government will begin operating under the new charter effective January 3, 2006, that will feature a new Town Council and Town Manager, which will replace the current Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting.

The selectmen voted 2-1 to split the town’s tax rate, with the residential rate set at \$8.64 and the commercial set at \$9.37.

Syriana, King Kong, and Rent are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

30 years ago
December 21, 1995
Selectman Robert E. Noonan, who has served five, three-year terms on the Board, tying him with Jim Reddy (who served

in the 1960s and 1970s) for the longest-tenure, has announced he will not be seeking re-election at the upcoming town election. Noonan, who is 48, noted, “I have served on the Board of Selectmen for almost one-third of my life.”

Santa has announced the plans to make his annual trek throughout the town on Christmas Eve atop a Winthrop fire truck.

Local author Tink Martin has co-written a book about cruising the waters from Narragansett Bay to Cape Cod’s south coast.

The assessors have set the tax rate for the coming year at \$13.24, a slight increase over last year’s rate of \$13.00. The typical home assessed at \$150,000 will see its taxes increase from \$1950 to \$1986.

December’s record-setting snowfall will ensure a White Christmas locally.

Heat, Jumanji, Toy Story, and Sabrina are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

40 years ago
December 23, 1985
Seal Harbor condominiums held a pre-construction lottery drawing to determine a priority list for ownership of its third phase.

Planning Board member Jerome Falbo has resigned from the board on which he has served for 16 years, the last 10 years as chairman.

Selectman Ron Vecchia, speaking before the Chamber of Commerce, said the town will work with the business community to solve the parking problems in the Centre.

Jewel of the Nile, Young Sherlock Holmes, and Clue are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

50 years ago
December 24, 1975
Santa will make his annual Christmas Eve visit around town atop a Winthrop Fire Dept. truck this evening.

State Rep. Gus Serra of East Boston has filed a bill to end the tax-exempt status

of private businesses that operate on Massport property at Logan Airport.

Robert Bergman and Kurt Straube were sworn in as Eagle Scouts at the Court of Honor held at the Knights of Columbus Hall for Boy Scout Troop 79.

Winthrop resident Sam Corwin will be honored Saturday at Temple Tifereth Israel to celebrate his 99th birthday.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy is seeking to ban the new supersonic jet from landing at Logan Airport.

A special Christmas Eve showing of the movie Jaws, starring Richard Dreyfus, Roy Scheider, and Robert Shaw, will be held at the Kincade Theater.

60 years ago
December 22, 1965
Northeast Airlines has notified the town that it may wish to rent space at the newly-vacated old Winthrop High School building to train its personnel. Town Counsel Joseph Harvey told the selectmen that the town may do so with permission of the School Committee.

Congressman Torbert Macdonald presented a flag that has flown over the nation's Capitol to WHS senior class president Ronald Miles for use at the new Winthrop High School, which opened its doors last week.

A discussion about the Vietnam War was held this week at the high school before WHS students. Boston Herald-American foreign correspondent William McSweeney told the students that the war is being fought to deter aggression by the Chinese Communists. “This war is your war,” he told the students.

Santa will make his annual visit through the streets of Winthrop on Christmas Eve aboard a Winthrop Fire Dept. truck.

Nancy Lou Johnson, a Winthrop High student and champion roller skater, will travel to New Zealand on a three-week, all-expenses paid exhibition tour of that country. Miss Johnson and her skating partner, Michael Jacques of Somerville, are the No. 2 ranked roller skating team in the USA.

Nancy Kwan stars in Flower Drum Song at the Winthrop Theatre. The theatre will be featuring matinee kiddie shows during the Christmas vacation.

70 years ago
December 22, 1955
Russell Hughes, chairman of the Planning Board,

has written in a letter to Arthur Berman, president of the Chamber of Commerce, inquiring what Winthrop can do to improve the environment for the business community and to encourage spending in local stores.

The Department of the Army has informed town officials that it intends to use the land at Ft. Heath when the Navy vacates it in order to construct barracks for its personnel at Ft. Banks. Town officials had been seeking to have the land revert back to the town.

The AmVets will sponsor a tour of the town by Santa on Christmas Eve.

A complete turkey dinner is \$2.75 at the Winthrop Arms.

Teenage Crime Wave is playing at the Winthrop Theatre.

80 years ago
December 20, 1945
The Winthrop Theatre will hold its annual Christmas shows for local children. The price of admission is an item of canned food that will be donated to the town’s neediest residents.

Police Chief William Pumphret has issued a warning to all motorists to drive safely during bad weather to avoid skidding into accidents. His warning comes in the wake of many accidents that were reported all over town during the light snowfall last week.

80 years ago
December 21, 1935
Santa and his reindeer will arrive here Christmas Eve at the home of funeral director Charles Bennison at 170 Winthrop St. The Bennisons’ grounds have been decorated beautifully with lights to give Santa a proper welcome. Santa will parade through the town’s streets prior to arriving at the Bennison property.

The Winthrop Unemployment Committee is seeking donations to make this a merry Christmas for the town’s many needy families with heads of households who are unemployed.

Will Rogers stars in Old Kentucky at the Winthrop Theatre. This was the last film made by the beloved humorist who died tragically in a small plane crash earlier this year.

100 years ago
December 26, 1925
The WHS senior class presented its production of Charm School, a three-act

Community Credit Union will merge with Rockland Federal Credit Union

By Cary Shuman

Community Credit Union (CCU), which has a branch office in Lynn, will be merging with Rockland Federal Credit Union in March, 2026, pending approval by the members of the credit union.

The combined credit union will have nearly \$3.6 billion in assets, operate as a division of Rockland FCU, and will serve more than 200,000 members across 12 Massachusetts branches.

A presence in Lynn since 1955

Thomas Demakis, general counsel for Community Credit Union and son of CCU founder Charles Demakis, said the long-standing financial institution dates to 1955 when it was founded by a group of Greek-American leaders in the community.

“In 1969, after it had been

existence for 14 years, they changed the name from the Greek Community Credit Union to the Community Credit Union of Lynn,” said Demakis. “And that’s where it’s been ever since.”

Demakis said there was a Lynn branch for 50 years, “but in 2005 Community Credit Union opened a branch in Peabody, and in 2015 a branch was opened in Somerville. This year was the 70th anniversary of the founding of the credit union.”

Demakis said there is a challenging environment that exists today for smaller credit unions “because there are a lot of regulations, compliance requirements, and it takes a lot of money to make sure the credit union is in compliance and because of that, it limits the products and services we can offer the members.”

Noting CCU’s great legacy in the city of Lynn and on



Demakis and CCU President and CEO Dr. Nick Sarantopoulos.

the North Shore, Demakis said the board has been considering a merger for the last two or three years after evaluating. “What can we do to strengthen the credit union [CCU] so we can continue to do the good work that it's done and preserve its legacy and do an even better job for its members than it can as a

small, independent credit union?”

“The board decided a merger would be the best thing to do,” said Demakis.

CCU officials reached out to other credit unions in Massachusetts and “half a dozen credit unions showed serious interest in a merger.”

“Ultimately the board voted unanimously to merge with Rockland Federal Credit Union, which has nine branch offices on the South Shore,” said Demakis. “They [RFCU] were interested in merging with us because they wanted to establish a presence on the North Shore, and they love what we do in the community and that we serve low-income and middle-income communities. That’s what they do, and they’d like to expand that footprint. We really share a lot of the same values, so we’re really excited about this merger.”

Ballots will be going out

this week to all the members of CCU so they can vote on the merger. Demakis and CCU President and CEO Dr. Nick Sarantopoulos encourage all the members to vote in favor of the merger.

Sarantopoulos articulates about “the ideal partnership” for CCU

Sarantopoulos, who was honored as the Boston North CEO Group’s 2025 Member of the Year, said, “We had discussions with several credit unions because we wanted to find who would be the ideal partner for us, because it’s a partnership when you join forces and you combine your assets.”

Sarantopoulos said there were two major considerations in selecting a merger partner: “the business aspect which involved markets, products, and financials, and the cultural fit that we share the same values and the same focus,

especially when it comes to community banking like serving families and small businesses, which has been our niche - especially immigrant-owned businesses.”

“So, it was great to see eye to eye and have a common vision because that gave us a lot of comfort that this is the best look for us,” added Sarantopoulos. “A credit union is owned by its members and eventually the members vote on the decision to merge because the credit union is not ours, it’s theirs. It’s the members we serve.”

Reflecting on Community Credit Union’s 70-year history and its excellent reputation, Demakis recalled proudly, “My father had Account No. 1 at the credit union.”

The late founder Charles Demakis’ photo is displayed prominently on the wall at Community Credit Union, noted Dr. Sarantopoulos.

The ‘Sounds of Christmas’ ring once more this Sunday in Revere

Special to the Journal

Music Director Robert Lehmann and the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra return to St. Anthony’s Church this Sunday, December 14 for the annual Robert A. Marra Memorial “Sounds of Christmas” Concert. The concert gets



The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra will take its annual place around the altar at St. Anthony's Church for Sunday's Robert A. Marra Memorial “Sounds of Christmas” concert beginning at 4 p.m.

underway at 4 p.m.

This year mark 50th anniversary of the “Sounds of Christmas”, the first of which was held December 14, 1975 at the then-new Revere High School Au-

ditorium sponsored by the Revere Bicentennial Commission.

“The concert was played the following year in St. Anthony’s Church,” said NSPO president and concert co-chair Robert Marra Jr. “So next year we will mark another 50th anniversary. For this year, to com-

memorate the first concert, we plan to have Revere Bicentennial Commission chairman Fred Sannella introduce the Orchestra.”

As has been the tradition since 1991, admission to the

concert is free, but everyone attending the concert is asked to bring a generous donation of non-perishable food to benefit the Revere Food Pantry. This year’s concert is Principally Sponsored by Bocchino Insurance Agency, Massport, NeighborHealth, Xfinity, Astound Broadband, and Action Emergency Services.

North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra president and concert co-chair Dom Bocchino emphasized the food drive that is associated with the concert. “Of course, we all love the music and the holiday feeling that comes with the concert, but the food drive makes it special because it exemplifies the true meaning of the holidays, the sense of sharing and helping others,” he said. “This is the largest single event that benefits the Revere Food Pantry, and it is so important to help our neighbors. It really increased the value of the sponsorships.”

Last year nearly three tons of food was delivered to the Revere Food Pantry the day after the concert.

The tradition began in 1975 when North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra first came to play a holiday concert at Revere High School as part of the beginning of Revere’s celebration of the nation’s bicentennial year 1976. “The concert was a success right from the start,” said Marra. “But I wonder whether anyone imagined it would be such a traditional part of Revere’s holiday season 50 years later.”

Continuing a tradition that started in 2015, Revere High School senior Alana Trunkey narrate an original essay as part of the concert program. “It’s a chance to have a young person’s voice deliver a meaningful message,” said Marra. “And it ties Revere High to the concert, something my father would appreciate. We are grateful to Revere High writing instructor Allison Casper for her cooperation in making this an annual part of the concert program.”

The concert is named in memory of violinist Robert A. Marra, a lifelong Revere resident and teacher at Re-

vere High School who was concertmaster of the Orchestra for over 50 years before his death in 2002. “He played his last Sounds of Christmas in 2001, and, remember, that was the year of 9/11. The concert was part of the healing process for everyone, the beginning of the holidays after a very difficult year.”

Vocalist Jean Danton will be the featured singer.



Soprano Jean Danton will be the featured singer at the Robert A. Marra Memorial “Sounds of Christmas” concert Sunday at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony's Church.

“What’s Christmas music without singing?” Marra asked. “Jean has been part of this concert on several occasions, most recently in 2021 when the concert resumed after Covid cancelled it in 2020. We are glad to have her back this year.”

Marra emphasized the sponsors’ role. “Dom Bocchino joined up with the concert in 2005 as a principal sponsor and has served as an invaluable concert co-chair. NeighborHealth, formerly East Boston Neighborhood Health, and the MassPort Charitable Giving Program have been with us for several years. Revere’s Cable TV providers Xfinity and Astound have been part of the concert for as long as I remember, Mike Zaccaria at Action became part of the tradition more recently, and he provides the truck to transfer the donations to the Food Pantry. No words can adequately convey the appreciation I have for the sponsors,” Marra said.

Years // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

comedy, at the Winthrop Theatre Friday evening. John F. Martin and Guy Lothrop play the leading roles.

St. John the Evangelist Church held its annual Christmas tree celebration for the Sunday school children.

The Christmas Story was

performed Sunday afternoon at the Union Congregational Church.

Lon Chaney stars in The Monster at the Winthrop and Dream Theatres.

**110 years ago
December 25, 1915**
A lively hearing was held

before the Port Directors of Boston on the petition of the railroad to rebuild its former pier at Pt. Shirley. Members of the Pt. Shirley Yacht Club opposed the petition on the grounds that the pier would interfere with the club’s activities.

Officials luckily uncovered an escape plot at Deer Island jail when they found a note in a prisoner’s cell detailing the plan.

The problem of false fire alarms is vexing to town officials.

The Elks’ annual Charity Ball, attended by 500 persons, raised much-needed money to buy food and clothes for the needy this Christmas.

The citizens of Revere, Chelsea, and Winthrop will hold a meeting to discuss forming their own county if the City of Boston is successful in having these communities pay for their share of the expenses of Suffolk County, an expense present-

ly borne solely by the City of Boston.

**140 years ago
December 25, 1885**

The adjourned Town Meeting from last week was filled with every available inch of space occupied. The discussion, as anticipated, was lively, but there was not as much “fun” as had been expected. The members voted to go to the legislature to seek to raise the town’s debt limit in order to construct a sewerage system that will dump sewage 1000 feet from Shirley Gut. As regards the electric railroad question, many personal remarks were made that were not of an altogether friendly character. The final vote provided for the electric train to be built, provided it is completed within one year. The route is to be over Main, Shirley, Hermon, Winthrop, and Pleasant Sts. and Washington Ave.

WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

SIMPLE SAVORY PORK ROAST

INGREDIENTS:

• 1 ½ tablespoons fresh rosemary

• 2 teaspoons garlic salt

• ½ teaspoon dried thyme

• ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

• 3 pounds boneless pork loin roast

DIRECTIONS

STEP 1: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

STEP 2: Combine rosemary, garlic salt, thyme, and pepper in a large resealable plastic bag. Place pork loin in the bag, seal, and toss until thoroughly coated with spice mixture. Transfer to a medium baking dish.

STEP 3: Bake in the preheated oven until cooked through, about 1 hour. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 145 degrees F (63 degrees C).

Nutrition Facts

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December 28, 1974 - December 16, 2024

Saturday, December 13 at 9:00AM
St. Michael's - St. John's Church
320 Winthrop St, Winthrop

AMY’S BREAKFAST WITH SANTA 2025

Photos by Marianne Salza

Families gathered at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish on December 7 for Amy’s Breakfast with Santa, which features a pancake breakfast, holiday raffle

baskets, and pictures with Santa. Father Chris O’Connor, pastor, held a moment of silence for Amy, blessing her friends and family for continuing her festive tradition.



Star Richards with Frosty the Snowman.



Linda, Jessica, Calvin, and Camen Rich.



Jason, Brynn, Talia, and Rab Durkee.



Winthrop Public School members supporting Miss Gene Gallagher.



Representative Jeff Turco with his family, Melissa, Grace, and Matteo, and Jay, Julianna, Lyla, and Jessica Carbone.



Allison Sullivan, Arlene Giaimo, Patti and Shane McGrath, Doreen Arujio, Andrea Sullivan, and Councillor Joe Romano.



Amy Gallagher's family.



Peter Gill with his son, Brian, and family, Pam, Riley, and Grace Gill.



Student volunteers serving breakfast.



Dan and Megan Mahoney with their children, Caden, McKenna, and Paige, with Santa.



Need a Mammogram?

If you are due for your breast cancer screening, please join us on **Dana-Farber's Mammography Van!** The American College of Radiology recommends a mammogram every year if you are age 40 or older.




Walden Street Parking Lot
Corner of Walden and Pauline Streets, Winthrop, MA 02452
Tuesday, December 23
7 AM to 3:15 PM

The mammography van offers digital screenings (3D mammography). The van comes to you, and our friendly, professional staff provides easy access to a vital screening. The entire process takes less than 20 minutes.

Pre-registration is required. To schedule your mammogram or learn more, please [register online](#), call 617-632-1974 or email mammo_van@dfci.harvard.edu.

This van day is hosted in conjunction with the Winthrop Department of Public Health & Clinical Services. Dana-Farber's Mammography Van possesses a valid license and certificate of inspection issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE TO BENEFIT



HarborCOV

This winter, join us in making a difference by contributing to our holiday gift drive. All gifts will go to individuals and children who have experienced domestic violence.

Please donate all gifts by: **December 16, 2025**

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45 Pauline Street, 1st Floor, Winthrop





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Sports

WHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

WHS BOYS HOCKEY TO PLAY ON THE MIRACLE ON ICE RINK

Thanks to the efforts of 1980 USA Olympic Hockey Captain Mike Eruzione, head coach Dale Dunbar and the Winthrop High boys hockey team will have a chance for a once-in-a-lifetime experience when they journey to Lake Placid, N.Y., this weekend to meet Northeastern Conference rival Marblehead for two games on the fabled ice of the Olympic Skating Center where Eruzione and his USA teammates, who essentially were a group of unknown, college-age players, knocked off the superpower Soviet Union team (which had won the previous four gold medals) to bring home the Gold Medal in the 1980 Winter Olympics, a feat that was labeled the greatest sporting event of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated magazine.

Eruzione, who was the captain of the 1980 squad, scored the winning goal in the Americans' 4-3 win over the Russians in the semifinal -- an upset immortalized by the call of announcer Al Michaels, "Do you believe in miracles?" -- and then went on to defeat Finland in the Gold Medal game.

The 2025-26 edition of the Vikings will be led by junior captains Joe Pumphret and Paul Ferrara, supported by assistant senior captains Tomas Babine, Nick Romano, and Bert Kline. Winthrop, the defending Division 4 State Champion, will be opening the season against a Marblehead squad, their chief Northeastern Conference North Division rival, that won the D-3 title in 2024 and advanced to the D-3 semifinal round in 2025.

Winthrop's 2025-2026 full roster is as follows;

- #1 Jimmy Lyman JR/ Goalie
- #2 Joe Pumphret JR / F *(Captain)*
- #3 Mike Harrison JR/F
- #4 Tomas Babine SR/ D *(Asst Captain) *
- #5 Nick Romano SR /F*(Asst Captain) *
- #6 Jacob Buckman JR /F

- #7 Dom Spinale JR/F
- #8 Bert Kline SR /F *(Asst Captain) *
- #9 Nikita Rossi JR/D
- #10 Charlie Ferrara JR/F
- #11 Paul Ferrara JR / D*(Captain)*
- #12 Mike D'Ambrosio JR /F
- #13 Ethan Staff FR/F
- #15 Tony Bordonaro JR /F
- #16 Louk Belghiti SR/F
- #17 Nate Previte JR /D
- #18 Dylan Fife JR /D
- #19 Rick MacKenzie JR /D
- #20 Max Dassau FR/F
- #21Breadon Lounsbury SO/F
- #22 Steven Calla SR /F
- #30 Dax Sabin JR /Goalie
- #31 Evan Demayo JR/ Goalie

After this weekend's contests, Dunbar and his crew will travel to non-league opponent Lynnfield next Wednesday.

WHS GIRLS HOCKEY READY FOR NEW SEASON

The Winthrop High girls hockey team -- perennially one of the most successful girls' hockey programs in the state -- has been getting ready for its upcoming season under the direction of veteran head coach Anthony "Butch" Martucci.

The 2025-26 edition of the Lady Vikings will be led by captains Tegan Pereira and Avalina Coffey and assistant captains Reese Ferrara, Chloe Couture, and Riley Towse.

"We are really looking forward to a big season with some excellent returning players such as Angela Coscia, Norah Zaffini, Francesca Indresano, Amelia Serino, Mia Currier, Stella Pelletier, Avery Shea, Giuliana Marengi, Katherine Clark, Claudia Alquinta, Bella Vellieux, and Abby Githinji," said Martucci.

"We expect to be solid from the net out as we return program record-holding goalie Riley Towse, as well as two of the top defenseman in the state in Tegan Pereira and Avalina Coffey, along with having some great depth down the middle with centers Chloe

WINTHROP HIGH BOYS AT KEITH NANCE MEMORIAL CLASSIC



Shown above, Coach Quinton Dale (far left) and the Winthrop High boys basketball team on the court at East Boston High School after their 39-23 pre-season victory over Boston United last Saturday in the Keith Nance Memorial Classic.

Shown to the right, WHS boys head basketball coach Quinton Dale and his 2025-26 captain, Noah Bayersdorfer, after Noah received the MVP Award in the Keith Nance Memorial Classic pre-season tournament in East Boston on Saturday morning.

Couture and Reese Ferrara leading the charge," Martucci said.

"We also have some new blood in the program this year with the addition of Ava Mackenzie, Giuliana Greygor, Lola Ferrara, and Claire Chapman," Martucci

added.

The Lady Vikings once again will compete in the eight-team Northeastern Hockey League (NHL). They will meet NHL foes

See ROUNDUP Page 8



WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

See FOOTBALL Page 8

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Prego Pasta Sauce.....	2/\$5.00
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Ore Ida Frozen Potatoes.....	2/\$6.00
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Rays New York Style Bagels	2/\$4.00
Pillsbury Cinnamon Rolls	2/\$5.00
Pillsbury Crescent Rolls.....	2/\$5.00
Cracker Barrel Cheese.....	4/\$10.00
(ex: cracker cuts)	
Hood Sour Cream 16 oz	\$1.99
Tropicana Pure Premium Orange Juice 89 oz.....	\$8.99

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WHS SPORTS *THROUGH THE YEARS*

**10 years ago
December 10, 2015**
Three Viking football standouts have been named to the Northeastern Conference All-Star team. Joe Trenouth, jr. defensive lineman; Jon Gonzales, jr. outside linebacker, and Chris Zuffante jr. quarterback and strong safety.

The huge Winthrop crowd at the sparkling new Harry Della Russo Stadium for the Thanksgiving Day game got a first-hand look at the \$7.5 million dollar facility. The typical comment from many Winthrop fans was, "Why can't we have a field and track like Revere?" Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo assured Winthrop fans that Winthrop will have a new stadium in the near future.

**20 years ago
December 15, 2005**
The WHS girls basketball team opened its season in impressive fashion, defeating East Boston and Revere to capture the Massport Tourney and then de-

feating Marblehead in the Northeastern Conference season-opener. In the 69-24 demolition of East Boston and a 65-30 rout of Revere in the Massport games, WHS head coach Peter Grimes used all 13 of his players. Freshman Courtney Finn, playing in her first varsity games, was the tourney high scorer and was named the tourney MVP. In the 53-26 rout of Marblehead, Finn poured in 24 points, including six three-pointers, and did not miss a shot all night. The Lady Viking defense shut down Marblehead's returning all-star player, Ashara Carrington.

The Winthrop High girls hockey team will be joining with girls from Lynn English, Lynn Classical, and Revere to form a co-op team for the coming season. Their season-opener is this week.

The WHS boys basketball team defeated Marblehead, 50-47. Jason Griffin clinched the WHS victory with four free throws in the waning seconds to boost

Winthrop from a 47-46 deficit to the victory. Griffin led Winthrop with 12 points and Michael Visco added 11. David Segal hit for nine.

**30 years ago
December 21, 1995**
Anthony Poto scored 18 points and Lawone Bennett added 17 to pace the WHS boys basketball team to a 63-39 win over Danvers. The contest was highlighted by the raising of a banner in honor of the 1995 state championship won by the Vikings in March under coach Peter Grimes.

The WHS hockey team opened the season with an 8-0 win over Salem, but then dropped a 6-3 decision to Gloucester. Dave Collins and Steve Bickford both scored two goals in the Salem victory.

The WHS girls basketball team defeated Danvers, 49-36. Lady Viking guard Kerri Lally hit for nine points, grabbed five rebounds, made six steals, and dished out five assists.

CITY PAWS

Digital dog training resources

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We often remind our readers that the cold, wet weather of winter is a perfect time to reinforce your dog's training. Keep in mind that, just as you get tired when you have to adapt to a new tech tool, adjust to a significant phone update, or take classes to learn a new skill, your dog is ready to rest after a good training or retraining session. So, add some training to your schedule for the winter months.



While your dogs can't be trained by watching a screen, you can learn how to train dogs with digital resources.

Good training is ongoing
Dog training is really a matter of training yourself, and that should also be ongoing. Early in our dog days, we relied on books and training classes. Today, you can keep up with the latest research and adapt to new methods from experts with digital resources. While some of these have fees, others are free online or at your local library. Penny has taken a recommended dog-training class on

Kanopy, thanks to the Boston Public Library. Even an old dog guardian can learn new ways.

We stay up to date with the latest training methods and ideas by subscribing to dog publications like the Whole Dog Journal. You can also follow Patricia McConnell, Ph.D., a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist (CAAB) Emeritus, on "The Other End of the Leash."

YouTube and other video services have many offerings for those who want to refine their skills so they can work with their pup in new ways. However, as with all Internet sources, you will find both good and bad options.

Positive training is the key

Good training is about positive reinforcement, not punishment. That means no devices like choke chains or shock collars. If you Google, "Where are shock collars banned?" you will be shocked by the number of

See CITY PAWS Page 10

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Football // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Medford, Peabody, Beverly, and Gloucester twice each and Marblehead, Massconomet, and Newburyport once each.

Non-league opponents include Grafton, Arlington Catholic, Burlington, Weymouth, Winchester, and Boston Latin (twice).

The Lady Vikings were scheduled to meet Newton North in their first scrimmage of the pre-season yesterday (Wednesday). They will open their season this Saturday at Medford and will host Grafton next Wednesday at Larsen Rink for a 6:10 face-off.

WHS BOYS BASKETBALL OPENS SEASON FRIDAY

The Winthrop High boys basketball team will open its season tomorrow (Friday) when coach Quinton Dale and his Viking crew travel to East Boston. The opening tip is set for 6:00.

The 2025-26 edition of the Vikings will be led by seniors captains Nicolas Correa and Noah Bayersdorfer. Their teammates are: seniors Matthew Wall, Liam Natareno, Chris Cirelli, Noah Barry-Sow, and Javian Alexander; juniors Nico Ruggieri, Owen Pumphret, and Desmond Cassidy; sophomores Joseph Schettino, Domenic Farrell, and Ali Benchikhi; and freshman Lucas Souza.

The Vikings enjoyed a successful pre-season outing in the Keith Nance Memorial Classic in East Boston last Saturday morning, defeating Boston United, 39-23.

Bayersdorfer led the way with a superb all-around performance with 17 points, four assists, two steals, and four rebounds to earn Most Valuable Player honors for the tournament.

After Friday's opener, Dale and his crew will travel to Northeastern Conference (NEC) rival Swampscott next Tuesday. The Vikings' 20-game schedule will consist of two games each against their four NEC South opponents (Swampscott, Salem, Saugus, and Gloucester); one contest with each of their five NEC North foes (Peabody, Danvers, Marblehead, Massconomet, and Beverly); and matches with non-league

opponents East Boston, Excel, Rockport, Billerica, Ipswich, and Arlington Catholic.

In addition, Winthrop will face an opponent to-be-determined in the David Green Memorial Tournament over the Christmas break.

WHS GIRLS HOST SWAMPSCOTT IN SEASON-OPENER

Coach Anthony Hatzisavas and the Winthrop High girls basketball team will open their 2025-26 season this Tuesday (December 16) when the Lady Vikings host Swampscott at the WHS gymnasium. The season-opening tip is set for 6:00.

"The first week was very good and it was very competitive across the board," said Hatzisavas. "We had tryouts on Monday and Tuesday and the teams were set by Wednesday for our first practice. We have five returning seniors, Polixeni Tsiotos, Bailey Ferguson, Amina Barry, Josie Barry and Jenna Whitehead. All five have been tremendous leaders and worked extremely hard all off-season and in the first week of tryouts -- which they have done not only this year, but for the last three as well. I am very happy with how they have been and can't ask for much more for the start of the season."

The trio of Polixeni Tsiotos, Bailey Ferguson, and Amina Barry were voted as captains. "They have earned this honor and have been doing a tremendous job," said Hatzisavas. "I am lucky where all five of my seniors have really stepped up and taken on a leadership role on and off the court."

Rounding out the varsity roster are juniors Sophia Sarnaglia, Grace McCurdy, Sara Yepes, Alex Ross, and Safi Barry. "I expect all of them to make major contributions throughout the whole season," Hatzisavas said.

The Lady made their annual trek this past Saturday to the Cape to play in a pre-season jamboree with Barnstable and Sandwich (which made it to the Division 3 state semifinals last season).

"I was very happy with how we performed," said Hatzisavas. "All five se-

niors stepped up in different ways. We took a lot of pride in our defense and that's something we will continue to do. After that, we enjoyed a nice day with some team-bonding and the girls really did love it. It is a great way to kick-start our season and it's something we want to continue doing every year.

"I remember when coach David Brown (the former WHS boys coach who led the Vikings to a state championship in 2011, a team for whom Hatzisavas played a crucial role) would take us that first Saturday every winter and it was something we always looked forward to," Hatzisavas noted.

Joining Hatzisavas on the sidelines this year will be head assistant coach Kevin Adamson, JV head coach Bobby Nimblett, and assistants Michael Griffin and Andrea Martucci. "I couldn't ask for a better staff," said Hatzisavas. "They are committed and all bring something different to the table, which is a positive impact to the environment we are trying to create."

Lady Viking fans once again will see a familiar face at the scorer's table in Peg Bailey, who is returning for her 52nd year in that capacity.

The Lady Vikings will play a 20-game schedule consisting of two games each against their four NEC South opponents (Swampscott, Salem, Saugus, and Gloucester); one contest with each of their five NEC North foes (Peabody, Danvers, Marblehead, Massconomet, and Beverly); and matches with non-league opponents Arlington Catholic, Winchester, Ipswich, Triton, Essex Tech, and Manchester-Essex. In addition, Winthrop will face an opponent to-be-determined in the David Green Memorial Tournament over the Christmas break.

The Winthrop girls were scheduled to play at Greater Lawrence in a scrimmage yesterday (Wednesday) and will participate in a jamboree at Lynn Classical Saturday. After Tuesday's season-opener with Swampscott -- "Swampscott always is a matchup we get excited for," said Hatzisavas -- they will entertain Danvers next Friday (December 19) at 6:00.

Happy Holidays!

Before this paper goes in the bin, consider one of these quick holiday reuse ideas

Wrap Small Gifts: Use pages for rustic, eco-friendly wrapping.

Cushion Fragile Gifts: Scrunch up pages to protect items during shipping.

Streak-Free Cleaning: Use crumpled paper to polish windows and mirrors.

Fire Starters: Twist sheets for a quick way to light a fireplace.

ELKS SENIOR HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



June Broyles, Judie Van Kooiman, Nancy Bandoian, Linda Cronin, Heather Martin, Teresa Bonasoro, Janet Kilderry, Kathy Driscoll, and Cynthia Huff.



Darren Ward, cook, Paula Ward, Jane Howell, selling 50/50 raffle changes, and Dennis Boudreau, cook.



Donna Viera, Peggy Coffey, Stephanie Savini, Connie Lopilato, and Gayle Callis.



Roberta DiPierro, event chair, and Kathy Haskell, past exalted ruler.

held its Senior Holiday Luncheon on December 7, featuring an Italian dinner, raffle prizes, and live entertainment by Just the Three of Us.



Silvio and Dina Scaglione, Ann Columbro, Mat Channen, Ella Conti, Bob Capprini, and Isabel Safrine.



Binay and Jay Dadta, Cynthia and Barry Steg, Peter Gill, Margherita Collins, and Ester Trinidad.



Bucky Cole, Jane Mitchell, and Jack Hawes, of Just the Three of Us.



Representative Jeff Turco with Gerry Cash, Patricia Carbone, Fannie Massa, Ethyl Hellender, Claire Colvario, Peggy and Doris Vecchia, and Mary Hagan.



Winthrop High School Vikings football team who volunteered to serve lunch to seniors: Fair Algburi, Zeviel De La Rosa, Wassim Karcouche, Nathan Previte, Riley Moccio, Seth Sacco, and Edward Leal.



Marie Peppe-Long, Irene Mangini, Barbara Marley, Jean Barry, Jo Grillo, Kevin Gilmore, Patty Patrillo, Jo Ann Troisi, Anne Belmonte, and Jackie Gilmore.



Pat Caruso, Anna Fiore, Ligia Amante, Antonia Battis, and Marilyn Hurley.



Gloria Herd, who enjoyed viewing the water outside the window.

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ISABELLA REARDON - CHEER

REESE FERRARA - FLAG FOOTBALL

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

Winthrop Senior Center News

35 Harvard Street, Winthrop, MA 02152

Hours: Mon-Thurs: 8:30am-3:30p.m. Friday: 8:30am-1p.m. Phone: 617-846-8538
Website: www.town.winthrop.ma.us Email: COARception@town.winthrop.ma.us

A full list of the activities, programs, trips, and services offered at the Senior Center can be found in our newsletter, which is available at the Senior Center and on our website.

Monday, December 15

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
9:00am-1:00pm: SHINE Counseling
10:00am-11:30pm: Representative Turco Office Hours
10:00am-11:00am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
11:30am-2:30pm: Game Day / Mahjong

Tuesday, December 16

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
There will be no Exercise Class today (work being done in that room)

10:00am-11:00am: Mystic Vally Elder Services Office Hours
10:30am-11:30am: Spanish Class
11:00am-12:00pm: Blood Pressures
12:30pm-2:30pm: Art with Dawn (\$6)

Wednesday, Dec. 17

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
9:15am-10:15am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
10:00am-12:00pm: Bereavement & Caregiver Support Group
10:00am-12:00pm: Low Vision Support Group
10:30am-11:30am: Zumba with Cindy (\$5)
11:45am-12:45pm: Tai Chi/Qi Gong with Cindy (\$5)
12:15am-1:45pm: Italian Class
1:00pm-2:30pm: Charlie

Card Workshop
1:00pm-2:00pm: Sea Glass Christmas Trees Craft

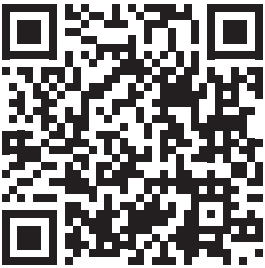
Thursday, December 18

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
9:30am-1:30am: Exercise Class (\$1)
10:30am-11:30: Coffee & Conversation
10:30am-11:30am: Seaside Tappers
12:00pm-12:30pm: Lunch
12:45pm-3:00pm: Bingo

Friday, December 19

9:00am-12:00pm: Computer Usage
9:00am-10:00am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
10:00am-11:00pm: Line Dancing (\$5)

Senior Lunch Program:
The Senior Center offers in-person dining on Thursdays from 12-12:30pm. Grab and Go Lunches are also available for pick up Monday – Friday between 11am and 1pm. To reserve a lunch, please stop by the front desk or call the Senior Center at 617-846-8538 by 11am the day before (for Monday lunch, reservations must be made by 11am on Friday). Menus are available on our website and at the Senior Center. Please note, lunches cannot be



held overnight; they must be picked up on the day that they were requested for.

Senior Van. The Senior Van runs Monday - Thursday from 8:45am-3pm and Fridays 8:45am-12:15pm. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis, and can be made by calling the Senior Center at least two weekdays prior to the desired date. Rides to medical appointments will be prioritized. A list of destinations and pricing is available on our website and in our newsletter. Please note that Friday van rides will be limited to Winthrop, Revere and East Boston destinations only. Return trips must be completed by 12:15pm. Rides may be booked up to 2 weeks in advance but must be scheduled at least 2 weekdays in advance by

calling the Senior Center at 617-846-8538. A full list of destinations/pricing is available in our newsletter and online at www.winthropma.gov/council-aging.

Computer Usage. The Senior Center has computers available for public use. Computers are generally available from 8:30am-3:00pm Monday-Thursday, and 8:30am-12:30pm on Fridays. Please note that hours may change due to our program/activity schedule. To confirm if computers are available, you can call the Senior Center.

Day and Overnight Trips. The Senior Center offers a variety of day trips, casino trips and overnight, and multi-day trips. Trip flyers are available on our website and at the Senior Center.

MBTA celebrates 25th annual Fill-A-Bus with Gifts program

Special to the Journal

The MBTA and Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) celebrated the 25th Annual Fill-A-Bus with Gifts program. Employees from both state transportation agencies donated a total of 2,746 toys this year, which will be donated to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Boys and Girls Club of Boston, and Heading Home.

“Fill-A-Bus is entirely employee-led and represents the spirit of what we stand for as public servants, making people’s lives better,” said Interim Secretary and MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng. “I want to thank the MBTA employees who organized this program, which is in its 25th year, as well as my colleagues at

the T and MassDOT who showed generosity by donating gifts that filled our bus. I’m also grateful to our partners at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Boys and Girls Club of Boston, and Heading Home for distributing these gifts to families every year.”

“The MBTA’s Fill-A-Bus with Gifts event is a special chance for employees to give back to the communities we work with year-round. Each holiday season, the Fill-A-Bus visits MBTA garages, RMV locations, MassDOT offices, and other sites to engage as many people as possible,” said MBTA Graphics Manager David Wood, who has organized the Fill-A-Bus with Gifts event for the past eight years. “Each year, I’m proud to see so many of my



MBTA Graphics Manager David Wood (front left), who has organized the Fill-A-Bus with Gifts event for the eighth year, kneels with MBTA Bus Operator Dionna Johnson (front right), who drove the holiday bus route for the first time this year. They stand with representatives from Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the Boys and Girls Club of Boston, and Heading Home.

transportation colleagues get involved. The generosity shown by my peers brings a lot of joy to countless families during the holidays.”

This year, MBTA and MassDOT employees donated a record-breaking 2,746 gifts (up from 2,651

in 2024) to their Fill-A-Bus partners at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC), the Boys and Girls Club of Boston, and Heading Home.

“Last year, MSPCC provided gifts to almost 1,000 children,” said MSPCC Director of Development Melanie S. Lima. “The presents donated through the MBTA and MassDOT Fill-A-Bus program are far more than toys—they offer moments of joy, and help children feel valued and included. Because most MSPCC families live in poverty, parents often tell us they want to create a happy holiday for their children, but financial strain makes that difficult and stressful. The generosity of the Fill-A-Bus programs helps MSPCC ease some of

that burden and ensure that hundreds of children experience a brighter, more joyful holiday season.”

“The Yawkey Club of Roxbury is proud to partner with the MBTA once again for the Fill-A-Bus toy drive,” said Corey Manning, Executive Director, Yawkey Boys & Girls Club of Roxbury. “As we celebrate our 115th anniversary, this effort reflects exactly who we are at our core, a community that shows up for young people and families. The MBTA’s support helps us bring joy to hundreds of children, ages 6 to 12, during the holidays, and we are grateful to stand together in service of our neighborhoods as we continue saving the world one smile at a time.”

“Partnering with the

MBTA and MassDOT via the Fill-a-Bus initiative, has helped us bring a little joy, laughter, and fun to many of our families. What seems like a simple toy, means so much more to our families—it represents a moment of normalcy, happiness, and hope,” said Heading Home Chief Development Officer Karen Grant. “Nothing beats seeing the smiles on the faces of the kids, adults, and volunteers when the toys are dropped off at our shelters. Thank you to the MBTA and MassDOT and everyone who makes this possible.”

For more info, connect with the T on X @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.



Donated toys cover the inside of the MBTA Fill-A-Bus.

City Paws // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

places where they are illegal and stunned by some of the punishments for using them. For example, Wikipedia notes that, in the Netherlands, “Its use is subject to €20,000.00 fine and three-year prison sentence.”

We highly recommend following renowned trainer Victoria Stilwell and the

resources she offers on her site www.positively.com. She has gathered a roster of writers on the topic and even has a “Find a Trainer” box on her site in case you need an in-person option after exploring the digital world.

What Works for Dogs

As you think about how you will approach any training with your dog, try to imagine yourself in the dog’s position and think about the ways you can refine what you are saying and make what you want to happen clearer to the dog. Ask yourself if you would be able to figure out what

you are asking if you didn’t speak the language?

Part of training yourself to train your dog is learning how dogs learn and what is important to them. Then be more specific and think about how a particular training method, reward, or hand signal will work for your dog.

Make a list of the behaviors you want to reinforce and those you would like to add to your dog’s life. These will not be the same for those living in a single-family home as for those living in a dog-friendly condo or apartment building. As one of our former editors likes to say, “You Do You” and

personalize your training to your needs and those of the unique creature on the other end of your leash.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

LEGAL NOTICES

SUBMIT TO LEGALS@WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM

LEGAL NOTICE


PUBLIC HEARING
BOARD OF LICENSE LEGAL
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts

General Laws and Title 5 of the Town of Winthrop’s Board of License Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at or after 6:00pm in the Gathering Room, Room 2, at Town Hall upon the application of Italian Bake Shop Caffe Inc Winthrop, MA requesting Wine and Malt Beverages with

Cordials to be served on premise. All documents pertaining to this hearing can be viewed by calling 617-846-1852 x1036 Clerk of the Board of License during normal business hours of which a copy or email can be sent for review. Marilyn Puopolo Clerk-Board of License 12/10/25

LEGAL NOTICE


WINTHROP BOARD
OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday-

W
DECEMBER 18, 2025:
Case 2025-020.
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 17 of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Winthrop Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, DECEMBER 18, 2025, at or after 6:30 p.m. held in the Harvey

Hearing Room upon the application of person requesting:
Project Address: 158 Highland Avenue, Winthrop, MA 02152.
Applicant Name/ Address: Michael and Katharine Beattie- 86 Johnson Avenue, Winthrop, MA 02152. The Applicant seeks a permit to convert the current preexisting non-conform-

ing 3- family structure, to a 4-unit residential building. The permit was denied in accordance with the Town’s By Laws that 3 family structures are not permitted in the RA District. The applicant has submitted a plot plan that does not comply with parking requirements and will require a parking variance.

The following variances will be needed: 1)- A variance for relief to establish a 3-family use in the RA District which does not allow for dwelling units to exceed 2 units; 2)- A variance to determine parking; and last 3)- A special permit for expansion of the non-conforming use. The public is invited to attend, and interested

parties shall have an opportunity to be heard. Copies of the application and plans are on file and available to review at the Town Hall Planning Office, Room 2A, Winthrop Town Hall.
Darren Baird, Chair
Denise Quist, Town Clerk
Winthrop Board of Appeals
12/4/25, 12/11/25
W

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THE INDEPENDENT
NEWSPAPER GROUP

Frozen Fire Festival 2025 to debut in Boston at the Anchor

Welcoming global fire and cirque performers in a one-of-a-kind winter spectacle

Special to the Transcript

Attendees will be immersed in mesmerizing fire and ice installations while taking in captivating fire and world-class cirque performances. This vibrant destination offers an unforgettable experience for the senses. Inspired by the region’s creative culture and brought to life by The Anthem Group, for the

first time in its home city, the Boston waterfront will transform into the internationally recognized, Frozen Fire Festival – a must-see experience for all ages. The festivities kick off with the highly anticipated return of The Anchor’s Annual Winter Garden Tree Lighting on December 11th – a moment made even more meaningful after heart-breaking vandalism forced the cancellation of the 2024 display. This year, The Anchor team proudly relights its breathtaking grove of more than 175 illuminated trees, transforming the waterfront once again into a sparkling winter wonder-



COURTESY PHOTO

A firebreather wows spectators at a previous Frozen Fire Festival.

land. The festival will continue throughout the weekend from December 12th – December 14th with daily programming including cirque-style fire performances, live music, glowing fire installations, holiday market vendors and make-your-own s’mores and hot chocolate garden. The celebration will also feature the lighting of The Anchor’s menorah lighting on December 14th, creating a warm and inclusive holiday atmosphere for the entire community and concluding the weekend event. This year’s festival will host a lineup of national and international performers, including headliner Orissa Kelly from London, blended with regional and local Boston talent, delivering a high-energy roster across all three days. Patrons will stay warm with heated glowing igloos,

outdoor heat lamps, fire pits, cozy fleece blankets and a myriad of warm, mulled and hot beverages. Guests are invited to explore several hospitality outlets, including the S’mores and Hot Chocolate Garden, The Anchor Kitchen and The Polar Bar, featuring a curated collection of local and international brews alongside a robust wine and specialty drink selection. Anthem President Chris Sinclair shares, “We are thrilled to bring this beloved festival to The Anchor and showcase Boston as a vibrant winter destination. It brings together holiday shopping, unique all-ages activities and outstanding food and beverage. Yet the most special aspect is the performances - Boston has never seen anything like this event before.” The Frozen Fire Festival will also feature curling rinks, providing all-ages fun

and interactive play along the waterfront. Festival specials, preferred seating, and VIP Igloo Packages are available now.

Full details are available on Facebook and Instagram at @FrozenFireFestival and at www.frozenfirefestival.com.

The Winthrop Art Association presents
Jingle Jazzy Holiday Brunch
Featuring John and Leri Wadkins
Music from "The Great American Songbook"
Saturday, December 13th
11:30 to 2
Lycium Room
E.B. Newton Cultural Center
45 Pauline Street, Winthrop
Meet Santa in person and shop one-of-a-kind holiday crafts—perfect for gifting!

FESTIVAL OF WREATHS
Presented by the Odd Fellows Zenith Lodge,
196 Winthrop St. Winthrop, MA

November 15th to December 14th
Saturday's & Sunday's 2pm-6pm

Over 40 handmade wreaths to raffle by local artisans.
Delicious homemade soup and cider to warm you up
20 Raffle tickets with your \$10 donation at the door.

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR
December 14th Sunday 2-6pm
Crafters, Santa, toys for kids, Lunch & Wreath Raffles drawn
All proceeds benefit the IOOF "Pilgrimage for Youth Program".
For more info call 617-407-3438


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Winthrop
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BY FRI. DEC. 19

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Please include names with your photo.

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**MADARO FAMILY
Community Fund**

Spread holiday cheer this season by participating in our upcoming events!

EASTIE'S ELVES TOY COLLECTION
Wednesday, November 27th – Thursday, December 11th

Winthrop Locations

Belle Isle Seafood
1 Main Street

Twist and Shake
413 Shirley Street

Winthrop Book Depot
11 Somerset Avenue

Cummings Elementary School
40 Hermon Street

**22ND ANNUAL
EASTIE'S ELVES CELEBRATION**
Friday, December 12, 2025
5:00pm – 8:00pm

Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor
101 Harborside Drive Boston, MA 02128

Admission is one new, unwrapped children's toy.

Join us for a family event with kids music, entertainment, raffles, & cash bar.
Cocktail attire encouraged, festive spirit required!