# our voice

### eliminating racism empowering women ywca

volume 4.4 summer 2011 southeastern massachusetts

## groundbreaking for the east portico



Pictured Above: Mayor Scott Lang, Janet Lebel from Senator Kerry's Office, Jan Baptist, Gail Fortes, Jay Litman, AIA, Councillor Jane Gonsalves and Councillor Linda Morad with children from YWkids breaking ground for the next exciting phase of the campaign.

On Friday, June 3, 2011, YWCA Massachusetts Southeastern announced the historic reconstruction of the long lost East Portico of the Levi Standish House.

During this 100th Anniversary **YWCA** Southeastern Massachusetts, friends and donors were invited to attend a brief groundbreaking ceremony to commence the next stage in the YWCA's growth and expansion. Guests were given a computer generated tour of the new LEED Certified building of the east

addition winning architect, Jay Litman, AIA Roof Capital Campaign will of Litman Architecture. President, Jan Baptist and Executive new addition to consolidate the Director, Gail Fortes, along with YWKids School Age Program Mayor Scott Lang, Councillor and single-occupancy housing for Jane Gonsalves and Councillor women to the central location of Linda Morad spoke about the vital the YWCA's historic headquarters importance of this phase of the at the Levi Standish House. This building addition project, as the three-level dynamic and highlyreconstruction of the east portico functional building will aid the will build the foundation necessary YWCA in achieving greater for the bridge that will connect financial and operating efficiency the Levi Standish House to the and ADA accessibility for the new building addition, making the benefit of YWCA constituents and YWCA barrier-free and accessible. the community as a whole.

narrated by award- The \$4.6 million Under One Board support the construction of a

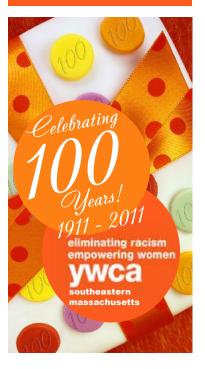
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100th anniversary gala

under one roof



# 2011 Women of Distinction Awards



**Shelly Correia** is the Program Director of Harbour House Family Center, a division of the Southeast Regional Network. As the director, she is responsible for managing, promoting, and developing Harbour House Family Center. Ms. Correia, a woman of color, brings to life her 20 year journey, leadership, cultural competence, and humanity work to the people she serves. As a native of New Bedford, she has an extensive history in serving the community in various capacities.

**Dr. Jean F. MacCormack** was named Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in September 1999. With energy and an extraordinary ability to engage others in the process, Dr. MacCormack has led the campus through a decade of major transformation, marked by a fast growing student body at the graduate and undergraduate level with a much larger residential population; a three-fold increase in research and major outreach activities impacting the Commonwealth and the region; the effective recruitment and retention of an energetic and talented faculty and entrepreneurial leadership team; the expansion of facilities and the creation of five major satellite campuses. In addition, the campus has added 6 new doctoral programs during her tenure and recently established the Commonwealth's first public law school.

Arlene McNamee has been in the social work field for over 44 years. She has served as the Director of New Bedford Child and Family Services for 10 years, and as the Director of Catholic Social Services (CSS) of Fall River, MA for the past 17 years. Arlene is also the Director of Community Action for Better Housing, a community development housing corporation. Arlene serves on many local boards in the South Coast region, as well as serving on the Board of Catholic Charities USA.

**Rita M. Ribeiro**, retired Sergeant of the New Bedford Police Department was appointed a police officer in November of 1978. In 1993, Detective Ribeiro was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and became the first women of color to achieve this rank. Sergeant Ribeiro was tasked with forming the first Domestic Violence Unit for the New Bedford Police Department, and later in 2000, the School Resource Officers Unit. Rita is a board member of the YWCA. She is a long time board member of Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School and was the first woman to be chair of the school board.

Margaret D. Xifaras, Esq. "MarDee" has long been active in local, state and federal campaigns for Congressional, Senatoral, Gubernational and Presidential campaigns, but she always returns to Southeastern Massachusetts where she is a lawyer and active in the community. She has her law offices in New Bedford. MarDee chairs the Board of Trustees for Southern New England School of Law. She is a contributor and member of the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, a contributor, board member and officer of the Southcoast YMCA, a contributor and volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, and a contributor to the University of Massachsetts Dartmouth Foundation. She is a current member of the Democratic State Committee and past member of the Democratic National Committee.

**Eusie Zane** has been involved with the YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts for almost 20 years. She has served on the membership committee, fundraisers such as golf outings and the Red Dress Fashion Show committee. Eusie is a former member of the YWCA Board of Directors.

Christine Coelho, a 31 year old, lifelong resident of New Bedford, is a mother to a beautiful three year old, Gabriella. Christine is a certified Special Education Teacher, who has taught for 9 years, and is currently at Roosevelt Middle School. Christine has been a dedicated volunteer with the YWCA for 8 years, as the co-chair of the Red Dress Fashion Show and Silent Auction event, formerly as a board member and assistant treasurer, along with many other YWCA events and many other community organizations in the area.





### 100th anniversary golf tournament



On Tuesday, May 31st, possibly the nicest day of the spring, YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts hosted a Golf Tournament at The Kittansett Club in Marion as a signature event during its 100th Anniversary. Over 100 golfers took part in the event. Thanks to the leadership of three energetic and generous women; Anne Converse, Carolyn Ford and Judi Havens, who served as the event co-chairs, this special event raised funds for the planned Levi Standish House building addition that relocates the YWCA's childcare and women's housing programs into a specifically-designed, center-city facility.



you are invited to join us Under One Roof

a garden cocktail party to benefit YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts

Thursday, August 18, 2011 6pm to 9pm

Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum 396 County Street, New Bedford Under the tent in the gardens

Music by the New Bedford Jazz Quartet and special guest Rick Britto featuring John Harrison III and Jim Robitaille with Peter Kontrimas and Chris Poudrier

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### eliminating racism empowering women

ywca

southeastern massachusetts

20 South Sixth Street New Bedford, MA 02740

> There are still slots available for Girls Giving and **Growing Summer** Program. Call Today!





for information on any of our programs & services, please call: 508-999-3255 or go to: www.ywcasema.org