



# City of Cambridge

42.

## IN CITY COUNCIL

November 17, 1997

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
 VICE MAYOR BORN  
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY  
 COUNCILLOR REEVES  
 MAYOR RUSSELL  
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the tragic death of **Michelle Micheletti** on October 31, 1997; and

WHEREAS: Michelle, a resident of Milbrae, California, was a sophomore attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS: Michelle was majoring in electrical engineering and computer science; and

WHEREAS: Michelle was a member of Alpha Phi Sorority, the Vice President of Newhouse three dorm and a councillor for the Freshman Leadership Program at M.I.T.; and

WHEREAS: Michelle's passing will leave a void in the lives of all of her surviving friends and family; and

WHEREAS: Michelle will be sorely missed by all she touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of **Michelle Micheletti** at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Micheletti family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council November 17, 1997.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

*D. Margaret Drury*

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
 City Clerk

Councillor Galluccio

/ All

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# Crabon painting plan

## Neighbors win protection for old homes

with the commission and Realty.

ZBA made its decision Oct. 11. Homeowners had 20 days to file an appeal.

General, the neighborhood seems to be in agreement with the final solution, said Sullivan.

"There's a general consensus in the neighborhood that this is desirable, that the Sheraton Commander is not going away, that it's a neighborhood institution that has a severe parking problem, but there's a strong consensus these houses have to be preserved," said Sullivan. "The result is that people are willing to sign a compromise as a way of ensuring in the long run the neighborhood is protected."

The Sheraton, located across from Cambridge Common, has actually been using the space behind these houses for parking for many years, since before the current owners bought the hotel.

"The question is if this is legal," said Sullivan, noting parking is not permitted in that zone. The thing is "they have been parking there for many years. I have no idea how many and no one has any idea how long it's been going on."

"The houses have not been owner-occupied since the '50s, long before the present ownership of the hotel, and there's been parking back there for as long as anyone can remember," Sullivan continued.

The variance and agreement with the city cleared up any ambiguity over whether it was legal for them to park there.

"I think it's fair to say," said Sullivan, "they never would have gotten the variance without agreeing to preserve the houses."

## NOTES

neighborhood sergeant for this. Residents are encouraged to discuss safety concerns with representatives from the CPD.

Meeting is the eighth in a series of meetings the police department is hosting in each neighborhood in Cambridge. For more information, call neighborhood coordinator Wicky Boulrice or Lt.

## ting planned

workshops over the next few weeks to inform the public of the sewer reconstruction project and the opportunity it offers for re-designing and/or improving parts of Mass. Ave. from North Street in Porter Square to Alewife Brook.

For more information, call 349-4810 at the Department of Transportation.

Steven Williams at 349-3236.

## Police Review board to meet

The Police Review and Advisory Board will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Nov. 13, at 7:15 pm at 831 Mass. Ave., basement.

For more information, suggestions or comments, call 349-6155; TDD/TTY 349-6112; fax 349-6148; or e-mail mmonteiro@ci-cambridge.ma.us.

## Food For Free holds festival

The Food For Free Collard Greens Festival is taking place through Sunday, Nov. 16, in Central Square. Proceeds will benefit Food For Free in its local hunger relief efforts.

Participating restaurants include Redbones Barbecue, Asmara Restaurant, Middle East Restau-

# MIT student killed crossing Memorial Drive

BY JEREMIAH LEIBOWITZ  
Chronicle Staff

A 19-year-old MIT sophomore died Friday night after being hit by two cars while crossing Memorial Drive in front of her dormitory.

Michelle Micheletti was crossing the street with four friends when she was hit, according to Robert Sales, assistant director of the MIT news office. Micheletti was treated by paramedics at the scene and then taken to Massachusetts General Hospital where she was pronounced dead at 7:39 pm.

At the time of the accident, there was no crosswalk spanning Memorial Drive in the immediate area of Micheletti's dorm. The Metropolitan District Commission, acting on residents' complaints, has since painted a crosswalk at the nearby intersection of Memorial Drive and Endicott Street.

While the state police say two cars hit Micheletti, only one car bothered to stop. The driver of that car, a late model Porsche, was identified by police as Ferras Binladen, 25, of Charlestown.

Binladen was apparently not speeding or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, according to police. No charges have been filed.

Police are still trying to identify the other car and driver and ask anyone with information to call (508) 820-2121.

Meanwhile, students at MIT

are dealing with the loss of Micheletti, the third MIT student to die in the last six weeks.

"People here are very sad," Sales said. "She was very popular, known by a lot of people and an active member of society. People will definitely miss her."

Micheletti, an electrical engineering and computer science major, was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority. She was also vice president of Newhouse 3 dorm and a councilor for the Freshman Leadership Program, which helps to orient incoming freshmen.

Funeral services were scheduled to be held yesterday in Micheletti's hometown of Milbrae, CA.

Micheletti's death has highlighted the efforts of another MIT student: Ceani Guevara. Last month, Guevara asked the MDC to paint a crosswalk at the corner of Memorial Drive and Endicott Street, not far from where Micheletti was killed.

In a tragic example of bad timing, the MDC painted a crosswalk at the intersection Sunday night, two nights after the accident.

Samuel Campbell, director of MDC external affairs, called Micheletti's death "very tragic," adding that the painting of the crosswalk had been "in the works," but "tragically it came too late."

He added that a crosswalk would not necessarily have saved Micheletti's life.

rant, East Coast Grill, Kendall Cafe, The Small Planet, Sepal (in Watertown), and Christopher's Restaurant and Bar. For more information, call 868-2900.

## Collins branch closes for fixups

The Collins Branch Library, located at 64 Aberdeen Ave., will be closed for renovations from Monday, Nov. 10, through Friday, Dec.

5, and will re-open Monday, Dec. 8.

The improvements will include floor refinishing, interior painting and woodwork cleaning, and upgrading of the electrical system in preparation for new electronic resources coming to the library. An open house will be held Monday, Dec. 8, from 3:30 to 7:30 pm.

Books reserved for Collins Branch patrons will be held at the main library circulation desk during renovations.



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GRAND  
OPENING



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Consent Order #42

R-1469

69

Councillor Galluccio and entire membership re: Resolution on the tragic death of Michelle Micheletti.

In City Council November 17, 1997

**ORDER ADOPTED**