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DANIEL SHED Memorial in Germantown, a century-old lighthouse made of Quincy granite, was rededicated Sept. 20. The ceremony marked the completion of a \$100,000 project to restore the monument and the Palmer Street Rotary, the park on which the memorial is located. Speaking at the ceremony was Leo Kelly, the former Ward 1 councillor, and his wife, Margaret Milne, a maintenance secretary for the Quincy Housing Authority. "Welcome to my very special place," Kelly said. "Over the years, I've had a long, ongoing love affair with Germantown."

Quincy Sun Photo/Robert Bosworth

## Shed Memorial - Symbol Of Hope, Pride – Rededicated

20-Foot-Tall Lighthouse At Center Of Palmer Street Rotary

By SCOTT JACKSON  
The 20-foot-tall lighthouse at the center of the Palmer Street Rotary was

called a symbol of hope and pride for the community during a recent ceremony to rededicate the monument

that has been in place for more than a century.

City officials and residents gathered at the rotary

the morning of Sept. 20 to rededicate the Daniel Shed Memorial. The memorial,

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JAMES MARATHAS (left), executive director of the Quincy Housing Authority, presented a plaque to Margaret Milne, a QHA maintenance secretary, and her husband, Leo Kelly, a former Ward 1 councillor, in recognition of their efforts to spruce up the Daniel Shed Memorial.

Quincy Sun Photo/Robert Bosworth

## Koch Proposes Special Ed Learning Center

City Would Buy, Transform Wollaston Office Building

By SCOTT JACKSON  
Mayor Thomas Koch on Tuesday announced plans to purchase a Wollaston office building and transform it into a new special education center that could open as early as next fall, a move the mayor said could save the city upwards of \$500,000 annually.

Koch and school officials unveiled the proposal

to purchase the three-story, 52,900-square-foot building at 180 Old Colony Ave. at a press conference Tuesday morning. The city is in negotiations to purchase the building, which is located behind Central Middle School, from Eastern Nazarene College and the deal could be finalized "very, very soon," Koch said.

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## Vaping Risks Included In Middle School Curriculum

By TOM GORMAN  
School officials will be targeting middle school students about the health risks of the increasing popularity of vaping.

The school committee on Sept. 25 accepted the district's health services and student support improvement plans following a presentation that included a provision of educating students about vaping – the use of electronic or e-cigarettes that heat liquid filled cartridges that produce an aerosol vapor. In addition to nicotine, the liquid also contains various chemicals that health experts say have led to several deaths and hundreds of lung-related illnesses in the nation over the past several months.

In Massachusetts, there were more than 60 vaping

lung-related illnesses linked to vaping. Citing a health emergency, Gov. Charlie Baker last week ordered a four-month ban on the sale of vaping products in the state until more information about vaping-related illnesses can be had.

"We are very concerned because nearly all e-cigarettes contain nicotine," Point Webster School guidance counselor Colleen Connerty told the committee. "Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm the developing adolescent brain. Because the brain is still developing until about age 26, youth and young adult exposure to nicotine can lead to addiction and disrupt attention and learning."

Connerty said that middle school students are par-

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# Shed Memorial - Symbol Of Hope, Pride – Rededicated

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A 20-foot-tall lighthouse made of Quincy granite, was originally built in 1916 by descendants of Shed, the first English settler of the area now known as Germantown.

The Sept. 20 ceremony marked the completion of a \$100,000 project to restore the memorial to its former glory and add new plants, walkways and benches to the rotary. The Quincy Housing Authority completed the project using \$100,000 in funds from the Quincy Community Preservation Committee.

Members of the Shed family from Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont and Missouri came to the rededication. All told, some 50 residents, city officials, housing authority workers and Shed family members were on hand for the occasion.

James Marathas, the housing authority's executive director, said the work was long overdue.

"Good morning and thank you all for coming to this rededication. It's been a long time coming, somewhere in the neighborhood of 20 years," Marathas said. "Today is a very special day for many reasons."

Marathas credited Leo Kelly, a former Ward 1 city councillor and housing authority commissioner, and Kelly's wife, Margaret Milne, a maintenance secretary for the housing agency, for pushing for the project to restore the rotary and memorial.

"About five years ago when I took the job in Quincy, I was introduced to a gentleman by the name of Leo Kelly. I came to know Leo...very well and began learning a great deal about him and about the history of Quincy. I grew to like Leo as well as respect for his wife, Margaret," Marathas said.



DESCENDANTS of Daniel Shed came from as far away as Missouri to see the monument that bears his name rededicated Sept. 20. Shed was the first English settler of the area now known as Germantown (Snug Harbor); it was once called Shed's Neck.



LOCAL OFFICIALS and descendants of Daniel Shed at the Sept. 20 ceremony included (from left): Mayor Thomas Koch; Quincy Housing Authority Executive Director James Marathas; Leo Kelly, a former Ward 1 councillor and QHA commissioner; Bradford Shedd of Vermont; Jerome Shedd of Vermont; Janice Bonaccorso of Connecticut; and Judy Hoffman of New Hampshire. More photos on Page 19, Page 39.

"As we became more comfortable, Leo felt, I think, comfortable enough to begin harassing me. He would call me often, and every time he would see me, he would say, 'James, what are we going to do about

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QUINCY HOUSING AUTHORITY Executive Director James Marathas welcomes residents, local officials and Shed family members to the ceremony.



FORMER WARD 1 councillor Leo Kelly (seated, second from right) smiles as Dan Clark, a retired State Police trooper, sings "America the Beautiful" at the Daniel Shed Memorial rededication Sept. 20 at the Palmer Street rotary. Clark also shook hands with Kelly in appreciation of his many years of advocacy and dedication to the Snug Harbor area of Quincy.

# Shed Memorial – Symbol Of Hope, Pride – Rededicated

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that rotary? What are we going to do about that memorial?" It became a joke over the years that every time he saw me, he would ask me.

"It only became really bad when he employed Margaret to ask me every day. For the 199th time she asked me, like she does many things...I said, 'Margaret, I got this.'"

"That's where this project started," Marathas added.

Marathas also thanked Mayor Thomas Koch and the Community Preservation Committee for their support.

"During my five years at the Quincy Housing Authority, I can honestly say there has not been one problem or one ask that has gone unanswered coming out of the mayor's office," Marathas said.

"Mayor Koch and the Quincy Community Preservation [Committee], they gave us \$100,000 to restore this monument and to create this park."

For their efforts, Marathas presented three plaques – one to Kelly and Milne, one to Koch and one to the Community Preservation Committee, recognizing each for their support.

He also credited numerous housing authority workers for their contributions to the project.

"It takes a great deal of people and effort to complete a project like this," Marathas said. "One thing I have learned is Quincy is a very, very strong community. It has a great deal of people with a ton of passion and a ton of commitment to do good. A community, that when called upon, they step up and get it done."

Koch called the light at the top of the lighthouse, which was restored as part of the project, a symbol of hope and pride.

"The tradition of the Christian churches at Eastertime is to light the Paschal candle and that Paschal becomes a symbol for the light of Christ to dispel darkness," Koch said.

"The light here, certainly it dispels some darkness on the circle, but I think it also has become a light of hope, a light of pride, for the people of this part of our great city. I know generations to come will really come to

appreciate this now that it is fully restored to its original grandeur.

"We appreciate all the folks that have touched this project over the years and made it happen today."

Kelly recalled cutting rhubarb and picking tomatoes from a farm in Germantown 75 years ago with his brother, Jack, and digging for clams on the tidal flats that surround the peninsula.

"Welcome to my very special place," Kelly said. "Over the years, I've had a long, ongoing love affair with Germantown."

Kelly said the new park at the rotary is something Germantown residents can be proud of.

"Twenty years ago, I got involved with the restoration of the Shed Memorial. My first calls were to the unions, which I worked with as a city councillor. Over the next 17 years, we had starts and stops, but the unions stayed with us as we tried to restore the Shed Memorial. Then came along Mayor Koch, community preservation monies, and the magic hand of James Marathas," Kelly said.

"Suddenly we had a committee and money to finally restore the Shed Memorial. With the tireless staff of the Quincy Housing Authority and outside contractors, the Shed Memorial was totally being restored and a park the residents of Germantown can be proud of."

"Enjoy this beautiful day and my special place," Kelly added.

In addition to the lighthouse and the new landscaping, walkways and benches, the rotary now features a granite sign welcoming passersby to Snug Harbor. Kelly and Milne donated the new sign, Marathas said.

Barbara Roberts, a descendant of Daniel Shed, thanked those in attendance for their presence.

"I just want thank everybody," she said. "What a wonderful thing to find."

Dan Clark, a retired State Police trooper, opened the ceremony with his rendition of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and closed with "America the Beautiful." Sen. John Keenan led the crowd in the pledge of allegiance.

A luncheon reception was held after the ceremony at the nearby O'Brien Towers.



**BARBARA ROBERTS**, a descendant of Daniel Shed, speaks next to the monument that bears her forefather's name. Descendants of Daniel Shed, the first English settler of Germantown, originally erected the monument in 1916. The Quincy Housing Authority oversaw a project to spruce up the monument and the rotary on which it sits. "I just want thank everybody," Roberts said. "What a wonderful thing to find."

*Quincy Sun Photo/Robert Bosworth*