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SAVE THE  
HOLIDAY DATE!

ONLY IN PRINT

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ELECTION2012

Voters swarm polls as  
city tackles problems

By Nicholas Iovino  
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Voters formed long lines at Medford's polling precincts on Election Day

morning to cast their ballots for president, senator, state legislators and to decide on key ballot questions that could set new state policy.

City Clerk Ed Finn predicted Medford would experience its largest voter turnout since the last

SEE ELECTION, A9



Medford resident Cindy Watson inserted her ballot into the vote counting machine at Lawrence Memorial Hospital on Tuesday morning, Nov. 6. WICKED LOCAL PHOTO BY NICHOLAS IOVINO

VETERANS DAY

Marine remembered by family

Mottolas honor fallen Vietnam vet

By Nicholas Iovino  
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Forty-four years after Medford resident Vincent Antonio Mottola was killed by mortar fire in Vietnam, his family has uncovered new details about his death.

Members of the Mottola family recently gathered at the Custom House in Boston to remember their cousin and brother, who they affectionately refer to as "Vinnie."

Vinnie was 18 years old when he lost his life to hostile mortar fire while defending a bunker on Hill 881 in the Quang Tri

SEE MOTTOLA, A10



It's been nearly 45 years since Medford resident Vincent Mottola's death, but his brother, William 'Lenny' Orlando Mottola still remembers him as he sits in his wheelchair looking at Vincent's grave marker at Oak Grove Cemetery.

WICKED LOCAL PHOTO BY DAVID SOKOL

HALLMARK HEALTH

New urgent care center opens at LMH

By Nicholas Iovino  
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Visitors packed into a newly designed facility at Lawrence Memorial Hospital (LMH) last week to get their first peak at Hallmark Health's latest brainchild, a new urgent care center.

"This is the new brainchild of the organization to meet the needs of the population and to offer more efficient care," said Deb Cronin-Waelde, system director of emergency services at Hallmark Health, which

manages LMH.

The new urgent care center aims to provide walk-in patients a quicker and cheaper alternative to the more costly emergency room visit. The facility offers treatment and evaluation for minor injuries, common illnesses, immunizations and other non-life-threatening medical needs.

Associate Chief Nursing Officer and LMH Site Administrator Lori Stevens said a study recently found more than half



Massachusetts state Rep. Paul Donato, left, speaks with Deb Cronin-Waelde, RN, Hallmark's director of emergency services, during the grand opening of the new Urgent Care Center at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford. WICKED LOCAL PHOTO BY DAVID SOKOL

SEE LMH, A11

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Time  
to look  
at high  
school

By Nicholas Iovino  
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Following recent allegations of a "piecemeal" approach to building improvements by members of the Medford City Council, one resident has formally requested school officials create a master plan for Medford High School.

"I propose we have an overview of the high school to propose the most crucial items like toilets to light fixtures," Cummings Street resident Jeanne Martin told the Medford School Committee.

Martin was before the body on Nov. 5, urging officials to set a deadline for prioritizing building needs. Otherwise, she said, the school system will be knocking on the City Council's door again, "asking for toilets to be fixed next week."

In response, Superintendent of Schools Roy E. Belson produced a stack of papers mapping out capital planning activities for the high school undertaken over the last decade.

The report detailed two capital improvement plans developed in 2001 and between 2006 and 2009, along with a list of recently completed and pending projects, like the Field of Dreams, Hormel Stadium, new technology and science lab renovations.

"It is not an absence of planning or assessment," said Belson. "Sometimes it's been an absence of having as much funding as we'd like to have. What appear to be random requests are really items that have been identified for a period of time."

The school system's building and grounds

SEE SCHOOL, A9



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