

# FOCCP celebrate 10th anniversary

By Phil Orlandella

Hundreds of people who enjoy the beauty and activities of the Christopher Columbus Park on Boston's Waterfront will come together at the Marriott Long Wharf Hotel to

support the year round activities and programs of FOCCP at the 10th Anniversary Gala Fundraiser Celebration.

Anne Devlin Tagliaferro, chair of the FOCCP Fundraising Committee said, "We have planned an evening that will be

filled with fun, laughter, great food and wonderful music. It will be a perfect neighborhood party."

The Gala will be from 6:30-11:30pm and will include a cocktail party, silent auction, buffet dinner and dancing to the Frank Zarba Orchestra. For the second year, Patron Spirits Company is providing a spectacular ice bar with complimentary cocktails, according to the committee chair.

The Gala celebrates the many accomplishments of all the volunteer groups since FOCCP was founded in 2001.

"Ten years ago, twelve business people and neighbors from the North End/Waterfront area came together to start the organization," Tagliaferro said. "The purpose of FOCCP was to ensure that the park would be protected and cared for in generation to come," she added.

FOCCP, because of the gen-

erous support of local businesses and neighbors, has invested more than \$300,00 in the park, including planting and maintaining trees and other plants, sponsoring special events, tending to the Rose Kennedy Rose Garden, cleaning the Tot Lot and bathing the trellis in blue lights each winter.

"All of the funds we have raised have been supplemented by hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours of work," said President Joanne Hayes-Rines.

"For example, the Rose Garden is totally maintained by the FOCCP Horticulture Committee and we have a dedicated, active membership that works diligently to supplement the City of Boston's maintenance program," Rines added.

The Gala will be held on Friday, November 18. For more information and tickets log onto [www.foccp.org](http://www.foccp.org).

FOCCP is a non-profit organization made up of North

End/Waterfront neighbors whose purpose is to further the restoration, protection, preservation, care, enhancement, improvement and maintenance of the Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park.

The current FOCCP officers are Joanne Hayes-Rines President, Trish Baumer Vice President, Virginia Kimball Treasurer and Sandra Harcourt Clerk. Board members are Joe Bono, Cole Landers, Meghan Denenberg, MaryAnn Esparo, Beverly Knight, Robyn Reed, Anne Devlin Tagliaferro and Audrey Tortolani.

Founding members of FOCCP were William Lee, Chris Fincham, Christopher Carbone, Victor Brogna, Francine Gannon, Ileen Gladstone, Susanne Lavoie, Arlene Lowenstein, Deborah Calcagno, Danny Nuzzo, Anne Devlin Tagliaferro and Dr. Selma Rutenburg.