

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston celebrates Myra Kraft Opening Day

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) this week celebrated Myra Kraft Opening Day at all 10 Clubs across Boston and in Chelsea. As the Clubs opened their doors for the first day of the 2010-11 after-school program year, they welcomed nearly 1,200 Club members from ages 6 to 18.

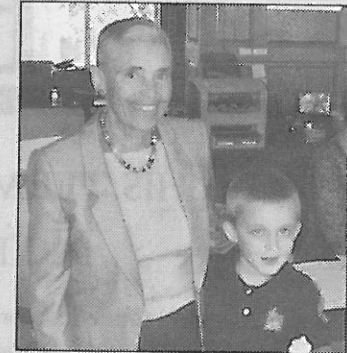
The annual celebration is named in honor of BGCB Chair Emerita Myra Hiatt Kraft as a way to thank her for seven years of effective leadership as the organization's Chair of the Board of Directors.

All of the Clubs hung welcome banners and provided Club members with a written message from Mrs. Kraft that

said, in part, "Whether you are new to the Club or you've been a 'Club kid' for life, I hope you will make the most of your Club experience and always choose to stay on a positive path in life."

Each year, Mrs. Kraft chooses one Club to visit, and this year members of the Charlestown Club were greeted by Mrs. Kraft at the door as they arrived. Inside the Club, members were surprised with refreshments, including delicious cupcakes donated by Sweet owner Courtney Forrester.

Club Executive Director Greg Jackson said, "Our Club fosters a friendly environment that is nurturing and non-



Myra Kraft at the Charlestown Boys & Girls Club for Myra Kraft Opening Day on Sept. 14.

judgmental, and our staff are proud to help make the Club the beacon of hope that it has been for Charlestown's kids for more than a century. This was a fantastic way to start our program year."