

Two for the holiday season

The Nutcracker, Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre, Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Boston, through December 22. 617-635-1403

BY JULES BECKER
Contributing Writer

Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre is celebrating the 36th anniversary season of its original 1988 version of "The Nutcracker" at the intimate Strand Theatre in a production both charming and exuberant. In the JMBT playbill, Mateo describes the Tchaikovsky-scored narrative as "a simple children's fantasy," and his artful choreography takes its cue from young heroine Clara and her dream. Ultimately, that dream dances out in an enchanting staging that should please children and adults alike.



Da'von Doane as Cavalier and Maria Perez as Sugar Plum Fairy in a scene from Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre's The Nutcracker. Photo by Olivia Moon photography.

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IBA Announces Historic \$1M Matching Gift at Beam Signing for La CASA

SUBMITTED BY IBA

Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA), a community development corporation offering affordable housing and supportive programming to increase social and economic mobility, marked a historic milestone with the beam signing and raising for La CASA: The Cen-

ter for Arts, Self-determination and Activism. Accompanying the ceremony was the announcement of a \$1M matching gift from Barbara and Amos Hostetter.

Located in Boston's South End, La CASA: The Center for Arts, Self-determination and Activism will

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Thanksgiving Day at Pine Street Inn

On Thursday, November 28, Pine Street Inn, New England's leading organization dedicated to ending homelessness, continued its Thanksgiving Day tradition by serving more than 2,000 traditional holiday dinners to shelter guests and tenants.

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, U.S. Senator Ed Markey MA State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor John FitzGerald and Boston Bruins Defenseman Charlie McAvoy were on hand to carve turkeys and distribute pies.

"Our hope for everybody is that

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Photo courtesy of Pine Street Inn.

NEWS FROM...

South End Business Alliance



Photo courtesy of South End Business Alliance.

SUBMITTED BY SEBA

On November 20, 2024 at J.J. Foley's, South End Business Alliance (SEBA) held their annual

meeting and holiday party. This year they recognized 3 businesses and 5 nonprofits that have been

Continued on page 4

Ellis Early Learning Appoints Jay Dave as Chief Financial and Strategy Officer

SUBMITTED BY
ELLIS EARLY LEARNING

Ellis Early Learning has announced the appointment of Jay Dave as its Chief Financial and Strategy Officer.

"Jay's expansive skillset and experience, combined with his passion and respect for early childhood education, are a tremendous asset for Ellis," said Ellis Early Learning CEO Lauren Cook. "Jay's new role is instrumental in



Photo courtesy of Ellis Early Learning.

SOUTH END HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Nov. 29 - Dec. 22

SoWa Winter Festival 2024

Mark your calendars for the 9th annual SoWa Winter Festival! Opening day is Black Friday 11/29. The Festival brings 100+ of the regions best small businesses selling everything from specialty food, cocktails, art, crafts, and other goods under one festive roof at the SoWa Power Station. Onsite Parking Available, Admission is \$10. Children 12 and under are free! Located at 550 Harrison Ave, Boston.

Opening Day - Friday, November 29th: 10AM - 8PM

Monday - Thursday: 4PM - 8PM

Friday: 4PM - 9PM

Saturday: 10AM - 9PM

Sunday: 10AM - 7PM

www.sowaboston.com/sowa-winter-festival



Dec. 14 - 15

Boston Women's Holiday Market South End

Shop more than 40 women-owned local businesses for unique and sometimes handmade gifts for the holidays. Face painting, food, gift wrapping. 11AM-4PM at the AC Hotel, 225 Albany Street, Boston, MA 02118.



Dec. 15

City Lights Holiday Showcase

Friends and family come join us for food music and a showcase performance from our students and teachers! 4 - 7:30PM at Boston City Lights Foundation, 1154 Washington Street.

www.eventbrite.com/e/city-lights-holiday-showcase-tickets-1088868427779



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Annette Green

IBA

Continued from page 1

serve as the largest hub for Latinx arts and culture in New England.

Anticipated to open in 2026, La CASA is a 26,000 square-foot, \$33 million project set to become a vibrant hub for Latino cultural preservation and community empowerment. Community leaders, philanthropists, financial partners, staff and artists, and residents and neighbors attended the ceremony to celebrate the progression of the project that will soon serve as a focal point for community engagement, arts education, and cultural expression.

Vanessa Calderón-Rosado, IBA's Chief Executive Officer, said, "This beam represents more than a significant milestone in the construction of La CASA—it represents our commitment to real, lasting change for Latinos and multicultural communities across Boston, Massachusetts, and New England. Latino-led organizations often face disparities in funding, and today the Hostetter's are helping to changing that narrative with this historic \$1 million matching gift. This gift is a powerful step toward ensuring that our communities have the resources they need

to lead, grow, and reach their full potential. It's an investment in empowerment and in the power of the arts to build strong communities and uplift future generations. I hope people will be inspired to join us in matching this important gift and support La CASA Campaign."

The Campaign for La CASA, a first ever campaign for IBA, has already secured \$9.5 million of its \$12.5 million philanthropic fundraising goal. These contributions reflect the deep commitment from donors, partners, and supporters to preserve Latino culture and empower residents through access to wrap-around community programming. The new space will allow IBA to expand its program offerings and operational capacity at a central location, and to redevelop its current offices into more than 40 units of affordable housing units, addressing a critical need in Boston.

La CASA will offer programs that support individuals and families to improve their lives and achieve socio-economic mobility in the IBA's multicultural affordable housing community. Through its signature arts programs there will be a broad range of programming including dance, music, visual arts, and theater workshops, as well as exhibitions, performances, and cultural events.

Ellis

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advancing our mission at a pivotal time of growth for Ellis."

In this role, Dave leads all finance operations at Ellis and drives strategic growth initiatives for the organization, including establishing a new Center of Excellence for educators and launching a new Ellis Family Child Care Network.

"As I have learned more about Ellis, I have been deeply inspired by the exceptional work the team here does to support children and families," said Dave. "I am thrilled to join such a dedicated and diverse community."

Dave brings over 15 years of experience as a management consultant and business leader in five countries. Before joining Ellis, he was a leader in McKinsey & Company's Financial Services and Digital & AI practices, where he spent a decade advising client organizations on growth strategy, corporate finance, operations, mergers and acquisitions, and digital transformations.

Earlier in his career, Dave was a founding team member of a venture capital-funded

real estate development startup and a key contributor to BMW's market entry in India. As treasurer of the Board of Directors at the Newtowne School in Cambridge, Dave led an initiative to revamp teacher salaries and played an instrumental role in helping the school introduce a new teaching fellowship program. He also developed and implemented an investment policy to strengthen the nonprofit preschool's long-term financial health.

A Cambridge resident, Dave holds an MBA from INSEAD in France, a post graduate degree in management from the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Nirma Institute of Technology in India.

About Ellis Early Learning

Ellis Early Learning partners with families to provide high-quality early childhood education programs in a warm, nurturing environment. A recognized leader in its

field, Ellis supports children across the socio-economic spectrum, treasures diversity in all forms and celebrates the joy of childhood. For more information, visit www.EllisEarlyLearning.org.

"As I have learned more about Ellis, I have been deeply inspired by the exceptional work the team here does to support children and families. I am thrilled to join such a dedicated and diverse community."

- JAY DAVE

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Friends of Blackstone School (FoBS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has supported Blackstone since 2012. Every dollar you donate goes directly to programs that make a difference:

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- **School Culture & Belonging:** Events and projects that build community and celebrate diversity.

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SEBA

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operating continuously in the South End for 80 years or more.

In addition to the plaques they were given to commemorate the occasion, proclamations were given to each business and non-profit from Councillors Flynn, Murphy and Fitzgerald as well as Mayor Wu.

Businesses honored: Jacobson Floral, J. J. Foley's, Olympia Flower Shop

Nonprofits honored: Ellis Early Learning, Benjamin Franklin Institute, United South End Settlements (USES), Boston Medical Center, and Animal Rescue League (ARL)



Photo courtesy of South End Business Alliance.

Pine Street Inn

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they are not here next year, because they are in housing," says Lyndia Downie Pine Street Inn President and Executive Director Lyndia Downie, who is marking her 40th year with the organization.

In addition to those at Pine Street's head-

quarters in the South End and other shelter locations, Pine Street's 39 permanent housing locations will celebrate the holiday with

tenants. For some, this is the first Thanksgiving in many years that they have spent in a home. Pine Street's outreach teams will also deliver holiday meals to individuals on the streets.

Supporting more than 2,000 individuals daily, Pine Street provides permanent housing, job training, emergency shelter and street outreach, with a goal of moving individuals off the street, out of shelter and back to a home and community.

For more information or to donate, go to www.pinestreetinn.org.



Photos courtesy of Pine Street Inn.



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Holiday Theater

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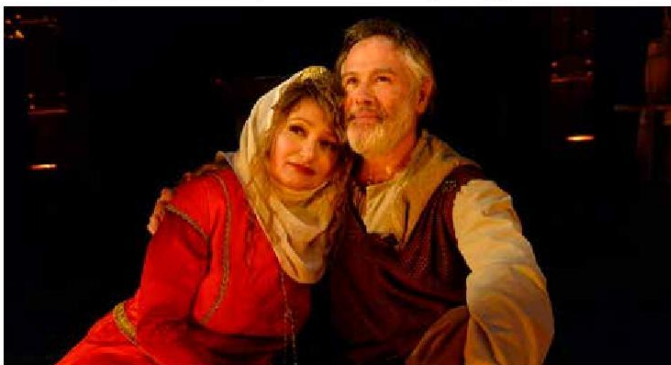
Clara's fantasy opens with an elegant ensemble of dream fairies (with casts varying by performance) who deliver a mysterious gift. Soon Dr. Drosselmeyer—played with style and grace by Jason Jordan—prepares mechanical dolls Columbine and Harlequin, respectively danced with strong capering by Elizabeth Rookey and James Velasco at the magician's workshop and the Silverhaus holiday party. Velasco later convinces with majesty and fine form as the Nutcracker Prince—who the talented Drosselmeyer believes to be his grandnephew prince (transformed by an evil sorcerer). Jordan properly thrills Nia Dunlap—who dances with impressive technique and warmth as Clara (at Sunday's matinee) as he brings the Nutcracker Prince to life.

Mateo's sharp choreography sustains the magic and warmth throughout the following lively battle between soldiers and mice, the snow-adorned forest and the diverse diversifications of the Kingdom of the Sweets. While all the ensembles—including the Snowflakes, the young Mice and Polichinelles and especially the Flowers of the waltz—are very satisfying, there are several standout soloists and pairs. Ryan Prinz makes a tenacious Mouse Prince. Deanna Pearson and Yevgeny Khissamutdinov bring royal bearing to Snow Queen and Snow King (casting varies). Here, too, Mikaela Guidice and Brandon Silverman capture all of the sensuality of Coffee/Arabian, and Janelle Gilchrist makes a lyrical Dew Drop Fairy. Kylie Brown (who once trained at American Ballet Theatre) as Sugar Plum Fairy and Da'Von Doane (a former principal with Dance Theatre of Harlem) as Cavalier bring exquisite turns and configurations to the Divertissement—culminating Grand Pas de Deux.

The company playbill invites audiences to "rediscover the magic" of "The Nutcracker." Mateo and his talented dancers make that magic as fresh and dreamy as ever.

The Lion in Winter, Theater Uncorked, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through December 15. 617-933-8600

Call "The Lion in Winter" a battle royal with both fire and feeling. A virtual chess game on a historical scale, James Goldman's very intense



Sehnaz Dirik as Eleanor and Anthony Mullin as Henry II in Theater Uncorked production of "The Lion in Winter." Photo courtesy of Theater Uncorked.

1966 play includes references to 'pawn' and 'next move.' Quite simply, King Henry II of England and Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine revel in ferocious gamesmanship at one moment and tenderly appeal to each other at another. If they sound and act like George and Martha in the visceral 1962 powerhouse "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" it may be no coincidence. Perhaps Goldman was somewhat inspired by Edward Albee's blistering banter. Very clear at the Boston Center for the Arts' Plaza Theatre revival of "The Lion in Winter," though, is that a brilliant Theater Uncorked septet has turned this rarely staged drama into a must-see exploration of family dysfunction and the complex motivations of parents, children and lovers.

Historical purists may quibble about the fact that Henry II had no Christmas Court in 1183 at the play's Chinon Anjou, Angevin Empire setting and that the dialogue is fictional. Yet that is the point. Goldman's drama is powerfully imagining the verbal volleys that must have passed between Henry and Eleanor as well as the conflicting agendas of volatile Richard, scheming Geoffrey and boyish John. At the same time, King Philip of France takes on Henry, whose young emotionally rich mistress Alais—Philip's half-sister—faces off Eleanor.

Director Allison Olivia Choat smartly balances the fiery scenes and the softer ones. Still, her savvy cast members never let up on the intensity of Goldman's imaginative dialogue. Anthony Mullin's feisty Henry II has all of the ferocity of a human king of beast with his family, and Sehnaz Dirik's strong-willed Eleanor has both the strength of a lioness and the tenderness of a wife released from prison, battling for personal freedom and looking for understanding. Micah Livesay finds Alais' self-empowerment and her profound insecurity. Matthew Zahnzinger as Philip is a scene-stealer in his outburst of confrontation with Henry.

Thain Emrys Bertin's Richard has moments of pathos with Dirik's conflicted Eleanor and a revealing romantic moment with Zahnzinger's ambivalent Philip (one that would not surprise those historians who find evidence of Richard's homosexuality). James Honaker captures Geoffrey's intellectual coldness and alienation, while Finian Ross catches the petulance of John. Gifted costume designer Richard Itczak makes a very welcome return catching the royals' majesty, Alais' relative simplicity and the siblings' distinctive attire.

Theater Uncorked's torrid "The Lion in Winter" is quite simply a revival for all seasons.



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Because of space limitations, letters should not be more than 200 words.



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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU23P0804PM
In the matter of: Robert Woods Of: Boston, MA	Protected Person/Disabled Person/Respondent
Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114, (617) 788-8300	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the Temporary Conservator's First and Final Account(s) of Brian J. McLaughlin, Esq. of Boston, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.	
You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/08/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of account(s).	
Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.	
You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.	
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.	
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 04, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>	

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU23P0804PM
In the matter of: Robert Woods Of: Boston, MA	Protected Person/Disabled Person/Respondent
Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114, (617) 788-8300	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the Permanent Conservator's First Annual account(s) of Brian J. McLaughlin, Esq. of Boston, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.	
You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/08/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of account(s).	
Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.	
You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.	
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.	
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 04, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>	

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU90P2806
In the Interests of: Thomas Wooten Of: Boston, MA	RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Remove the Guardian of the respondent.	
Remove the Guardian The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign, or should be removed for good cause, or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.	
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 12/17/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.	
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.	
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 22, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>	

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU24P2354PM
In the matter of: Linda Perry Of: Boston, MA	RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Linda Perry is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Jessica Libby, Esq. of Milton, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond.	Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.	
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/02/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.	
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.	
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 29, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>	

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION	Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU24P2605EA
Estate of: Agnes V. Coates Also known as: Agnes Coates	Date of Death: 08/08/2024
To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Sherill House of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Corporate Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration .	Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/15/2025.	
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.	
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.	
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 04, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>	

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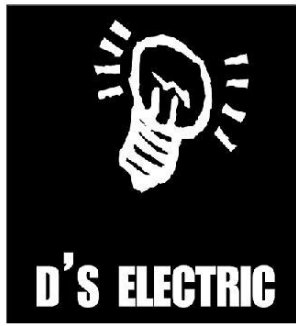
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