

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 113 - NO. 49

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 4, 2009

\$.30 A COPY

Buon Natale

NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

presents the

**39th Annual
2009**

NORTH END CHRISTMAS PARADE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009 - 1:00 P.M.



SEE SANTA CLAUS ARRIVE AT NORTH END PARK BY HELICOPTER AT 1:00 P.M.

In case of bad weather, Parade will be held the next Sunday, December 20th

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

The Nazaro Center • North End Against Drugs •
Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events

Merry Christmas

2009 U.S. SENATE ELECTION

Vote Tuesday, December 8, 2009



SCOTT P. BROWN (R)
Wrentham, MA



MIKE CAPUANO (D)
Somerville, MA



MARTHA COAKLEY (D)
Medford, MA



ALAN KHAZEI (D)
Brookline, MA



STEVE PAGLIUCA (D)
Weston, MA



JACK E. ROBINSON (R)
Duxbury, MA

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ... EVERY VOTE DOES COUNT!

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

East Boston Sons of Italy Christmas Party

Don't forget Sunday, December 6 when the East Boston Sempre Avanti Lodge #1600 holds its annual Christmas Party at Spinelli's in Day Square from 2pm until 6pm. For tickets call Joe Guarino at 617-569-3405.

Putting IOUs in the Basket

Only in East Boston and at Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Sunday service, 10am) can one put an IOU in the basket at collection time. I know this for a fact since the person behind me in the pews forgot her money recently. She wrote out an IOU. The following week she did double up her normal offering. By the way, the concept of an IOU to God is interesting. After all, don't we owe God for everything we have and in the case of the lady in the pew behind me, for what we forgot to bring?

Food Pantry at Grace Church

The Grace Church Food Pantry is open Saturdays (10:00am to Noon) to East Boston residents. For more info call the church at 617-569-5358.

Anyone for Salsa?

East Boston area residents are invited to "Salsa Libre," free beginners lessons every Thursday, (5:00pm-6:00pm) at the Maverick Landing Meeting House, 31 Liverpool Street. For more info call P.J. Schott at 617-834-9876.

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Mayor's Column

by Thomas M. Menino, Mayor, City of Boston

As mayor, assuring that children in Boston receive the best possible education is my top priority. While I'm proud of the progress our schools have made, we must — and will — do better. With Superintendent Carol Johnson announcing a five-year plan late last month, the transformation of Boston Public Schools has already begun. Not only will we appoint two new members to the School Committee in January, but legislation pending at the State House would provide the flexibility needed to create major reform such as in-district charters and performance pay for our hardworking teachers.

While test scores have steadily risen, more graduates continue their education in college, and more families are considering our schools, I want all of our schools to be choice schools. Dr. Johnson's plan, the "Acceleration Agenda, 2009-2014," focuses on student outcomes and outlines the desired skills and characteristics of all BPS graduates. The plan organizes programs and initiatives into four key strategies:

- Strengthening teaching and school leadership

- Replicating success and turning around low-performing schools
- Deepening partnerships with parents, students, and the community
- Redesigning district services for effectiveness, efficiency, and equity

Dr. Johnson committed to more opportunities in the arts, athletics, enrichment, and after-school activities, as well as college preparatory Advanced Placement courses.

Over the next few weeks, Dr. Johnson and her team will be working closely with the teachers, school leaders, and parents at 14 schools that have been identified for additional support. The goal is to turn-around these underperforming schools by identifying weaknesses and replicating success. School principals, administrators, and teachers must act with a sense of urgency. In the end, making all of our schools centers of excellence is not about us, but rather about the students who depend on us to give them every opportunity to become scholars in their own right.

As we work on these initiatives, it's

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THE POST-GAZETTE SATELLITE OFFICE IS NOW OPEN AT 35 BENNINGTON STREET, EAST BOSTON

This office is open on **Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** and **Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, for the convenience of our East Boston and North Shore clients and contributors

Call **617-227-8929** for more information

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

A weekly column highlighting some of the more interesting aspects of our ancestry... our lineage... our roots.



STAINED GLASS

"The age of every historical style of architecture, in pursuit of its own particular brand of expression, found the material which best suited its wishes, therefore, an appropriate architecture will immediately arise when use is made of the means which the new industrial techniques offer". These are the words of the master architects of our day. Reduce all of this to terms which we can easily understand, it simply states that when technology develops a new product, architects and builders will bust their breeches to use that product in any way, shape or form.

During the development of the Gothic system, the use of rib vaulting concentrated the weight and thrusts from the roof to the piers. The need for counterthrust, therefore, was only at the piers. Exterior walls between the piers no longer carried any appreciable weight and could therefore be opened up. The next question was, of course, exactly what to put into that space. Just about this time in history it became more widely known that the districts in France traversed by the Loire River contained a particularly fine river sand, suitable for

making an excellent grade of stained glass. This glass was, of course, the ideal solution to the problem of occupying the space in question.

There were many fables about stained glass. It was said that the blue color was obtained by grinding down sapphires, and that deep reds were obtained by adding pure gold to the mix. The actual secrets came from an old manuscript which was written by a monk named Theophilus.

The formula called for one part river sand, two parts of beechwood ash, plus a coarse fern called "bracken". A little salt was added as a flux, and the mixture was kept hot for several hours. Glass from this simple mixture was light green in color. Prolonged fusion changed the color slightly, but red was obtained by adding copper, and cobalt provided various shades of blue. The intensity of the colors varied with the thickness of the pieces of glass, and air bubbles or sand grains produced sparkling refractions of light.

Glass makers usually worked near the edge of the forests, but the window fabricators always worked in the vicinity of the structure

in order to avoid the transportation difficulties associated with the huge finished product. Windows in these medieval churches and cathedrals were never standardized in size. Each window was tailor-made to fit the masonry opening; therefore working at the job site facilitated the fabrication and installation.

Stained glass windows were fabricated by first sketching the desired design on a heavy wooden workbench. Pieces of colored glass were then laid over the cartoon in overlapping fashion, and then adjusted for size, color, and position. The individual pieces were then cut to size with a red hot iron, and held firmly in position by pouring hot lead into the joints. These leaded glass sections were then joined into vast compositions which were secured within an iron or stone framework called a tracery.

The period of highest perfection in French stained glass is reflected in the Abbey of St. Denis, near Paris, and in the Sainte Chapelle in Paris. Both date back to about 1200 A.D.

NEXT WEEK: More Stained Glass

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



You Really Are a Mean One, MR. GRINCH

The **Massachusetts Republican Party** is holding a **Christmas Party** on Wednesday, **December 9, 2009**. Details and sign-up form are available on the Party's website www.massgop.com. Yes, a **Christmas Party**, not a **Holiday Party**, nor a **Winter Party**. No doubt we'll soon see a return to hanging heretics on the Common and burning witches — at least if you listen to some liberals you'd get the impression that the mere utterance of the "C word" will surely lead to persecution of the infidels among us. Yes, we've come to the point where "Peace on Earth; goodwill toward man" is taken, at least in our government-run schools, as a code phrase for "Holy war; intolerance toward anyone who differs from us."

Personally, I've never understood why some persons recoil at the word Christmas. It is, after all, the *legal* name of the civil holiday, even if the name does acknowledge its Christian origin. Surely the various secular "Christmas" parties and festivities that start after Thanksgiving and run through December 25th wouldn't exist but for the Christian festival that runs for twelve days starting on December 25th. However, those secular celebrations are exactly that — secular — there is nothing distinctively Christian about

Rudolph, coniferous greenery, silver bells, and eggnog.

I don't worship mighty Woden, nor hammer wielding Thor, but I have no hesitancy to call the fourth and fifth days of the week by names that evoke the memory of these gods of the Germanic races — Wednesday and Thursday. Why even Quakers, who formerly said "First Day," "Second Day," and so forth to avoid honoring the pagan gods of the Sun and Moon, have largely set aside that curious custom.

Change the names and you lose connection to our history. Sever people from their history and you take away their understanding of who they are. Take away that self-identity and you can make the people into your slaves. That is the radical agenda. That is the "why" behind the war on Christmas. To quote the character Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Ernest*: "[It] reminds one of the worst excesses of the French Revolution. And I presume you know what that unfortunate movement led to?"

David Trumbull is the chairman of the Boston Ward Three Republican Committee. Boston's Ward Three includes the North End, West End, part of Beacon Hill, downtown, waterfront, Chinatown, and part of the South End.

Mayor Menino's 2nd Annual Food + Fuel Campaign Helps Residents during Winter

Resources Offered to Help Families Overcome Economic Challenges

As the holiday season approaches, Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the City of Boston are helping residents meet basic needs through the Mayor's Food + Fuel Campaign and other City programs. Between fuel and weatherization resources and food pantries and meal programs, residents will not have to go hungry or freeze this winter.

"The winter months bring challenges to many residents of our City," said Mayor Menino. "But through the 2nd Annual Food + Fuel Campaign, those who face the difficult challenges of affording food and heating their home will be able to make it through the next few

months. No one should ever have to choose between heating their home and eating dinner."

For the first time last year, the City sponsored 12 neighborhood DISHs (Dinner, Information, Special Guests and Healthy Recipes) and will sponsor DISHs again this winter. Last week, the first DISH was held in Charlestown at the Kent Community Center with nearly 200 seniors, adults and children. Staff from Boston Centers for Youth & Families, Boston Public Schools, and other key City agencies coordinate the DISH community dinners, which are free, fun and open to the public.

Other resources are available through the City's Web site at http://www.cityofboston.gov/mayorfood_fuel.asp. Fuel assistance programs include ABCD's Fuel Assistance Program, which helps with paying heating bills for qualifying households; Citizens Energy, which allows families to purchase discounted home heating oil; and Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance, which helps households save on heating and electricity costs.

In addition to fuel savings, a new tool now helps residents save money on electric bills. Local branches of the Boston Public Library offer the "Kill-A-Watt," which shows how much electricity idle devices consume. The

(Continued on Page 12)



Merry Christmas to All!!

You are invited to attend the 14th Annual

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

at Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park
One Bowdoin Square
at Cambridge Street - Boston's, West End

FEATURING:

The St. John School Children's Choir
Holy Trinity (German Church) Singers
United States Coast Guard Honor Guard
Santa Claus

*Reverend Daniel C. O'Connell of St. Joseph's Church
will bless this Christmas tree in memory of
Richard Cardinal Cushing.*

JOIN US!!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009
AT 6:00 PM**

This will be an indoor/outdoor event!
Refreshments will be served.

**YOUR HOST: NORMAN HERR
The Friends of**

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See Norman at lighting for a parking pass.*

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Friday, December 4, 2009

GUEST EDITORIAL

WHATEVER THE COST CROWN JEWELS WILL BE ENACTED

by Edward P. Shallow

Louisiana Democrat Mary Landrieu sold out her country and her constituency when she succumbed to political bribery and she prostituted herself by accepting a three million dollar bribe to vote for the Senate Health-Care Act. If it takes a three hundred million dollar bribe to get Landrieu's vote for the bill, it seems to me many people will reflect on the ill effects of the legislation.

This Health-Care Act is the Crown Jewels of Obama's policy to create a government run Health Care agenda based on the much-maligned European system that caused nothing but grief for patients trapped by the dictates of the governments providing essential medical services.

This Senate bill would be history if the four frauds, Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas and Ben Nelson of Nebraska had not voted to advance the legislation to the Senate floor knowing that the final legislation will contain the public option that will bring about the destruction of the greatest health care the world has ever realized. All four indicated they did not support the public option, one wonders why they did not kill the bill when they had the opportunity. It is my contention, in order to spare Obama the humiliation of having his signature issue go down to defeat, the four of them will in the end vote in favor of the bill no matter how much it will end up costing the American people, monetarily and medically.

Harry Reid is a damned liar claiming the bill will reduce the national deficit.

Consider the majority in Congress wants to pay for its \$1 trillion to \$1.6 trillion health bills with new taxes and a \$500 billion cut to Medicare.

These words of wisdom from RedState.com: the Senate healthcare bill has numerous flaws - but you needn't know the details to know that it erodes freedom, restricts your ability to care for your family according to your wishes, costs trillions of dollars, increases taxes, increases premiums and is so massive that it is impossible to comprehend fully. In fact, the 2074 page behemoth in the Senate is an interesting study in word choices that tell you all you need to know about the bill.

The word "shall" appears 3,607 times, but "freedom"

(Continued on Page 14)

LETTERS POLICY

The Post-Gazette invites its readers to submit Letters to the Editor.

- Letters should be typed, double-spaced and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Anonymous letters are not accepted for publication.
- Due to space considerations, we request that letters not exceed two double-spaced, type-written pages.
- This newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and taste and to limit the number of letters published from any one person or organization.
- Deadline for submission is 12:00 noon on the Monday prior to the Friday on which the writer wishes to have the material published. Submission by the deadline does not guarantee publication.

Send letter to: Pamela Donnaruma, Editor,
 The Post-Gazette, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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Massachusetts Restaurant Association Honors FRATTAROLI BROTHERS

On Monday, November 23, 2009 an awards dinner was held at Anthony's Pier 4 in Boston, Massachusetts inducting Filippo and Donato Frattaroli among others into the Massachusetts Hospitality Hall of Fame.

The Massachusetts Restaurant Association, founded in 1934, now has 1,500 food and beverage members representing 7,000 units in Massachusetts and 500 associates/purveyors. Their mission is "To support, promote and enhance the food and beverage industry in Massachusetts for the benefit of both our members and the public." The 2009 Hall of Fame Award Inductees were: Harvey Allen from M.S. Walker, award was presented by Frank Guidara, Uno's Chicago Grill; Billy Costa from NECN TV Diner, award was presented by Joseph Piantedosi, Jr.,



Left to Right: Peter Christie, President of the Massachusetts Restaurant Association presenting Filippo and Donato Frattaroli with a plaque inducting them into the Massachusetts Hospitality Hall of Fame.

Piantedosi Baking Co.; Donato and Filippo Frattaroli, Ristorante Lucia and Filippo Ristorante, awards was presented by Peter J. Christie, MRA; and Jon Luther, of Dunkin Brands, award presented by Ming Tsai, Blue

Ginger Restaurant. The Master of Ceremonies was Raphael Oliver, Top of the Hub and NRA Director. Congratulations to Filippo and Donato Frattaroli for this outstanding accomplishment.

NEMPAC's 2nd Annual Holiday Recital

The North End Music and Performing Arts Center will present its second annual Holiday Recital at the Old North Church on Friday, December 11 at 7:00pm. Students involved in NEMPAC's private music instruction program will perform a variety of musical selections on many different instruments.

"Our music students and their instructors have worked diligently over the last few months to prepare for this special concert.

It is a real privilege for our students to perform in the Old North Church for friends, parents, families and neighbors," said NEMPAC's Private Music Instruction Coordinator, Sarah Glenn.

The concert is free and open to the public, followed by a reception. Special thanks goes to Reverend Steve Ayres and the Old North Church for their willingness to host this special concert. For more info, call 617-227-2270 or email sarah.glenn@yahoo.com.

Judith Pistacchio Bessette

Presents Italian Research at Conference

Judith Pistacchio Bessette attended the 42nd Annual Conference of the American Italian Historical Society held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on October 29-November 1, 2009. The theme for this year's conference was "Southern Exposures, Locations and Relocations of Italian Culture." Ms Bessette is a member of the Pirandello Lyceum and the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge Sons of Italy.

The focus of this year's conference was Italian Life and Customs in Louisiana;

members of the Italian American community in Boston will recognize "The Tradition of Saint Joseph altars in Southern Louisiana." Over 70 participants from the United States and Italy presented their research on a variety of topics including Italian and Italian American literature, film and popular culture; Italian American women writers; music, art and reports of the Statistical Research Committee.

On Saturday, October 31, Ms. Bessette participated in a session entitled:

"Submerged Beliefs of Italian Americans." Ms. Bessette presented a DVD based on her research on the Italian community in the historic textile mill village of Lymansville in North Providence, Rhode Island. The DVD was based on original photographs, maps and paper documents collected by Ms Bessette. Other participants in the session were Mary Beth Moser (California Institute of Integral Studies) and Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum (California Institute of Integral Studies).

Christopher Columbus Trellis Lighting

Santa Claus helped light the Christopher Columbus Park Trellis with friends Joanne Hayes-Rines, President of the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park and Michael Galvin, the City of Boston's Chief of Basic City Services. The Trellis Lighting was presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park. Entertainment was provided by the North End Music and Performing Arts Center and The Ray Cavicchio Band and sponsored by Fairmont Battery Wharf Boston with refreshments and snacks provided by Mike's Pastry, Starbucks and Legal Sea Foods.



Santa Claus, Joanne Hayes-Rines and Michael Galvin.

(Photo by Lauren Patrick)

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Financially Speaking with Ben Doherty

The economy as a whole is closely tied to housing, jobs and consumer spending. In negative housing news, housing starts — the construction of brand new homes — fell off a cliff last month, shrinking 10.7%, the steepest drop since January. Mortgage applications have also tanked and are at their lowest level in 12 years, on a seasonally adjusted basis. The rising tide of foreclosures continues to swell the ranks and could get worse, because they account for 54% of the loans that are 90 days or more past due but not into foreclosure yet. The median price fell 5%, the third decline in 4 months. Without some improvement in the outlook for jobs and housing, the most we can summon up is a hope that the recovery manages to slog on.

There are positive housing signs. New home sales rose 6.2% to a pace of 404,000 expected. October existing home sales were up 10.2%, the National Association of Realtors said Monday. Buyers rushed to act ahead of the tax credit for first time home buyers — which Congress expanded to include existing home owners. Weekly applications to buy a new home rose from a 12-year low after this extension. The orders for new homes are a proxy for future business investment.

A 2.5 GDP rate is good for the economy, courtesy of Uncle Sam. This promises a better future for domestic employment, though the present is still rough. The number of filing claims for jobless benefits fell to a 14 month low last week as a sign that layoffs are easing and the economy slowly heals. Economists estimate

that employers cut 145,000 jobs in November, after shedding 190,000 in October. The jobless rate hit a 26 year high of 10.2% in October, and many economists expect a sluggish recovery to push it to 10.5% by mid-2012.

Although the rise in home sales to the highest level in over a year indicates that consumers got back into the buying mood, orders for the big ticket retail products unexpectedly dropped. "Those low claim numbers provide further proof that the consumer is key to this recovery," said Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors.

Consumers do seem to have warmed to the holiday season, and it won't be the disaster many had forecast. The S&P Index rose 1.4% on positive earnings, according to economic data ahead of Black Friday's holiday kickoff. Consumer spending in October reported a .7% gain, which topped expectations. The durable goods index fell .6%. The Street had expected orders to gain. Gold rose 2% as they expected India to buy more gold, but then volume was below average. Silver jumped to a new 52-week high, but was off its usual pace. Personal income rose .2% for a second straight month.

Sony is betting on 3D TVs, lithium batteries and game consoles for future growth. These 3D TVs will account for up to half the TVs it makes in the next 3 years. The TV technology lets viewers choose between watching in 2D or in 3D while wearing special glasses. The results will depend on available 3D content.

Sony is also holding talks with several auto makers for lithium-ion batteries,

according to Hiroshi Yoshioka, Sony's head of Consumer Products. He didn't name the auto makers, but "most of a billion dollar investment in battery technology over the next 3 years will go towards car battery development," he said.

Sony sees a strong potential in video games.

Sony outlined plans to rely heavily on 3D technology and online content to reach a profit margin of 5% in the fiscal year 2013. The company plans to introduce up to one billion dollars to TV, disk players, and game consoles in 2013.

Hershey's Trust seeks blessings on its potential \$17 billion bid for Cadbury's from Pennsylvania's Attorney General, said several people familiar with the matter. Attorney General Tom Corbett has yet to tell the Hershey Trust company what he thinks. Under Pennsylvania laws, the Attorney General has the right to block the sale.

The Trust funds a school in Hershey, PA, which depends on \$80 million from Hershey annually.

The Trust, led by board chairman Mr. Zimmerman and James Newels, holds 80% of the Trust's voting rights. The Trust is pushing hard for a Cadbury bid. If the Attorney General blocks the sale, the Trust would have to go to court and prove that a sale is necessary. It should perhaps be careful what it wishes for. A bid for Cadbury would test Hershey financially, with a market cap of 8.5 billion. It has a huge debt load and could lower its debt load to junk status.

It's time to call your Financial Advisor, or call me at (617) 261-7777.

Italian Banks to Freeze Mortgage Payments for Unemployed

Voluntarily, Italian banks took the sensible and compassionate step to allow mortgage holders who are in serious economic difficulty to suspend payments for up to one year.

Local media said the measure will go into effect in January and will apply to three categories of mortgage holders who are now unemployed following the economic downturn.

To benefit from the payment deferment mortgage are holders who have simply lost their jobs, who are on temporary lay off plans,

who were self employed, but have fallen out of business and who have lost family members whose income supported the entire family.

"We have drafted a program to help households and will discuss the measure with the various involved authorities like the Italian government and the consumer associations," said ABI President Corrado Faissola.

The Italian housing market was not severely hit by the financial turmoil because of its limited reliance on mortgages. However,

many low-income families rely on mortgage payments for new house acquisition and the number of jobless Italians has risen in recent months.

According to Italian National Statistics' Office (ISTAT), Italy's unemployment rate was relatively high in 2008 at 6.8% and is expected to rise to 8.4% by the end of 2009, reaching 10.7% in 2010.

The percentage of Italians who get jobless aid or benefit from reduced hours programs to keep them at work is 40% of all unemployed workers, compared to 73% in Spain and 97% in France.

(Reprinted from L'Italo Americano)

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by Sal Giarratani

Good Country America If You Don't Come from Here

As I read the AP story concerning a push to give undocumented students the in-state tuition break at UMass and community colleges, I hope the Legislature does exactly what it did last time in 2006 which is to oppose it. Mario Rodas is an undocumented Guatemalan student who graduated from Chelsea High School and apparently he and his family can't afford the out-of-state tuition at state colleges and universities. He supports in-state tuitions for students like himself. Governor Deval Patrick supports the idea and State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz says about this issue that "Time is our friend here and we need to get people more comfortable with it."

However, as the second generation grandson of both Sicilian and Irish immigrants, I am as opposed to the idea today as I was in 2006. Rodas was the poster child for the campaign three years ago and appears to be reprising that role again. I am not anti-immigrant. All four of my grandparents were immigrants who came to this country to start life anew for themselves and families.

If you allow undocumented (read: illegal) the in-state tuition break, how can you justify out-of-state tuitions for non-Massachusetts residents. What about other Mario's from Guatemala or Honduras or Nicaragua or anywhere else living legally in this country in either

New Hampshire or Rhode Island who wish to come to a state college or university here in Massachusetts? Should they pay the higher out-of-state tuition while illegal students living here don't? Scrapping the whole out-of-state tuitions would seem fairer, right?

Massachusetts officials should encourage the undocumented to become legal, but we can't be a haven for those living here illegally who think they deserve American rights like cheap college tuition at public institutions. Harris Gruman, executive of the SEIU State Council says, "Massachusetts is out in front of so many things, but Massachusetts is behind on this." Sorry, I don't agree with that statement.

The latest strategy seems to be personal lobbying by these undocumented students at the State House "and sharing their stories in face-to-face meetings." Putting a human face to statistics is a smart move, but for me undocumented still means illegal and we can't honor illegal behavior period.

I personally didn't appreciate the slap in the face to the state's Puerto Rican community for not caring about their Latino brothers and sisters. Perhaps, they simply have a problem with the word illegal, too.

Who knows, next liberals might be seeking drivers licenses for illegals too. No, wait, they already are. When will this insanity stop?

The Italians are coming to Boston!

We need Italian speaking Boston tour guides. We train. For more information, e-mail pitcairtours@mail.com.

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BOOK REVIEW



by Claude Marsilia



I WOULDN'T DIE

A Memoir by Franco Antonetti

Soft Cover • 252 Pages • Published by Via Novi Press

Franco Antonetti the author of *I Wouldn't Die* was born in Rome, Italy in mid-July, 1944 with a black cloud hovering over him. It is difficult to imagine that one individual would manage to survive so many close calls of death, nonetheless Franco did.



Author Franco Antonetti

One of the near death events occurred when Franco was a mere four months old. It happened when he and his mother were on a train heading south. Their intent was to avoid the embattled city of Rome. While travelling through an extended tunnel Franco turned blue. His mother painfully concluded that Franco was dead. At a train stop his mother using a shoe dug a hole along the tracks to bury Franco, when suddenly Franco let out a faint cry. Apparently Franco wasn't ready to die.

Franco developed survival instincts. He became a successful beggar. He knew how to earn money. One of his entrepreneur efforts was collecting cigarette butts off the street and selling his collection to stores. These were desperate war times. Nevertheless, his constant aim was to go to America.

It finally came to pass. On December 9th, 1954 Franco sighted the Statue of Liberty. Although only ten years old Franco was fully aware that the time had come for him to apply his survival skills here in America that he had acquired in Italy. At eighteen Franco became a naturalized citizen. He faced difficulties at school because of his limited understanding of English. However, he used his built-in Italian street smarts to his advantage.

Surprisingly, I read how Franco was obliged to pay his grandmother, Suzy, \$35.00/week. When I lived at home the largest part of my earnings went to my mother. I never considered it to be an obligation. It was an accepted manner of helping support the family.

Franco took his transition from poor Italian to an aggressive American, in stride. He kept his studies up, he thrived in sports and always managed to have varied part-time work. The reader will live with Franco as he grows from a child to manhood that includes his naivety as well as his ambitious trends. He handles his near-death episodes and his life in general with aplomb. Franco believes his time for marriage had arrived. It was his plan that once his dear friend Bette Ann graduated from high school they would get married. It was a heady wedding highlighted by many money purses.

As a novice writer Franco appeared to learn the advantages of implementing short chapters, which I consider a boost to readers. I believe the reader can digest the reading material of short chapters more readily than otherwise.

In time Franco lands a decent job at the Mack Truck Company. A leader in heavy truck manufacturing. He dreams that one-

day he will become president of the Mack Truck Company.

Franco apparently is a highly motivated individual with natural sales ability. He found he had to remain busy throughout the day and sometimes at night. He illustrates what a true company-man is. Franco was dependable and was always ready to do more to advance

himself and the companies he worked for. He certainly doesn't lack any self-confidence. Typically, he would wake early and work late. He claims he only needed five to six hours sleep daily.

Franco loved challenges and was capable to meet them, in some cases he would beat them. The reader will realize that Franco doesn't have any trouble blowing his own horn. Obviously, he had a great personality that readily allowed him to make business as well as personal friends.

Once again Franco is faced with a death-defining incident. A copperhead bit him and slowed him momentarily. Flamboyant Franco is offered the branch manager's position in Oakland, California. He puts into play his usually successful meth-

ods. First he spruces up the facility, next he becomes familiar with the equipment to be sold, and finally he improves the sales personnel. In short order he sold more Mid-Liners (trucks) than ever before at this facility.

Suddenly, Franco's family oriented style of happy living took a severe negative turn. His wife, Bette Ann became a cocaine user. The unthinkable happened, on July 10th, 1984 Bette Ann was killed in an automobile accident. Franco was devastated. His wife who was 37 years old was gone.

Franco's life took a dramatic turn. From the happy-go-lucky-guy to a sad mixed up individual. The loss of his wife had an abject affect upon him. His children, like him, seemed to be adrift. After years of good fortune Franco was on a deep slide of misfortune. To his surprise Franco was being let go by Mack Trucks following years of devoted service. He was 42 years old and had to start all over again. Ultimately, Franco who was an inspired individual faltered.

Franco's life was becoming haphazard and was reflected in his story. His writings became fast paced and somewhat irrational. The reader, I believe will sense that Franco was heading for a climatic catastrophe. Names and circumstances were beginning to run together making it difficult for the reader to follow, thereby requiring the reader to reread portions of the book.

Franco Antonetti's book *I Wouldn't Die* initially reads like Horatio Alger's stories that told numerous tales of poor boys who rose from rags to riches. His near death experiences added a certain amount of excitement to the overall story telling. Franco has the ability to write a good story. Perhaps additional writing will allow him to improve and polish his story telling.

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- ★ All who wish to attend please call 617-363-2678 between now and December 6th. To confirm you must supply your child's name, age, gender, address and phone number so that we can report to Santa's elves.
- ★ Please, you must confirm no later than December 6th. All children 10 and under will receive a picture with Santa and a gift. Children must be present & accompanied by an adult. Also: Face Painting, Balloons, Characters, Gift Bags. Please bring a Camera!
- ★ Saint Agrippina's Christmas Program is for North End Residents Only.

Don't miss seeing "Santa Claus"
"VIVA ST. AGRIPPINA"
Just a Merry Good Time
God Bless America

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Join your neighbors and friends at the 3rd Annual NEMPAC Holiday Craft Sale and Tree Lighting Celebration to be held on Sunday, December 6th from 11am to 3pm at the Paul Revere Mall a/k/a "The Prado". Unique handmade gifts for sale by local artisans for everyone on your holiday shopping list!

We will also be having a Community Carol

Sing and Musical performances by NEMPAC students at 1:00pm. The Mayor's Tree Lighting Trolley Tour arrives at 2:15pm. Enjoy a hot chocolate and bring your camera to take pictures with Santa and his Elves! Visit the NEMPAC Instrument Petting Zoo.

Please note: The fair will take place RAIN or SHINE — moving to an adjacent indoor location in the event of severe weather.

Saint Leonard Parish Christmas Concert, 2009

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin words, *ad-venio* or *adventus*, both signify a coming. We are invited to begin again in a process of continual conversion. The Advent candles we will light symbolize Jesus Christ, the True Light. The message we are to proclaim during this wonderful season is that Lord is always coming for those who look for Him!

The annual Christmas concert has quickly become a tradition of historic Saint Leonard Parish helping to usher in the Season and contributing to the festivities accompanying the Christmas Season in the North End. This year's concert will take place on Sunday, December 13th at 6:00pm, as in past years, it will be performed in the beautiful setting of Sacred Heart's upper

church at 12 North Square, North End, Boston.

The concert will feature sacred, folk and popular music of the Advent and Christmas season performed by Saint Leonard Parish English and Italian Choirs and Saint John School Children's Choir conducted by Kevin Galiè, director of music for Saint Leonard Parish.

Mr. Galiè, a native Philadelphian, holds bachelor's degrees in music and computer science and the degree of Juris Doctor in arts/music from Boston University. He holds a Master of Music degree in organ performance from the Boston Conservatory, where he studied orchestra conducting with Atilio Poto, and played and studied choral conducting under Allen Lannom. In addition to Saint Leonard Parish, Mr. Galie is Director of Music for Blessed John XXIII Seminary and the MIT Women's Chorus. He is a guest lecturer and teacher at Simmons College, Longy School of Music, Rhode Island School of Design.

Following the performance, concert goers are invited to the annual parish Christmas party that will take place just across the street at Saint John Hall. Tickets are available at the Parish office, tel. 617-523-2110.

Advent is a time to stir-up our faith in the Lord, traditions such as the lighting of the Advent wreath, special prayers and readings and inspirational music provide us a way to enhance our preparation for Christmas.

ANNA GAETA WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE

for all the well wishes, cards, fruit baskets and flowers.

She is recovering very nicely and wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

LA MALE NOTTE (The Bad Night) PART III

by Peter Vitale

(Photo contributed by Professor Larry DiStasi)

Lt. General John DeWitt died in 1989. Remo Bosia, born in Madera, California, had the opportunity and the motivation to write his memoirs in 1971 of his harrowing experience as an American soldier serving his country during World War II. However Bosia never saw one day of combat during his enlistment except inside a courtroom for his court martial. He had been pursued throughout his military career vindictively by the passionate DeWitt who had his orders to rid the West Coast of all dangerous persons. DeWitt intent on faithfully executing his orders pursued Bosia throughout the time frame the policy was in effect.

Prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, Bosia had been destined to succeed his father-in-law as Editor-in-Chief of "L'Italia", a local Italian newspaper in San Carlos, CA that had editorialized occasionally in favor of Fascism. Shocked by the events the day before, on December 8, 1941, Bosia did what many American boys did, quitting his comfortable desk job with the intention of joining a branch of the military where he felt he would have the most impact. He chose the Air Force Intelligence since



Lt. General John DeWitt

he was a pilot and spoke Italian and French. Unfortunately his "male notte" came in late August, 1942 when he was visited by federal agents who told him he was ordered out of the "exclusionary zone" and to relocate. No mention was made of his enlistment paperwork. He fought his case at a tribunal and won but DeWitt intervened and overruled the board. Bosia became both nauseated and disgusted that the country he was trying to help his country had determined him to be a danger to national security. Humiliated, he enlisted in the Army rather than be stigmatized as an enemy of the U.S. After several weeks in the Army, the long arm of DeWitt reached

forth once again. Bosia was arrested and charged with "fraudulent enlistment, endangering the country by remaining in a military area after exclusion, and concealing the exclusion order from his commander."

It took several months for his court martial to come to trial in December 1942. All the while he remained in jail, gravely ill, with little opportunity to communicate with his wife and daughter. He prevailed in commanding fashion at his trial. DeWitt then ordered him to a remote Army base in Minnesota until his eventual honorable discharge. He was free to return home to the Pacific. Tracking him like a mouse in a maze, DeWitt, unfazed, once again struck almost immediately and ordered Bosia, the civilian under a **second** exclusionary order to relocate "not less than 150 miles inland" away from his residence and family. When Italy finally surrendered in late 1943, DeWitt was relieved of his duties effectively ending this perverse persecution. Bosia carried with him until he died his distrust and disappointment of the country he so deeply loved.

(Part IV next week)



ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo

THE BLOW DRYER

Adapted from the "Vacuum Cleaner"!



My Mom Josephine, in her modern salon "Mary's Beauty Shop," circa 1946, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Ciao bella,

What did the ladies do before the hair dryer? It's been 117 years perfecting it!

In 1890 Alexander F. Godefoy first designed a dryer that was extremely large and leaned over a chair. It looked very similar in appearance from the floor model chairs seen in many modern salons. As seen in photo my Mom and Nana's shop was considered a most Modern Salon in its time!

By 1920 the first hand-held home use dryer made its debut. Although very bulky and heavy it was not only difficult to use but could only be on for a little time until it over heated. Ironically it only produced 100 watts of heat!

In the early 1950s a modern and easier version was developed. It was not only used as a hand held dryer but many ladies fitted it into a plastic bonnet and wore it on their heads with the dryer producing warm air over hair curlers-I do love mine! Makes for longer lasting body and shine.

By the 1970s companies producing the blow dryers focused on improving the safety of them. As smaller versions and more efficient technologically advanced

motors became available, the dryer became more powerful.

It was by the 1990s that the most portable dryers produced 1500 watts! Other features of the newer models were high-tech plastic and insulation making them lighter and safer.

Today's technology and innovative evolution has brought us thousands of hand held and seated dryers to choose from. Today's added features are ionic, lightweight, nano silver, cool shot buttons, swivel cords, and an array of other conveniences that has made this once novelty machine a privilege to own and a necessity we take for granted. Bravo to the vacuum cleaner that started it all!

Buona giornata and God bless the United States of America!

— Mary N. DiZazzo-Trumbull

Read prior weeks' "All That Zazz" columns at www.mary4nails.com. Mary is a third-generation cosmetologist and a Massachusetts distributor of Kosmea brand rose hip oil products. She may be contacted at (978) 470-8183 or mary@mary4nails.com

DONNE 2000 Cookbook



The local Italian American Women's Group, Donne 2000, has collected the best ethnic recipes from its group members and compiled them into an attractive keepsake cookbook, entitled, *Sapori Nostri — A Taste of Tradition*. The cookbook contains 150 well-loved Italian recipes including appetizers,

main dishes, desserts and many other recipes that have been handed down from generation to generation. The cookbook is an attractive three-ring binder with a convenient easel bookstand. It will make a memorable Christmas gift!

Donne 2000 is a non-profit organization for women of all ages aimed primarily to benefit and educate women in today's society and preserve ethnic traditions from generation to generation. Donne 2000 holds many charitable events throughout the year to raise money for special causes. Their most recent endeavor was the Donne 2000 Breast Cancer Walk where a team of woman walked to raise money for the "cure".

Cookbooks are on sale now. Proceeds will benefit the Donne 2000 scholarship fund and other charitable events. For more information, please contact Doreen Giammarco at 617-742-0226 or doreeng869@aol.com.

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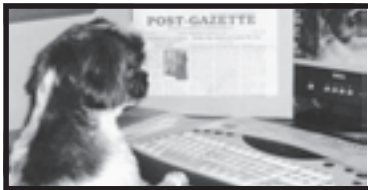
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Freeway Says ...

You can email your questions to postgazette@aol.com to the attention of Freeway. Don't forget folks, Freeway is not a vet, so please keep the questions light-hearted! Thanks.

I hope all my readers had a wonderful and enjoyable "Thanksgiving." Now guess what! You said it! Christmas HO! HO! HO! Where is Santa Claus? I wonder if he needs any help this year, I could take a few days off from the Post-Gazette and hop in his sleigh and we could share my dog cookies together. Maybe I'll give him a call, what's his number? Do they have phones at the North Pole? By the way has any of my pooch friends as well as their human companions noticed the window at the Post-Gazette — doesn't it look nice — all decorated for Christmas, it brightens up my office and puts me in the spirit for the holiday. I did the best I could being only a pooch getting up and down that ladder a few times I

slipped and landed on my box of cookie treats. That saved me luckily.

What is the meaning of Christmas, let me think???

- C for caring
- H for hope
- R for remembrance
- I for icing
- S for sharing
- T for tinsel
- M for mistletoe
- A for acorn
- S for Santa

That isn't bad for a pooch I had to use the dictionary a few times. It's not about gifts but giving to your local churches that are in need, to shelters that need help or if you know of anyone that is alone to bring them a hot meal or a friend that is alone invite them for Christmas dinner and especially DON'T FORGET our

MEN AND WOMEN that are fighting for us each and everyday to keep us safe. Keep them in your prayers that they will come home to us SOON.

Christmas is special for each and everyone of us so enjoy, be happy but keep the most important thought in mind be thankful for what you have, your family, your friends and for the job that you have that so many are out of. Appreciate life and stay healthy and be grateful for what you have no matter how little or how much, there is always someone worse off than we are. Let it snow ... Let it snow ... get those shovels out ... we pooches need clean sidewalks not too much rock salt it burns our paws. *That's all for now ... Life is good!*

Happy Birthday CONOR!



Conor James Farrell, grandson of the proud Enza and Lino Rullo, celebrates his 1st birthday.

East Boston Chamber of Commerce Welcomes EB Haircutters



East Boston Chamber members and neighbors join EB Haircutters' owner Omayra Gonzalez for her ribbon cutting ceremony, located at 808 Bennington Street.



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BAY STATE CHAPTER OF FREEDOMS FOUNDATION PRESENTS GEORGE WASHINGTON HONOR MEDALS TO LOCAL GROUPS

The Weber Foundation of Helping Hands, Piers Park Sailing Center of East Boston Honored



Piers Park Sailing Center Award left to right: Fr. Dom Milligan, Freedoms Foundation Vice President Francine D'Andrea, Piers Park Board Chairman Carlos Nolasco, Freedoms Foundation Vice President Ed Coletta, Freedoms Foundation President Pat Rosa, Freedoms Foundation National Trustee Dr. Paul Currier, Freedoms Foundation Founder and Director Joseph V. Ferrino.



The Weber Foundation of Helping Hands Award: Left to right Freedoms Foundation Vice President Barbara Survilas, Freedoms Foundation Vice President Francine D'Andrea, Elizabeth Weber, founder of the Weber Foundation holding the George Washington Honor Medal.



Bay State Chapter - Freedoms Foundation Annual Award Dinner The Spirit of '76 Award was presented posthumously to Marie Mucci-O'Shea, the award was accepted by family members. (left to right) Joseph Mucci, Elaine Mucci, Katy Mucci, Camille Selvitella, President, Pat Rosa, Laurie O'Shea, Bunny Dean-Murray, and Jean McLaughlin.



Piers Park Sailing Center Award. Shown with the George Washington Honor Medal are Maureen McKinnon-Tucker, director of the Adaptive Sailing Program (front), Carlos Nolasco, Chairman of the Piers Park Sailing Center Board (left), Ed Coletta, Freedoms Foundation Vice President (right).

The Bay State Chapter of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge presented the prestigious George Washington Honor Medal to a community assistance foundation and an adaptive youth sailing organization to honor their dedication to community service and patriotism. The Chapter also presented

a posthumous "Spirit of '76" Award for meritorious service to a late resident of East Boston. The Honor Medal was presented to: The Weber Foundation of Helping Hands, Inc. and Piers Parks Sailing Center of East Boston. "The Weber Foundation and the Piers Park Sailing

Center both represent the ideals of America — caring for others less fortunate and selfless service to community," said Pat Rosa, President of Bay State Chapter, Freedoms Foundation. "We honor these organizations with the George Washington Honor Medal because they have made a difference in the lives of countless citizens across our state."

The late Marie Mucci O'Shea of East Boston was also honored with both the U.S. Eastern Regional and Bay State Chapter "Spirit of '76" Awards for her dedication to the good works of Freedoms Foundation and her many civic and charitable endeavors.

The Weber Foundation of Helping Hands is a non-profit charity that provides direct financial assistance to individuals and families facing life-threatening illnesses or other catastrophic situations. The foundation has given out nearly \$650,000 in grants since October of 2000 in the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The grants help those who have fallen on hard times to pay medical or utility bills, their mort-

gage, or provide clothing and food for struggling families.

Piers Park Sailing Center and its Adaptive Sailing Program Director, Maureen McKinnon-Tucker, are being honored for bringing sailing to those who thought they'd never be able to sail. Piers Park has the only fully wheelchair accessible sailing dock in Boston Harbor. In 2008, 342 disabled adults and children took part in various adaptive sailing programs at the East Boston center, allowing them to get aboard a sailboat and ride the waves. The Piers Park program has especially been focused on disabled youths, giving youngsters the chance to join four other able-bodied youth sailors to

work as a team in the handling of a boat — with all boat-mates learning from each other.

Freedoms Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to teaching all citizens the principles upon which our nation was founded. The organization seeks to convey the close link between the rights and the responsibilities of citizens in society.

Freedoms Foundation awards Americans who go above and beyond in their efforts to educate their communities about the values of good citizenship, either through teaching or by example. The foundation has recognized several thousand dedicated individuals and organizations in its 59-year existence.



Freedom: Spirit of '76 Award went to the Marie Mucci-O'Shea family. Freedoms Foundation member Bunny Dean Murray (right) presents an award to Laurie O'Shea, daughter of Marie Mucci-O'Shea (left).

The Socially Set

by Hilda M. Morrill



At the "Celebration of Hope" dinner at the Boston Harbor Hotel are, left to right, John Fish, CEO, Suffolk Construction; honoree James Mongan MD, President and CEO, Partners HealthCare; Guy Morse, Executive Director, Boston Athletic Association; and Chris Attaya, President and CEO, Partners Home Care.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

Partners Home Care and Partners Hospice recently hosted the inaugural 'Celebration of Hope' dinner at the Boston Harbor Hotel. The event, "Courageous Voices of Home Care and Hospice," celebrated innovative programs and compassionately skilled clinicians who help enhance the quality of life for people coping with chronic and life-limiting ill-

ness by delivering care in the comfort and security of home.

James Mongan, MD, President and CEO of Partners HealthCare, was honored for his support and vision of a full continuum of care that established Partners Hospice in 2006.

The evening's Master of Ceremonies was Jack Connors, Jr., Chairman of



North End resident Mike Manning and Maura Callahan at the "Celebration of Hope" dinner.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

Partners HealthCare. The event was co-chaired by the Honorable Mayor Thomas M. and Mrs. Angela Menino; and the Honorable Mayor Kevin and Mrs. Kathryn White.

Proceeds from the dinner will support programs that deliver high quality care to patients at home including telemonitoring that improves the lives of people managing a chronic illness; the Partners Transitions program that provides connections to end of life care; expressive therapies for children coping with the loss of a loved one; and 'open access' to hospice, which provides complex care to patients with cancer.

For more information about Partners Home Care and Partners Hospice, please call 781-290-4000 or visit www.partnershomecare.org.

..... In a historic collaboration, the Concord Museum and Boston's North Bennet Street School are celebrating the renowned school's 125th anniversary with a juried exhibition of the work of fifty-nine distinguished alumni from ten states across the country.

"A Dedication to Craft" is on view through March 21, 2010. The exhibition is supported in part by Skinner, Inc., Auctioneers and Appraisers.

Included in the special exhibition are more than sixty examples of furniture, jewelry, musical instruments and bookbindings, as well as illustrations of the work of the preservation carpentry, carpentry and locksmithing programs.

Some of the objects on view draw their inspiration from craft techniques of the past; others bring a fresh look to classic pieces using today's innovative technology.

"The Concord Museum has a deep respect for the work of the North Bennet

Street School, their students and alumni," said Désirée Caldwell, the Museum's Executive Director. "This special exhibition creates an exciting visual dialogue between craft traditions of the past and present. Working with contemporary craftspeople brings a welcome new perspective to the historical pieces in our collection and others."

According to the Concord Museum's Carol Haines, both institutions have been contributing to the cultural life of Greater Boston for 125 years by preserving and advancing craft traditions and by promoting an appreciation of quality design that transcends time and fashion.

North Bennet Street School was incorporated in 1885, a year earlier than the Concord Museum, as the North Bennet Street Industrial School. Pauline Agassiz Shaw, the school's founder, was committed to teaching the skills needed for immigrants to obtain employment. Today, the school trains students for careers in traditional trades that use hand skills in concert with evolving technology.

The Concord Museum's nationally renowned collection of 35,000 objects made or owned in Concord includes important examples

of furniture, clocks, silver and other objects made by skilled craftsmen over three centuries. Only a handful of Americana collections are as old or as well documented.

North Bennet Street School President, Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, also an alumnus of the school, said of the collaboration, "We are very pleased to be partnering with the Concord Museum for this exhibition, which will be the opening event and the most public celebration of our 125th anniversary. The missions of the two institutions are remarkably similar. The museum's collection includes some of the finest historic examples of the traditional crafts taught at North Bennet Street School, and has been a resource for generations of students. This exhibition demonstrates that the museum and the school are not only stewards of the past, but also part of a continuing tradition preserving the highest level of craftsmanship and skill."

(Continued on Page 13)

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Bob D's Beat

by Bob DeCristoforo

THANK YOU, NORTH END VFW POST 144

They came, they saw, and they gave AGAIN! NEAD would like to Thank all the members of the North End VFW Post 144 for their very generous donation. A check of \$1,000 was presented by VFW Commander Bob Caggiano to NEAD at the Annual NEAD Community Award and Scholarship Medalist Dinner.

CONGRATULATIONS, CLAUDIA

Claudia Iandolo was presented the Cheverus Award at Holy Cross Cathedral. The Award is named in honor of Boston's first Bishop, Jean-Louis Cheverus, and given to the 'Unsung Heroes' of the Archdiocese of Boston. Claudia was named for her work at St. Leonard's Church in the North End.

NEAD COFFEE AND ...

North End Against Drugs held a 'Coffee and' following the 9am Mass at Sacred Heart Church. It's was a time when people came together and kept well in the NEAD motto of 'It's All About Family'. Special 'Thank You' to Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari for helping to put it together. There will be more!

WORLD CUP SOCCER

The field is set, and the drawing will take place on December 4. Yes, World Cup Soccer 2010 is right around the corner.

HIGH SCHOOL PREP NOTEBOOK

Congratulations to the NEPSAC Football Bowl Champions: New Hampton, Pingree, Suffield, Exeter, Lawrence Academy, the MIAA State Soccer Champions: (BOYS) D1 Catholic Memorial, D2 Concord Carlisle, D3 Weston, (GIRLS) D1 Algonquin, D2 Cardinal Spellman, D3 Millis, and the MIAA Girls Volleyball Champions: D1 New Bedford, D2 Medfield, D3 Case.

Charlestown Basketball Alum Hugh Coleman has been named Head Basketball Coach at Brighton.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th IS SUPERBOWL DAY!

WEEKEND TURKEY DAY ROUNDUP

Going into Thanksgiving week Austin Prep toppled Arlington Catholic 20-14, Catholic Memorial tipped Xaverian 30-28, Everett held off Malden 13-7, and BC High nipped St. John's Prep 36-34. In the Boston City League O'Bryant shutout Burke 8-0 and Dorchester did the dissing on Madison Park 30-7. Martha Vineyard belted Brighton 41-8. Sadly the Annual Nantucket-Martha Vineyard 'Island Cup' game was cancelled, a first in almost 50 years. Thanksgiving Eve Malden Catholic victorious over Lawrence 42-32. St. Mary's of Lynn stopped Lynn Tech 36-20, and Northeast defeated North Shore 52-20 to win the Commonwealth Small Championship.

In prime time Thanksgiving Day games Charlestown was shutout by Chelsea 33-0. East Boston crushed South Boston 42-6. Hyde Park defeated Burke 14-12. O'Bryant stunned Latin Academy 6-2 to send Brighton with their Boston South Title into the Playoffs. St. Clement shutout Trinity Catholic 45-0 Mystic Valley downed Minuteman 28-10. Pope John whipped Lowell Catholic 44-16. Marian defeated Cathedral 34-22 winning the Catholic Central Small Championship, and a Playoff trip. Austin Prep shutouts Fenwick 24-0 for the Catholic Central Large Crown. Arlington Catholic 22-13 win over Arlington. Winthrop ripped Revere 41-13. Somerville sacked Matignon 42-12. Boston Latin sent Boston English, and their retiring Coach Keith Parker home defeating the 'Blue on Blue' 27-16. BC High stopped Catholic Memorial 28-17. Xaverian won the Catholic Conference defeating St. John's Prep 21-16, and it was Everett over Cambridge 35-7.

RED HOT HOCKEY

AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

There are certain things I never thought I would do. Sitting in the press box at sold out (18,200) Madison Square Garden (IV) in New York City was one of them. Red Hot Hockey, Cornell vs. BU, two storied college hockey teams playing in what has been billed as 'the World's most famous Arena' in the shadow of the Empire State Building for the second time was quite an experience. Of course, my first stop was attending Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church across the street from NYFD Ladder 24, which lost many in 9/11. With the Church there is a Memorial made from a piece of twisted steel from the World Trade Center, which still gives me the shivers, and it always will. No matter, where I go, it's PRI-

ORITY FIRST. On the ice Cornell jumped out to a 2-0 first period lead on goals by Sean Whitney and Locke Jillson firing up, the already fired up the very partisan Cornell crowd. Terrier Dave Arofsky cut the lead in half at 9:01 of the second, but Cornell's Blake Gallagher got it right back at 10:30. In the third period Terrier Nick Bonono made it 3-2 on a goal at 4:03, and then with the goaltender pulled for an additional skater Chris Connolly tied it up with just 52 seconds to go forcing a scoreless OT. Final BU 3 Cornell 3. Hats off to goaltenders Grant Rollheiser (BU) and Ben Scrivens (Cornell), who came up big in the overtime.

EDUCATION PLUS

College Hockey Commissioners announced the appointment of former NHL Player Association Director Paul Kelly as Executive Director of College Hockey, Inc. What has this to do with 'Education Plus' you might ask? Simple, the goal of College Hockey, Inc. is to let young people and their parents know the importance of education and college hockey, as opposed to stepping into the Major Junior Hockey Leagues, and giving up college eligibility. Believe it or not most college hockey players do get their Degrees. Something to think seriously about. Check out www.PlayCollegeHockey.com on the web.

COLLEGE BOARD: HARVARD WINS 'THE GAME', NORTHEASTERN LOSES, R.I.P.

In the 125th meeting of the famed rivalry Harvard down 10-0 for well over three quarters shocked Yale scoring two four quarter touchdowns, one by Matt Lufts, and the winner by Chris Lorditch for a 14-10 win. It was Harvard's 8th win in the last 9 games. Yale still leads the series 65-53-8. In Chestnut Hill North Carolina shattered all hopes for a BC ACC Atlantic Division Title, and a spot in the ACC Championship game dropping the Eagles 31-13. Northeastern won their second straight defeating URI 33-27. The Huskies finished their year at 3-8-0, 3-5-0 in the Conference. Northeastern has announced it has dropped Football. A sad day on Huntington Avenue, a sad day in College sports, and a sad day for Boston. On Saturday BC improved to 5-3 in the ACC nipping Maryland 19-17. BC is 8-4 overall.

Big week(s) in College Hockey as Hockey East and ECAC Interleague play took center ice. In addition to the BU-Cornell 3-3 tie, we saw BU defeat Harvard 6-5, despite a 4 goal performance by Harvard's Conor Morrison. UMass defeated Yale 4-3, but fell to #9 Quinnipiac 5-4 on Brandon Wong's tying, and then winning OT goal. Up at the Heights BC held off Clarkson 6-5. I never realized that former BC Coach Len Ceglarki and current BC Coach Jerry York, both coached at Clarkson. Dartmouth upped Providence 4-2, but did win the Mayor's Cup defeating cross-town rival Brown 4-3. Maine blasted St. Lawrence 10-1.

Over in Hockey East BC as the big winner defeating Maine 4-3, and then tying up the Black Bears 3-3. BU was defeated by UNH 4-2, but at home it was BU 3 UNH 3. The Wildcats did defeat Merrimack 5-4. Lowell dropped Merrimack 6-3, but the River Hawks were stopped by Maine 3-1 and Providence 4-2. Northeastern had another so, so week. The Huskies defeated, and tied Providence 4-1, 3-3, but lost to Vermont 3-2. In the ECAC St. Lawrence defeated Harvard 3-2, but battled Clarkson to a 2-2 tie.

ADVENT PREPARATION

A day of fun and preparation for Advent will be held at St. Leonard's Parish Hall this Sunday, December 6th for children in grades 1-5 from 9:30am-3pm. To register call the Parish Office at 617-523-2110.

TIDBITS

- We miss you, Mommy!
- Remember Pearl Harbor
- Tuesday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation.
- Celeb Sightings: Ted Tomasone and Kathy Carangelo taking in the Celtics, Richard Settupane taking in a Bruins game, was 'Barbo' Luongo, and former North Ender Dom DiMascio, Paul 'Yankee Buster' Luongo, three generations of the Salvati family at Mangia, Mangia, former North Ender Ralph Z working hard at 'Pinocchio' his longtime Harvard Square Pizzeria.



DAWSON'S CREEK: THE COMPLETE SERIES (24-DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Ent.

Labeled 'The coming of a generation ...' — *Dawson's Creek: The Complete Series* is released on 24 discs that included all 127 episodes. The DVD gift set includes all-new bonus features as an interview with creator Kevin Williamson, a "final exams" trivia game, deleted scenes from the pilot episode with some alternate cast members, plus all of the original extras from each season. Also contained is a CD with select songs from the very popular soundtrack, including "I Don't Want to Wait" by Paula Cole. Chronicle the lives of a close-knit group of teens as they pass from adolescence to young adulthood in the fictional New England seaside town of Capeside. The show captivated audiences with compelling characters, cynical humor and intelligent story lines that teenagers around the world could relate to. Outstanding 'must have' gift set!

THE OPEN ROAD (DVD)

Anchor Bay Ent.

A heartwarming comedy, as minor leaguer Carlton Garrett (Justin Timberlake) must track down his estranged father, legendary pro-athlete Kyle Garrett (Jeff Bridges), when Carlton's mother (Mary Steenburgen) becomes sick. Knowing his father's likelihood to disappoint, Carlton enlists his ex-girlfriend Lucy (Kate Mara) for emotional support. Years of miscommunication, frustration and comically awkward attempts at bonding comes to a head as the mismatched trio make their way home from Ohio to Houston to reunite their family. (1 hr. 30 mins.)

THE SHIELD: THE COMPLETE SERIES (28-DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Ent.

The Shield, the groundbreaking series that turned the conventional cop drama upside down, is presented in a collectible 34-page bound anthology book filled with 28 discs and all 88 episodes. Starring Lowell, MA born Michael Chiklis as rogue cop Detective Vic Mackey, who administers his own brand of justice as he tries to maintain balance in the criminal ecosystem of L.A.'s seedy Farmington Division. *The Shield* takes place in a tough, morally ambiguous world in which the line between right and wrong is crossed every day and the road to justice is twisted. Focus is on the tension between a group of corrupt but effective cops and a captain torn between bringing them down and advancing his own political ambitions. An arresting 7 season, 63-hour collection!

THE STEVE COOGAN COLLECTION (14-DVD) BBC

This holiday season comedy fans everywhere can celebrate the true comic craftsmanship of Steve Coogan! From alter egos Alan Partridge to Duncan Thickett and from Pauline Calf to Tommy Saxondale, Coogan's outrageous, perfectly observed comic alter egos have provided many of the funniest moments on British TV. The boxed set has well-known Coogan masterpieces *Knowing Me, Knowing You with Alan Partridge*, *I'm Alan Partridge* and *Saxondale*, plus comic gems as *Dr. Terrible's House of Horrible*, *Coogan's Run*, *The Tony Ferrino Phenomenon* and more. 30 hours of comic relief!

NATALEE HOLLOWAY (DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Ent.

Lifetime movie, *Natalee Holloway* captures the real life story of a mother's tireless search for truth and justice after her teenage daughter's disappearance. During a class trip to Aruba, a carefree night out with friends it all turned tragic for Natalee Holloway. When the Alabama teenager disappears without a trace, her island vacation becomes a harrowing nightmare for her family. With no clue as to her whereabouts, her mother Beth Holloway Twitty, portrayed by Tracy Pollan's powerful performance, is launched into a frustrating search that spans more than four years. Along with her husband George (Grant Show) and her best friend Carol (Catherine Dent), Beth struggles to uncover the truth. (1 hr. 27 mins.)

SPREAD (DVD)

Anchor Bay Ent.

Spread is a look at the trials and tribulations of sleeping your way to a life of privilege in L.A. Nikki (Ashton Kutcher) is a fun-loving, freeloading hipster who understands his greatest assets are his looks and sexual prowess. Nikki gets a free place to live, fantastic gifts, A-list access, and plenty of sex. The women get to feel young, beautiful, and utterly fulfilled in the bedroom. The bottom line, it is a mutually beneficial set-up. His latest conquest, Samantha (Anne Heche), a stunning middle-aged lawyer gives Nikki more than he's ever had before. But when Heather (Margarita Levieva), a gorgeous waitress playing the same game, catches his eye, their lifestyles force a choice between love and money. Nikki has to decide if he can live on his own once and for all in the hopes of finding something real. (1 hr. 37 mins.)

**NOW
PLAYING**

UPTOWN & DOWNTOWN



Museum of Fine Arts Holiday Special, Wednesday-Sunday, December 2-6. Ring in this season with a host of free and fun family activities, festive decorations, lively music, and Shop savings. Marvel at a gingerbread replica of Copley Square, celebrating the MFA's historic site as it appeared 100 years ago and as it looks today; enjoy captivating performances by the Boston Children's Chorus, the Bob Christopherson Holiday Jazz Trio, and college a cappella groups; classic family films; and free children's books and readings. For all five days, MFA members enjoy a 25% discount at the MFA Bookstore & Shop and online. All events FREE with Museum admission. Admission for children 17 and under is always free during non-school hours. Make the MFA part of your holiday tradition. Check out Special Events for more details.

THEATER

ZERO ARROW THEATRE
2 Arrow Street, Cambridge, MA
THE DONKEY SHOW - Now through January 2, 2010. The intoxicating international sensation that takes you behind the velvet ropes into a glittered wonderland of decadence, divas and disco, inspired by Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." For tickets or more info, you may call 617-547-8300 or visit the website at: www.AmericanRepertoryTheater.org.

COMEDIAN JOHN WITHERSPOON
- Saturday, December 5th at 7:00 PM. John Witherspoon is the outrageously funny, dog-catching dad in New Line Cinema's smash urban trilogy Friday, Next Friday and Friday After Next.

A CINDERELLA CHRISTMAS - Sunday, December 6th at 2:00 PM. The Kaleidoscope Theatre group from the University of Rhode Island is bringing the most economical show of the Christmas season. This show is perfect for a matinee family outing and is a definite must see holiday show. To purchase your tickets log on to www.thewilburtheatre.com or call Ticketmaster at: 1-800-745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

LOEB DRAMA CENTER
64 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA
HAMLETMACHINE - December 17th through December 20th. This story is a descent into unspoken fears and fantasies, a love story within an imagistic dreamscape. It explores the difficulties of transcending our own neuroses to make a human connection.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS - Now through January 3, 2010. This is a new musical for the whole family that is bursting with the sounds of R&B and Gospel which includes community, university and church choirs - this is a definite must see!!! For tickets and more information, please call: 617-547-8300 or log onto www.AmericanRepertoryTheater.org.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston, MA
MAMMA MIA - December 16, 17, 18 at 7:00 PM. December 19 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM and December 20 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM. If you love Abba or not, this musical will definitely be sure to delight all! Lose yourself in this fast paced, highly entertaining musical. It is bound to get you dancing and jumping out of your seats. For tickets call Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000 or log on to the website at www.ticketmaster.com.

EMERSON UMBRELLA CENTER FOR THE ARTS
40 Stow Street, Concord, MA
EBENEZER SCROOGE: A CHRISTMAS CAROL - December 11th through December 20th (nine performances only). This spiritually uplifting musical adaptation of the 1843 Charles Dickens' classic tells the story of the tight-fisted curmudgeon, Scrooge and his personal transformation. You won't want to miss this. For tickets please call: 877-746-9755 or online at www.NewLifeFineArts.org.

ROBINSON THEATRE
617 Lexington Street
Waltham, MA
IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME - 27TH EDITION - 2009. Ten Performances only! December 4 and 11th at 7:30 PM; December 5 and 12 at Noontime and 4:00 PM; December 6 and 13 at Noontime and 4:00 PM. The Living Nativity, Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, A Victorian Christmas on Boston Public Garden and much, much more. For tickets, call: 781-891-5600 or go online at: www.reagleplayers.com.

SANDERS THEATRE
45 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA
39TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS REVELS - December 11 through December 27th. Holiday carols and rounds for all to sing, lively morris dancing, a serious funny mummies play and much more. For tickets, times of the performances and other information, please call: 617-496-2222 or online at: www.revels.org.

NORTH SHORE MUSICAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE
466 Central St., Saugus, MA
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD - Sunday, December 20th at 2:00 PM. Kaleidoscope has been performing at both the South Shore Music Circus and Cape Cod Melody Tent for almost thirty years. Next summer Kaleidoscope will continue at the Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom with another monthly series. In early December you can also enjoy Kaleidoscope's Cinderella's Christmas at Boston's Wilbur Theatre! For more info visit the website: www.kaleidoscopechildrenstheatre.com, email Grouptixne@aol.com or call 1-781-230-3976 for reservations.

MUSIC

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston, MA
AN AFTERNOON OF VIOLIN MUSIC - Sunday, December 6th at 1:30 PM. Ray Chen, violinist who was the first prize winner in the 2009 Young

Artists Showcase will present the music of Tartini/Kreisler; Franc; Bach; and Wieniawski. For more information and tickets, please call: 617-278-5156 or visit: www.MuseumTix.com.

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY Forsyth Chapel
95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston, MA
The Borromeo String Quartet will present the works of Joseph Haydn on Sunday, December 13th at 2:00 PM. For more information and tickets, please call: 617-524-3354 or visit: www.foresthillstrust.org.

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER
136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA
AN EVENING WITH RICKIE LEE JONES, CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF "CHUCK E'S IN LOVE" - Sunday, December 6 at 7:00 PM - "An Evening With Rickie Lee Jones" Sunday, December 6 at 7:00 PM. 2009 marks the 30th anniversary of the dawn of Jones' storied recording career, which exploded in 1979 with her self-titled debut album and its top 10 hit, "Chuck E.'s in Love." Jones had an immediate impact on pop culture, enjoying the massive buzz of an indelible SNL appearance and an instantaneous *Rolling Stone* cover, all while winning a Grammy® for Best New Artist. Three decades' worth of acclaimed creative detours have ensued with both her singing and writing "voice" remaining, despite her pervasive and incalculable influence on two or three entire generations of singer/songwriters, among the most distinctive and instantly recognizable in music. For tickets log on to: Berklee Performance Center box office, at www.ticketmaster.com, all Ticketmaster outlets or by calling 800-745-3000. For more information, please call: 617-747-2261. Berklee Performance Center is wheelchair accessible.

Special Events

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BOSTON - REMIS AUDITORIUM
465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA
CHRISTMAS STORY - Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 1:00-2:25 PM. *Christmas Story (Joulutarina)* by Juha Wuolijoki (Finland, 2007, 83 min.). Not to be confused with the 1983 Bob Clark classic of the same name, this Scandinavian production is an earnest period fantasy about a man who became Santa Claus in myth and legend. In a remote Lapland village, after young Nikolas suffers a loss, the poor villagers band together to look after him. On Christmas Day each year, a different family takes Nikolas in, and to show his gratitude, he makes toys for each family's children. Over the years, his adoptive families become many and almost nearly every house has presents on Christmas morning. When the villagers suffer a catastrophic food shortage, they must send Nikolas away to work as an apprentice to the ill-tempered hermit carpenter, Isakki. Under his guidance, Nikolas creates even more wonderful toys and in half the time. He soon dons the suit that becomes his trademark and begins to deliver presents with the help of a team of reindeer. As the years pass and Nikolas ages, his beloved tradition is in danger of coming to an end, and it will take a miracle to save it. Winner of the Audience Award at the 2008 Sarastora Film Festival.

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET - Sunday, December 6, 2009 at 3:00-4:35 PM *Miracle on 34th Street* by George Seaton (1947, 96 min.). Doris Walker, the no-nonsense Macy's executive, hires Kris Kringle to play the Santa Claus in the store. Kris proves a sensation and is quickly recruited as Santa at the main Macy's outlet. While he is successful, Doris learns that Kris often claims himself to be the actual Santa Claus. Despite reassurances by Kringle's doctor that he is harmless, Doris has misgivings, yet, people - especially her daughter Susan - begin to notice something special about Kris. After a psychologist finds him mentally incompetent, however, he is forced to seek treatment. All seems lost until Doris' friend, Fred Gaily, reassure Kris of his worth and agrees to represent him in the fight to secure his release. What ensues is a bizarre hearing in which people's beliefs are and put to the test. This film received four Academy Award Nominations, including Best Picture, and eventually won three Awards, including Best Original Story, Best Screenplay, and Best Supporting Actor. "You want the spirit of Christmas? It's all right here" (Christopher Null, *Filmcritic.com*). Please call 617-267-9300 or log onto www.mfa.org for more information.

CUTLER MAJESTIC THEATRE AT EMERSON COLLEGE
219 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
CHRISTMAS CELTIC SOJOURN 2009 - December 13 and 17-20, 2009 - WGBH Presents a Christmas Celtic Sojourn 2009. Presented by WGBH, A Christmas Celtic Sojourn brings dynamic musical and dance performances from around the world center stage for a truly unique experience that embodies the warmth of the holiday spirit. Tickets available through Cutler Majestic Theatre Box Office: Telecharge, 1-800-233-3123 or www.broadwayoffers.com.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
LOWELL LECTURE SERIES - Now through April 2010. Travel the world without leaving Boston. Lecturers include Paul Theroux Frances Mayes and Alexander McCall Smith. All lectures to be held in the Rabb Lecture Hall. All lectures are free and open to the public. Please visit: www.bpl.org/news/lowell.htm

BOSTON'S SOUTH END (between 460 Harrison Avenue and Albany Street)
NEW HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE IN SOWA FEATURES DIVERSE SELECTION OF ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES - THE SOWA ANTIQUES AND VINTAGE HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE will be open the first three weekends in December on Thayer Street. The Marketplace will coincide with the SoWa Winter Lights Celebration, which will include festivities around the many galleries and retailers in the area. There will be singing and dancing and a spectacular light show. The Marketplace will be open December 4th, 5th and 6th, the 11th, 12th and 13th and the 18th, 19th and 20th. The Marketplace hours will be Friday from 4:00 to 9:00 PM, Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. There is free parking on Albany Street next to the Marketplace. For more info visit www.sowaantiquesmarket.com.

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM
Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA
HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: MERRIMACK VALLEY RINGERS - Saturday, December 5th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Listen to the brilliant sounds of the Merrimack Valley Ringers, a New England handbells and handchimes ensemble accompanied by flute, keyboard and percussion as they perform sacred and secular holiday music.

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: MASTER SINGS TO GO - Sunday, December 6th from 2:00-3:00 PM. This program celebrates holiday favorites.
HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: ASSABET VALLEY CHAMBER SINGERS - Saturday, December 12th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Join us for a performance by a small ensemble who will perform holiday songs.

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR - Sunday, December 13th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Listen to the magical blend of soft and powerful voices of these choirs as they perform traditional Christmas tunes.

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: THE ALL-SAINTS CHOIRS - Sunday, December 20th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Enjoy one of Worcester's cultural treasures as they perform joyous holiday music. For more information call: 508-799-4406 or visit: www.worcesterart.org.

ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ITALIAN RADIO
"The Sicilian Corner" 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and "The Italian Show" w/Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10AM to 1PM www.1110wccmam.com
"Italia Oggi" (Italy Today) Sundays 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM www.1460WXB.R.com
"Dolce Vita Radio" DJ Rocco Mesiti 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Sundays. 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com
"The Nick Franciosa Show" - Every Sunday at 12 Noon to 3:00 PM on radio stations WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM.
"Guido Oliva Italian Hour" 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM every Sunday on WSRO 650AM Framingham and online at www.wsro.com.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston, MA
PUPO E I MAGNIFICI 7! - Friday, December 11, 2009 at 8:00 PM. Straight from RAI Television Show will be performing "Ti Lascio Una Canzone" A portion of the net proceeds will go to the Sicilian Association of Greater

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE
310 Washington St., Boston, MA
THE ANNUAL REENACTMENT OF THE BOSTON TEA PARTY - Sunday, December 13th. This reenactment is open to the public and audience members are invited to choose sides - Patriot or Loyalist - and lend their support for or against the tariff. For more info, call: 800-838-3006 or www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org.

HARD ROCK CAFÉ BOSTON
22-24 Clinton St., Boston, MA
HARD ROCK CAFÉ BOSTON HOSTS ROCK-N-ROLL BENEFIT FOR AUTISM AWARENESS - Saturday, December 12th starting at 7:00 PM. This event will feature live music by Boston-based band SLIP KID. This event will also include a silent auction with proceeds benefiting Autism Speaks, the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization. For tickets and other information, please call: 617-424-7625.

ARTS

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem, MA
REVISIONS: INDIAN ARTISTS ENGAGING TRADITIONS - Now through Spring of 2010. Come see how some of today's leading artists reinterpret traditional use of color, composition and subject. This unique exhibition pairs some of the finest works from PEM's world renowned contemporary Indian Art collection with rare works from the Harvard Art Museum.

RARE BIRD OF FASHION: THE IRREVERENT IRIS APFEL - Now through February 7, 2010. This exhibit features more than 80 dramatic ensembles from the personal collection of legendary tastemaker and style icon Iris Apfel. She is known for her designer clothing and exotic baubles.

TRASH MENAGERIE - Now through May, 2010. This exhibit presents over 30 whimsical animals created from things most of us simply throw away. For example: A luminous moth made from piano keys and pottery shards. For more information, call 866-745-1876 or

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA
HARRY CALLAHAN, AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER - Now through July 3, 2010. This exhibition features intimate portraits, scenes of Urban Life and the Natural Landscape. There are a collection of approximately 40 photographs that survey the major visual themes of this artist's career. For more information, please call: 617-369-3445 or visit: www.mfa.org.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
100 Northern Ave., Boston, MA
KRZYSZTOK WODICZKO - Now through March 7, 2010. In a new projection-based work, Krzysztof focuses on the experience of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. A must see.

RONI HORN AKA RONI HORN - February 19, 2010 through June 13, 2010. Using a variety of materials including pure pigment, 24 carat gold, color photographs, and cast glass, Horn creates immensely beautiful and sensuous works. For more information call: 617-478-3100 or visit the website at: www.icaboston.org.

Boston, initiator of INSIEME (Uniti per Messina), INSIEME prefaces its scope to bond the solidarity of Italian Communities present in this area in collaboration to render genuine action for this cause, in favor of the victims of the devastating mudslides in Messina, Sicily. For tickets please call Ticketmaster at 1-800-982-2787 or www.ticketmaster.com.

SAHARA CLUB
34 Bates Street, Methuen, MA
FERDI ARGENTI'S ITALY IN SONG - December 11, 2009. A history of Italian song through the ages. Italian pop songs from the 20th century with a touch of jazz, "Popera" a la Andrea Bocelli, duets and a few classic Neapolitan songs performed by Ferdinando Argenti, Angela Rossi and David Landolin. Bring all your good music loving family and friends for a wonderful Italian music evening! Tickets may be purchased by calling 1-978-683-9200. Parking is available. Italian and international food and drinks. Check out www.interjazz.com/argenti or www.angelarossimusic.com or www.davelandoni.com.

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

So begins another month and the last month of the year. Well, have you done some of your Christmas shopping? Of course, you haven't forgotten me! Seriously, December is a month of obligations such as sending out Christmas cards, purchasing Christmas gifts, decorating the interior and exterior of your home, decorating the Christmas tree, etc.

Giuseppina, la coscia sorta, suddenly said that after the Christmas holidays most of us are way behind on our bills, but way ahead on our calories.

The astute Rosalie Cunio of Waltham thinks how wonderful holidays would be if there wasn't the day after!

So what's new? Smoking has plunged 26 percent among lower-income smokers in Massachusetts, after two years of an unusual state program targeting tobacco use. Patients enrolled in the state's MassHealth insurance program received free counseling and medications to help them stop smoking. Anti-smoking advocates said the results suggest that expanding the Massachusetts program nationwide could save tens of thousands of lives. "These findings are extraordinary," said Matthew Myers of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. "They have major public-health implications as Congress is debating health-care reform."

Tom Analetto of Medford suggests another way to stop the smoking habit is always to light the filter end of the cigarette.

Bella Culo of Chestnut Hill says, "Don't smoke in bed if you don't want to make an ash of yourself."

Yes, we were once a smoker! After suffering a mild heart attack, my cardiologist suggested I smoke a pipe. My dear wife, Marilyn, said he was wrong and she tried and tried to have me give up smoking a pipe. Smoking a pipe would also turn out to be stupid of me. We wound up with a triple by-pass, etc. Enough said.

Must admit, we are in love with the former Alaska governor and 2008 vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin. We do admire her spunk and intelligence. Be aware, Palin's new book, *Going Rogue* is juicy reading! We are predicting she will probably run for the White House in 2010. She has my vote! It's time for a woman to "manage" our nation. Remember, women make better managers than men! As you well know, none of us would be here if it wasn't for our mothers. Yes, a woman!

Scoop! Florida's Brevard County voted to exclude horses from its pooper-scooper law. "To stop a 1,000-pound animal, get off, hold it while you try and put the poop in a bag is just not a good idea," horse owner Wanetta Dyer told commissioners. Anthony DiPrizio of the North End reminds us a racehorse is the only creature that can take thousands of people for a ride at the same time. And Ralph DeAmato also from the North End, says horses are what more people bet on than get on.

Ah, the guys from Boston's historical and congenial North End! We had the pleasure of meeting some of them at the 12th Annual Community Service Awards Banquet at the popular Tecce's Restaurant. And the illustrious North Enders we met were Anthony Bocchino, Ralph DeAmato, Galen Lewis, Bob Caggiano, Rudy Sibilio and Joe Ciccarello. All of the personable guys were wearing VFW uniforms graced with their military service ribbons. Thanks for making me feel right-at-home! Ah, the North End! America's famous Little Italy.

Mother Superior Frances Fitzgerald reports, to combat swine flu, an Italian inventor has devised a touch-free holy water dispenser. The dispenser works like an automatic soap dispenser, squirting out a stream of holy water when one of the faithful waves his or her hand under a sensor. "People initially were a bit shocked," said Father Pierangelo Motta, but "have gotten used to it." With the fears of contracting the H1N1 virus rising, inventor Luciano Marabese says people are afraid to dip their hands in communal fonts. "I have received orders from all over the world," he said.

Be aware, politicians in Ireland are allowed to take out print ads to promote themselves or their political party during campaign season, but TV and radio spots have always been banned because of the "particular power of the broadcast medium." That may soon change! Stay tuned.

Did you know, in China, 10th-graders do an average of 20 hours of homework a week — twice as much as American students do? Literacy there has soared to 90 percent, 4 points higher than in the U.S.

Huh? Nearly 30% of Americans say the Recession has strained or ruined their marriages or relationships, compared to 23% of Canadians, 24% of the French, and 12% of Germans.

Kids, physicians worry that kids who consume juice in large quantities develop a lasting sweet tooth; the American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends that young children drink no more than one 4-to-6-ounce serving of juice per day and older kids no more than two. While a tall glass of OJ does contain important nutrients, such as vitamin C and potassium, a growing number of health experts say its value is more than offset by the high levels of fructose — a simple natural sugar — that juice contains.

Time to hear from Albert Natale, the distinguished musicologist and show business know-it-all with some questions and answers. In what film did actress Dorothy Lamour first don a sarong? In her first movie *The Jungle Princess*. What two Frank Sinatra movie thrillers did Ole Blue Eyes own and ordered shelved for years because of their frightening political themes? *The Manchurian Candidate*, made in 1962, and suddenly, made in 1954 — both of which dealt with political assassinations. What actress changed her name to avoid seeking fame and fortune as Sarah Jane Fuls? Jane Wyman. The mother of what famous European actress once won a Greta Garbo look-alike contest and a trip to Hollywood to work as Garbo's double? Sophia Loren. But her mother never made the trip because her own mother (Sophia's grandmother) wouldn't let her. What was the last line ever spoken by Marilyn Monroe on the silver screen? "How did you find your way back in the dark?" The line, said to Clark Gable, came at the end of the 1961 film *The Misfits*. She died in 1962. And what famous American acting family has a town in New York named after it — thanks to an ancestor who settled there in the seventeenth century? The Fondas. Their ancestors emigrated from Italy to the Netherlands in the fifteenth century, and two centuries later one of their descendants — Douw Fonda sailed to America and settled in upstate New York. As you can readily note, the Fondas are Italians.

How to get some shut-eye! People who have trouble sleeping might be tempted to ask for prescription pills straight away. Instead, try herbal remedies, hot baths, and other non-pharmaceutical solutions first. Do not drink a nightcap! Alcohol, in the end, is not very helpful. Although it initially helps some people "conk out," studies say. Try to stick to a sleep schedule as much as possible. It's important to get to bed at approximately the same time each night, and keeping "a set rising time" is crucial to avoid fatigue and insomnia. That's why sleeping in on weekends actually does more harm than good.

Personally speaking, we do not have any problem falling asleep! We read in bed! And then we think of the night we stood on guard duty during a blizzard in Belgium in World War II. It was the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. There we stood whipped by winds and snow and freezing our butts off! All we thought about was, being back home, sleeping in our bed!

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME



Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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MAMA'S RICOTTA CHEESE GNOCCHI (Pasta)

3 cups unbleached flour (preferably King Arthur or Gold Medal)
1 beaten egg
1 teaspoon salt
1 pound ricotta whole milk cheese
4 quarts boiling salted water.

In a bowl mix ricotta cheese, beaten eggs and salt. Add flour gradually to the mixture, mixing by hand, until dough is soft. Remove dough from bowl and place dough on a floured pastry board to knead. If dough sticks to your fingers or hands, add a little flour and continue kneading until the dough is soft, smooth and pliable.

Cut and roll portions into long 8- or 10-inch rolls of about one-inch thickness. Place in bowl and cover. Taking one roll at the time, flatten roll **slightly** with your hand or a rolling pin. Cut into one-inch portions. With index and middle fingertips, press into each piece of dough and roll fingers forward in the dough. This will curl the dough into gnocchi. Continue until all dough is used.

For cooking gnocchi, boil about 4 quarts of salted water. After dropping gnocchi into the boiling water, stir and cover. Watch carefully because water boils over quickly. Gnocchi will float to the top as they cook. They cook rapidly. Check for consistency desired. Drain and place in a bowl. Add your tomato sauce and serve.

Serves four.

NOTE: I love the memories of watching my parents make homemade macaroni in our home. They didn't seem to have a written recipe. It was all stored in their minds. Through the years, I decided their recipes should be written out. I watched Mama measure out the flour, add the water or beaten eggs and all the necessary ingredients for gnocchi. Papa kneaded the dough. Mama always took out her extra-long wooden rolling pin when the dough had to be rolled into thin round portions before Papa could fold it and then cut it into linguine. For gnocchi, Papa cut up the dough after kneading it. Mama, with her fingers, patiently formed the small portions of cut-up dough into gnocchi. Before my brother Peter and I knew it, the homemade macaroni was ready to serve at noontime for Sunday dinner. They always made it seem that it was such a pleasure serving homemade macaroni, and it was!

Vita can be reached at voswriting@comcast.net

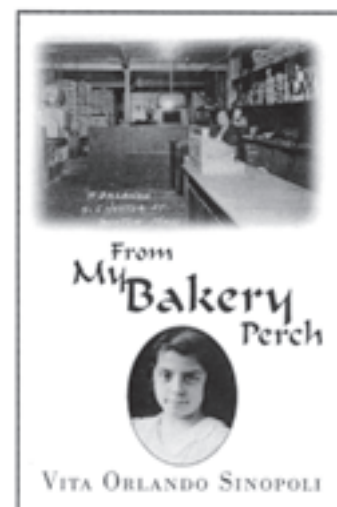
• Food + Fuel (Continued from Page 2)

"Kill-A-Watt" helps reduce energy bills by tracking usage by the Killowatt hour, the same standard used by National Grid or NStar.

The Mayor's Food + Fuel Campaign held a summit in September that featured workshops on home weatherization, financial planning, and healthy food purchasing. Residents also received information about food and fuel assistance programs. Last month, Citizens Bank donated \$100,000 to the Campaign to help low-income residents cope with food and fuel needs. The City also joined forces with the Black Ministerial Alliance, which supports shelters and emergency food programs

that provide heating and fuel assistance.

In addition to assisting residents with food needs through the Food + Fuel Campaign, the City has been collecting food and raising funds for hunger and hunger relief through the 23rd Annual Boston Can Share Food Drive, which has received donations from City residents, employees, public schools, local businesses and community partners since the beginning of November. All food goes to the Greater Boston Food Bank and is distributed to more than 100 food pantries, shelters and free meal programs in Boston's neighborhoods.



1st Generation
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Vita Orlando Sinopoli
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of her memories as a child
growing up in
Boston's "Little Italy"
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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Before DJs came into the picture, Christmas season meant lots of work for the musicians in my family. When I was young, and Babbononno was still playing guitar and drums, he booked in Christmas get-togethers with his small group, specializing in Italian music for listening and dancing. Uncles Paul, Nick and my father played with the name bands in Boston and would fill their date books with all kinds of Christmas work.

Uncle Paul played with a particular group of musicians that specialized in a Dixie-land sound. Uncle Nick worked for society band leaders and was often found at Boston's best hotel ballrooms and function rooms. Dad, during the day, played with a trio at Santa's Village, set up during the holiday season at the Jordan Marsh Department Store. At night, he played private parties either with his own band or other bands in and around Boston.

As a child, I accompanied my father to the musicians' union every Monday, the traditional meeting day. Musicians would congregate at the union hall and socialize. While doing so, they would book in work offered them by booking agents and band leaders. As a result of my accompanying him, I became familiar with everyone Dad dealt with.

When I was in my late teens, I turned professional, having studied bass violin with my father and a couple of other teachers in Boston. At age 18, I began playing with bands other than the local musicians in my neighborhood. This new opportunity afforded me the luxury of paying my own way through college, something that seems impossible for a young person today. When it was my turn to join the ranks of union musicians with my father and uncles, I was told what was necessary to look the part. Back then, you wore a tux for every job you played.

Dad and Uncle Nick brought me to Lebow Brothers, a men's clothier located on Washington Street across from Raymonds. They had catered to the musicians of

Boston for decades and special prices were in order, especially for a musician just starting out. The tailors measured me up, down and sideways. They outfitted me with a shawl collar tux that looked tailor made once they finished the alterations. Included were a couple of pleated formal shirts, a pair of suspenders, a cummerbund, and a couple of bow ties, one tie-it-yourself type and the other a clip on. I had been renting a bass violin from Rayburn Music on Huntington Avenue, but Dad insisted that it was time I own my own instrument. He found a bass player who was leaving town and had an extra bass for sale. For \$75.00, I became the owner of my own instrument, bass, bass cover, bow and rosin.

I know that Dad did a bit of hard bargaining with the owner, because even back then, that was a small amount of money for a good instrument which that bass was and is. (I still own it, 53 years later.)

Of course, Babbononno had to put his stamp of approval on my appearance. He added that I also needed patent leather dress shoes to compliment my new tux and I found a pair for around \$20.00 in the men's department of Filene's Basement. When I dressed for him to pass judgment, he told me I needed a bass bib so my tux wouldn't get shiny on one side. Nanna immediately made me one for my new instrument. To add to my image, Babbononno had a bottle of violin polish which he used to shine the wood of my bass. When all was said and done, I was ready to become the 3rd generation musician in the Contini/Christoforo family.

One thing about the Christmas season in those days, every musician who wanted to work, found employment. During most of the year, there were levels of musicians: great, good, pretty good, fair and don't hire him unless you have to fill up space. No one knew what my talent level was and the only thing that got me the work was the last name and my relationship to Uncles Paul and Nick. Both

they and Dad had reputations of being among the best in Boston.

That first week as a professional, I was hired to play Christmas parties at many of Boston's hotels. Fortunately, I had memorized the music of the day, hundreds of tunes that were from the decades from the 20s to the, then, present time. This meant that I knew the right notes to play as a rhythm musician. I say this because there were several singers who owned bass violins. They weren't good musicians but always worked because they could sing. I couldn't and still can't sing. So, I had to sell myself as a good bass player.

Things went well that December. I worked almost every afternoon and night, playing Christmas and dance music for party goers. Many of the sets we would play were fifteen minutes long and we would switch from one tune to another. Often, the leader didn't even mention what we were going to play. He would hold up a certain amount of fingers that indicated the key we were to play in, and within 2 measures, we were in that new key awaiting the beginning of the tune. I guess I held my own as I became a popular sideman.

The only problem I had was the fingers on my left hand. My calluses needed to be more seasoned and I wound up with blood blisters causing me to have to play with adhesive tape protecting them, but I survived. Back then, we used gut strings. Today they are almost all metal. The gut and soft fingers didn't go well together and I suffered through that baptism of fire that Christmas season.

Well, that was the beginning for me. Dad, my uncles and especially Babbononno were proud of my accomplishments. I had held my own and was on my way.

My only problem was a car. I had to rely on musicians who lived nearby or friends to drive me to work and pick me up. The following summer, I was able to afford a 4 year old Chevy. I had to try to fit the bass in the car before I could even think of buying it. When I tried the bass inside the Chevy, it fit with no problem. I was on my way.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

• The Socially Set (Continued from Page 9)



Mamma Mia!, the smash hit musical based on the songs of ABBA, returns to Boston's Colonial Theatre December 15-27. (No performance on December 25.) Seen by more than 40 million people around the world, Mamma Mia! is currently playing a record-breaking engagement on its National Tour. For information, please visit www.broadwaycrossamerica.com/boston

(Photo of cast member Michelle Dawson by Carol Rosegg)

North Bennet Street School offers full-time courses in Bookbinding, Cabinet and Furniture Making, Carpentry and Preservation Carpentry, Jewelry Making and Repair, Locksmithing, Piano Technology, and Violin Making and Repair. In each program, highly skilled instructors teach students in small classes, sharing their knowledge and talent. Students graduate with the proficiency of well qualified professionals in their cho-

sen trade or craft.

In addition to full-time programs, North Bennet Street School offers intensive short-term workshops which are open to the public. Professional and beginning craftspeople work side-by-side to strengthen their technical understanding and develop new skills in an environment that is challenging and supportive. North Bennet Street School is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Career Schools and Colleges of Technology.

"A Dedication to Craft" is included free with Concord Museum admission and is on view through March 21, 2010. Hands-on activities are incorporated into the galleries to enhance learning for adults and children, and a full calendar of public programs will be offered throughout the run of the exhibition.

According to Ms. Haines, "Winter afternoons are the perfect opportunity to come to the Concord Museum. Visit for the first time or revisit favorite galleries." On three upcoming Sundays, January 10, 17 and 24, there will be free admission from 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

For more information, call 978-369-9763 or visit www.concordmuseum.org.

Enjoy!
(Be sure to visit Hilda Morrill's gardening Web site, www.bostongardens.com. In addition to events covered and reported by the columnist, "The Socially Set" is compiled from various other sources such as news and press releases, PRNewswire services, etc.)

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NEWS BRIEFS

(FROM ITALIAN
NEWSPAPERS AND
OTHER PUBLICATIONS)

Compiled by Orazio Z. Buttafuoco

AUSTERITY ENTERS THE QUIRINALE. The well-known 'Quirinale Palace' was once the Palace of the Italian Kings, but now, in Republican times, it is the official residence of the President, Giorgio Napolitano. President Napolitano, a middle-class man, knows how to be thrifty. On a serious campaign to cut expenses he has already reduced the palazzo's expenses by 80,000 euro (@ \$1.4 mil.) and reduced the man-hour work of his special Corp, the Corazzieri, the President's guards, by 37 men. The expenses are still high. In the current year 2009, the cost of running the 'palazzo' is budgeted at 231 million euro (@ \$305 mil.). The high cost is due to the elevated cost of the pensions of the well-paid personnel, which accounts for 1/3 of the entire budget. If we compare the cost of the Italian Presidency with similar foreign 'palazzi, other nations spend less. However, the cost of the pension must be added to the cost of administering the enormous presidential patrimony, as the former Royal Estate, as well as the artistic, naturalistic and historical patrimony. One of the large Real Estate properties is the 'San Rossore Estate', near Pisa (Toscana Region), which is in the process of being transferred to the Toscana Region. The yearly management cost of 'San Rossore' is 4 million euro (@ \$5.35 mil.). By the way, there is a horse race track at 'San Rossore' which yours truly once visited while studying at the University of Pisa. Since becoming President, Giorgio Napolitano has cut the 'presidential budget by more than 6 million euro (@ \$8 mil.). Other presidential (Royal) costs (abroad) are lower. The British Court spends less. The cost of the retiring personnel, however, continues to grow. This year the increase is about 2.59% and will reach 33.62% to the overall presidential budget.

THE MILAN TATTOO CONVENTION 2009. More than 12,000 visitors from all over Italy and from many parts of the world recently enjoyed a tattoo convention held in Milano, Italy. Many of the visitors left after checking the various stands, with a tattoo on their bodies. The 14th Milano Convention was considered a great success both in the number of visitors as well as in business activities by world famous tattoo artists. To make the event memorable, a Miss Pin-Up contest was held. However, what raised the enthusiasm of most visitors was the originality of the composition of a tattoo as well as the part of the body chosen. A girl had a tiger tattooed on her back, while standing on a rock by a waterfall. There are in Italy 1200 tattoo studios where highly creative tattoos are the mark of skilled tattoo artists. Of course, in addition to ever evolving forms of tattoos there is also another aspect of a still widely used art: the body piercing art, another form of body art expression. Is there anything else that is new in tattooing? Stay tuned!

• Editorial (Continued from Page 3)

only twice. The word "penalty" and its various forms 163 times, but "liberty" does not appear at all. The word "require" and its forms 1,025 times, but the "Constitution" is absent both literally and figuratively. The word "tax" and its forms appears 183 times, fee 234 times and "Internal Revenue" 104 times.

According to *newsmax.com*. — This is the first time in the 225-year history of our country that we have forced you as a constituent to buy a product. You have been free to buy or not to buy, but now for the first time you are going to have to buy health insurance. In addition, if you do not buy it, the IRS is going to tax the family \$1,500.

Since the very outset regarding penalties being imposed, I have questioned whether they could pass con-

stitutional muster.

When asked to respond if the provision is constitutional, Senator Grassley said: "I am not a lawyer but I have listened to some lawyers speak on this. I don't think we've ever had this issue before of having to buy something, and a lot of constructional lawyers are saying it is unconstitutional, or at least a violation of the Tenth Amendment."

That amendment provides that powers not granted to the federal government nor prohibited to the states "are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Grassley continued: "Maybe states can do this, but can the federal government do it? I have my doubts.

In conclusion, Crown Jewels will be enacted: net result, the first nail in the coffin of Obama's Marxist regime.

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

FREE T FOR ALL?

Republican Senate hopeful Jack E. Robinson who is running against State Senator Scott Brown for the GOP nomination in the race for the late Ted Kennedy's vacant seat is suggesting a massive MBTA bailout as part of a proposal to make all public transit nationwide free. Says Robinson, "The government put \$185 billion into (troubled lender) AIG. That would fund the T for 40 years (so). There is money to be used smartly and intelligently." Robinson recently pushed his plan at Park Street MBTA station and to no one's surprise, everyone loved it. One commuter went so far as to say, "Free is great." The free T plan would work if the Feds kicked in \$453 million a year to offset the lack of fares. The candidate is also proposing a bullet train between Springfield and Boston along the MassPike which would travel 180 mph which means by the time you find your seat, you're getting ready to head for the exit door. I'm surprised he's not supporting a bullet train between Somerville and Downtown Boston. The train would run so fast, you'd get there before you left. File these ideas curbside on trash day.

I THOUGHT IT WAS GRASS

A cow might jump over the moon but who would have thought it would dive into a pool. A cow in Spartanburg, South Carolina apparently thought a green pool cover was a field of grass, went for a snack and fell through. It took five guys from the rescue squad to get the 650 pound cow back to dry land.

TOBIN SEEKS END TO KING MAKING

Boston City Councilor John Tobin's idea of preventing Boston mayors from stepping down mid-term and passing the office to the City Council, the same way Mayor Tom Menino took office in 1993 when Mayor Ray Flynn went off to the Vatican. City Councilor John Tobin from West Roxbury says, "I want to eliminate the pay-for-play system and preferential treatment." Under his proposal, the City Clerk would serve as Acting Mayor but would be barred from running for the office. He also has filed an order to add curtains to polling booths to restore privacy. In the old days, with those large machines, there was far more privacy. Tobin's one hundred percent correct on curtains.

MIKE BELLOTTI STAYING PUT AS SHERIFF

Norfolk County Sheriff Michael Bellotti has decided not to run statewide for the State Auditor post in the 2010 state elections. He will focus instead on seeking a third term as sheriff. Bellotti a former state representative from Quincy was elected sheriff in 1998 when he defeated Republican Jack Flood. With Bellotti out of the picture in the auditor's race and with Auditor Joe DeNucci retiring, there will definitely be a political scramble put in

motion to fill the seat in the election next year. Mentioned already are: Suzanne Bump, a former Braintree state rep now the Secretary of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development in the Patrick Administration, Worcester County Sheriff Guy Glodis and Republican Mary Connaughton, a MassPike board member who has already announced her intentions.

COVER GOES BEYOND THE PALE AS IN PALIN?



Remember back in 1988 when the first President Bush selected Dan Quayle as his running mate? The media had a field day with him. Ridiculing him at every turn seemingly. First, his misspelling of the word "potato," Quayle spelled "potatoe." Then, there was his speech before the United Negro College Fund. He said, "A mind is a terrible thing to lose." He meant "to waste." Simple mistakes that were glorified by the media. They diluted everything he said or did.

Since John McCain selected Sarah Palin as his running mate last year, the media has done likewise to her. It is a mean-spirited ridicule that would never have been targeted at a liberal public person.

The November 21 issue of *Newsweek* is a perfect example of this constant liberal attack on prominent conservatives.

The magazine put a cheesecake-like shot of her on the cover. The photo shows a leggy Palin posing in running shorts alongside the headline: "How do you solve a problem like Sarah?"

The photo was snapped for *Runner's World* magazine which profiled the former VP candidate and avid runner back in August.

The media apparently doesn't like all the attention she is garnishing with her new nonfiction book, "Going Rogue."

Newsweek defended the cover photo. Editor Jon Meacham stated, "We chose the most interesting image available to us to illustrate the theme of the cover. *Runner's World* said they never gave *Newsweek* the photo.

Obviously, the photo was used because it drew attention to Palin's, well I stop here with that point. Palin thinks the cover is sexist and over the line. Palin is right on in her response.

Good job to *The Boston Herald's* Mediabliz columnist Jessica Heslam. However, right under her column on the Media Today page (November 19) is a short story by Jay Fitzgerald concerning Comcast which is offering more on-demand programming. Players, post-game interviews and yes, the Celtics cheerleaders. What photo runs with this story? A pic of Paul Pierce or a photo of the cheerleaders dancing on the parquet? If you guessed Paul Pierce, guess again.

IT'S THE LEASE THEY CAN DO

You know the economy is still really bad when mortgage giant Fannie Mae has decided to let thousands of Americans who lose homes to foreclosures rent their properties back through a new "Deed for Lease" program. ... Foreclosures in the state jumped by nearly 30 percent between September and October. The Obama Administration has launched a program called Making Homes Affordable but it doesn't target the unemployed. Not to worry, US Representative Barney Frank is there for you. He's lobbying the US Treasury to lend money to jobless mortgage holders through a fund created from monies repaid after the Wall Street Bailout. Just remember Barney Frank stands BEHIND FANNIE MAE.

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• **News Briefs** (Continued from Page 1)

Breakfast at Scups

It's not exactly Breakfast at Tiffany's, but breakfast at Scups down by the waterfront is great. I stopped by recently for Sunday brunch which is another way of saying a late breakfast and the ambiance is cool, the prices are reasonable and the food is like Tony the Tiger always said, GRRRREAT!

Remembering the Urban Village

Fifty years ago, they tried to kill the West End by using eminent domain as a weapon of mass destruction. City government wanted the property as part of its plan to rebuild Old Boston into New Boston. Working class people pushed out to make way for luxury housing which once reminded folks on Storrow Drive that, "If you lived here, you'd be home now." Today, for some reason the West End still lives thanks to folks over at the West End Museum across the street from the Thomas P. O'Neill Federal Building and almost on the site of an old drinking spot named after a Mexican bandit. Remember Pancho Vila's? My good friends Jimmy Campano and Bruce Guarino are the mainstays behind keeping the memory of the neighborhood alive for future generations.

Campano tells *MetroBoston*, "I remember watching them clear out our house." Campano's family moved to Somerville and were among the 12,000 displaced. Today, Campano is also editor-publisher of The West Ender newspaper. As Campano now says "The last one out will have to shut the lights."

North End Holiday Stroll

Over 20 North End businesses will be participating in the 3rd Annual Buon

Natale Holiday Shopping Stroll. This annual event is organized by the North End Retailers Association to encourage residents to shop more often in the North End and to get to meet owners one on one. The stroll will take place Friday, December 4 from 7 until 11 pm. So go for that stroll and take some friends along for the walk.

Check Out Your Library

The North End Branch Public Library will be hosting a Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 5 from Noon until 3pm. Refreshments, raffle and Al Natale's Band. What more could you ask for than Mr. Christmas himself.

North End Christmas Fund Luncheon

The Annual North End Christmas Fund Luncheon to benefit local families and the elderly will be held on Thursday, December 10 at 12 noon at Joe Tecce's Restaurant Ballroom, 61 North Washington Street. Tickets are available at the North End Community Health Center and the Nazzaro Community Center.

Clean Streets

Committee Meeting

The next North End/Waterfront Residents Association Clean Streets Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15 at 7pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street. All residents are welcome to attend.

NEWNC Monthly Meeting

The North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council monthly meeting will be held on Monday, December 14 at 7pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street. All residents are welcome to attend.

• **Mayor's Column** (Continued from Page 1)

impossible to overemphasize the importance of legislation pending in the State House. In the final days of this year's legislative session, lawmakers in the Senate approved a bill that would give superintendents and school districts more authority to make immediate interventions in schools most in-need of improvement. I filed legislation to create innovative in-district schools that would provide the flexibility to try new ideas, such as longer days and collaboration with outside partners, in order to transform low-performing schools into choice schools.

The Senate bill grants superintendents the power to intervene before schools are labeled as chronically underperforming. Moreover, this legislation removes current restrictions on the establishment of Horace Mann schools, which will allow for the unimpeded creation of in-district charter schools with local funding and accountability.

When our State lawmakers return to session in January, it's imperative that they pass this bill — our children's futures depend on it. The Obama Administration is ready, with about \$400 million in "Race to the

Top" grants, to reward states that break away from the status quo and lay out ambitious yet achievable education reform plans. The deadline for applying for these funds is January 19, which means legislators have only a few weeks to pass reform that will keep Boston and Massachusetts on the cutting-edge of education. We must demand swift passage of education reform from state lawmakers in order to meet the deadline for receiving federal funds that will boost our students and our schools.

Some of the initiatives we've proposed are bold — demanding creativity, accountability, and above all, flexibility. To learn more about Dr. Johnson's five-year plan, visit www.bostonpublicschools.org/agenda. By aggressively pursuing these reforms, I'm confident that BPS will remain the model for urban schools in America. This is not a lofty goal, but rather our responsibility to our students. Education leaders in Washington have laid their cards on the table. Resources will be made available to school districts willing to break the mold for the good of our students. With our plan, we are well on our way.

EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani

What's Happened to the Baseball I Grew Up With?

Baseball has changed so much since when I was a kid in Roxbury, who would walk over to Fenway Park, pay 75¢ and sit in the bleachers. Back then, they had double headers for one ticket, that's like seeing a game for 37.5¢, wasn't it? Players made good money compared to the rest of working America, but salaries weren't obscene. Statistics meant something. Roger Maris hit 61 home runs in 1961 breaking Babe Ruth's old 60 homerun mark. However, because Ruth played in a season eight games shorter, Maris got that asterisk next to his name. Nearly 50 years ago, Major League Baseball tried to keep continuity with past records. The game had evolved, but there was one standard to go by.

Next week I'll talk about the 2009 Cy Young winners whose records were not Cy



Whitey Ford

Young worthy. The guy in the A.L. wins 16 games and the guy in the N.L. wins 15 games. Hey, back in 1968 the American League Cy Young winner was Denny McLain who won 31 games for the Tigers. When I think of Cy Young's, I think Whitey Ford who was 25-4 in 1961, Bob Gibson who had a 1.12 ERA with 28 complete games in 1968. I even think Roger Clemens who was 24-4 in 1986. How can you call a 15

or 16 game winner a Cy Young kind of pitcher?

Steroids isn't the only thing that hurt baseball and records. You can blame expansion to the point that many of today's players never should have left Triple A. I recently, came upon a 1995 *Sports Illustrated* that was published shortly after Mickey Mantle passed away. The cover had a great black and white photo of a young Mick and the headline read: "The Greatest Player that Ever Played on the Greatest Team that Ever Was."

Except for a handful of pitchers and sluggers today, there is nothing linking baseball in 2009 with baseball between 1959 and 1979. Back then, it wasn't all business, it was a sport with real winners and losers. Sadly, today's winners can't even stand up against yesterday's losers.

80 Border Street Cultural Center, East Boston Presents



Squeezebox Stompers

Squeezebox Stompers play Live at 80 Border Street Cultural Center East Boston on December 4, 2009, 8:00-10:00 PM.

Ralph Tufo with four Boston Music Awards and Larry Plitt as the 2007 winner of the Boston Folk Festival Songwriting Contest.



Dr. Youxin Yang, Ph.D.

Dr. Youxin Yang, Ph.D. **REMI PLATINUM AWARD WINNER** Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival 2007.

GRAND JURY AWARD WINNER, New York International Art Festival 2005.

Now through December 30, 2009. **Artist Reception December 5, 2009, 7pm-9pm.**

We hope you will join us for this special evening where Dr. Yang's painting will be on view and a portion of her film will be shown.

Youxin Yang, MD, PhD, is a Chinese painter as well as a doctor and award winning scientist. Dr. Yang's paintings have been exhibited internationally, including the Art Museum of Nanjing, China, Espace Richelieu in

Paris, France, and L'Essence Art Gallery in Boston, USA. She won the Grand Jury Award at the 2005 New York International Art festival, and her latest series of calligraphic paintings won Featured Member Artist at

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
PO Box 9667
Boston, MA 02114
Docket No. SU09P2557EA

In the Estate of
FRANCESCO PAULO BRUNO
A/K/A FRANK P. BRUNO
Late of BOSTON, MA 02128
Date of Death September 20, 2009

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed and that **VERONICA L. WALSH**, of Melrose, MA be appointed executrix, named in the will to serve Without Surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT BOSTON ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON **December 24, 2009.**

In addition, you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the Court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, **HON. JOHN M. SMOOT**,
First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 19, 2009
Richard Iannella, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/4/09

the March 2008 National Women's Caucus for Art (WCA) Featured Artist Competition. Dr. Yang, MD, PhD, is a filmmaker as well as a painter. In "Feuille," ("Leaf" in English) which Dr. Yang wrote, directed, and composed the score, she treats the tension of two women artists discovering each other and themselves through exploring culture and sexuality. The film won 24 awards worldwide, including Top (Platinum) Remi Award at the 37th WorldFest Houston and Best Drama in the New York International Film Festival. Dr. Yang's life is a dance between fields; in every action she strives for excellence, expression, and the means to uplift others. She balances herself between creation and insight, and her art reflects a yearning for beauty that is sometimes melodramatic and sometimes fragile and breathtaking.

New Work by Carmen Sasso - December 3-28, 2009 — **Opening Reception: Thursday, December 3, 2009 6-9 pm** Third Thursday Celebration: Thursday, December 17, 6 to 9 pm
More info: 617-569-3077 or www.altanticworks.org and 80borderstreet@gmail.com or 617-543-3326

LEGAL NOTICE

TO: OWNER OR OWNERS

B&B TOWING, 50-R MOONEY STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 617-492-5781 - FAX 617-492-8802 HAS HAD A 2000 SATURN SLI SILVER IN THEIR POSSESSION SINCE AUGUST 29, 2009. VIN #1G8JS52F7YY690141. IF YOU CAN SHOW PROOF OF OWNERSHIP PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ABOVE NUMBER, PLEASE ASK FOR MICHAEL SORRENTINO (OWNER) WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THIS AD, OR IT WILL BE SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

SUBMITTED BY
MICHAEL SORRENTINO
FOR
B&B TOWING
Run dates: 11/27/09, 12/4/09



CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.



Left to Right: Tough Battlers Irish Joey McCreedy battling it out with Otis "Triple OG" Griffin.

** The **Autumn Classic** at Twin Rivers in Lincoln, Rhode Island. CES Boxing and **Jimmy Burchfield** Fight Team, presented a great fight card. **Irish Joey McCreedy** 11-4-1, 6 KO's of Lowell, in the main event, was defeated by **Otis "Triple OG" Griffin** 21-6-2, 8 KO's of California. A tough, well fought battle by both. Both displayed exceptional talent this night. Do it again.



Left to Right: Masterful Boxer Danny O'Connor fights with James Hope.

In the semi, **Danny O'Connor** 10-0, 3 KO's Framingham defeated **James Hope**, in what I thought was a masterful display of Boxing ability; Sidestep, jab, jab, spin, right hand, cover, block, punch, combination, bing, bing, counter, in winning a very good six-round decision over a formidable **James Hope** 4-3.



Left to Right: Jaime "The Hurricane" Clampitt battles Rachel Clark.

Jaime "The Hurricane" Clampitt 20-4-1, 7 KO's a four-time World Champion, defeated **Rachel Clark** 4-3-1, in winning a six round decision.

Former college football player **Vladine Bioso** 5-0, 4 KO's, TKO'd **Jeffery Osborne** 8-15-2, 3 KO's in one round.

Joe "The Irish Bomber" Smith Jr. 2-0, 2 KO's New York, TKO'd **Brandon McGowen**



Jeffery Osborne and Vladine Bioso with his hands raised.



Left to Right: Maceo Crowder with CES Promoter Jimmy Burchfield.

in his pro debut. I thought that this was the best Kayo of the night.

The big boys in Heavyweight **Rashad Minor** 3-1, 3 KO's, Worcester, won by way of a KO in two over **Lance Gauch** 1-2, 1 KO.

Maceo Crowder now 1-0, 1 KO of Boston, prevailed in his professional debut, with a TKO in three rounds over **Duane King**.



Left to Right: Trainers and fighter Jim Capobianco, Joey "The Irish Bomber" Smith Jr., Phil Capobianco and Chris Canvona of New York.

Joe "The Irish Bomber" Smith is trained by the **Capobianco** Brothers, of New York. I spoke with **Phil Capobianco**, **Jim Capobianco** and **Jerry Capobianco** who are the brothers of tough **John Capobianco** of New York. I fought the tough talented **John Capobianco**, twice in my career, once in Brockton and the next in New York. John, and I spoke on the telephone this night and had a great conversation. Brother Phil, was a top fighter too. I believe that all of the Capobianco Brothers had successful Boxing careers.

CES presents; "**A Night of Comedy**," at Twin Rivers in Lincoln, Rhode Island, on December 5, 2009. There's **Joe Piscopo**, **Vince Pastore**, **Jason Cerbone**, **Armen Garo**, **Paul Nardizzi**, and **Reminisce**. **Jimmy Burchfield**, wanted me to make sure to acknowledge these many great Italian entertainers who are some of the best in the world. Call CES (401) 724-2253/2254 or Twin Rivers at (401) 877-82-RIVER, for tickets.

Manny Pacquiao 50-3-2, 38 KO's, Philippines, is the new World Welterweight Champion after his fight with Miquel Cotto. This was a great fight. **Jim Lampley**, **Larry Merchant** and, **Emanuel Stewart**, all did a great job as commentators, as they usually do. One of them said during the fight, "Manny is one of the best boxers, we've had of all time." I totally agree. The welterweight class has many of the other, best Boxers we've had of all time. A star-studded weight class with a list of great Champions; **Carmen Basilio**, **Tony DeMarco**, **Roberto Duran**, **Emil Griffith**, **Oscar De La Hoya**, **Tommy Hearns**, **Sugar Ray Leonard**, **Honey Mellody**, **Jimmy McLarin**, **Jose Napoles**, **Sugar Ray Robinson**, **Barney Ross**, **Fritzie Zivic**. That's a great list of Champions. Manny Pacquiao throws his punches in good combinations. He takes a good shot, and he punches well. He's got a good defense, and stays busy. Also, he's got a great Trainer/Cornerman in **Freddie Roach**. He is going to be a hard fighter to beat.

Sending our best to Boxer Family Members; **Auditor Joe DeNucci**, **Peter Marciano**, **Referee Dick Flaherty**, **Bobby Bolster**, **Bobby Bower**, **Dan Couco**, **Danny Long**, **Ted Sares**.

Prudential Tower Turns Red and Green with Holiday Excitement

New Lighting Scheme Promotes City Website Featuring Special Offers for Holiday Fun in the City

The City of Boston flipped the switch and turned the Prudential Tower red and green to showcase MayorsHolidaySpecial.com, the City's official holiday planning website featuring special offers for Boston's extensive restaurant, entertainment and shopping scene. In conjunction with the 31 Nights of Light program, the Prudential Tower will be illuminated in a different color every night this month to spotlight a great Boston cause.

"I invite residents and visitors to bring their families into the city to enjoy a show, holiday shopping, a festive meal, a stroll through the holiday lights, an overnight stay, and even a skate on The Frog Pond," said Mayor Menino.

"MayorsHolidaySpecial.com is the ticket to a great Boston experience and memories you'll cherish for a lifetime."

Julie Burns, Director of the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events attended the ceremony and was joined by representatives from ArtsBoston and The Shops at Prudential Center, sponsor of the 31 Nights of Light program.

"The Mayor's Holiday Special website is an amazing way to spread cheer this holiday season," said Julie Burns. "We thank the Prudential Tower for helping us spread the message in such a festive manner."

The Mayor's Holiday Special website now offers over 8,000 half-price tickets to Boston's favorite holiday events, showcases free and low-cost celebrations around the City, and features unique discounts for dining, shopping, overnight stays and parking. Online since October 15, the website will run until January 18, a month longer than previous years.

The City of Boston is also spreading holiday cheer by ensuring that no child is left without a Christmas present under the tree this holiday season. Through the "Toys for Tickets" campaign, drivers in the City can exchange parking tickets received between December 1 and December 3, for gifts under the

trees of underprivileged children. Drivers will have the option of resolving their ticket by providing a toy of equal or greater value than the fine on the ticket. Last year the 16-year-old campaign contributed over \$3,000 in toys to brighten Christmas morning for many Children throughout the city.

Mayor Menino wanted to ensure that the City of Boston has something to offer for everyone this year, and in doing so has opened up the city to great shopping, food, and places to meet.

The Downtown Crossing Holiday Market, a joint partnership between the Boston Redevelopment authority and the Boston Public Market, will be open now through December 24, Monday through Saturday from 11 AM to 7 PM and 12 PM to 6 PM on Sundays. Many of the local vendors have been invited to the Summer Street location to display their items each week in a tent that will be set up in Downtown Crossing. Items featured this year will include unique and local handcrafted jewelry, pottery, clothing and house wares in addition to holiday themed items and food.

Between the Macy's and the old Filene's Basement is where residents of Boston will find the spirit of Christmas come alive. In addition to the Downtown Crossing Holiday Market, live musical acts will be performing at the Macy's Performance Stage, also located on Summer Street, Monday through Sunday from 12 PM to 2 PM and again Sunday afternoon from 5 PM to 7 PM.

The *Holidays on Main Streets* campaign is designed to encourage residents to support local merchants through a series of neighborhood events and business-oriented activities that celebrate the holidays in historic Boston and highlight unique gifts and services that can be found in particular neighborhoods. A schedule of *Holidays on Main Streets* happenings will be distributed throughout all 19 Main Streets districts during the first week in December and posted to the Mayor's Holiday Specials website.

OCEANSIDE CAMPFIRES

Join the DCR Rangers and Staff for an oceanside campfire. Bring your family and friends. Enjoy a campfire, roast marshmallows, and warm up with hot chocolate.

Friday, December 4th, 5:00pm - 7:00pm ... Winthrop Beach. Meet at Winthrop Shore Drive at Ocean Avenue.

Friday, January 8th, 5:00pm - 7:00pm ... Nahant Beach. Meet at DCR parking lot near Dunkin Donuts & Tides Restaurant.

Friday, February 5th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm ... Constitution Beach. Meet at Constitution Beach parking lot.

Friday, February 19th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm ... Revere Beach. Meet at 410 Revere Beach Blvd. across

(Cancelled in the event of extreme weather.)