# POST-GAZETTE

#### (Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 128 - NO. 49

#### **BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 8, 2023**

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### **Five-year Contract Ratified by Boston Police Patrolmen's Association**

The new contract includes cost of living adjustments and significant reforms in discipline, paid details, medical leave, union release, officer retention, and educational incentives.

On Tuesday, December 5, Mayor Michelle Wu announced that a new five-year collective bargaining agreement has been ratified by the membership of the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association (BPPA), the union representing the majority of Boston Police officers. Since the beginning of her administration, Mayor Wu has made it a priority to achieve reform within the Boston Police Department (BPD) through contract negotiations, delivering the highest standards of community policing to keep our residents safe and ensuring resources for the health and well-being of police officers and their families. The BPPA's prior contract with the City of Boston expired on June 30, 2020. Although the City and BPPA had officially entered

arbitration in April 2023, ultimately the parties reached an agreement across the negotiating table rather than through arbitration. The ratification vote took place on Sunday, December 3rd, and Monday, December 4th.

"I'm inspired and grateful everyday for the hard work and dedication of our Boston Police officers across every neighborhood and community," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This groundbreaking contract is a major step forward in how Boston continues to set the highest standards for community policing and ensure resources for the health and well-being of our officers and their families. I'm thankful to Commissioner Cox for his clear vision and strong leadership for our department, and to President Calderone and the BPPA for their partnership and shared commitment to our city." "I am proud to stand by an

agreement between the BPPA

and the City that recognizes the value that the men and women of the BPPA provide to the City every day," said Boston Police Patrolmen's Association President Larry Calderone. "I thank Mayor Wu and her administration for bargaining in good faith and for reaching an agreement that acknowledges the needs of the police officers who make Boston one of the safest cities in the country through their hard work and selfless service."

"I am pleased we are able to come to an agreement with the BPPA. This agreement will compensate our officers for being part of the world-class police department that we are and represents a joint commitment to work together to make sure that individuals who do not represent the value of our City are not a part of our Department," said Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox. "It



Mayor Wu (right), Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox (left), and Boston Police Patrolmen's Association (BPPA) President Larry Calderone discuss details of the tentative agreement with the BPPA in the Eagle Room.

has been an unprecedented few years for everyone. Throughout it all our police officers came to work every day fully committed to the people of Boston. Our officers have done tremendous work and it is because of their efforts and their willingness

(Continued on Page 2)

**News Briefs** 

by Sal Giarratani

#### Aloha! Alaska Air Buys Hawaiian Airlines

Alaska Air Group has purchased Hawaiian Airlines in a \$1.9 billion deal including debt. The combined company would keep both airlines' brands. Alaska will pay \$18 in cash for each share of Hawaiian, whose stock closed on the day of the merger at \$4.86. The deal includes \$900 million in Hawaiian debt, which the airlines said brings the acquisition's total value to \$1.9 billion.

The combined airline would participate in the "oneworld Alliance," which includes American Airlines, British Airways and Cathay Pacific. It would also combine two networks to provide more connectivity to 138 destinations, including tripling destinations that



can be reached within one stop in North America for travelers from Hawaii.

The companies said they would also keep Honolulu as a key hub and that they're "committed to maintaining and growing the union-represented workforce" in Hawaii.

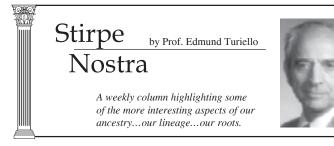
#### Democrats Share Univision Problem

The U.S. "Latino population is changing, with parallel repercussions for two prominent American institutions: the Democratic Party and the media giant Univision," argues Mike Madrid at the Los Angeles Times. Both long prospered "on the notion that Latinos are primarily Spanish-speaking recent immigrants, an image increasingly disconnected with reality." Fact is, "exploding numbers of U.S.-born, primarily Englishspeaking Latinos" have the network's viewership "in steep decline."

The Hispanic electorate is "moving away from the aggrieved immigrant narrative favored by Democrats and toward assimilation, working-class identity that mirrors its non-Latino counterparts."

Univision can adjust with moves like its recent airing of a long, friendly interview with ex-President

(Continued on Page 11)



#### THE DINNER OF TRIMALCHIO (Continued)



Last week, I presented the first part of a detailed account of a sumptuous Roman banquet provided by "Trimalchio," a boastful, pretentious, and ignorant recipient of newly acquired wealth. I described the hors d'oeuvres, cooked dormice, hot sausages, and European songbirds called "beccaficos."

This week, we are told that after eating their fat songbirds rolled in spiced egg yolk, the guests washed their hands with a good grade of unwatered wine. The wine, which was served for drinking came from Falernos Ager, a district in the north of Campania, which produced the "Falernian" wine, one of the finest in ancient Roman times. This particular wine was 100 years old.

The next dish of the evening was a large round plate containing the 12 signs of the Zodiac. At each sign, the cook had placed some food appropriate to the symbol. At Leo, there was a large African fig, Cancer contained boiled crabs; Gemini contained a giant double mushroom, Taurus had a round of beef, Aries there was a saddle of mutton, Pisces had red mullet, and over Aquarius, there was a plump goose. Lobsters were placed over Capricorn, Sagittarius contained a bull's eye, and Libra had a scale with muffins on one side and small cakes on the other.

At the appropriate time, a sign from the host brought in waiters who lifted off the Zodiac dish, to reveal a lower section which contained plump fowl, sows' bellies, and cooked rabbits made to look like Pegasus, the celebrated winged horse of Zeus. In the next course, each of the four corners of the dish contained a figure of Marsyas, the flute player from mythology.

A sharp sauce poured out through the flutes onto cooked fish until they appeared to swim around in the liquid.

Next came a wild boar with a palm leaf basket hanging from each tusk. The baskets contained dates from Turkey and Egypt that were passed out to the diners while bearded huntsmen entered to slash the side of the boar and release a flock of thrushes. Each bird was then caught in a net by the slaves and cooked for a guest. During a stretch period, fresh covers were spread on the couches and off they went again. This time the servants brought in a boiled calf on a huge dish and laid it on the table. A swordsman rushed into the dining room and attacked the calf with a swinging saber. He then collected the slices on the point of his sword and served them to the astonished guests. A large roasted pig was next on the menu, and when the belly was opened, it revealed cooked sausages and puddings.

The soiled tables were then taken away and replaced by clean ones. Powdered talc and colored sawdust were sprinkled about the floor. Then came the sweetmeats, and an assortment of other desserts fashioned from flour, raisins, nuts, and pork. All guests then took a hot bath, after which they were led into another dining room where wine flowed in rivers and the serious drinking began.

It is said that shortly thereafter some of the guests slid off the

#### • Five-year Contract Ratified by Boston Police Patrolmen's Assoc. (Continued from Page 1)

to partner with the citizens of Boston that our City remains one of the safest in America."

The new agreement covers the period from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2025, at a total five-year estimated cost of \$82.3 million, or a 21% increase over the entire period. This is the first contract in decades to deliver significant operational reforms, and the cost is in line with the most recent previous contracts (which did not include operational reforms):

FY21-FY25 - 21.0% over 5 years (a 4.2% average annual increase); negotiated

FY17-FY20 - 16.1% over 4 years (a 4.0% average annual increase); negotiated

FY11-FY16 - 25.4% over 6 years (a 4.2% average annual increase); arbitration award

#### COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS

The contract includes the following base wage increases to ensure officers are paid fairly: Effective first pay period July 2020 (FY21) - 2.0%

Effective first pay period July 2021 (FY22) - 1.5%

Effective first pay period July 2022 (FY23) - 2.0%

Effective first pay period July 2023 (FY24) - 1.0%

Effective first pay period July 2024 (FY25) - 2.5%

#### DISCIPLINE

For the first time, this contract designates a list of offenses that will not be eligible for arbitration as a pathway to overturn discipline or termination issued by the department. An officer will face discipline without arbitration if they are indicted for, or if a sustained Internal Affairs finding is issued and upheld for, a defined list of offenses.

These offenses are: indecent assault and battery on child under age of 14; assault and battery to collect loan; indecent assault and battery on a person with an intellectual disability; felony for hire; wanton or reckless behavior creating a risk of serious bodily injury or sexual abuse to a child; mayhem; assault with intent to murder or maim; attempt to murder; murder; armed robbery; assault with intent to rob or murder; use of firearms while committing a felony; stealing by confining or putting in fear; rape; rape of child; rape of a child during commission of certain offenses or by use of force; rape of a child through use of force by certain previously convicted offenders; rape and abuse of child; rape and abuse of child aggravated by age difference between defendant and victim or by when committed by mandated reporters; rape and abuse of child by certain previously convicted offenders; assault with intent to commit rape; assault of child with intent to commit rape; extortion; kidnapping (weapons; child under age 16); drug trafficking; drugging persons for kidnapping; enticement of child under age 18 to engage in prostitution; human trafficking or commercial sexual activity; hate crimes (MGL c. 22C s. 32); and hate crimes involving assault or battery for the purpose of intimidation (weapons; punishment) (MGL c. 265 s. 39).

personnel to perform paid details for events or construction sites that involve traffic disruption on City roadways, but many priority details went unfilled and had to be covered by mandated overtime at significant cost to the department and the City. To ensure the highest priority traffic details are covered to keep traffic flowing and to keep road users safe, the City will now categorize details by priority. Highest priority details, or Type 1 Details, are events and activities that pose a substantial risk to public safety, including major events with anticipated attendance over 5,000 people; utility or construction details at major arteries, in busy intersections, or in areas with heavy traffic; or areas due to an emergency. These kinds of details will be filled first before any others and offer higher hourly compensation. All other details will be considered Type 2 Details and compensated at the existing rate.

#### Expanded Personnel to Fill All Details

If details go unfilled by Boston Police officers, the open detail shifts can be offered to Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Commission certified officers, including Boston Police Department retirees, Boston Housing Authority Police officers, and college/university police officers. After details are offered to these groups, Boston Municipal Protective Services Officers and Sergeants and contracted civilian personnel will be offered the opportunity to accept the detail shifts. Opening up the detail system to ensure that other workers can perform traffic control will ensure better coverage of details throughout Boston and safer, smoother traffic flow on our streets. The opportunity for more workers to perform details also creates economic opportunity throughout Boston's neighborhoods as trained personnel will have opportunities to earn income through detail work.

Eliminating Double-Booking of Details

This contract ends the practice of allowing officers who finish a detail early to start another detail, preventing the accumulation of double pay for the same period of time.

Streamlining Administration

of Detail Assignment Additionally, instead of the current paper system used to assign details in each police district, the City now has the legal authority to implement a technology based platform (i.e., electronic, web based or app based programs) for the administration, management and assignment of paid details across the city. Also, after fully implementing this transition in technology and administration, the sworn officers performing those duties will be reassigned for other needed police work.

after being out on leave, instead of engaging in arbitration, an Independent Medical Examiner will determine the employee's fitness to return to light duty. This will simplify and streamline the process.

#### UNION RELEASE

The contract will reduce the number of officers attending to union business while being on duty and paid by the City. Specifically, the number of officers is now reduced to 45 shift representatives of the Association-down from 54. For regular Executive Board meetings, the City agrees to recognize no more than 10 shift representatives.

#### CAREER AWARDS RETENTION PROGRAM

Effective July 2023, this contract establishes a new Transitional Career Awards Program for Police Officers with five, ten, fifteen, twenty, and twenty-five years of experience while eliminating the current Cumulative Risk Enhancement Adjustments career awards program. This brings police officer's career advancement opportunities in line with those of the Boston Fire Department as a tool for retention at the department.

#### EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE PLAN

Boston Police officers receive salary adjustments to reflect continuing education incentives. This contract increases the qualifying schools to include the University of Massachusetts System, Northeastern University, and Boston University, and increases the qualifying degrees to include Sociology, Psychology, and Public Administration-aligned with the skills and training to further enhance community policing and improve organizational management.

Collective bargaining with the BPPA during the Wu administration began in earnest in March 2022. Eleven bargaining sessions took place between March and October of 2022. In late December 2022 the BPPA filed for arbitration. The state's Joint Labor Management Council (JLMC) took jurisdiction of the case in late April 2023. There were sessions with the JLMC in September and October 2023. A tentative agreement was reached Friday, December 1, 2023 after a series of meetings over the course of last week, in which Mayor Wu was directly involved.

Now that the agreement has

couches and onto the floor while others called for their litters and quietly went home. The host just sat there in a drunken stupor mumbling something which sounded like ... I ate the whooooole thing.

#### NEXT WEEK:

The Roots of Your Salami

#### A HISTORY OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE



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#### PAID DETAILS

New Highest-Priority Detail Category Boston Police officers previously were the only eligible

#### **MEDICAL LEAVE**

When contract negotiations began, roughly 10% of BPPA members had been out on medical leave, resulting in staffing challenges that have required forced overtime to cover shifts. The process to address extended medical leave through arbitration is long and complex. Under the new contract, when there is disagreement between an officer's doctor and BPD's doctor regarding an officer's ability to return to work been ratified by the BPPA membership, tomorrow Mayor Wu will file an appropriation order with the Boston City Council to allocate the funding for the contract.

Last month, the City and the BPPA also reached an agreement on needed operational reform for centralized booking. Beginning in November, as part of BPD's increased enforcement in the area of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard, the Department is able to transport and book people at the Sheriff's Department facility on Nashua Street — where there are dedicated supports for medical care, food, and supervision - rather than at district stations. The City's goal is to implement this Citywide and will continue its negotiations with the other police unions to expand the program.

### **POST-GAZETTE**

Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher and Editor 5 Prince Street, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113 617-227-8928 617-227-8929 FAX 617-227-5307

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OUR POLICY: To help preserve the ideals and sacred traditions of this our adopted country the United States of America: To revere its laws and inspire others to respect and obey them: To strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty: In all ways to aid in making this country greater and better than we found it.

### Phyllis M. (Vivolo) Cesso May She Rest In Peace

Phyllis M. (Vivolo) Cesso of Revere, pass away peacefully on December 3, 2023. Beloved wife of B. Anthony. Devoted mother of Carla and her husband David, Anthony and his wife Annmarie, and Lisa and her partner, Bryan. Cherished grandmother of Katherine, Matthew,

Michael, Antonio, Nicolo and Gioia. Sister of Leonard Vivolo and sister in law of Nick Ruggiero. Predeceased by her mother, Anna Vivolo, her sister Joanne Ruggiero, and many brother and sister in laws. Phyllis grew up in Boston's North End where she met and married her husband. Together they shared 56 years of marriage and three children, whom she loved dearly. She also adored her six grandchildren who brought her countless moments of joy. Whether she was attending one of their sporting events, dance recitals or plays, she was always honored to be there supporting them.

Phyllis loved the North End and especially celebrating St. Anthony's Feast each year. She was an avid Boston sports fan and enjoyed watching and routing for all of the teams during each season. She also loved watching mystery and crime shows with her husband, a retired Boston Police Detective. Above all, Phyllis was known for her culinary skills. She could be found awake at midnight cooking a meal or baking desserts for her family. Cooking was her true passion, and she could talk for hours about all kinds of different recipes!

She was employed by the City of Revere as a crossing guard, and then as a teacher's aide for many years. She still told stories about all of the children she remembered teaching, and truly loved caring for and educating them. Phyllis was enthusiastic about being

active. She went to the

gym where she partook in many classes and loved walking Revere Beach with her late dear friend, Dottie Nardone. She was a member of the St. Mary's Women's Club, where she met many wonderful friends, whom she always spoke so fondly about. Everything Phyllis did, she did for her family. She was selfless, giving, trustworthy, caring and graceful and her classy presence will certainly be missed.

She also leaves behind many adored nieces and nephews, with whom she loved celebrating all the special moments in their lives, as well as her many close friends.

Services for Phyllis will be held at Buonfiglio Funeral Home, 128 Revere Street, Revere, MA on Sunday, December 10, 2023, from 2:00-6:00 p.m., and again Monday from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Followed by Mass at Saint Mary's of The Assumption Parish, 670 Washington Street, Revere, MA at 11:00 a.m.

Interment will be at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, MA.

**ABCD NORTH END/WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER (NE/WE NSC)** 

Thanksgiving Celebration



The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) had a lot to be thankful for at its annual Thanksgiving celebration for North End and West End seniors-a turkey feast with all the trimmings sponsored by Loft & Vine and Star Market gift cards donated by Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Jay Livingstone, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta-District 1, and City Councilor Sharon Durkan-District 8, for their constituents.



Jack Imbergamo, North End Downtown Liaison & Scheduling Coordinator, Office of City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, District 1





Kennedy Avery, Chief of Staff, Office of City Councilor Sharon **Durkan**, District 8



In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Phyllis's memory to copsforkidswithcancer.org, or can be mailed to Cops For Kids With Cancer, Inc., PO Box 850956, Braintree, MA 02185.

### 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 135, Boston, MA 02113

Patrick Lyons, Director of Constituent Services, Office of Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, with a neighborhood resident



State Representative Jay

Livingstone speaking to his

constituents



Julia Power, Acting Director ABCD NE/WE NSC, behind the scenes in the kitchen

Photos courtesy of The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC)

### L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore The Magic of Holiday Lights

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

Is there a Christmas symbol more powerful and life-affirming than the light? Everywhere I turn this season, different lights glow in the air around me, each providing a distinctive sensation of the holiday season. When I see the multicolored lights strung around the bushes surrounding the confection shop near my home, playfully blinking at me with their bright hues of red, green, and blue, I am filled with a childlike zest for Christmas. These lights remind me of old-fashioned toys and candy canes, chocolate treats and wrapping paper. The golden lights that drip off ceilings are more elegant, reminiscent of a candle's warm heart and the generosity that accompanies the holidays. After all, a candle glowing in the window has long been a sign of hospitality and welcome. Meanwhile, the icy blue lights that adorn trees in some town squares remind me of quiet and snowy winter evenings, as sparkling as Elsa's palace in Frozen. Indeed, lights do form a significant aspect of the Christmas season, serving both a religious and symbolic purpose. Religiously, these candles signify the light Jesus brought upon the world at His birth on Christmas. Symbolically, the lights brighten the darkest nights of the year and celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. Two holidays which occur during this time, St. Lucy's Day and Hanukkah, incorporate lights as central features of their celebrations, spreading warmth and cheer into the chilly winter air.

St. Lucy's Day, one of my favorite feasts, occurs on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Known as *la Festa di Santa Lucia* in Italian, this holiday honors a fourthcentury martyr from Syracuse, Sicily. Italians celebrate St. Lucy in varying ways depending on the region. According to a Sicilian legend, St. Lucy once alleviated a famine by

#### LEGAL NOTICE

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sending in ships bearing wheat into the port of Syracuse. To commemorate this event, some Sicilians prepare cuccía, or a porridge of boiled wheat berries that can be served with honey and ricotta, on the feast day. In the northern areas of Italy, such as Veneto and Friuli, St. Lucy serves as a gift-bringer. She distributes small gifts to children on the eve of her festival, accompanied by her donkey and by her assistant Castaldo. The name Lucia stems from the same Latin root as the word *light*, making her the perfect saint for festivities which take place on one of the darkest nights of the year. Before the calendar reform. December 13<sup>th</sup> was the winter solstice, a vestige which remains in the Italian proverb Santa Lucia, il giorno piú corto che ci sia ("St. Lucy's Day is the shortest day there is"). Her association with light also explains why St. Lucy is such a popular saint in the Scandinavian countries, where winter darkness can last for the better part of the day. Candlelit St. Lucy's Day processions occur along the streets of major Scandinavian cities, featuring lots of girls dressed like St. Lucy and boys wearing gingerbread men costumes, or conical hats decorated with stars. On the feast of St. Lucy, a daughter in the family wakes up early and dresses in a white robe and a red sash. Sporting a wreath of electric candles on her head, she greets the family at breakfast by serving them hot chocolate and *lussekatter*, or raisin buns spiced with saffron, which infuses a cheerful yellow shade. On St. Lucy's Day, I honor candle on their own menorahs every night of Hanukkah. Fried food is traditional for Hanukkah because it also commemorates the oil that illuminated the Temple's menorah. These foods can include latkes, which are potato pancakes, and sufganiyot, a jelly-filled donut. Italy is home to a number of old Jewish communities in cities like Rome and Venice, and there Hanukkah is celebrated with beloved traditions and specialty foods. One such food is precipizi, or deep-fried dough balls coated with honey. Golden and warm, the precipizi look like miniature suns, reaffirming the motif of light breaking through the darkness. Italian Jews also popularized frying vegetables, and as such fried artichoke remains a popular Italian Hanukkah dish. I grew up in a town with a large Jewish population, and holiday parties in my elementary school always featured a blend of Christmas and Hanukkah festivities. I remember playing dreidel, a game involving a spinning top and a pile of prizes, with my classmates and accumulating delicious gelt (chocolate coins) wrapped in golden foil, and topping latkes with sour cream and applesauce. It was wonderful to have two great holidays bring my town close together during the dark of winter. As the winter solstice

approaches, the nights get progressively darker, casting a gray gloom earlier and earlier into the afternoon. For this reason, holiday lights play a powerful and heartfelt role in many winter celebrations. Candles illuminate the nights across the world, whether they spring from the crown of a girl dressed as St. Lucy or from a Hanukkah menorah being lit by a family. It is easy to get bogged in a metaphorical darkness this time of year - not just because of the early sunsets, but because of the stress and depression that sometimes accompany the holiday season. During moments like this, it is important to pay attention to the symbolic lights in our life: family and friends, nourishing food, personal strength, acts of kindness. When we dwell on these aspects, rather than let the darkness get the best of us, we will see that our inner light can outshine anything. Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a high school history teacher. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at adicenso89@gmail.com.



#### Anti-Trump Derangement Syndrome Metastasizing

After watching the news over the last several months, I have noticed former President Donald Trump seeming more beat down. It's understandable after the continuous persecution upon him from different jurisdictions indicting him and trying to take him down. Trump is 77 years old now and is starting to look every bit as old. I am surprised he's still standing up. I told someone recently, I was surprised he hasn't had a heart attack or stroke yet. They, the Democrats, and their lapdog media want him either in prison, or some may even fantasize him dead. I kid you not. However, he is taking the punches well and still has a good counterpunch of his own.

I was recently listening to Jeff Kuhner on Tuesday, December 5th on his WRKO program shortly after the show started and had to catch up to speed on the topic of the morning. Kuhner was talking about how the liberal media was all over Trump as a clear and present danger to democracy. Recently, two political essays on the former president have been published. One was a 7,500word essay by Robert Kagen in the Washington Post and the other a long essay by David Frum in the Atlantic Monthly. Both essays seemed obsessed that if the former president is returned to office in 2024 that our very democracy hangs in the balance.

I love listening to the Kuhnerman, and the topics he chooses to run on any given day. He is a very colorful radio show host. However, sometimes, I will seek out more information on his view of things. Like President Ronald Reagan often said, "Trust but verify."

Turns out Kuhner was spot on. I did my research and found out that Kagen just put out a 7,500-word essay in which he wrote that a Trump dictatorship would be increasingly inevitable if a second term were to happen. There's a lot of comparisons made to the Weimar Republic and to the United States today. Trump's politics are described as both revenge and reward. Then of course. Then, there's the Special January/February issue of the *Atlantic Monthly* where David Frum warns of the grave extreme consequences if Trump were re-elected. The magazine has 24 writers imagining what a second Trump term would look like.

There are of course the dog whistlers out there who talk about how to stop Trump next year. One quote I saw from one writer "No nothing is inevitable, unforeseen events change trajectories." I was spooked by this quote about unforeseen events changing the trajectory of history. If Trump's enemies call Trump a Hitlerlike dictator, are they talking about wishing Trump dead? Or are they hinting at taking him down, period?

There are lots of sick folks out there who might see those statements as a call to action. Are these anti-Trump fanatics hoping someone comes along like another Sirhan-Sirhan, Lee Harvey Oswald, or Mark David Chapman and ends the threat of Trump becoming an American Fuhrer.

Words have consequences. Everyone needs to be careful of inciting more political violence in this country by the use of inflammable words.

I voted for Donald Trump in 2016, I voted to re-elect him in 2020, and as of right now, unless someone better comes along, it will be Trump in 2024 for me. Yes, he can be a pain. Yes, he can be his own worst enemy. Yes, he can be stugats. However, he is still better than the alternative. I do not feel Democracy is hanging onto the edge of a cliff.

We are a nation of people and we are the government. We run things in America.

Trump is not Caesar, Trump is no Napoleon, and Trump is not Hitler. Enough with all the fearmongering. All these liberal conspiracy theories need to stop before someone gets hurt.

Trump is not about to become an authoritarian dictator. That's the kind of talk Democrat fundraisers use to pump up their political bank accounts. Milk the fear and raise campaign cash.

Docket No. MI23P6065EA Estate of

MICHAEL A. TIBERIO, JR. Also Known As MICHAEL A. TIBERIO

#### Date of Death: June 16, 2023

#### INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Kathleen C. Tiberio of North Reading, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Kathleen C. Tiberio of North Reading, MA

Kathleen C. Tiberio of North Reading, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/08/2023

the light breaking through the darkness by baking sweet potato biscuits, which emerge warm from the oven with a beautiful sunny glow.

Hanukkah, a Jewish holiday which begins on December 7th this year and ends on December 15th, also incorporates light into its festivities. Hanukkah celebrates the over two thousandyear-old victory of a Jewish patriotic group known as the Maccabees over the Seleucid Army, which wanted to impose Greek culture and religion on the Jews. When the Holy Temple in Jerusalem was rededicated during the revolt, there was only a small supply of oil to light the sacred menorah, or candelabra, in the Temple. Miraculously, however, the oil lasted for eight days, which forms the basis of Hanukkah as an eight-day celebration. Families honor the miracle of the oil by lighting one

the names of Hitler and Napoleon get thrown in the mix, too.

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— Se habla español —

### NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

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A NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO PROMOTE ATHLETIC, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITY FOR OVER 60 YEARS

### 51<sup>st</sup> Annual CHRISTMAS PARADE

Sunday, December 10, 2023 12:30 pm

### Santa Arrives by helicopter bringing Christmas Greetings to Boston's North End

Celebrating the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Christmas Parade, the North End Athletic Association will bring Santa to visit the North End. Santa will arrive by helicopter on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 12:30 pm at the Christopher Columbus Park on Atlantic Avenue.

Miss Massachusetts Scarlet Ramirez, Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Wally and Tessie of the Boston Red Sox, Blades of the Boston Bruins, Elsa and Anna, Darth Vader and many other Christmas characters, along with Santa's Elves will be joining the Parade.

Santa and all his friends will join the Annual Christmas Parade that makes its way through the streets of the North End. Spreading the Christmas cheer along the parade route will be the Consul General of Italy in Boston Arnaldo Minuti, the Boston Fireman's Band, the Aleppo Shriners Units, the Italian American Band, Woburn High School Marching Band, Danvers High School Marching Band and so much more.



The event will showcase pictures on the "Italian Spaceway" with an

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Boston Crooner Jimmy Geany Meets the Legendary Herb Alpert



illustration of space programs in the main fields of research and application.

Program 5.45 pm Welcome to the attended 6.00 pm The roots and the tradition of The San Marco Project and the Italian space programs of today - Prof. Paolo Gaudenzi 6.30- 7.00 pm Dr. Eng. Marco Brancati, CTIO Telespazio, Col. Walter Villadei AM, Italian Astronaut 7.15 pm Italian aperitivo and visit of the exhibition "Italian Spaceway" 7.45 pm Closure of the event

#### **Register on Eventbrite**



December 12, 2023 | Consulate General of Italy in Boston 600 Atlantic Ave, Boston, MA

#### Herb Alpert and Jimmy Geany

Boston based singer Jimmy Geany recently met the Legendary Herb Alpert backstage at the famous Cafe Carlyle in New York City. Herb Alpert was appearing at the iconic venue with his band The Tijuana Brass. Throughout the '60s and '70s Alpert & his band enjoyed much success with many hits such as "A Taste Of Honey", "The Lonely Bull," "Spanish Flea," and "This Guy's In Love With You," just to name a few.

Also appearing with Herb Alpert was his wife Lani Hall, who was the beautiful voice of Sergio Mendez' Brazil '66. Geany, who was in N.Y.C performing at Da Nico's Italian Restaurant in New York's Little Italy stated; "I've always been a big fan of Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass. With their harmonizing horns & upbeat rhythms, their sounds were both unique & romantic. Very Mexican/Latin. Just beautiful"!

#### POST-GAZETTE, DECEMBER 8, 2023



PAGE 6

ALL THAT ZAZZ by Mary N. DiZazzo "It's The Most Wonderful

Time of The Year"

Ciao Bella,

The season is the reason to celebrate this year to the hilt! No more lock downs! Get out and enjoy the beauty of friends gathering with fancy cocktails and shopping sprees to satisfy the soul.

My annual Christmas poem that I wrote many moons ago still grace these pages! Enjoy...

'Twas The Week Before Christmas when all through the salon The scissors were clicking; the mad rush was on.

The hairdressers were busy primping the coifs; *Perm odor, tinting, hair spray — what cough?* The nail-techs stayed sitting; painting their art, And the patrons were in and out like a dart. The receptionist was praying for the end of the day, While just out the window she noticed a sleigh.

And in walked a lady all covered in flour; She said she'd been baking for hours and hours. "I've seen to the children, but what of myself? "My husband's been busy and couldn't spare an elf. "My nails are all broken; my hair feels like glue; "I hope there is someone who can make me feel new." With that gleam in her eye it was hard to say "no" — Mary volunteered for the job — ho, ho, ho!

Shampoo, shampoo, how do you do? *Rollers and gel* — *need the dryer too.* With a trick of her brush she was coiffed in a flash; Manicured, painted, and dried in a dash. Her nails were all shiny — painted "jungle-red." The smile on her face left nothing unsaid. As she waved us good-bye, Merry Christmas to all, Everyone stopped to see the great haul.

While out the window we all began to peer At a giant sleigh and eight strong reindeer! Our lady hopped right in and with a nod to go Off went her chariot above all the snow. Jingle, jingle, jingle you can hear the bells ring. It was a sight to behold there were songs to sing.

Read prior weeks' "All That Zazz" columns at www.allthatzazz.com. Mary is a third-generation cosmetologist. She may be contacted at mary@mary4nails.com

### East Boston Holiday Lighting

by Sal Giarratani



### The Meaning of the Monastic Life BY LOUIS BOUYER

Book Review by John Joseph Fahey

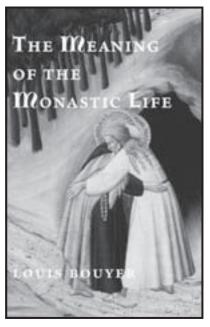
As we approach the celebration of Christmas, and, while in the season of Advent — which the Church observes approximately for four weeks prior to the Nativity, it is appropriate that reflection and meaning of the Yuletide is discerned. Reading related literature can often help.

Cluny Media, publisher of classic literature with its basis in religious works has recently published the book by Louis Bouyer titled The Meaning of the Monastic Life; actually this is a republication of an edition published by P.J. Kennedy & Sons in 1955.

Bouyer "was a member of the French Oratory and one of the most respected and visionary

Catholic scholars and theologians of his time. Formerly a Lutheran minister, he entered the Catholic Church in 1939." The author presents his narrative, which is rich in theology, in two parts, with the first section, titled THEORY leading off with "The Search for God," focusing on the monk's call to his vocation. And, as the author states, this calling, this urge to devote oneself to the quest for God can be justified in the sacrifice, (personal sacrifice, that is) in which the monk endures for his vocation; this call as one would describe, writes Bouyer is "so urgent that there can be no question of postponing his response to it ... He does not wait for the figure of this world to pass away; he anticipates, abandoning everything in this world, in order to meet God here and now."

Bouyer allows the reader good insight on how this is achieved; in its scholastic 247 pages, there are copious connections to scripture and early church history, along with the sagacity of the ancient Greek philosophers, posits how the



monk's objectives is not subjective, not altruistic, rather objective and penitent.

In the book's second section, PRACTICE, Bouyer delves, indeed into the practices, through prayer; penance and mortification; work; and the Mass, along with other applications, in order to achieve what the monk desires - which is, as the author states is the motivation of the monastic life, which he indicates "... is a search for God, for God such as he reveals himself to us, that is, he himself seeking us, in his word, in the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The reader will gain not necessarily the daily routines, rituals and labor intensive and

devotional aspects of the monastic life as much as the theology, religious history, and commitment to contemplation of the monk which the author excellently imparts.

For those interested in other selections by Cluny Media, the website is WWW.CLUNYMEDIA. COM.

Cluny Media is a publishing house that has as its objective the following (from its website): "Our publishing philosophy is simple: A book, from cover to cover, should be an artifact, a work of art. Because our business is primarily to take the old and make it new, this philosophy demands a particular, careful process. Unlike the facsimile 'republications' of other, similarly motivated publishers, Cluny editions are restorations. The restorative spirit especially animates the production and design elements of the pub-

For additional information, contact Cluny Media, LLC/P.O. Box 1664, Providence, RI 02901, or email at: info@clunymedia.com

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1. Bag holder 6. P in mpg
- 9. Eye part
- 13. Dog
- Gershwin 15. \*Eggnog ingredient
- 16. Hold the floor
- Mahal
- 18. Anti-elderly one 19. \*Breaking news, to a caroler
- 21. \*Coming, in Latin
- 23 \_'easter
- 24. "Begone!" 25. Parent-child divide
- 28. Fur-dwelling parasites
- 30. Lacrosse stick
- 35. Kiln for hops 37. Feline vibration
- 39. Little Richard's Frutti
- 40. Cream-filled treat
- 41. \*Number of candles in kinara
- 43. Mountain goat terrain
- 44. \*"Prancing and pawing of each little hoof," e.g.
  - 46. Carpenter's joint
- 47. Drug-induced state 48. Make lovable
- 50. "Cheers" regul

## lishing process."

Happy Holidays

**Rino's Place Anna Dicenso and staff present Lisa Cappuccio** with a generous donation to use towards decorating East Boston's business districts for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

A group of residents, spearheaded by Lisa Cappuccio and a committee of John Casamassima, Mary Berninger, Jamie Baldanza, Kathleen Hardaway, Fatima Litim, Miguel Vargus of East Boston Main Streets and Shirley Fabbo President of East Boston Chamber of Commerce have formed together to light up East Boston. "We are grateful for small businesses like Rino's Place who are dedicated to the community and support initiatives like this to celebrate our city with our residents and visitors." Said Lisa Cappuccio

For more information you may email Lisa at Lisa@boston concepts.net or check out their Facebook page www.facebook. com/EBholiday

52. \*Max to #57 Across 53. Overwhelming defeat 55. Thailand native 57. \*Dr. Seuss' spoilsport 60. \*Santa chute 64. Water border 65. "What?" 67. D in LED 68. Carved 69. Stars and Stripes land 70. Astronomer \_ Hubble 71. Hitler's sidekick 72. Joaquin Phoenix' 2013 movie 73. Crows' homes

#### DOWN

1. Dick's and Jane's dog 2. Famous Amos 3. Cormac McCarthy's "The 4. Join the cast of (2 words) 5. Carbolic acid 6. Deodorant target 7. Pitcher's stat 8. Indian prince 9. More than suggest 10. Blood tunnel 11. 90 degrees, on compass Invoice gtv. 15. Romp around 20. Key \_\_\_\_ on a movie set, pl. 22. Med school grad 24. Passepartout to Phileas Fogg 25. \*Popular traditional holiday entree

27. Impostor

29. Prompted

31. "That hurts!"

33. Coach-and-four

36. Muscle quality



56. What timidest and polyimide have in common 57. Clarified butter 58. Theater seat arrangement 32. Vegas' main drag 59. Wraths 60. Burn to a crisp 61. "\_\_\_\_ your chance..," contraction 62. Make changes 34. \*Number of days in Hanukkah 61. ' 38. Word processor command 63. Yearnings 42. \*Like Santa's pole 64. "Be quiet!" 45. Repaired, as in socks 66. Don't waste 49. Mythical giant bird 51. Unmarried woman, archaic

(Solution on Page 9)



by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Advent

Advent is a four-week season in the Church calendar dedicated to anticipating the arrival, or "advent," of Jesus of Nazareth, the long-awaited Messiah and King. In 2023, Advent is observed from December 3rd to December 24th. It takes place on the four Sundays leading up to Christmas Day.

The first day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church)

calendar and begins a four week period of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world.

During Advent, we are asked to reflect on the concepts of hope, peace, love, and joy — one for



each week leading up to Christmas. People may light Advent candles, prepare unique wreaths, hold special church services, or read specific Scriptures each day to reflect on the arrival of Jesus on Earth.

Advent can be a simple and fun tradition of counting down to Christmas. But for others—particularly those who believe Jesus to be the incarnation of God and the long-awaited

Messiah — Advent is a shared experience of meditation and prayer that celebrates the arrival of Jesus.

People from Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian traditions celebrate Advent, though the specific practices may vary from community to community.



North End Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Boston, where residents often benefit from animalassisted therapy visits, today launched "Operation Santa Paws" to collect pet supplies and donate them to a local animal shelter.

Through December 22nd, the skilled nursing facility at 70 Fulton St. welcomes donated items such as blankets and towels, dog and cat beds, unopened pet food/treats, pet toys, grooming products, collars and leashes, and food/water bowls.

Therapy animals play a vital role in long-term care residents' lives, particularly those living with dementia and Alzheimer's. Benefits of animal therapy for seniors include emotional uplift, increased self-esteem, improved social skills, and reduced risk of depression and anxiety. For more details, visit *NorthEndRehab.com*.



### Saint Jeanne Jugan

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Jeanne was Born in northern France on October 25, 1792 during the French Revolution a time when religious congregations were being suppressed by the national government. When Jeanne was three and a half years old, her father, a fisherman, was lost at sea. Her widowed mother was hard pressed to raise her eight children alone; four died young. At the age of 15 or 16, Jeanne became a kitchen maid for a family. She not only cared for its own members, but also served poor, elderly people nearby. Ten years later, Jeanne became a nurse at the hospital in Le Rosais. Soon thereafter, she joined a third order group founded by Saint John Eudes.

After six years she became a servant and friend of a woman she met through the third order. They prayed, visited the poor, and taught catechism to children. After her friend's death, Jeanne and two other women continued a similar life in the city of Saint-Sevran. In 1839, they brought in their first permanent guest. They began an association, received more members, and more guests. Mère Marie of the Cross, as Jeanne was now known, founded six more houses for the elderly by the end of 1849, all



staffed by members of her association — the Little Sisters of the Poor. By 1853, the association numbered 500 and had houses as far away as England.

By the time Pope Leo XIII gave her final approval to the community's constitutions in 1879, there were 2,400 Little Sisters of the Poor. Jeanne passed away on August 29, 1879. Her cause was introduced in Rome in 1970. She was beatified in 1982, and canonized in 2009. The Feast Day of Saint Jeanne Jugan is August 30th.

DOWNTOWN BOSTON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT'S Snowflake Crossing's Golden Snowflake Award

> With glittering lights and decorations, eight Boston buildings are vying for "best dressed" this December, part of the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District's "Snowflake Crossing" series of holiday and winter events.

In addition to encouraging visits to their spectacular public spaces, the building owners hope to garner enough public votes to win the "Golden Snowflake

Award," which will be announced at High Street Place Food Hall on December 19th.

Downtown Crossing and the Financial District have among the city's most impressive mixes of historic and new buildings. Downtown Boston BID President Michael Nichols says the holiday contest is a fun way to remind people that office and retail spaces are key city amenities: they are vital to the ongoing reimagination of downtown as a place where people can meet, work, live, shop and eat, any time they're in town.

Participating building lobbies include:

- One Boston Place (at 201 Washington Street)
- 75-101 Federal Street,
- 99 Summer Street;
- 100 Summer Street;
- 100 High Street;
- 100 Federal Street;
- 160 Federal Street; and
- The Ritz-Carlton (10 Avery Street).

There are two ways to visit the participating lobbies: 1) taking a self-guided tour; or 2) join in one of two free public guided tours on December 8th and December 15th at 2:30 p.m., starting at the Ritz-Carlton and ending with a reception at High Street Place Food Hall.

Voting is accessed by a QR code posted at each of the lobby sites. While the contest and public voting is open through December 18th, decorations will stay up through the holiday season.

Information and public tour sign-ups (limited capacity) available at downtownboston.org

THIS ON-GOING

**ROAD WORK** 

MESS MUST BE FIXED

so, it seems like police detail at

work sites have gone the way of

dinosaurs. You hardly ever see

one anymore and often wonder

why. Several times, I have seen

members of a construction

crew directing traffic around

their trucks and equipment.

So far, no reports of accidents

or anything. I'm thinking the

next time that the police con-

tract comes up again, police

detail provisions could be up for

debate by City Hall during labor

negotiations. The whole pur-

pose behind the details is public

safety but without accidents or

police details, I could see the

city fighting to exclude police

details going forward in the next

the dangers of utility/construc-

tion crews working without

police details happened on

Thursday, November 30th.

Workers and their trucks were

causing a horrible traffic mess

under the overhead highway at

Bremen and Porter Streets in

East Boston, which also caused

another mess on Chelsea Street.

jam around 5:45 p.m. When I

finally arrived home, I found

out that the worksite had been

causing traffic issues for many

hours that day. When you ask

the question why, you never get

a straight answer from anybody.

I thought the reason that

police details exist is to increase

public safety. However, if too

many details go unfilled, sooner

or later that will not bode well

for police details at all. If the

Boston Police Patrolman's

Associatiton (BPPA) doesn't

make sure all police details are

filled, why have details to begin

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

**KEN MASON OF REVERE** 

with in the first place?

Why is that?

The most recent example of

contract, how about you?

Over the past six months or



#### TERMS OF ENDEARMENT (4K Ultra HD) Paramount Home Ent.

Celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the heartfelt drama Terms of Endearment, is available for the first time on 4K Ultra HD as part of the Paramount Presents. Based on the novel by Larry McMurtry, Terms of Endearment went on to earn 11 Academy Award® nominations and won for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress in a Leading Role (Shirley MacLaine), Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Jack Nicholson), and Best Writing, Screenplay Based on Material from Another Medium. Both critically acclaimed and a boxoffice blockbuster, Terms of Endearment features a powerhouse cast including Debra Winger, MacLaine, Nicholson, Danny DeVito, and John Lithgow. Originally released on November 23, 1983, the enduring classic follows the ups and downs of a mother-daughter relationship with honesty, heart, and humor.

#### LION-GIRL (Blu-ray) Cleopatra Ent.

Survivors of a meteor shower defend themselves against each other and monsters that are hunting and killing them to get their life force. Go Nagai's *Lion-Girl* is a new superhero for a new era. In the year 20XX, humanity has almost come to an end. A tsunami of meteors bombarded the entire planet. There were a very small number of survivors. They kill each other for more food, more power, causing 30 years of bloody civil war. The meteorites contain a mysterious ray inside the rock. If a human being is exposed to this ray, the cells in the body mutate and destroy themselves, causing certain death. But in very rare cases, some humans survive the exposure. Those who get exposed to the space ray and survive undergo a metamorphosis into horrific 'meteorite beasts'. People call them 'ANOROC'. ANOROC hunt and kill human beings for their life force. ANOROC are the true enemy of humankind. Now, the Earth has the last defender of humanity against ANOROC; her name is *Lion-Girl*, a superhero Yakuza fighter and a true pursuer of Ninkyo.

#### FULL BODY MASSAGE

#### RETURN TO DUST (DVD) Film Movement

A tender tale about the transformative nature of love, Return to Dust - expands into a poignant story of resilience against the conventions of society and the exploitation of farm workers. The popular film in China, stirred controversy with its depictions of rural life. Two weeks after opening, it quickly disappeared, without warning, from theaters and streaming services. And, although it has never been officially confirmed that the film was banned, it remains impossible to see in Li's home country today. Set in 2010 in the small, rural village in Gaotai, two lonely, middle-aged people - Cao, a timid woman suffering from chronic illness and a disability, and Ma, an unassuming farmer with little to his name - are pushed into an arranged marriage by their respective families. Cast aside as burdens, Cao and Ma's relationship is tepid at first but warms as the two spend their days fixing up an abandoned house on their small patch of land. Invigorated by a shared purpose and the all-consuming nature of farm work, the couple's bond grows. As their livelihood begins disappearing, the couple attempts to build a new life together with continued patience and determination toward their home and one another. In the face of much adversity, an unexpected bond begins to blossom, as both Ma and Cao, uniting with Earth's cycles, create a haven for themselves in which

#### they can thrive. BEFORE NOW & THEN (DVD)

#### Film Movement

Set amid the political violence of late-1960s Indonesia, Kamila Andini's intoxicating film Before Now & Then follows Nana, the beautiful wife of a wealthy plantation owner whose inner life remains with her deceased first husband, murdered in the civil war a decade prior. A survivor, Nana values her safety and material comforts, but carries out a haunted existence, dreaming of her lost love. Forced to confront her husband's blatant infidelity, Nana makes an unusual connection

#### 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

when it became the inspiration for the hit TV show *Cheers* in 1981.

#### QUOTE TO NOTE

"When you mix raisins and turds, you've still got turds."

– Charlie Munger - who recently passed away on November 28th at 99 years old HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES On November 29th, we had several famous peoples' birthdays. Actress Diane Ladd (88). What about Chuck Mangione (83). Then there's Felix Cavaliere from the Rascals. He just turned 81. The day before, November 28th, Berry Gordy, Jr., turned 94. Without him, there would have been no Motown. I can't even imagine a world without Motown music.

#### THIS LADY FOUND A REAL RABBIT HOLE

An 83-year-old lady was helping her daughter move when she stepped on rotten floorboards in a century-old South Carolina home and fell to her death down a hidden well shaft the owner didn't know about. This secret well shaft was 48-foot deep. It took rescuers four hours to get her lifeless body out.

#### INCOMING COMMENTS FROM YOU

I was caught up in this traffic Hi Sal,

Hope you had a good Thanksgiving. I'm responding to your article on 11/17 about signs being covered up in Concord. This is a horrible idea. This is erasing our history. More cancel culture. This is the goal of Communism — in China, there is no past!

Did you see where Mayor Wu supports Universal Basic Income-roughly 115,000 people in Boston live in poverty and the government would give them \$633 a month? (you can look up the article in *Commonwealth Beacon* November 20, 2023 just google the mayor who supports Universal Basic Income). Where do they think this money comes from? People who work paying for people not to work — a hearing happened at City Hall on November 27th about this.

Keep up the great work Sal. Sincerely, Harry Johnston

Dear Sal,

I always enjoy reading your announcements and your particular brand of humor in the "To Talk of Many Things" column. In reference to the article about signs and plaques being covered up, it seems to me that there must have been a valid, patriotic sentiment that the plaque was originally meant to convey. That being said, the present generation, hundreds of years later, is reaching out for love, life, and happiness, and perhaps cannot find that satisfaction in a lifeless, stone plaque.

My suggestion is that the present generation set a good example in their neighborhood, and, if practical, erect a modern, more appropriate plaque that reflects their own sentiments.

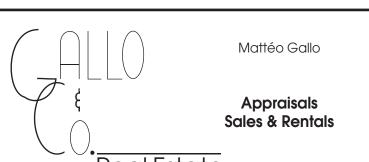
> Peter Gillen Colwell East Boston, MA GAS PUMP PRICES HIGH AND LOW

If you drive around the City of Quincy, gas prices are pretty good. I got \$20 worth for \$3.23 per gallon. Other nearby stations are selling it for \$3.29. Good prices, huh? In JP, Roslindale, and West Roxbury, prices go from \$3.11, \$3.25, and \$3.29. However, East Boston? Cheapest gas \$3.59, \$3.69. Highest prices in East Boston, \$4.10 and \$4.19. I think it is the highest in the city.

> DIAMONDS ROLEX ESTATE JEWELRY Bought & Sold Jewelers Exch. Bldg. Jim (617) 263-7766



and Andrews and a second state



#### (Blu-ray) Unearthed Classics

Mimi Rogers and Bryan Brown sizzle in this highly provocative drama from acclaimed director Nicolas Roeg. Nina (Rogers), a successful but world-weary art dealer is surprised to find that her regular masseur has sent a substitute, Fitch (Brown), to continue her weekly massage session. Fitch's therapeutic caresses, while charged with sexual tension, gain emotional significance as the opinionated pair first clash, and then bond while relaying thoughtful meditations on intimacy and human relationships. Free to discuss her life, hopes and failures, Nina is liberated from her confused world, indulging in a strange, erotic mysticism with her handy muse. Brilliantly helmed by director Roeg, Full Body Massage is an exhilarating and sophisticated portrait of sensual love.

with his younger mistress, Ino. The two women, sharing their secrets and desires, discover a newfound freedom and intimacy withheld from them both by the strictures of patriarchal society.

#### STELLA MARIS (1918) (Blu-ray) VCI Ent.

Stella Maris was a first for Mary Pickford as well as a major advancement in filmmaking. She plays dual roles in a film that is very different from anything she has done before. It tells the story of two, polar opposite young women: "a figure of wondrous beauty," the rich, but crippled Stella Maris and Unity Blake, "another victim of cruel fate, deformed, but equally beautiful of soul." Pickford's performance elevated the critics' appreciation of her and the audiences flocked to see her in what turned out to be a huge, commercial success.

Pam Anderson congratulating Ken Mason on his 97th birthday

(Photo by Sal Giarratani)

Recently I met up with Ken Mason of Revere who joined the military during WWII. Mason served with the U.S. Army Air Corp and in 1947, the Army Air Corp was incorporated into the then-newest branch of the military, the United States Air Force. On December 4th, he turned 97 years old. Here in the photo is Pam Anderson congratulating Ken on his birthday.

#### CHEERS TO A TRUE BOSTONIAN

The City of Boston recently gave cheers to owner of Cheers and Hampshire House Tom Kershaw on November 29th to mark his 55th year in business. Hampshire House is also home to the beloved Bull & Finch Pub, which gained fame



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Back in the day, this was the time of the year when almost every in-town business had a Christmas party for their employees. DJs were not part of the equation as of yet, which meant that any entertainment was live. Usually, a business would host a 3 or 4 hour Christmas party in their corporate offices and the entertainment would be, at minimum, a strolling accordionist, and at maximum, a quartet that would play both Christmas and dance music.

My father and Uncles Nick and Paul were part of crowd that capitalized on this ritual that began the day after Thanksgiving and ended on Christmas Eve. They all booked in several 2 and 3 hour parties each day of the week, and due to the close proximity time-wise and the difficulty in finding a parking space downtown, they hired people to chauffer them from one party to the next. Dad, in the 1950s, was written up in one of the Boston newspapers as "Boston's busiest bass player."

Years later, when I was in college and became a professional musician, I joined in the family business, playing similar Christmas parties. Luckily, I made enough money each year to pay my college tuition for the next semester. Before I owned a car, I too, hired a driver to take me from job to job at Christmas time.

Looking back, Babbononno did the same thing a generation earlier, playing his guitar as part of an Italian band. He once told me that the money he made playing Christmas parties for clubs or organizations in the North End, East Boston, and Revere allowed him to be a bit extravagant with gifts at Christmas time.

My father and Uncles Nick and Paul, had worked with the big bands (the swing bands) back in the 1930s. When WWII started, they got off the road (left the big bands) and came home, knowing that they were either going to be drafted or would have to enlist in the military. When the time came, Uncle Paul was too old, Uncle Nick joined the Navy, and Dad, who was teaching at East Boston High School, was recruited by the OSS, the forerunner to today's CIA. His job was to interrogate Italian war prisoners that were housed in the long-closed immigration station in East Boston and the forts on Boston Harbor Islands.

Nick auditioned for the navy band housed at the Newport Naval Base under the direction of Andre Kostelanetz. While with them, he played tenor sax, clarinet, and flute.

Just as the war started, Dad opted for a teaching job at East Boston High School. He taught machine shop, was the junior varsity football coach, and now added in the interrogations of war prisoners. At night, he was the bass player with a quintet at the Fife and Drum Room located in the Hotel Vendome, and later in the war, with a Latin American band at the Bradford Hotel. Talk about a full schedule!

I grew up observing the goings on of the musicians in my family, but ignored most of it. Being third generation in a family of musicians, I tried just about every major instrument out there and rejected them all. As a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at the Barnes Junior High School in East Boston, I learned to play the bugle and joined the drum and bugle corps. Military drill was mandatory in the Boston schools back then, and I enjoyed being in uniform and marching. Bugle led to the trumpet and I learned how to play one, but hated to practice and gave that up too. Just as I started college, I asked Dad for bass lessons, and he complied. Using old tried and true formal books, I learned how to read and play classical music. Incorporating what I studied into a more modern phase, I learned how to play pop music, jazz, Italian, Latin American, Jewish and all kinds of ethnic music that was around. I even learned how to play the bass parts to the latest craze, rock and roll.

About a year after I turned professional, I auditioned for the Ken Reeves Orchestra. Ken Reeves was from an old Boston family and booked in the entertainment for a good part of Boston's society. On weekends, he would hire out ten to twenty bands. I auditioned and made it. As a result, during the Christmas season, I worked just about every night of the week and did doubles on Saturdays and Sundays.

I secretly wished I could have played with Dad, but with both of us playing bass violin, and later, bass guitar, it was impossible. I did get the opportunity to work with Uncles Nick and Paul through the years. The few times I did work with Dad was when I was leading a band and not playing, or when we both played with a big band at the band stand at Revere Beach. The leaders would hire Dad to play tuba and me to play bass guitar. Those were fun days.

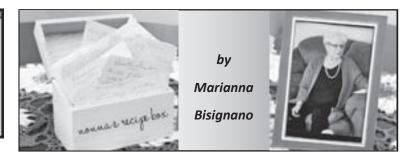
For several years during the 60s, I led a band at a supper club in Waltham, Pietv Corner Gardens. When I was first hired, we played weekend nights for dancing and as the backup to the entertainers who were featured. Later, the owner switched us to the first part of the week and we as a group developed our own following. At Christmas time, we entertained the boss's in-crowd each night that we played there, and if we were there on a Christmas Eve, the owner would close early so all the help could spend the night with their families. Almost all of the people involved were Italian or Italian-American, so Christmas Eve was important.

Dad and my uncles would refuse to work on Christmas Eve. We would all congregate at Nanna and Babbononno's house and celebrate the night with seven fish dishes, a tradition that goes back into antiquity, if you are Italian. They would have musicians to replace themselves for the night, mainly Jewish musicians. When Jewish holidays were at hand, Dad and my uncles would cover for their friends who wanted to observe their traditions. It all seemed to work out rather well over the years.

Christmas Day was a little different. Uncles Nick and Paul would play for the kids at the Fernald School in Waltham. Back then, the school housed severely handicapped children. At other times, they would play at the Italian Home for Children in Jamaica Plain. Dad, for several years on Christmas morning, played on the U.S.S. Vulcan, an aircraft repair ship with a Boston crew. The wives and children of the seamen were fed, entertained, and visited by Santa Claus. I accompanied Dad several times in my youth.

Here it is many years later. Dad and my uncles are gone and I'm retired from everything except writing this column. If any of you know how to reverse time, please let me know.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA** 



PAGE 9

For Italians, giving food is an expression of love and gratitude and during Christmas, it is customary to gift loved ones with beautifully arranged trays of cookies. This heartfelt gesture brings joy to both the giver and the receiver, creating a sense of warmth and connection. Every year, my Nonna would spend days in the kitchen preparing trays upon trays of different types of cookies for Christmas. It was truly a labor of love for her, and I feel fortunate to have spent many occasions watching and learning from her. Recently, while going through her recipe collection, I stumbled upon a recipe for Ricotta Chocolate Chip Cookies. I don't ever remember my Nonna making these specific cookies. She was known for her lemon-flavored ricotta cookies with icing. However, after trying this new variation, I thought they might be a delightful addition to an Italian Christmas cookie tray! The combination of creamy ricotta cheese and rich chocolate chips is sure to impress both young and old alike.

In honor of my Nonna and the cherished tradition of baking Christmas cookies together as a family, I am happy to share this recipe with all those who appreciate the joys of homemade baked goods during the holiday season. Let us continue to celebrate our heritage by embracing our shared love for food and family.

#### RICOTTA CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES Biscotti alla Ricotta e Gocce di Cioccolato



- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup unsalted butter,
- softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup ricotta, strained well
- 1 l/ togonoon muno ugnillo
- 1 ¼ teaspoon pure vanilla
- extract 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour

Preheat the oven to 350°. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper, set aside.

2 teaspoons baking powder

 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup confectioners' sugar,

(10-ounce package)

1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cups mini chocolate chips

Orange or lemon zest, optional

1/2 teaspoon salt

for dusting

In a large mixing bowl, cream together butter and sugar until fluffy, add eggs and continue mixing. Add vanilla and ricotta, beat until smooth.

Sift in flour, baking powder and salt and blend well. Stir in chocolate chips until evenly combined.

Using a small cookie scoop or tablespoon, place dough on baking sheets, leaving a small space between the cookies (they do not spread much if using a cookie scoop)

Bake for 15 to 18 minutes, turning halfway through the baking. They should be golden brown on bottom when done. Remove from the oven and cool. Generously sift confectioners' sugar over tops or drizzle with melted chocolate. Store between sheets of wax paper in an airtight container or tin.

Marianna Bisignano is a psychologist for the Boston Public Schools and can be reached at nonnasrecipebox@gmail.com

Uncle Paul got hooked up with a Dixieland band playing alto sax and clarinet. Uncle



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### Dress up the Holidays with Succulent Plants

by Melinda Myers

Many people are opting for more natural elements in their holiday displays and those that easily blend with their home décor. Popular succulent plants fit this trend whether decorating your home, setting a festive table, or giving as a gift. You and your guests will enjoy the easy care of succulents and the beauty they provide beyond the holidays.

Small-scale cacti and

succulents provide a multitude of opportunities for use in holiday celebrations. Just select containers that complement, but don't overpower their charm.

Use them to dress up the table by making them into place cards for your guests. Plant individual succulents in a small clay pot and set one by each place setting. Include the guest's name or holiday wish on a plant tag set in the pot or written on the container. Send them home with your guests to enjoy for months to come.

Repurpose holiday mugs, champagne glasses, bottles and other items into succulent planters. Fill whatever container you choose with a welldrained cacti and succulent mix and display it on beverage or serving tables and trays. Just be careful not to overwater since the container you choose may lack drainage holes.

Empty wine bottles also make fun planters to display any time of the year. You will need to cut a large opening or several smaller holes into the side of



A succulent wreath placed around a candle makes a festive holiday centerpiece (Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com)

the wine bottle or you may opt to buy one that is pre-cut. Fill the bottle with a cacti and succulent mix. The wine bottle planter can be displayed on its side but needs support to prevent it from rolling off the table. One simple method uses two corks and strong wire to create a cradle for your bottle garden. You can also plant just the bottom of the wine bottle and stand it up for a different look. Or consider drilling several holes in the side of the bottle. Plant small succulents in the holes. Secure the plants in place with a bit of sphagnum moss or glue if needed to hold the plants in place once the bottle is set upright.

Create a centerpiece for gatherings by planting them in a shallow container. Their unique shapes and colors blend nicely with any décor. Or display individual potted specimens in the container to enjoy throughout the evening. When the party is over, each guest can pick a plant to take home.

You won't need much space to enjoy the subtle colors and

dramatic forms of these drought-tolerant plants. Skip the seasonal greenery and use succulents to dress up candle displays. Create a terrarium of succulents using any clear glass container with an open top or lid set ajar. Succulents do not thrive in the humid conditions of closed containers.

Take it one-step further and create a *succulent tree*. Fill a cone-shaped wire frame

with moist sphagnum moss. Use cuttings or small plants to cover the frame. You may need to expand the opening to fit the roots through the wires and into the moss.

Include the name and care directions when sending plants home with guests. This makes it easier for the recipient to keep their gift thriving once it arrives home. Suggest they keep it near a sunny window where temperatures are a bit cooler and free of hot and cold air drafts.

Water succulents thoroughly and only when the soil is dry. Pour off any excess water that collects in the saucer. Avoid overwatering plants growing in containers that lack drainage holes. As the days lengthen and the light intensity increases, the plants will need more frequent watering. Fertilize once or twice during the time the plants are actively growing.

Be sure to keep a few succulents for yourself. A succulent centerpiece is a great addition to any gathering at any time of the year.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



#### LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23C1238CA In the Matter of KSENIIA KIDIAIKINA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Kseniia Kidiaikina of Lexington, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree change ing their name to Kseniia Kidiaikina Hirt.

IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of December 18, 2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 20, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run Date: 12/08/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given by Ramsay's Towing 152 Prospect Street, Waltham, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 23, 2023 beginning at 10:00 AM by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Ramsay's Towing.

2007 HYUNDAI SONATA VIN # 5NPET46C07H275600 2012 NISSAN ROGUE VIN # JN8AS5MVXCW375188 Signed, Justin Ramsay Run dates: 12/08, 12/15, 12/22/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Rigano's Towing Service, 1081 Fellsway, Malden, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicle on or after **December 16, 2023 beginning at 10:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicle is being stored at Rigano's Towing Service.

2011 KIA OPTIMA VIN # KNAGR4A68B5155882 Signed Basil Rigano Owner Run dates: 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Middlesex Division Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

#### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services**, Inc., of **171 Boston Street**, **Salem**, **MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **December 23**, **2023 beginning at 9:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2007 YAMAHA FZ6 VIN # JYARJ13E97A001665 2016 HONDA CB300 VIN # MLHNC521XG5200345

2007 ACURA TL VIN # 19UUA66247A026679 2001 BMW 740

VIN # WBAGH834X1DP32258 2011 SUZUKI GSX-R750L

VIN # JS1GR7MA2B2100909 2008 JEEP PATRIOT VIN # 1J8FF28W08D549207

2005 HONDA ACCORD VIN # 1HGCM568X5A038818

2007 FORD ESCAPE VIN # 1FMYU93127KA11575

2013 FORD FUSION VIN # 3FA6P0LU2DR237184

2007 NISSAN SENTRA VIN # 3N1AB61E97L666785 Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed

by appointment only. Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Bun dates: 12/08, 12/15, 12/22/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 09, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2006 HONDA CIVIC VIN # 2HGFA15886H501459 2016 SYM LANCE CALI CLASSIC VIN # RFGBS1D0XGXAE1770

2013 SUBARU LEGACY VIN # 4S3BMBB63D3031483

Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

> Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Middlesex Division

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI22P1751EA Estate of ANNETTE MARIE HAMLET Also Known As ANNETTE MARIE LAROSSEE,

ANNETTE M. HAMLET Date of Death: January 19, 2021

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Diane

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Fill out coupon below and mail with payment to: Post-Gazette, PO Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113. I would like to send a one year Gift-Subscription to the Boston Post-Gazette to

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| Phone          | Phone          |  |  |  |  |
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#### Docket No. MI23P6090EA Estate of JEAN M. DILL Also Known As JEAN DILL Date of Death: August 04, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jens M. Dill of Winthrop, ME a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Jens M. Dill of Winthrop, ME has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any can be obtained from the Petitioner. Run date: 12/08/2023

Fraser of Gloucester, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Diane Fraser** of **Gloucester**, **MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/08/2023

### Small Ads Get **Big** Results

For more information, call 617-227-8929.

#### LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Middlesex Probate and Family Court** 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23D2697DR DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING JUSSARA F. MARTINS

**CAMILO MARTINS NETO** 

#### To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.

The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Jussara F. Martins, 12 Buckminster Street, Framingham, MA 01702 your answer, if any, on or before January 02, 2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 21, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/08/2023

#### **Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court

**Probate and Family Court** Middlesex Division **Middlesex Probate and Family Court** 

LEGAL NOTICE

10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23P6272EA

Estate of FRANCIS WILLIAM CATALDO Also Known As FRANCIS W. CATALDO

Date of Death: December 16, 2021 **INFORMAL PROBATE** PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above cap tioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Deborah A. Cataldo of Stoneham, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Deborah A Cataldo of Stoneham MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any can be obtained from the Petitioner. Run date: 12/08/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Suffolk Division Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 Docket No. SU23P2634EA Estate of CONSTANCE STUART MURPHY Also Known As CONSTANCE S. MURPHY

Date of Death: October 29, 2023 **INFORMAL PROBATE** PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Valerie I. Perkins of Lexington, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Valerie I. Perkins of Lexington, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate. including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/08/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Middlesex Division Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI23P6248EA

Estate of HELEN LOUISE SHEEHAN Also Known As HELEN L. SHEEHAN

Date of Death: October 02, 2022 **INFORMAL PROBATE** PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Susan Mary Gramzow of Billerica, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Susan Mary Gramzow of Billerica, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/08/2023



#### Mets Sign Severino to 1-Year, \$13M Deal

The NY Mets have signed former Yankees right-hander Luis Severino to a one-year, \$13 million deal last week. Severino, 29, had plenty of good times with the Yankees in the past but was always beset by injuries. The two-time All-Star pitched to a 3.79 ERA across parts of eight seasons in pinstripes with his worst year being the 2023 season. He started the season on the injured list and then after debuting in mid-May, recorded 6.65 ERA in 18 starts and 89.1 innings. He then went out and was injured on September 8th ending his season

Severino will once again be united with the new Mets manager Carlos Mendoza, the former bench coach for the Yankees. Severino was at his peak (2017-2018) when he pitched to a 3.18 ERA with 450 strikeouts across 63 starts and 384.2 innings. Prior to the 2019 season, Severino was signed to a 4-year, \$40 million contract extension with a \$15 million club option for 2023. That spring he was injured and ended up sidelined. He ended up pitching in September but only making three starts before the season ended.

#### Happy Birthday to ...

Happy birthday greetings go out to a baseball player known all too well to Red Sox Nation from back in the day. Who am I talking about? No other than Bucky Dent who put a big dent in Red Sox Nation during Game 163 deciding who would win the AL East division turned 72 years old on November 25th. I can still watch the homerun flying off his bat and into history. **Brewers Give Mega Contrat** to Chourio

The Milwaukee Brewers have agreed to an 8-year, \$82 million contract to Jackson Chourio, the deal coming even before the 19-year-old has made his Major League debut, ESPN reported on Sunday, December 3rd. The numbers could reach \$142.5 million when two club options and escalators are figured in. No player has signed a bigger contract before playing in the majors.

#### Leuland Elected to Hall. Piniella One Vote Shy

Jim Leyland was voted into the Hall of Fame, two weeks shy of his 79th birthday, which led the Marlins to a World Series title in 1997 and won a total of 1,769 regular-season wins over 22 seasons as a manager. Former Yankees manager Lou

Piniella finished second one vote behind Leyland who has now become the 23rd manager in the hall. Leyland managed the Pirates, Marlins, Rockies, and the Tigers from 1986 to 2013 and will be inducted at Cooperstown on July 21st along with players voted in by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, whose balloting will be announced on January 23rd.

#### **Everett Soccer Stadium Booted by Pols**

We all have heard the rumors that Robert Kraft was reportedly thinking about building a stadium for the New England Revolution over in Everett not far from the Encore Casino. However, recent action on Beacon Hill led to lawmakers chopping a proposal for such a stadium. Rumor was that the stadium would have been built on the site of the old Edison plant near the Alford Street Bridge and the Charlestown-Everett line.

#### Woo Sox Owners Agree to Sell Team

Diamond Baseball Holdings has reached an agreement to buy the Worcester Woo Sox, the Red Sox Triple A-team. The Woo Sox 35-year lease at Polar Park remains intact. Larry Lucchino, the principal owner of the ball club that he helped move from Pawtucket, RI, and the former president and CEO of the Boston Red Sox, is expected to remain in his role as chairman. The holdings company already owns the Red Sox Single A Salem Red Sox and the Double A Portland Sea Dogs.

#### More on Luis Tiant

As I stated last week, Red Sox legend Luis Tiant is still outside the Hall of Fame. Tiant just celebrated his 83rd birthday on Thanksgiving Day this year. It is such a disgrace. What a disservice to this great pitcher. Over his career, he had 187 career complete games. Over the past five seasons, all pitchers combined threw 195 complete games. His career stats? He was 229-172 with a 3.30 ERA over 19 seasons and nearly 3,500 innings thrown.

#### How Could They

Not Win the MVP Award? On November 3, 1934, Lou

Gehrig won the AL Triple Crown after hitting .363 with 49 homers and 165 RBIs. However, Mickey Cochrane of the Philadelphia A's is named AL MVP. In 1942, on the same date, Ted Williams wins the Triple Crown batting .356 with 36 homers and 137 RBIs, but Yankees pitcher Joe Gordon wins the AL MVP prize.

#### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 16, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale

> 2000 KAWASAKI ZX-6R VIN # JKAZX4J16YA001168 2003 HONDA CR-V VIN # JHLRD78853C026355 2004 HONDA ACCORD VIN # JHMCM56884C010953

**2015 TOYOTA RAV4** VIN # 2T3RFREV4FW250733

2004 HONDA ELEMENT VIN # 5J6YH285X4L013246

2016 AUDI Q5 VIN # WA1C2AFP6GA148976 2008 AUDI A6

VIN # WAUKH94F98N005536 2012 HONDA ACCORD

VIN # 1HGCP2F69CA011420 1990 SUZUKI GSX600F

VIN # JS1GN72A1L2101680 2007 SUBARU FORESTER VIN # JF1SG63697H723659

2010 TOYOTA COROLLA VIN # 2T1BU4EE2AC417877 2007 MERCURY MARINER VIN # 4M2YU91117KJ19543

Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

> Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2023

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** 

(781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23P0669EA

> Estate of JANE P. PRAGER Also Known As JANE PRAGER

Date of Death: November 05, 2022 CITATION ON GENERAL **PROBATE PETITION** 

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by Marilyn Cantiloro of Deerfield, NH requesting this honorable Court enter an Order for instructions for Distribution and other such relief requested in the General Petition dated 09/20/2023.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attor-ney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on December 27, 2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: November 29, 2023 Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/08/2023

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

Donald Trump. But Democrats "are going to have to fight for a base they have always been able to take for granted."

"Secret" Trans Apology Victoria Secrets became a lightning rod for criticism after apologizing to a transgender woman who said she had a "thoroughly dehumanizing" in-store experience when she was denied trying on a bra in a dressing room.

The Trans woman wrote on X: "I went through a thoroughly dehumanizing experience at Victoria's Secret today due to my status as a trans woman."

Victoria's Secret page replied to the woman, apologizing and providing information for her to contact them. "We are committed to ensuring a great experience for our customers."

#### \$61K Tesla Trucks Roll Out

Tesla published prices for its Cybertruck electric pickup, starting at \$60,900 for the cheapest model, over 50 percent more than what Elon Musk had touted in 2019.

#### End Quote

"A man who jumps out of a building is okay until he hits the ground."

— Charles Munger

In 1938, Freddie's

long time manager and

surrogate father passed

away. The loss had an

effect on Steele that

showed up in the ring.

In a brutal rematch with

Fred Apostoli, Freddie

was stopped in the 9th

round of a non-title

bout. Just three years

earlier, he had kayoed

With the loss of his



### Happy Birthday **Freddie Steele**

All-Time Great Middleweight Champion is Largely Forgotten Today

Mention the name Freddie Steele to casual boxing fans today and they will respond "Freddie who"? It's sad that one of the greatest middleweight champions to ever step into the ring is today forgotten.

Steele was born on December 18, 1912 in Seattle, Washington and later made his home in Tacoma. An allaround athlete excelling

at basketball, baseball, soccer, as well as boxing. He had his first professional bout at the age of 14. His manager convinced him to give up the other sports and focus solely on the prize ring. It was a wise move as the young Steele would move on to win the Middleweight Title at the age of 24.

Steele was a master in the ring. He had the shoulders of a heavyweight (his build was reminiscent of Max and Buddy Baer). He could slip punches with ease, had devastating power in both hands and a solid chin. His left hook was one of the best ever.

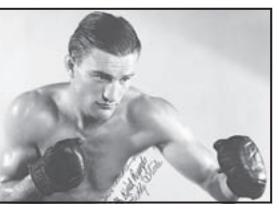
His career consisted of 140 bouts with 127 wins (58 by knockout), 11 draws, and only 5 losses. He was stopped only three times and those stoppages came at the end of his career.

Freddie had kayo wins over Gus Lesnevich, Vince Dundee, Fred Apostoli, Baby Joe Gans, Ceferino Garcia, Ralph Chong, and Ken Overlin. He won the title from Babe Risko in 1937.



Steele landing on Babe Risko





**Freddie Steele** 

manager and having been fighting for 12 years, Steele was losing his desire to fight when he didn't give Apostoli a chance at the title he was stripped of the crown. He only had five more fights before calling it quits in 1941 at the age of 29.

Apostoli.



Freddie lands a jab on Fred Apostoli

Thanks to his friend Bing Crosby, Steele went on to have a successful career in movies where his good looks and acting ability made him a natural for the big screen. He was in a number of films and is perhaps best known for his role as Sergeant Steve Warnicki. Steele was also a double for Errol Flynn in Gentleman Jim.





There he was again, the coach who had previously been designated the Anointed One, standing behind the bench of the visiting team as his San Jose Sharks took on the Boston Bruins at the TD Garden.

Just a few years earlier he had been selected to be the successor to legendary Boston University men's hockey head coach Jack Parker, when he — the one of all the triumphs and all the trophies - retired at the end of the 2012-2013 season after some 40 years behind the BU bench.

But David Quinn left after five seasons, the financial rewards of the NHL being viewed as somewhat better than those on Commonwealth Avenue. The New York Rangers came calling, offering a multi-year contract in the neighborhood of \$12 million and presto, the Anointed One became the Departed One. He left on his own terms with an armful of his own laurels and with a bulging wallet that came his way by signing on the dotted line with the Rangers.

In his wake, he left a five-season collegiate record of 106-68-21, a mark that included four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018). Along the way he also won a pair of Hockey East regular season titles, plus two HE Tournament Championships and a Beanpot crown. He was named both the New England Coach of the Year and Hockey East Coach of the year in 2015. That was the season that the Terriers took down NCAA hockey powerhouse North Dakota at the Garden in the national Frozen Four semifinals.

But since he left for the NHL, except for higher monthly paychecks, nothing has been the same in a positive way for Quinn, a native of Cranston, Rhode Island and a BU graduate, since he drove down Commonwealth Avenue for the last time in the spring of 2018.

His destination was New York City and his assignment was to reinvigorate the Rangers. But things did not go well with two seventh place finishes in the NHL's Metropolitan Division followed by a fifth in the Eastern Division. And thus, he was let go in 2021 after his third season with the team concluded.

Then, after a year with the 2022 Team USA Olympic squad, Quinn signed on with San Jose starting with the 2022-2023 season. It was a disappointing campaign with the Sharks turning in a record of 22-44-16 for a total of 60 points and a seventh-place finish in the Pacific Division.

This year has started out much the same with the Sharks registering (along with Chicago) the fewest victories (a slim seven) in the entire 32-tem NHL as of December 6th. San Jose also led the league in another negative statistic — goals allowed. As of December 6th, the Sharks were the only team to have allowed more than 100 goals (106) in the entire league.

Of course, it did not have to be this way. When Jack Parker was at BU he knew that while he might receive more money as a NHL head coach, he would not enjoy the permanence of his position throughout his career. He enjoyed meeting with former players and their families as the years went by as part of the overall bond and respect he had with the entire BU community of athletes, fans, faculty and staff.

Those were the priceless benefits of his position that could not be quantified in a financial manner. And that is why he turned down the Bruins not once but twice during his coaching career at BU. One might get more money but he felt the qualities of the overall experience were better for him at the collegiate level. He knew that for many coaches in professional athletics one is "hired to be (later) fired" as the saying goes.

David Quinn, a successful player, alumnus, and college coach, had it all set up for him on Commonwealth Avenue. Indeed, he had commenced down his own path of success that gave all the earmarks of extending for many years. But he gave it all up and chose a different route.

Perhaps the Sharks may pick up the pace a bit. Although they lost 3-0 to the Bruins in their lone Garden appearance of the season, they did not play badly. It was a scoreless contest after the first period and it never really got way out of hand.

Peter Lorre and Steele in Black Angel



Freddie playing the role of Sergeant Steve Warnicki in The Story of G.I. Joe

Freddie squares off with good friend Bing Crosby

With thirty credited film roles and many other uncredited appearances under his belt, Freddie retired from movies. He went on to open cigar store and later, a successful restaurant. By all accounts, he was leading a comfortable life in retirement.

Tragically, Steele suffered a massive stroke in 1980. The always-active former champion was devastated by this and his now being confined to a bed. He passed away in 1984 at the age of 71.

I have just given a brief look at the career of this extremely talented champion. It is worth looking deeper into his career and appreciating just what a great fighter he was. There hasn't been a champion who would not have struggled with a prime Freddie Steele. On his best night, he very possibly could have beaten any one of them.

In a league where eight teams in each conference make the postseason playoffs anything is still possible, especially since the halfway point of the season will not be reached until January. But there is no question, the chances of the Sharks sitting on the postseason sidelines in the spring of 2024 are increasing with each passing day.

In the world of professional sports and Division One college athletics that usually leads to a less than positive outcome for coaches. Front office executives in the pros and athletic administrators at the college level generally want to see improvement (going in the right direction). What unfolds for Quinn only time will tell.

THE TALK OF THE TOWN AND BEYOND - If ever NBA Commissioner Adam Silver hit the nail on the head it was with the creation of the In-Season Tournament. An event more familiar to fans of European soccer, the Commissioner imported the concept into the early portion of the NBA regular season.

Whether one had positive or negative thoughts about it just contributed to the overall reaction: everyone in the NBA was talking about it. Thus the objective - to give the fans and media something interesting to discuss in the early portion of the NBA season - was accomplished. Who advanced and who did not was almost secondary to the fact that the tournament concept itself generated discussion and interest.

In that sense, the league succeeded with the In-Season Tournament. We liked the novel design of the famed parquet floor for the tournament games at the Garden. The design also generated discussion. Perhaps that floor could be used on selected additional occasions as well.