

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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IT'S OFFICIAL, Josh Kraft has Announced his Candidacy for Mayor of Boston



After months of speculation, Josh Kraft officially announced he will be a candidate for the Mayor of Boston in the upcoming election. Kraft became a resident of Boston's North End in October 2023, igniting rumors he was exploring a mayoral run. Kraft made his intentions public this past week, during a press conference at Prince Hall in Dorchester.

Kraft has set out an ambitious agenda, including tackling rent control, increasing development of affordable housing, pausing the White stadium project and cleaning up Mass and Cass. "Because I love this city and its people, I am excited to declare my candidacy to be the next mayor of Boston. We have a leader that just does not listen. Too often Mayor Wu acts as if she alone has all the answers. Whether it's housing, schools, neighborhood services or bike

lanes, instead of listening to community voices, trying to understand what families and businesses need, too often she is tuning them out. On issue after issue, the mayor has become less receptive, and more and more disconnected from the communities, their feedback and their ideas," Kraft said.

He is attempting to unseat current Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, no easy feat, as an incumbent mayor hasn't been unseated since 1949. Wu is a first term mayor, who has stated she plans to run for re-election and will be making a more formal announcement at some point. She is sitting on almost a \$2 million campaign war chest and has already garnered the endorsements from a number of labor unions including two of the city's largest city workers unions.

Kraft is a self-proclaimed Democrat whose family ties and name recognition should go a long way in raising a formidable campaign account. He also has strong ties to neighborhoods and organizations within the city, including his past role with the Boys and Girls Club of Boston, and is the chair of the Urban League of Massachusetts, which is based in Roxbury.

Unless another candidate enters the race this Spring, the showdown between Wu and Kraft will take place on Tuesday, November 4th. It should be an interesting nine months.

Canada and Mexico Surrender to Trump Tariffs No Word from China

by Patti Sartori

Newly inaugurated President Donald Trump has made good on his campaign threat to hit China, Canada and Mexico with tariffs. Trump announced 25% tariffs on goods from Mexico and Canada and 10% on imports from China. But two out of the three were short lived. Less than twenty-four hours after President Trump imposed the tariffs, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the two leaders had reached a temporary deal to halt the imposition of 25% tariffs on each other's imports for thirty days, while a final border security agreement could be worked out.

Speaking multiple times on Monday, Trump and Trudeau announced Canada committed to stationing 10,000 troops at the Northern border to crack down on fentanyl smuggling. "Canada has agreed to ensure we have a secure Northern order, and to finally end the deadly scourge of drugs like fentanyl that have been pouring into our country," Trump stated, following the phone call between the two men.

Economists and market analysts had warned America

should prepare for higher prices at not only the gasoline pump but also for everyday items including avocados from Mexico, cherry tomatoes from Canada, clothing from China's Shein, and even America's favorite Modelo beer if an agreement could not be worked out.

President Trump acknowledged that American consumers could feel the pain on tariffs — maybe — but stated, "it will all be worth it" to stop the flow of illegal drugs and migrants into the U.S. and to boost American domestic production. "As President it is my responsibility to ensure the safety of all Americans, and I am doing just that. I am very pleased with the initial outcome," Trump posted on X. In a separate post, Trudeau confirmed Canada would move forward with its \$1.3 billion dollar border plan, announced soon after Trump initially threatened the 25% tariffs, which were to take effect at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday.

Earlier on Monday, President Trump and Mexico President Claudia Sheinbaum announced a similar thirty day pause on the pending 25% tariff Trump

imposed on America's southern neighbor. Mexico confirmed plans to send 10,000 troops to the U.S. border and requested Washington D.C. help crack down on weapons trafficking into Mexico.

Some experts believe the tariffs would have hit Canada and Mexico much harder, for example, Canada exports to the U.S. make up 18% of Canada's economy, but American exports to the north are just 1% of GDP.

Mexico and Canada are the largest suppliers of fruits, vegetables, grain, livestock, meats and poultry to the U.S. We import more than 80% of our avocados from Mexico at approximately \$3.1 billion according to the U.S. Agriculture Department. Canada is also the biggest supplier of cherry tomatoes and maple syrup to the U.S. The cost increase was expected to hit supermarkets and consumer wallets, since these items are imported on an ongoing basis.

It's not just food items that may increase in price. Popular beers from Mexico, including

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Mayor Wu Heading to D.C., on Her Timeline

by Patti Sartori

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu is one of four Mayor's called to testify before Congress. The U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chair James Comer has requested mayors from Denver, New York, Chicago and Boston testify in person, regarding sanctuary city policies. "The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating sanctuary jurisdictions across the United States and their impact on public safety and the effectiveness of federal efforts to enforce the immigration laws of the United States," wrote Committee Chair Comer in a letter to the four mayors. As part of the communication request, the committee chair requested documents and information related to the sanctuary policies of all four cities and invited each mayor to testify at a public hearing, before the committee, at the Capitol, in Washington D.C. on Tuesday, February 11th at 11:00 a.m.

Mayor Wu has confirmed she will testify before Congress and comply with their request to appear before a Congressional oversight Committee, but is



asking for a delay to accommodate her post-natal schedule. "We have been in touch with the Oversight Committee and I have let them know that I do plan to participate and we are taking the request very seriously, in terms of producing information and being responsive. We're very proud that Boston is the safest major city in the country. We have a lot to share about what has been working here and we look forward to being able to get into the details of that. The timeline is quite fast, especially given my personal circumstances of having just given birth not too long ago, and staying in touch with my doctor of what makes sense from a

recovery perspective," Wu told reporters.

The mayor gave birth to her third child on January 13th. Standard recovery time after childbirth is traditionally about six weeks. The mayor is looking for a time line that would "work better and be more appropriate." Ideally the mayor would prefer to appear in person at a later date, but wants to be "accommodating and participate however best represents the city."

Boston is considered a sanctuary city under the Trust Act, a 2014 city law which prohibits city police and other departments from cooperating with ICE and federal agencies on civil immigration detainers. There are currently twelve states and hundreds of cities and counties that place limits on how much they are willing to cooperate with federal agencies' efforts to deport illegal immigrants.

Comer requested all documents related to each cities' sanctuary status between city employees, federal or state between January 1, 2024 - present.

(Continued on Page 10)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Whole Lotta Love Plus Stuff

There will be a large indoor yard sale over at 80 Broadway in Revere. Parking available. Bring your own bags. Household items large and small. They are saying this is not gonna be your average yard sale.

Saturday, February 8th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and again on Sunday, February 9th from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Staten Island Chuck Vs. Phil from Philadelphia

Staten Island Chuck did not see his shadow meaning a swift end to winter despite his cousin Punxsutawney Phil predicting another six weeks of winter. Despite Phil's fame sparked by a 132-year-old folk tale on Staten Island's Chuck having been historically more accurate, Chuck has an 85 percent accuracy rate while the groundhog from Philly has only been accurate about 33 percent of the time. This groundhog tradition actually began as the early Christian holiday of Candlemas. Hedgehogs in this

(Continued on Page 11)

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



LUCAN

Marcus Annaeus Lucanus, usually called Lucan, our next Roman scholar was a most important poet in the Silver Age of Latin literature. He was brought to Rome at an early age, where his education was supervised by the most prominent teachers of the day. He was the nephew of Seneca, the tutor of Nero.

The talents of Lucan developed during his younger years, and he soon became famous as a poet. Lucan's popularity awakened the jealousy of Nero, and consequently Lucan was forbidden to write any more poetry, or even to recite in public.

Appalled by this prohibition, he joined Piso's famous conspiracy to assassinate Nero, but was soon betrayed. Lucan was promised a pardon if he turned informer and soon denounced all of his accomplices. Imperial treachery was more than Lucan could deal with, and after the conspirators were executed, Nero issued an order for the poet's execution. Escape appeared to be hopeless, so at the age of twenty-six, while in the prime of his life and career, he opened his veins and expired while feebly reciting poetry.

We are told that Lucan wrote prose as well as poetry, but that his only work currently in existence is an epic poem in ten books, given the title of "Pharsalia." This work fully details the struggle between Caesar and Pompey after Julius crossed the Rubicon, and all events are arranged in chronological order.

Due to the changing moods and the spirit of the poem, it's quite evident that the ten books were written within different time frames. Earlier books flatter Nero, while later volumes loudly proclaim the blessings of freedom along with offensive criticism against his tyranny.

In spite of his youth, Lucan's work is said to contain greatness. It is characterized by a superior quality of diction, excellent imagination, and a mature tone in thought. The "Pharsalia" is generally accepted to be one of the best and second only to Vergil's "Aeneid."



In book six, Erichtho (pictured) performs a necromantic rite, which many contend is one of the *Pharsalia's* best-known sequences.

NEXT ISSUE: *Pliny the Elder*

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Community Fight with White Stadium Plans Continues

As a steadfast advocate for our youth and Boston Public School athletes, City Councilor Erin Murphy has consistently voiced concerns regarding the White Stadium redevelopment project. Her opposition, she says, is rooted not in resistance to progress, but in a commitment to ensuring that public assets remain under public control and serve the best interests of our students and community.

The recent aCity Council vote on a resolution to pause the demolition of White Stadium resulted in a deadlock, which park advocates saw as a victory. The tie vote underscored the deep concerns surrounding this project and the growing momentum behind calls for greater transparency and community input. The debate highlighted valid issues regarding the project's escalating costs, potential privatization and the displacement of student athletes.

I firmly believe that we can and should invest in our Boston Public School students without ceding control of a valuable public asset to private interests. The current 30-year agreement effectively places White Stadium under private control, potentially limiting access for Boston residents and displacing student athletes who rely on the facility.

Beyond the financial and equity concerns, it is crucial to



recognize that Franklin Park is a historic and environmental treasure, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted as Boston's "country park" — a sanctuary for open space, recreation, and community use. Transforming it into a site for large-scale commercial ventures, including beer gardens and expanded parking lots, is a direct contradiction of Olmsted's vision for the park. We should be enhancing Franklin Park's role as a vital green space for all Bostonians, not repurposing it for private gain at the expense of environmental integrity and community access.

It's disheartening that some have framed the debate as a choice between supporting our children and opposing the project. This is a false dichotomy. My stance is driven by a desire to ensure that our

investments directly benefit our students and community, without unnecessary privatization.

Murphy says she will continue to be active and vocal throughout this process, advocating for transparency, fiscal responsibility, the preservation of public assets and urging her colleagues and the administration to consider alternative solutions that prioritize the needs of our students and community while respecting the historical and environmental significance of Franklin Park.

The City of Boston can develop a plan that revitalizes White Stadium, honors its legacy and serves the best interests of Boston's residents and student athletes without compromising the values that make Franklin Park a cornerstone of our city.

Democrats Elect New National Chairperson

The Democratic National Committee (DNC) elected a new national party leader last week. Ken Martin, of Minnesota, who once called for President Trump to be tried for treason, will attempt to right the ship of the party that lost the White House, Senate majority and failed to take back control of the House in the 2024 election. Martin's election is the Democrat's first attempt to get back on track with Democratic voters. Over the past eight years, Martin has served as DNC vice-chair and has led the association of state Democratic Party chairs. "We have one team, the Democratic Party. The fight is for our values. The fight is for working people. The fight right now is against Donald Trump and the billionaires who bought this country," said Martin following his victory.

While the Democrats appear to be leaderless, the new DNC chair will make decisions on messaging, determine strategy, decide which



Democratic National Chairperson Ken Martin

candidates to support and how to spend millions in political donations. In his victory speech, Martin urged "Unity and the need for the party to rebuild the coalition. We need to go on offense. We're going to go out there and take this fight to Donald Trump and the Republicans."

The DNC election took place just as a new national poll was released by Quinnipiac University. Only 31% of respondents reported a favorable opinion of the Democratic Party, with 57% saying seeing the party unfavorably, the highest percentage

ever reported. Meanwhile, 43% of those polled reported a favorable view of the GOP which was also the highest ever reported by Quinnipiac. Not only did President Trump win back the White House, but Republicans also flipped the Senate and held onto to their razor thin majority in the House while making massive gains with working class families, minorities and younger voters.

From the Appalachian Mountains to the Oval Office

The American Dream is Real

Vice-President JD Vance's eyes glazed over as his face registered astonishment as he walked over the threshold into the Oval Office for the first time. According to Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, who video recorded the visit, "Vice-President JD Vance looked mesmerized and awestruck, during his first visit to the Oval Office. It is a stunning testament to the American Dream," said Speaker Johnson.

"Wow, this is pretty crazy. I have never been inside this room. This is incredible." stated the Vice-President as he looked around the iconic setting. Speaker Johnson had been there for a meeting with President Trump and other

Republican leaders discussing the GOP's key agenda items coming before Congress, when Vance appeared. The speaker noted Vance's humble upbringing and remarked on the strength of his resilient climb in attaining the second highest office in America.

"As we gathered for our meeting at the White House, JD Vance mentioned to us that he had never before visited the Oval Office. I told him and President Trump that I HAD to capture the moment on video. Only in America can a hardworking young man from Appalachia rise from his humble circumstances to enter the Oval Office for the first time as Vice President of the

United States. What a country!" Speaker Johnson explained in an X post.

The Ohio native was launched into the national spotlight after the publication of his 2016 book, *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*, which referenced his difficult upbringing in Middletown, Ohio. The book was eventually made into a Hollywood Blockbuster movie directed by Ron Howard. Trump endorsed Vance in the 2022 primary battle for the Ohio Senate seat, helping him pull out a nail biter of a win. The following Summer, Trump picked the freshman senator to run as his Vice-Presidential running mate.

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James V. Donnaruma 1896 to 1953
 Caesar L. Donnaruma 1953 to 1971
 Phyllis F. Donnaruma 1971 to 1990

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Friday, February 7, 2025

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.

COMMENTARY

This is Not Exactly a Happy Anniversary but ...

by Sal Giarratani

Did you know that February 6th and 7th this week is the 47th anniversary of the Blizzard of '78. I still remember it well. A once in a lifetime snow storm that created havoc all over Greater Boston. The City of Boston saw 28 inches of snow over the 2 days. What made this storm seem even greater was the fact that no one but Don Kent on WBZ-TV saw it coming. Also, the Boston area had seen another 22 inches of snow fall less than two weeks earlier on January 20th. All in all, we had 50 inches of snow fall between both these blizzards. More than we could ever handle. There were some snow mountains everywhere until the month of May.

I was living in Charlestown back then, right across from the firehouse and Engine 50. The snow was up to HERE everywhere one looked. The state basically closed down. No one could move for almost a week. Folks trying to get out of Boston ahead of the snow falling ended up getting jammed up on the highways out of town. I still remember the photos of all those vehicles buried under the snow on Route 128, Southeast Expressway, etc. I remember there were even some fatalities of folks dying in the cars waiting for help.

No matter how long I live, I will never forget the Blizzard of '78 and all those memories and images of that two day "Snownado." On the morning of February 7th, I discovered I didn't have a shovel to my name so I walked down Warren Street past Thompson Square and not far from Tuttle's Dry Cleaners was the only hardware store in the town at that time.

They had one shovel left made from solid oak and American-made steel. I bought it at once and was shocked it still only cost \$5.00. Once I left the store I realized I had just purchased the last shovel in Charlestown and for only five bucks.

I shoveled and shoveled it seemed forever. It took days before the snow stopped falling and I must say I was so glad I was still young enough to do the shoveling. If we ever had a repeat of that blizzard, I don't know what I would do today. My non-stop shoveling days are over.

I was off a whole week in that storm after Governor Dukakis declared a total close down emergency. He was on TV every day wearing a different winter sweater. He did it so much, we all started calling him Mr. Rogers.

So far this winter hasn't been that bad. Maybe we've had a total of 12-14 inches over three snow events. Not bad. Even the last two years have been really great too. The snow doesn't seem to be as bad anymore. Some say it is a bad thing tied to Climate Change but I like this climate change.

The last major snow storm we have experienced occurred on January 29, 2022. You may not remember that date but I am sure folks in Canton, MA remember it. The snow is still falling from that storm over in a Norfolk County courtroom.

One final aside from that 1978 blizzard. I thought nothing would be worse for Bostonians but then the Winter of 2015 came along and packed a punch weekend after weekend. The snow falling that year was like the Blizzard of '78 never ending. I hated the Winter of 2015 even more than the Blizzard of '78, at least that one lasted only two days.

By the way, that \$5.00 shovel I bought at that long since gone Charlestown hardware store, I still have it and it still works well in snow too.

The opinions expressed by our columnists and contributors are not necessarily the same as those of The Post-Gazette, its publisher or editor. Photo submissions are accepted by the Post-Gazette provided they are clear, original photos. There is a \$5 charge for each photo submitted. Photos can be submitted via e-mail: postgazette@aol.com. If you want your photos returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Marc Alan Corbacho

Marc Alan Corbacho (68), a Boston, Massachusetts resident, South Florida sunshine-lover and Newark, New Jersey boy at heart, passed away suddenly — but peacefully — early morning on Sunday, January 19th in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Marc was surrounded by his family, music and the South Florida sun shining over him, alongside his beloved ocean waves.

Marc is survived by his wife, Laurie, their daughter, Carly, their son and daughter-in-law, Alex and Tani, along with their two granddaughters, Isabella and Gemma. Marc is also survived by both of his older siblings, John Corbacho and Evelyn Deo.

A Mass will be celebrated at St. Leonard of Port Maurice in Boston's North End on Saturday, February 8th at 10:00 a.m.



Marc's "Anchors Aweigh" celebration will begin at the Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West on the afternoon of Saturday, March 29th.

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Upcoming Events ...

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER: Tuesday, February 18, 2:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

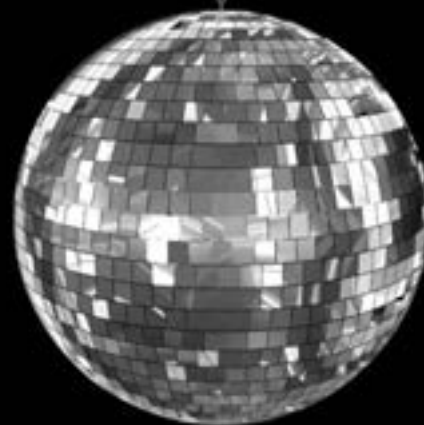
Bring your stuffie to the library for a special sleepover just for stuffed animals. Stay for stories, music, and fun then drop your stuffie off for a slumber party. Pick your stuffie up anytime from 12:00PM - 4:00PM the next day

KIDS' LEGO (AGES 6-12): Wednesday, February 19, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Are you a building master or just starting out? Come meet new friends and challenge yourself to make a royal castle or the coolest car! The possibilities are bound only by your creativity. Kids ages 6-12 can stop by

CRAFTERNOON: Thursday, February 20, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Join Ms. Ashley for fun craft afternoons. Materials will be provided for a special craft each week, but kids and caregivers are welcome to share their own ideas and projects with other participants!



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L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Feeling Fresh for February

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



All around me, nature shifts and pulsates with a renewed energy. I see this energy reflected in the increased number of birds hopping and singing around the bare branches of my backyard trees. I see it in the pinkish-orange sunset hue peeking through the clouds on a windy evening. The rushing sound of melting snow seems to sing the newness of the season, while the scent of damp soil brims with the promise of new life. The calendar has now turned to February, a month of transition, a month filled with the crackling air and delicate reminders of early spring. Above all, February functions as a month devoted to purification, to dusting out the metaphorical cobwebs of a stagnant past and ushering in a hopeful future. The Italian roots of the word "February" reveal the month's cleansing power, as it derives from *Februa*, an ancient Roman purification festival. Indeed, I love February precisely because it offers a new beginning, a chance to spring-clean the literal and figurative clutter in my life. This desire arises from seasonal cues and has been felt since ancient times, as evident by a plethora of February traditions held dear by our ancestors in Italy. Italian holidays and customs fully embrace the restorative nature of February, paving the way to an exciting spring.

As a child growing up in the mountainous Abruzzi region of central Italy, my father participated in a quaint ritual that introduced the changeable days of February. On the evening of February 3rd, he would walk through the crisp, wind-swept air to his local church, beautifully aglow with candlelight. There, the parish priest would hold two crossed candles against the throat of each worshiper and say a blessing. This was *la Festa di San Biagio*, or the feast day of St. Blaise,

the patron saint of illnesses of the throat and neck. St. Blaise, a fourth-century Armenian bishop, reportedly saved a choking boy's life by dislodging the fish bone that was stuck in his throat. The ritual which my father fondly remembered from his boyhood sought to prevent congregants from acquiring any sort of malady or injury to the throat in the future. In her inimitable book *Festa*, author Helen Barolini mentions that Italians eat special hard biscuits on *la Festa di San Biagio* as yet another means to protect the throat. These curative customs practiced on St. Blaise's Day strongly remind me of the purification rites so prevalent in February. Just as a physical illness can be purged from a body, so too can the emotional drain of negativity be expelled. Similar to the way that candles and biscuits are inscribed with therapeutic powers on St. Blaise's Day, our sense of hope and positive thinking can cleanse us of the distractions, bad habits and despair that may have plagued us during the winter. *La Festa di San Biagio*, therefore, reminds us that the time is ripe for reevaluating the small improvements we can make in our lives.

The people of Catania, Sicily, get another chance at a purification festival with *la festa di Sant'Agata*, or St. Agatha's Day. Bright lights and raucous revelries mark these celebrations, which culminate on February 5th, the saint's feast day. Huge candles and intricate light displays illuminate the city as people march in processions bearing relics of St. Agatha, a third-century Sicilian martyr. These luminous lights mimic the sun, which is now appearing for a longer time in the sky, scattering the darkness of winter and welcoming the restorative days of spring. Like St. Blaise, St. Agatha also presides over the protection against

certain illnesses, in her case diseases of the breast. However, St. Agatha further serves as the patron saint of bakers, and as such Sicilian bakers bring their breads and pastries to church for a blessing on her feast day. Now imbued with healing powers, these blessed treats will bring luck and renewal to those who eat them. I recently discovered the celebrations in honor of St. Agatha, and this holiday fascinates me with its themes of light and darkness, feminine power, and symbolic foods. It seamlessly captures the purifying mood of February with its desire to rid people of both literal and figurative maladies, as well as greeting spring in a blaze of warmth. In fact, even after St. Agatha's Day ends, Italians look forward to a whole season of festivities that metaphorically dispel the dark winter days and hail the spring, from the flowers of St. Valentine's Day to the mischief of Carnival.

This February, I am eager to jump into a fresh start. The pastel hues adorning the latest spring fashions, the birds chirping in the bushes, and the delectable Valentine's Day chocolates fill me with an irresistible energy and enthusiasm. I realize that I am certainly not alone in looking forward to the spring, while still enjoying the unpredictable nature of a season in transition. February is a liminal month, where folk customs around the world gleefully greet a new cycle in the year with traditions that emphasize cleansing and healing. In order to fully delight in the spring, after all, we must make good on our promises of the New Year and purge ourselves of the negativity left over from our metaphorical winters. It is our time to let bad habits, self-doubt and worries melt away like the snow during a thaw. Taking an example from the celebrations of St. Blaise and St. Agatha, we can realize that the power for change comes from within, and that with love and hope, our hearts will forever blossom like a spring garden.

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.

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. M125C0062CA

In the Matter of

DEREK THOMAS WITT

CITATION ON

PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Derek Thomas Witt of Cambridge, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Dex Witt.

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 February 19, 2025. 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: January 22, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 02/07/2025

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



Boston is a Far Better Place Today than in 1965, I Know Because I Was There

Recently, a number of media outlets reminded us about a civil rights march held right here in Boston led by Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., on April 23, 1965. I remember that march which started in Roxbury up in Grove Hall to the finish line at Boston Common. I still remember it was a warm sunny day and I could see the marchers coming down Harrison Avenue past Dudley Street being led by Dr. King and a young Mel King, then a Boston School Committee candidate in that year's city elections.

It was an impressive crowd size and I still remember that special moment in my life that I will carry with me for as long as I live. I was a 16-year-old boy living in the "Projects" (Orchard Park). I remember waving to him as he passed by my kitchen window. I smiled as I waved and he smiled back waving to me. It was just a few short moments in my long life.

I still remember how important that march was for the future of Roxbury, or the future of Boston and the future of America. The Roxbury I grew up in was a tough place and we all struggled to survive. The public schools in Roxbury were pretty messed up, which is why many Catholic families regardless of ethnicity or race chose to send their

children to parochial schools like St. Rita's, St. Francis de Sales, or St. Patrick's grammar schools.

However, Lower Roxbury was still quite multiracial compared to today. In my younger years, we all seemed to live together despite differences or family backgrounds. In my 8th grade graduation class of 1962 at St. Francis de Sales Grammar School, the demographics of my classmates, I believe, showed Boston's future. My class was 99.9 percent Catholic but 33 percent Black, 33 percent with Italian surnames, 33 Percent Irish surnames and 50 percent female.

My long-ago neighbors and especially those with whom I grew up with hopefully survived out there in the much bigger world. I still think we had a good head start, living together and not apart. I have never given up on Dr. King's dream because it was my dream too. We still need to march at times today. Things still need fixing. However, today we need to walk more together, listen to each other more and work together to make the world better for all the children of today like Dr. King wanted 60 years ago. Finding hope can sometimes be a struggle, but hope still resides inside us, or we all could be in bigger trouble than we already are.

What Happens When You Don't Advertise?

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For information on advertising in the Post-Gazette, call 617-227-8929.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **March 03, 2025** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

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2007 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

VIN #1J8HR58237C634657

2009 GMC ACADIA

VIN #1TGKEV23D09J198768

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.

Please email for specific information
info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 02/07, 02/14, 02/21/2025

NOBILE INSURANCE

MICHAEL F. NOBILE, CPCU

Email: MNobile@NobileInsurance.com

ALBANO F. PONTE, CEP

Financial and Estate Planning

Email: AFPonte@msn.com

Phone: 617-320-0022

BOSTON

30 Prince St., Boston, MA 02113

617-523-6766

FAX: 617-523-0078

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WU vs. KRAFT, and Not Just in a Mayoral Race

*Battle Brewing Between
Boston's Mayor Wu and Kraft Group's
Everett Stadium Soccer Proposal*



Rendering by the Kraft Group

The Kraft Group's proposal to build a professional soccer stadium in Everett, adjacent to the Encore Casino, has a hit a snag. Approved as part of the state's recently passed economic development bill, the legislation contains a requirement that the Kraft Group negotiate a community benefits agreement with the City of Boston to mitigate the projects impact on Boston and surrounding Charlestown neighborhood.

Revolution President Brian Bilello, offered a one-time mitigation payment to the city for \$750,000 to benefit Charlestown athletics, an amount the Wu administration seems to find insulting and unacceptable.

City of Boston representatives inferred the city was and continues to be excluded from the planning process, despite the traffic and

congestion impacts the city will face. Bilello's response countered the city's narrative, "Please note that we have not at any time excluded the City of Boston from participation in the regulatory review process for this project, which is located in, and will primarily benefit and impact Everett." Bilello also compared the city's support of the White Stadium proposal to house a professional women's soccer team, which may cost the city over \$100 million dollars, with this 100% privately financed stadium.

Both representatives have stated they will continue to work on negotiating a fair agreement for all parties, but the clock is ticking on the two sides coming to a satisfactory agreement prior to May 1st, otherwise a state mediator will step in, according to state law.

umbria

Italian steakhouse

& mia
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The Italian Experience
857-770-3483

Giardino
Breakfast & Lunch
857-770-3360

SUNDAY, March 2, 2025
3:30pm - 5:30pm

KIDS CARNIVAL

Carnevale Italiano!!!

Dante Alighieri Society
41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge

The Program includes many activities:

Music Entertainment

Face Painting Artists

..... meet Arlecchino

and performance by the students of
Scuola di Italiano di San Leonardo

\$10
per family



Registration MANDATORY
Scan the QR Code!



Light refreshments served

Carnival theme costumes strongly recommended for children and adults alike!!

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Valentine's Treat Yourself Day

Saturday, February 8, 2025
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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EAST BOSTON BRANCH**

365 Bremen Street, East Boston MA 02128
617-569-0271



Treat yourself at our special Valentine's event!
Enjoy chocolate and hot cocoa as you craft bath
fizzes, ice cream soda magnets, and Valentine's
Day cards. All supplies will be provided.

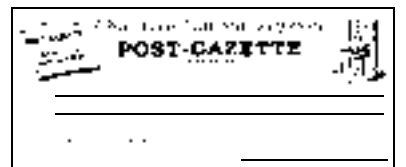
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PIRANDELLO LYCEUM

Calendar of Events

Pirandello Italian Film Showing (In Italian with English Subtitles)

The Invisible Witness, 2018, Presented by Prof. Dr. Anna Rocca

Saturday, February 8, 2025
10 AM-12 Noon
At the North End Branch Library
25 Parmenter Street, Boston, MA
Admission is FREE/Light Refreshments Served

Contact: Prof., Dr. Anna Rocca
arocca@Salemstate.edu

Bel Canto Opera at the Dante

Sunday, February 9, 2025
3:00 PM
At the Dante Alighieri Society Hall
41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139
Free for Pirandello Lyceum Members/
Others \$ 10 when accompanied by member
Contact: Dorothy Maio sfmaio8391@aol.com

Pirandello Lyceum Scholarship Fundraiser

Featuring the renowned "Watch City Cadillacs" Band, Vocal and Dancing
Saturday, March 22, 2025
6:30 PM

Sons of Italy Hall
520 Pleasant Street, Watertown, MA
\$25 admission / light refreshments / bring your own snacks /

For information contact: Virginia Gardner
viriniagardner@aol.com

Pirandello Scholarship Applications Due

Tuesday, April 1, 2025
Applications available on Pirandello Website and High School Guidance Offices
Send to: Vincent Fazzolari/Dr. Antony Lori / Pirandello Lyceum, P.O. Box 520485, Winthrop, MA 02152
For information contact: Dr. Domenic Amara domamara@aol.com

I Migliori Awards

Recognizing Outstanding Italian Americans
Saturday, April 12, 2025
1:00-5:00 PM
Spinelli's Function Hall
10 Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960
\$100
For Information contact: Dr. Domenic Amara domamara@aol.com

Pirandello Scholarship Awards Breakfast

Sunday, May 18, 2025
10:00 AM
Marriott Courtyard Hotel
225 McLellan Highway
East Boston, MA 02128
For information, contact Chairman Vincent Fazzolari/Vice-Chairman Dr. Anthony Lori, Pirandello Lyceum, P.O. Box 520485, Winthrop, MA 02152 or Dr. Domenic Amara domamara@aol.com



Pirandello Lyceum

Maintaining and Sharing Italian and Italian American Heritage
P.O. Box 520485, Winthrop, MA 02152

Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

John Martin Feeney



John Martin Feeney was born in Cape Elizabeth, Maine on February 1, 1894. His father, John Augustine Feeney, was a saloon owner and an alderman while his mother, Barbara Curran, was a housewife. John grew up surrounded by older brothers who he revered.

In 1914, John followed his older brother, who had renamed himself "Francis Ford," to Hollywood, where Francis worked as an actor and director during the silent film era. John renamed himself "Jack Ford" and Francis hired him as an assistant, handyman, stuntman, and actor.

Within a few years, Francis Ford's directing career ended and Jack Ford stopped acting — and became John Ford, the director. In 1924, he directed *The Iron Horse*, his first Western and his first masterpiece.

Over the course of the next five decades, John Ford directed many great American classics. Among them are *Stagecoach*, *Young Mr. Lincoln*, *The Informer*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *How Green Was My Valley*, *My Darling Clementine*, *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*, *Mister Roberts*, and many others. During this span, he won 4 Academy Awards for Best Director (a record that still stands).

In WWII, Ford served in the U.S. Navy as the head of a documentary film unit. He won back-to-back Academy Awards for his documentaries, *The Battle at Midway* (where Ford was wounded when hit by shrapnel

in his arm while filming) and *December 7th*.

Although John Ford could be demanding, he had a loyal band of actors that stayed with him through the years. Informally known as the John Ford Stock Company, this group included John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Ward Bond, Maureen O'Hara, Chill Wills, Vera Miles, Victor McLaglen, James Stewart, and Dolores del Rio, among others.

After almost sixty years in Hollywood and over 140 films directed, John Ford's health began to deteriorate. In 1970, he broke his hip and was later diagnosed with stomach cancer. In 1973, he was honored to be the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Film Institute and to also receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom at this event — delivered personally by President Richard Nixon. Just a few months later, John Ford passed away. John Ford: One of the Greatest Directors of All Time.

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. MI24C1282CA

In the Matter of
ALYSON SOBON

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Alyson Sobon of Somerville, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Alyson Sobon Hope.

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 February 18, 2025. 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: January 21, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 02/07/2025

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
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Docket No. MI24P4171EA

Estate of
CHARLES J. SALVATO

Date of Death: May 13, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jeanne T. Salvato of Tewksbury, MA.

Jeanne T. Salvato of Tewksbury, 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: 02/07/2025

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. MI25C1150CA

In the Matter of
EMILY MARIE LINTHICUM
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Emily Marie Linthicum of Newton Center, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Emily Marie Ahuja.

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 February 27, 2025. 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: January 30, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 02/07/2025

You are invited to attend:

ABCD's Valentine's Day Party!

Friday, February 14th at 12 PM

ABCD North End/West End NSC
1 Michelangelo St. Boston, MA 02113

RSVPs are encouraged!
Contact us at 617.523.8125

Lunch will be served!

Generously sponsored by:



Saint Edith of Wilton

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Edith was born in the year 961. She was the daughter of King Edgar the Peaceful, King of England and Wulfthryth of Wilton. Edith was born in Kemsing, Kent, but soon after her birth, her mother took her to live at Wilton Abbey.



Edith became a nun at a very young age, spending most of her time at the nunnery. She was wealthy, with access to a good education. Her interests were varied and included art, poetry, literature, and history (particularly her own family history). She had a keen interest in fashion and was well-known for her fine clothing.

Edith was known for her piety and generosity. She founded a church dedicated to Saint Denis as well as St. Magdalen's hospital, Wilton, for the poor, the care of lepers and outcasts, giving bread, alms and shelter for those in need.

Edith's royal lineage is noteworthy and Goscelin's writings highlight Edith's dual roles as princess and nun. The surviving inscriptions on Edith's seal identify her as *regalis adelpha*, or "royal sister," which could be a reference both to her status as a nun and to her being the sister of Edward and Ethelred.

Also, it is said that Edith had visions which foretold the future. For example when her half-brother Edward succeeded to the throne, Edith dreamt that one of her eyes fell out, and interpreted this as a sign that something terrible would happen to Edward. Indeed, Edward was martyred only 3 years into his reign. Reportedly, Edith declined to succeed Edward when he died, instead choosing to continue being a nun. This meant that Ethelred instead took the throne. She also declined to take up the position of abbess of Winchester, Barking and Amesbury. These decisions highlight the importance she placed on her sanctity and religious identity as opposed to positions of political power.

Edith only lived until the age of 23: she died of a fever on September 16, around 984. Her body was placed in the church of Saint Denis. The feast day of Saint Edith of Wilton is September 16th.

What Works in Community News...

Book Review by John Joseph Fahey



Local authors (and journalists) Ellen Clegg and Dan Kennedy have co-written a thought-provoking and informative work pertaining to the status of the community newspaper today in the United States. The book's subtitle: MEDIA STARTUPS, NEWS DESERTS, and the FUTURE of the FOURTH ESTATE, briefly gives us a hint of the book's arguments and positions respective to the how information is disseminated at the local levels. Certainly, the reader also becomes aware of how the community newspaper in both distribution and influence has been compromised — accelerated over the last several decades due in part with the rise in social media and an increase in production costs.

With nine chapters — including several post chapter interviews with various academics, journalists and representative of the business sector, Clegg and Kennedy address not only the decline of local news publications but also offer solutions to ensure that this source of communication is not lost on these publications closing but rather suggests alternatives of getting out the news.

This is where the subtitle comes in. MEDIA STARTUPS, NEWS DESERTS and the FUTURE of the FOURTH ESTATE.

Media Startups operate by knowing the audience, determine what would work for that a group and developing methods to achieve the objective. Targeting a specific audience, or location is a good start of course, but it essential in keeping the project going. With News Deserts, that is areas without local news, it

is essential to distribute local news along with current events and perhaps notices serving the areas in question; however, costs are prohibitive and traditional newsprint distribution not practical. In fact, due to local newspaper not being solvent, we have seen that, just in the last quarter century many localities have lost their newspapers — many having no daily newspapers at all.

What does this portend for the future? How do Media Startups fit into the equation of diffusing information (not just news but issues that are germane to local areas) to the populace and what does the term Fourth Estate mean in relationship to the publication of the news?

What Works in Community News... allows the audience to examine possible solutions.

The authors achieve this by indicating case scenarios of what have worked and what is still a work in progress. A plausible resolution would be to transform publications to non-profits from for-profit organizations (albeit with restrictions) and to utilize current technology such as social media. News, after all, is widely obtained today via social platforms. But even then, financial solvency is always a concern and there is always the inevitability of implementing cost cutting measures. Although, conversion to a non-profit can result in constraint as there is an element of government restriction that must be considered. This is where the Fourth Estate (i.e. the *government*) comes into play; and this book gives good insight of what that entails relevant to non-profits organizations vs. profit organizations.

This work is recommended to those who have a curiosity about the viability of the local newspaper industry of course, but also, to those who are interested about how important it is to be exposed to information — both local or national; and with emerging technology and its easy accessibility, is the community newspaper somewhat of a dinosaur? For the reader the answer is clear — the community paper serves a purpose — whether it be in the traditional form or digital; and by reading this work, the reader will understand why.

The quote from the book below gives us pause to think not in the importance of having access to national and community news but what it could mean for operations in municipalities throughout the country and in matters of civic responsibility.

"Local news is essential to self-governance. Meaningful participation in civic life is impossible without it, as we depend on journalism to decide whom to vote for and to be informed about what's going on in municipal government, the school system, law enforcement, development, road repairs — the list is endless. Studies show that voter participation is lower and corruption more pervasive in places that lack reliable coverage."

And to give credence to why local news is important: "A healthy local news ecosystem is vital to community life, whose very existence is in danger as our culture becomes increasingly nationalized."

What Works in Community News... is published by Beacon Press, Boston (2024) and is 254 pages.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **February 24, 2025** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

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2006 FORD EXPLORER

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2002 TOYOTA CAMRY

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2011 FORD EDGE

VIN #2FMDK3JC6BBB45949

2008 INFINITI FX35

VIN #JNRAS08W48X207310

2012 ACURA RDX

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2001 ACURA CL

VIN #19UYA42661A005323

2012 FORD ESCAPE

VIN #1FMCU9D79CKB12779

2009 TOYOTA COROLLA MATRIX

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2013 FORD ESCAPE

VIN #1FMCU9H95DUA30050

2004 BUICK REGAL

VIN #2G4WB52K241348906

2011 NISSAN ALTIMA

VIN #1N4AL2AP3BN513175

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.

Please email for specific information info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025

DIAMONDS ROLEX ESTATE JEWELRY

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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. MI25P0393EA

Estate of

DEBORA MARIE FALCO

Also Known As:

DEBORA M. FALCO

Date of Death: November 30, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Marie Martin of Melrose, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Marie Martin of Melrose, 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: 02/07/2025

Save the Date



Donne 2000

25th Anniversary

Festa Delle Donne & Scholarship Fundraiser

Sunday, March 23, 2025

12:30 P.M.

Amici Club

17 Reardon Rd., Medford, MA 02155

FRATELLI CATERING

DJ ALAN LABELLA

Please join us as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary & International Women's Day. Proceeds from this event will go towards our scholarship program. Please invite family and friends, including men and children to help us celebrate this memorable event. We will have a great time with delicious food, dancing, and raffle prizes.

More details to come!

GALLO

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&
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Real Estate

376 North Street • Boston, MA 02113
(617) 523-2100 • Fax (617) 523-3530



**THE WAYANS BROS.
THE COMPLETE SERIES (DVD)
Warner Bros. Discovery
Home Ent.**

Fans of the groundbreaking '90s sitcom *The Wayans Bros.* can now relive the laughs and unforgettable moments when Warner Bros. Discovery Home Entertainment brings *The Wayans Bros.: The Complete Series* to DVD for the first time ever. The DVD set includes 101 episodes from all five seasons. Premiering in 1995, *The Wayans Bros.* quickly became a fan favorite with its hilarious mix of family dynamics, quirky characters, and memorable one-liners. Following the misadventures of two distinctly different brothers sharing an apartment in New York City, the series was a cultural touchstone for '90s television blending physical humor, clever wit, and heartfelt moments. *Marlon Wayans, Shawn Wayans, Leslie Ray, and David Steven Simon created The Wayans Bros.* Shawn Wayans and Marlon Wayans, real-life brothers and members of the prolific Wayans family — star in this hilarious and physical comedy series as Shawn and Marlon Williams, two very different brothers who live together in New York City while searching for success. As the series begins, Shawn wants to be promoted from deliveryman to dispatcher to impress his girlfriend, Lisa (Lela Rochon). Marlon works in the diner operated by his and Shawn's father, Pops (John Witherspoon). The two brothers often get into trouble with their moneymaking schemes — but it's always entertaining to watch! The series also features numerous notable guest stars.

**LOVE AND CRIME (Blu-ray)
88 Films**

Japan's legendary "King of Cult" Teruo Ishii delivers four dramatized tales of real-life crimes of passion involving women across the ages in this grotesque anthology featuring the stories of the "Hotel Nihonkaku Murders," the notorious "poison wife" and last woman in Japan to be executed by beheading, Oden Takahashi, the brutal serial killer Yoshio Kodaira and the story of Sada Abe, the infamous castrated featured in Nagisa Oshima's *In the Realm of the Senses*. 88 Films is proud to present this unflinching look at female pathology drawn from Japan's criminal casebooks for the very first-time outside Japan.

**DARK SANCTUARY – THE
STORY OF THE CHURCH
(Blu-ray)**

Cleopatra Ent.

The story of one of the longest run goth clubs in the United States, and community of artists and misfits who call the Dallas, Texas club The Church, their sanctuary. A feature-length documentary about the historic Dallas Goth club — *The Church, Dark Sanctuary* exposes the incredible, shocking history of one of the longest-running both clubs in the U.S. as well as the world-renowned artists who performed there. Through interviews with world-famous music artists, local bands, and patrons, the film tells the story

of the community that formed over nearly three decades of the legendary club's existence. The motto of The Church became 'Enter Without Prejudice' meaning no matter who you are, how you look, how you dress, your sexuality, your gender identity, the color of your skin, your body type, all are welcome and embraced at The Church. Follow DJ in residence, Joe Virus, on his journey from aspiring musician to headlining the main stage for over 20 years, and through the events of the global epidemic, which led to a neighborhood buyout from a multimillion-dollar real estate company, threatening to claim the beloved building at 2424 Swiss Avenue. Just what will happen when the Deep South's premiere Goth club of nearly thirty years, stands of the S

FEED (2005)

**LIMITED EDITION (Blu-ray)
Unearthed Films**

Intensely grotesque and shocking as hell, *Feed* is a heavyweight thrill ride through the depths of depravity. A veteran of cyberporn investigations, Australian cop Phillip Jackson, is no stranger to the dangerous side of sexual fetishes. He may have found his sickest case yet, when he discovers a sinister side to an American website devoted to fat-admiring men and obese women called "feeders" and "gainers." Could the man behind it all be force-feeding missing women to death? Tense, dark and deeply disturbing, director Brett Leonard takes the crime-thriller genre to a twisted, gut wrenching new level.

**TITO, MARGOT AND ME
(DVD)**

IndiePix Films

The love story of world-renowned ballerina Margot Fonteyn and international diplomat Roberto "Tito." When they first met, she was an unknown dancer, and he was the first son of Panama who was studying law at Cambridge. Sixteen years later they met again. She was a world-renowned ballerina, and he was a married international diplomat. Such began the romance of Margot Fonteyn and Roberto "Tito" Arias — a love story that would transcend fame, infidelities, an attempted coup d'état backed by Fidel Castro, and five close-range shots that left him permanently paralyzed. Mercedes Arias, the niece of Tito and Margot, delves into the untold past to uncover found footage, letters, photos and accounts from Fonteyn's autobiography that reveal a fascinating real-life tale of political intrigue and undying passion. Says director Arias, "Many of my memories were boxed in old albums. In my case, a heavy detachment from my very political paternal family is a fact of life. When I was compelled to dig deeper, the box's lid opened and I knew, then and there, that my uncle Tito needed a second reading. This story is not about ballet, but about love and how two very different characters decide to make it work as they redefine what real love is." *Tito, Margot And Me* reveals a story as much unknown as fascinating.

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

EASTIE BOOK BABES

I was over at A & L Bakery/Cafe one day after work last week and I met a customer there who in the course of a conversation said that she was a member of a local women's book club, Eastie Book Babes, and I thought I might pass this information on to all the gals out there. This book club started in 2024 and already has 130 members and 330 followers on Instagram. If you share a passion for reading, this group meets up once a month to socialize, chat up and talk about the latest book.

MY ROSE-COLORED GLASSES

I love country music and tune into Sirius Radio channel 61 to Willie's Roadhouse. One morning last week, Wayne Dallas played "Rose-Colored Glasses" by John Conlee. I just love this country hit. You know, I too own a pair of rose-colored Forest Grant sunglasses because I think they look cool. I am still not too old to wanna feel cool, know what I mean?

As I listened to the lyrics because one always has to listen to the lyrics to find a meaning behind the words being sung. Cowboy Conlee sings of not seeing the bad stuff, the negatives in your life, the lost loves you've encountered etc., etc., etc.

By the way, I split my time wearing sunglasses between my

rose-colored ones and my blue-tinted ones. As a former police officer I love the color blue, don't you know.

Another great tune by Conlee is called "Backside of Thirty," where he sings about getting old as he approaches his 40th birthday. As for me, tuning 40 was years ago I have long passed that backside.

I remember when I was approaching birthday number Five-0. I remembered Frank Sinatra crooning out "My Way." Today each birthday I reach is just another number with hopefully plenty of numbers to go. This is not a time of doom and gloom but of living life to the fullest. Remember, don't let life get in your way. I think I'll wear those rose-colored glasses more often, eh?

I LOVE

SALON INTERNATIONAL

Since moving to East Boston's Jeffries Point, I have found the best hair salon I have ever used over the years. Salon International at the corner of Lubec and Porter is the best thanks to Rosa who knows every hair on every one of her customers. People keep coming back for two reasons; the price is right and she is good at what she does. No bad haircuts here.

The place doubles as a neighborhood social club. There's coffee, donuts and pastry too. Folks walk in even when they


don't need their hair done. Sometimes, it's about the company and the neighborhood news you don't get in newspapers. You can pick up the *Post-Gazette* there too.

**UP YOUR NOSE
WITH A RUBBER HOSE**



(Photo by Sal Giarratani)

Remember the character Vinny Barbarino (John Travolta on *Welcome Back Kotter*)? Well, that is how I feel about getting hosed by high pump prices in East Boston. Gas stations in my neighborhood are always so much higher, sometimes as much as 60-70 cents per gallon more than anywhere else. Why is that? Look at this pump price the other day down near Marshfield in Pembroke on 139. Now this is a price I think is nice.




The 2025 4 Nations Face-Off is an international ice hockey tournament scheduled to take place on February 12–20, 2025, in Montreal, at Bell Centre, and in Boston, at TD Garden. Hosted by the National Hockey League (NHL) and featuring only NHL players, the 4 Nations Face-Off will temporarily replace the NHL's annual All-Star Game for 2025.

@ BOSTON, MA | TD Garden

<p>Monday, February 17th, CANADA VS. FINLAND @ 1:00 pm SWEDEN vs. USA @ 8:00 pm</p>	<p>Thursday, February 20th, CHAMPIONSHIP GAME Teams TBD @ 8:00 pm</p>
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To purchase tickets, visit www.tdgarden.com



Join the NHL and NHLPA for a FREE 3-day hockey festival!
Sat, Feb 15th - Mon, Feb 17th: 11am-6pm
at Boston City Hall Plaza

Interact with more than a dozen 4 Nations Face-Off partners, with hockey-themed experiences, special guest appearances and hockey artifacts including the new **4 Nations Face-off trophy** at the Hockey Hall of Fame Exhibit.

Be sure to join us for watch parties: February 15th Finland vs. Sweden and February 17th Canada vs. Finland ... and take photos with the Stanley Cup!

Fans can stop by the **Hat Trick Challenge** to test their shooting skills and score their very own hat trick. Don't miss the chance to pick up **limited-edition Hockey Fights Cancer trading cards** as well as honor loved ones affected by cancer by including them on "I fight for" stickers. Fans will also be given the chance to show their skills by shooting pucks into the net while aiming for the targets!

The **Discover 'Puck Drop' Experience** will feature a dynamic and interactive footprint designed to immerse fans in the heart of hockey culture. The experience will feature a cutting-edge AI Photo Op, giving attendees the chance to virtually stand at center ice for the puck drop and take home a unique digital keepsake. Fans can also enjoy premium giveaways available on a first-come, first-served basis, explore exclusive 4 Nations Face-Off memorabilia, and engage with special guest appearances throughout the weekend. This year's centerpiece attraction is Discover's oversized air hockey table, where fans can challenge friends and family to an unforgettable game of air hockey, adding a playful and memorable touch to the festivities.

4 Nations is excited to honor hockey's biggest fans with the **Fan Advantage Hall of Fans**. With photo opportunities and autographs from **Finnish legend Tuukka Rask** and **U.S. legend Mike Richter**

Hockey Hall of Fame Exhibit: The Hockey Hall of Fame will showcase historic hockey artifacts from Canada, Finland, Sweden, and U.S.A. Fans will also be able to **view the 4 Nations Face-Off trophy on February 16th and February 17th.**

Meet Boston: As a 4 Nations Face-Off partner, fans can visit **Meet Boston's Mobile Visitors Center** to learn and explore everything Boston has to offer. From tours, exhibits, city experiences, dining options, historic sites, and more, the Mobile Visitors Center has everything you need to explore all things Boston!

NHL Fan Access: Exciting news – NHL Fan Access™ can now be found within the NHL App! Fans will still have access to maps, schedules, the "Ask Stanley" virtual assistant, opportunities to win prizes, and much more, just all in a new place. **Fans should also download the NHL App before coming to the 4 Nations Face-Off Fan Village to best enjoy all the on-site activities** through the Fan Access section. Make sure to stop by the Fan Access booth for giveaways and everything 4 Nations Face-Off Fan Village.

NHL Network will give fans the chance to **test their shooting skills** with a target inflatable. NHL Network is your 24/7 home for hockey. All day. Everyday. For the complete programming schedule and channel finder, visit NHLNetwork.com.

NHL STREET will operate **ball hockey skills and drill programming** at the 4 Nations Face-Off. Enjoy Fan Village fun ball hockey for kids ages 6 to 16 years old.

4 Nations will offer hockey fans the chance to capture their **one-of-a-kind 4 Nations Face-Off Fan Village look with free caricature artist drawings.**

Stanley Cup Display: Fans can take a photo with the most iconic trophy in professional sports during 4 Nations Face-Off Fan Village operating hours.

Fans can visit the **Ticketmaster Bullseye Battle** activation to show off their wrist shots by aiming to shoot their puck through the Ticketmaster "t"!

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



I've mentioned in my columns that I was a musician before I was anything else in life.

This is true and is the result of the generations that preceded me. Babbononno came to America as a musician. His three sons became musicians. His daughter married a musician. I didn't stand a chance with a grandfather, father and several uncles who were professional musicians. When I came along, it was just assumed that I too would be a musician.

At about the age of six, I was handed over to Babbononno to learn how to read music. His method of teaching me this art was by using Solfeggio, an Italian design on rhythmic articulation that is has been used at most music colleges around the world. Babbononno sat me down in front of a music stand with the Solfeggio book in front of me. He would open it to a page and I had to sing the notes of the exercise and beat them out with my right hand while he conducted the lesson with a baton, or in his case, a ruler in his hand. If I made a mistake, I got the ruler off my knuckles. By the time I was ten, I had hands light a prize fighter.

Once Babbononno gave the OK, it was time for me to learn an instrument. I tried every practical instrument imaginable but didn't take to any of them. I took piano lessons, accordion lessons, trumpet lessons, clarinet lessons, drum lessons but never practiced and the family was told by the teachers not to waste their money. I joined the drum and bugle corps when I attended Joseph H. Barnes Junior High School. This was part of a military drill program that existed in all of the middle and high schools in Boston back in the day. I enjoyed being in uniform and marching with the other kids in uniform but knew that playing a bugle was limited. I think that this was a psychological compromise. It was assumed that the son, grandson and nephew of professional musicians would follow in the family business.

Actually, if I came along a generation earlier, I could have made a living playing music. During the 30s, the swing bands dominated pop music, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, the Dorsey Brothers, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Vaughn Monroe, etc. ... After World War II ended, the bands began to break up. The trend slanted toward small groups with a vocalist out front singing the latest pop tunes. After the early 1950s, rock and roll entered the equation, but even before this phenomenon came about, most

musicians in cities like Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago were down to playing one-nighters if they freelanced or just weekends if they played nightclubs or restaurants. A small percentage played steady after the '50s began. For the rest of the musicians, they had to find day jobs and hope they could get booked for a wedding, party, christening, dance or bar mitzvah on a weekend.

Before World War II, Uncle Nick and Dad were on the road with big bands. But by the time I was old enough to be part of the business, those days were gone. But, now you are going to ask, "What instrument did I learn how to play"? Well, it happened this way: I was sitting on my front steps one warm spring day in 1957. I was just finishing my first year in college at this point in time and working at the Seville Theater on Meridian Street. This was my 5th year at the movie house and I had put playing music on a back burner. As I sat on the steps a friend who played bass walked past me on the opposite side of the street with his bass violin under his left arm. I yelled a "hello" and he stopped to talk. He told me that he had been drafted and was selling his bass to someone in the neighborhood. He also mentioned that the local band he was with would be minus a bass player. He knew that my father played bass and thought I might play the instrument too. If I wanted to take his place with the local band he would make sure I had the job. I had taken lessons on the bass from Dad, but like my concentration with other instruments, it was minimal. The idea of playing bass with a band seemed interesting and I told my friend that I might give it a shot. I did and that was the beginning.

I began to study the instrument on a serious note and practiced as much as I could. At times this was difficult. I worked at the Seville, and at school, I was on the swim team, played a couple of other intermural sports and in the spring and summer, baseball for the CYO league and the American Legion. But I squeezed in practice time on Dad's bass. When I needed an instrument of my own, I rented one for a few bucks a month.

After a couple of weeks rehearsing with the local band, we obtained a job at a pizza place in East Boston. I think it was on Bennington Street. The owner wanted us there on Thursday and Friday nights, which fit into my schedule as I didn't have to work at the Seville on those nights. Well,

working with that local band led to me becoming acquainted with musicians who dropped by to hear us. As a result, I started playing with other groups and eventually left the original band. The leader only wanted to play locally and didn't aspire of going beyond. When I discussed things with Dad and Babbononno, they agreed that it was time for me to move forward on my own.

At Dad's suggestion, I called the office of band leader Ken Reeves. He and his many bands played society music throughout the state and he had as many as 10 to 20 bands out on a weekend night. I called and spoke to a Mr. Cahn and asked for an audition. At a given point in time, I reported to their Boylston Street office and auditioned with Mr. Cahn playing piano and me setting the rhythm with my bass. When I finished, Cahn told me that they really didn't need any more bass players, but thanked me for coming in. When I told Babbononno the events of the day, Nanna, who was listening in offered, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." She had a point and the next day, I received a post card from Mr. Cahn offering me a list of dates (mostly Saturdays) for the next couple of months. I was thrilled and accepted them all. I bought my first car as none of the dates were local and I didn't know who I would be working with. When I reported to the first locale, I was apprehensive as the rest of the band was composed of the top men in the Reeves office. Mr. Cahn was the pianist and told me he was either going to break me or make me. Dad and Babbononno taught me well and I held my own. Later, during intermission, I discovered that Dave Cahn knew my uncles and Dad. They all lived in the same neighborhood as young musicians. He even confessed that he bounced me on his knee when I was still in diapers. After he volunteered that information, the rest of the band sort of welcomed me as a new member. I stayed with the Ken Reeves office for the next few years and paid my own way through college and graduate school as a result.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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 **February 15, 2025 beginning at 10:00 PM** 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.

- DONALD ATUHAIRWE**
2003 Saturn L200
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- PETER TZANNOS**
2021 Dodge Charger
VIN # 2C3CDXMGXMH545324
- TANIA GONZALEZ**
2004 Lexus ES330
VIN # JTHBA30G045002620
- DE JESUS, JULIO CESAR**
2013 BMW X3
VIN # SUXWX9C5XD0A25853

Signed,
Justin Ramsay
Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025



by
**Marianna
Bisignano**

For so many Italian American families, the aroma of meatballs sizzling in a pan instantly transports us to Sunday mornings at Nonna's house. There she'd be, standing over the stove, carefully browning each one before nestling them into her slow-simmering Sunday sauce. And let's be honest—how many of us can remember sneaking a taste before they ever made it to the pot? In my family, it was almost a tradition! In fact, Nonna's meatballs were so irresistible straight from the pan that nearly half of them never even made it into her famous Sunday gravy.

Knowing how much we loved those "sauceless" meatballs, Nonna found a way to bring that same deliciousness to our weeknight dinners — her signature Italian Stuffed Meatloaf. She used the same flavorful meatball mixture but shaped it into a loaf, always tucking hard-boiled eggs (and sometimes cheese) inside for an extra special touch. Whether you follow Nonna's recipe, or use your own family's meatball recipe, this dish is a comforting and satisfying way to bring a taste of Sunday to your weeknights. Serve it alongside roasted potatoes and a vegetable, and you've got a hearty meal that's sure to become a family favorite. *Buon appetito!*

NONNA'S ITALIAN STUFFED MEATLOAF
Polpettone Ripieno Italiano della Nonna



Meat Mixture:

- 2 ½ pounds ground beef (85-90% lean)
- 1 to 1 ½ cups homemade or Italian-seasoned breadcrumbs
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ large Vidalia onion, finely chopped
- 3 to 4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- Handful of fresh parsley, chopped

- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Splash of whole milk
- 2 to 3 large eggs (2 for mixing, 1 extra if needed)

Stuffing:

- ¼ pound provolone or shredded/sliced mozzarella cheese
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and sliced (optional, but Nonna always used them!)

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Lightly coat a 13x9-inch baking dish with olive oil and set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the ground beef, 2 eggs, breadcrumbs, Parmesan cheese, onion, garlic, parsley, salt, and pepper. Using your hands (I use gloves), mix until well combined. If the mixture feels too dry, add the extra egg and finish with a splash of milk to bind everything together.

Lay a large sheet of parchment or wax paper on your work surface. Add the meat mixture and flatten it into a rectangle roughly the length of your baking dish.

Evenly layer the cheese over the meat, then place the sliced hard-boiled eggs on top (if using).

Using the parchment or wax paper to help, carefully roll the meatloaf into a log, enclosing the filling inside. Seal the edges tightly and transfer it to the prepared baking dish.

Cover the dish with aluminum foil and bake for 30 minutes. Then, uncover and continue baking for another 20 minutes or until the internal temperature reaches 160°F.

Remove from the oven and let the meatloaf rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

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

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THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

Intolerance (Part 1)

INTOLERANCE: 1916 177mins. Director: D.W. Griffith

Cast: Lillian Gish (*Eternal Mother*), Robert Harron (*The Boy*), Bessie Love (*The Bride of Cana*), Mae Marsh (*The Dear One*), Howard Gaye (*Jesus Christ*)



Seeing D.W. Griffith's *Intolerance* more than a century after its release packs as hard a punch, a very beautiful punch, that is, as it did for audiences who had not seen a work by Griffith since the previous year's *Birth of a Nation*. *Intolerance* outshines *Birth of a Nation* in so many ways (technically, conceptually, and even innovatively) it is astounding to conceive them as of the same creator. This may have contributed to an enduring misconception. *Intolerance* was taken then and continues to be taken as Griffith's apology for the incendiary racial sentiment of his previous film. Indeed, Griffith may have felt the timing was right, having personally responded to the blowback after the film's release. However, *Intolerance* was in initial stages of planning before production began on *Birth of a Nation*. His working title, "The Mother and the Law", was pushed aside when Griffith undertook his first breakthrough and only returned to and subsequently built upon once *Birth of a Nation* proved a success. Undoubtedly, Griffith knew he was going to rattle some cages with *Birth of a Nation*, so sharp an attack was it on the sacrifices made to save the union, but he was likely taken aback by the scale of the response which extended beyond the "radical" publications and cities he thought it would be relegated to. To calm the storm he used to advantage the nature of his next film, but this was an afterthought and *Intolerance* was an independent creation from a man who to his death believed he had done no wrong.

"He didn't feel he had anything to apologize for," biographer Kevin Brownlow told the *New York Times*. A case could be made that Griffith felt he was owed an apology and this movie was his plea. In his own limited way, Griffith fashioned himself a humanitarian. Injustice was a recurring theme in his work. It was only natural that once secure in his independence as a filmmaker he would make a plea for humanity, as he saw it. *Intolerance*, more so than *Birth of a Nation*, is his cumulative work. Everything Griffith developed and aspired to throughout his years at Biograph leads up to what can be called his crowning achievement.

Griffith and, in fact, the movies as an institution, outdid themselves with *Intolerance*. It may have been out of sensitivity that the American Film Institute replaced *Birth of a Nation* with *Intolerance* when it updated its list of the 100 greatest American films in 2007. Goodwill aside, though, *Intolerance* is the greater achievement. The idea, used several times throughout the ensuing decades in *The Hours*, *Cloud Atlas* and *The Tree of Life* was an innovation in 1916. Over the course of

three hours, the film intercuts between four stories, each from distant eras in history starting with the fall of Babylon, the Crucifixion of Christ, the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of 1572 to a contemporary tale set in the slums of big city, all connected by the theme of bigotry throughout the ages.

Amidst this sweeping epic is a clue as to why Griffith would follow it up with a return to the modest melodramas of his early years with *Broken Blossoms* in 1919. The most heartfelt of the four intertwining stories in *Intolerance* is also the simplest. Set in the early 20th century and foregoing lavish sets for the stark walls of tenement housing, it tells the story of a young girl, referred to simply as the Dear One (Mae Marsh), who moves to the city after her father is laid off at the factory for his part in a strike. After the hardships of life bring the old man to his death, the girl is swooned over by a smooth-operating boy (Robert Harron) who also made his way to the city after the strike. Both the Uplift Society (a biting spoof of the Temperance movement) and the local gangsters pose a dark cloud for their happiness.

The set-up here was a throwback for Griffith, his early innovations now enhanced. Early-on Griffith pioneered the close-up and he never used it to better effect than the look of anguish on Mae Marsh's face and the haunting look of prisoners peering out of their prison cell doors. Griffith may not have invented cross-cutting but he was the first filmmaker to realize its potential in *Birth of a Nation*. Here he uses it to even better effect in a race against time climax involving a train to stop and an eminent execution. Throughout most of the movie, the cross-cutting is a jump through the centuries that becomes increasingly erratic as tension builds toward the climaxes.

There are many powerful shots here, among them the struggling workers looking on for their chance as the strike goes terribly wrong, impoverished slum-dwellers watching police raid their neighborhood with dismay and the brutality that ensues when the factory guards turn on the strikers. These fleeting moments represent the full blooming of Griffith's vision and idea for his early short *A Corner in Wheat*.

Conversely, the visually impressive but straightforward retelling of the last days of Jesus Christ (Howard Gaye) is devoted the least time, perhaps because life in ancient Jerusalem was a story so popular with early filmmakers (Griffith himself gave Jesus Christ a majestic appearance in the last shot of *Birth of a Nation*) there was little else Griffith could bring to it but draw parallels between the morality then and now. In both stories the villains are not only the aggressors (e.g. the

soldiers that nail Christ to the cross or the factory magnets that fire on the strikers) but, rather, the moral authorities that initiate the violence. In the modern segment the Uplift society sets the destruction in motion by convincing the Jenkins family, owners of the mill, to donate to their righteous cause. To do this, Jenkins cuts wages, setting off a strike, the violent response and the subsequent misfortune of the sacked works now forced into the city. Likewise, in Jerusalem, Christ was condemned not by the soldiers who performed the execution but by the Pharisees who consider Christ a threat. In the Renaissance tale, Catherine de' Medici (Josephine Crowell) does not personally partake in the massacre, but her smile as it unfolds indicates she takes credit for it.

"The purpose of the production is to take a universal theme through various periods of the race's history: Ancient, Sacred, Medieval, and Modern times are considered. Events are not set forth in their historical sequence or according to the accepted forms of dramatic construction, but as they might flash across a mind seeking to parallel the life of the different ages," Griffith wrote.

Critic Vachel Lindsay observed the pattern as well. "The days of St. Bartholomew and the Crucifixion signal back to Babylon sharp or vague or subtle messages. The little factory couple in the modern street scene called The Dear One and The Boy seem to wave their hands back to Babylon amid the orchestration of ancient memories," he wrote in *The New Republic*.

The Crucifixion is handled with little fanfare, but the segment is beautifully shot with stunning close-ups of the impoverished citizens bearing a visual power that would not be seen until Soviet cinema found its voice.

As Frank Beaver noted in *Michigan Today*, "The film's influence on post-Revolutionary Russian filmmakers was well-noted by Vsevolod Pudovkin, who was inspired by Griffith's cross-cutting editing constructions and his development of historical screen epics. Pudovkin, initially a chemist, says he turned to filmmaking after seeing *Intolerance*. His *Mother* (1926), a historical drama about the abortive Russian uprising at Tver in 1905 — owes much to Griffith in both narrative familiarities and editing technique. The great French director Abel Gance — *J'Accuse* (1919), *Napoleon* (1927) — was an avowed admirer of *Intolerance* and Griffith's innovative editing and camera techniques. Numerous other directorial greats from Erich von Stroheim to Stanley Kubrick have spoken of the impact that Griffith's historical epic had on their own screen efforts."

• Trump Tariffs (Continued from Page 1)

Modelo, which became the best-selling beer in 2023, beating out Bud Light, with more than \$5 billion worth of sales in the U.S. during FY 2023-2024. The U.S. also imports approximately \$537 million worth of Canadian liquor, including over \$200 million worth of whiskey.

Canada is the largest exporter of petroleum, more than \$97 billion worth of oil and gas last year, with the Presidents 10% tariff on Canadian crude oil, prices at the pump are expected to increase by ten cents per gallon. Vehicles are also expected to surge in price as America imported \$87 billion worth of cars from and another \$64 million in parts from Mexico last year according to the U.S. Commerce Department. Cars were the second largest category of goods the U.S. imported from Canada last year. The new tariffs may fully undo all the savings automakers enjoyed the past year, leaving no alternative but to pass the cost increases onto consumers.

China is the top importer of electronics, including smartphones, laptops, tv's, gaming consoles as well as the parts that comprise them. The Apple product and iPhone consumer in particular look set for a big hit given that 95% of iPhones and other Apple products are assembled in China. Mexico has also become the second largest source for electronic products imported to the U.S. with \$103 billion in 2023 and accounting

for almost one fifth of America's total electronics import.

The U.S. gets more than 75% of all its toys imported from China, according to the Toy Association Industry Group, and has urged its members to contact their congress to express their concern on the likely price increase. Tariffs are expected to hit the clothing industry as well, including Canadian brands like LuLu Lemon and Chinese companies like Shein. And don't forget footwear, as more than half the shoes sold in the U.S. come from China, including Nike.

Nearly one quarter of steel purchased by U.S. companies comes from Canada and another twelve percent comes from Mexico. Canadian lumber accounts for 30% of what the U.S. uses and could have a detrimental effect of the ongoing housing affordability crisis, and that's not accounting for the hundreds of millions of dry wall, lime and other construction material the U.S. relies on from Mexico.

While U.S. farmers would have had the ability to ease the impact from the tariffs, some economists feared the domestic producers would increase their prices to compete with foreign imports hitting the consumer either way.

There has not been any movement on talks or an agreement between China and the United States as of yet.

• Wu Heading to DC (Continued from Page 1)

President Trump has directed the U.S. Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security to deny access to federal funds for any sanctuary jurisdiction that interferes with the lawful exercise of Federal law enforcement operations. "In addition to the efforts of the Trump Administration to ensure federal immigration enforcement can proceed unimpeded, Congress must determine whether further legislation is necessary to enhance border security and public safety. It is imperative that federal immigration law is enforced and that criminal aliens are swiftly removed from our communities," wrote Comer in a letter to the four mayors.

Mayor Wu has not shied away from criticizing the new Trump administration and Border Czar stating in a WGBH interview, "There has been a lot of bluster so far and a lot of intentional trying to create drama and fear and sort of the perception of fulfilling pretty draconian campaign promises. When in reality, our job at the city level, especially, but I would say in government in general, is to understand the law, is to follow the law, and to go by the facts rather than just sort of make stuff up."

Mayor Wu has previously stated her intention to protect immigrants in every possible way from federal deportation efforts. She also pointed to Trump's recent attempt to undo birthright citizenship by executive order, which a judge called blatantly unconstitutional and has temporarily blocked.

Wu confirmed that ICE officials have not reached out to city officials or local police ahead of the recent deportation raids. She also referenced

the new federal policy allowing ICE to carry out raids and make arrests in places such as schools, churches and hospitals. The mayor made is clear that the city guidelines will not allow unauthorized adults into school buildings, no matter what the purpose. Neither schools nor police will ask about nor address immigration status.

"We know that the federal government will continue to do what they do on the federal side. We will continue to do what we do on the city side, which is keeping everyone safe here. And we don't have the authority to, let's say, stop or overrule what they're doing in their domain, but neither do they in our domain, either." stated Mayor Wu.

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. MI25C0012CA
In the Matter of
MARIA CHIARA FILIPPELLI
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Maria Chiara Filippelli of Auburndale, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Maria Chiara Panedigrano.

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 February 20, 2025. 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: January 23, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 02/07/2025

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

country would be replaced by groundhogs due to a lack of hedgehogs in the New World.

A Fond Salute Goodbye

Captain Richard Stratton served his country in battle during the Vietnam War. He was shot down over North Vietnam, captured by the RNV and was held in captivity for 2,251 days. He was released by the North Vietnamese on March 4, 1973, and retired from the U.S. Navy in 1986. Following his military retirement, he worked as a social worker serving people with addiction issues. He recently passed away on January 18th at 93 years old. The Quincy native was escorted home by the Quincy Police Department to the funeral parlor. His funeral was held at Sacred Heart Church, and buried at Mt. Wollaston Cemetery in Quincy.

Stratton spent six years as a POW, enduring physical and mental torture. His courage was recognized with several awards, including the Silver Star for Valor, a Purple Heart, and the POW Medal.

Early Exit

Left Tower Staff Short

A supervisor at Reagan National Airport reportedly let an air traffic controller leave early from his shift shortly before the deadly collision between the air passenger jet and Army helicopter. As a result, a single controller was monitoring both airplane and helicopter air traffic.

One controller should be in charge of helicopters and another watching airplanes, according to the FAA, which stated that staffing in the tower "was not normal for the time of the day and volume of traffic."

Revere Beach Winter Wonderland

Coming up this weekend. Revere Beach Winter Wonderland event is returning this Saturday, February 8th at Springhill Suites, Revere, from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Panama Cuts Cord with China

Panama now says it will not renew an agreement involving China's premier foreign investment program after that country's leaders met with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio. Panama will allow the 2017 pact to expire. The president of Panama also states he will attempt to exit from this pact as soon as he can, but also made sure to say that the Canal's sovereignty is still under Panama.

9/11 Claims

One More Firefighter

Another retired member of the New York Fire Department has answered duty's call from 9/11-related medical issues. Thomas Dunn, a former member of Engine Company 234 in Brooklyn just passed from sickness born out of the response to the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

More than 370 firefighters have now died of 9/11-related illnesses in the years since the terror attack, which killed 343 firefighters and nearly 3,000 overall.

Quotes to Note

"Dirtbags like this will continue to be removed from our streets."

— *Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem after riding along on a recent ICE raid*

"Speak the truth and you'll never have to whisper."

— *Ruth Brennan*

End Quote

"Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else."

— *Margaret Mead*

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Stephens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 39A, that on **February 14, 2025 at 10AM**, at said address, the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of notice and sale:

- 2018 NISSAN SENTRA, BLUE
VIN # 3N1AB7AP9JY228253
- 2011 MERCEDES-BENZ E-CLASS, WHITE
VIN # WDDHF8HB8BA472195
- 2006 LINCOLN MARK LT, SILVER
VIN # 5LTPW18546FJ13455
- 2014 FORD ESCAPE, RED
VIN # 1FMCU9GX6EUC80494
- 2020 FORD EXPLORER, BLUE
VIN # 1FMSK7DH3LGB22161
- 2013 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY, BLUE
VIN # 2C4RC1BG7DR694714
- 2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO, WHITE
VIN # 1GCRCPX1DZ147457
- 2019 HONDA FIT, SILVER
VIN # 3HGCGK5H42KM729521
- 2012 HONDA CIVIC, GRAY
VIN # 19XFB2F58CE318687
- 2018 NISSAN ROGUE, GRAY
VIN # JN1BJ1CRXJW287158
- 1998 GMC SIERRA, GRAY
VIN # 2GTEK19R0W1555647
- 1999 NISSAN FRONTIER, GRAY
VIN # 1N6ED26Y4XC328370
- 2004 FORD ESCAPE, BLACK
VIN # 1FMYU92124KA20872
- 2004 HONDA ACCORD, SILVER
VIN # 1HGCM563X4A178953
- 2015 KIA OPTIMA, WHITE
VIN # 5XXGN4A75FG420220
- 2014 CHEVROLET EQUINOX, WHITE
VIN # 2GNFLHE38E203954
- 2021 YONGFU MOPED, BLACK
VIN # LL0TCAPH8MG004659
- 2022 YONGFU MOPED, RED
VIN # LL0TCAPJXNG002092
- 2024 ZHILONG CLICK MOPED, RED
VIN # HZ2TBCNF6R1006240
- 2016 YAMAHA ZUMA, BLACK
VIN # RKRSA51A6GA004464
- 1982 YAMAHA YICS, BLACK
VIN # 5K5-012423
- 2021 TAOTAO HURAGAN, RED
VIN # L9NTCDPW3M1310221
- 2008 TAIWAN HELIO MOPED, SILVER
VIN # RKZMU22248N000056
- 2001 GARELLI E-BIKE, BLACK
VIN # SA04150
- 2024 ZHILONG CLICK MOPED, BLACK
VIN # HZ2TBCNF6R1006982
- 2019 YAMAHA ZUMA, MAROON
VIN # RKRSA43A5K127009

Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025

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. SU24P2500EA
Estate of
RICHARD W. GERMANN
Also Known As:
RICHARD WOLF GERMANN
Date of Death: July 30, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Barbara Lambert of Gloucester, MA** a will has been admitted to informal probate.

Barbara Lambert 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: 02/07/2025

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. SU25P0128EA
Estate of
GARY CLIFFORD HAWKINS
Also Known As:
GARY C. HAWKINS
Date of Death: November 29, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **James G. Small of Sonoita, AZ**, a will has been admitted to informal probate.

James G. Small of Sonoita, AZ 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: 02/07/2025

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. MI24P6248EA
Estate of
KEVIN C. O'SHEA
Date of Death: September 29, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Martha A. Ewing of Auburndale, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Martha A. Ewing of Auburndale, 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: 02/07/2025

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. MI25C0040CA
In the Matter of
ELIZABETH BAILE LAZARUS
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Elizabeth Baile Lazarus of Winchester, MA**, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Baile Frattaroli Lazarus**.

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 February 18, 2025. 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: January 21, 2025
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 02/07/2025

EXTRA Innings
by Sal Giarratani

Softball Hitting & Fielding Clinics



Join UMass Boston softball players and coaches for skills building open for all levels, ages 10 and up. February 20th and 21st from 2:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., at The Bubble at Carter Field, 709 Columbus Avenue.

Pre-register at boston.gov/sports.

Thank You Harry



Over the many years I have been writing my *Extra Innings* column, I have attracted many fans who from time to time either contact me by email or snail mail. I recently received a great message in the mail. It was from Harry and Julie from Woburn. This time it was a nice Christmas card with Christopher Columbus print. Harry sent me two things for Christmas from him and his wife. A great 1973 Topps Luis Tiant baseball card in mint condition and also a gift card for Caffè Vittoria of which I love the coffee.

We all know the world has been going pazzo lately and it's

nice to know that good things are still happening. Respecting one another. Being friends with one another. This all makes the world just a little bit easier to handle.

Rays, Kim Agree to Big Deal

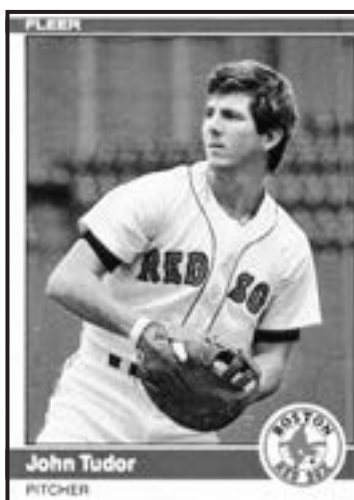
The Rays and free agent Ha-Seong Kim have agreed on a 2-year contract at \$29 million. Kim played his first four seasons in the Majors with the Padres.

Scherzer, Jays Reach 1-Year \$15.5 Million Pact

Max Scherzer has a new home. The three-time Cy Young winner has agreed to a one-year, \$15.5 million deal with the Jays after coming off back surgery that limited him to only nine starts last season with the Rangers. When he was healthy enough to pitch, he had a 3.95 ERA with 40 strikeouts over 43.3 innings. He will turn 40 this upcoming July. He has 216 career victories, second among active starters behind Justin Verlander.

Hall of Famers Who Played in Nippon Professional Baseball

Ichiro Suzuki who was just elected to the Hall of Fame is



only the third Hall of Famer to play in both the Major Leagues and Nippon Professional Baseball. The other two were Larry Doby and Goose Gosage. Doby played for the Chunichi Dragons back in 1962, and Gosage for the Fukuoka Daiei Hawks in 1990.

Happy Birthday to John Tudor

Happy Birthday to former Red Sox pitcher John Tudor who just turned 71. The lefty pitched here in Boston from 1979-83 before going to the Pirates, Cardinals, Dodgers then back to the Cardinals where he ended his career. He was born in Schenectady before his family moved to Boston when he was an infant. He played baseball and hockey for Peabody High School. He was drafted by the Sox in 1976, and he made his Fenway debut in 1979, going 39-32 over five seasons and was traded to the Pirates for the "Hit Man" Mike Easler. At the time of the trade the Sox already had two lefties in Bruce Hurst and Bobby Ojeda and the team saw Tudor as expendable. It proved a mistake. Tudor had a 2.66 ERA over 175 games after leaving Boston and helped three teams get into the post-season, including the 1988 World Championship Dodgers. Tudor played until 1990, did a few years of coaching and is now retired.

Bottom Line

When it comes to the 2026 ballot for Hall of Fame induction, I agree with *Globe* baseball guy Peter Abraham, the best of the new guys on the ballot are Ryan Braun, Cole Hamels, and Matt Kemp. As Abraham says, "No Hall of Famers there."

Boxing Ringside



WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

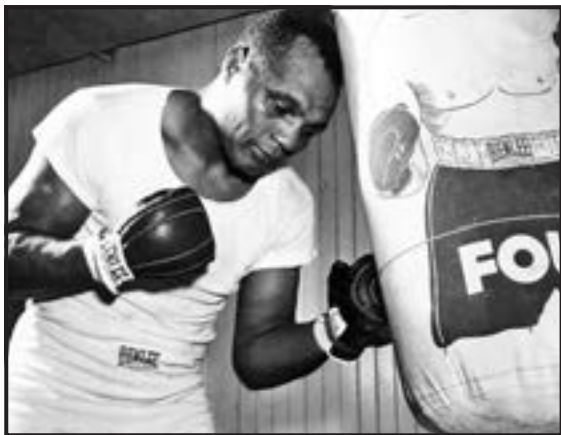
Remembering Jersey Joe Walcott

Born January 31, 1914

"He was one of the finest technicians in heavyweight boxing history."
— Eddie Futch



Jersey Joe Walcott



Working the Heavy Bag



Heading out to chop some wood with Trainer Florio



Another photo from Louis Vs. Walcott I



Challenging Joe Louis for the first time. Walcott lost an unpopular decision. Many at ringside thought he deserved to win.



Staying well groomed



Walcott with Trainer Dan Florio



Joe encourages a young prospect

Home Team Loyalty (A Bond that Should Never be Broken)

When you are a sports fan, loyalty to your local sports teams' matter, and when you are a Boston sports fan, it's non-negotiable. Sports "fandom" is more than just a form of entertainment, it's a deep-rooted bond between a team and its city. In Boston, it's a way of life. For lifelong fans, supporting the local professional team isn't a choice, it's a rite of passage, a life-long commitment. No matter how tough the seasons get, and in Boston and New England, we've experienced our share of tough seasons, true and loyal fans never turn their backs on their hometown squad.

A local team represents more than just a franchise, it's part of a city's identity. Whether it's a team with decades of championships or one who has lost its shine and luster and hoping to find its way, cheering for a hometown team unites us all in a shared passion. Every franchise experiences ups and down, but true fans stay the course and weather the storms alongside their team and their city. There's nothing better than finally achieving a long-awaited playoff run or finally winning that sweet championship, when you've watched the struggles to achieve victory.

Some of our best moments come from watching your team with family and friends, celebrating a game winning play, commiserating after a tough loss, and making priceless memories with people we care about.

Here in Boston, we've often come to expect thrilling and competitive seasons with the hoisting of Championship trophies at the conclusion. The past few seasons some of our teams are struggling, the Red Sox, the Bruins and the Patriots haven't quite been up to the fan base expectations. But we'll never give up on them, because true fans know there's always hope for the next game, the next season or the next great championship moment. Like a phoenix who rises from the ashes, we are confident each team will raise that championship cup, trophy or banner very soon.

Loyalty to hometown teams is about tradition, community and unwavering passion. No matter what, Boston fans will never root against our home teams, because being a fan is a lifelong journey, not a temporary ride. So, let's continue to cheer for the struggling Bruins, support the Celtics, remain optimistic about the Red Sox and most of all right now, pray the Kansas City Chiefs lose to the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LIX, in Mahomes quest for a three-peat, allowing Tom Brady and the Patriots to retain the title "Greatest of All Time." That's my plan!!!

There is Joy in Seeing Local Athletes Make it to the Pros

There is something special about watching a hometown athlete make it to the professional level. Whether they grew up playing on local fields, in rinks, dominated in high school, or became a hero in college, seeing one of our own succeed fills communities, neighbors and family with pride. There have been many success stories from the greater Boston area and Massachusetts, including the Boston Red Sox local hero out of Nahant, Tony Conigliaro, NFL Hall of Famer Howie Long who hails from Charlestown, NBA powerhouse Patrick Ewing from Cambridge and currently there is an up-and-coming NHL rising star bred from Woburn, Marc Gatcomb, who is quickly carving out a role for himself with the NY Islanders. While it's very early in his NHL career, Gatcomb is making a strong impression on his teammates, coach and with fans. Wishing him much success this season and beyond, but not too much against the Bruins ...

Wilson: Making NFL Footballs for Over 70 Years

Wilson Sporting Goods has been making every NFL football since 1941. The factory located in Ada, Ohio, makes game balls used by every NFL team as well as many of the nation's top college and high school programs. But at this time of the year, the focus is solely on the Super Bowl. As soon as this year's match up was determined, the Wilson Factory employees got to work.

Each Super Bowl bound team will receive 108 footballs, in addition to a dozen more for the kickers, with each football stamped with the Super Bowl logo and team names. Some balls will be used for practices, while the quarterbacks will choose their favorites. Approximately 50 of those will be bagged and locked away for each team until Super bowl kickoff.

Wilson makes five different size footballs, from the pros to youth leagues. They each vary in size and design. NFL footballs do not have stripes on the ends and are embedded with a chip that tracks the ball's position on the field, how far it travels and its trajectory. It typically takes three days to make a football, but the initial batch must be sent to NFL teams by the day after, on Monday, so they have enough time to break them in for practices and the game. Workers begin production the night the conference games are set, and teams have won.

It's a twenty-step process, the majority of it by hand, from cutting out the four leather panels that are sewn together with 250 stitches to tying the laces. Only the most experienced and skilled workers handle NFL footballs. "Certain parts of the process require a handmade feel. It's like making a beautiful, sculptured pair of shoes," said Wilson Team Sports General Manager, Kevin Murphy. Production is a very thorough process, balls are weighed, measured and inspected for flaws. Once finished, they're checked again. By the time they're packaged and ready to be shipped, each football will have been handled by approximately fifty workers. Wilson makes over 50,000 footballs annually or about 2,500 each day. NFL teams use several hundred per season. For the Super Bowl, Wilson makes 10 - 20,000 commemorative balls that will be sold by retailers and at the Super Bowl venue.