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POST-GAZETTE

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Tipped Workers Wage Battle

by Patti Sartori

Massachusetts leaders at the state level convened a hearing last week regarding a proposed ballot question to eliminate the separate, lower minimum wage for tipped workers. The proposal has brought many hard-core opinions to the fore front. Proponents of the proposal argue that servers, bartenders and other tipped employees often do not reach minimum wage upon completion of their shift, even when combining their base pay with gratuities. Opponents of the proposal are sounding the alarm regarding the “devastating impact on the industry.”

OneFairWage, which claims to represent close to 300,000 restaurant and service workers, is supporting the ballot question in Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio and Arizona. It would mandate employees to pay all waitstaff, bartenders, and similar staff their states full minimum wage, not a lower rate for those who earn gratuities. The group pushed for over a decade to see legislation passed in Massachusetts, to pay worker’s a full minimum wage with tips on top, but were unsuccessful. That’s when the step was taken to go to the ballot with their fight. The group has previously had successful battles with this issue in Washington DC, and Chicago.



While Massachusetts law requires all employees to pay workers at least a \$15 minimum wage per hour, they are allowed to pay tipped workers \$6.75 per hour as long as tips bring each individual’s pay up to at least the \$15.00 hourly rate. This ballot question would require employers to gradually increase , over a five-year span, the same minimum rate of pay for all employees. But it would not ban tipping — Employees who currently collect gratuities would still be able to under this new proposal. The extra money would be on top of the \$15.00 minimum wage rather than simply contributing toward the \$15.00.

OneFairWage believes this new concept would help customers feel better about where their gratuities are going.

They would be added bonuses for servers and staff instead of a portion of their base pay. “When you tip in Massachusetts, you think your tips are an extra bonus on top of the wage. You think you’re rewarding good service but in fact, your tips are being used to cover employer’s costs,” said Saru Jayaraman, President of OneFairWage.

Opponents of the proposal have begun to voice their opposition and concerns, while others, including the Massachusetts Restaurant Association (MRA) filed last month asking the state’s highest court to dismiss the measure. MRA President Steve Clark argued, “It would increase costs for restaurants, which typically have narrow operating margins, and result

(Continued on Page 8)

Holy Week 2024 Schedule

Palm Sunday – March 24
Holy Thursday – March 28
Good Friday – March 29
Holy Saturday – March 30
Easter Sunday – March 31

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Trump Clarifies “Bloodbath” Reference

Former President Trump insisted this past Monday his predicting a “bloodbath” if he loses in November at a weekend rally was a direct reference to the threat Joe Biden poses to the US auto industry and not a warning of violence by his supporters. Trump stated, “I was simply referring to imports allowed by Crooked Joe Biden which was killing the automobile industry.”

Biden Gives Bibi His Advice

President Biden reportedly told Israeli P.M. Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday that sending Israeli troops into southern Gaza city of Rafah would be a “mistake.” Three days earlier, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer called for the Jewish state to hold a “new election.” and ousting Netanyahu following the war against Hamas. Latest news from the mainstream media is “stay neutral and see what happens.” BiBi not a happy prime minister at the moment.

RFK Snubbed at WH Irish Bash

Presidential hopeful Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was seemingly snubbed from his family’s gathering at the White House on St. Patrick’s Day as he continued his third party run against Biden and Trump in the November 5 election. Some 30 members of the Kennedy clan gathered outside the White House near the Rose Garden alongside Biden.

Charles Barkley: An Inconvenient Truth-Teller

Ex-NBA superstar and CNN host Charles Barkley recently declared “that the Democratic Party only cares about Black people every four years, at election time,” reports Douglas MacKinnon at *The Hill*. The fact that our “hoods are still the same, our schools are still the same explains why Black people are leaving disappointed the Democratic Party,” sighed Barkley.

(Continued on Page 10)

Federal Government Faced with Shutdown Again

Congress is once again facing a critical government funding deadline on March 22nd, potentially shuttering a number of essential departments. Negotiators are working desperately to conclude their work on the final bills in order to avert the shutdown. The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) stated, “We will continue to communicate with senior agency officials to remind them of their responsibility to review and update orderly shutdown plans.”

This is the 5th time since September, 2023 that Congress has faced a funding deadline, passing stop gag bills in the nick of time this past September, November, January, and earlier this month to keep the government running.

Just a few weeks ago Congress passed the initial slate of government funding bills prior to another partial deadline, providing funding for Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Veterans Affairs, Energy, Interior, Transportation, Housing, Urban Development, the FDA, as well as military construction and other

Federal programs. Funding for the remaining departments will end on March 22nd, including the Departments of Homeland Security, Defense, State, Treasury, Health and Human Services, Education and Labor, unless congress can act beforehand.

Millions of Federal workers and military personnel would be affected by the shutdown, including 60% of civilian federal employees, according to an Andrew Lautz, Senior Political Analyst at the Bipartisan Policy Center. At least another 725,000 civilian federal employees, most in the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense, would continue working but not get paid until the shutdown ends, according to Lantz. The over 2 million military personnel including active and reserve members would work without pay.

The Department of Homeland Security, which oversees transportation security, border security, and disaster relief, employs a large portion of the department’s work force of 250,000 plus federal employees and are designated

exempt from a shutdown and would remain at work without pay. Transportation Security Administration (TSA), would be among those employees not paid, which could create severe issues for travelers through airports. U.S. Border Patrol Agents are also considered essential and would be required to perform their law enforcement duties, including apprehending migrants crossing the border illegally.

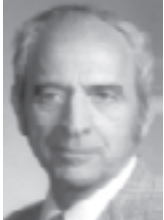
The Treasury Department said about two-thirds of its IRS employees, approximately 60,000 people, would be furloughed, making it much more difficult for taxpayers to receive assistance. IRS employees are currently processing tax returns and a shutdown could drastically affect the expected refunds for millions of Americans. Tax season ends April 15th for most tax payers. The IRS has never before experienced a shutdown during tax season.

With the clock ticking, many vital services are hanging in the balance of Congress reaching a consensus to pass the stop gag bill and keeping the government open!

Stirpe
Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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





Most of our concerns today seem to center around “faenus,” which is the Latin term for interest, debt, profit, gain, or financial advantage. In early Greece, the rate of interest on invested capital was not restricted by law, but was left entirely to arrangements between the parties concerned. The average rate was considered quite high, far higher than the rental fee for houses or for land. This was due to the scarcity of ready cash and the difficulty in accumulating any large amount of capital. During the time of Demosthenes (about 300 B.C.), twelve percent was regarded as a rather low rate of interest and higher rates, up to eighteen percent were quite common. In bottomry (insurance on shipping cargo), the ordinary rate of interest at Athens was twenty percent. In the event of failure in the payment of interest due, it was permissible to charge compound interest. Interest was computed and charged by one of two different methods. It was quite usual to agree on the amount of a monthly payment, or by an annual payment based upon a fraction of the principal. Interest was usually paid on the first day of each month, but yearly payments were also possible.

In early Rome, as in Athens, the rate of interest was originally unrestricted, and it was not until after much work was done that a standard rate of eight and one third percent was established. The law limited the interest rate for Roman citizens,

but usury (gouging) was quite the common practice where foreigners were concerned.

The exchange of commerce between foreign countries prompted changes in interest payments. Money was no longer lent by the year but by the month, and monthly interest was paid on the first day of each month. Notice of intention to recall a loan was given on the Ides (13th or 15th of the month) and reimbursement took place on the first day of the following month. The regular rate of interest under this system was one percent monthly, or twelve percent per year.

The accumulation of large fortunes in Rome at the end of the Republic lessened the rate of interest that was charged. The chief field for usury was then directed towards the provinces, where the inhabitants were compelled to raise loans at any price because of exorbitant taxes. Justinian, the great Byzantine Emperor, was the one who eventually fixed a permanent interest rate in ordinary investments at six percent, in commercial enterprises at eight percent, and in bottomry (previous unlimited) at twelve percent.

It is certainly a great mystery to me why our ancestors were so concerned about money and interest. All they had to do was to look to their government leadership like we do. If you need more money ... just print it ... how simple can you get?

NEXT WEEK:
Even Funerals Have Roots

Has Biden Impeachment Inquiry Reached a Dead End?

by Patti Sartori

Republicans, holding a narrow margin in Congress, are finding themselves in a tight predicament concerning the pending impeachment investigation into President Biden. Ending their investigation would vindicate Biden, a signal Republicans do not want to send in an election year, especially given many in the Republican Party believe Biden must be held accountable. Republican Leadership is now considering whether to end their impeachment investigation by sending criminal referrals to the Department Justice.

Republicans centered most of their impeachment investigation around Hunter Biden, the President's son who is the focus of allegations that he used his father's position of power to benefit himself and his family financially through lucrative multimillion dollar pay outs with foreign businesses and individuals.

With no more closed-door witnesses left to subpoena, the inquiry seems to have stalled, with no clear consensus on how to move forward. Jim Jordan, House Judiciary Chairman and James Comer, House Oversight Chairman, have been leading the inquiry and say they have more work to do before concluding their investigation. Comer has been steadfast in his belief

that he expects the final report on his work to include criminal referrals and has indicated that these referrals could be considered by Donald Trump if he were elected President in November. “If Merrick Garland’s Department of Justice won’t take any potential criminal referrals seriously, then maybe the next President, with a new Attorney General will,” Comer said last week.

House speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana, said “there’s more deliberation to be done on it, that’s for sure”. Jim Jordan has made it clear that everything is on the table and no decisions have been made yet. Legal Counsel for the Biden White House, Ed Siskel, has called on Republican Leadership to bring the probe to a close. “It is obviously time to move on. This impeachment is over”.

Most of the final decision on how to move forward or end the impeachment inquiry will fall to Speaker of the House Johnson. He has yet to fully weigh in on how the Republicans should finish their investigation. Johnson served on the defense team of Trump’s Senate impeachment trial and was a member of the House Judiciary Committee prior to being elected speaker. When asked if he believes there is evidence to impeach Biden he responded, “to be very honest

and transparent with all my other responsibilities, I have not been able to take the time to do the deep dive into the evidence, but what has been uncovered is alarming.”

Staff for the committees meet regularly with the speaker’s office to provide updates, but as of yet no decision on how and when to end the inquiry has been made. In addition to criminal referrals, Republicans are said to be considering legislative reforms to Federal ethic laws. Some Republican members want the probe wrapped up quickly, while others believe it is their responsibility to continue this investigation right up until the November election if necessary. Jordan had maintained Republicans must make a decision as a conference.

Comer had also lowered expectations on what a successful end to the inquiry would look like, given the Democratic controlled Senate is a virtual dead end. “I would vote to impeach him, but I am not going to lose any sleep whether he gets impeached in the house or not because we know the Senate’s not going to convict.”

Ultimately Republicans may make the final decision regarding impeachment based upon whether they have the votes to remove Biden. It all comes down to a game of numbers.

Mayor Finalizes Deal with Two Unions

City of Boston Michelle Wu raised the pay of more than 1,700 city employees, across 28 departments, under a new contract. The agreement negotiated between city officials and Council 93 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, and local 888 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), will provide an annual fixed dollar amount raise in base pay, along with a 2% annual raise for all employees.

The fixed dollar amount raise “acknowledges that an extra \$500 means more to an employee making under \$60,000 than one who is more highly paid. The hikes ensure that lower income workers will see greater percentage increases. Under these contracts

individual workers will see wage increases of between 10-15% over four years. Workers with lower salaries will receive higher percentage increases,” Wu’s office said in a statement.

The new contract also allows for sick leave and bereavement for the first time for probationary employees who are in their first six months of a job. It also gives employees the option of working a four-day week, providing they work the same number of hours they would in a traditional five-day week.

“The work of our employees is foundational to the running of our city, and they deserve the compensation and flexibility that ensures excellence in delivering city services to our residents, and financial stability for their families. I am so

grateful to our union partners for their collaboration in delivering a contract our employees deserve,” Mayor Wu offered.

Thomas McKeever, President of SEIU local 888 called the announcement of an agreement a “historic day” for the union and its members. SEIU’s political director and former city employee, Anthony Landry said the new agreement was the first time the city and the union agreed to a new deal before the old one expired.

The workers who will benefit from this contract “are the men and women who maintain and repair our roads, enforce health and safety codes, parking violations, keep our parks clean and so much more”, said AFSCME Council 93 President Christopher “Tiger” Stockbridge.

\$1.2 Million Federal Funds Allocated for Everett Rotary

Sweetser Circle in Everett had been identified as a high-risk location for crashes by the MassDOT. Federal Officials have committed \$1.2 million to allow the City of Everett to begin devising plans to bridge the Revere Beach Parkway, an enormous highway impediment separating the northern and southern parts of Everett. These funds are part of the new Reconnecting Communities grant. This program’s goal is to reconnect communities that are cut off from opportunity and burdened by past transportation and infrastructure decisions.

Sweetser Circle is the only roadway linking the older heavily populated neighborhoods of northern Everett and the

up-and-coming area near the Mystic River. “Sweetser Circle is a major barrier to creating safe pedestrian and cyclist’s improvements to access lower Broadway. It is also a barrier for local bus service, with nearly all of Everett’s 15,000 daily transit riders utilizing local bus services that traverse through Sweetser Circle en route to rapid transit stations outside the city,” the grant application stated.

The rotary is also a hindrance to the City’s Economic Development goals. The Exxon Mobil Oil Tank field was recently acquired while a vast number of new apartments are being constructed in the vicinity, along with other large scale construction projects in the works.

As Jay Monty, the City

of Everett’s Transportation Planner made clear, “We don’t want to have the new Everett and the old Everett. We want to redevelop those areas, but we also want to make sure they are part of our community, that they are walkable and that there is transit service available to serve these areas Equitably.”

The City’s plan hopes for dedicated bus routes through the circle as well as safer pedestrian and bicycle routes. The city officials also want a study to consider the addition of a new commuter rail station on the Newburyport/Rockport line. If a new station were to be built close to Sweetser Circle, it could connect to Everett’s bus routes and the proposed Silver Line extension.



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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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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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I learned that the fund raiser for “Boston Cares” listed in your February 16th edition was really a kick off to change the name of “North End Against Drugs” (NEAD) and that the group was going in “a different direction.” So, at this time I think it is appropriate that we give a shout out to John Romano and his wife Patricia who worked so diligently to pour their heart and soul into the lives of North End children over the years with the NEAD program. Their dedication and efforts were a labor of love for the community and I for one am so grateful to them.

May I suggest that if your readers see them in the neighborhood, they shake their hand, give them a hug, and most of all say *Thank You!*

Respectfully,
Rita Pagliuca
Life Long North End Resident

In Loving Memory of Joseph John D’Urbano March 18, 2024

Joseph John D’Urbano, age 85, of Arlington passed away on Monday, March 18th. Born and raised in Boston’s North End, he was the son of the late Silvester and Annunziata “Rita” (Candelora) D’Urbano. Joseph moved to Arlington in the 1960s, and also lived in Somerville and Malden before returning to Arlington, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Joseph was the devoted father of Joseph S. D’Urbano, and Laurie Ann and Lynda Ann D’Urbano, and was predeceased by their mother, Carole (Turner). He was the longtime companion of Claudia landoli, and good friend of her son Jerry. Joseph is also survived by many loving cousins, family and friends.

Joseph was employed in construction and was a proud member of Laborers Local 151 in Cambridge. He also worked for many years in the restaurant and nightclub business. Joseph loved to cook, which he did every day, as well as tend his garden. Most of all, he valued time spent with his family and friends.



Visiting hours will be held in the Dello Russo Funeral Home, 306 Main St., Medford from 4 PM through 8 PM on Tuesday, March 26th, and again at 9 AM on Wednesday, March 27th, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated in St. Leonard Church, Hanover Street, Boston, at 10:00 a.m.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. Services will conclude with burial at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Arlington.

May He Rest in Peace

Friends of the North End South 14th Annual Reunion

by Victor Passacantilli

The Friends of the North End South 14th Annual Reunion was held on Sunday, March 3rd in Lake Worth, Florida.

Thirty-four North Enders and West Enders enjoyed a wonderful afternoon lunch and reminiscing about growing up in the North End.

Donnie Sacchetti was the winner of the Trivia Contest and was awarded the Gilardi Award by Louie Gilardi who along with his wife, Camille started the FONE South Reunion in 2011.

He correctly guessed who was a non-Italian doctor who made house calls in the North End during the '40s, '50s, and '60s.It as Dr. Cohen,

whose office was on Richmond Street. When Donnie sent in the answer, he wrote me a great story of when Dr. Cohen removed his tonsils in 1945 while he laid anesthetized in his mother’s bed on Salem Street!

Victor Passacantilli, Gus and Diane Pesaturo told stories of what it was like to grow up in the North End. Their comments initiated a lot of conversation among the group as they recalled more memories. This reunion was indeed a special one and everyone is looking forward to the 15th next March in 2025.

Long Live Our North End!



Anthony and Floreen Cucinatti



Frank and Theresa Sabbio



Linda and Donnie Sacchetti,
Mary and George Pesaturo



Theresa Sabbio and
Lucille De Christoforo



Victor Passacantilli and Pamela Corolla



Geno Sabbio, Camille and Louie Gilardi



Richie Pinabell and Joel Raffa



Victor Passacantilli
and Angela Pace



John and Celeste De Marco



Celeste De Marco, Floreen Cucinatti, Linda
Sacchetti, Lucille Giganti and Diane Pesaturo

L’Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Italian Holy Week: Sacred and Springlike

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



After the damp and bitterly cold early spring fog, in which every raindrop feels like the pinprick of an ice crystal, I look forward to the promise of Easter, the premiere holiday of the season. Signs of Easter sprout around me as surely as the first purple tulips spring from the rich soil. Marshmallow Peeps wink playfully at me as they line shop shelves in brilliant hues ranging from robin’s egg blue to bright tutu pink. Baskets and wreaths boast eggs dyed with bold solid colors or glittery patinas. At the mall, costumed Easter Bunnies pose for family photos with children in frilly dresses and crooked bow ties. However, as much as the coming Easter fills me with pleasant anticipation, I am reminded that the week preceding the holiday brims with its own unique customs and traditions. The week’s very name, Holy Week, reveals its profound importance in the religious year. Italians call Holy Week *la Settimana Santa* and celebrate its arrival with much fanfare. The Holy Week festivities in Italy emphasize seasonal spring folklore while also paying homage to the intricate and inspiring spirituality of this period. Whether filled with displays of palm leaves or colorful eggs, Holy Week in Italy and around the world heralds the Easter holiday with the reverence, love and joy it deserves.

Holy Week begins this year on March 24th, which is Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem, when adoring crowds welcomed Him by waving palm branches in the air. Along with its religious significance, Palm Sunday remains attuned to the seasonal beat of spring, symbolically falling during the time of the year

when tree branches begin to blossom. My father grew up in the mountainous region of Abruzzo in Italy, where he would spend Palm Sunday, or *Domenica delle Palme*, collecting the olive branches that grew plentifully in the hills and fields near his home. This was the same country wilderness, laden with ancient orchards and thick forests, about which village elders whispered stories of sprites hiding under rocks and wolves darting among the trees. My father and his friends would then bring the branches to the local parish, where the priest would bless them. This quaint sylvan ritual embodied all the pleasures of spring, such as communal outdoor excursions and metaphorical links to the themes of rebirth and spiritual awakening. Throughout Holy Week, Italians also give their homes a thorough spring cleaning in preparation for Easter and the days of visiting to follow. Holy Week ends with Good Friday, or *Venerdì Santo*, the solemn remembrance of Jesus’s Crucifixion. In Italy, processions of black-robed participants set the somber and pensive atmosphere of the day. Processions that focus on the Virgin Mary are known as the *Addolorata*, a name indicative of Mary’s grief and pain. Therefore, Holy Week begins in triumph but ends in tragedy, encompassing all the emotional spectrum necessary for the joy of Easter.

For me, Holy Week has always meant Easter preparations, particularly those with an emphasis on the Italian traditions of my ancestors. My parents would reserve a day, usually Holy Saturday, for decorating eggs with my brother and me. Eggs have formed an integral part of Easter celebrations

since ancient times due to their rebirth symbolism: though they appear cold and sterile on the outside, they contain new life inside. I always enjoyed picking the egg dyes, and I would often choose a bright or glittery color to match the cheerful hues of the flowers growing outside my home. Easter eggs form a sweet part of Italian holiday customs as well. During Holy Week, my father would always buy a gigantic chocolate *uovo di Pasqua* (literally, “Easter egg”) from a specialty shop in the North End, wrapped in pastel foil. We would patiently wait until Easter to ceremoniously break the egg open, eagerly anticipating the treats concealed within — usually candy. An Italian superstition decrees that everyone must wear at least one new piece of clothing on Easter, again illustrating the theme of renewal central to the holiday, and as such my mom and I would often shop for a new outfit during Holy Week. When I was a child, this meant a lacy, flowery dress. Though I no longer seek out itchy dresses, I do pick my new clothes with bright colors or a flowered pattern to reflect the spring season. Finally, my mother and I spend much of Holy Week planning our Easter menu. On Holy Saturday, I bake my traditional Italian ricotta pie to be served at the feast the next day. Therefore, I associate Holy Week with the joy and promise of an exciting holiday to come. Its customs have instilled in me an appreciation for the blooming new season of spring, for the spirituality of Easter, and for my Italian heritage as a whole.

Holy Week is a profound and multifaceted period of the year. It revels in the springtime and the resurgence of nature all around us, from the flowers fluttering proudly in the sunlight to the bunnies munching on the fresh green grass. It grants us an opportunity to enjoy the warm spring weather and to find peace and reflection in the spiritual traditions of the pre-Easter season. In Italy, people honor Holy Week by engaging in symbolic rituals like collecting olive branches on Palm Sunday, cleaning their homes, and decorating eggs. No matter which customs we take to heart, we should celebrate them in a way that expresses gratitude toward nature and the cycle of the year. Easter, after all, is the supreme holiday of hope and rebirth, and Holy Week encapsulates that feeling. Holy Week teaches us that if we live in harmony with nature and with respect for the ways of our ancestors, we will find a strength inside us brighter than any spring sun.

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.

THINKING
OUT LOUD

by Sal Giaratani

Didn’t Make it to Southie on St. Patrick’s Day this Year

Almost like clockwork, I always end up in SOUTHIE on St. Patrick’s Day but this year I was AWOL. I didn’t have the spirit to sustain myself this year. Not at the roast over at the Ironworkers Hall nor in the line of march for the annual parade. I used the excuse of the weather but I’ve marched in some very rainy parades before. This year, I think I just got fed up with all the politics consuming us this year. Woke politics is doing such a number on us. It’s pretty difficult to feel happy, wearing green, and celebrating my heritage. Maternal roots are in Beare Island, West Cork. This year I remain upset with all our phony politicians eating up corned beef and cabbage, drinking Jameson in their Irish coffees and telling terrible jokes. Pretending they know what being Irish means. Couldn’t take any of that this year.

This past Monday, I became even more livid. If you go online to Boston City Hall, they have an apparent AI version of a St. Patrick’s Day greeting by showing a P.O.C. leprechaun. Seemingly, woke politicians can’t even take a day off for the holiday.

Hey, did you remember the joke about the rabbi, priest and minister? Sorry, I can’t tell that one anymore. It’s a hate crime today. When Irish eyes start crying, you know the world is all fruit loops today.

Let’s hope next year’s St. Patrick’s Day turns out much better than this year’s holiday.

Four Long Years Since COVID Chaos

Four years ago this month, then Governor Charlie Baker declared a State of Emergency in Massachusetts. The World Health Organization (WHO) had proclaimed a pandemic was upon us. Businesses and schools were shuttered as the newly identified disease known as COVID-19 upended our lives and sent our domestic and international worlds into a tailspin. The 14 days to slow the spread had begun.

The average citizen would be hard pressed to find a relative, friend, co-worker or acquaintance who hasn’t been touched, in some manner, by this disease. In Massachusetts alone, it is estimated to have taken approximately 22,000 lives with more than 118,000 hospitalizations.

As of today, the social distancing requirements have ended with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) dropping the five-day isolation rule and now treats COVID like a common respiratory illness. The recent data From Massachusetts health officials shows COVID related emergency room visits are minimal and hospitalization admissions are low. Most so-called expert’s point in part to the millions of people who have received their vaccinations and boosters.

Yet our nation and society still have not recovered from the COVID effects. The economy has yet to bounce back, many business owners have lost their livelihoods, our students have fallen behind academically, and people no longer have full trust in their leaders or health institutions. Most of us are much more timid and skeptical about the information and supposed facts we are fed.

Will the hesitation to fully interact verbally and physically with those around us and immerse ourselves in life once again ever resurface, or will we continue to witness and accept an angered hurried existence from so many. It’s strange how 4 years later COVID-19 has faded into the background as it continues to alter American life.

You are cordially invited to attend
ABCD North End/West End NSC's

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In response to emerging workforce needs in high-demand industries across the nation, the U.S. Department of Labor's Job Corps program offers free training that provides students with the skills needed to connect with the high-quality jobs being created by the Biden-Harris administration's historic infrastructure investments.

Those investments accelerated the need for highly skilled workers in the infrastructure, climate and advanced manufacturing sectors. With more than 400 pre-apprenticeship training programs across the country, the Job Corps program is a wellspring for the talent pipeline needed in communities where the administration is realizing its investments.

"As we begin to celebrate 60 years of Job Corps' connecting workers to the employers who need them, we remain laser-focused on customizing our training to provide solutions that meet the evolving needs of the nation," said acting National Director for Job Corps Erin McGee. "People think of infrastructure as roads and bridges or waterways and airports, but America needs workers to bring these significant projects to life. Job Corps is helping prepare students to become part of that critical workforce."

Job Corps partners with employers to equip students with relevant and current hands-on training, resulting in students who have the skills, support and connections they need to progress into Registered Apprenticeship programs or enter directly into stable careers after graduation.

There are three Job Corps campuses in Massachusetts: Grafton (in North Grafton), Shriver (in Devens) and Westover (in Chicopee). They offer career skills training in high-growth industry sectors, including Advanced Manufacturing, Automotive and Machine Repair, Construction, Finance and Business, Health Care, Homeland Security, Hospitality, Information Technology, and Transportation.

Grafton Job Corps offers pre-apprenticeship training in Carpentry, Electrical and Plumbing. Shriver Job Corps offers pre-apprenticeship training in Carpentry. Westover Job Corps offers pre-apprenticeship training in Advanced Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning; Bricklaying; Building Construction Technology; Carpentry; Electrical; Heavy Construction Equipment Mechanic; Heavy Equipment Operations; and Plumbing.

"Through proven strategies such as our pre-apprenticeship training, we are placing students into meaningful careers in fields with exponential growth opportunities," McGee added. "We also help connect the employers in these same industries with the trained workforce they need."

With a nationwide network of more than 120 centers and 43 nationally accredited training pathways in advanced manufacturing, construction, renewable resources and energy, and transportation, Job Corps is a natural partner for employers in communities across America to develop their talent pipelines.

Founded in 1964, Job Corps is a federal career technical training and education program for eligible young people who aspire to higher education and good jobs. Job Corps provides programs and services at no charge to students.

BACKGROUND

Job Corps is a federal career technical training and education program for young people who aspire to higher-paying careers and higher education. With more than 120 residential and nonresidential locations nationwide, training is available in the nation's fastest-growing industries to eligible 16- through 24-year-olds. The program is free of charge for students. To learn more about Job Corps, visit jobcorps.gov.

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TikTok Ban Moving Closer to Reality

by Patti Sartori

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill last week that would ban the popular TikTok app. The vote moved easily through the house with bipartisan support 352-65. Lawmakers have long agonized over the concern that data being collected on TikTok could end up in the hands of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

The bill is titled "The Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act" and would give Chinese owned ByteDance 165 days to divest their interest in the social media company or face removal from U.S. app stores. This video app is extremely popular with young social media consumers and counts more than 170 million American users.

U.S. Representative, Seth Moulton, D-Salem, Mass, one of the bills co-sponsors expressed his gratitude for the house vote and said, "As a member of the select committee on China, I have attended classified briefings and hearings on TikTok and the threats posed by the Communist Chinese Party's information and operations. I have grave concerns about our foreign adversaries being able to tell our kids what to watch on line. I do not want to ban TikTok, but I want to ensure that it is no longer controlled, even indirectly by the Chinese Communist Party. Today's overwhelmingly bipartisan vote shows how important this is for Americans, and the Senate should take this bill up soon."

Another co-sponsor of the bill, U.S. Representative Jake Auchincloss, D-Newton, Mass, stated, "Social media corporations' profit by keeping our kids hooked on their screens. Families are fed up. The forced sale of TikTok is the first step in ensuring Big Tech answers to congress on mental health."

This legislation did not receive full support of the house. 30 Democrat and 15 Republicans voted to block the bill's passage, including Massachusetts representatives. "We must take immediate action to enact greater oversight regarding big tech and social media companies, including TikTok, but the bill voted on in the house was the wrong approach. Instead of targeting a single company in a rushed restricted process, Congress should pass comprehensive data privacy legislation that creates standards and regulations around data harvesting across all social media companies, like many other nations have done," Boston's U.S. Representative Ayanna Presley-D, said in a statement.

(Continued on Page 11)

North End Historical Society

Join us for an afternoon of fun to
Honor the Italian Immigrant History of Boston's North End!

Saturday, March 23, 2024
1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

St. Joseph Hall, St. Leonard Church, 33 Prince Street, Boston



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Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Van Gogh — Vincent Van Gogh was born in Groot Zundert, Holland in 1853. Born into an upper-middle-class family, Van Gogh drew as a child and was serious, quiet and thoughtful, but showed signs of mental instability. Van Gogh's father, Theodorus Van Gogh, was an austere country minister, and his mother, Anna Cornelia Carbentus, was a moody artist whose love of nature, drawing and watercolors was transferred to her son.



After seven years at a commercial art firm, Van Gogh's desire to help humanity led him to become a teacher, preacher, and missionary — yet without success. Working as a missionary among coal miners in Belgium, he had begun to draw in earnest; finally, dismissed by church authorities in 1880, he found his vocation in art. took up painting in 1881. His younger brother, Theo, supported him financially, and the two of them maintained a long correspondence.

Van Gogh's earliest paintings were earth-toned scenes of nature and peasants, but he became increasingly influenced by Japanese prints and the work of the impressionists in France. In 1886, he arrived in Paris, where his real formation as a painter began. Under the influence of Camille Pissarro, Van Gogh brightened his somber palette and juxtaposed complementary colors for luminous effect. Younger artists like Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Paul Gauguin prompted him to use color symbolically and for its emotional resonance.

Although stimulated by the city's artistic environment, Van Gogh found life in Paris physically exhausting and moved in early 1888 to Arles. He hoped Provence's warm climate would relax him and that the brilliant colors and strong light of the south would provide inspiration for his art. Working feverishly, Van Gogh pushed his style to greater expression with intense, energetic brushwork and saturated, complementary colors. Yet his densely painted canvases remained connected to nature — their colors and rhythmic surfaces communicate the spiritual power he believed inhabited and shaped nature's forms. His activity was not undisciplined; quite the opposite, he worked diligently to perfect his craft.

Van Gogh hoped to attract like-minded painters to Arles, but only Gauguin joined him, staying about two months. It was soon clear that their personalities and artistic temperaments were incompatible, and Van Gogh suffered a breakdown just before Christmas. In April 1889, following periods of intense work interrupted by recurring mental disturbances, Van Gogh committed himself to a sanitarium in St.-Rémy. He painted whenever he could, believing that in work lay his only chance for sanity. Van Gogh suffered from despair and bouts of mental illness, at one point cutting off part of his own left ear. After a year, he returned north to be closer to his brother Théo, who had been his constant support; in July 1890 he died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Van Gogh was a Post Impressionist painter, generally considered the greatest Dutch painter after Rembrandt. During his short (10-year) painting career he produced over 800 oil paintings and 700 drawings, but sold only one during his lifetime. In 1987, the sale of his painting *Irises* brought \$53.9 million, the highest price ever paid for a work of art up to that time.



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The Luck of the Irish

was with the ABCD North End/West End NSC

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) held its St. Patrick's Day celebration on Friday, March 15th, well in advance of the local parade and other festivities around the neighborhood! Over four dozen members of the community, almost all of them older adults from the North End and West End, feasted on traditional Irish corned beef and cabbage, salad, cookies, cupcakes, cannoli, and soda bread, the latter of which was made by Acting Director Julia Power, using her grandmother's recipe, to balance out the Italian cannoli!

The NE/WE NSC extends heartfelt thanks to Eagle Bank, who annually sponsors this event. Gisella DiPaola, SVP Retail Banking Officer, from Eagle Bank on Hanover Street, and also a NE/WE NSC Advisory Board member, assisted with serving the meal. The offices of Mayor Michelle Wu, Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, and City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta turned out with sweets to visit with their constituents.

Silke Evans, well known for her musical performances in the area, played Irish music and other tunes on the piano. Volunteer and former NE/WE NSC Advisory Board member David Roderick and Irene Pien, volunteer from Strada 234, lent a hand with much-needed serving and clean up. All in all, it was a delightful day spent in the drop-in center, with lovely food, conversation, and friends, for those who trace their roots back to Ireland's shores, along with the "honorary" Irish for a day.



Silke Evans, volunteer, on piano



Behind the scenes in the kitchen!



Thank you, Eagle Bank, for sponsoring the St. Patrick's Day celebration! (L-R): ABCD NE/WE NSC Fundraising Specialist, Johannah Malone, ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power, and Eagle Bank SVP, Retail Banking Officer and ABCD Advisory Board Member Gisella DiPaola



(L-R): ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power, Gabriela Ramirez (Office of Gabriela Coletta), Karen D'Amico (Office of Representative Aaron Michlewitz), Ciara D'Amico (Office of Mayor Michelle Wu), Eagle Bank SVP, Retail Banking Officer and ABCD Advisory Board Member Gisella DiPaola, Yamina Lachmi (Office of Senator Lydia Edwards), ABCD NE/WE NSC Fundraising Specialist Johannah Malone



Irish soda bread homemade by ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power, using her grandmother's recipe



A view of the crowd

Cosmas and Damian

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



Cosmas and Damian were third century Arabian-born twin brothers who embraced Christianity and practiced medicine and surgery without a fee. This led them to being named anargyroi (from the Greek *ἀνάργυροι*, “the silverless,” or “unmercenaries”); by this, they attracted many to the Christian faith. They reputedly cured blindness, fever and paralysis.

Cosmas and Damian were arrested by order of Lysias, the Prefect of Cilicia, (modern day Çukurova, Turkey) because of their faith and fame as healers. Emperor Diocletian, who favored the worship of the Olympian gods, issued a series

of edicts that condemned the Christians with the goal of eliminating Christianity from the Roman empire. Lysias ordered Cosmas and Damian to be tortured and to recant. However, according to legend they stayed true to their faith, enduring being hung on a cross, stoned and shot by arrows and finally suffered execution by beheading. Anthimus, Leontius and Euprepis, their younger brothers, who were inseparable from them throughout life, shared in their martyrdom.

The Feast Date of Saints Cosmas and Damian is September 26th. They are the patron saints of Medicine and Pharmacy.

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5:00PM

ADMISSION FREE

Mayor Michelle Wu, Office of Civic Organizing Announce 2024 Love Your Block Spring Cleanups



Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Civic Organizing (OCO) announced the Love Your Block spring 2024 cleanups will take place on **April 6, April 20,** and **April 27.** Love Your Block is a Citywide community service event that invites community members to lead in hosting a neighborhood cleanup or joining a cleanup as an individual volunteer. Love Your Block neighborhood beautification projects include cleaning up trash on sidewalks and streets, park revitalization, and flower planting. The Love Your Block application is open for volunteers to sign up to become a host or join a neighborhood cleanup at www.boston.gov/news/mayor-michelle-wu-office-civic-organizing-announce-2024-love-your-block-spring-cleanups. OCO will connect individuals with a cleanup site in their neighborhood once all sites are finalized.

“Love your Block cleanups are a perfect way to enjoy the upcoming spring weather while helping your local community look vibrant and clean,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “The City is proud to help supply the tools to host group cleanups and assist individuals in finding a Love Your Block volunteer opportunity near them.”

Cleanups will take place in every neighborhood of Boston over the course of three weekends.

- THE DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
- Saturday, April 6:**
- Allston/Brighton, Back Bay/Beacon Hill, Fenway/Kenmore, Mission Hill, South Boston, West Roxbury
- Saturday, April 20:**
- Charlestown, East Boston, North End/West End/Wharf District, Chinatown/Downtown/Leather District, South End/Bay Village
- Saturday, April 27:**
- Roxbury, Mid-Dorchester, Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, Roslindale, Jamaica Plain
- The Love Your Block program was first created in 2015 with a three-year grant awarded

to the City of Boston by Cities of Service. After the grant’s expiration in 2018, Love Your Block became a permanent City program under the Mayor’s Office of Civic Organizing (within the Community Engagement Cabinet). This year, OCO will partner with Boston Public Library and Boston Centers for Youth & Families who will serve as host sites for community members to pick up and drop off cleanup tools. All sites are listed on the Love Your Block sign up form. Tool collection is scheduled from 9:00 -10:00 a.m., with returns to the same location between 12:00 -2:00 p.m.

“Having served as East Boston’s liaison, I’ve seen the transformative power of this initiative firsthand,” said Director of Civic Organizing Nathalia Benitez-Perez. “Love Your Block empowers residents to take charge of their community’s well-being through collective action and beautification efforts. I’m thrilled to carry forward this tradition of fostering empowerment and unity.”

In past Love Your Block cleanups, neighborhood groups have picked up litter from streets and sidewalks, beautified local parks, cleaned up vacant lots, urban wilds, and more. For tips on how to plan and host a cleanup in your neighborhood, OCO has created a helpful guide.

“In 2022, fourteen volunteers from Prospect Hill and Mt. Hope neighborhoods of Roslindale turned out to clean up the pedestrian walkways of the Blakemore Street Bridge,” said Friends of Blakemore Bridge Co-Founder Meri Bond. “By the end of the day not only had they removed the leaves, litter, bottles and nips that had been accumulating along the Bridge for years, they had enjoyed meeting one another and working together for a common purpose.”

The Office of Civic Organizing will provide volunteers with cleanup tools including trash bags, gloves, brooms, rakes, trash pickers, and a Love Your Block t-shirt. Hosts leading a cleanup can request tools until Friday, March 22 at 5:00 p.m..

“Love Your Block is an event that I look forward to the Mayor’s Office of Civic Organizing leading every year,” said Brianna Millor, Chief of the Community Engagement Cabinet. “This is an effort for our Cabinet alongside Boston residents, community leaders, and volunteers to beautify every Boston neighborhood together. I look forward to seeing everyone in April to keep our neighborhoods clean.”

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JAZZ ENSEMBLE OF MEMPHIS
– PLAYING IN THE YARD (CD)
Memphis International Records

The storied musical city of Memphis, Tennessee presents its delegation to the rising generation of cutting-edge jazz artists with *Playing in the Yard*, the debut recording by the Jazz Ensemble of Memphis, on Memphis International Records label. An answer record to the revelatory 1959 album *Down Home Reunion: Young Men from Memphis*, the new album comprises a summit of five of the city’s freshest jazz talents, here playing together for the first time. The original album was a milestone for the Bluff City. It introduces the larger jazz world to the best and brightest of Memphis jazz musicians, many of whom would become world-renowned figures in their own rights: Booker Little, George Coleman, Frank Strozier, Jamil Nasser, and Phineas Newborn, among others. But if those players were young — Little, the baby of the assemblage, was almost 21 — the new Jazz Ensemble of Memphis is younger still. Drummer Kurtis Gray and trumpeter Martin Carodine Jr. were 17 and 19, respectively, at the time of recording; tenor saxophonist Charles Pender II is at 26 the band’s elder statesman, with 25-year-old keyboardist/vibraphonist DeAnte Payne and 21-year-old bassist Liam O’Dell rounding out the lineup.

But their youth is deceptive. Each of the musicians plays with a finesse and perception beyond his years. If their age shows through, it’s only in their seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm. Both love and the sophistication are heard throughout the album, whether in Pender’s gravitas-filled solo on “When You Wish Upon a Star,” the lowdown blues of Payne’s vibes on “The Crawl,” or Carodine’s old-soul trumpet voice on “Things Ain’t What They Used to Be.” Yet there’s still plenty of room for exuberance, perhaps best captured in the sinuous reinterpretation of the classic “A Night in Tunisia,” on which everyone but the bassist contributes a sly solo, and the funky Sonny Rollins-penned title track, where Payne, O’Dell, and Pender each submit improvisations stacked with exclamation points. Their enjoyment is contagious, their music brimful of exciting promise. Special guest Jim Spake, a Memphis saxophone mainstay, is heard on soprano sax on the title track.

The Jazz Ensemble of Memphis is the fruit of a conversation between father and son Johnny and Jeff Phillips (nephew and great-nephew of Sun Records’ legendary founder Sam Phillips) and veteran music entrepreneur, critic, and producer David Less. A keen observer of the local scene, Less rounded up a remarkable quintet of gifted players between the ages of 17 and 26. They included University of Memphis alumni Charles Pender II (tenor saxophone) and Liam O’Dell (bass); Martin

Carodine Jr. (trumpet); and two young Memphis natives and residents, Deante Payne (keyboards, vibraphone) and Kurtis Gray (drums).

OWEN BRODER –
HODGES FRONT AND
CENTER: VOL. TWO (CD)
Outside in Records

Saxophonist Owen Broder conceived his *Hodges: Front and Center* project as a means to shine some light on the legendary yet still under-sung sax titan Johnny Hodges, more often celebrated as a key sideman with the Duke Ellington Orchestra than as a distinctive and influential voice in his own right. Broder now returns with *Hodges: Front and Center, Vol. 2*, an equally heartfelt and joyous delve into the Hodges songbook. The album follows in its predecessor’s footsteps, striking a sublime balance between honoring the sound and style of Broder’s original recordings while infusing these classic tunes with a modern and vibrant feel. Broder (on alto and baritone saxophones) is joined by trumpeter Riley Mulherkar, pianist Carmen Staaf, bassist Barry Stephenson III, and drummer Bryan Carter.

Where the second volume differs most from the first is in its greater focus on Hodges as a composer; while only two of the pieces on *Vol. 1* included Hodges’ name in the writing credits, fully half of the sequel’s eight tunes were written or co-written by the saxophonist. The album kicks off with the fanfare of “Used To Be Duke,” the title track from Hodges’ 1956 album — recorded during the alto great’s five-year hiatus from the Ellington fold but released after his return, lending the name an ironic tone. Broder and Staaf respond to the tune’s lively energy, plus an explosive turn from Carter and a buoyant final statement by Mulherkar.

Broder’s concept for the *Front and Center* project was initially inspired by *Back to Back and Side by Side*, two small group albums co-led by Hodges and Ellington in 1959. “Wabash Blues” is the opening track from the first of the pair, *Back to Back*. W.C. Handy’s timeless “St. Louis Blues.” Ellington’s “Stomp Jones” was the first track on the pair’s second outing, *Side by Side*, and foregoes Duke’s more complex and elegant compositional. The leader’s alto solo ascends from moans to clarinet-like filigrees, followed by Mulherkar’s muted gutbucket discourse. Staaf’s musing lends a dissonant edge to a gospel-fueled spirit. Ellington also penned the album’s gorgeous closer, “The Star Crossed Lovers,” an achingly beautiful ballad playing from 1957’s Shakespeare-inspired *Such Sweet Thunder*. Broder does his mentor proud with his heart-rending lament. The remaining pieces are all Hodges compositions. The loping “Back Beat” and the languorous “Shady Side” were both originally recorded on 1960’s *Gerry Mulligan Meets Johnny Hodges*, furnishing Broder the opportunity to pay dual homage with his blustery, breathy baritone.

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



The Burger King crowd in Orient Heights celebrating St. Patrick’s Day eating corn beef and cabbage at the Patriots Club (former Sons of Italy club) in Revere near Broadway & Malden Street). If you look closely, you can see Stephen Scapicchio on the photo’s left side, and of course the guy wearing a green shirt and hat is Sal G., the G in this photo is for Gaelic & Garlic.

KUDOS TO KELLY AYOTTE

Kelly Ayotte is a former New Hampshire U.S. Senator who is back running to return to the US Senate this year. Today, New Hampshire is a former red state now turning purple and if the Democrats had their way, it would turn into another blue state akin to Massachusetts. There still is time to prevent the worst from happening to the Granite State. Ayotte is now calling on her Democrat opponent Joyce Craig, mayor of Manchester to forgo Gov. Maura Healey’s endorsement and opposing sanctuary cities and policies. Ayotte wasn’t the perfect U.S. senator but far better than anyone else serving in the U.S. Senate in New England during her time in office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
HIS WAS UNFORGETTABLE

This past St. Patrick’s Day (MARCH 17) would have been Nat King Cole’s 105th birthday (If we are counting it as a heavenly birthday then it WAS his 105th not WOULD HAVE BEEN). He was only 45 years old when he passed away in 1965. Seems heavy smoking may have been a large contributor to his early death.

QUOTE TO NOTE

According to Dr. Mandy Cohen, director of Disease Control and Prevention a few months back, “We anticipate that COVID will become similar to flu shots, where it is going to be you get your annual flu shot and you get your annual COVID shot.” Lately, on TV we keep seeing those Big Pharma commercials pushing COVID long



East Boston’s Sacred Heart Parish gathered for its monthly community dinner in the church hall on March 13th. One of the largest crowds gathered to date enjoyed a great pasta dinner together. (L-R): Stephen Scapicchio, District 1 Councilor Gabriela Coletta, and Sal G.

COVID and other respiration issues for all other kinds of shots too.

Then, last week, I read a news report that new research on Long COVID has uncovered that many victims of Long COVID, never had plain COVID to begin with ,according to this most recent research has also uncovered some questionable claims from early research, thus putting into doubt some early connections between COVID and Long COVID.

HEY, LOOKING FOR GOOD
A.M. DRIVING MUSIC?

How about trying “Winshields of your Mind” by Sting? It’s just the right stuff for the ride to work in the early morning rush-hour.

ROSA IS BACK MY HAIR HAS BEEN RESCUED

Everyone down at Salon International is happy once again. Rosa is back from her recent knee surgery and is kicking butt with a busy line of customers who couldn’t wait for her to return to her hair styling. It was a long six weeks for me between haircuts. You know, I even started to cut my own hair which is a very bad thing to do to yourself. Things are back to normal down at the corner of Lubec and Porter Streets. Nowadays, it is difficult to find normal anywhere. Thank Gad for Rosa, oh and Joe, too.

NEXT SACRED HEART COMMUNITY DINNER

The next Sacred Heart parish community dinner will be held on April 10th from 5:00p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Join us, bring a friend. All are welcome.

• Tipped Workers (Continued from Page 1)

in higher menu prices for diners.”

Other states which require employees to pay the same minimum wage to all workers, regardless of whether they earn tips or not are Alaska, California, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. MRA released new survey results suggesting most tipped employees in Massachusetts restaurants like the current situation. CorCom, Inc, a research consulting firm conducted an on-line survey of tipped employees at full-service Massachusetts restaurants and found 86% of tipped workers somewhat or strongly agree the existing model works for them and does not need change. Nearly 9 in 10 said they earn \$20.00 per hour or more, and more than half reported earning \$30.00 or more per hour. “The tipped employees are already the highest earners in the restaurant, so all your doing is taking a dollar per hour that you may be paying to a dishwasher or line cook and you’re putting it in the pocket of the employees who are making the most money,” said Clark.

Another questionable piece of the proposal is allowing employers who pay full minimum wage to administer a “tip pool” which combines all gratuities earned by all workers and distributes it evenly, including to those who do not receive tips. Tip sharing is currently banned by state law, even if employers pay the standard minimum wage to all employees. Some argue it fosters a stronger sense of team unity between the front and back of the house in establishments.

The tipped minimum wage proposal is just one of the potential 2024 ballot question battles. Other high-profile measures include the issues between Uber and Lyft companies and their drivers. One measure would give drivers the ability to unionize while the other would permit the companies to define drivers as independent contractors instead of employees, a move that the Attorney General claims is in violation of existing state laws.

You can be sure these issues will continue to move forward and gain strength as we move closer to the November election.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU24P0586EA

Estate of
KATHLEEN LONERGAN
Date of Death: May 16, 2023

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Michael Loneragan of Boston, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Michael Loneragan of Boston, 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: 032/22/2024

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



I was in grammar school and was home for a week with either the measles or chicken pox, I'm not sure. As I recuperated, I felt better and was out of bed most of the time. As there was a period of semi-quarantine back then, Mom didn't dare let me out of the house. As a result, I was in the kitchen most of the time watching Nanna get the dinner menu ready. There was only so much playing with toys and reading books that I could stand before becoming bored, and watching Nanna afforded me whatever cooking skills I developed.

My grandmother had learned how to cook back on the family farm in Avellino watching her mother make the daily meals, but being unable to read, she only knew portions by what we might call the trial-and-error method. After several formative years of practice, Nanna became a good cook. As I watched her cook a generation later, she could only give me proportions and amounts by saying, "A pinch of this, a spoon of that," and that was the way I learned. Of course, seeing I was the first-born male in an Italian family, I was the second coming and whatever I wanted was granted.

During my convalescence, I wanted to try my hand at cooking. With Nanna's guidance, I set out to explore my culinary skills. Today, we buy everything pre-made: pasta, gravy, sausages, meatballs, canned or frozen vegetables, pre-packaged lettuce or salad ingredients, salad dressing... you name it, it comes wrapped, bottled, canned, packaged, frozen, dehydrated or pre-mixed from a supermarket. Nanna would have none of this. She made everything from scratch.

That first day that I felt well enough to stay with her in the kitchen was a Monday. Dinner was to be chicken soup with escarole and pastina, roasted chicken, string beans sautéed in garlic and oil, salad and dessert. She began by showing me how to make the chicken broth by boiling a chicken. When the

soup was ready, she would have kept parts of the bird in the pot, the neck, the feet, the heart, the gizzard and other organs. The rest of the chicken was left out on the table to be picked at for lunch. For dinner, she cleaned the other chickens, stuffed them with home-made egg stuffing and baked them in the oven. These were not chickens purchased on a disposable tray and covered with plastic wrap. They were purchased live at an East Boston slaughterhouse and killed, cleaned and dressed just for her. The vegetables were fresh, having been purchased from a green grocer. As a result, I learned how to cook a Monday chicken.

By Friday, I knew how to cook lamb chops, pork chops, stuffed veal, all with an array of vegetables and salad. Friday was fish day. If you were Catholic, you weren't allowed to eat meat on Friday. This meant that either Nanna or Mom would head to the fish store and pick up the makings of a Friday night dinner. Faber's Fish Market was a fifteen-minute walk down the Brooks Street Hill from Eutaw Street. On that Friday, I learned how to clean and prepare smelts for the first course. The second fish might be cod and Nanna made it two or three ways, plain baked for Babbononno, broiled with bread crumbs and seasoning for the rest of the family and a few pieces to flavor the linguini which she would make with aglio-olio (garlic and oil).

On Saturday, it was steak, but Nanna taught me how to make steak pizziola, a dish I still love to this day. The highlight of the week was Sunday dinner. Back then, regardless of what was going on it was family Sunday dinner with Nanna and Babbononno.

That Sunday, I got up at about 5:00 am with Nanna. She was going to show me how to make gravy, the sauce that was a traditional necessity for the pasta and meat courses. She would start by searing spare ribs and pieces of pork in olive oil and garlic. Then she would add tomatoes, and later, maybe, a can of tomato paste, but this was after she had added in a pinch of basil, a pinch of oregano, a pinch of mint, par cooked ground beef, and later her par cooked meats which included meatballs and sausages. Of course, she had to taste everything every few minutes to make sure they weren't any mistakes. When this large pan of gravy was ready to just simmer, it was time to make the pasta.

Babbononno had a machinist friend make a stainless-steel rolling pin with V shaped grooves sometime back before I was born and Nanna used it every time she made spaghetti. She didn't buy a box of spaghetti that is hard and dry and might have been in the cardboard box for months. She made her pasta fresh...from scratch. I watched her pour out a mound of King Arthur flour, make a hole in the middle, crack in several eggs, beat them, add semolina, salt and maybe a bit

of yeast to taste, and roll the entire mix until she had the dough for the pasta. Then she let it stand on a dish under a damp dish cloth, which she called a mappina, and when it had risen and was ready to be rolled out, she dusted her cutting board with flour, rolled a piece of dough until it was a flat circle and using Babbononno's invention, cut it into strips of spaghetti.

Later, she would choose which vegetables she would add in to her dinner, and sauté them with oil and garlic. When all was said and done, the feast would be ready for the table, and of course, had to be accompanied by a couple of bottles of Zi' Antonio's best home-made red wine. Zio Antonio was Nanna's oldest brother and Babbononno's best friend. According to Babbononno, he was the best wine maker in either East Boston or the North End. (I remember his wine. It was THAT good-and I'm not a wine lover.)

That was the way I learned to cook as a kid, watching my grandmother prepare fresh food adding in a pinch of this, a pinch of that. Mom learned Nanna's secrets a generation before I was born, but even though she was a good cook, Nanna was a great cook.

That was many years ago and now I'm the old timer in the family. Periodically, when I have time, I will cook, but I usually don't have the time. With our schedules, it's easier to get take-out or head to a local inexpensive restaurant and have them do the dirty work. In spite of the time restrictions and crazy schedules, I still like home cooked Italian food.

My son Michael seems to have picked up the desire to cook and has inherited the talent to make a gravy and prepare either fish or meat the way I like it.(The way Nanna taught me with, "Un puoco di questo, un puoco di quello," a little of this, a little of that.)

Nanna and Babbononno would be proud of him and his abilities in the kitchen, but they passed away long before he was born. My father would watch my boys when they were kids trying to cook in our kitchen, and say, "Those kids are going to be chips off the old block." Dad knew how to cook, too, and saw John's and Michael's potential. If he was here today, I would take his word for their abilities.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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.



Italian Easter or Pasqua is a time-honored celebration steeped in tradition. As loved ones gather, cherished homemade delicacies take center stage, and families unite to create an irresistible spread, highlighting the abundance of seasonal ingredients. I couldn't imagine an Easter without the iconic Sicilian Cassata or the beloved Pastiera di Grano. It's hard to envision a table without Easter Sweet Bread, or "Pane di Pasqua," a cherished tradition across all of Italy. And let's not overlook the quintessential Ricotta Pie, a testament to the culinary expertise of the season!

In every Italian home, Easter is a time to pay homage to tradition and savor the richness of the season's offerings. From the freshly laid eggs of the backyard chickens to fragrant citrus fruits, each ingredient embodies a story of heritage and resilience. Ricotta cheese and candied orange peel add their enchanting touch to many of the season's delicacies.

While the recipes shared may not exactly replicate those found in Italy, they promise ease of preparation and a taste almost just as delightful! *Buona Pasqua*

**HOMEMADE RICOTTA and
SICILIAN CANDIED ORANGE PEELS**
*Ricotta Fatta in Casa e
Scorze D'arancia Candite di Sicilia*



- | | |
|--|---|
| Ricotta | <i>½ tablespoon sugar</i> |
| <i>8 cups whole milk (not ultra-pasteurized)</i> | <i>¼ cup white vinegar or juice of 2 lemons</i> |
| <i>2 cups heavy cream</i> | <i>cheesecloth, fine mesh strainer, bowl</i> |
| <i>½ tablespoon salt</i> | |

Over medium heat, in a large saucepan, add the milk, cream, salt and sugar. Whisk and cook mixture until it begins to boil. Lower the heat and let it boil while stirring for about 2 minutes. Shut the heat and add the vinegar or lemon juice and slowly stir for a minute or two until you see the ricotta start to separate. Let stand for about 15 minutes until the mixture curdles and the whey separates.

Line a fine mesh strainer with cheesecloth doubled in thickness. Add the ricotta mixture and allow it to drain. You can also refrigerate it overnight while continuing to drain, if you like the ricotta dry. It doesn't have preservatives, so it must be used within 2 to 3 days.

Candied Orange Peels
*4 to 6 Organic oranges
Granulated sugar*

Cut the oranges in quarters and peel the skin away. Take the back of a spoon and scrape the white pith from the skin. Slice the skin into strips and then into small squares.

Place orange skins in a medium saucepan, fill with water to cover and boil for 10 to 15 minutes, drain, rinse in cold water, add new water and repeat this process two more times.

Now drain and weigh the orange peels. Measure the same amount of water and sugar as the peels. Add the water and sugar into the saucepan and cook over medium-low heat until the sugar dissolves. Pour in the peels and continue cooking until the syrup begins to thicken. When ready, place cooked peels on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Let the peels dry at room temperature, then either store them in the sugar syrup, or as is, in a glass jar in the refrigerator.

Marianna Bisignano is a psychologist for the Boston Public Schools and can be reached at nonnasrecipebox@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. MI24C0219CA
In the Matter of
JESSICA IANNONE COSTA
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult
has been filed by Jessica Iannone Costa of
Melrose, MA requesting that the court enter
a Decree changing their name to Jessica
Iannone Lewis.
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 April 09, 2024. 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: March 12, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 03/22/2024

THOUGHTS
BY DAN
ABOUT
THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso



A Portrait of James Joyce
as a Young Man

Irish literature in the early 20th century was practically defined by James Joyce. His legacy, however, is not confined to giving voice to a nation on the verge of erupting into independence but his revolution was literary and largely religious as well. His debut novel, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, was rooted in the classical tradition right down to the protagonist's last name, Dedalus, a reference to the Greek hero Daedalus, while dismantling literary conventions as thoroughly as the role of the Catholic Church in Irish identity.

For Joyce this crisis of faith began in 1903 on his mother's death bed. Shortly after graduating from University College in Dublin, Joyce moved to Paris to study medicine but returned upon hearing of his mother's imminent death. Joyce and his younger brother Stanislaus tended to their mother dutifully but it was at this moment where Joyce's stance against the Church became established, refusing to take confession or pray. As Joyce's biographer Herbet Sherman Gorman wrote, "Mary Jane Joyce was dying in the sanctity of the bosom of her Church ... and her eldest son could only grieve that the two wills could not meet and mix. He was incapable of bending his knee to the powerful phantom, that once acknowledged, would devour him as it had devoured so many about him and half a civilization as well."

By this time, Joyce was already planning the precursor of the work that would become *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. *Stephen Hero*, as it was originally titled, was a veiled autobiography. In its over nine-hundred pages it explored his years at the university, his upbringing and the role of Catholicism in the shaping of Ireland.

While working on the novel Joyce would meet Nora Barnacle and their relationship was cemented by their shared disdain for the Church and the direction of Ireland. The two married and subsequently moved to continental Europe. While living in Trieste, the Joyces gave birth to two boys and Joyce abandoned *Stephen Hero*.

Joyce garnered some fame through the publication of short stories which would be collected almost a decade later into *Dubliners* and this inspired

him to revisit the character of Stephen Dedalus.

In its final form, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* signals a new era in literature, swaying seamlessly between stream of consciousness, the literal truth and visions from Stephen's mind. Lines marking time and reality and constructed reality are blurred. Understanding the linear specifics is largely beside the point as the book is read best as a polemic than a biography. The individual pieces (vivid writings on their own) accumulate into a clear conclusion. The most scathing indictments of Joyce's religious upbringing are in his description of the ill-treatment of the boys by the Jesuits schoolmasters in Clongowes Wood College boarding school and the lack of empathy for a religious institution.

The long-detailed sermon Stephen hears years later while at Belvedere College (reminiscent of Father Maple's pamphlet length sermon in *Moby Dick*) on the subject of the Four Last Things (death, judgement, Hell and Heaven) would have been a challenge to read were it not for Joyce's captivating prose, capturing how the terror instilled on him as a young man attending services. The sequence reads almost like a straight transcript, broken sporadically by glimpses into Stephen's mind.

In the end, Joyce defines epiphany by Stephen's departure not only from the Church but its indirect consequences, notably his family's narrow-mindedness and the obtuseness of his classmates. Like Joyce himself, Stephen abandons not Ireland but the identity holding it back. Like Stephen must leave Ireland to grow as an artist, Ireland must leave some of its chains to grow, especially as it set forth to becoming a republic.

A Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man was published serially from February 1914 to September 1915 in the British periodical *The Egoist* but was having a hard time finding a book publisher in Great Britain. Meanwhile, Joyce had made quite an admirer of Ezra Pound who had helped see the work serialized in print. By 1916 no British publishers were showing interest in the work and so Pound secured Joyce a publisher in the New York based B.W. Huebsch. An artist was born.

Boston's Madonna Del Soccorso Society
Travels to Sciacca, Sicily



Boston Madonna Del Soccorso Society member & past Fisherman's Feast Chairman, Jimmy Bono Geany is honored to carry the Sciacca Madonna!



Luigi Sclafani of Sciacca prepares to adorn the Madonna with jeweled vestments donated over the centuries by the faithful, in memory of their deceased



Archpriest Giuseppe Marciante of the Madonna's Basilica crowns the statue of the Madonna in preparation for the procession. The Madonna's crown is solid gold



The Madonna in procession

Last month a group of 68 travelers from the Madonna Del Soccorso Society in the North End journeyed to Sciacca, Sicily to partake in the Madonna's Feast & procession February 1st & 2nd. It was the first time for many of the devotees to experience the grand procession of the Madonna which dates to the year 1503! The impressive solid marble statue of the Madonna & wooden "baldacchino" (grotto) weighs approximately 2 Tons (4,000lbs) & is carried throughout the streets of the "Centro Storico"(Historic City Center) for 2 hours by 120 BAREFOOT Fishermen! Here in Boston's North End, we celebrate The Fisherman's Feast every August 15th on the Feast of The Assumption. A wonderful experience & vacation was had by all! *Viva La Madonna!*



The Statue of Madonna Del Soccorso di Sciacca back in her alcove above the alter



(L to R): Madonna Del Soccorso Society members Jimmy Bono Geany, Dom Strazzulo (Society President, Anthony Primo, and Ray Bono Geany (Former Society President)



(L to R): Anna Marino Salamanca (who has the distinct honor of "dressing" the Boston Madonna each August) helped with the preparations for the Sciacca Madonna along with Dom Strazzulo (Society President) carrying the Madonna's beautifully embroidered "Manta" Cape



(L to R) Front row: Jimmy Bono Geany, Raymond Bono Geany (Former Boston Society President), Archpriest Giuseppe Marciante, Deacon Salvatore Amedeo, Boston Society members P.J. Maniscalco, Leonardo Gilardi, & Boston Society President Dom Strazzulo; Back row: William Rufo, Vito Friscia (Sciacca) (Capo die portatori) Captain of the Madonna's carriers, Calogero Bentivegna (Sciacca), Alessandro Gennaro (Sciacca), and Joe Graffeo (Boston-Society)

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

"While Republicans share culpability," MacKinnon adds, "the Democratic Party owns much or more of the misery." As Barkley observes, "In cities under Democratic rule, rampant crime and hopelessness are continually and deliberately swept under the rug by those in

power." As MacKinnon states, "Failing to address the needs of millions is the greatest shame of our time."

End Quote

"The tomato ... is it a fruit or vegetable? Who cares I'm having a donut."

— Garfield

• **TikTok** (Continued from Page 5)

U.S. Representative Jim McGovern-D, Worcester, Mass, posted on X, “I am voting NO on the TikTok bill because it was rushed, there is a major free speech issue, it would hurt small businesses and Americans should be doing way more to protect data privacy and combatting misinformation online. Singling out one app isn’t the answer.”

The bill is now in the hands of the U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Chuck Schumer, D-New York, who acknowledged “the senate will examine the bill thoroughly before bringing it up for a vote.”

TikTok insists they have never shared user data with the CCP, and hopes the senate considers that the app users also consist of small business owners who use it to generate income. “We are hopeful that the Senate will consider the facts, listen to their constituents, realize the impact on the economy, the 7 million small businesses and the 170 million Americans who use our service,” Alex Haurek, a TikTok spokesperson said after the house debate.

According to polling, the American public are split in their opinion of TikTok. According to the Associated Press and Norc Center for Public Affairs

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **March 23, 2024 beginning at 9:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2011 KIA OPTIMA
VIN # KNAGN4A77B5168224

2006 FORD E-250
VIN # 1FTNE24W26DB07666

2013 FORD FIESTA
VIN # 3FADP4FJ1DM220535

2011 INFINITI G37
VIN # JN1CV6AR2BM411820

2006 NISSAN 350Z
VIN # JN1AZ34D66M302339

2022 HONDA NAVI
VIN # 3H1JK0702ND011540

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

Signed
Todisco Services, Inc.

Run dates: 03/08, 03/15, 03/22/2024

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. MI23P4906EA

Estate of
LINDA MORELLO
Also Known As
LINDA MARELLO & LINDA A. MORELLO

Date of Death: January 12, 2022

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Bernard T. Loughran, Jr. of Watertown, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Bernard T. Loughran, Jr. of Watertown, 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: 03/22/2024

Research poll conducted in February, 31% of U.S. adults favor the nationwide ban, while 35% oppose a ban. Another 31% said they’re neutral on the ban and don’t care either way.

President Biden made it clear he would sign the bill into law if it makes it to his desk, even though the Biden Campaign just launched their own TikTok account to reach young voters. Former President Trump was unsuccessful in his past attempts to ban TikTok, thanks to the courts blocking his efforts. He has since reversed his stance on the app’s ownership by a foreign company.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **April 06, 2024 beginning at 9:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2007 GENUINE SCOOTERS
BUDDY 125
VIN # RFVPAC20771002767

2011 BUICK REGAL
VIN # W04G15GV4B1054743

2009 TOYOTA COROLLA
VIN # JTDDBL40E29J032829

2003 MERCEDES BENZ CLK CLASS
VIN # WDBLK70G23T140937

2012 FORD FUSION
VIN # 3FADP0L32CR241118

2011 CHEVROLET AVEO
VIN # KL1TD5DE1BB182861

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

Signed
Todisco Services, Inc.

Run dates: 03/22 03/29, 04/06/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Stanley Service, Inc., 3430 Washington Street, Jamaica Plain, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicle on or after **March 30, 2024** beginning at 10:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2016 HONDA CR-V
VIN # 2HKRM4H32GH612666

Vehicle is being stored at Stanley Service, Inc., and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Stanley Service, Inc., Owner

Run dates: 03/15, 03/22, 03/29/2024

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. MI23D2497DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

ROSA A. VIZCAINO
vs.
JOSUE VIZCAINO

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

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Rosa A. Vizcaino, 349 Hildreth Street, #35, Lowell, MA 01850** your answer, if any, on or before **April 26, 2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 15, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 03/22/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **March 30, 2024 beginning at 9:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2007 FORD F150
VIN # 1FTRF12W47NA37501

2009 KIA SPECTRA
VIN # KNAFE221095623080

2009 YAMAHA YZF-R6
VIN # JYARJ16EX9A016948

2007 MAZDA MAZDA3
VIN # JM1BK32G071663443

2011 BMW 128i
VIN # WBAUL7C53BVM80045

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

Signed
Todisco Services, Inc.

Run dates: 03/15, 03/22, 03/29/2024

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. MI24C0229CA

In the Matter of
WILMA SANCHEZ

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Wilma Sanchez of Waltham, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Wilma Acuña Guevara**.

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 April 10, 2024. 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: March 13, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 03/22/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Perfection Towing, 483 Pleasant Street, Watertown, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicle on or after **March 30, 2024** beginning at 10:00 am by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2018 ACURA RDX
VIN # 5J8TB4H54JL009364

Vehicle is being stored at Perfection Towing and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Kirk Hacsunda, Manager

Run dates: 03/15, 03/22, 03/29/2024

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 **April 06, 2024 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:

1987 CHEVROLET P-SERIES
CAMPER, WHITE
VIN: # 1GBJP37W5H3321817

2014 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY, RED
VIN: # 2C4RC1BG6ER133034

2004 HONDA ACCORD, BLACK
VIN: # 1HGCM56394A088709

2012 HYUNDAI ACCENT, SILVER
VIN: # KMHCU4AE8CU106658

2007 TOYOTA CAMRY, GREEN
VIN: # 4T1BE46K37U677939

2002 TOYOTA CAMRY, BROWN
VIN: # 4T1BE32K32U546339

2017 NISSAN ROGUE, BLACK
VIN: # KNMAT2MV8HP615704

2008 MERCURY SABLE, GOLD
VIN: # 1MEHM42W68G604718

2004 MERCEDES-BENZ C-230, BLACK
VIN: # WDBRF64J34F551701

2016 MERCEDES-BENZ E-350, WHITE
VIN: # WDDHF8JB0GB244591

Run dates: 03/15, 03/22, 03/29/2024



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani



**Snell By Due Date
a Giant Value**



Reigning NL Cy Young winner Blake Snell has agreed to a \$62 million, 2-year deal with the Giants. His deal includes an opt-out clause after the first year. It’s all pending a physical. With this blockbusting signing, the Giants now have a great one-two rotation punch, as Snell now combines with their ace right-hander Logan Webb.

Snell, 30, is 71-55 with a 3.20 ERA In 191 starts over eight seasons, winning Cy Youngs in 2018 with the Rays and last season with the Padres. He was 14-9 with an NL-leading 2.25 ERA in 2023. Webb finished second in Cy Young voting last season.

The Yankees are Celebrating George Costanza Day July 5

Actually, the day is being called Seinfeld Day but how can you talk about the Seinfeld show without talking about Costanza who during the life of this show played the part of an assistant

to the traveling secretary? The first 18,000 fans who show up will be getting a free Costanza bobblehead.

Who are the Yankees playing that day? None other than Red Sox Nation. Guess what. The Sox recently signed a new outfielder who’s delegated to a Sox farm team. His name is actually George Costanza. I think the Sox should bring him up to Boston just to play the outfield at Yankee Stadium that day.

Running Out of Gas

If Zack Greinke’s career has ended, he’ll leave the game as a top pitcher of all time. The free agent is now 40, and has 225 lifetime wins and a career 2,979 strikeouts. If he doesn’t find a new team, he will also be just one of four pitchers since 1920 to have a w-l percentage under .125 with at least 15 losses while starting 25 games. His 2023 season was a bad one, with a 2-15 w-l pct .118 in 27 starts. Ouch!

The other three pitchers? Jose DeLeon/Pirates 25 games started in 1985. He went w-12-19 .095 Pct., Mike Keough/Oakland 28 starts w-1 2-17 .105 pct and Don Larsen with the Orioles in 1954 when he went 3-21 in 28 starts .125 pct. However, things got better for him on the mound. Remember when he threw a perfect game no-hitter during the 1956 World Series as a member of the NY Yankees?

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT;
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
MARK HORTON

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
KEITH H. RUTMAN

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$ 10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$ 10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

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The name and address of the court is:
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):
330 West Broadway, San Diego CA 92101

CASE NUMBER.
(Número del Caso) 37-2023-00032023-CU-BC-CTL

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
KEITH H., RUTMAN, Esq., 501 W Broadway Ste, 1650, San Diego, CA 92101-3541
619.237.9072; krutman@krutmanlaw.com

DATE: 7/28/2023 Clerk, by _____, Deputy
(Fecha) _____ (Secretario) P. Jeffreys _____ (Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)
(Para prueba de entrega de esta citación use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).



NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served

1. ☒ as an individual defendant.

2. ☐ as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):

3. ☐ on behalf of (specify):
under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor)
☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee)
☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person)
☐ other (specify):

4. ☐ by personal delivery on (date):

Run dates: 03/15, 03/22, 03/29, 04/05/2024

Boxing



Ringside

WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

Happy Birthday

Jack Johnson



Johnson early in his career

Born on March 31, 1878, Jack Johnson was the most controversial heavyweight champion with the possible exception of Muhammad Ali.

Johnson became the first black man to win the title when he defeated Tommy Burns in 1908. The fight took place in



A studio portrait of Johnson



The Champ still fit in his sixties

Australia after Johnson had followed Burns around the world in an effort to get the title shot.

Jack was flamboyant, larger than life, intellectual, wild, and a man that lived life on his own terms. His lifestyle got under the skin of more than a few people, yet he was not going to conform to please the public.

He defended the title nine times, finally losing it to Jess Willard in 1915. Jack claimed he threw that fight. Most historians do not believe he did.



Dapper Jack

He would continue fighting until 1931 at the age of 53. His career record was 54 wins (34 by KO), 11 losses (6 by KO), and 8 draws. He was a fixture at ringside during major fights until his passing and continued to love getting attention.

Johnson loved fast cars and met his end in a car crash in 1946 at the age of 68.

He was truly one of a kind.



Johnson displaying his brilliant defensive skills against Jim Jeffries

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



It is coming down to the final stretch of the regular season in the National Hockey League and the Bruins are well positioned as they round the final turn and head for the playoffs.

“We are a good hockey team,” remarked head coach Jim Montgomery while allowing that the team is always seeking to improve and work on things as the last group of regular season games comes over the horizon.

Still to be determined is what team will finish atop the Eastern Conference and the entire NHL. Through games of March 19, the Bruins had 97 points, good enough for not only the lead in the Eastern Conference but the entire NHL as well.

Florida and the New York Rangers were right behind in the Eastern Conference — each with 94 points while Winnipeg and Colorado each had 93 in the Western Conference with Vancouver (92) and Dallas (91) right behind.

The eventual conference champions will each have home ice through the conference finals while the overall leader in the NHL will win the Presidents’ Trophy and have home ice through all four rounds of the plays — if that team makes it that far.

The tone around the Bruins this year as the playoffs approach is quite different than the one of a year ago. Back then, in the concluding stretch of the regular season, there was more of a celebratory atmosphere as the B’s continued to break regular season records on their way to winning 65 games and amassing 135 points.

They were the best regular season NHL team in history and a good number of observers had all but handed them the Stanley Cup. But we all know what happened—a first round elimination with the last game being played on April 30.

This time, there is much more realism around the B’s both before and after games. Coach Montgomery, while acknowledging accomplishments, often mentions a few points that the team needs to work on at nearly every post game press conference.

In the postgame interviews with players, there is also a more serious tone. Accolades for goals scored and saves made are acknowledged but more with an attitude that there is even more to accomplish before the regular season concludes on April 16 with a home game at the Garden against the Ottawa Senators.

And perhaps part of that is the fact that the Bruins had 29 losses on the season through 70 games played. They had 14 losses in regulation time and a whopping 15 in overtime (OTLs), leading the league with the New York Islanders in that category. How important was that. Even if the Bruins had managed to win eight of those 15 games, they would have eight additional points, putting the team in the driver’s seat for the overall conference lead.

However even given that, there seems to be a feeling today that where a team finishes in the seeding for the playoffs

doesn’t seem to have quite as much importance as it once did. When the regular season concludes, what follows is really and truly a “second season.” All teams start clean without a victory or a defeat — so how a team plays from that point on is all that matters.

Yes, Florida, the eighth seed in the Eastern Conference, eliminated the powerful regular season Bruins in the first round last year. But by then what had taken place in the regular season really did not matter any longer. All that mattered was that two teams, each without a victory or a defeat, were starting even and facing one another in a second season opening round best-of-seven series.

The Bruins, given their impressive regular season point total, will receive a high placement this year as the playoffs begin. That means that they will most likely face a team that had far fewer victories in the regular season.

But that numerous number of games that the Bruins played without emerging victorious (regulation time losses and OTLs) should probably hold them in good stead. They will serve as a constant reminder that while they are a good team, they are not an all-powerful one. While the elation of victory is most certainly attainable, the solemn specter of defeat also lurks behind the curtains.

This Bruins team is one tempered by realism rather than riding the crest of the wave of idealism based on lofty expectations that crashed ignominiously upon the beach with the incoming tide.

Last year, it was felt by many that Florida was only serving as opening round fodder for the powerful and nearly invincible Bruins. This time around that attitude had been completely banished from Causeway Street and beyond. It has been replaced by a more reflective realism — that any team on any given night can beat any other team in the Stanley Cup Playoffs.

There are no nights off, no weak opponents, no matter how low the seeding. There is only the here and now with the regular season in the past. Every game that goes into overtime is played with full strength five-on-five teams, with the first team to score in “sudden death” having achieved the victory. If no team scores in the first overtime, they will do it all over in the second (or third) until a winner is determined.

And most importantly there are no shootouts.

It is hockey as it was meant to be played. By two teams, ignoring the past (which might include the most recent playoff game), playing in the present, regardless of what the future might bring.

How far will the Bruins advance in the Stanley Cup playoffs this season? As far as their attitude rooted in the realism that they have embraced will take them. To do otherwise, would mean to ride a wave of unstable proportions, leading to a crash landing on the beach of early elimination.