

POST-GAZETTE

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Supreme Court to Rule on Controversial Social Media Posts

by Patti Sartori

The Supreme Court is set to hear arguments between Republican led states and the Biden administration on how far the Federal Government's reach is over controversial social media posts on hot button topics, such as COVID-19 and election fraud.

The lawsuit filed by Louisiana and Missouri, accuses the Biden administration of influencing social media sites to censor conservative opinions or points of view. Lower courts ruled in favor of the states, but the Supreme Court has halted these rulings while it hears arguments on these issues.

This isn't the first time the Supreme Court has heard these types of issues. Last month the court laid out standards for when public officials can block

social media followers and prior to that the court heard arguments on Republican passed laws in Florida and Texas that prohibit large social media companies from taking down posts due to views expressed.

The states suggest the White House, Surgeon General and FBI have forced changes in online content posted on X (formerly Twitter) and other social media sites. The administration pushed back that none of the actions the states allege come close to problematic coercion. The social media companies are not involved in the case.

Free speech proponents hope the court uses this case to draw a line between acceptable government censoring and the right to free speech. A decision is expected by Summer.



Mayor Wu Announces City to Mark One Boston Day with Acts of Kindness

City of Boston will lead service activities and calls on community-based organizations and residents to plan One Boston Day volunteer opportunities.

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston today put out a call to action for community-based organizations, businesses, and City of Boston residents to come together for volunteer events and acts of kindness in recognition of our City's spirit of care for one another in response to the tragic events of April 15, 2013. One Boston Day, observed on April 15, honors the victims, survivors, and first responders of the 2013 Boston Marathon. This year, One Boston Day falls on the same day as the Boston Marathon. Mayor Wu is encouraging acts of kindness on Monday, April 15, and for people to take part in volunteer opportunities throughout the weekend leading up to it.

"One Boston Day brings our whole community together to take care of each other and spread goodwill," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This year, I urge Bostonians to consider volunteering or carrying out a small act of kindness—whether joining a neighborhood cleanup, buying coffee for the person behind you, or sharing gratitude with our first responders along the Boston Marathon route."

City of Boston departments and workers will again this year be hosting service projects for people to give back to their communities throughout the weekend leading up to One Boston Day. The Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing is facilitating a neighborhood cleanup for youth and families on Saturday, April 13 in Franklin Park starting at 10:00 a.m. The link to sign up for the cleanup is here.

"One Boston Day reminds us of the spirit of our city that is shaped by people who stand up and take action when help is needed," said Bill Richard, Founder of the Martin Richard Foundation. "Marathon weekend, the unofficial start of spring in Boston, adds to this very special day of hope in our collective care for one another."

Community organizations hosting a One Boston Day volunteer event can submit their event details using the form on boston.gov/one-boston. The City will help publicize events hosted by community groups and residents on this site.

"After my family and I survived traumatic injuries in the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings, we learned that traumatic injury is the leading cause of death for people under 44 years old and blood loss is the leading Audrey Epstein

(Continued on Page 13)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Weed Ups Heart, Stroke Risk Study

A study in the *Journal of the American Heart Association* may help clear up the health effects of using cannabis. The University of California, San Francisco research funded by the National Institute of Health found that people who smoke weed daily are 25 percent more likely to have a heart attack and 42 percent more likely to have a stroke than those who didn't use the drug at all. "We know that toxins are released when cannabis is burned, Similar to those found in tobacco smoke," said Abra Jeffers, a former researcher at the Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education.

Texas Turns on Blackrock

A Texas school fund recently told BlackRock it was terminating its contract to manage nearly \$8.5 billion of state money, accusing the investment giant of boycotting fossil-fuel energy producers, which represents a large part of the state's industry.

BlackRock has denied it is engaging in any boycott, saying the money pulled is a tiny sliver of the \$10 trillion in assets that it manages. Administrators of the Texas Permanent School Fund said BlackRock breached state law.

Crossings Leap to February Record

The nation's southern border set a record for February migrant encounters, with 189,922 attempted crossings as official brace for an expected spring surge, according to new Customs and Border Patrol data.

The data eclipses the prior February record of 166,010 encounters set in 2022, and the 156,000 during the same month last year. The tallies do not include migrants who cross the southern border undetected.

W. VA Eyes Cigarette Ban in Vehicles with Kids

West Virginia, which has the highest rate of adult

(Continued on Page 14)

Educators Urge Cellphone Ban in Schools

Around the country teachers are saying students routinely send snap chat messages in class, listen to music, shop on line and many other examples of how cellphones create a distraction for teachers and learning. The grasp these phones have on students and adolescents in American society today has become acceptable behavior, but teachers are now declaring is most parents may not actually be aware of the extent these students are using them in classrooms and schools. The number of educators and administrators urging the ban of these phones during school days is growing daily.

Teachers feel the prohibitive behavior that students used to have about not using phones

in class is gone. Often the only solution for a teacher is to physically remove the cellphone from the student. Many schools have rules regulating the use of phones by students in class, but there is also a growing number of state and federal leaders endorsing cell phone bans. Many teachers believe that when distractions are decreased, learning improves and students are more likely to talk with each other.

Last year Florida became the first state to crack down on phones in schools. In July a law took effect requiring all Florida Public Schools to ban student cellphone use during class time and block access to social media in WI-FI. Oklahoma, Vermont, and

Kansas have all introduced "phone free school" legislation. Nationally 77% of U.S. schools say they prohibit cellphones at school for non-academic use, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

In order for school cell phone bans to work effectively, educators believe it must be school administration who enforces it and not leave it to the teachers responsibility. Some students fear this policy will take away their means of communication with family and friends and some parents fear being cut off from their kids if there is an emergency. It will take time, effort, and cooperation from many parties to find a policy and system that will work for everyone.

Stirpe
Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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

EVEN FUNERALS HAVE ROOTS

“Funus” is the Latin name for rope, cable, or cord. It is also the name that was given to the funeral rites in ancient Rome. Their Latin word funus, and in turn, our English word funeral, are both derived from the burial procession during those ancient times which employed twisted ropes that had been smeared with pitch and used as torches to light the way. Torches were necessary because all Roman funerals took place during the hours of darkness.

The funeral rites in ancient Greece predated those of the Romans and probably set the pattern by which later civilizations conducted themselves during those moments of grief. There is no cynicism attached to the following statements and please remember that I’m calling attention to popular beliefs and customs that go back more than five centuries before the birth of Jesus Christ. Those persons who are truly interested in the roots of many Christian beliefs are requested to compare these ancient customs with those of today.

“Elysium” or the “Elysian Plains,” in Greek mythology, was the place where chaste, moral, righteous, or virtuous people went after death



Rooms X, Hellenistic Age Urns, Vatican Museums

and where there was complete happiness, paradise, and ideal bliss. The ancient Greeks attached great importance to the burial of their dead. They believed that a soul could not enter the Elysian Fields until the body had been properly buried. Apparently, this feeling was so strong that it was considered a religious duty to throw earth upon an unburied body if one happened to be found.

Among the Athenians, children who might have been released from all other obligations toward unworthy parents were still considered morally and religiously bound to bury them. Neglect in providing a proper burial for one’s relative was considered to be a serious charge against the character of any man. The belief was also quite common that the dead had a moral and legal right to

a proper burial.

At the moment of death the eyes were closed by one of those present, an “obolus” (small coin) was placed in the mouth and then the mouth was also closed. This coin was intended, symbolically, to be used as payment for Charon’s fare (to be explained later). The body was then washed, anointed with perfumes, and clothed in rich white garments that were burned in the cremation. Laws were passed limiting the number of garments that could be burned. A wreath of flowers was also placed upon the head of the deceased. The body was laid out on an ordinary bed with a pillow that supported the head and back and the feet were turned toward the door. Special vases that contained perfumes were placed beside the body and were usually buried with the coffin or ashes. These vases were very beautiful and were manufactured specifically for funeral purposes. A honey cake was also placed near the corpse. This cake was intended, also symbolically, to be used as a reward for “Cerberus,” the three-headed dog that guarded the gates of Hades, a kind of middle world, which seems to have been the forerunner of our purgatory.

Family members and near relatives gathered around the corpse and wailed or uttered loud expressions of grief.

Many of the mourners even went so far as to beat their breasts, pull their hair, scratch their cheeks, tear their clothes, and sprinkle ashes on their heads. Some families even hired professional singers to lead the mourning chant. The last item to be noted as a part of the death vigil was a vessel of water that was placed near the exit door to the house. This was available so that persons who had been inside could purify themselves from the pollution of death by sprinkling water on themselves.

NEXT ISSUE:
The Greek Procession

Biden Signs Executive Order to Advance Women’s Health

President Biden signed an Executive Order last week to advance the study of women’s health. Women account for half of the U.S. population, yet their health is underfunded and understudied. At one time scientific study was based solely on men. It wasn’t until the 1990s that the Federal Government mandated women be included in Federally funded medical research.

Even in present day, research often does not represent women equally regarding illnesses or scientific study. Biden’s Executive Order is set to change that. “We still know too little about how to effectively prevent, diagnose, and treat a wide array of health conditions in women,” said Dr. Carolyn Mazure, the Head of the White House initiative on Women’s health.

Biden claims to be a lifelong believer in the “power of research” to help save lives and provide high quality health care to people who need it. This is also a winning political issue for Biden. First Lady Jill Biden is leading the effort to mobilize and organize female voters.

Women were a huge part of the demographic who elected Biden in 2020, giving him 55% of their vote, according to AP Vote Cast. Black women and suburban women were staunch Biden supporters. The National Institute of Health funds a large amount of biomedical research, which is vital to understanding how medications affect the human body and for deciding how to dose medication. Certain conditions have different symptoms for men and women, including heart disease, while others are more unique to women only, including uterine cancer. The First lady recently announced \$100 million in funding last month for women’s health.

FEMA Denies Massachusetts Request

Governor Healey has submitted an appeal over FEMA’s denial of Massachusetts request for major declaration regarding the catastrophic flooding to impact the state this past September. Healey emphasized the severity of the damage and the need for assistance in recent correspondence to President Biden and FEMA Regional Director Lori Ehrlich.

“These storms were devastating for our community. I saw the impacts first hand. Homes and businesses were destroyed, roadways and bridges were inaccessible. Six months later they are still rebuilding, the state had done all we can to support the recovery, but the needs far out pace our available resources,” the Governor’s appeal letter stated.

Healey requested the initial declaration hoping it would result in Federal money to assist with the recovery in the Western part of the state. However, FEMA recently denied the request and rebutted with the belief the state is capable of handling the damage without additional funding. U.S. Represent James McGovern, D-Worcester, expressed frustration and disappointment with FEMA’s denial and exclaimed, “Massachusetts is one of the least dependent states in the nation on the Federal Government, and in our time of need, FEMA’s slamming the door in our face.”

Buona Pasqua

AARON MICHLEWITZ

STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 3

Happy Easter!!!

FROM REP. ADRIAN MADARO

ADRIAN MADARO
DEMOCRAT • STATE REPRESENTATIVE

GABRIELA “Gigi” COLETTA

Boston City Council, District 1

Happy Easter!

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Buona Pasqua

Richard J. Vita, Esq., President
Italian Heritage Month Committee of Massachusetts
and daughters Kristin, Kimberly and Katelyn

Happy Easter

FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR LYDIA EDWARDS

Lydia Edwards
State Senator

POST-GAZETTE

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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.

Donald A. Sandrelli

May 19, 1935 - March 18, 2024

Donald was the husband of the late Palma M. Sandrelli (Luongo). Devoted father to the late Donald A. Sandrelli Jr., Joan Marie Trainque, her partner Steven Aspland of E. Templeton, Marisa Fleming, her husband Tom, David Sandrelli, his wife Lisa, Stephen Sandrelli, Mark Sandrelli, his wife Elizabeth all of Fitchburg and former father-in-law of David Trainque and Senovia Boliva.



Loving Grandfather to Curtis, Jessica, Dawn, Brianna, Catey, Amy, Stephanie, Christopher, Michael, Erica, Zachary, Marisa, Vitoria, and Stephanie. Great-grandfather to Collins, Madeline, Alivia, Liam, Lincoln, Jameson, Jack, Christian, Colton and James. He was the son of Dominic and Hermine (Sylvestri) Sandrelli, brother of Joan Marie Freni who predeceased him and brother-in-law to Charles Freni of Bedford MA.

Donald A. Sandrelli, Sr. of Leominster, formerly of Arlington. Born May 19, 1935 in the North-End of Boston where he attended Christopher Columbus High School. He later attended Northeastern University and graduated with a master's degree in education. Donald moved to Arlington in 1961 with his family where he lived for 63 years. In 1974 he began his teaching career at Arlington High School where he retired in 1999. His students still remember him with fondness and admiration. Many of his former students continued to stay in touch with him years after graduating. While in retirement, he filled his time with reading, writing and painting.

He continued to take educational courses to feed his brain with new information and playing his beloved Martin guitar especially brought him great joy. Oftentimes, along with his prized songbook, he was the entertainment at get-togethers and gatherings where sing-a-longs were always a hit. Summers were spent in Onset Beach with his beloved wife Palma, his large and growing family and their friends, all the while continuing to make friends wherever he went. His ability to strike up a conversation with strangers was a tribute to his gift of gab and what made him a beloved teacher.

Visiting hours were held at the Keefe Funeral Home, Arlington, MA on Monday, March 25th, followed by a service. A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Shriner Hospital for Children or Tunnels to Towers.

To send a condolence visit www.keefefuneralhome.com.

Buona Pasqua



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Sweet Reward for Student who Refused to Remove American Flag

by Patti Sartori

How can any American, in any setting, be penalized for displaying an American Flag? One young man faced such an issue when he decided to fly the American Flag from his truck. Cameron Blasek, a 17-year-old High School student from St. Leon, Indiana was ordered by school administrators to remove the flag for fears it would encourage other students to fly their own flags with offensive messages.

After reviewing the school's student handbook, Blasek discovered there was no rule

prohibiting him from his right to display the symbol. Not only did Blasek refuse to remove it, even after being threatened with punishment, but several dozen other students also flew flags on their vehicles as a sign of solidarity.

After hearing about Blasek's patriotism, local businesses rewarded him with a permanent American Flag for his truck. GC Digital Imaging reached out to Glasek after reading about his courage and offered him a full American Flag wrap to cover the outside of his truck. GCDI's owner, TJ Bedacht said, "He

stood his ground and I felt very strongly I needed to back this kid up." Other local companies also jumped in to back Blasek up on his stance.

"The flag represents this beautiful country we live in. It also represents the people who fought and gave their lives for it. I am pretty happy I now get to pull up to school in this thing, and I am happy to show off my American pride," Blasek stated.

This inspiring young man received so much support that the school was forced to back down and apologize.

Trump to Add \$3 Billion to Wealth

Investors approved a deal last week to make "Truth Social," owned by Donald Trump, a publicly traded company. This will put an end to a long delayed and anticipated merger that will generate a multibillion dollar pay out for former President Trump.

According to a behind the scenes vote during a recent meeting, a majority of Digital World Acquisition Corporation voted in favor of a merger with

Trump Media. Indications point toward the deal being immediately finalized. The new company will be called Trump Media and Technology Group and trade under DJT, Trump's initials. Shareholders voted to approve the merger following years of legal and regulatory obstacles. Trump will own a dominant stake in the publicly traded company, with his shares worth more than \$3 billion dollars.

Trump would hold 58.1% of the company or approximately 79 million shares. Unfortunately for Trump the shares are not as liquid as it seems, and may not offer a quick solution to his financial issues stemming from the New York Civil Fraud case pending against him. If he doesn't post a \$175 million dollar bond within 10 days, the New York Attorney General will begin to seize his assets.

Bernie Sanders Encourages Four-Day Workweek

by Patti Sartori

Democratic Vermont Senator and former Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders is proposing a move from a 40-hour work week to a 32-hour week to make us healthy, wealthy, and wise. "It is time to reduce the stress level in our country and allow Americans to enjoy a better quality of life. It's time for a 32-hour work week with no loss in pay," the Vermont Senator offered.

The suggestion that we can all work less while making the same amount of income will undoubtedly be met with horror and disdain by industry and business leaders. While it is widely believed that American's work more than people in other countries, we also enjoy a much stronger and independent capitalist economy and mind set.

In France people work less

than we do here in America, but its workers make less money. According to Week Magazine, the net disposable household income is \$34,375 per year in France, where as it is \$51,147 in America. So, in reality if we were to adopt Frances' model we would work less and become poorer for it. I am not sure how many Americans would take Sanders up on that offer.

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L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Sweet and Sparkling Italian Easter

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

Few other holidays burst with the same sense of sunshiny joy present in Easter. Every aspect of this feast sparkles with the promise of new life: the buttery yellow daffodils waving gaily in the breeze, the robins tending to their perfectly blue eggs, cuddly bunnies munching on fresh spring grass. When I was a little girl, I viewed Easter as the gateway to spring. It was the occasion for wearing frilly flowered dresses, biting down into creme-filled eggs, and counting my jewel-toned jelly beans. Now that I am older, my attention has turned to the time-honored customs and traditions of Easter. My Italian heritage has made me appreciate the tapestry of Easter folklore and practices held sacred by my ancestors. This tapestry of traditions reflects the spiritual significance of Easter while also paying homage to the spring-time. When I incorporate these customs into my contemporary Easter celebrations, I imbue the holiday with recollections of the past and renew the symbolic rituals which have been repeated for generations. Whether they involve wearing new clothes or baking a delicious pie, Italian Easter practices are laden with profound meaning and allegory. Collectively, they represent the Italian love for vitality, feasting and spring.

Easter in Italy, known as Pasqua, brims with numerous examples of regional folk customs. My father fondly remembered a procession known as la Madonna che Scappa in Piazza, popular in his hometown of Sulmona, nestled in the mountains of Abruzzo. Literally translated as “the Madonna who runs in the plaza,” this pageant demonstrates the Virgin Mary’s joy upon learning that her son Jesus has been resurrected from the dead. The parade begins with the participants solemnly marching down Sulmona’s main plaza, bearing a statue of the Virgin Mary draped in black cloth. Suddenly, the funeral robe is lifted, revealing a colorful and beautiful dress

underneath. As fireworks pop, the marchers run at full speed with the statue toward the local church, and the crowd cheers as Mary is reunited with Jesus. In Florence, a spectacle known as il scoppio del carro, or “the explosion of the wagon,” also uses fizzing lights to enchant the crowd: a cart laden with fireworks erupts into a fiery display with the twinkling white and gold hues of spring flowers. This love for rebirth and spring is also evident in quaint, widespread Italian folk customs and sayings. One Italian superstition declares that everyone must wear at least one new article of clothing on Easter. The dictum derives from the fact that it was once discouraged to buy clothes during the penitential season of Lent, and Easter offered the irresistible opportunity to step out in new outfits. My family and I always wear new clothes on Easter, and I always felt that this tradition mimicked the new life blossoming during the spring. Italians also celebrate Easter by dyeing eggs, a symbol of eternal life. Italian customs, therefore, mirror both the profound religious meaning of Easter while also honoring the exciting season of spring.

Of course, Easter in Italy also boasts a plethora of characteristic foods and treats. Easter pies, called pastiera, are a staple of Italian Easter meals. Some regions prefer a savory pie stuffed with meat and cheese. However, other areas fancy a dessert pie which, depending on local tradition, can be made with sweetened wheatberries, rice, or ricotta cheese. I make a homemade ricotta pie for Easter, flavored with semisweet chocolate chips and orange peel. The ricotta, chocolate, and orange form a quintessentially Italian combination, and the pie makes a lovely and old-fashioned finale to our Easter lunch. Easter breads also dot the Italian peninsula this time of year. The colomba pasquale, or Easter dove, is a thick cake flavored with citrus



peel and almonds and derives its name from being baked in a dove-shaped pan. Other Italian Easter breads feature colorful eggs tucked into the dough and multihued sprinkles scattered on top of a glaze of icing. It is impossible to be glum when looking at such whimsical creations! Many Easter menus in Italy prominently feature lamb since it is the meat that first becomes available during the spring. I am a vegetarian, however, so I much rather enjoy the adorable lambs carved out of butter or marzipan that adorn Italian bakeries during the Easter season. Finally, no sweet characterizes my childhood Easters more than l'uovo di Pasqua, or the large chocolate egg filled with treats. My father would bring one home sometime around Holy Week, and we would wait until Easter to break it open. What is truly wonderful about Italian Easter food traditions, though, is that they do not end on Sunday. The next day, Easter Monday, is known as la Pasquetta, or “little Easter.” Custom calls for outdoor excursions and picnics on this day, a great chance to delight in the spring weather and finish up the leftovers!

Easter truly stands as one of the most extraordinary holidays of the year. Religiously and symbolically, Easter embraces the universal themes of rebirth, renewal, and rejuvenation. Indeed, the English name Easter may originate from Eostre, a Germanic goddess of the spring. After all, spring represents the period of the year in which Mother Earth vibrantly dances out of her winter slumber, and this reawakening of

(Continued on Page 14)

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giaratani



An Iconic Photo and Moment in Time

As I was reading a recent news story about an ugly incident from 1977 connected to forced busing, there again was that Stanley Forman’s photo of a young man using a flag pole as a weapon against a black man who happened to be just walking by that crowd of young men protesting Judge Garrity’s forced busing edict next to old City Hall.



The image in the newspaper lasted just moments but the sight of that photo’s angry display and weaponizing of a US flag will never fade from my memory and of so many others, especially Ted Landsmark, who was the recipient of such hatred.

Sometimes I wonder whatever happened to the young high school dropout from Southie named Joe Rakes? What possessed him to do what he did? Was it just pure hatred? Was it plain angry? Was it just hopelessness? Did he move toward Landsmark to hurt him and for what? Anger makes people do terrible things. I still recognize the young man’s image right behind Rake. He was a friend of mine from Charlestown, a good kid with a tough Townie exterior. I am so glad he wasn’t holding the flag pole in his hands. I am sure that Rakes wasn’t that much unlike my friend next to him.

The period between 1974 up to probably 1978 was not a good time for Boston. There was so much anger and hatred, enough to share across the city’s neighborhoods and across people, all people regardless of skin color.

I was living in Charlestown during forced busing. I witnessed the worst of time and the best of times. I blame politicians, lots of politicians who stirred the pot of hate, reeling up the worst inside people. They sat back and watched things play out thinking their hands were clean.

I grew up in Roxbury in the ‘50s and ‘60s, my parents sent me to Catholic school because they didn’t trust the public schools, and it had to do with education and not race. Growing up where I lived, everyone lived together as best we could. Many of us lived in several of the projects surrounding us. We hung out with each other, did lots of things together. We attended the Emmanuel House after school.

When busing started I was over in Charlestown; I was a recent college graduate, age 25 and already a published writer at that time. I look back at the struggle many parents went through back then. The media loved the struggle and only made matters worse. Nothing surprising there.

As I remember those times, I wonder how anyone could move forward from it all. Somehow, we did. Those times weakened our city of neighborhoods. We have gotten better but the sores of those days will never heal. My feelings of politics changed back then. I realized we let our elected officials speak for us and in the process lost our own voices.

I am still a published writer today and continue to speak up for the city I loved and the people in it who are mostly just like me. I still remember those Pittsburgh Pirates from 1979 who were unlikely champions that year and their theme song was “We are Family.”

Today Boston is a much better place where people keep learning to get along with each other. We can’t undo the past but we can build a better future. I want that to be the lesson I learned back when our politicians wanted us further and further away from each other. I say Power to the people. In unity there is strength. We cannot undo the past but we can find ways to make the future better.

Buona Pasqua

ATTORNEY

DIANE J. MODICA

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— Se habla español —

Charges Against Gold Star Dad Dropped

The Gold Star father who was arrested after shouting at President Biden during his March, 7th State of the Union was just notified that the charges against him have finally been dropped. Steve Nikoui said he was “not very much surprised that the Biden administration hadn’t intervened on his behalf sooner.”

The charges initially brought against Nikoui were under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, which is under the direct supervision of the United States Attorney General Merrick Garland.

Nikoui was escorted out of the House Gallery during Biden’s State of the Union speech after he began yelling “Abbey Gate” and “13 Marines” a number of times. The outburst was in reference to an attack at the Abbey Gate Hamid Karzai International Airport in Afghanistan after the U.S. military’s withdrawal. The surprise attack killed 13 U.S. service members and injured hundreds more, including Nikoui’s son, Marine Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui.

The grieving gold star father was approached by congressional security during his tirade and told to stop. He refused and continued on. He was then removed from the House Gallery and arrested by Capital police on the misdemeanor charge

of crowding and obstructing. “Disrupting the Congress and demonstrating in the Congressional Buildings is illegal,” U.S. Capitol Police said in a statement.

The Gold Star families have openly criticized the Biden administration since the 13 Marines were killed on August 26, 2021 by a suicide bomber. Biden’s withdrawal from Afghanistan resulted in a swift takeover by the Taliban after the government collapsed. The President has yet to apologize to families like Steve’s who lost loved ones in the terrorist bombing. The families believe they deserve justice, not prosecution.

Will Michelle Obama run for President?

by Patti Sartori

Numerous Republicans and conservative media have fueled speculation that former First Lady Michelle Obama could sweep in at the last minute, most likely at the August Democratic National Convention, and replace President Biden as the nominee.

Ted Cruz, R-Sen. Texas, said on his Verdict Podcast last month, “I do think we are seeing the corporate media starting to turn on Joe Biden. I believe there is a very significant chance the Democratic Party would pull the cord on Joe Biden, yank him out and replace him with Michelle Obama.” President Trump also publicly expressed doubt about whether Biden will actually be the Democratic standard bearer come November.

However, the former First Lady’s office has made it very clear that the door has closed on any potential run for the White House. “As a former First Lady Michelle Obama has expressed several times over the years that she will not be running for President. Mrs. Obama supports President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris’ re-election campaign.”

Since leaving the White House in 2017, Mrs. Obama has remained a beloved and extremely popular figure among liberals. A Rasmussen survey

recently reported that just under half of Democrats want her to replace Biden at the top of the ticket. She was the top contender to replace him with 20% support in that particular poll. “Politics is hard. You’ve got to want it. It’s got to be in your soul because it’s so important. It’s not in my soul,” Michelle Obama expressed during her Netflix Special, “The Light We Carry.”

Speculation about Biden’s grip on the nomination has ramped up due to his age and recent verbal gaffes. At 81 he is already the oldest President in history and would be 86 at the end of his full second term.

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Pirandello Lyceum Announces the 2024

1 Migliori in Mens et Gesta Award - the Best in Mind and Deeds

Dr. Domenic Amara has announced the 2024 recipients of the Pirandello Lyceum’s prestigious 1 Migliori in Mens et Gesta Award - the Best in Mind and Deeds. The Board of Governors has recognized a group of outstanding Americans of Italian descent who have made important contributions to their professions, to society, and to the Italian American community. These recipients make us all proud of our Italian heritage.

The 1 Migliori Awards Dinner will be held on Saturday evening, April 6, 2024, at Spinelli’s, Route 1 South, Lynnfield, MA 01940. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be at 5:45 PM. Event tickets are \$100 each. We are pleased to have Enzo Amara providing the music for your listening and dancing pleasure. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Pirandello Scholarship Fund. Reservations may be made by sending your check, payable to Pirandello Lyceum, to Pirandello c/o Jim Pinzino, Treasurer, PO Box 227, Marlborough, MA 01752. Indicate the names of all persons attending.

For additional information, call or email President Dr. Domenic Amara at 617-913-6843 or domamara@aol.com. The Pirandello Lyceum congratulates this year’s 1 Migliori awardees and we look forward to sharing this memorable evening with you.



SONDRA CELLI
Fashion Designer, TV Celebrity
President’s Award

Renowned crystal couture designer and popular television personality, Sondra Celli, has an international fan base. Her one-of-a-kind designs have been featured in Vogue, Town & Country, Modern Bride, and showcased on TLC’s hit TV series, My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding, which airs in over 100 countries.

Sondra’s innovative and eye-catching fashion lines feature precision cut stones adorning clothing and accessories. No matter the event or occasion - baptism, bat mitzvah, proms, pageants, dance competitions, or weddings, Sondra’s pieces are certifiable show-stoppers!

The multi-talented designer’s portfolio includes designing multiple custom uniforms for the New England Patriots Cheerleaders, and having one of her original gowns turned into a limited-edition porcelain figurine hand-sculpted by the Royal Staffordshire Company!

Read more about Sondra Celli in BLING! The Uncommon Crystal Couture World of Sondra Celli, available on Amazon.



FR. BILL BUCCIFERRO, SDB – RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Fr. Bill Bucciferro was born and raised in Joliet, Illinois. His father was born in the Abruzzi region of Italy, and his mother, whose family was also from Abruzzi, was born in America. He entered the seminary in 1974, attending Don Bosco College in Newton, New Jersey. Fr. Bill was professed as a Salesian of St. John Bosco on September 1, 1976.

He did his Theological studies in Columbus, Ohio, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 1983. Over the next forty years, Fr. Bill has had a variety of pastoral assignments. In 1998, he was the founding pastor of our Salesian work in the Chicago

Archdioceses. He was the pastor for nine years. In 2008, Fr. Bill was assigned as our Salesian Shrine Church coordinator in Story Point, New York. His next pastoral assignment was at the University of Illinois as a Chaplain at the Newman Center on campus from 2013 to 2017. In 2017, Fr. Bill was assigned to the Salesian Boys & Girls Club in East Boston. He is the Club’s Director of Youth Ministry. Fr. Bill also assists on the weekends at the Ave Maria Parish in Lynnfield and is the Catholic Chaplain at the Essex County Correctional Center in Danvers.

Nominated by Vera Carducci

MARGUERITE J. DENNIS – HIGHER EDUCATION

Vice President, Suffolk University (retired)



Marguerite La Rosa Dennis has had a career as a high-level university administrator. She retired as the Vice President for Enrollment and International Programs at Suffolk University, after 25 years of service. At Suffolk University, she began her career as an Associate Dean, and rose to the rank of Vice President, where she managed 15 Directors and 100 employees, and was responsible for tuition revenues of \$200 million. Currently, she is on the Board of Trustees of Regent’s University in London. She is also on the Advisory Board for

the Comparative and International Education Society.

Marguerite is an internationally renowned authority on Financing College Education, Student College Enrollment, and International College Student Recruiting, as well as Recruiting and Retention. She has several hundred scholarly presentations/publications, in addition to publishing many books. Some of her popular book titles are The New College Guide – How to Get In, Get Out, and Get a Job; Mortgaged Futures: How to Graduate from School Without Going Broke; Keys to Financing a College Education; Barron’s Complete College Financing Guide; A Practical Guide to Enrollment and Retention Management in Higher Education.

First and foremost, she cherishes her Italian heritage, as her grandparents came from the Sicilian fishing village of Sciacca. They settled in the East New York section of Brooklyn. In Sicily, her grandfather had met her grandmother when he, as a young boy, was a shepherd to her family’s flocks. Marguerite’s mother, Lillian, was not allowed to go to high school because she had to go to work to help support the family. She worked as a seamstress and, at age 65, earned her GED. At age 90, Lillian began to take college courses, as an English major. In her older age, Lillian published five books. This is where Marguerite gets her academic stamina and love of education.

Marguerite and her husband, Russell, have homes on Cape Cod and in Naples, FL. They have two daughters and several grandchildren.

Nominated by Dr. Dean Saluti, Vice President, Pirandello Lyceum



HON. FRANK GAZIANO – LAW AND JUSTICE

Justice Frank M. Gaziano was born in Quincy to Sicilian immigrant parents, Carmelo and Giuseppina. He received his B.A. from Lafayette College in 1986, and earned a J.D., magna cum laude, from Suffolk Law School in 1989. He began his legal career at a large Boston law firm and, in 1991, entered public service as an assistant district attorney prosecuting complex felonies, including homicides. In 2001, he was appointed First Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts where he prosecuted violent felonies and organized crime cases.

Governor Romney appointed Justice Gaziano to the Superior Court in 2004. He served as the Regional Administrative Justice for Plymouth and Suffolk Counties. He also chaired the state’s criminal rules committee and drafted model homicide jury instructions. In 2016, Governor Baker appointed Justice Gaziano to the Supreme Judicial Court. The SJC, established in 1692, is the oldest appellate court in continuous existence in the Western Hemisphere. He has authored over 150 published legal opinions, addressing various issues including constitutional law, search and seizure, and substantive criminal law.

Nominated by Gr. Uff. Lino Rullo, Pirandello Lyceum Board of Directors



DAME, DR. MARY RORRO
RENAISSANCE WOMAN

Dame, Dr. Mary Rorro graduated cum laude from Bryn Mawr College and received their first ever Performing Arts Prize. She was Chief Resident and Resident of the Year from Pfizer Corporation during her residency in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Rorro completed an Addictions Psychiatry Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital. She is a psychiatrist caring for Veterans in

the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is also a violist, singer-songwriter and published poet. She is Chair of the Music and Medicine Committee and Co-Chair of the Humanities Committee of the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA)

She performs her original songs for Veterans annually at Princeton University Chapel. She was invited to present a concert “Songs that Heal and Comfort” of her original compositions at St. Peter’s University as a benefit concert for Veterans on November 6, 2023. She has also performed at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, WWII and 9/11 Memorials, and the National Cathedral in D.C. She also volunteers at many Veteran ceremonies and events.

She has composed Anthems for international organizations, and is featured in numerous books and journals for her work, including twice in the Royal Entomological Society Journal, of which Queen Elizabeth was a Patron. Dr. Rorro won the Planetree Patient-Centered Excellence and Innovation Award and a Jefferson Award, which is the nation’s oldest and most prestigious recognition program for volunteer/public service and the official recognition program of the United States Senate.

She received the Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award from The White House and President Biden through AMWA, at the Drexel University College of Medicine Women in Medicine Legacy Center Archives. She was inducted into the National Italian American Hall of Fame and received the Bronze Medal for charitable works from the Royal Order of Savoy, Italy, as a Devotee of Merit. She was inducted as a Dame into The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, Eastern Lieutenancy, at the St. Patrick’s Cathedral Investiture Mass by Cardinal Fernando Filoni of the Vatican on October 14, 2023. She is honored to follow in her mother’s footsteps, Dame, Dr. Gilda Rorro, who received the 1 Migliori Award in 2023.

Nominated by Dame, Dr. Gilda Rorro



DOMENICO STANISCIA - ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Emigrating from Italy to America at the age of 17, Domenico

Staniscia’s journey has been one of bold transitions and unwavering determination. Now, as the proud owner of a wine, spirits, and food distribution business in North Andover, MA, he exemplifies a cultivated passion for products and the entrepreneurial spirit.

After earning his degree from Merrimack College in 1995, he embarked on a corporate career that, while successful, left him longing for more. The allure of the wine and food industry, which derived from his Italian background, having grown up as the son of multigenerational farmers, inspired him in 2016 to found Highland Distributing.

Beyond the world of wine and foods, and as a true Italian, he finds joy in traveling to Italy, experimenting with new recipes, and striving to perfect favorite dishes that he shares with his wife, son, and friends.

He also likes to be involved in the community. He is the President of the UNICO National Merrimack Valley Chapter. UNICO is the largest Italian American Service Organization in the country. They work diligently to raise money for scholarships that are granted to students entering college who come from an Italian background. Through their benevolent efforts, they also provide financial support to many local organizations and often directly to individuals in need.

He is also on the board of The Psychological Center, an organization that, through several houses they maintain in Lawrence, help women in need in the Merrimack Valley. This is a truly remarkable organization that has helped the lives of hundreds of women.

Most of all, he is a proud Italian, and believes that where he came from, and that the people before him went through tremendous hardship, war and poverty, have shaped and will continue to shape his life. It also connects him to all Italians that undeniably share a similar life story of coming to America with nothing but the strong values they carried with them here and a will to succeed.

Nominated by Joseph Bevilaqua



Saint Laserian

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

St. Laserian was said to have been of noble birth. He was born around the year 566. His family was of the Ulaid, a Celtic People living in Ireland. Laserian was sent to Scotland to be educated by monks at a very young age. It is not certain at what age that was. As a youth, he was reputed to have worked extraordinary miracles. As a young man he lived the life of a hermit on the Holy Island off the coast of the Isle of Arran. He lived in a cave. This island became known as Molaise’s island. St. Laserian is also known as St. Molaise. He worked many miracles there enabling water to flow when it was needed for milling. He also banished robbers from the vicinity of the monastery.

From that island, Laserian travelled to Rome. It is not known how long he remained there but it is thought to be about four years. He was in the favor of Pope Gregory the Great and was ordained by him. Laserian then journeyed to Ireland to preach the Faith there.

He founded a monastic community at Old Leighlin in South Leinster in the late sixth century. His choice of location was said to have been inspired by Divine Guidance. Laserian was not the first Christian to settle in the Barrow valley. St. Patrick too, is associated with Leighlin. There is a St. Patrick’s Well at Ballyknockan near Leighlin. Other saints were associated with the area. Laserian was



reputed not to have settled initially at Old Leighlin.

Laserian went first to Lorum Hill, south east of Muinebheag (Bagenalstown). Here he was directed by an angel to go to where he would see the sun first shining and set up his religious foundation there. The place he chose was Old Leighlin Hill. Another Holy Well at Lorum is named in honor of Laserian. Laserian crossed the River Barrow and came to Old Leighlin. He founded his religious community there. The holy abbot Gobanus and his followers were settled there. Immediately, Laserian’s miraculous powers were made manifest

Gobanus and his community moved on and allowed Laserian to remain at Old Leighlin. The monastery at Leighlin continued to grow. Other Holy Men who later became saints themselves visited Laserian at his Monastery. Among them was St. Finbar of Cork and also St. Molua.

St. Laserian is said to have passed away on April 18, between the years 638 and 641. The Feast Day of Saint Laserian is celebrated on April 18.

NEW Health Honors Former CEO Elaine Wilson

Last week NEW Health held a touching and fitting ceremony at its North End site honoring its founder and first CEO Elaine Wilson. In 1971, Elaine and a group of North End residents established the neighborhood’s first health center with a mission of delivering high quality care to the community. Over the past 53 years, this mission has guided NEW Health’s growth in services, locations and staff. The North End Community Health Center, along with The North End Community Nursing Home, survives today as a symbol of excellence in health care, for the North End/Waterfront and Charlestown communities

In recognition of Elaine’s dedication, NEW Health unveiled a plaque commemorating her legacy and announced the launch of “The Elaine Wilson Scholarship for Community Health Outreach and Public Service”, available to community members who demonstrate a genuine commitment to community primary care, public health, or outreach efforts. More information is available at <https://newhealthcenter.org/scholarships/>. The annual scholarship will provide \$2,500 to one recipient.

Some of the attendees and speakers at the event included Elaine’s family, NEW Health CEO Vincenzo “Vin Scibelli, NEW Health Board President Jason Aluia, former Chief Operations




Elaine Wilson and NEW Health CEO Vincenzo “Vin” Scibelli

Office Noreen Manning, current Chief Operations Office Kristen Simonelli, and longtime NEW Health board member Norma Reppucci.




Elaine Wilson and her family. L-R: Claire Wilson, Steven Wilson, Taylor Wilson, Elaine Wilson, Charlie Wilson, Nicole Wilson, Diane Vasapolli. (Photos by Gerri Palladino)



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by bob morello

Facts  wax

reviewing the best . . . forgetting the rest

FRANKIE VALLI

AND THE FOUR SEASONS

OH, WHAT A NIGHT!



When the name — The Four Seasons is mentioned, a good number of people would immediately think of the connection to Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, not the name of the luxury hotel. Frankie Valli’s given birth name is Francesco Stephen Castelluccio, and the soon to be 90-year-old, and lead singer of the legendary group, The Four Seasons, still continues to tour. The popular group inhabited Boston’s Wang Theater at Boch Center on Saturday for a sold-out show.

Since starting out in 1960, Frankie was able to rack up 29 Top 40 hits with the Four Seasons. Amazing when one realizes that the New Jersey native authored a host of #1 hits, including “Sherry” (1962), “Big Girls Don’t Cry” (1962), “Walk Like a Man” (1963), “Rag Doll” (1964), and “December, 1963 (Oh What a Night)” (1975). Plus, the #2 charting “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You” (1967), and as a solo artist #1 hits of “My Eyes Adored You” (1974) and “Grease” (1978), penned by Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees. On the basis of that resume, the Four Seasons’ original group (Valli, Tommy DeVito, Nick Massi and Bob Gaudio), were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990. They were again inducted in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1999, this time in the Vocal Group Hall of Fame category.

Valli’s performance (Saturday 3/23) at the Wang Theatre was the result of his suggestion that the appropriately named ‘Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons: Last Encores Tour,’ would end the group’s 64-year run. It does leave the possibility that future performances may still be considered when the tour finishes, but all indications were that the rigors of touring (at 90) were likely one of the main factors in Valli’s decision.

In a 90-minutes masterpiece, Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons transported the sold-out audience back to the Golden Music years of the ’60s and ’70s. Hitting the stage of the Boch Center Wang Theatre in a black velour tuxedo jacket, Frankie Valli was surrounded by The Four Seasons, attired in black suits, black shirts and ties and possessing golden voices and an unbelievable harmony. Together they delivered covers of 22 songs mainly recorded by Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, and a handful of Valli solos, along with other artists. They opened the celebration performing the title track from the film *Grease*, a song written by Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees in 1978. It was the beginning of a wonderful night for the mixed aged audience, as Valli injected a bit of humor early in the show, remarking that he hadn’t been in Boston more ... because he *wasn’t* invited! From that point on the audience was on their feet for the rockers, and singing along for the many tunes that followed.

Following were a set of hits from 1964 included, “Dawn (Go Away),” “Save It For Me,” and Valli remarked to the audience he needed to slow things down so he could rest, then sang “Silence Is Golden,” the B-side of their hit single “Rag Doll,” which they performed later in the show as part of their encore. Additional songs from the sixties surely must have brought back some wonderful memories for the adoring audience, with “Sherry,” the first big hit for Valli and The Four Seasons, “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” “Walk Like A Man,” a solid cover of Maurice Williams and The Zodiacs’ doo-wop hit from the ’60s – “Stay,” complete with Valli falsettos. After the band introductions which included three horns, three guitars, a drummer, and his musical director for over 40 years, Robby Robinson on piano, the show continued with Valli’s self-admitted favorite Frank Sinatra’s signature song, the Cole Porter penned “I’ve Got You Under My Skin,” plus the upbeat “Opus 17 (Don’t You Worry ‘bout Me),” “Tell It To The Rain,” and “Working My Way Back To You.”

The three-piece horn section was outstanding on the night, along with the tight and precise vocalizing of The Four Seasons quartet, providing Valli with all the support he needed to deliver his powerful performance. One of the many highlights was the cover medley of The Temptations’ 1965 hit “My Girl,” and The Rascals’ 1967 hit “Groovin’,” written by Felix Cavaliere who recently passed away. Valli turned romantic via “Who Loves You,” “My Eyes Adored You,” and “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You,” before pointing to Heaven and “Swearin’ To God,” which featured a dynamite saxophone solo and an explosive guitar solo, both of which received overwhelming applause. The night was still filled with hit after hit, and the band’s energy was infectious as they delivered “Beggin’,” the excitement of “December, 1963 (Oh, What A Night),” “Bye, Bye, Baby (Baby Goodbye),” and the show came to a close with the encore finale, “Let’s Hang On!” Valli’s fans came out to honor him and his lengthy career, and in turn, Valli honored them with a night that many will long remember ... or to sum it up, “*Oh, What A Night!*”

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

FROM THE INBOX
Are we living in an alternate universe? Our T is in shambles; shoplifting is the new craze; defund the police; deny the North End restaurants outdoor dining; and the cherry on the cupcake: we gotta shell out \$852 mil for our new ‘neighbors’. Dapper O’Neil would be furious.

I’m sure the Seaport residents are not happy with the latest Healy brainstorm.

— *Jack Z East Boston*
(Jack, You are so correct. keep those email coming and your letters in the *Boston Herald* too.)

SENATOR EDWARDS

APOLOGIZES TO

MILTON COMMENTS

I recently read comments from State Senator Lydia Edwards on comments she made over in Milton concerning the recent NO vote against making the Town of Milton a community within an MBTA rapid transit zone, which many townsfolk thought would force more affordable housing units and tying this mandate to the fact that the town had streetcar service between Ashmont and Mattapan stations.

Edwards apologized and stated in a letter to the editor in last week’s Milton Times that in the future she would disagree

with townsfolk without using “inconsiderate language.”

HERE’S A GOOD QUESTION,

WHY IS IT THAT THE

BRAKES IN YOUR CAR

ALWAYS START GRINDING

ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON?

If it were any other day in the week , I wouldn’t mind dropping my car off at the mechanic the following morning. However, my mechanic’s shop is always closed for the weekend. Why is that? Happens all too often to me. I end up driving over the weekend with my radio loud and the air vent high. Otherwise, I could go pazzo listening to this expensive noisy grinding sound

THOSE FRIENDS OF

DISTINCTION STILL BRING

UP MEMORIES

Last Friday, driving home from school, I had Sirius XM on Soul Town and got to hear the Friends of Distinction singing one of their great oldies. It was” Going in Circles.” How often have most of us, especially on a Friday afternoon, felt like going in circles at work? Sometimes at the end of a full week of what seemed to be lots of work, do we feel like

we had little accomplished and just gone round and round in circles? This band’s distinctive sound can usually knock the funk out of us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

GEORGE BENSON



George Benson just turned 81 years old last week on March 22. One of my favorite Benson songs gotta be “Turn your love around.” How ‘bout you. Also, when I think of him, I think of Roller Disco and all those fun times roller disco-ing to the likes of George Benson over at Spinoffs over by Fenway Park.

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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Maybe I'm getting older, but life seemed simpler back when I was a kid. It might be that everything was new to me and everything was part of a learning experience. One thing I've realized is that nothing stays the same. Part of the simplicity package was the way we shopped. Much of it was done at the corner grocery store. Actually, there were no supermarkets in East Boston or the North End. Today, those corner grocery stores are called convenience stores, but 7-Eleven made sure it's not the same. Let me give you examples of the differences.

Nanna might say to me, "I ran out of soap powder. You go to the corner store and see what they have." She would give me a quarter and I would head for Cutliff's Variety Store which was on the corner of Eutaw and Brooks Streets in East Boston. Mr. Cutliff would be behind the checkout counter which was on the right just as you entered. He would be wearing a white apron, a straw hat and a pencil atop his right ear. He'd say hello and I'd smile back and head to where the soaps were located. There were basically only three brands that the women in my neighborhood used, Duz, Rinso and Super Suds. I knew that Nanna liked Duz, but before I picked up the box, I searched the rack. They had bar soap with names like Lifebuoy, Lava, Lux, Palmolive, and Ivory. But

Nanna wanted Duz for her washing machine and that's what I bought.

Nanna was one of the few in the neighborhood who had a washing machine. Most of the women washed their clothes in the kitchen sink using a scrub board and a brush. When the clothes were clean, the water would be drained from the sink and each garment would be wrung out by hand. The next step was to dry out the clothes. That meant opening a window, taking clothes pins from a bag hanging outside the window and hanging the clothes on the clothes line which stretched from the house to a pole or tree on the other side of the back yard. When Nanna hung everything on that line, which was usually on a Monday, as that was wash day, the entire neighborhood knew what she owned: Nanna's underwear, her house dresses, Babbononno's long underwear, sox, shirts, his work clothes, table cloths that no longer showed wine and gravy stains, and handkerchiefs. The only articles that didn't go on the line were the lace curtains, table cloths and doilies. They would be dried on a stretcher, a frame with two or three horizontal strips of wood, one on the top, one in the middle and one on the bottom. Connecting them were three vertical strips of wood, one on each end and the other in the middle. The entire contraption was about

five feet tall and about six feet long. There were nails facing you every couple of inches and everything lace was hung of the nails to prevent them from shrinking as they dried. In the good weather, these stretchers were located in the back yard. In the winter, they were in the cellar.

Dad would often send me back to that same corner store to buy cigarettes. When I was a kid, they were fifteen cents a pack, or two for a quarter. Today, there are dozens of choices and the cost is over eight dollars per pack. Back then, the cigarette packs were housed in cubby hole shelves behind the checkout counter. You had your choice of Camels, Lucky Strike, Chesterfield, Philip Morris, Old Gold, Pall Mall, Kools, and Raleigh. There were those that liked king size cigarettes and they bought Pall Mall. Kools were mentholated and had a cork tip. Raleigh had redeemable coupons. If a smoker didn't want to spend the fifteen cents, you could buy mongrel brands like Wings or Alligators. They were cheaper. For those who really didn't want to spend much money, they sold Bull Durham. This brand was a do-it-yourself selection. For five cents, you received a little bag of cigarette tobacco and a pack of rolling papers that allowed the owner to roll thirty cigarettes. When I would ask the owner for two packs of Old Golds, Dad's brand at the time, there was no question as to age. He knew that they were slated for my father. Once in a while, Babbononno would give me a dime to buy two American cigars for him. He was used to the Perodi and DiNobili brand of stogies, but when he wanted an American cigar, he would say, "Jenny, me compra due cigari, uno Dexter e uno sette-ventiquattro." (Johnny, buy me two cigars, a Dexter and a 7-20-4) It wasn't until the early 1950s that new brands of cigarettes hit the market and many arrived with filter tips and king-sized lengths Winston, Marlboro, Salem, Tareyton, Parliament, Benson and Hedges, L and M, Viceroy and Kent, most in flip-top boxes.

Today, you can go to any of the convenience stores and buy a lottery card using your favorite numbers, or purchase they type of card where you scratch the surface with a coin to reveal numbers or objects that allow you to win an amount of money. Back when I was a kid, there was no such concept. The Massachusetts Blue Laws prohibited any form of gambling. The folks in my neighborhood could not be deterred from playing their favorite numbers. There was a corner bookie who took the bets. The federal security numbers would be published in the Evening Record, a tabloid sized nightly newspaper. If your number came out, you could win approximately seven dollars for every cent gambled. Once in a while, Nanna would



The Tagano, or 'u Taganu', is a traditional Easter pie hailing from the town of Aragon in Sicily's province of Agrigento. This delectable baked pasta dish gets its name from the terracotta pot it was traditionally cooked in. It is prepared on the afternoon of Holy Saturday and is a staple during the Easter Monday picnic festivities throughout Southern Italy. The Tagano Festival of Aragon celebrates this rich and savory pie on the Sunday after Easter, showcasing its delicious Sicilian flavors.

As with any other Sicilian recipe, families put their own spin on many of these classic dishes since immigrating to this country. When it comes to the Tagano of Aragon, staples like eggs, Tuma cheese, rigatoni, and minced meat are always present, regardless of the adaptation. Some variations involve lining the terracotta pot with cheese and others call for the use of sliced bread. The recipe I'm presenting today stays true to its roots while providing a delightful and straightforward twist on a classic favorite that is guaranteed to please every taste bud. **From my home to yours, Buona Pasqua!**

TAGANO of ARAGON
Baked Pasta Pie



- 1-pound rigatoni pasta, cooked al dente

1-pound Tuma cheese, sliced

3 cups fresh Pecorino Romano, Caciocavallo or Parmesan cheese, grated

24 (2 dozen) large eggs
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon

½ cup fresh parsley, chopped

1 ½ pounds veal or pork minced meat, or mini meatballs

Salt and pepper

Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease an 8-quart round terracotta baking dish or a Dutch oven.

In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs and continue beating while adding the cinnamon, salt, pepper, parsley and grated cheese.

Cover the bottom of the pan with a couple of ladles of the egg mixture, then add a layer of rigatoni and mix. Layer the meat and then Tuma cheese. Repeat this process, ending with a layer of Tuma cheese. Pour remaining egg mixture over top of Tuma and add additional grated cheese if desired.

Cover and bake for about 1 hour. Carefully remove the cover of the baking pan at the 35 minute mark and continue to bake until golden and bamboo skewer inserted in the center comes out clean or slightly wet, from the cheeses. Do not overbake or it will dry out.

Allow the Tagano to cool for an hour before carefully transferring to a flat plate or wooden board. Serve at room temperature and refrigerate leftovers.

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

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(Continued on Page 14)

Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Guglielmo Marconi

Guglielmo Marconi was born at Bologna, Italy, on April 25, 1874, the second son of Giuseppe Marconi, an Italian country gentleman, and Annie Jameson, daughter of Andrew Jameson of Daphne Castle in the County Wexford, Ireland. He was educated privately at Bologna, Florence and Leghorn. At an early age he took a keen interest in physical and electrical science and studied the works of Maxwell, Hertz, Righi, Lodge and others. In 1895 he began laboratory experiments at his father's country estate at Pontecchio where he succeeded in sending wireless signals over a distance of one and a half miles.

Marconi traveled to England in 1896 to seek a patent for his apparatus. One was granted to him that year – the first patent ever granted for a system of wireless telegraphy, (voice radio). After demonstrating the system's ability to transmit radio signals across the Bristol Channel, he established the Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company Limited (re-named Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited in 1900).

In 1899, Marconi was able to transmit signals across the English Channel, from Britain to France. A year later, he received a patent for "tuned or syntonized telegraphy." This patent number 7,777 allowed simultaneous transmissions on different frequencies. Thus, stations next to one another were able to operate without interfering with the others' signals. In December 1901, determined to prove that wireless waves were not affected by the curvature of the Earth, he used his system for transmitting the first wireless signals across the Atlantic between Poldhu, Cornwall, and St. John's, Newfoundland, a distance of 2100 miles.

Between 1902 and 1912 he patented several new inventions. In 1902, during a voyage in the American liner "Philadelphia", he first demonstrated "daylight effect" relative to wireless communication and in the same year patented his magnetic detector which then became the standard wireless receiver for many years. In December 1902 he transmitted the first complete messages to Poldhu from stations at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and later Cape Cod, Massachusetts, these early tests culminating in 1907 in the opening of the first transatlantic commercial service between Glace Bay and Clifden, Ireland. In 1905 he patented his horizontal directional aerial and in 1912 a "timed spark" system for generating continuous waves.

In 1914 he was commissioned in the Italian Army as a Lieutenant being later promoted to Captain, and in 1916 transferred to the Navy

in the rank of Commander. He was a member of the Italian Government mission to the United States in 1917 and in 1919 was appointed Italian plenipotentiary delegate to the Paris Peace Conference. He was awarded the Italian Military Medal in 1919 in recognition of his war service.

During his war service in Italy he returned to his investigation of short waves, which he had used in his first experiments. After further tests by his collaborators in England, an intensive series of trials was conducted in 1923 between experimental installations at the Poldhu Station and in Marconi's yacht "Elettra" cruising in the Atlantic and Mediterranean, and this led to the establishment of the beam system for long distance communication. Proposals to use this system as a means of Imperial communications were accepted by the British Government and the first beam station, linking England and Canada, was opened in 1926, other stations being added the following year.

In 1931 Marconi began research into the propagation characteristics of still shorter waves, resulting in the opening in 1932 of the world's first microwave radiotelephone link between the Vatican City and the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo. Two years later at Sestri Levante he demonstrated his microwave radio beacon for ship navigation and in 1935, again in Italy, gave a practical demonstration of the principles of radar, the coming of which he had first foretold in a lecture to the American Institute of Radio Engineers in New York in 1922.

He has been the recipient of honorary doctorates of several universities and many other international honors and awards, among them the Nobel Prize for Physics, which in 1909 he shared with Professor Karl Braun, the Albert Medal of the Royal Society of Arts, the John Fritz Medal and the Kelvin Medal. He was decorated by the Tsar of Russia with the Order of St. Anne, the King of Italy created him Commander of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, and awarded him the Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown of Italy in 1902. Marconi also received the freedom of the City of Rome (1903), and was created Chevalier of the Civil Order of Savoy in 1905. Many other distinctions of this kind followed. In 1914 he was both created a Senatore in the Italian Senate.

In 1905 he married the Hon. Beatrice O'Brien, daughter of the 14th Baron Inchiquin. In 1927, he married the Countess Bezzi-Scali of Rome. He had one son and two daughters by his first and one daughter by his second wife. Marconi passed away in Rome on July 20, 1937.



Old Chelsea Soldier's Home to Become Safety Net Housing

Massachusetts will open an additional temporary shelter for migrant and homeless families in April at the former Chelsea Soldier's Home, which is currently vacant and was previously scheduled to be demolished. The state opened a new veteran's home in Chelsea this past December. "This was a building that was vacant, that was set to be demolished, and could be quite easily and readily repurposed into a safety net site," according to Governor Healey.

Massachusetts Secretary of Veteran's Services, Jon Santiago, noted "none of the veteran's services will be affected by this move." Healey's administration said the temporary shelter will serve pregnant women and families with children who are waiting for placement in the state's current over capacity emergency shelter program.

"We have said for months now that our system is at capacity, and we do not have the space, providers or funding to continue expanding," Emergency Assistance Director General Scott Rice said in a statement.

The state continues to spend a reported \$75 million a month on the emergency shelter program for 7,500 families, costing \$10,000 per family. How are we the wives, husbands, parents sons, daughters and siblings of our illustrious United States Veterans, expected to sit back quietly and watch the continued disrespect shown to our service members as they are so easily tossed aside. If the state politicians would smarten up and change the right to shelter status of Massachusetts, we instead might be renovating this site for additional veteran housing rather than for those crossing the border illegally.

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N.E.A.A. Baseball to Begin 2024 Season

The North End Athletic Association will begin its 2024 season with practices beginning on April 2nd at both Puopolo and Langone Parks. This year we will offer baseball for boys and girls ages 4 to 15. Our 4-year-old clinic is on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m., our year-old T-Ball is on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. The Minor League program, with Commissioner John Pregmon will have 6 teams this year and play on Monday through Thursdays. Our Major League program under the direction of Commissioner Rick Martignetti, for ages 9 to 12 will have 4 teams again this year and play Monday - Thursday's as well. Practices for both the Minors and Majors run all week and on some weekend days. All of our baseball is coordinated by Ralph Martignetti our Baseball Coordinator.

Opening Day this year will be celebrated on Saturday, April 27th. We will have minor league games starting at 10:00 a.m., and the Majors will begin at 12 Noon.

Our 13-15-Year-Old Program — which is the Traveling Dodgers will begin in mid-June and will once again compete in the Lou Tompkins Allstar Baseball League. We are also partnering with the North End Execution Girls softball (Ages 13 to 18) program to offer softball for young ladies 13 and older.

This year, the NEAA will honor longtime supporter and former coach of San Antonio (St. Anthony's Feast) team, John Fiumara. John has had

many roles in the North End Community including serving as the first treasurer of North End Against Drugs. He is a Past Grand Knight and current Financial Secretary of the Ausonia Council #1513 Knights of Columbus in the North End. John was instrumental in bringing affordable senior housing to the North End at the Knights of Columbus Headquarters on North Margin Street.

Please join us in honoring John at our annual First Pitch Ceremony at 12 Noon on April 27th. There will be a BBQ, Face painting, Balloon Making and much more for the whole family. **The NEAA is truly grateful to all of team sponsors:**

- Knights of Columbus Ausonia Council #1513
- McGovern Auto Group
- North End Food Tour
- Boston Bottle
- North End Cares
- Richards, Motorcars
- St. Anthony's Feast Society
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- Tomasone Club
- Regional Review Newspaper
- Clinic/ T-Ball Sponsor: Boston Red Sox Foundation
- Jr. RBI Program
- League sponsors: St. Lucy Feast Society & Soma Yoga

This year we also welcome **Dick's House of Sports** as a new league wide sponsor!

Registration is still open for our 4, 5, and 6-to-8-Year-Old Programs. Go to our website to register: <https://neaasports-boston.sportngin.com/neaabaseball>.

N.E.A.A. Lacrosse Program Expands for 2024

Now in its second season under the direction of Commissioner David Paolisso, the spring lacrosse program for the NEAA has grown. Last year only a weekly clinic was offered for boys and girls ages 4 to 11 years old. This season, starting in April, we will not only offer the weekly clinic on Sunday afternoons at Puopolo park, but we have also entered 2 teams in the MYL traveling program. A special thank you to our Clinic Sponsor **McGovern Auto Group** and our team sponsors: **Ausonia Council #1513 Knights of Columbus** and **Sidecar by Boston Bottle**.

The N.E.A.A. will have two boy's 1st & 2nd grade teams in the league this year. 3 games will be played at home and 3 on the road. The first game of the season and at home will be on April 21st. Games are played at 9am and 10:15am at Puopolo Park on Commercial Street.

Our weekly clinic will be held as follows:
3:00-3:50pm - 7-11 years old
4:00-4:50pm - 4-6 years old

Dates include:
April 21st, April 28th,
May 5th, May 12th,
May 19th, June 2nd
**No session May 26*
*Memorial Day Weekend**

We hope to see you all down the park and watch our expanding lacrosse program.

"The N.E.A.A. is happy to once again provide these great programs for the spring/summer of 2024 for the youth and families of the North End and some surrounding neighborhoods" states N.E.A.A. Sports Coordinator John Romano, "We are especially grateful to all our volunteer coaches and team & league sponsors as well".

John Romano
jromano45@gmail.com
(617) 750-9749

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

The POST-GAZETTE newspaper is a paper of general circulation. We are qualified to accept legal notices from any court in each town that we serve.

LEGAL NOTICES

For information on placing a Legal Notice in the **POST-GAZETTE** please email postgazette@aol.com call (617) 227-8929, or mail notice to:
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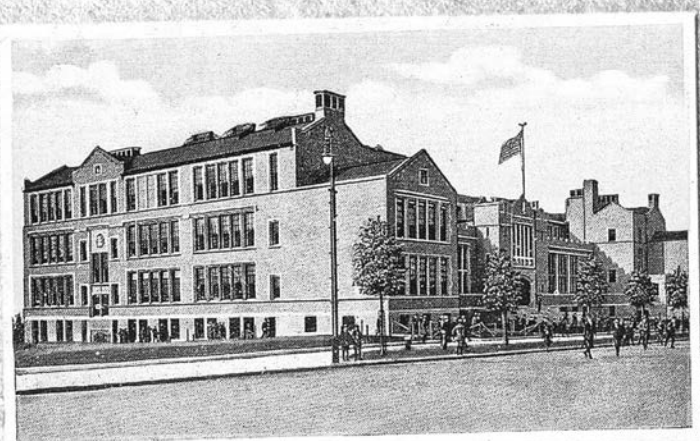
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Spring Garden Cleanup with Pollinators in Mind

by Melinda Myers



Adjusting your spring cleanup schedule will help pollinators like this bee on an allium flower.
(Photo credit: photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com)

Spring cleaning, indoors and out, is a long-standing tradition for many households. But as we learn more about the important pollinators, insect-eating toads, songbirds, and beneficial insects, the more we realize we need to adjust some of our timing and methods. It is safe to remove winter protection, such as mulch, when the temperatures begin hovering around freezing or your plants are beginning to sprout. Keep some frost protection handy just in case you need to protect any tender plants from a hard freeze. Always check for frost heaving. When cold winters are interrupted by warm spells, bare soil may thaw and then refreeze. This temperature fluctuation can cause the soil to shift and push spring flowering bulbs, coral bells, daylilies, and other perennials out of the soil. Just gently push them back in place or reset in the soil making sure the roots are covered. Wait for temperatures to be consistently above 50 degrees to start cutting back perennials that were left standing. This allows any beneficial insects overwintering in the hollow stems time to emerge and find a summer home. Cut some of the stems to the ground and some back to 18 to 24" on each plant. These old stems provide summer homes for some of our native bees. As new growth emerges in spring, it will mask the older stems so your garden will look as beautiful as ever. If you can't wait, stack the stems out of sight until temperatures warm and pollinators have a chance to emerge.

Then chop and compost the debris in mid-summer. Tie or bungee cord tall ornamental grass plants before cutting them back to make cleanup easier. Then use a hand pruner for small jobs or a string trimmer or hedge clipper for larger plantings. Wait for new growth to fill in shorter grasses and simply comb your fingers through the plant removing the old brown leaves. Leave fall leaves on the soil surrounding the plants to serve as mulch, suppressing weeds and conserving moisture. As the leaves break down, they add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. They also provide homes for beneficial insects and insulate the soil for plants, toads, and more. Mark the location of perennials like butterfly weed and hardy hibiscus that emerge later than most plants in spring. This helps to avoid accidentally weeding them out. Leave a few stems standing, use plant markers, or next fall plant some spring flowering bulbs near the plants to serve as a colorful placeholder.

Consider leaving some sunny spots bare for ground-nesting bees. Avoid areas like entryways and gathering spots where people and the bees may collide. Although the bees are docile and not likely to sting, people are often fearful leading to their elimination. Setting aside some out-of-the-way spaces for ground-nesting bees allows everyone to coexist more happily. This is also a good time to tidy up garden beds and lawn edges. You'll slow the invasion of weeds and grass into garden beds and lawn encroaching onto walks. Remove weeds as they appear. The smaller weeds are easier to remove and eliminating them before they flower and set seed means fewer weeds you'll need to pull in the future. Take advantage of the delay in spring cleaning by cleaning and sharpening your tools. When the temperatures are right, with tools in hand, you

will be ready to get busy in the garden.

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

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Middlesex Probate and Family Court

10-U Commerce Way

Woburn, MA 01801

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Docket No. MI24P1427EA

Estate of

DOROTHY A. MAGLIONE

Also Known As

DOROTHY MAGLIONE

Date of Death: February 19, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

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

Nikolas Maglione 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: 03/29/2024

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. MI24P1545EA

Estate of

ARTHUR WARREN HAGEMEISTER

Also Known As

ARTHUR W. HAGEMEISTER

Date of Death: September 04, 2005

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Marion Hagemeister of Chelmsford, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Marion Hagemeister of Chelmsford, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 18, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: March 21, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 03/29/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street

Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU24P0634EA

Estate of

ANDREW P. O'CONNOR

Also Known As

ANDREW PATRICK O'CONNOR

Date of Death: February 27, 2024

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Michael F. O'Connor of Brighton, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Michael F. O'Connor of Brighton, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 26, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 22, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Run date: 03/29/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division**
**Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300**
Docket No. SU24P0653EA
**Estate of
LAWRENCE E. PERROTTA**
Date of Death: February 19, 2024
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Deborah L. Reardon of Singer Island, FL**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Deborah L. Reardon of Singer Island, FL 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: 03/29/2024

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. MI24D0335DR
**DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING**
**HALIMA ETTAIB
vs.
ABDELAZIZ YAMANI**
To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B.
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 **Abeba Seifu Attles, Esq., Attles Law Group, 15 Westglow Road, Brockton, MA 02301** your answer, if any, on or before **April 25, 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 14, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 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. MI24D0528DR
**DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING**
**JOSEPH SULTAN SSERUNJOJI
vs.
TAVONDA CLARK**
To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B.
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 **Joseph Sultan Sserunjogi, 30A Amory Road, Waltham, MA 02453** your answer, if any, on or before **April 25, 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 14, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 03/29/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
Middlesex Division
Docket No. 24W0156**
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
ISATA LAMIE BAKARR Plaintiff(s)
v.
FODAY SHWYER Defendant(s)
To the above named Defendant(s) **Foday Shwyer**
A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff(s) **Isata Lamie Bakarr** seeking a Complaint for Paternity.
You are required to serve upon **Isata Lamie Bakarr** or attorney for plaintiff(s) whose address is 130 John St., #250, Lowell, MA 01852 your answer on or before **26th** day of **April 2024**.
If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of this Court at **370 Jackson St., 5th Floor, Lowell, MA 01852**.
**Witness, TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, Esq.,
First Justice of said Court at Lowell,**
this day of March 15th, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Court
Run date: 03/29/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division**
**Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300**
Docket No. SU23P0614EA
**Estate of
EYOB TAYOU MAMO**
Date of Death: July 25, 2022
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Tayou Mamo Argaw of Tucker, GA**.
Beruk Meheretu of Malden, 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: 03/29/2024

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. MI23A1432AD
**CITATION
G. L. c. 210, § 6**
**In the matter of
NIYAHLEE JOSEFINA LOPEZ**
To any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.
A petition has been presented to said court by **Jose David Pagan of Middleton, MA**, requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to **Niyahlee Josefina Pagan**.
If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.
An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.
IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT **WOBURN** ON OR BEFORE **TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON APRIL 29, 2024**.
**Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.**
Date: February 27, 2024
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run dates: 03/29, 04/05, 04/12/2024

• **Mayor Wu** (Continued from Page 1)

Reny, founder of The Gillian Reny Stepping Strong Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital. "For the past ten years, our Stepping Strong Center mission has been to turn tragedy into hope for trauma survivors and make a significant impact on patients worldwide across the continuum of trauma care from prevention to treatment and rehabilitation. On this One Boston Day, we ask the public to join us in the Boston Strong spirit of kindness by donating much-needed blood that will help save lives and keep the legacy of the Boston Strong spirit that emerged in 2013 alive today."
For details on the Stepping Strong Center's One Boston Day blood drive in Kenmore Square at the "one mile to the finish line mark", visit the Stepping Strong website. The Stepping Strong Center will also be offering Stop the Bleed training to teach how to stop life-threatening bleeding in an emergency, injury prevention resource materials to take home, and an

opportunity to create cards for trauma patients.
"On April 15, 2013 and the days that followed, the City united to help those injured at the Boston Marathon. For me, during this time, while there were feelings of fear, loss and sadness, there was also an intense sense of community that is forever etched in my heart," said Heather Abbott, CEO & Founder of The Heather Abbott Foundation, which will be hosting their tenth annual Marathon Monday watch party on April 15. "I am reminded of that each year on One Boston Day when the City and people of Boston recognize the generosity and resilience displayed in 2013 and continue to pay it forward. It is my pleasure that the Heather Abbott Foundation is now one of the many organizations that benefit from this kindness."
As we mark eleven years since 2013, the City of Boston and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) will honor the day with a wreath laying in the Back Bay

the morning of Monday, April 15. More details will become available in the coming weeks.
"This year's One Boston Day is especially meaningful, as April 15 will be the same day as the 128th running of the Boston Marathon presented by Bank of America," said Jack Fleming, president and chief executive officer of the B.A.A. "The marathon's spirit will be felt throughout Greater Boston and will extend to all corners of the globe as runners from more than 120 nations participate in the event. On One Boston Day, we will unite, honor, and celebrate together."

More information about One Boston Day, including the 2024 Acts of Kindness Checklist is available on boston.gov/one-boston to provide inspiration and ideas on how individuals can get involved. Like in years past, people are welcome to share their reflections and acts of service plans for One Boston Day on social media with the hashtag #OneBostonDay.

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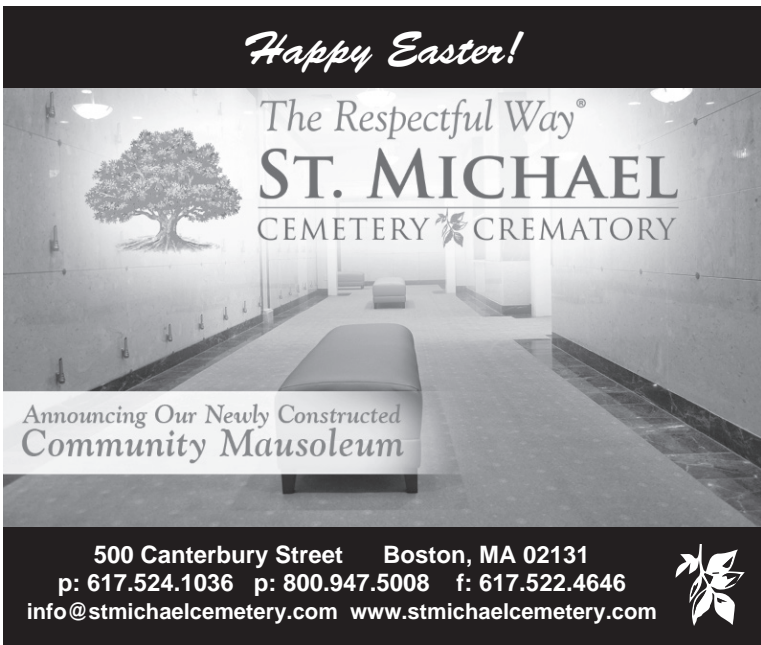
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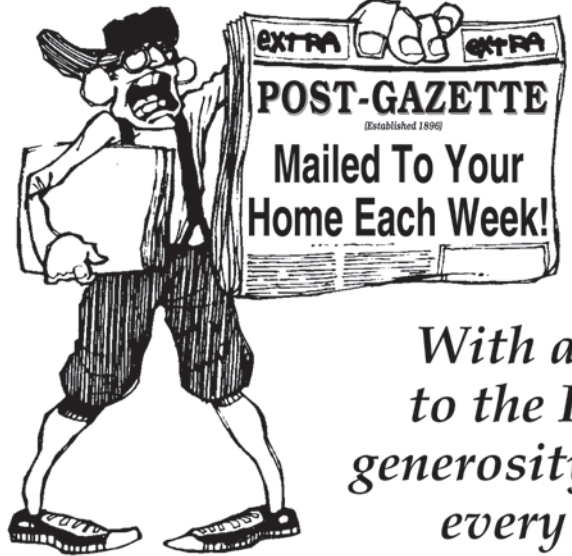
Happy Easter!

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Patricia Donnamaria, Publisher

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

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: # 1HGCMS6394A088709
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

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. MI24P1550EA

Estate of
JOHN JOSEPH DEMPSEY
Also Known As
JOHN J. DEMPSEY, JOHN DEMPSEY
Date of Death: December 08, 2023

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen M. Harnett of Waltham, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Karen M. Harnett of Waltham, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 18, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 21, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 03/29/2024

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 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

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 # JTDBL40E29J032829
2003 MERCEDES BENZ CLK CLASS
VIN # WDBLK70G23T140937
2012 FORD FUSION
VIN # 3FADPOL32CR241118
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, 04/05/2024

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. MI24C0203CA

In the Matter of
STEPHANIE GRACE WILLIAMS
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Stephanie Grace Williams of Newton Highlands, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Stephanie Grace Tatoiain**.

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: 03/29/2024



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



Gotta Sho’ More

Joe Sherman is a great sports writer for the NY Post and his latest this past Wednesday morning was super. In his column on the betting scandal surrounding Shohel Ohtani of the Dodgers, Sherman writes, “ to trust the words of the biggest star in baseball that the sport does not have its biggest scandal since Pete Rose, perhaps since the 1919 Black Sox, then I have to believe that he is Clueless Sho’.

Ohtani did a recent 10-minute speech which was hardly a press conference or interview when the media present does not get to ask questions. He said he felt betrayed and hurt . Sherman added until Ohtani takes questions from the press pool. Until Sho’ does that and more, many baseball sports writers seemed unconvinced about the narrative being played at the moment.

NFL Will Play on Christmas in ‘24 Despite It Being a Wednesday

Santa Claus and Roger Goodell will be teaming up again bringing NFL Football again on Christmas Day 2024. Kudos to the NFL, out of the three big professional teams that are active in the winter,

only the NHL goes fully dark on Christmas.

J.D. Martinez \$12 Million, 1 Year Deal Contract with Mets Finalized

J. D. Martinez and the NY Mets have finalized a \$12 million, one year contract. The 36-year-old D.H. gets a \$2.5 million signing bonus, \$2 million this year and \$7.5 million deferred money, payable in \$1.5 million installments each January 15 from 2024-38.

Martinez hit .271 with 33 homers and 103 RBI in just 113 games last season for the Dodgers. The Mets are hoping great things out of him for the upcoming season.

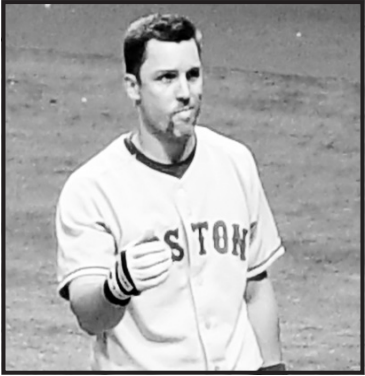
Happy Birthday Bruce Hurst



Former Red Sox pitcher Bruce Hurst just turned 66 years old the other day. The lefty was 88-73 with a 4.23 ERA for the

Sox from 1980-88. He was fifth in AL Cy Young voting in 1988 after winning 18 games and the signed with the Padres as a free agent. Red Sox Nation remembers Hurst in the 1986 World Series. He allowed two earned runs over 17 innings to win Game 1 and 5 and would have been MVP had the Sox not blown Game 6. He started on three days’ rest in Game 7 and lasted six innings allowing three earned runs. He left that game when the score was still 3-3. Bruce Hurst finished his career with 145 wins.

Happy Birthday to Bill Mueller



Happy birthday greetings to Bill Mueller who just turned 53 years old last week. He had his best season of his 11-year career with the Red Sox in 2003, winning the AL batting title with a .326 average and hitting 19 home runs. He is still remembered well in these here parts.

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), 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.

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 extras 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.

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.
(Numero 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

ROBERT EDGREN

Artist, Journalist, Athlete

Boxed with Jim Corbett

Robert Wadsworth Edgren excelled in many fields. He became best known for his boxing writing, but was good at just about everything he tried.

While attending the University of California in the late 19th Century he was recruited for the track and field team for throwing events. At 6'5" and weighing 225 pounds he went on to set the world record in the hammer throw in 1901. In 1906, he competed in the Olympic Games in Athens.

Edgren went on to enroll in the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art when that school became affiliated with the University of California. While still in school he got a job at the *San Francisco Examiner*, which was owned by William



Robert Edgren

Randolph Hearst. Hearst had taken a liking to Edgren and hired him even though he had no experience.

Upon graduating in 1896 he went to work for the paper full time. His coverage of the Jim

Fortunately, he survived to cover the fight.

I can't think of another time when a journalist sent to cover a world champion in training for a title fight became a sparring partner of the champ.

Bob Edgren not only was a great boxing scribe; he was also an outstanding artist who added illustrations to his columns. Beyond his talent as a writer and artist, he also had a reputation for his honesty. In the days of no-decision fights, gamblers would rely on the judgment of newspaper men when settling their bets. Often times reporters were paid off by unscrupulous bookies in order to reflect the outcome of a fight that would be most profitable to them. Edgren never lowered himself to that practice.



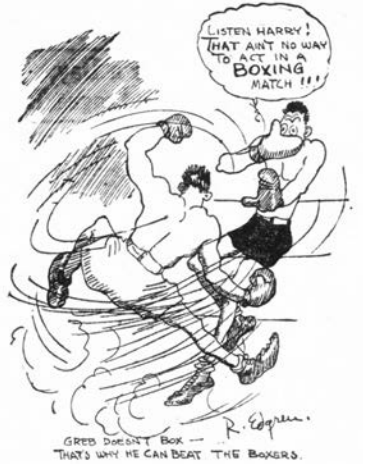
Comparing Dempsey and Joe Louis

His reporting could always be counted on as truthful.

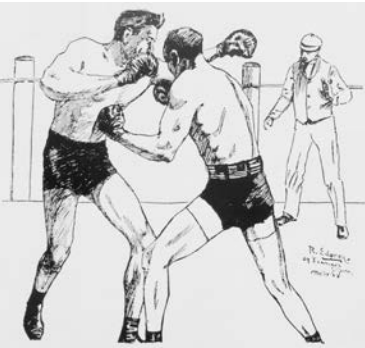
I have chosen some examples of Robert Edgren's artwork to share. He was a true Renaissance Man.



Jack Dempsey



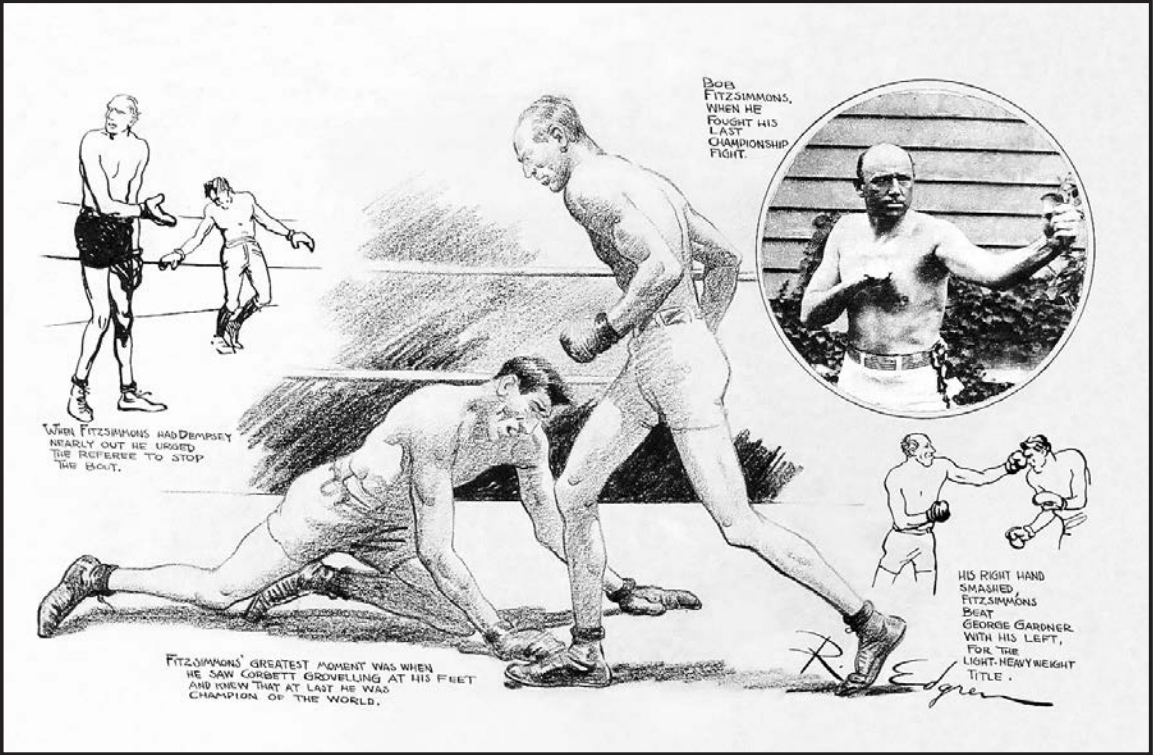
Edgren did not have high opinion of Harry Greb



Capturing the famous solar plexus punch delivered by Fitzsimmons to Corbett.

Corbett vs Bob Fitzsimmons heavyweight title match held at Carson City in 1897 gained him notoriety and a national readership. All this time he continued with his athletic endeavors.

While Edgren was spending time at Corbett's training camp reporting on the champ's progress, Gentleman Jim noticed his size and athletic prowess. He suggested the two spend some time in the ring sparring. For the next five weeks Edgren and Corbett sparred on a daily basis, though by Edgren's own admission he wasn't much of challenge to Gentleman Jim.



Edgren's coverage of the Fitzsimmons/Corbett Fight

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



There he was. Back where his days as an NHL coach had begun. It was as an assistant, back then, mind you. But it was still the big time with the planes, fine hotels and a world removed from those minor league bumpy bus rides.

Yes, Peter Laviolette could appreciate that more than most people. For he was a winner in the lottery of life, a person selected by circumstances whose genesis would eventually snowball into outsized proportions leading forward to a career that would span decades across the hockey world and the sport he loved.

And thus it was that Peter Laviolette, a native of Franklin and a graduate of Westfield State University, climbed behind the visitors bench at the TD Garden on a late March evening, prepared to coach his 1,500th game in the National Hockey League.

It had been so many years since he had been discovered by a scout who had either been given the wrong directions or misunderstood the information he had been given.

Coming down a ramp off interstate Route 91 in Western Massachusetts, long before the era of Google Maps would come into existence, the scout asked for directions to a certain college game where a player he wanted to see was in action.

Instead, he would wind up at another college game miles away from his intended destination, instead parking his car at a rink where Westfield State was playing and one Peter Philip Laviolette, Jr. was on the ice as his senior season was winding down.

The scout liked what he saw and that led to the offer of a pro contract. Soon, Laviolette, a defenseman, was continuing to play the game he loved all the while being paid to do it.

However, big-time success on the ice was not forthcoming. He had a 10-year minor league career, complete with a very brief 12-game "cup of coffee" with the New York Rangers during the 1988-1989 season.

When that brief stay with the Rangers came to an end, little did anyone realize that one day he would be back, directing the Blueshirts from behind their bench during his 1,500th game as an NHL coach.

Laviolette finished off his minor league career by playing four years with the Providence Bruins, a time that ended in the spring of 1997. Never to skate in a pro game again, it soon became evident that it was off the ice where Laviolette would find his calling, rather than gliding across the glistening surface.

It was a mentoring job on one of the lower rungs of the pro hockey ladder — head coach of the Wheeling, West Virginia Nailers of the East Coast Hockey League. But by the spring of that 1997-1998 season the Nailers had indeed nailed it: a 37-24-9 record and berth in the playoffs that carried them into the third round.

The next year Laviolette was back in Providence, as the P-B's head coach. The result: a 56-15-4 regular season record, the Calder Cup Championship and AHL Coach of the Year honors.

By the fall of 2000 Laviolette was an assistant with the Big B's on Causeway Street. But the unforeseen intervened. The team got off to a slow start and head coach Pat Burns was fired 10 games into the season. The speculation was that Laviolette might get the job but Mike Keenan was brought in to coach the team.

Discouraged, Laviolette finished out the year in Boston and found his first NHL coaching job as the head coach of the New York Islanders the following spring. In the two seasons he was there, the Isles made the playoffs but were eliminated in the first round. Former Bruin (and then Islanders GM) Mike Millbury, issued the pink slip in the spring of 2003 — just 36 months before Laviolette hoisted the 2006 Stanley Cup as the head coach of the Carolina Hurricanes.

Revenge against the Bruins came for Laviolette during the 2010 Stanley Cup Playoffs, as he took down the Bruins in the so-called "meltdown" series. Up 3-0 in games, the B's saw the Flyers come back to tie the series at 3-3 to force a decisive game seven. Then, up 3-0 in game seven, the Bruins saw the unthinkable happen as Philly came back to win 4-3 and capture the series. The Flyers eventually lost to Chicago in the Stanley Cup Final.

People tend to forget the "meltdown" series since the very next year, the Bruins went on to capture the Stanley Cup Championship. But for the entire 2010-2011 regular season, the B's had to live with the disastrous result of the "meltdown" series.

So, there must have been some additional satisfaction when Laviolette left the bench following the Rangers 5-2 victory over the Bruins on March 21st. Down in Gotham, it always feels nice when a team based in New York can beat one from the Hub. But there must have been somewhat of a special feel knowing that the 1,500 game milestone came against a franchise that nearly a quarter of a century ago chose to bypass him and select another from outside the organization. And what happened to Mike Keenan? He was gone at season's end.

In addition to winning it all with Carolina in 2006, and making it to the 2010 Stanley Cup Final with Philadelphia, Laviolette also guided Nashville to the 2017 SCF where the Predators lost to Pittsburgh.

Yes, it has been a long and winding road for Peter Laviolette since that scout showed up that day at a rink, other than the one he was supposed to visit, and saw a Division Three player competing in one of his last collegiate games.

There have been many positive turns (and a few pink slips) since that moment but more than 1,500 games later the saga continues. The Rangers will make the playoffs this season by earning a berth through their high finish in the Metropolitan Division.

Beyond that, as veteran coach Peter Laviolette can tell you, the possibilities are without limit.