

# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 131 - NO. 17

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, APRIL 24, 2026

\$ .35 A COPY

## Governor Maura Healey Enjoys Solid Approval Rating

by Patti Sartori



Republican Gubernatorial candidates may be gearing up for a fight but incumbent Democratic Governor Maura Healey's recent poll numbers show she has little to worry about from her challengers. Three quarters of Massachusetts voters give Healey excellent or good marks, 16% said Healey was doing a fair job and only 6% rated her poor, according to the latest Suffolk University/Boston Globe poll.

Even in the face of National criticism from President Trump, Healey has somehow managed to satisfy moderate and independent voters. Past polls have also shown the Governor easily leads the pack of wanna be governor challengers, including a University of New Hampshire poll conducted in February showing Healey with a substantial lead over all Republican challengers.

Massachusetts has been considered a liberal state for quite some time, but over the years has been known to elect moderate or slightly conservative leaders to the corner office, including Bill Weld, Paul Cellucci and the most recent, Charlie Baker. However this time around, it looks like Healey is a slam dunk to keep the corner office squarely in the Democrats corner.

## The Tradition of Paul Revere's Patriotic Ride Continues in Boston



(L to R) Commander of the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company Captain Steve Collela, Vicar of the Old North Church Matthew Cadwell, U.S. Army Colonel (Retired) Lee Fife and Senior Instructor of the East Boston High School JROTC, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, look on as City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu welcomes everyone to the celebration.



Paul Revere (Richard Reale, Jr.) prepares to set off on the 251st anniversary of his historic ride from Boston to Lexington and Concord warning colonial leaders that British Troops were coming.

The 251st Anniversary of Paul Revere's midnight ride continues each year in Boston's Historic North End neighborhood. Once the heartbeat of the American Revolution, this community continues the tradition of wishing the Patriot well as he heads to Lexington and Concord warning Colonial leaders that British Troops were advancing and nearing Boston to seize military supplies and arrest Patriot defenders, including John Hancock and Samuel Adams.

Thanks to the insight of Dr. Joseph Warren, Revere seized the doctor's advice and stealthily rowed from the North End to Charlestown while keeping an eye on the steeple of the Old North watching for the lighting of the lanterns signaling the British route, "One if by land, two if by sea."

After arriving on the Charlestown shore, he jumped on Brown Beauty, a horse lent to him by Patriot sympathizer, Deacon John Larkin's family, and set out to Lexington, alerting militias in Somerville,

Medford, and Arlington of the impending arrival of British troops. Revere successfully reached his destination but was later captured by a British

(Continued on Page 8)

## News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

### Don't Mention Immigrant Crime?

After an illegal Haitian immigrant murdered a convenience store employee with a hammer, the liberal media called "the real victims" as "Haitian migrants and other Third World border breakers," or so gasped *City Journal's* Heather MacDonald. The *New York Times* related a "sanitized account of the psychotic bludgeoning" which quoted "no victims' rights groups or families of innocents mauled and maimed by immigrants and their progeny, " instead casting its story around President "Trump's shocking sin against diversity politesse."

Nationally, the media insists that "crime and disorder are not the main problem afflicting the U.S., racism is." But there "is in fact, behavior worse than racism, including murder."

### Pot Use Linked to Miscarriage Risk

A growing number of research suggests an increasingly common habit in the U.S. may be quietly damaging men's sperm and doubling their partner's risk of miscarriage. Across the nation, 24 states and D.C. have legalized recreational use of marijuana, with 18 other states allowing it for medical use. Today, roughly 18 million Americans report using it daily.

However, a 2019 research study at Boston University analyzed data from more than 1,400 heterosexual couples trying to conceive across the U.S. and Canada. Researchers discovered that men who used pot even just once a week faced twice the chance of their partner's pregnancy ending in miscarriage compared to men who did not use marijuana.

### Psychedelic Rx OK

President Donald Trump recently signed an executive order to expedite research into psychedelic ibogaine, a drug championed by podcaster Joe Rogan, so it can be used to treat PTSD in veterans and traumatic

(Continued on Page 10)



Members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts lead the annual Patriots Day Parade from Boston City Hall Plaza to the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) on Hanover Street in the North End.

## Forget Parking, We Need Housing

by Patti Sartori

Members of the Boston City Council have introduced a measure eliminating parking requirements for newly constructed residential developments across the city. Council President Liz Breadon, Sharon Durkan, and Henry Santana, have put forth an amendment to the city's zoning code that would eliminate off-street parking requirements as part of residential development in Boston, with the intent of reducing development costs that are adding to the city's housing crisis by stalling production.

"We know that it is harder than ever to build. Housing production is at historic lows. Costs are rising and people are being priced out of the city. This amendment eliminates costly

parking mandates from our zoning code," stated Councilor Durkan at a weekly council meeting. She noted that the policy has worked in other cities across Massachusetts, including Cambridge and Somerville, and cities in other parts of the country as well, such as Austin, Seattle, Minneapolis, and San Francisco.

In 2021, Boston eliminated parking minimums for affordable housing projects that include a minimum of 60 percent income restricted units. Breadon said there have been previous attempts over the years to eliminate parking requirements in her district, Allston-Brighton, which resulted in "huge projects being approved with little or no parking," adding

"For Boston residents, this reform is a common sense, immediate step we can take to lower housing costs, support housing production, and build a more sustainable city. The real question is whether we actually have the political leadership to get this done."

Not all councilors expressed support for this proposal. Six councilors did not sign on to the zoning amendment, including Ed Flynn and Erin Murphy, who cited an increase in affordable housing and energy requirements on top of high interest rates and increased construction costs as reasons why Boston isn't building as much presently.

The matter will be referred to committee for further discussion.

# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello



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

## THE END OF A LEGEND



**Nessus Abducting Deianira by Bertel Thorvaldsen, 1814 CE. The centaur Nessus tries to abduct Deianira, Hercules' wife, only to be slain by Hercules' poison arrow.**

Recently it was stated that Hercules is claimed to be one of the most ancient and most famous of all mythological heroes, and his legendary accomplishments are said to have been the richest and most comprehensive of all myths. It was only fitting then, for the great storywriters of antiquity, to provide that the demise of such a hero be accomplished in a manner, which could only serve to glorify his memory.

We remember from a previous column that during a period of temporary madness, Hercules killed his wife and children. After visiting the Oracle at Delphi (Greece), he was told to go to the City of Tiryns and perform whatever ten labors the king of that community would demand of him. Also, after completing the required labors, he would be purified of the murders and achieve immortality. As long as he remained on earth, however, he had to endure mortal hardship and pain.

After completing his celebrated labors, Hercules took a new bride from a neighboring country and, when he was returning home with her, they came to a river where a Centaur named Nessus conducted a ferrying business. Hercules did not need a ferry to cross the river but hired the Centaur's service for his new bride. As he was striding breast-deep through the water, he heard his wife cry for help. Noting that the Centaur was about to rape his beautiful passenger, Hercules shot him with one of his famous poisoned arrows. As the balance

of the story unfolds, we will find that this was the act, which eventually caused the death of the legendary Greek hero.

The dying Centaur pretended to be remorseful and told the young bride that if she would spread his spilled blood on the tunic of Hercules, it would act as a love charm. Knowing of her husband's extramarital activities, but unaware that the Centaur's blood contained the deadly venom of the Hydra, the bride saved some of it for future use.

The last and most tragic phase of his mortal career occurred as Hercules was preparing a sacrifice to his father, Zeus. Hercules asked his wife for a fresh tunic. Thinking that she was administering a love charm, she smeared the contaminated blood of the slain Centaur on the new tunic. The unsuspecting Hercules donned the garment, only to find that the Hydra's venom was quickly eroding his skin. The wife, in horror, killed herself. The god Apollo ordered that a pyre be prepared and the hero climbed upon it. When lighted, the flames of the funeral pyre consumed what was mortal in the demigod, as a cloud appeared and lightning struck. When the cloud had passed, there remained no trace of Hercules. He had achieved the immortality that he had earned through his labors. We are told that he ascended Mount Olympus and is living forever among his fellow gods.

**NEXT WEEK:**  
*Religious Grottoes*

# Boston Mayor Michelle Wu Makes National News Once Again

by Patti Sartori

Mayor Michelle Wu once again made the national news, much to her chagrin. Thanks to a flyer distributed by OUTnewcomers, advertising wellness support and grants between \$250-\$500 for LGBTQ migrants in Boston, including yoga, arts and other recreational services, Wu's office was forced to deny reports that city funds would be used to support these "Belonging Matters" programs. "No funds have been distributed or directed for these purposes. This organization received a \$7,500 grant through a city program to support mental health services. Those funds were not designated for and may not be used for the voucher program referenced," a city of Boston spokesperson told Fox News Digital.

OUTnewcomers is listed as one of 45 recipients of a larger \$200,000 initiative to support LGBTQ communities in Boston. It's been reported that this amount was approved by the Wu administration last year as part of the Mayor's Office of LGBTQ+ Advancement (MOLA). According to a Belonging Matters registration form, applicants may apply for yoga, meditation, creative arts, peer support and other services. If approved, the program promised applicants \$250-\$500 in wellness allowances.



The program drew major backlash on social media, with most feeling it was a waste of taxpayers' money. "Handing out perks and benefits like this all the while telling the tax payers of Boston you need to pay more because we have a huge shortfall in our budget," one person posted on X, referring to recent property tax increases championed by Mayor Wu and approved by the Boston City Council.

As of earlier this week, OUTnewcomers is returning all grant funding to the City of Boston after receiving strong pushback and security threats for the planned wellness vouchers. "This is an incredibly difficult decision however the severity of the threats we have received have left us no choice," Sal Khan, founder of OUTnewcomers said in a statement.

# Comedy Night

## AT THE TALL SHIP, EAST BOSTON

### Help Support the Italian American Heritage Parade

For those of you old enough to remember the Columbus Day Parade in East Boston, you will easily and fondly recall the anticipation and tradition of gathering with family and friends to watch as it made its way from one end of the community to the other, full of elected officials, politicians running for office, marching bands from all over New England, floats, civic and athletic organizations and so much more. It was an all-day affair and one that brought everyone together as proud Italian-Americans and East Bostonians, even those who had moved out would return for the festivities.

Sadly, the name may have been changed, but the anticipation and tradition is much the same. East Boston will once again host a parade, on Sunday, October 11, 2026. The festivities will now be referred to as "The Italian Heritage Parade."

The committee and volunteers have been working diligently and discreetly behind the scenes to ensure the parade is a success. Last week the first official fundraiser, a pasta dinner, was held at Sacred Heart Church Hall on Paris Street in East Boston. It was a fantastic event and evening. Now the group is gearing up for fundraiser number 2, Thursday, May 28, 7:00 p.m. at the Tall Ship on Pier Drive, along the East Boston waterfront.

For those of you who have visited this venue, you know what a spectacular location it is, and for those of you who have never been, prepared to be wowed! This is the first opportunity to host this parade since 2016. We need to join together to ensure it is a success, and keep the Italian-American tradition alive. Don't miss the opportunity to gather with family and friends for a night of laughter, bonding, and memories.

See you all on May 28th!!!

Tickets may be purchased by using the QR code below or via <https://ComedyOnTheHarbor.eventbrite.com>

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Website: [www.BostonPostGazette.com](http://www.BostonPostGazette.com)

Subscriptions in the United States \$35.00 yearly

Published weekly by  
 Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., P.O. Box 130135,  
 Boston, MA 02113  
 USPS 1538 – Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the  
 POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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Vol. 131 - No. 17

Friday, April 24, 2026

**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.

## Franklin "Frank" A. ZARBA

Franklin "Frank" A. Zarba, age 91, a resident of Tyngsborough, passed away at his home on Friday, April 17, 2026, with his loving wife Jeanne (Cilley) Zarba by his side.



Born in East Boston, on September 25, 1934, he was a son of the late Joseph and Elvira (Battaglia) Zarba. He was a graduate of the English High School in Boston, the Massachusetts State Teachers College and the University of Maryland, where he received his master's degree in psychology.

Frank was a proud member of the Army National Guard having served three consecutive terms from 1952 until his honorable discharge in 1961. During his time he earned both marksman and sharpshooter qualifications.

Frank taught school in the Revere school system for 31 years. He performed in nightclubs and restaurants in the Boston area for years up until 2024. His band backed up some famous entertainers like Al Martino, Jerry Vale and Franco Sporto to name a few at the feasts in the North End.

In 2013, Frank participated in a singing competition in Naples Italy. He won first place singing O'Sole Mio beating out 200 contestants. A night to remember!!

Frank was a longtime active member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts; singing the American national anthem and patriotic songs as well as traveling to over 25 countries around the world to sing each countries national anthem in their own language.

He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and Boston Musicians Association.

Frank and Jeanne loved to travel, especially Italy. They went about 50 times over the almost 25 years they were married. They loved to entertain in their home on the river.

Surviving him in addition to his wife Jeanne is a daughter Nyssa Gatcombe and her partner Nicholas McCrea; a brother and a sister-in-law, Joseph and Theresa Zarba; a sister and brother-in-law, Rina Zarba and her husband Thomas Dexter; his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Nancy McDougall, Dennis and Ruth Cilley, Sharon and Wade Strickland and Raymond and Elizabeth Cilley; several nieces and nephews and many dear friends. He was also the brother of the late Christopher Zarba, uncle of the late Christopher Zarba Jr., victim of the 9/11 attacks on the towers in NYC and brother-in-law of the late Martha Cilley Elwood.

Relatives and friends were received at the Tyngsborough Funeral Home, Tyngsborough on Tuesday, April 21. His Funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday morning at St. Mary Magdalen Church, Tyngsborough. Graveside services were held on Thursday in the Riverside Cemetery, Milford, NH.

Donations can be made in Frank's memory to the Alzheimer's Assoc., at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

## 9-1-1 DISPATCHERS Honored by City Council



City Councilors Edward Flynn (L) and Erin Murphy (R) presented the official resolution to 9-1-1 dispatchers present

Recently, the Boston City Council passed a resolution recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Every day, Boston's 9-1-1 dispatchers and call takers are the calm voice on the other end of

the line during someone's worst moment. Their professionalism, compassion, and ability to act quickly under pressure save lives and keep our city running safely.

As Councilor Erin Murphy stated, "These men and women

are true unsung heroes, supporting our police, fire, and EMS teams while handling an incredible volume of calls with care and precision. We are grateful for their dedication and service to the people of Boston."

## BOSTON STRONG Marathon Daffodils



Friends of Christopher Columbus Park Volunteers gather after planting Marathon Daffodils along the Trellis at the waterfront park on Commercial Street.



Marathon Daffodils have been planted along the Trellis at Christopher Columbus Park on Commercial Street in the North End, "To inspire hope, fortify rebirth, and spotlight the resilience of all Bostonians and Americans." Since 2014, the 26.2 mile route of the Boston Marathon has been lined with daffodils, all symbols of hope, resilience, and strength, honoring the victims and survivors of the 2013 bombing. The spirit of the **Marathon Daffodils** has spread far beyond the runners route, reaching cities and towns along the course and throughout Boston.

On Friday, April 17, 2026, The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) once again lined the park trellis with more than 200 potted daffodils. They remained through the conclusion of the marathon on Monday, April 20th, when FOCCP volunteers took some of the potted plants to a local nursing home and to others who were in need of a smile. Passersby are encouraged to take one as well.

**Boston Strong Marathon Daffodils stand as a symbol of strength and resilience of Bostonians.**

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

## L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

### Merry May Day and Its Magic

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

Looking out my window, I can see that the trees no longer hide their blossoms. Just moments ago, it seems, branches stood bare, with only the tiniest speck of a green bud poking through. Now the vibrant tone of fresh, young leaves fulfills the spring promise made by these delicate early sprouts. Whenever I notice the ever-larger number of trees bursting with frothy green foliage or gossamer purple flowers, I float with excitement over the sheer beauty of nature. From the clouds that scuttle across a sky as perfectly blue as a robin's egg, to the jewel-toned berries that begin to shine from shop shelves and farmer's markets, the vivacity of spring has encircled the world. With all of this regrowth blooming around us, it is little wonder that the spring calendar is laden with celebrations that call for outdoor festivities, prompting people to enjoy nature. One such seasonal feast, commemorated by our Italian ancestors since ancient times, honors the rejuvenation and fertility of nature that occurs as spring yields to summer. This folkloric festival is known as May Day, and it renders homage to the trees, flowers, and the mystical transformations of nature that characterize spring. More recently, May Day developed into a labor holiday, one which pays tribute to the contributions and sacrifices of workers worldwide. In all of its manifestations, May Day focuses our attention to the magic of nature and the rhythmic bloom of a reawakening world.

May Day, as evident by the name, occurs on May 1<sup>st</sup> every year. The ancient Celts celebrated May Day as a holiday called Beltane. Beltane marked the beginning of summer, the time when livestock were moved to wider pastures for grazing. In the majority of European countries, May Day festivities begin the prior evening on April 30<sup>th</sup>. This is Walpurgis Night, a feast in honor of a mysterious Saint Walpurga. Since May Day serves as a transitional seasonal milestone, poised on the cusp between spring and summer, people in older times believed that witches, fairies, and sundry other supernatural beings rambled through the Earth during this liminal evening. Contemporary Scandinavians and Northern Europeans still dress like witches on Walpurgis Night, welcoming May Day with bonfires and picnics. Italians also link the month of May with the paranormal. The ancient



(Image by prostooleh on Freepik)

Romans dedicated May to the worship of the dead, perhaps prompting the old superstition that it is unlucky to marry in May. Europeans now celebrate the woodland sprites thought to be especially active in May, and indeed, May Day festivities revel in the wonder of the springtime forest. People adorn their homes with greenery and, in a remnant of an old fertility ritual to help crops grow, dance around maypoles festooned with garlands and ribbons. Many Italian cities and towns celebrate May Day, or *Calendimaggio*, with quaint festivities. The medieval city of Assisi hosts a Renaissance fair where costumed participants enjoy parades, concerts and balls. The citizens of Nogaredo, a city in the northern region of Trentino, dress up as witches for their *Calendimaggio* feasts and decorate the town with spooky lights and bonfires. Magic is certainly appropriate for May Day — after all, what greater magic is there than the rebirth of nature in the spring?

In addition to the folkloric nature-based celebrations, May Day also functions as Labor Day in many countries worldwide. In Italy, for example, May 1<sup>st</sup> is a public holiday known as *la Festa del Lavoro*, part of International Workers' Day. Italians take this day to commemorate the contribution of workers while also enjoying some rest and leisure. Similar to the ancient nature rites of May Day, families may flock to the beach or mountains, gather for picnics, or visit famous historical sites. Others attend parades that focus on the achievements of the Italian labor movement or partake in demonstrations that call for an end to the workplace injustices, which still persist to this day. As part of the Italian-American community, we too can celebrate *la Festa del Lavoro* by ruminating on the remarkable strides that Italians have made in the United States. At the beginning of the twentieth century, most Italian immigrants arrived in America with little money or formal

education, but nevertheless worked hard, often in strenuous and thankless jobs, to provide for their families. Italians became particularly active in the labor struggle that rocked the nation at the turn of the century, quickly forming unions, participating in strikes, and raising the demand for shorter workdays, injured workers' compensation, and an end to child labor. We should thank the Italians and other immigrant groups for the safety regulations and labor law advancements made in the workplace since those long-ago days. However, *la Festa del Lavoro* also urges us to continue our ancestors' campaigns. Many labor injustices still exist both in the United States and the world at large, including slavery, children forced into dangerous jobs, and unsafe conditions in factories and mines. Just as flowers and leaves bloom with renewed vigor during the spring, so too should our compassion bloom, and we should strive to make the world a better place for our fellow humans.

May Day is all about rejoicing in the beauty of nature, which manifests itself in a plethora of forms. The rejuvenation of Mother Earth reverberates in the rites of Maypoles, flower wreaths, and the decoration of homes with greenery and blossoms, a practice the ancient Europeans called "bringing in the May." The mysterious nature of our world, that shivering sense of excitement that accompanies the unknown, echoes through May Day's emphasis on witches, fairies and woodland pixies. Finally, our human nature, which should always carry kindness and compassion, shines in the way we stand in solidarity with the dignity of others during International Workers' Day. Throughout May Day and the month thereafter, let us aim to incorporate all these aspects of nature into our own souls. Let us make our inner being rise from the depths of winter like spring leaves bursting into the sunlight. Let us open our eyes in wonder as we contemplate the magic present in even the most mundane facets of our everyday lives. Let us dedicate ourselves to the Earth, which we call our home, and to improving the lives of our brothers and sisters who share our planet. By opening ourselves to the magic of May Day, we will foster an eternal spring in our very souls.

*Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a high school history teacher. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at [adicenso89@gmail.com](mailto:adicenso89@gmail.com).*

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# THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



### Does This Look Like Gouging Because it Does to Me

As I read a recent *New York Post* story on train tickets to the World Cup (NJ World Cup ticket up to \$150), I wasn't surprised to see that a round trip train ride to the FIFA World Cup in New Jersey could be \$150, up \$50 since last week.

The latest price tag for NJ Transit from Penn Station in Manhattan to MetLife Stadium is a whopping 1,000 percent increase from the normal fare of \$12.90 for the 18-mile ride. The games are scheduled between June and July. As the news story pointed out, last summer the FIFA Club World Cup final was held at MetLife train tickets were the usual \$12.90.

I am not surprised that soccer fans are upset over what appears to be a bit of price gouging. However, New Yorkers aren't the only people getting screwed. Here in the Boston

area, MBTA officials have also announced that round trip tickets from Boston to Gillette Stadium will be costing \$80 and the T is telling folks, this higher than usual ticket price means "a predictable and more affordable way to travel to and from the matches." However, I ask, affordable to whom? Transit officials up here in Boston were jumping for joy announcing that 17,000 soccer fans have already gone online in one day to purchase these inflated-priced train tickets.

I am feeling like a frog slowly boiling and I blame all of our elected officials everywhere who seem to think we are nothing more than cash cows. I blame all of us too for going along with them. Looks like PT Barnum is still one hundred percent correct. Any thoughts or reactions out there? Let me know.

## A Neighborhood Favorite East Boston Open Studios Returns

East Boston Artists Group (EBAG) proudly presents **East Boston Open Studios** in celebration of its 26<sup>th</sup> year on **Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.** at three neighborhood locations: the Atlantic Works Artist Studio building at 80 Border Street, The Gallery at Boston East at 126 Border Street and ZUMIX at 260 Sumner Street.

Discover art in the neighborhood for one day only. East Boston Open Studios showcases the creativity of more than 25 local artists. Original artwork will be available in all price ranges, including painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, jewelry and more. You are invited to tour the artist studios and community exhibit spaces, meet the artists and learn about their art. The Atlantic Works Gallery exhibit "AWG & Friends," will be also open at the Atlantic Works building at 80 Border Street.

Participating Open Studios artists include Fifi Abu, Matt Baynes, Ines Benabida, Colette Bresilla, Jeff Briggs, Brian Burke, Maryellen Cahill, Elsa Campbell, Chris Lanhui Chou, Sandrine Colson, Nick Costopoulos, Nick Di Stefano, Valeria Franco, Kristen Freitas, Javier Navarro Garcia, Jesse Kahn, Michelle Kang, June Krinsky-Rudder, Pat McSweeney, Maureen O'Connor, Jonathan Peña Tabares, Sara Rahe, David Riley, Joan Ryan, Jose Santana Firpo, Red Schomburg and Renato Vigenago.

All three locations are a quick 5-minute walk from the Maverick T Station on the Blue Line. If driving, there is free parking at 80 Border Street or on the street.

For more information, an event map and locations, please visit: [www.eastbostonartistsgroup.org](http://www.eastbostonartistsgroup.org), IG: @eastbostonartistsgroup FB: @eastbosotnartistsgroup

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# East Boston Italian Heritage Parade Pasta Dinner Fundraiser was a Sell Out

Thank you to all who bought tickets, made a donation, or showed up to the East Boston Italian Heritage Parade's First Official Fundraiser, held at Sacred Heart Church Hall on Paris Street. The event was huge success thanks to all your support and was just the first of many to come over the next 4-5 months.

Much appreciation to "DJ" Jimbo LaGrassa for donating his time, the music was great as usual. To Avellino's in Medford for catering the delicious food and to the ROTC students from East Boston High School, for volunteering with the clean-up. It was the quickest clean up in history.

A huge shout out to Steve D'Amato, aka "The Wicked Snackah" and the Boston Guido for attending the event and especially for promoting the parade. Your support has and will continue to be instrumental in ensuring the parade's success.

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the evening a success. We truly appreciate you all!



(L to R) East Boston Italian Heritage Parade Chairman Joe Ruggiero, Louise Donner, Robbin Manzo, Patti Sartori and JoJo Ruggiero are all smiles at the pasta dinner fundraiser held at Sacred Heart Church in East Boston.



Nina Gaeta Coletta hugs long-time friend Fran Riley at the 2026 East Boston Italian Heritage Parade pasta dinner.



(L to R) Ella Pizzi, State Senator Lydia Edwards, Fran Carbone, Louise Montanino and friend support the first East Boston Italian Heritage Parade pasta dinner fundraiser.



East Boston High School ROTC students served as volunteer assistants during the April 17, 2026 Italian Heritage Parade fundraiser.



(L to R) Katie Ruggiero, Patti Braid, Joe Ruggiero, Ann Guange, Nick Moulaison, Rosalie Petraglia, Gina Guange, Al Mangini and volunteers serve the sold-out crowd during the recent East Boston Italian Heritage Parade pasta dinner fundraiser.



Current and long-time East Bostonians gather to celebrate the revitalization of the 2026 Italian Heritage Parade, at last week's pasta dinner fundraiser in Sacred Heart Church Hall, Paris Street, East Boston.



Multi-generations of East Boston families and friends proudly support the upcoming October 11, 2026 Italian Heritage Parade during its first fundraiser, a pasta dinner, held on Friday, April 17.

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## Happy 90th Birthday Dolly Gambale



Dolly Gambale celebrates her 90th Birthday Celebration with the ladies of Donne 2000.

Wishing Dolly Gambale a Very Happy, Healthy and Blessed 90th Birthday. There is never a moment when you Do Not Have a Smile Upon your Beautiful Face. You are Appreciated and Loved by the entire North End community, and all who are fortunate enough to know you. We hope you enjoyed your Surprise Birthday Celebrations!



Father Michael Della Penna Pastor of St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street in the North End of Boston offers a blessing and best wishes to Dolly Gambale on her 90th Birthday.

## Eliot School Holds 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mini Marathon

*It Starts with a Single Step*



**Eliot School Principal Traci Griffiths with members of Boston Police Area A-1 Community Service Office, representatives of elected official offices, teachers and "mini marathoner" students from the Eliot School in the North End, gather at the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) Finish Line following their recent marathon.**

The Boston Public Eliot School in the North End of Boston hosted their 4th annual mini-marathon, created as a study, "Running Together Unit," to honor the resilience of Boston and its marathon. For years the Eliot School spent winters on the ice, in the adjacent Steriti Rink and walking the historic neighborhood, teaching students that the city is part of their classroom and that learning new experiences requires grit.

Four years ago, a Mini Marathon was born, not just as a race, but as a symbol of hope. Inspired by the Boston Marathon and the perseverance of the city and its residents, students are taught that the run is only the final chapter, and that along the way students are encouraged to become

citizens of their environment, exploring accessibility and inclusion, mathematicians tracking steps, artists representing motion, and historians mapping and refining the route, all while learning that independence is earned.

"We do this with the kids so they will find joy in movement as well as courage," said Vitianna D'Amico, North End resident and teacher at the Eliot School. The Mini Marathon is more than just a race to the Eliot School students, it's a community effort where every student has a place. From adaptive athletes who expand our understanding of what's possible, to first grade leaders who guide, support, and celebrate each runner, this is what inclusion, and determination look like in action!

## Spring Lawn Renewal

*by Melinda Myers*

Spring is a time of renewal in our landscapes, but a weather-worn lawn may need your help to regain its health and beauty. Overseeding thin and sparse lawns can help jump start your way to an attractive lawn that's better able to outcompete the weeds.

Keep in mind water is critical to get newly seeded and overseeded lawns to establish and survive. So be prepared to help nature along with your lawn's recovery.

Have the soil tested as you get started. Your University Extension service may have a soil testing lab or can recommend a reliable one. The test report will tell you how much fertilizer is needed, if any. This can also help you determine if fertilization or nutrient deficiencies are the cause of your lawn's decline.

Mow the lawn shorter than normal, 1½ to 2", and remove the clippings and any other debris by sweeping or raking. This helps expose the soil,



**The key to a healthy lawn starts by selecting the right grass seed followed by proper seed sowing, watering and maintenance.**

*(Photo by  
www.Outsidepride.com)*

allowing the seeds to reach the soil for better seed-to-soil contact needed for sprouting.

Remove thatch, the layer of dead grass at the soil surface. This also increases the seed-to-soil contact when overseeding the lawn. A vertical mower, power rake or other type of dethatching equipment is usually needed to manage this task.

Core aeration is another way to increase success when overseeding a lawn, especially on compacted soil. Core aeration removes plugs of soil, creating holes in the lawn to allow water and fertilizer to reach the soil and plant roots. These holes also provide an excellent environment for seeds to sprout and grow. Make three to four passes to ensure enough holes for adequate seed-to-soil contact. The process is easier and most effective when the soil is slightly moist.

Select a grass seed mix suited to your growing conditions. Kentucky bluegrass is the popular lawn grass for this part of the country. It is cold tolerant, thrives in cool weather, goes dormant during extended drought but greens up once rainfall returns.

Consider using one of the coated grass seeds like Outsidepride's Kentucky bluegrass with OptiGrowth (outsidepride.com) to increase your success. Its natural coating provides uniform size for easier spreading; the red color allows you to see where it's been applied and the added weight helps the seed reach the soil surface. This natural water absorbing coating makes it more forgiving if you miss a watering.

Use a spreader to sow the seeds and gently water after planting and often enough to keep the soil and seed slightly moist. You will likely need to water at least once — and possibly several times — a day as temperatures rise.

Continue to mow the lawn slightly shorter than normal,

(Continued on Page 9)

## Saint Agnes of Assisi

*by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari*



Agnes (born Caterina Offreducia) and her sisters, Clare and Beatrice, were daughters of a nobleman, Count Favorino Scifi. Agnes's childhood was spent between her father's home in the city of Assisi as well as his castle of Sasso Rosso on Mount Subasio with her sisters and their mother, Blessed Ortolana.

On March 18, 1212, Agnes's elder sister Clare, inspired by the example of Francis of Assisi, left their father's home in secret to become a follower of Francis. Sixteen days later, moved by her desire to live like Christ, Agnes ran off to the Church of St. Angelo di Panzo, where Francis had brought her sister, resolved to share Clare's life of poverty and penance.

Angry at the loss of two of his daughters to the convent, their father sent his brother Monaldo and eleven other relatives and armed followers to the monastery to attempt to bring Agnes home and be wed. Agnes refused their demands, and the men began to ambush her, attempting to drag her from the church while striking

and kicking her repeatedly. Her body suddenly became so heavy that the men could not lift her from the ground. This infuriated her uncle, Monaldo, who drew his sword to strike his niece. At that moment, his arm allegedly dropped to his side, withered and useless. Agnes's relatives, realizing that something divine protected her, allowed her to remain with Clare and live a life of celibacy and devotion to Christ. Her name was changed to Agnes when she became a nun.

Francis later established a cloister for Clare and Agnes at the rural chapel of San Damiano, they were soon joined by other noblewomen of the city, and the Order of Poor Ladies, later known as the Poor Clares, began, with Clare as its abbess.

In 1221, a group of Benedictine nuns in Monticelli, near Florence, asked to become Poor Ladies. Despite being young, Agnes was chosen to lead the new community. Although life in the Florentine convent was harmonious and without faction, Agnes missed her sister greatly.

Agnes remained an Abbess for the rest of her life, she established multiple branches of the order in the cities of Verona, Padua, Venice, and Mantua.

In 1253, Agnes returned to Assisi to nurse her sister Clare during the latter's illness. Clare passed away in August of 1253. Shortly thereafter, Agnes passed away on November 16.

The feast day of Saint Agnes of Assisi is November 16.

### 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. MI26P1738EA

Estate of  
MICHAEL PRESTON CONNARTON  
Date of Death: December 03, 2022  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Elizabeth Connarton Gilreath of Lowell, 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: Elizabeth Connarton Gilreath of Lowell, 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 05/07/2026.

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: April 09, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 04/24/2026

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### 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. MI26C0189CA

In the matter of:  
ANGELLA ELIZABETH MUYNAJA  
CITATION ON  
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Angella Elizabeth Muynaja of Billerica, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Angel M. Elizabeth.

#### 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 May 20, 2026. 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: April 22, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 04/24/2026

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# Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

## Eleanor of Aquitaine

*Eleanor was one of the most powerful women of the Middle Ages. Duchess of Aquitaine in her own right, she would go onto become queen-consort of France and later queen of England.*



Eleanor of Aquitaine — Eleanor was the elder daughter of William, tenth Duke of Aquitaine. (Aquitaine is a historical region in southwestern France, bordering the Atlantic Ocean) The exact date of Eleanor's birth is unknown, but she was raised in one of Europe's most cultured courts and given an excellent education. She later became an important patron of poets and writers.

The death of Eleanor's only brother, and of her father in 1137, left her with a vast inheritance. At just 15 years old, she had suddenly become the most eligible heiress in Europe. That same year she married Louis, heir to Louis VI of France, who shortly afterwards became king as Louis VII. The couple had two daughters.

In 1147, Eleanor accompanied her husband on the Second Crusade, travelling to Constantinople and Jerusalem. The Crusade was a failure and relations between Eleanor and her husband, already poor, deteriorated even further. Eleanor's failure to produce a son contributed considerably to this tension, and in 1152 they were divorced.

Two months later Eleanor married Henry of Anjou, who in 1154 became king of England. The couple had five sons and three daughters. For nearly two decades, Eleanor played an active part in the running of Henry's empire, traveling backwards and forwards between their territories in England and France.

In 1173, two of Eleanor's sons involved her in a plot against their father, and as a result Henry imprisoned her. After Henry's death in 1189, his eldest son, Richard I, ordered his mother's release. Despite her age (now in her mid-sixties, which was considered elderly in the 12th century) Eleanor became very closely involved in government. In 1190, she acted as regent in England when Richard went to join the Third Crusade. She even played her part in negotiations for his release after he was taken prisoner in Germany on his way home.

In 1199, Richard died and was succeeded by Eleanor and Henry's youngest son, John. Eleanor's role in English affairs now ceased, although she continued to be closely involved in those of Aquitaine, where she spent her final years.

She died on March 31, 1204 and was buried in the abbey church at Fontevraud next to Henry II.

# A Joyful Pasquetta Celebration at the ABCD North End Neighborhood Service Center



**ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center Director Julia Power serving lunch and spending time with Victor Pelatere (Office of Senator Lydia Edwards) and seniors**



The ABCD North End Neighborhood Service Center (NE NSC) burst into celebration this spring as it hosted a lively and heartfelt Pasquetta gathering, bringing a cherished Italian tradition to life in the heart of the North End.

Known as Italy's "Little Easter," Pasquetta is traditionally a day for laughter, relaxation, and sharing food with family and friends. Seniors from across the North End neighborhood gathered for a festive meal of roast chicken, vegetables, mashed potatoes, and stuffing, transforming the space into a warm space to connect and enjoy a hot lunch and good company. Though there were no countryside picnics or rolling hills, the essence of a true Italian scampagnata was unmistakable.

The celebration was made even more special by visits from representatives of Michelle Wu, Lydia Edwards, and Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta Zapata, who stopped by to share warm wishes and connect with community members. Adding a touch of happiness, students from St. John School delivered hand-colored Easter cards,



**Maria Perez (Office of Mayor Michelle Wu) and Sam Peracchi (Office of City Councilor Gabriela Coletta-Zapata) visiting with lunch guests**

delighting attendees and brightening the day.

For a few joyful hours, the North End felt like a small corner of Italy, where traditions are

shared, laughter is abundant, and everyone is welcome and considered family. At the NE NSC, Pasquetta is more than a celebration. Buona Pasquetta a tutti!



# When Pasta is Cooked Perfectly According to the Experts

How often do we obsess and fuss over sauce or gravy to be gently ladled or tossed with a preferred pasta or macaroni? Sacred recipes are handed down, perfected and dissected over generations. But what good is it if we fail to treat the pasta with respect. So often it's nothing more than a second thought, or simply a food item to absorb our sauce of choice, Sunday gravy, marinara, basil pesto, creamy alfredo to name a few.

What is easy to forget is that if not cooked to perfection, no amount of sauce can hide the disappointing texture of that pasta. No one wants mushy macaroni or crunchy cavatappi. So how do you tell when pasta is perfectly cooked? Everyone has an opinion.

Why not ask the experts advice on how to know when pasta is done to perfection, which is exactly what author Nancy Mock, of *Simply Recipes* did. According to Barilla, pasta should be cooked al dente, which is Italian for "to the tooth," and tested by taking a



bite of the noodle. But what does al dente mean to each cook?

Barilla explains in a You Tube video that pasta cooked al dente is firm when you bite into it, tender but having texture. When tossed with other ingredients, the pasta should hold its shape, even under the weight of a meaty bolognese sauce. Barilla also says in the video that if the pasta has a crunchy or unpleasantly chewy taste, you know something is off.

Overcooked pasta is unpleasant as well. Barilla explains that pasta cooked too long will be limp and shapeless on the plate,

meaning it has no chance of supporting sauce, meatballs or other ingredients.

Following directions on the box or package is always a good start, but it's best to take test bites of your pasta every few minutes. As soon as it has that al dente texture, drain the pasta in a colander or "scolapasta."

Properly cooked pasta enhances texture and supports sauces. Al dente pasta is firm yet tender, holding its shape under hearty toppings, while overcooked pasta will begin to fall apart when stirred.

Remember, pasta will finish cooking for a few minutes in a sauce. Don't be afraid to drain it a minute or two early. It may seem undercooked, but it will finish cooking in the simmering sauce and absorb some of the flavors.

Of course, you could blow these suggestions totally out of the pasta water and decide to make your own homemade pasta which will totally alter the cooking guidelines. Whichever your preference, *Enjoy*.

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### ONEREPUBLIC – DREAMING OUT LOUD

(Limited Edition Color 2LP Vinyl) Interscope/UMe



Nineteen years ago, *Dreaming Out Loud* first arrived on November 20, 2007, and it effectively introduced the world to OneRepublic. Frontman and songwriter Ryan Tedder took the reins and co-produced this body of work alongside Greg Wells and executive producer Timbaland. The record organically took flight fueled by the breakthrough single “Apologize” (with Timbaland). This smash impressively peaked at #2 on the *Billboard* Hot 100, and received a GRAMMY nomination for “Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal.” Plus, hitting #1 in various countries. Indicative of the song’s timeless appeal, it has generated almost 1 billion Spotify streams and 862 million YouTube views on its official music video. Tedder opened up about the creative process behind “Apologize” in a feature with *Billboard*. Among various highlights, *Dreaming Out Loud* boasts favorites such as “Come Home,” “Say (All I Need),” and “Stop and Stare.” Among singles, the band’s iconic hit “Counting Stars” is now certified 18x Platinum, while fan favorites including “Secrets” (7x Platinum), “Good Life” (6x Platinum), and “I Ain’t Worried” and “Apologize” (both 5x Platinum) continue to reach new milestones. Additional hits such as “I Lived,” “Stop and Stare,” and “All the Right Moves” have each reached 4x Platinum, highlighting the band’s lasting presence across generations of listeners. Track list: Say (All I Need), Mercy, Stop And Stare, Apologize, Goodbye, Apathy, All Fall Down, Tyrant, Prodigal, Won’t Stop, All We Are, Someone To Save You, Come Home, and Apologize (with Timbaland).

### SUPERTRAMP – EVEN IN THE QUIETEST MOMENTS / BREAKFAST IN AMERICA / ...FAMOUS LAST WORDS...

(Vinyl Half-Speed Remastered) A&M/UMe

Following the reissues of *Crime Of The Century* and *Crisis? What Crisis?*, Supertramp continues the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in their half-speed remaster reissue series with: *Even In The Quietest Moments...*, *Breakfast In America* and *...Famous Last Words...*. As per the first two releases in the series, all three records have been remastered at half-speed. *Even in the Quietest*



*Moments...* was originally released in April 1977 and is the band’s fifth album. It was an instant hit, charting at number 16 in the *Billboard* Album Charts, and the album’s opening track, “Give A Little Bit,” also broke into the *Billboard* Hot 100. To this day, the track has been streamed over almost 800 million times. Just a year after its original release, the album did notable rock critics and

DJs vote for ranked 63rd in *The World Critic Lists*, which recognized the 200 greatest albums of all time as. Their sixth album, *Breakfast In America*, is their biggest commercial success. Released in March 1979, it has sold over 22 million worldwide, generated 2 billion global streams and spent 88 consecutive weeks in the *Billboard* 200. It spawned hit singles - “The Logical Song,” “Goodbye Stranger,” and “Take The Long Way Home,” all of which



broke into the *Billboard* Hot 100, with “The Logical Song” becoming their most prolific streamed track (over 900 million to date) spending 17 weeks on the chart. The album’s title track also achieved international success, breaking into the UK top 10 and songs like “Oh Darling” have become beloved fan favorites. The album has gone on to receive a whole host of accolades, including two Grammy

Awards and an Ivor Novello Award (for “The Logical Song”). It was ranked 207<sup>th</sup> in *The Guinness All Time Top 1000 Albums*, 69<sup>th</sup> in *Classic Rock Magazine’s* Greatest British Rock Album of All Time, 43<sup>rd</sup> in *Triple M’s* 100 Greatest Albums of All Time as voted by Australian listeners, and 294<sup>th</sup> in Colin Larkin’s renowned book “All Time 1,000 Albums”. *...Famous Last Words...* was released



in October 1982 and is the final album to feature the band’s ‘classic line-up’ of Hodgson, Davies, Helliwell, Thomson, and Siebenberg. The album was a commercial success, reaching number 5 in the U.S. *Billboard* Album Charts and number six in the UK. Roger Hodgson left the band in 1983 after which the group continued as a quartet. This Supertramp half-speed remaster reissue series gives

this catalogue a greater depth of sound that allows reappraisal of some of the most enduring songs of all time. Their albums are some of the most ground breaking in British rock history. *Track lists: Even In The Quietest Moments* - Side A: Give A Little Bit, Lover Boy, Even In The Quietest Moments, Downstream. Side B: Babaji, From Now On, Fool’s Overture. *Breakfast In America* - Side A: Gone Hollywood, The Logical Song, Goodbye Stranger, Breakfast In America, Oh Darling. Side B: Take The Long Way Home, Lord Is It Mine, Just Another Nervous Wreck, Casual Conversations, Child Of Vision. *...Famous Last Words...* - Side A: Crazy, Put On Your Old Brown Shoes, It’s Raining Again, Bonnie, Know Who You Are. Side B: My Kind Of Lady, C’est Le Bon, Waiting So Long, Don’t Leave Me Now.

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

### LATEST MAIL FROM MY INBOX

“I’ve seen a few of your letters in the *Boston Herald* recently. Yours are always spot on.

I wrote to them that the 5 cents deposit on beer, soda, etc., cans is a sham. It’s a state money grab. Nobody’s throwing beer cans out the Chevy anymore. We’re more eco-friendly and we have huge recycle bins as big as a small Croatian car. I still like Trump.”

Jack Zaccardi, East Boston

### ONE LAST ST. PATRICK’S DAY CELEBRATION OF 2026



This past St. Patrick’s Day, I ate not one but two corned beef and cabbage dinners. One year I did four but not more. The price of gas has been spiraling upwards lately. Here I am with two quite charming sisters, Chelsea City Councilors Tanairi and Kelly Garcia (L-R), with yours truly right there quite happily stuck in the middle. After all I am a political centrist.

### ERIC BURDON & THE ANIMALS

I remember seeing Eric Burdon and the Animals when they were still just The Animals back in 1965 over at the old Boston Arena for 5 bucks. It was a great show and they were a great band. I was listening to Sirius Radio recently and heard

their big hit from 1964 “House of the Rising Sun.” The station then played “Monterey” as a follow-up. You could see by the sound how Eric Burdon was fine tuning the sound of the Animals. By 1968, the band’s sound was progressing toward Seventies music like “Sky Pilot,” (also 1968) released as an anti-Vietnam war song that eventually became a favorite of many returning veterans over time who apparently saw something else in the lyrics.

### STICKING WITH THIS MUSIC ERA

I recently heard a great version of “Get Back” by, of course, the Beatles. Check it out by searching for “Take 19” of that classic hit and see for yourself.

### SAL G GOES ALL STUDENT FOR A DAY



Here are Brendan Cunningham and Sal Giarratani at Quincy High School’s “Teachers Dressing like a Students Day,” during the school’s recent Spirit Week. Cunninham is the high school’s student support liaison with Sal G who serves as a full-time substitute teacher all decked out looking like a student. Sal says he’s having more fun as a senior at Quincy High School than he ever had as a senior back in 1966 at English High School in Boston.

### JOE AVANTI REGENT THEATRE JUNE 13

If you’re looking for a good night out and great entertainment, you should save the date, June 13, and spend an evening with Joe Avanti. His USA Tour 2026 comes to the Regent Theatre over in Arlington on Saturday, June 13. Two shows 5:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. Go to [regenttheatre.com](http://regenttheatre.com) for more info.

### EAST BOSTON

### CENTRAL CATHOLIC GALA

East Boston Central Catholic School will be holding its Legacy Gala 2026 on Friday, May 1 honoring Carol Baglio, Maryellen Punch and the Pizzicannella Family at Spinelli’s on Route 1 in Lynnfield. For more info contact the school office at 617-567-7456.

### ONE THING TO REMEMBER

This guy needed to go but remember, it’s true dirtbags like Eric Swalwell who made influence peddling, mortgage fraud and insider trading seem petty in comparison, right?

### SAL G

### LOVES HIS SELFIES



Here is a great selfie taken by Ayla Thornton of herself with none other than Sal G. Ayla works in Sen. Sal DiDomineco’s State House Office. A top notch staffer up on Beacon Hill

### • Patriots Day (Continued from Page 1)



The Wilmington Minutemen gather at the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) on Hanover Street in the North End following the annual Patriots Day Parade.



The East Boston High School Color Guard and JROTC walk proudly in the annual City of Boston Patriot’s Day Parade. (Photos by Gerri Palladino)

patrol as he headed to Concord. Although he was eventually released, it is believed the horse was never returned.

Overseeing the annual reenactment was U.S. Army Colonel (Retired) Lee Fife and Senior Instructor of the East Boston High School JROTC, known as the Clipper Battalion. Participating in the festivities were Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, Vicar of the Old North Church Mathew Cadwell, Captain Steve Collela of the Ancient and Honorable of Massachusetts, and in the role of Paul Revere was Richard Reale, Jr.

# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



The 4 and 5 story buildings in the North End and the 3 deckers in East Boston had one thing in common. They were hot during the summer. If you were lucky enough to have air conditioning, then you won't be able to identify with this week's column. When we lived on Eutaw Street in East Boston, the air conditioning apparatus was a large window fan in the kitchen window just inside of the DDT covered screen. Sound familiar???

When we lived at 70 Eutaw Street, this time of year was important for Nanna and Babbononno. First, the covers came off the fig tree and with shovel in hand, Babbononno would till the soil exposing the under layers to the weather. Nana would be right behind him dropping seeds and fertilizer into open areas. Now you might think that Nanna would wind up with a beautiful flower garden. My grandparents were from peasant stock, Nanna right off a family farm in Avellino. The attitude was, "Why grow it if you can't eat it?" With this in mind, they planted tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes and whatever herbs would complement a salad or Sunday gravy. There were a few fruit trees that Babbononno would prune and when he was done with these, he would check out the grape vines that covered a trellis that looked like an upside-down letter U as it paved the way as the entrance to the garden area.

Now it was time for the summer furniture to be examined. No, not picnic tables with long benches, or lounge chairs where you could lay back and get a tan, but a kitchen table with 6 or 8 chairs. This furniture once graced the kitchen of the house and was used, and maybe, abused. When it was replaced, it became the kitchen set for the basement kitchen which was used only in the summer. The reason was the cellar was a lot cooler than the upstairs areas during the months of July and August. Kitchen furniture that had been the mainstay in the cellar was moved to the backyard and the furniture that had been in the backyard dining area was sold to a local junk dealer whose horse and wagon would lug it away.

Babbononno didn't have the patience to deal with the junk peddlers. This was Nanna's job and when the man arrived with his horse and team, he would examine the furniture and give Nanna a price. She would say no and the bargaining would begin. I remember this one junk dealer ... a little guy who

couldn't speak much English. Nanna would bargain with him in Italian and he would reply in Yiddish. Neither one understood each other but, somehow, they would consummate a deal. Nanna would get paid and the junk man would haul away the old weathered furniture.

Beginning at the end of April or early May, if it was hot enough, Nanna and my mother would bring the necessities for a dinner down to the kitchen in the cellar. Some folks were lucky enough to have a stove in the cellar; we didn't at first. As a result, many of the courses had to be cooked on the kitchen stove. When Babbononno bought a new oil range for the kitchen, the black cast iron wood/coal burning stove that had been in the kitchen became the center piece for the cooking area in the cellar. The things that had to be refrigerated were in an ice box. This ice box, a generation earlier, was in the kitchen, but it had long been replaced by a refrigerator. For the most part, during the cooler or colder months of the year, it was used to house and chill beer and wine. During the summer, with the ice melting and dripping into a basin stationed below the unit, it housed everything that had to be chilled before being cooked by Nanna.

If it was a warm sunny afternoon, warm enough to eat out doors, Mom and Nanna would begin cooking the evening meal in the cellar. When all were home, the food would be served on the backyard table. The table hosted Nanna, Babbononno, my folks, Uncle Nick, Aunt Ada (his first wife and my Godmother), Uncle Paul, Aunt Eleanor, Uncle Gino and we kids. The kids were my cousins Paula and Ellie, Uncle Paul and Aunt Eleanor's daughters. We would have to be almost tortured to sit at the table and eat with the adults. We would rather play games in the garden with Babbononno looking on to make sure we didn't injure or disturb anything he and Nanna had planted.

Beginning at this time of year, the meals were lighter than during the colder months. Nanna would begin with a broth as the first course and then homemade pasta with a marinara sauce (gravy to us). Roasted chicken would follow with vegetables in the same serving dish. The next course was salad. Nanna often made just a lettuce salad, or a salad with just lettuce, tomato and cucumber. Back then, we didn't buy bottled dressings. I don't even know if they had been invented yet. Nanna would have carafes

of olive oil and vinegar on the table plus wedges of lemon in a dish. These are what we used to flavor the salad along with salt and pepper. Nanna liked fresh mint in her salad and she often had fresh leaves of the plant just for herself.

Most of the time, my Dad and Uncles Nick and Paul would have to get ready to go to work after dinner. They were all musicians, and back in the day, you could make a living at playing with bands. That meant that they usually worked 6 to 7 nights a week. Once they were gone, Babbononno would pour another glass of wine, converse with Uncle Gino or watch us kids playing. Later, just before the sun set, Nanna would serve coffee and fruit for dessert. She, Mom and my aunts would join Babbononno and Uncle Gino in conversation over either a demitasse or a cup of American coffee.

Once the sun set, the ladies would clean up the outside table and make sure there were no scraps left out anywhere as the warm weather often brought skunks, squirrels, raccoons and fellow travelers to our backyard. The dishes, coffee pot and whatever else that had to be washed were brought to the black soapstone sink that graced a corner of the cellar, and were cleaned there and stored on shelves that hosted the summer table ware that was used for backyard dining.

The cellar door that led to the backyard would be closed and bolted and the clan would move to the first-floor kitchen, as by now, it was dark and time for a second cup of indoor coffee and time for us kids to get cleaned up. If Babbononno became bored with the conversation the ladies had become involved in, he would bring out a newspaper and catch up on the local happenings. He liked the *Boston Post* (it closed in 1955), *Il Progresso* and *La Gazetta* (*Post-Gazette*), the latter two informing him of all things Italian.

Well, that's the way it was before air conditioning became popular: a summer kitchen in the cellar and dining al fresco in the backyard ... great times from the past. All the folks I've mentioned are gone, most making it well into their 90s, with one exception, Uncle Gino. He made it to 101.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**



by  
**Marianna  
Bisignano**

As a little girl, I remember my mother taking me into the city on weekends, where we would often stop to buy chocolate-dipped candied orange peels. We both loved them. It was something so simple, yet the flavor and scent stayed with me in a way I never forgot; so much so that, years later, I created a biscotti that brings me right back to those moments with her.

As Mother's Day approaches, I find myself thinking of my own mom, and I can't imagine a more beautiful way to celebrate her than with these biscotti. I've been making them for many years using *Pasta d'Arancia*, puréed candied orange peel, the same kind used in the *pasticcerias* for *panettone*, *pandoro*, and so many cherished Southern Italian desserts, like the *pastiera* we recently made, and of course, *sfogliatelle*. Paired with dark chocolate, the flavor is simply extraordinary.

They are also wonderfully easy to make, and I have no doubt you'll find them just as special as we always did.

In the coming weeks, I'll be sharing something even closer to my heart, a special Mother's Day series I believe you are going to love. But for now, I invite you to slow down, sit for a moment, and savor one of these *Pasta d'Arancia Chocolate Chip Biscotti*.

If you ask me, there is nothing better than enjoying one alongside a cup of espresso with just a splash of Sambuca. In fact, I've often substituted the vanilla for the Sambuca right in the recipe itself, so if that speaks to you, don't hesitate. It adds the most beautiful note.

## PASTA d'ARANCIA CHOCOLATE CHIP BISCOTTI

*Biscotti Con Gocce Di Cioccolato Pasta D'Arancia*



- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 2 large eggs
- 3 to 4 tablespoons *Pasta d'Arancia* (puréed candied orange peel)
- 1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract or vanilla bean paste
- 3/4 cup dark chocolate chips

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, and salt. Set aside.

In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar until light and smooth. Add the eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Blend in the *Pasta d'Arancia* and vanilla until fully incorporated. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet mixture, stirring until a soft dough forms. Fold in the dark chocolate chips.

Lightly flour a wooden board or work surface. Turn the dough out and divide it in half. Shape each portion into a long log and place both logs onto the prepared baking sheet.

Bake for 25-30 minutes, until lightly golden and set. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly. Using a sharp knife, slice the logs into biscotti. Lay the biscotti cut side down on the baking sheet. Return to the oven and bake for about 5 minutes per side, or until golden and crisp, being careful not to burn them.

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

### • Spring Lawn Renewal (Continued from Page 6)

about half the recommended height, to reduce competition with the seedlings. Be patient as it generally takes anywhere from 3 to 4 weeks for bluegrass seeds to germinate. Once the seedlings grow that tall, gradually begin increasing the mowing height until you reach the recommended 3 to 3-1/2" for your Kentucky bluegrass lawn.

With proper maintenance and a bit of cooperation from nature you can help transform your lawn from an eyesore to an asset in your landscape.

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

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# THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso



## Loch Lomond, Loch Ness: History and Legend

Two of the most beautiful lakes in the world are in the Scottish Highlands. They are also two of the most storied. Loch Lomond serves as the unofficial boundary between the Highlands and Central Scotland and has lent itself to national folklore for over 150 years.

In 1841, Loch Lomond was cemented into Scottish identity and pride when it was celebrated in the ballad "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond." The writer of the ballad is unknown as is the true meaning of the song, but speculation brings to light a nation's struggles. One theory simply attributes the lyrics to a soldier reminiscing about his beloved homeland while awaiting execution by the enemy's hand. A more specific reading interprets the song as a narrative of the Jacobite rising of 1745.



Loch Ness

Loch Ness has also become synonymous with national identity and folklore. Its beauty alone should justify its fame but, for over a century, it has been the home of the legendary Loch Ness monster known by the locals as Nessie. Official reports of a large sea serpent inhabiting the lake date back to the late 19th century (earlier medieval accounts are more likely Scotland's answer to the tales of sea monsters popular in the day than any record of a particular sighting), but the legend did not gain popularity until 1934 when, following a handful of alleged sightings the previous year, *The Daily Mail* published a photograph by London gynecologist Robert Wilson showing what as purported to be a giant creature with a long neck protruding from the waves. A flurry of alleged sightings came in but for decades this photo was presented as the most positive proof of the creature's existence. It would be followed by additional photos of "humps" emerging from the water in the '50s and '60s as well as sonar readings.



Yours truly and the creature that has stirred imagination for decades

Most of these photos have been definitively concluded to be hoaxes, including the one that started it all, Wilson's 1934 snapshot.

But it was not the discreditation of the photographs that disproved Nessie's existence. Nessie does not exist simply because a creature of its size cannot exist in Loch Ness. Deep as it is, Loch Ness cannot possibly sustain a creature of Nessie's size and feeding needs, let alone a breeding population which has kept the species in the lake for over at least one century. Most locals know this. I remember a conversation I had with the owner of a small newspaper I had landed a job with some twenty years ago in which I spoke of my interest in folklore and legends, mentioning the Loch Ness monster as an example. The owner had been to Scotland and told me that the locals came clean about their skepticism, but the legend was kept alive because it drove

up tourism. I have a feeling, however, that there is yet another reason, rooted more deeply, why the myth is kept alive. Though this was not mentioned to my old newspaper boss, a nation's folklore is a vital component of its fabric. Much like our Bigfoot, Nessie has become a part of our folkloric heritage, symbols of the awe our lands inspire. In their own fantastical way, cryptids tell a nation's story and in their own way tell as much about a people as any history book.



Highland cows

After leaving Loch Ness I had a close encounter with a very real animal that has likewise become a symbol of the Highlands, the iconic Highlands cows. Further up Inverness I came to Drumbuie Farm, a family-owned tearoom and bed and breakfast where visitors could purchase a small cup of vegetables to feed the hairy cows with horns as long as the Texas longhorn breed. I was greeted very warmly by the family with all the earnest and charm I had grown so accustomed to. Highland cows are raised for beef, I was told, but the small herd I visited and ate the cut vegetables off my hand were kept as pets.



Urquhart Castle

I finished my day at Urquhart Castle where both history and folklore, as well as the blurred line in between, is kept alive by role players, recounting the lives of the historic figures they portray and signs posted throughout the castle walls telling of a local folkloric creature. Standing on the banks of Loch Ness the castle has, over the centuries, been complimented by the lake's aura of mystery and legend. History and legend build each other up more often than people realize and while the job of telling them apart is a valuable (albeit thankless) one, our story would not be complete without the sense of identity, pride and culture born of the two.

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

brain injuries. Preliminary research indicates that this med helps alleviate mental illnesses, especially post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Crawfish Ice Cream**

With crawfish season in full-swing, one Texan ice cream shop continues to capitalize on the Southern staple — churning out their crawfish ice cream scoop, topped with an entire crustacean. Red Circle Ice Cream has been doing this since 2017, boasting delicious flavors of handcrafted ice cream. Crawfish ice cream is flavored with a mix of Cajun seasoning,

butter, garlic and topped off with a whole crawfish.

**Energy Secretary Says Gas Prices Have Peaked**

Gas prices at the pump have likely peaked, so said U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright this past weekend. According to him, the price should now start to slowly decline in the coming weeks. Pump prices in and around East Boston are now hovering just above or below \$4.00 per gallon.

**End Quote**

"There is no present and a future, only the past, over and over again." — Anonymous

## North End Athletic Association 2026 Lacrosse Schedule

BOYS 3RD/4TH GRADE BLUE				
Date	Location	Opponent	Time	Field
4/26	Home	Brookline	10:15 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/3	Away	@ Burlington	12:30 PM	Brush
5/10	Home	Waltham	10:15 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/17	Away	@ Milton	9:00 AM	MHSBrooks
5/31	Home	Melrose	10:15 AM	Puopolo Field 1
6/7	Away	@ Stoneham	11:30 AM	StoHSBTurf

BOYS 3RD/4TH GRADE WHITE				
Date	Location	Opponent	Time	Field
4/26	Home	Brookline	11:30 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/3	Away	@ Burlington	2:00 PM	Brush
5/10	Home	Waltham	11:30 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/17	Away	@ Milton	10:15 AM	MHSBrooks
5/31	Home	Brookline	11:30 AM	Puopolo Field 1
6/7	Away	@ Wellesley	11:30 AM	Sprague2

GIRLS 3RD/4TH GRADE				
Date	Location	Opponent	Time	Field
4/26	Home	South Boston	12:45 PM	Puopolo Field 1
5/3	Away	@ Braintree	10:15 AM	ThayerSC
5/10	Home	Arlington	12:45 PM	Puopolo Field 1
5/17	Away	@ Stoneham	11:30 AM	StoHSBTurf
5/31	Home	Wakefield	12:45 PM	Puopolo Field 1
6/7	Away	@ Swampscott	1:15 PM	LJacksonB

GIRLS 1ST/2ND GRADE				
Date	Location	Opponent	Time	Field
4/26	Home	South Boston	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/3	Away	@ Braintree	9:00 AM	ThayerSC
5/10	Home	Arlington	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/17	Away	@ Stoneham	9:00 AM	StoHSGTurf
5/31	Home	Wakefield	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
6/7	Away	@ Canton	10:00 AM	CantonHS

BOYS 1ST/2ND GRADE				
Date	Location	Opponent	Time	Field
4/26	Home	Brookline	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/3	Away	@ Burlington	9:30 AM	Brush A
5/10	Home	Brookline	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
5/17	Away	@ South Boston	2:15 PM	Saunders
5/31	Home	Melrose	9:00 AM	Puopolo Field 1
6/7	Away	@ Stoneham	9:00 AM	StoHSBTurf

## LETTERS POLICY

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

• Letters should be typed, double-spaced and must include the writer's name, address, and telephone number. Anonymous letters are not accepted for publication.

• Due to space considerations, we request that letters not exceed two double-spaced, type-written pages.

• This newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and taste and to limit the number of letters published from any one person or organization.

• Deadline for submission is 12:00 noon on the Monday prior to the Friday on which the writer wishes to have the material published. Submission by the deadline does not guarantee publication.

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

# North End Athletic Association Spring Soccer Teams and Rosters

Every Saturday at Puopolo Park at 12:45 p.m.  
8 Week Program

The program is sponsored by AZ Associates and  
the North End Athletic Association

Commissioners:  
Seam Drummy and Jose Truzman

### GREEN ADAM, GIL

Sloane Bremberger, Lorenzo Dello Russo, Juan Garvi Romero, Gus Gingras, Gabriel Herrera, Jeremy Knuesel, Radhika Kumar, Rhea Kumar, Clara White, and Joseph Shaban

### BROWN ADRIANO, SARAH (R7)

Nikola Drouin, Bento Garcez, Flora Garcez, Martim Garcez, Giorgio Karam, Ana Alberich, Carolina Alberich, Nizar Mayani, Michael Orlov, and Ethan Gardner

### PURPLE JOSE, ALLISON, PAUL, KIERAN

Damiano Potami, Kai Manchanda, Mackenzie Coleman, Rian OSullivan, Charlotte Medeiros, Maxwell Mccusker, Finley Moniz, Ana Truzman, Andrew Drummy, and Hazel Marie Schiavone

### RED KAT/TOM KELLEN

Siddharth Mehra, Nico Luengo Liander, Marcel Monnier, Kamren Nicholson, Stella Regan, Bree Ryan, William Ryan, Luna Schrott, Maximilian Schrott, and Kiran Vogg

### NAVY PARKE, JEFF, VAHAB

Amaya Bhatia, Ezra Jackson, Elliot Looker, Kalina MacDowell, Nevena MacDowell, Julian Lo, Bryce Dubois, Dev Mouli, Arman Vahdat, and Asher Wharton

### ROYAL BLUE SEAN, JACK

Francesca Brozowski, Zoe Maklari-Kis, Nolen Maklari Kis, Alex Cristescu, Otto Heinzelmann, Tevel Kadosh Smith, Jack Luccarelli, Ella Saxe, Frank Addivinola, and George Addivinola

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **May 04, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2017 PETERBILT 579  
Vin #1XPBD49X4HD445655
- 2000 ACURA TL  
Vin #19UUA5677YA047632
- 2015 AUDI Q5  
Vin #WA1DGAFF3FA040948
- 2014 LEXUS IS  
Vin #JTHCE1D23E5001426
- 2005 CHEVROLET MALIBU  
Vin #1G1ZS52F85F333088
- 2010 CHEVROLET EQUINOX  
Vin #2CNFLEEW8A6266365
- 2007 DODGE CHARGER  
Vin #2B3LA43G97H788942

2007 LEXUS GS  
Vin #JTHCE96S370003138  
Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.  
Please email for specific information  
info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 04/10, 04/17, 04/24/2026

## 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. MI25D3189DR  
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
PAMELA BROWN  
vs.  
BRIAN K. BROWN

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

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Pamela Brown, P.O. Box 9120, Chelsea, MA 02150 your answer, if any, on or before **May 20, 2026**. 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: April 8, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 04/24/2026

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **May 11, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2011 HONDA CIVIC  
Vin #19XFA1F59BE047103
- 2017 PETERBILT 579  
Vin #1XPBD49X4HD445655
- 2025 ZHILONG Q-MAX  
Vin #HZ2TBCNN9S1002129
- 2005 HONDA ODYSSEY  
Vin #5FNRL38735B1423494
- 1997 FORD F250  
Vin #1FTFF28L8VNB56199
- 2024 FENGYUAN BWS  
Vin #H0DTABFK3RX080847
- 2012 CHEVROLET CRUZE  
Vin #1G1PC5SH3C7278143
- 2014 CHEVROLET IMPALA  
Vin #2G1WA5E39E1162284
- 2005 TOYOTA PRIUS  
Vin #JTDKB20U857014132
- 2009 FORDE ESCAPE  
Vin #1FMCU49379KB08621
- 2008 INFINITI M35  
Vin #JNKAY01F38M656082
- 2006 LEXUS IS  
Vin #JTHCK262962006760
- 2015 NISSAN ALTIMA  
Vin #1N4AL3AP0FC226013
- 2008 ACURA TL  
Vin #19UUA66208A056490

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information  
info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 04/17, 04/24, 05/01/2026

## EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani

### Garret Anderson, Angels Passes Away at 53



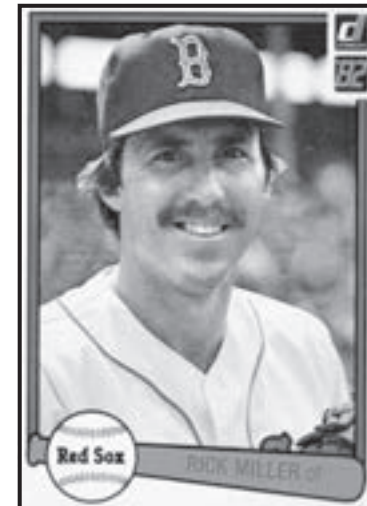
Garret Anderson, a great outfielder and hitter for the Los Angeles Angels, who was also the team's all-time career hitter, has died and it has shocked the baseball world that he passed away so young at 53. He reached the majors with the then-California Angels in 1994 and played for the club until 2008, primarily as a left fielder. He was a fixture in the heart of the batting order for his entire tenure with the Angels, becoming the franchise's career leader. 2,368 hits, 1,292 RBI, 3,743 total bases, 796 extra-base hits and 8 grand slams. His 272 career homers puts him behind only Mike Trout and Tim Salmon.

In 2002, Anderson batted .306 with a 123 RBI for the then-Anaheim Angels. He finished his 17-year career with the Braves and Dodgers in 2011. He batted .293 lifetime with 2,529 hits, 287 home runs and 1,365 RBI.

Anderson was elected to the Angels Hall of Fame but

never to the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. He played in an era of baseball that was rocked by Steroids, which he was never a part of. All his numbers were real. Also, when you think of how many less deserving ball players are in the HOF today it seems criminal to omit Anderson. His numbers prove he should be there right now. He will always be a Hall of Famer to this baseball traditionalist.

### On a Happier Note



Happy Birthday to Rick Miller who just celebrated his 78th birthday. He was with the Red Sox twice (1971-77) and again (1981-85). He was drafted by the Sox in 1969. With both Jim Rice and Freddie Lynn on the team, he ended up being a reserve outfielder/hitter and went free agent in '78 before returning in a 1981 trade, playing much more time in the outfield. He was always a fan favorite too; good player and likeable guy.

### • Hoops and Hockey in the Hub (Continued from Page 12)

Garden on December 2, 1986. The 1986-1987 Celtics had won seven consecutive home games at the Garden so they entered the contest against Washington with a 57-1 home record to that point. The Celtics completed the 1986-1987 regular season with a 39-2 home record. Plus, they had nine home victories during

the 1987 playoffs and no playoff losses on the parquet.

That means that over the course of two seasons the Celtics went an astounding 98-3 at home — regular seasons and playoffs. TRULY AMAZING.

Those seasons in the middle of the 1980s. What a time to be a Celtics fan.

## 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. MI26P1715GD

NOTICE AND ORDER:  
Petition for Appointment of  
Guardian of a Minor

In the interests of  
ANDRES R. PAGAN  
of Framingham, MA  
Minor

### NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **04/08/2026** by **Adriana Ayala** of Fitchburg, MA will be held **06/02/2026 09:00 AM Motion** Located **370 Jackson St., 6th Floor, Lowell, MA 01852, Courtroom 14**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and  
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 08, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 04/24/2026

## 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. MI26P1717GD

NOTICE AND ORDER:  
Petition for Appointment of  
Guardian of a Minor

In the interests of  
AMAYA PAGAN  
of Framingham, MA  
Minor

### NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **04/08/2026** by **Adriana Ayala** of Fitchburg, MA will be held **06/02/2026 09:00 AM Motion** Located **370 Jackson St., 6th Floor, Lowell, MA 01852, Courtroom 14**

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Date: April 08, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 04/24/2026

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **May 18, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2011 TOYOTA COROLLA  
Vin #2T1BR12E31C516356
- 2018 NISSAN ROGUE  
Vin #KNMAT2MV1FP549221
- 2012 HYUNDAI SONATA  
Vin #5NPEB4AC5CH399964
- 2010 FORD EDGE  
Vin #2FMDK4JC5ABA49136
- 2013 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN  
Vin #WVG3V3AX7DW594835
- 2016 HYUNDAI SONATA  
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# Boxing Ringside



WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

## Boxing Pioneer Days



Sullivan Vs Corbett

Most people have thought modern boxing began with the Marquis of Queensbury Rules and the proliferation of the boxing club being used in matches, and the John L. Sullivan vs James J. Corbett fight as the definitive turning point from the crude bare knuckle days to the advent of the scientific period.

It didn't happen that suddenly. While the rules and usage of padded gloves did change things to a degree, the bare knuckle techniques lasted for some time. In the lighter weight categories, fighters, because of their speed, began displaying more of a modern style, the heavyweights continued with their old ways. The changes did come to the bigger men, but more gradually.

Among heavyweights, James J. Corbett became known as the first scientific boxer. He certainly did try new tactics, but he was crude by later standards. Watch footage from his fight with Bob Fitzsimmons and you see how he is attempting to use speed and new types of defensive moves. However, he is off balance a lot and looks terribly awkward. If you were living in that era, you would have most likely been taken with his new and unusual style, at least for a big man.



Fitzsimmons (Right) Vs Corbett

James J. Jeffries, a man considered by many of the old-time historians as one of the top two greatest heavyweight champions, was very strong, but also slow. A lot of his training involved using techniques from the bare knuckle days when grappling was a big part of the sport. In that era, he most likely would have become champion, though in his two bouts with an aging Jim Corbett, he had a tough time with the movement displayed from the former camp. He did eventually catch up to him, but it wasn't easy.



Joe Choynski giving Jack Johnson some pointers

Light heavyweight Joe Choynski, who kayoed a young Jack Johnson and fought draws with Jeffries, Marvin Hart, and Bob Fitzsimmons. After Johnson and Choynski fought they were immediately arrested for engaging in an illegal sport. They spent 23 days in jail together. During that time Joe taught Jack a number of things about the evolving sport. It marked a turning point in the young Johnson's career.



Jim Jeffries rushing Jack Johnson



Choynski and Johnson in jail

In Jack Johnson the new boxing was starting to really show itself among the heavyweights. In Jack's fight with Jim Jeffries Johnson's superior skills are on full display. Jeffries was coming into the ring after a six-year layoff, so that certainly played a major role in his loss. What can be seen is the clash in styles. Jim was rushing and trying to bull his way inside where he could use his grappling techniques on the champion. Jack had perfected the arts of feinting, parrying, and tying up his opponent thereby neutralizing Jim's charges. The times they were a changin'.

I left out another pioneer who brought some of the changes to the sport. That man was Tommy Burns, who would lose the title to Jack Johnson. Though only weighing 175 pounds,

Burns gained recognition as heavyweight champion when he decisioned Marvin Hart in 1906. Tommy possessed lethal punching along with decent feinting skills that he used to set up his opponents.

Burns fought 13 bouts after winning the title. He won 12 with one being a draw. He kayoed 11 of his opponents, four in the first round. He eventually lost to Jack Johnson by kayo in the 14th round. I believe Burns is the most underrated heavyweight of that era.

Johnson would go to defeat at the hands of Jess Willard in a fight the champion was in very poor condition for, and which he claims he took a dive. Most experts don't believe that.

Things really started to transition fast when Jack Dempsey won the title from Willard. Jack could feint and counter punch with great skill. He also had great speed and was the first to start putting together rapid combinations. From here on out over the next few decades boxing really transformed. Dempsey went on to defeat at the hands of Gene Tunney, another brilliant practitioner of the art of boxing.

Moving still further ahead you come to Joe Louis who had the moves of a good middleweight. In fact, it was those heavyweights that could adopt the moves of fighters in the lighter weight classes who had the most success.

The big lumbering heavyweights who might impress with their size, were no match for

those who could put together speed, balance, and defensive skills. In fact, the best heavyweight champions had their most problems with smaller men, while they handled larger opponents fairly easily.

Think of Dempsey vs Willard, Louis vs Carnera and Buddy Baer. And later on, Ali vs Liston and Foreman. They were given more problems in their fights against smaller men. Dempsey vs Gibbons, Louis vs Conn, Ali vs Doug Jones and Jimmy Young.

Speed and skill trump size. Ernest Hemingway knew this. His opening paragraph from *The Sun Also Rises*: "Spider Kelly taught all his young gentlemen to box like featherweights, no matter whether they weighed one hundred and five or two hundred and five pounds." Good advice.

## HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



As the Celtics proceed through their first-round playoff matchup with Philadelphia, we thought it might be interesting to recall one of the greatest seasons in Celtics history — the 1985-1986 campaign of 40 years ago.

It took place in a communications era very different than the one we experience today. Landline phones were a primary means of personal electronic communication. Local and national television outlets provided good summaries of immediate breaking news — the 6:00 p.m. newscasts for the local stations followed by the 6:30 p.m. broadcasts on NBC, CBS and ABC for national news.

Plus, a relatively new outlet had appeared on the sports scene and was gradually making inroads. ESPN had its first cable broadcast on September 7, 1979 from Bristol Connecticut.

And, of course, there were the traditional daily newspapers—in print edition format only — that had vast circulations. It may be hard to believe for younger folks but the Boston Globe once had a weekday circulation (number of papers sold) of over 500,000 copies on weekdays and over 800,000 on Sundays.

And yes, somehow and in some way, it all worked—and American society made it through every day, every week and every year just fine.

And just think — what many older Americans consider the top sports achievement of the 20th century — Team USA winning the Olympic hockey gold medal in 1980 (with its historic upset of the powerful Soviet Union in the semifinals) — occurred in an era devoid of podcasts, blogs, streaming programming and personal web pages.

But six years later, the Celtics graced the stage with a premier performance of their own—winning the 1986 NBA Championship over the Houston Rockets.

That victory in the NBA Finals has a singular status in the history of the Boston Celtics. The C's would not claim another NBA championship for 22 years — until 2008 when they defeated the Los Angeles Lakers for Banner 17.

But the most impressive reminder of that season was the record the team achieved during the regular season—compiling a stellar 40-1 home record over the course of that campaign. That included three "home" games at the Hartford Civic Center. The C's actually went 37-1 at the Garden.

That's right the Celtics lost only one home game during the entire regular season while going 67-15 overall.

And, of course, everyone wants to know who the Celtics lost to and at what point in the season did the setback occur.

At the time, no one thought much about it. The loss occurred on December 6, 1985. Boston entered the contest against Portland with a 17-2 record and was beaten 121-103 at the Original Garden.

All five Celtics starters — the Big Three of Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Roberts Parish plus Danny Ainge and Dennis Johnson scored in double figures

but it wasn't enough. Another fan favorite — Bill Walton — also played in a bench role.

And no one really thought much about it at the time. It was only the 20th game of the regular season for the C's — there were still 62 remaining — so life on the parquet just continued.

Only later did the game's singular status come to the forefront.

Years later Bird just summed up the game in a matter-of-fact statement: "Portland was just better than us that night."

The Celtics would enter the 1986 playoffs with a stellar 67-15 record, coming off the best record in the NBA that season.

Their first-round opponent turned out to be the Chicago Bulls who had a player on their roster no one would forget. He had been selected by Chicago as the third pick in the 1984 NBA Draft—Michael Jordan

Jordan was named the NBA Rookie of the Year for the 1984-1985 season but was forced to miss 64 games of the 1985-1986 season because of a broken foot.

Chicago still made the playoffs with an underwhelming 30-52 record and faced the Celtics in a best-of-five first round playoff series.

Game Two is still talked about by older Celtics fans. On April 20, 1986 Jordan fired in a playoff career high 63 points in one of the most thrilling games ever to take place on the parquet.

But it wasn't enough as the C's prevailed 135-131 in double overtime and went on to sweep the Bulls out of the playoffs in the first round.

The C's next faced Atlanta in a best-of-seven series. Boston raced to a 3-0 lead in the series before Atlanta claimed Game Four at home. Boston won the series on the strength of a 132-99 victory at the Garden, holding the Hawks to just one basket in the third quarter. Bird led the team in points in three of the games, McHale in the other two contests.

Boston then went to sweep the Milwaukee Bucks 4-0, closing things out with a 113-98 victory in Milwaukee.

The final challenge came against the Houston Rockets, a team that had just stunned the defending NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers in the Western Conference Finals by eliminating L.A. with four straight victories after losing Game One.

The Celtics proceeded to win the first two games at the Garden with the second providing a footnote. It was the 40th consecutive win at home (regular season and playoffs combined) since Portland had beaten the C's back in December. They would go on to claim the championship in six games.

They went 50-1 at home during the entire 1985-1986 campaign: 40-1 in the regular season and 10-0 in the playoffs. Plus, the next time they did lose at home came nearly a year after the loss to Portland — when they lost to Washington at the

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