

POST-GAZETTE

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Taxpayer Emergency Shelters See Substantial Drop in Numbers

by Patti Sartori

From the initial surge and peak at 7,600 families in July 2024 until present, the number of families housed in taxpayer emergency shelters has dropped over 30%. Whether it is due to the Trump administration's closure of the southern border or the recent restrictive policies put in place by Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey, it is a welcome reprieve to the state budget and all Massachusetts tax payers.

As newly arrived migrants arrived in the Bay State, demand for temporary shelter and cost to run the system literally blew the budget out of the water, resulting in Beacon Hill limiting how long families could stay in the shelters. It seems the time restriction resulted in a substantial drop in occupancy.

Danielle Ferrier, CEO of shelter provider Heading Home, began to see a drop in the request for temporary shelters last fall, instead noticing an increase in long-term Massachusetts residents seeking shelter over newly arrived immigrants. Ferrier believes

the decrease is due to the "governor and state legislators' policy changes. The Legislature and the governor have clearly leaned into adding tools and flexibility for how we help house folks, and all of those changes and cumulative impact, we are seeing work. You're starting to see that impact of how all those moves are helping us get folks out and bring the numbers down, which we knew we needed to do."

According to state data, the end of July 2024 the emergency assistance shelter program housed 7,625 households, tens of thousands of individuals, overwhelming numbers compared to the 5,388 households in the system at the end of July 2023 and the 3,181 at the end of July 2022. Most elected officials attribute the higher demand to the arrival of immigrants from other countries.

The cost to Massachusetts taxpayers is pegged at \$894 million in FY2024 and is expected to surpass \$1 billion in FY 2025. The Healey administration is unsure of FY 2026 cost.

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF Paul Revere's Ride is Coming! (1775 - 2025)

April 18, 2025 marks the 250th Anniversary of Paul Revere's midnight ride and the beginning of the American Revolution. In honor of this historic occasion there are a variety of events planned in Boston. Beginning on Friday, April 18th, here in the North End the Paul Revere House will be open at 10:00 a.m. with free admission from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Join Paul and Rachel Revere in their home as he prepares to depart on his midnight ride. Enjoy a free costumed reading of the hit play *Revolutions Edge* in the Paul Revere Mall (Prado) beginning at 6:30 p.m. As the evening progresses, gather in North Square to witness Revere's departure from his home at approximately 8:00 p.m., and follow his footsteps as he makes his way from the square, takes a left onto little Prince Street, and a right onto Hanover Street as he heads down to the Waterfront to row across the harbor and over to Charlestown.

Make sure to keep an eye on the Old North Church bell tower for the "two if by sea" lantern signal, approximately 8:15 p.m. alerting Paul Revere of the British arrival. View the dramatic reenactment of Revere's legendary crossing of Boston Harbor, from the Coast Guard Base on Commercial Street to the Charlestown Navy Yard, approximately 8:30 p.m. Experience the sights and sounds of colonial America with fife and drum music, family-friendly activities, and a dazzling display of lanterns lighting up the night.

Be on the lookout for Paul Revere's arrival to the Charlestown Navy Yard, approximately

9:00 p.m. and walk with him to the site of John Larkin's home where he will borrow a horse and set off on his immortal ride. Wait with Deacon Larkin and the Charlestown militia in City Square for Revere's arrival before he races down modern-day Main Street in Charlestown to tell the Minutemen, north of Charlestown that the "Regulars are out!" As Paul Revere's figure

fades into the distance, the National Park Service will illuminate the pyramidion of Bunker Hill Monument to reveal the likenesses of the two flags Bunker Hill Monument Association flew from the monument at its grand opening in 1843. The monument will be illuminated nightly through July 4, 2025 inviting us to reflect on lives lost in service to the nation's founding ideals and the monument's timeless significance as a beacon of hope and possibility.

Key viewing locations for the various events on April 18, 2025 include the following: Paul Revere House in North Square, The Paul Revere Mall on Hanover Street, the Old North Church on Salem Street, Langone Park on Commercial Street in the North End, the North Washington Street Bridge, Charlestown Navy Yard, City Square and Main Street in Charlestown.

If you are around Boston on Friday, April 18, 2025 please join in for a once-in-a-lifetime Patriot's Day weekend, and don't forget the traditional ride of Paul Revere will still take place on Monday, April 20th at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Paul Revere Mall (Prado).

For updates or further event details please visit www.paulreverehouse.org



News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Schumer Slams GOP Plan to Uncap Bank Overdraft Fees

Sen. Chuck Schumer has ripped a GOP plan to raise bank overdraft fees. The plan to do so is part of a Republican strategy to abolish the agency which had enacted a new cap on bank overdraft fees at \$5. It is estimated that the new agency rule would save the public \$5 billion annually.

According to Schumer, "The CFPB's rule is about protecting hard working families, not charging them more. I urge my GOP colleagues to reverse course here and reject overturning this overdraft rule to put money back in people's pockets."

In the Senate vote, one Republican Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Missouri, joined Democrats in voting against the measure but it still passed 52-48. The CFPB was created in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis with the idea of helping everyday Americans but Republicans don't like it and the Trump Administration has targeted it for cuts and its director was fired two weeks into Trump's second term. This measure has now moved over to the House side.

GOP HQ in New Mexico Set on Fire

The entrance to the Republican Party headquarters was recently torched and defaced in an alleged arson attack. The Albuquerque Fire Department has opened

(Continued on Page 4)

Mayor Wu Says "No Thanks" to Annual Boston Municipal Research Bureau Luncheon

by Patti Sartori

For the first time in over thirty years the Mayor of Boston will not headline the annual Boston Municipal Research Bureau (BMRB) luncheon, forgoing the opportunity to highlight policy announcements or initiatives. The annual meeting is traditionally held earlier in the year but was delayed due to Mayor Wu's maternity leave and other scheduling obligations.

Wu said she declined the invitation as the featured speaker to avoid participating in a fund-raising event that she views as an attempt to promote lower corporate tax rates. "This is not about a single policy disagreement. For decades in Boston BMRB was a trusted source of municipal finance and policy expertise. Today's BMRB is unrecognizable against that legacy. Today they behave as a political action committee to lower corporate tax taxes. I declined the annual invite to present advanced insights on Boston's budget at a \$325 per person lunch to fundraise for this cause."

In light of Wu's absence, this year's luncheon will be headlined by Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll. BMRB interim President Marty Walz was one of the agency representatives who criticized the mayor's proposed tax shift legislation, raising commercial tax rates to provide relief for

homeowners who were hit with a double-digit increase in their January third-quarter tax bills, in defense of the challenges facing the real estate industry. The legislation failed to pass the state senate.

Walz called the mayor's decision disappointing, stating "Throughout our ninety-three years, the non-partisan Boston Municipal Research Bureau has produced fact-based, data driven reports and analysis. As a municipal watchdog, we have not always seen eye to eye with every mayor, but we have always worked together to ensure Boston is a vibrant, livable and world-class city. More conversation, not less, is needed to move Boston forward. This doesn't change our shared goals for Boston's success and we remain fully committed to our mission and working with Mayor Wu and her team toward these goals."

Gregory Maynard, executive director of Boston Policy Institute (BPI) said, "This is a disagreement between the mayor who's been running a city that's got pretty serious fiscal problems attacking the city's longtime fiscal watchdog. The BMRB has been around for almost 100 years. This is the kins of stuff that's ruined public conversations and destroys cities' ability to solve problems."

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



MYTHOLOGY ... ITS ORIGIN

Two of the earliest men of fame in ancient Greece were poets named Homer and Hesiod. The Romans called them Homerus and Hesiodus. Homer was born sometime between 1200 and 850 B.C. There are at least seven ancient cities that have claimed him. Most accounts of his life say that he was blind, poor, inspired to poetry by the gods, earned his living by singing in a kind of traveling circuit, and lived to a ripe old age. The most popular of Homer's works are, of course, the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey." The Iliad tells of the war waged by the Greeks to rescue the beautiful Helen who was captured and held in the walled City of Troy. The Odyssey tells of the wanderings of Odysseus (Ulysses) after the destruction of Troy, and the return of the lady Helen to her husband in Greece. Homer's portraits of these characters and of the mythical gods are so vivid that they became fixed mental images for all of those persons who, during later centuries, represented them in sculpture, poetry, or painting.



Evelyn De Morgan, 1898, Oil on Canvas, Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, England

Hesiod lived during the eighth century B.C. He wrote a theogony (genealogy) of the gods which contained more than a thousand verses. It consisted of an account of the origin of the world, including the birth of the gods. In Hesiod's theogony, the most ancient monument that exists in Greek mythology, he attempted to arrange and organize all of those myths and gods into some

orderly structure. He started with Chaos, the yawning abyss which marked the beginning of all things. There are differences of opinion by some mythologists; however, it appears that out of Chaos came a first generation which we now call Primeval Beings. These Beings were named Erebus (Primeval Darkness); Nyx (Night); Gaea (Mother Earth); Hemera (Day); Aether (Upper Atmosphere), and Uranus (The Heavens).

Erebus became the god who ruled a gloomy, dreary, and cheerless area below the earth which was comparable to our Hell and Purgatory combined. Nyx, the goddess of Night, was often represented riding in a chariot, preceded by groups of stars (constellations), and with wings to denote the speed of her flight. At other times, her floating black veil was studded with stars.

Gaea, who came next, was called Mother Earth. Her realm included the Oceans and Sky as well as the Earth itself. She was honored as mother of all, who nourishes her offspring and heaps blessings upon them. In ancient Athens, she was also worshiped as the goddess of death who eventually summoned all of her creates back to her, hiding them in her bosom.

NEXT WEEK:

Hemera, Aether, and Charon

Elon Musk's Team of Patriots

Determined to Rid the U.S. Government of Waste & Fraud

by Patti Sartori

Department of Government Efficiency, or as it is better known, DOGE, overseen by Elon Musk, is definitely not a one-man operation. In fact, it is run by seven of the richest and most highly accomplished people in the U.S. In a recent interview with Bret Baier of Fox News, the team was introduced for the first time. All are close friends of Musk who have committed "tech support" to the federal government for 130 days. Some work for Musk's companies, at least one is a self-made billionaire, none need government jobs to support themselves, and not one of the groups has declared affiliation with any political party.

Joe Gebbia, the billionaire co-founder of Airbnb is a dear friend of Musk and has volunteered to modernize the

retirement process for federal government employees. His goal is to take the best of Silicon Valley and the business world and bring it into the government. He described an underground mine in Pennsylvania, that "houses every paper document for the retirement process in the government" and hasn't changed in seventy years. He plans to digitalize the 400 million pieces of paper in 22,000 filing cabinets and create an "Apple Store-like experience" for government services.

Steve Davis, an aerospace engineer, is Musk's top guy from Space X and the head of operations for DOGE. "To have the country going bankrupt would be a very bad thing." Among DOGE's discoveries are 15 million people aged over 120

years old marked as alive in the Social Security System, along with 4.6 million credit cards in the federal government for the approximate 2.4 million employees.

Tom Krause, a Silicon Valley CEO, an associate of Musk's for fifteen years, is set to apply public company standards to the federal government. He told Baier during the recent interview it was, "alarming to find only one bank account that's used to disburse all monies that go out of the federal government. There's \$500 billion of fraud every year and hundreds of billions of improper payments and we can't pass an audit. The Treasury just makes the payment with no verification."

Aram Moghaddassi is a young Silicon Valley software engineer who works for Musk's company Neuralink. His sights are set on the Social Security Administration, where the computer systems are over 50 years old and vulnerable to fraud. His goal is to make improvements for Social Security beneficiaries, "Protect them from fraud and make the experience better. Forty percent of the calls to Social Security are from fraudsters trying to steal retirees' money," he said.

Brad Smith, a Rhodes Scholar with degrees from Harvard and Oxford told Baier his aim is to make "700 different IT systems

Boston School Committee Approves Boston Public Schools Budget

The Boston School Committee green lit the BPS budget last week increasing funding to inclusive education, multilingual programming and long-term facilities planning in the 2025-2026 school year. "We are continuing to see the impact of inflation on our maintenance costs, and for the first time in a decade, we are seeing an increase in enrollment with a steady influx of our multilingual learners and students with disabilities, which means we need to change the overall way that we allocate resources," said BPS Superintendent Mary Skipper. The proposed BPS FY 2026 budget includes a 3.5% or \$53 million dollar increase from FY 2025. The budget still faces city council approval.

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu offered appreciation to the

school committee for their "due diligence in evaluating the budget in very unpredictable times." According to BPS officials about \$100 million dollars of federal funding could be at "substantial risk" if the Trump administration is successful in dismantling the U.S. Department of Education. Wu said her office is working with BPS to "identify every potential bit of vulnerability in terms of federal grant funding or other federal funds that we count on. We were budgeting very conservatively, just to ensure we can still provide city services at the level they've been at, while knowing and acknowledging there could be much more serious cuts depending on what happens with court decisions and some of the lawsuits that are playing out," Wu stated.

Massachusetts Spends Highest in Nation on Bay State Prisoners

While Massachusetts cites the lowest incarceration rate among the rest of the nation, it also shows the highest spending per prisoner than any other state in the country. According to a recent study by the Bader Scott Law firm, Massachusetts spends over \$307,000 per prisoner, with Arkansas spending the least at \$23,000.

The law firm's founder, Seth Bader, explained the allocation of funds into positive corrections can affect recidivism and re-incarceration rates. "These financial decisions impact everything from rehabilitation programs to recidivism rates. States that invest more per prisoner often provide better educational opportunities and mental health services, which can reduce the likelihood of reoffending after release."

The study found states that spend less per prisoner tend to have far more people behind bars. "This raises important questions about the relationship between adequate funding and effective criminal justice

outcomes. The unprecedented spending variations across states will likely prompt policymakers to examine how prison budgets are allocated," said Bader.

The study also looked at the worldwide prison population finding the United States continues to confine the most people at 1.7 million across all fifty states, even as China boasts four times the U.S. population and only imprisoned about 1.69 million people. Most of the monies spent per prisoner in Massachusetts covers housing, healthcare, substance abuse treatments, educational programming, food, toiletries and administrative expenses.

"The Massachusetts Department of Corrections invests approximately \$131,000 per jailed individual each year to uphold its mission of maintaining a safe, secure and rehabilitative environment and is a national leader in reducing recidivism and incarceration rates," according to department spokesperson Scott Croteau.

Is it Time to Privatize the United States Postal Service (USPS)?

How often over the past month have you gone to a store, picked out a card, written a note inside, addressed it, stamped it and put it in a mailbox to send off? Now compare that to the number of times, over the same period of time, you have picked up your cell phone, pulled up a name from your contact list and fired off a quick text message? If your answer is like most Americans, it is no wonder the USPS lost \$9.5 billion chasing mail across the country in Fiscal Year 2024 with a projected \$9.6 billion dollar loss in 2025.

According to a **Free Press survey**, many other nations have

already adopted postal privatization including Germany, Japan, Britain, Portugal and the Netherlands have already adopted postal privatization. The current system just doesn't work any longer. Today's Americans send each other approximately six billion text messages daily. Half the people surveyed very rarely receive a personal letter, with fourteen percent never receiving any. "This is the age of drones, driverless vehicles, and artificial intelligence. If there's any part of the federal apparatus that could use a dose of radical disruption, it's the postal service," the publication reported.

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Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher and Editor
 5 Prince Street, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113
 617-227-8929 617-227-8928 FAX 617-227-5307
 e-mail: postgazette@aol.com

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

In Loving Memory

Emilio (Jimmy) Scapicchio

10-30-1932 - 4-8-2024

One Year Anniversary



*It's been a year since you left us,
 but not a day goes by
 that you're not in our hearts.
 It's so quiet here without you.*

Love

Maria, Bob, Robert Jr., Jimmy, and Victoria

LETTERS POLICY

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

- Letters should be typed, double-spaced and must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Anonymous letters are not accepted for publication.
- Due to space considerations, we request that letters not exceed two double-spaced, type-written pages.
- This newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and taste and to limit the number of letters published from any one person or organization.
- Deadline for submission is 12:00 noon on the Monday prior to the Friday on which the writer wishes to have the material published. Submission by the deadline does not guarantee publication.

Send letter to: Pamela Donnaruma, Editor,
 The Post-Gazette, P.O. Box 135, Boston, MA 02113

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North End Historical Museum

Finds a Home on Little Prince Street

The North End Historical Society's (NEHS) passion and perseverance has finally paid off. After a long-time search to identify a home for a North End Historical Museum, the NEHS is excited to announce the North End will have its own museum, located at 3 Prince Street, "Little Prince Street" on Boston's Historic Freedom Trail, between North Square and Hanover Street, in the heart of the North End.

"Establishing a Historical Museum has been a passionate vision and one of our long-term goals since our inception in 2010. It is essential in fulfilling our mission to help preserve and enhance the history and heritage of the North End in perpetuity," said Tom Damigella, President of NEHS.

It has come to fruition and a reality through the generosity of Frank DePasquale of DePasquale Ventures. His love and commitment to the North



End community led him to invest in the NEHS's mission by purchasing the first-floor space at 3 Prince Street. Frank has fully embraced NEHS as the perfect non-profit organization to build and operate a museum for the North End.

In the meantime, the NEHS has begun working with a firm specializing in developing immersive and interactive digital displays and programs for museums. They will help us tell the 400-year history of the North End. This neighborhood was an essential stepping stone for millions of immigrants from many countries to America. These are emotionally stirring and inspiring stories that need

to be told. Our goal is to have the Museum open in the next 12 – 16 months.

Frank was instrumental in setting us on a successful path. We need additional help building the critical intellectual, educational, and technological programs to meet our goal. **We will be planning a capital fundraising campaign.** We know that many of our members, former North Enders, and supporters and friends of the North End will want to donate to the museum.

To begin fundraising, we ask NEHS members and others to please make a donation for this effort.

Here is a link: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=PQZTYJZR8EFT6

Please visit our website: northendboston.org

Stay tuned for more critical details on how you can help and participate in this new and exciting step forward for the North End!

Be a Waterwise Gardener

by Melinda Myers



Leaf mulch conserves moisture, reduces the risk of erosion and compaction, suppresses weeds, and improves the soil as it decomposes.
 (Photo credit: MelindaMyers.com)

Too much or not enough water and never when your garden needs it. This is a common complaint of gardeners no matter where they live. Make a few changes in your plant selection and garden care to help manage water use while growing healthy plants.

All plants need sufficient moisture after planting and for several months to a year or two to develop a robust root system. Those labeled as drought tolerant are better able to tolerate periods of drought once established. Always water the area surrounding new plantings thoroughly when the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist. Gradually reduce the frequency, and once the plants are established, you'll need to water less often.

Moisture-loving plants are good choices for areas receiving sufficient and consistent moisture throughout the growing season to meet their needs. In locations where this is not the case, consider grouping moisture-loving plants together so you use less water and can concentrate watering efforts to just one or two locations in your landscape.

Fluctuating periods of excessive and insufficient rainfall add to the challenge. Many native plants, once established, tolerate periods of wet and dry soil and can be found on lists of rain garden plants suited to your area.

Keep water in the garden, out of the storm sewers, and reduce the risk of flooding while improving your garden. Adding several inches of compost to the top 8 to 12 inches of soil increases the soil's

ability to absorb and retain water. It also improves drainage in heavy soils.

Top dress existing gardens by spreading an inch of compost over the soil surface. Soil organisms will help move it into the soil to improve plant growth. Lend nature a hand by using an auger bit on a drill to aerate compacted soil. This pushes some compost into the top four to six inches of soil.

Mulching the soil with leaves, evergreen needles, or other organic matter also helps. This task has many benefits, including conserving moisture, reducing the risk of erosion and compaction, suppressing weeds, and as the mulch decomposes, improving the soil. A one-to-three-inch layer over the soil surface is all you need. The finer the mulch material, the thinner the layer of mulch that is needed.

Collect rainwater in rain barrels or cisterns when it is plentiful and store it until needed. Use this to water ornamental containers and plantings. Always check with your municipality first, since some restrict this practice while others offer rebates or rain barrels at a discounted price.

You won't need to worry about mosquitoes breeding inside your rain barrel if you place an organic mosquito control product like *Mosquito Dunks*® (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in rain barrels and other water features. Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control, are natural and organic, and won't harm pets, fish, wildlife, or children.

Periods of heavy rainfall create another challenge. Covering the soil with plants and mulch helps protect your soil from compaction and erosion that often happens during these events. Planting trees, shrubs, and groundcovers will slow the flow of rainwater, increase the amount of water that stays in your landscape for plants to use, and help filter dust and pollutants out of rainwater before it enters groundwater.

Rain gardens are another strategy for managing water in your yard. These are designed to capture excessive rainfall, drain within 24 to 36 hours, tolerate dry and wet periods, and filter pollutants from the rainwater before it enters the groundwater.

Start by incorporating one or more of these strategies to help manage rainwater in your landscape. Continue to monitor success, adapt as needed, and include more options to help you successfully garden even during periods of excessive or limited rainfall.

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 and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Sunbeams, Rain Clouds and Everything in Between!

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Spring is here, and that means weather as fickle as an Internet trend. Some days boast record warmth and abundant sunshine, laden with the care-free atmosphere and scent of fresh vegetation reminiscent of midsummer. Other days feature brisk breezes that ruffle the delicate new daffodils and tulips, and cool air that calls for a coat. Of course, spring simply would not be spring without the arrival of brief but soaking rain showers. During these rains, people disappear under umbrellas and colorful rubber boots as they splash their way through the day, jumping in and out of puddles. The aftermath of a spring rain is just as magical: the foliage appears greener, birds commence singing again with renewed gusto, and a rainbow may vividly spread its colors across the sky. Nowadays, knowledge of this weather, from atypically humid Easterners to spring rainstorms, is always at our disposal due to meteorological reports on television and apps on our smartphones. However, people in older times needed ingenious ways to determine the weather. After all, in agricultural and maritime societies, weather was often a matter of life and death, as it controlled the success of the harvest or the ability to head to the sea and fish. Italy used to be one such agricultural society, and therefore still contains a multitude of weather superstitions and lore. I remember some of these sayings from my childhood, where they formed an indelible part of my Italian cultural heritage. These pieces of weather folklore are often repeated from generation to generation, even in contemporary times, a testament to their ancient power.

Some years ago, I was having dinner with my best friend at a local Thai restaurant. She looked out the window and

gasped, remarking on how amazing the sky appeared. I turned around to a stunning sight: bright pink clouds streaked across the sky like threads of cotton candy, tinged in gold by the setting sun. I told my friend that the weather tomorrow would probably be nice. How did I know this without checking my phone? Well, I had remembered an Italian saying my grandmother often intoned in a singsong voice: “Rosso di sera, buon tempo si spera/Rosso di mattina, la pioggia s'avvicina.” Roughly translated, this means: “Red at night, good weather awaits/Red at morning, the rain approaches.” My grandmother repeated this dictum so often that I consider it an essential staple of my childhood, right alongside Baby-Sitters Club books and my mother's homemade pancakes. Basically, this proverb explains that a sunset with a reddish tone foretells fine weather the following day, while a red-hued sunrise promises a day of rain. I discovered fairly recently that this maxim has a famous English-language counterpart: “Red sky at night, sailors' delight/ Red sky at morning, sailors take warning.” Though the red skies proverb dates back thousands of years, it contains some meteorological truth. According to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association (NOAA), a red sky at sunset may be caused by the sun illuminating dust particles in the air, indicating a high-pressure system that brings good weather. Conversely, the red sky in the morning indicates that the high-pressure system is passing, which may be replaced by a rain-inducing low-pressure system. Our ancestors knew what they were talking about!

Encouraged by the memory of this proverb, I grew inspired to search for other nuggets of Italian weather

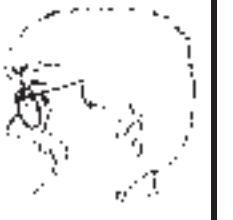
lore. The website of Italy's Osservatorio Meteorologico, Agrario, Geologico, a meteorological observatory run by Prof. Don Gian Carlo Raffaelli and hailing back to 1865, compiled a number of popular weather sayings from across the country. Not surprisingly, much of the lore concerns rain — after all, it was important to know when it would rain in order to shelter livestock and control the amount of water the crops received, or exercise care during a fishing voyage. “Cielo a pecorelle acqua a cantinelle” means that rain showers will soon arrive when the clouds resemble a sheep's wool. My mother frequently repeated this proverb whenever we saw such clouds, which bear the scientific name altocumuli. Another superstition that foretold rain stated “quando il gatto si lecca il pelo, viene acqua giù dal cielo” — rain will fall from the sky when a cat cleans its fur! This was also a favorite dictum of my grandmother's, and I always think of it whenever I see my cat washing herself. Not all Italian weather lore talks about rain, however. According to one maxim, “quando la rana canta, il tempo cambia,” a croaking frog is indicative of imminent weather changes. “Stelle troppo scintillante vento forte a te davanti” warns that excessively twinkling stars foretell strong winds. Good weather, on the other hand, can be expected following low fog, as evidenced in the proverb “la nebbia bassa buon tempo lascia.” Finally, one of my favorite weather sayings happily declares “arcobaleno porta il sereno” — a rainbow after a storm brings calm weather. It reminds me of the joy and reawakening of nature that occurs in the spring, under the brilliant colors of an afternoon rainbow!

Weather lore, though no longer taken as seriously in our days of Doppler radar, continues to yield influence in the realm of cultural treasures and national characteristics. Some pieces of weather lore contain meteorological truths, while others decidedly do not; however, they all demonstrate the importance of weather to societies that depended on the unpredictable nature of farming or fishing. Moreover, weather lore, like all quaint traditions and superstitions, link us to the rich, unending lineage of our ancestors. I associate weather customs with family memories and parts of my childhood, such as my grandmother singing about red skies or my father playfully remarking that, according to stories from his boyhood, rain falling during sunshine meant that the fox was getting married. So let's cherish all the proverbs about weather that have been passed down from our ancestors, no matter how silly they sound. They are another invaluable part of our heritage and our place in this world, rain or shine!

Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a high school history teacher. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at adicenso89@gmail.com.

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



The Use of Involuntary Commitments

I have been reading the continuous news coverage over the negative impact of New York City's schizophrenic social policies being perpetrated on its citizens. Elected and appointed officials seemingly at every governmental level have decided apparently to put a COVID mask over their eyes. If they can't or won't see anything, then things can't be as bad as they are being told by the public at large who just wish to be safe while out and about.

I spent a 40-year career working in the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health starting in the early 1970s until my retirement 14 days following the Boston Marathon Bombing on April 15, 2013. I watched as new reforms that didn't work were replaced with newer reforms that still don't work.

In 1975, the state's new reform was called “deinstitutionalization” when they basically emptied psych units sending folks to the streets. Then in 1982, they created “community-based care” with very little of anything actually set up in the communities. First, they set them free and years later thought about the community care aspect. Typical, isn't it?

The end result for places like Boston or New York City was

the creation of chronic homelessness where people lived on the streets, mostly unwatched and unmedicated. We now have a whole world of these folks roaming everywhere unnoticed until something horrible happens.

Most homeless folks are more likely to be a danger to themselves not others. However, as we see time after time, in a society that allows the psychotic among us to go untreated, the madness endangers all of us caught in the wrong placed at the wrong time.

Speaking about New York City. There's an election this year for mayor and city council. Where do the candidates running stand on the madness we as a society has created by failed government policies? The madness won't end until we as a society, we as government, do something about it. Government officials must take their heads out of the ground. Stop sprouting soundbites and start taking common sense action. The misery on the streets affects all of us but especially those living in misery.

Forcing help on someone is never the best option but it can at times be the best solution available for those with severe mental dysfunction.

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

an arson investigation after flames broke out early in the morning near where anti-ICE graffiti was discovered. The words “ICE = KKK” were spray painted on the building in red paint.

\$2 Billion Abrams Grant Get Axed

Environmental Protection Agency administrator Lee Zeldin said federal authorities are looking into scrapping a \$2 billion grant to Power Forward Communities, a group with ties to Stacey Abrams, the two-time Democratic candidate for governor of Georgia. “It is insane that the Biden Admin would give \$2 billion to an organization that previously only received \$100,” tweeted Zeldin.

Archbishop Henning to Visit Winthrop Parish

On April 26th, the brand-new Archbishop of Boston Richard Henning will be visiting St. Michael the Archangel Parish to say the 4:00 o'clock Mass and meet with parishioners.

Trump Says He's Not Joking about 3rd Term

President Donald Trump in a recent phone interview with *NBC News* said, “There are methods which you could do it.” The 22nd Second Amendment was added to the Constitution in 1951 after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected four times in a row and states, “no person shall be elected to the office of President more than twice.”

I am not a constitutional law scholar but clearly there is no credible legal argument for him to run again in 2028. The

wording of the 22nd Amendment couldn't be clearer.

To those trying to find any kind of loophole, stop wasting your time and energy. To those who think JD Vance could run for president in 2028 with Donald Trump as his veep; stop being stupid. The 12th Amendment makes Trump ineligible for vice president because he is already ineligible to replace Vance as president if Vance were to resign. Republicans and the MAGA movement need to stop going down a caved-in rabbit's hole.

Newborn Gay ID

Recent news items out of the state of New Jersey: hospitals are asking parents for their baby's preferred pronouns and sexual orientation. Inspira Health's Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Questionnaire requires new parents to “identify” their babies as either Male, Female, Transgender, Queer or additional gender categories.

It further asks parents to select the word that best describes their infant: “Lesbian or gay, Straight or heterosexual, self-described, Questioning/ Unsure.” Many parents say they find the survey absurd. One mom-to-be from Jersey stated, “Identifying my baby as gay on Day 1 is insane. I had no idea about this form and I'm shocked.”

End Quote

“Today's public figures can no longer write their own speeches or books, and there is some evidence that they can't read them either.”

— Gore Vidal

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1st Annual Event for the Women's Clinic at St. Anthony Shrine at Arch Street Church a Huge Success

by John Romano

The first Annual event held at St. Leonard's Hall on Prince Street on Saturday, March 22nd at St. Leonard Church was an amazing success. Thanks to Father Michael for allowing me to hold this wonderful day of giving to others during lent. Father Michael is the Chaplin of The Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus #1513 in the North End and he speaks to us each month at our meeting and he inspired me to do something good during Lent. With his guiding hand and the help of several of my brother knights, my wife Patricia and many friends and neighbors in the North End and Wilmington we pulled off a fantastic day for the Shelter.

While many people helped and contributed I cannot name them all but I do want to recognize Deputy Grand Knight Richie Fiumara, Jim Matarano from St. Joseph's Feast Society, Paul Tivnan from Wilmington Sons & Daughters of Italy (The Truck Guy) and Patricia Romano, Friends of the North End South, The North End Athletic Association & Ted Tomasone, Ausonia Council Knight of Columbus #1513 in the North End - John Fiumara, Stephen Scappichio, Richie Fiumara, Jr., and Grand Knight



John Romano, Mary Ann Ponti, Tom Damigella (North End Historical Society), Tom's Wife Rita, and Fr. Michael Della Penna, Pastor St. Leonard Church

John Pagliuca, MaryAnn Ponti from the Women's Clinic and Steve DeAngelis of the Golden Goose Markets. They went above and beyond to help make the day successful. Thank you also to the *Post-Gazette* and *Regional Review* for running stories to help promote the event, they were a big help!

Thanks to the generosity of all those who contributed, we collected 8 boxes and 6 shopping bags full of important necessary items for the women

at the shelter. We also collected just over \$1,100 in combined Dunkin'/McDonald's Gift Cards, \$1,907 in cash/check/venmo donations and the second collection at the 5pm Mass was \$1,707.

I had a chance to stop by the clinic and meet a few of the people that Mary works with last Tuesday. They are amazing people and were extremely grateful for all we did. We should all be proud of what a wonderful, generous, giving community of friends and family we have, I know I am. I hope everyone has a glorious Easter season. Thank you!



Mary Ann Ponti, Women's Clinic; Stephen Scapicchio, North End Ambassador



(L-R): Mary Ann Ponti, Mike Giannasoli, and Miracle Driver



John Romano, Fr. Michael Della Penna, and John Pagliuca (Grand Knight of Ausonia Council #1513)



The Amazing Spread of Donated Gift Cards

Summer Jobs Promised for All Boston Public School Kids

In a bold declaration made by Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston Public School students were invited to apply for a youth summer job, with a guarantee of providing employment to every student who wants a job. "Whatever you're interested in, if you're 14 to 24 and live in the City of Boston, we have the opportunity for you to make a difference this summer, support your family and

earn some income as well," said Mayor Wu at the Roxbury announcement.

The Youth Summer Jobs program has grown from approximately 4,500 youth participants to well over 10,000 securing jobs in 2024, when Wu announced the "Mayor's Youth Jobs Guarantee," promising a summer job to any eligible BPS student who wants one. A 2024 map highlighting the 2024 youth

summer jobs worksites in various neighborhoods, referenced the largest numbers in Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, Dorchester, Chinatown and East Boston.

The program includes full and part-time positions with hundreds of employers from the City of Boston to various nonprofits, to local restaurants. Boston residents from age 14 to 24 may apply for positions on-line at boston.gov/futurebos

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Saint Antoninus of Florence

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Antoninus was born Antonio Pierozzi on March 1, 1389 in the city of Florence, to Niccolò and Tomasina Pierozzi, prominent citizens of the city, Niccolò being a notary. His mother passed away when he was about five years of age.

The young Anthony was received into the Dominican Order in 1405 at the age of sixteen at the new priory of San Domenico in Fiesole and given the religious habit by the Blessed John Dominici, founder of the community, becoming its first candidate. With Fra Angelico and Bartolomeo di Fruosino, the one to become famous as a painter, the other as a miniaturist, he was sent to Cortona to make his novitiate. Upon the completion of his year in the novitiate, he returned to Fiesole, where he remained until 1409.

Antoninus was tasked with the administration of various houses of his Order at Cortona, Rome, Naples, as well as Florence. These communities became part of a new Dominican Congregation of Tuscany, established by John Dominici in order to promote a stricter form of life within the Order. In 1430, he became prior of Santa Maria sopra Minerva.

From 1433 to 1446 Antoninus served as vicar of the Congregation. In this office, he was involved in the establishment of the Priory of St. Mark in Florence with friars from Fiesole. The priory's cells, including one for Cosimo de' Medici, were painted in frescos by Fra Angelico and his assistants.

Antoninus was consecrated Archbishop of Florence on March 13, 1446, at the Dominican priory in Fiesole, on the initiative of Pope Eugene IV, who had come to admire him through his participation in the major church councils of the period. He came to win the esteem and love of his people, especially by his energy and resource in combating the effects of the plague and earthquake in 1448 and 1453. Antoninus was unusual for his time not only in continually living in his diocese, but also in conducting yearly visits to every parish and convent by foot.

Antoninus lived a life of austerity as archbishop, continuing to follow the Dominican Rule. His relations with the Medici regime were close but not always harmonious, with his serving several times as an ambassador for the Republic to the Holy See during the 1450s.

Antoninus passed away on May 2, 1459, and Pope Pius II conducted his funeral. The pope happened to be on his way to the Council of Mantua when he heard of the archbishop's death. The archbishop's wish was that he be buried at the priory which he had founded in the city.

His body lies in the Chapel of St. Antoninus in San Marco, Florence.

The Feast day of Saint Antoninus of Florence is May 2nd.



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Donne 2000 25th Anniversary Festa Delle Donne & Scholarship Fundraiser

by Doreen Giammarco



Donne 2000 Members



Maria Ferrusi, Doreen Giammarco, Rosa Giammarco, Anna Ristaino, Miranda Federico, Maria Auciello; Front Evelina DiPietro was honored as the oldest tenured member of Donne 2000

On Sunday March 23, 2025, Donne 2000 members, along with their families and friends came together to celebrate three memorable events. First and foremost, it was a celebration of our organization's 25th Anniversary. Twenty-five years ago, in July of 2000, Donne 2000 was founded by a group of Italian women who wanted to celebrate their Italian traditions and customs and keep them alive for future generations. We are proud to say that 25 years later our group is still thriving and continues to carry out its mission of keeping Italian traditions alive in today's society.

Donne 2000 also celebrated the annual Festa Delle Donne, also known as, International Women's Day, which is on March 8th. It is a very significant day in Italy and abroad as well as in the United States. It is an opportunity for society to remember the importance of

women, their important contributions to the betterment of our society, to recognize their sacrifices and to celebrate their achievements. It is also a day set aside to commemorate the women of the world who have endured injustices and fought for women's rights, which we enjoy today. In Italy the symbol of the day, the yellow mimosa flower, is an expression of women's solidarity. Each woman received a favor wrapped and adorned with the mimosa flower

which was donated by members Doreen Federico and Lillian DeSantis.

This event was also the Donne 2000 Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. The scholarship program is a hallmark of Donne 2000's mission of maintaining the Italian language and culture alive today and for future generations. This year's scholarship award was presented to Gabriella Rocchi, a sophomore at Winchester High School, who has excelled in the Italian language and demonstrates an unwavering appreciation of her Italian heritage.

Evelina Volpe DiPietro was honored as the oldest tenured member of Donne 2000. Rosa Giammarco, President of Donne 2000, presented Evelina with a certificate of appreciation for her support and dedication to Donne 2000 throughout the years. Evelina was instrumental in translating many poems and documents from English to Italian for our members to read.

The surprise of the day was when members, Sandra & Lisa Ventresca presented Rosa Giammarco, with a certificate of recognition from Mayor Michelle Wu. Rosa was acknowledged and honored for her 25 years as president of Donne 2000 and her commitment and dedication to celebrating and preserving Italian traditions while fostering a strong sense of sisterhood and philanthropy.

The celebration was held at the Amici Club in Medford with a delicious lunch catered by Fratelli Catering. DJ Alan LaBella kept the crowd entertained with music and dancing. There were many

raffles donated by Donne 2000 members and local businesses. We wish to thank all our sponsors for their generous contributions and donations to our raffle. Many thanks to all our members who helped to plan this most memorable day!

Viva le Donne!

Donne 2000 is an organization that keeps Italian traditions alive from generation to generation through ethnic and cultural events. Please visit our Donne 2000 Facebook Page.



Board with Scholarship Award: Left to Right: Guido Rocchi (accepting award on his daughter Gabriella's behalf), Doreen Giammarco, and Rosa Giammarco



Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Wu: Left to Right: Lisa Ventresca, Rosa Giammarco, Sandra Ventresca



Alan LaBella and the ladies

THE LEADERSHIP GENIUS OF ELON MUSK

BY DENNIS KNEALE

Book Review by John Joseph Fahey

Recently published (Broadside Books, 2025) *The Leadership Genius of Elon Musk* by Dennis Kneale allows readers to appreciate what exactly Elon Musk, Senior Advisor to the President and CEO of Telsa and SpaceX as well as Executive Chairman and CTO (Chief Technology Officer) of X, formerly Twitter has done in a relatively short time to not only make an enormous impact on technology but also becoming largely controversial himself. One must also state that due to Musk's technological acumen and prowess along with being disposed to taking risks with often impressive windfalls, it is not surprising that he is also known as the world's wealthiest individual.

The author writes of Musk's general modus operandi in a comparatively concise but through narrative spanning eleven chapters designated as lessons and each lesson an explanatory about various business endeavors in which Musk has been involved where his ingenuity, initiative, enterprise, resourcefulness and tenacity has propagated into very successful endeavors.

Although this book was published prior to Musk heading the Department of Government Efficiency in the current Trump Administration (DOGE), one will ascertain given Kneale's research, it is not surprising why he was chosen to lead an agency with the primary goal of identifying and eliminating, or at least curtailing programs proved to be wasteful and demanding on the federal budget.

The biography does not extend back to Musk's formative years, but rather focuses on his years as an astute business man, creator and visionary – visionary being the operative word, certainly as it applies to Musk. While reading this well researched work, readers will discover that despite his proclivity for introducing new and innovative projects and ventures on colossal levels, his programs have not been without opposition. Ironic too as the book clearly points out that some of these enterprises — formidable and some largely successful, were implemented by Musk as

altruistic endeavors — not created necessarily for profit but for the benefit of humanity.

Indeed, Kneale presents Musk favorably, and not just because of his unselfishness or because of his determination in the pursuit and implementation in the field of scientific and technological revolution, but in demonstrating judicious intellect — as well as within high level social circles and in the political arena. All eleven chapters validate this. One can almost say *The Leadership Genius of ELON MUSK* could be used as primer respective to the art of business strategy and tactics in conducting not just the uncomplicated business deal but within diplomatic engagements carrying high stakes, which the author gives numerous examples!

And the familiar maxim, *The proof is in the pudding* can be further applied to convince one of Musk's success. Indeed, Kneale enlightens his readers with impressive statistics — a measurement of achievement that makes him such a formidable entrepreneur. Although Kneale uses imposing data throughout this work, the following citation referencing SpaceX will reinforce how strong and ultimately accomplished only one of his ventures has been respective to the international community:

"It racked up ninety-one launches of the Falcon 9, plus five launches of the bigger Falcon Heavy, up from only sixty-one mission the year before. This works out to a new launch every four days. SpaceX launched the Falcon 9 more times in one year than it had in the first decade after the Falcon's arrival; one craft has now been flown nineteen times, a record. The company also logged its 250th landing of an orbital rocket booster, and it managed to launch two rockets just three hours apart, something never seen since 1966."

However, it just not only with space travel that is of interest to Musk but with other positions too.

For example, we find that in Lesson 6 (i.e. Chapter 6) "Free

Speech Is Everything, Stand Up And Be Heard," the significance of Free Speech cannot be overstated. The chapter references X, previously known as Twitters in terms not only applicable to the social platform itself, but advances a theme prevalent throughout Neale's book, and indeed integral in Musk's philosophy — the value and significance of Free Speech, and how X is not only for the transfer of communication, but allows one to communicate without fear of reprisal, as Musk's statement to followers of X shortly after X's purchase in October of 2022 demonstrates: "The reason I acquired Twitter is because it is important to the future of civilization to have a common digital town square, where a wide range of beliefs can be debated in a healthy manner, without resorting to violence."

We find also how paramount the platform is in general usage as Kneale writes: "...X, nee Twitter, remains the single most important media platform in the world. It is a platform for citizen videos of urban warfare in the Israel-Hamas war; official, breaking-news statements of government officials and politicians; and investigative threads that are striking for their depth and expertise."

Given Musk's many accomplishments in the corporate and political realm, and achievements attained through demanding and often implausible circumstances, one can appreciate why Kneale chose to title his book *The Leadership Genius of Elon Musk*.

This work is very much recommended; its 250 pages well written and is not only educational and revealing but well-organized in presentation, and in meeting its objective of giving the reader an understanding of how Elon Musk reached a position where it would not be an overstatement to suggest that Musk is at the top of his game!

Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Hans Christian Andersen

Hans Christian Andersen born April 2, 1805, Odense, near Copenhagen, was a Danish master of the literary fairy tale whose stories achieved wide renown. He is also the author of plays, novels, poems, travel books, and several autobiographies. While many of those works are almost unknown outside Denmark, his fairy tales are among the most frequently translated works in all of literary history.



Andersen experienced an unhappy childhood marked by deep poverty. When he was 14 years old, he left his parents' home and fled alone to Copenhagen. Here the director of the Royal Theater, Jonas Collin, took care of the child and gave him shelter and work. With his help, the young Hans Christian Andersen was also able to attend school. Inspired by his theater work, he began to write his first plays, which he later wanted to expand into stage plays. The first stories and poems were created at this time. In 1822, Andersen's first plots were published with great success. He became a recognized writer in 1829 with his fantastic stories, which were entirely based on the example of the German writer Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann. Andersen's debut novel, *The Improviser*, was written in 1835 and received extremely positive reviews from critics.

The Danish philosopher and writer Søren Kierkegaard was critical of him in his 1837 work *Only a Violinist*. From 1839 Andersen was provided with a state poet's salary. As a result, financially secure, he traveled to Europe, Asia and Africa. However, he spent most of his time in Germany. He recorded his adventures and experiences in dramas, novels and travel books. Anderson became a literary figure with worldwide recognition through his precise portrayal of individual characters, which the writer wrote in everyday language that was atypical at the time. During his literary work, Andersen wrote some of the most popular children's stories of modern times. Andersen's collected fairy tales and poems were published between 1835 and 1848. His most successful stories include *The Ugly Duckling*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Snow Queen* and *The Princess and the Pea*. Andersen's extensive legacy includes over 150 fairy tales, including *The Little Mermaid*, which gave rise to the sculpture of the same name in memory of him in the harbor of Copenhagen. Andersen's stories have been translated into over 80 languages and served as plays, ballets, picture books and later as successful films.

Hans Christian Andersen died on August 4, 1875 in Copenhagen.



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LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
Middlesex Division
Docket No. 25W0343

SUMMONS BY GUANTION

IRMA BEATRIZ MINGA GUAILLAS, Plaintiff(s)
v.
WILLIAM ROBERT PICO ALVIA, Defendant(s)

To the above named Defendant(s) **William Robert Pico Alvia**

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff(s), **Irma Beatriz Minga Guailas** seeking a Complaint for **Custody/Support/Parenting Time including a Request for Special Findings of Fact and Rulings of Law.**

You are required to serve upon **Irma Beatriz Minga Guailas** or attorney for plaintiff(s) whose address is **Nutter McClennen and Fish LLP, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston, MA 02210** your answer on or before **29th day of April 2025**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of this Court at **370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor, Lowell, MA 01852**.

Witness, **TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, Esq., First Justice of said Court at Lowell, this day of March 18th, 2025.**

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Court
Run date: 04/04/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
Middlesex Division
Docket No. 25W0342

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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WILLIAM ROBERT PICO ALVIA, Defendant(s)

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Run date: 04/04/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

Docket No. SU25P0705EA

Estate of
LAWRENCE ORR HEATH
Also Known As:
LAWRENCE O. HEATH

Date of Death: February 18, 2025

**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Mary C. Heath of Manalapan, NJ**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Mary C. Heath of Manalapan, NJ has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 04/04/2025



SHAMELESS: THE COMPLETE SERIES (DVD)
Warner Bros. Discovery Home Ent.

From Executive Producer John Wells, Warner Bros. Discovery Home Entertainment has released *Shameless: The Complete Series*, the critically acclaimed, long-running series in one complete set for the first time ever on a 34-disc DVD collection! Binge on all 134 episodes from the 11 incredible seasons of Showtimes Emmy award-winning original series, along with all the previously released special features. The American comedy-drama television series is based on the British series of the same name. *Shameless* stars Emmy Award Winner William H. Macy, Emmy Rossum, Emmy Award Winner Jeremy Allen White, Cameron Monaghan, Emma Kenney, Ethan Cutkosky, Shanola Hampton, Steve Howey, Noel Fisher and special guest star Joan Cusack. Meet Frank Gallagher (Macy): proud, working-class patriarch to a motley brood of six smart, spirited and independent kids who, without him, would be ... better off. In Frank's booze-addled view, parenting just eats into his hard-earned bar-crawling time around Chicago — so he leaves it to eldest daughter Fionna (Rossum) to hold down the fort. Bearing the de facto parent badge/burden, she's donned the proverbial apron and makes sure her younger siblings do their chores, keep a clean-ish home, and everyone (no matter how small) works to keep the house lights on, as well as food on the table. Brothers Lip (White), Ian (Monaghan), and Carl (Cutkosky) use their intellect to break every rule in the book to survive and make the bank, while younger sister Debbie (Kenney) would sooner steal her share, Toddler Liam, the youngest, is just happy to be along for the ride. The Gallaghers are irreverent, endearing, resilient — and they're absolutely, wildly and unapologetically Shameless.

ABBOTT ELEMENTARY: THE COMPLETE THIRD SEASON (DVD)
Warner Bros. Discovery Home Ent.

Get your favorite back-to-school outfit ready as school is back in session with the just released *Abbott Elementary: The Complete Third Season* on DVD. Follow the lives of the staff we have grown to know and love working at Willard R. Abbott Elementary School, and go down memory lane with all 14 hilarious, wholesome and "educational" episodes from the third season. It's the season for change for the teachers of Abbott Elementary. Janine leads ambitious growth initiatives for the school while navigating personal and professional challenges. Gregory embraces his role as the "cool" teacher. Ava surprises with moments of unexpected leadership. From Career Day to a heartfelt end-of-year celebration, the Abbott staff proves that with teamwork — and Janine's relentless drive — they can handle anything. Quinta

Brunson, Emmy Award winner for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series, created the series and stars as Janine Teagues. Brunson, alongside Justin Halpern and Patrick Schumacker of Delicious Non-Sequitur Productions, Randall Einhorn and Brian Rubenstein serve as executive producers. In addition to Brunson, the cast includes Tyler James Williams as Gregory Eddie, Janelle James as Ava Coleman, Lisa Ann Walter as Melissa Schemmenti, Chris Perfetti as Jacob Hill, William Stanford Davis as Mr. Johnson, and Emmy® Award winner Sheryl Lee Ralph as Barbara Howard.

BLUE SUNSHINE (4K Ultra HD) Synapse Films
Synapse Films will release Jeff Lieberman's notorious LSD horror film *Blue Sunshine*. At a house party in the countryside, Frannie Scott is singing when he gets a little frisky and tries to kiss a friend's date. When the friend pulls him off the woman, he unexpectedly yanks the hair off Frannie's head. This leads to a psychotic outburst from Frannie that turns into fiery mayhem. Frannie chases after partygoer Jerry Zipkin and in a twist of fate, Jerry is suspected as the killer by the investigating police detectives and goes into hiding while he tries to clear his name. He soon discovers that Frannie isn't the only person in the area who has gone bald and turned into a homicidal maniac. Wendy, a divorced mother of two, notices her hair falling out and attributes it to the stress of raising her rambunctious kids. Will she end up like the others? She gets no help from her ex-husband, who is busy running for Congress. Eventually Jerry and his friend Alicia link the murderous behavior and baldness to a Stanford University experiment in the mid-60s that involved a version of LSD called Blue Sunshine.

THE LADY IS THE BOSS (Blu-ray) 88 Films

A culture-clash comedy — with kung fu! A thoroughly Americanized young woman returns to Hong Kong to visit the martial arts school founded by her father and shakes it up with some trendy new ideas. But not everyone is keen on her innovations, a lesson she'll have to learn the hard way. Directed by and starring the great Lau Kar-leung, *The Lady is the Boss* blends fun and fighting as only he could — and those fights are some of the very best of his illustrious career.

AN AMOROUS WOMAN OF TANG DYNASTY (Blu-ray) 88 Films

One of the last films produced at Hong Kong's legendary Shaw Brothers studio, and absolutely one of their finest — a visually ravishing and erotically charged story of a free-spirited female poet Yu who, frustrated by the conservative times in which she lives, refuses to behave in the ways nice young ladies are supposed to. Despite plentiful clothes-off action, this is so much more than a soft-core "romp," boasting an artistic ambition that Shaw Brothers didn't always show in their kung fu movies.

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

Bob Wills Day in Turkey, Texas Still on My Bucket List

In a few weeks, country music fans from everywhere will be heading to Turkey, Texas for the 53rd Annual Bob Wills Day. This legendary country singer passed away on May 13, 1975 dying from pneumonia. Ironically, his last album came out in 1973 and was titled "For the Last Time."

Following his death, the town of Turkey started this tribute to a local legend. This year the 53rd Annual Bob Wills Day will happen the weekend of April 24th-26th.

Bob Wills is a big man in Western Swing Music and the upcoming lineup looks great. Everyone remembers him and Waylon Jennings sang a tune about him "Bob Wills is STILL THE KING."

They're Protesting in Palestine too but

Palestinians have taken to the streets in protest against Hamas last week, calling for an end to the war that Hamas started which has devastated the Gaza Strip.

Over here in our country, protesters have taken to the streets too but, ironically, they are protesting against Israel and in support of Hamas. Shame on protesters supporting terrorists like Hamas here on college campuses. It is easy to support Hamas thousands of miles away from the havoc they have inflicted upon Palestinians caught in the cross-fire.

Latest from My Email Inbox
"When I read about the City of Boston taking street parking away from Giorgiana's Market on Tremont Street over in Boston's South End for bus and bike lanes, it triggered me. And every time I walk up State Street I'm shocked at how awful it looks. Michelle Wu has apparently convinced herself that because serious crime is down, we should celebrate her leadership. However, the quality of living in Boston has gotten much worse under her mayoralty."

— Sean Flaherty
Charlestown

Annual Quinn Scholarship Banquet, April 5th

The Annual Michael Quinn Scholarship Banquet will be held at the Knights in Charlestown on Saturday, April 5th. For more information on the dinner or scholarships, go to quinn scholarship.org or call Ronan FitzPatrick at 617-242-5493.

Scholarship applications can be downloaded at quinn scholarship.org. The application form must be received by April 15th.

Remembering the Great Brook Benton?

I was recently relaxing at home and my TV was on the Music Choice stations and I started listening to a singer named Brook Benton. The song was "It's Just a Matter of time." It's a great song and I have heard it many times before but never really wondered much about the artist. Turns out it was a singer who started his singing career the same year I came into this world (1948). I looked him up and found out he was a great singer from



"Revere First" Anthony Parziale just held a very well attended campaign kick-off for his bid for Revere City Council at large over at the Sand Bar on March 27th. He's in it to win. Make Revere Proud

the '50s and '60s. The above song topped the Billboard Hot R&B Sides in 1959. His music transcended many genres from rock and roll to R&B. He was considered a great soul singer too. If he had been born a few decades later, he could have gone a lot further. In 1960, he sang "Something I Believe In." Earlier, in 1958, it was "A Million Miles from Nowhere."

He once sang with Dinah Washington a tune called "Baby You Got What it Takes." The song went far but the two singers couldn't stand each other. Nevertheless, they plugged through it together and came up with a hit.

When I think of Benton, the first song that pops in mind has to be "Rainy Night in Georgia." Lots have sung this song but Benton's voice owned it.

Benton passed away on April 9, 1988 at only 56 years old and this year he would be celebrating his 93rd birthday. A voice silenced far too young.

Quote to Note

"Don't want nobody to give me nothing, open the door I'll get myself."

— James Brown, lyrics from his hit song, "I Don't Want Nobody to Give Me Nothing."

Speaking of James Brown, don't forget about THE DAY JAMES BROWN SAVED BOSTON CONCERT that will happen Saturday, April 5th over in Grove Hall at Prince Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after April 28, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2006 JEEP LIBERTY
Vin # 1J4GL48K16W191902
2022 MERCEDES BENZ GLS-CLASS
Vin # 4JGFF5KE2NA675361
2016 TOYOTA RAV4
Vin # 2T3RFREV4GW537507
2008 FORD EDGE
Vin # 2FMDK49C78BA47368
2012 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
Vin # 3VWDX7AJ6CM342158
2007 NISSAN ALTIMA
Vin # 1N4BL21E97N443479
2009 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin # 5NPET46C29H574847
2013 NISSAN JUKE
Vin # JN8AF5MV1DT208886
2006 JEEP LIBERTY
Vin # 1J4GL48KX6W172250

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

Run dates: 04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after April 14, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2013 INFINITI G37
Vin # JN1CV6ARXDM352101
2007 MERCEDES BENZ S-CLASS
Vin # WDDNG86X07A103157
2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
Vin # 5NP74L4FH067591
2005 HONDA ODYSSEY
Vin # 5FNRL38445B417184
2004 HONDA PILOT
Vin # 2HKYF18104H616200
2009 NISSAN MURANO
Vin # JN8AZ18W79W151845
2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Vin # 2GCEK19V031385539
2008 HONDA ODYSSEY
Vin # 5FNRL38448B412684
2004 FORD F150
Vin # 1FTPWF14584FA36286
2012 SUBARU IMPREZA
Vin # JF1GPA60CH219048
2012 KIA FORTE
Vin # KNAFU4A26C5635329

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

Run dates: 03/21, 03/28, 04/04/2025

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Easter is on the 20th of this month, but back in the day, to prepare, we used to head to a department store and purchase an Easter outfit. Sunday Masses were filled with women wearing dresses, gloves and hats. Men wore suits, shirts and ties. More often than not, they also wore hats. Today, this doesn't happen. People wear casual clothes for almost everything, but back then, we dressed, especially on Easter Sunday.

Mom would bring Nanna to Jordan Marsh and they would shop for their Easter outfits.

Uncle Nick would bring Babbononno to Raymonds, like Jordan Marsh, a long-gone Washington Street department store. Dad would bring me to Filene's Basement, and combined, we all would look for Easter outfits.

When I was a kid, Dad had a friend who worked at a men's clothing factory in East Boston called Picarello and Singer. If you were related to someone who worked there, you could purchase the garments at the manufacturer's cost ... a much lower price than you would pay at a retail clothing store. Dad's friend classified Dad as a cousin, so we were in. There were a few other places Dad liked to shop at, so we would make the rounds.

I did enjoy the hustle and bustle of Filene's Basement. Dad knew someone there, also. His friend would point us in the right direction for the best quality and lowest price for suits, shirts, ties, shoes and hats. When I entered English High School, I headed for Filene's Basement on my own and was befriended by a salesman who was an English High graduate. For the next 15 or 20 years, he waited on me when I was looking for clothes, but I digress.

With Easter being a few weeks off, it was time to head to the stores and plan our Easter outfits. After the purchases were made, we would all head back to the big house on Eutaw Street in East Boston and model the clothes looking for approval from the rest of the family. Mom and Nanna would mark the dresses where they needed tailoring, and the same would apply to the rest of us. My father and grandfather's new suits would need tailoring as would my new clothes. Once the approval process was over, we would head to see Billy the Tailor. Billy was a paesano of Babbononno's and one of the

best tailors I have ever known. His shop was across from East Boston High School and always smelled of carbon tetrachloride, a cleaning fluid that had a pungent aroma. I used to say that Billy had magic fingers when he would alter a garment that didn't fit right. He was so good; he could make an off the rack cheap suit look like it was custom made just for you. Billy would come at you with a piece of tailor's chalk and mark the suit or dress in many places as you modeled it. With the men, he would ask us if we wanted cuffs or not on our pants, Dad yes, and Babbononno definitely not. Early on I had cuffs on my pants, but later and to this day, no cuffs. Billy would insist on us modeling our clothing after he did the preliminary tailoring. If everything checked out to his satisfaction, he would finish the job. If not, he would make whatever changes he thought were necessary for a perfect fit.

I remember the spring of 1955. I was ready to head to Filene's Basement because Easter was a month or so away and I wanted to buy a new suit. I was working at the Seville Theater and could afford to buy my own clothes, which made me a 15-year-old a bit on the independent side. Before I headed in town, Dad informed me that one of our neighbors, Danny Gallo, worked in the garment industry and could get us suits cheaper than we could buy them for at Filene's Basement. I said OK and that night, Danny came over with swatches of material for us to choose from. Dad chose a navy blue and I chose a powder blue. Both were tropical blends and could be worn all year round. I wanted the latest style, a one button roll jacket, sort of a latter-day zoot suit from the '40s. The suit which was to be cut to my specifications, was going to cost me the outrageous price of \$24.00.

The next day, I headed to Filene's Basement and looked for a pair of pointed-toe navy blue suede shoes. I found them. From Filene's, I headed to Tremont Street and a high style men's shop called Sumner's, For Men Who Know Style. There I bought a Mr. B collar shirt. A Mr. B collar shirt had two curves in the front going from the button to the end of the collar. When it was buttoned and rolled, it looked like the M on a McDonald's burger sign. Oh by the way, it was named after the

'50s jazz singer Billy Eckstein who used it as a fashion statement. The tailor at Sumner's even added my initials to the shirt without an added charge. I found a navy blue narrow velvet tie and a pair of silk navy sox to finish off the ensemble, and headed home.

A few days later, the neighbor, Dally Gallo, came over after dinner with two suits, the one Dad ordered and the one I had chosen. We tried them on but both agreed that Billy the Tailor would have to ply his magic to finish them off. We paid Danny and that Saturday, headed to see Billy with our new suits. Of course, Babbononno being a paesano of Billy's had to come along to hang out with his pal. Billy used a piece of tailor's chalk and marked the length of the sleeves, length of the pant legs and the shape of the middle of the jackets. We were set to go, but were told by Billy that the wait would be longer than usual as he had a lot of Easter work to handle within the next few weeks. As long as we could get out suits back before the holiday they were intended for, we would be happy. Billy gave us the date they would be ready and we headed home.

Babbononno called me into his bedroom and handed me a pair of cuff links and a tie stud to use with my new shirt and tie. He said, "Jenny, deeza real golda, eh I no wear dem no moh. You take-a dem eh you looka even bedda with-a new zootza eh my golda." I always liked Babbononno's jewelry. It was always understated but looked expensive. I thanked him and tried on the new shirt and tie and showed him what they looked like with the cuff links and tie stud he had given me. He examined them on me and gave me his approval. I was happy and waited out the time until the suit would be ready.

Mom made Dad buy a new shirt and tie to compliment the new navy blue suit that he was going to wear on Easter Sunday. We headed for Arkin's Men Shop on Bennington Street. Sam Arkin, the owner and Dad were friends from the old days, and together, picked out what Dad wanted. Within a few days, the ladies had their dresses and we our suits back from Billy the Tailor. All was well as we waited for Holy Week to arrive and Easter Sunday Mass, when the family would walk to church dressed in new Easter outfits.

GOD BLESS AMERICA



Easter in Italian American homes wouldn't be complete without *Torta di Riso*, a beloved dessert with variations ranging from silky custard-like textures to rich, creamy ricotta-filled rice pies, all deeply rooted in tradition. While its more famous predecessor, *Pastiera di Grano* (Wheat Pie), reigns supreme in Naples — where it was originally fashioned by nuns at the San Gregorio Armeno convent — *Torta di Riso* emerged as a beloved variation.

This rice-based adaptation is thought to have originated in Campania, where rice replaced wheat due to its availability in regions like Salerno. However, while *Pastiera di Grano* remains the quintessential Easter dessert in Southern Italy, *Torta di Riso* has found a cherished place among Italian American families, passed down through generations.

For me, this pie is more than a dessert — it's a memory. My *Nonna's* Americanized version, featuring *pasta frolla* (Italian short-crust pastry) and a rich pineapple-infused ricotta-rice filling, was a highlight at our Easter celebrations. I can still hear her reminding me to let the filling rest overnight for the best flavor and to feel the dough before rolling to make sure it was "just right." I hope you enjoy this comforting classic as much as my family always has!

NONNA'S ITALIAN RICE PIE *Pastiera di Riso*



Filling

1 large organic orange, quartered	2 pounds ricotta cheese
2 ½ cups whole milk	2 cups heavy whipping cream
1 cup dry Arborio or Carolina rice	1 tablespoon vanilla extract
9 large eggs	1 (15-ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained
1 ½ cups granulated sugar	

Pasta Frolla (Shortcrust Pastry)

4 cups all-purpose flour	½ cup + 1 tablespoon shortening, chilled
4 teaspoons baking powder	4 eggs, beaten
1 cup sugar	1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract

Prepare the Filling

In a medium saucepan, combine rice, whole milk, and quartered orange. Cook over low heat until the rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Once cooked, remove the orange pieces and squeeze the juice into the rice. Set aside to cool.

In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs and sugar until well combined. Blend in ricotta and vanilla extract until smooth. Stir in the heavy cream, followed by the cooled rice and drained crushed pineapple. Mix well. Cover and refrigerate the filling for several hours or overnight for best results.

Prepare the Pasta Frolla

In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, and sugar. Cut in the chilled shortening with a pastry blender (or use your hands) until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Mix in the beaten eggs and vanilla extract until the dough comes together. Knead lightly, wrap in plastic, and chill for at least 30 minutes.

When ready to bake, preheat the oven to 325°F (165°C) at least an hour before. Grease two 22 cm (8-9 inch) routi pans or one 9x13-inch pan and set aside.

Remove dough and filling from the refrigerator.

If using one large pan, divide the dough in half; if using two smaller pans, divide into quarters. Roll out the dough to fit the bottom and sides of the pan(s), keeping it thin, as it will expand during baking. Pour the ricotta-rice filling evenly into the prepared pan(s). Roll out the remaining dough and cut into strips to create a lattice top.

Bake for 1 to 1 ½ hours, or until the center is set and the top is lightly golden.

Allow the pie to cool completely, then refrigerate overnight. For the best flavor, bring the pie to room temperature for at least an hour before serving.

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

• Elon Musk's Team of Patriots (Continued from Page 2)

at NIH speak to each other and to ensure researchers receive 85% of federal grant money rather than the current 60%, with the remainder going to their universities."

Anthony Armstrong is a former Morgan Stanley tech banker who helped orchestrate Musk's \$44 billion acquisition of twitter (now X). His focus is on shrinking the federal workforce by targeting duplicative

functions and wasteful spending, pointing to the 1,400 people at the IRS whose job is just to handout laptops and cell phones to staff.

Tyler Hassen is a Texas energy company executive who feels it is his patriotic duty to assist DOGE. "Under the Biden administration, there was no departmental oversight, pointing to a \$905 million contract for a customer service survey

so simple I could have done it in high school."

"The reason we're doing this is because, if we don't, America is going to go bankrupt. The change DOGE is making will allow the federal government to pass an audit and enable taxpayers to know where their money is going and that their hard-earned tax dollars are being spent well," exclaimed Musk.

THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso



The Triumph of the Turtles



Green Sea turtle

It may not have been the most majestic sight I saw in Hawaii or the most picturesque, but the perseverance and unflinching courage of the green sea turtles flapping their flippers on the shore of Ho'okipa Beach to lay their eggs is surely among the greatest testaments to the resiliency of life in Maui. The turtles don't even make it look easy. They lay on the sand protecting their soon to be hatchlings, patiently awaiting the day the new generation of green sea turtles will accompany them back into the ocean. Before that day comes the parents put on a truly inspiring show of making their way back. Revolving their flippers they waded the rocky sand, slowly inching their way

Resilience was needed on the day I arrived at Ho'okipa Beach. A heavy rainfall began almost immediately after I parked my rental car and made my way to the overlook to observe some humpback whales in the distance. The storm started gradually, with winds and then a soaking rain. I withheld while I could, but not having rain gear with me that would not be for long. I made my way back into my vehicle and within minutes the rest of the spectators had as well. Even the chickens that ran free around the island took shelter under bushes. The rain did nothing, however, to deter a handful of intrepid surfers who took up the challenge to ride the wild waves.



The shore

to the water. When they are close enough the waves sweep them back in and they are lost to the hundreds of spectators as they swim gracefully in the shielding blue waters of Ho'okipa.

Gradually the storm faded, the clouds began to clear and the spectators emerged from their vehicles.

I made my way down the overlook and closer to the beach where much of the crowd was gathered watching the life cycle of the turtles, while a band of locals that had taken shelter under an overhang played hits from the '70s on a radio. Once down by the turtles I got to talking to a family from Seattle who recommended other great areas for sightseeing on the island. There was a unifying result in watching the dedication of the adult sea turtles; a species so unlike us in so many ways and yet risking injury and death to breed new life.

Seeing so many turtles dotting the shores of Ho'okipa Beach one may be forgiven for forgetting that the green sea turtle is classified as an endangered species, hunted in much of its native range for its meat and shell. But in Hawaii, a state with an exemplary record for conservation, the natural world prevails. There, even the green sea turtles remind humans of the triumph of life.

Could Celtics Sale be a Dead Deal?

The Boston Celtics tentative new ownership may be in serious peril. Top bidder, Bill Chisolm, is facing unexpected obstacles as he attempts to take ownership of the world championship franchise. Axios' Dan Primack reported that Chisolm, in his attempt to purchase the team for an unprecedented \$6.1 billion dollar price tag, committed less money to the sale than the private equity firm, Sixth Street Partners.

"That is not allowed by the NBA, per regulations first established in 2021. Instead, a private equity fund can have the lesser of 20% or below the percentage held by the control owner (who must hold a 15% minimum stake)," reported Primack. According to the report, Chisolm

could opt to seek a waiver from the league, hoping that other owners, intrigued by the Celtic's purchase price could mean for future expansion fees, or he could enlist additional investors so that "Sixth Street's full check is no longer needed, and the firm allows itself to fall below Chisolm in the cap table."

It's believed that Chisolm will embrace the latter option with Forbes reporting that he recently has "offered one billionaire the opportunity to buy a stake in the team." The sale of the majority stake to Chisolm's group is expected to be voted on by the NBA's Board of Governors in June. Longtime Celtics co-owner, Steve Pagliuca, who lost out to Chisolm in the bidding process, said in a statement last

week that he "remained interested in buying the franchise if the current offer fell through for any reason," pointing out that his offer was "fully guaranteed and financed at a record price and had no debt or private equity money that would potentially hamstring our ability to compete in the future."

"We have felt it was the best offer for the Celtics. It is a bid of true fans, deeply connected to Boston's community, and we've been saddened to find out that we had not been selected in the process," Pagliuca initially stated upon the announcement of Chisolm and group as the new buyers.

It looks like Pagliuca could quite possibly get another shot at purchasing this iconic team.

An Italian Success and Loyalty

First-generation Italian American and Queens, New York native Mike Repole dreamed of becoming GM of the Mets or coach of St. John's University basketball team, his alma mater. Although neither of these became a reality for Repole, becoming an entrepreneur, and founding brands like Vitamin Water and Body Armor, both of which he sold to Coca-Cola, for \$4.1 and \$5.6 billion, respectively, was in his future. But Repole isn't your typical billionaire. "Instead of wearing Tom Ford I dress like Adam Sandler. And I'm happy with it. I've got the same friends for 45 years. I call my parents every night."

A 1991 graduate of St. John's, sports management major and a die-hard Johnnie's fan, Repole wanted to assist his former school in some way. The self-made billionaire decided to make a substantial seven figure donation and encourage others

to follow suit. His money made it possible for Coach Rick Pitino to recruit pivotal athletes into the St. John's basketball program, with an NIL payroll of approximately \$4 million, believed to be the No. 1 in the Big East. "College sports have always been a business. Now it's being shared in different ways," said Repole on his contribution to St. Johns.

One aspect Repole makes perfectly clear, this isn't just a financial transaction, this is extremely personal for him. He has always been a Johnnie's fan, and a supporter of legendary coach Lou Carnesseca, but became frustrated over the school's leadership and long-time basketball championship drought. In 2021, a much-needed change came when newly hired St. John's University President Father Brian Shanley hired Rick Pitino as head coach of the basketball program, and it's been

steady climb to success ever since.

Last month St. John's University basketball ended a 25-year drought, clinching the Big East Tournament. As the team cut down it's nets in celebration of their title and miraculous two-year turn around under Coach Pitino, Mike Repole watched in awe from the floor at Madison Square Garden. Headed to the airport after the game, Repole was overcome with emotion, memories and gratitude, not only as a fan and native New Yorker, but for the opportunity to be part of a life-long dream.

Unfortunately, the Red Storm Johnnie's and Coach Pitino were one and done in the recent NCAA tournament, losing to another legendary coach, and fellow Italian-American, John Calipari and the Arkansas Razorbacks.

Repole is another Italian-American made good who never forgot his roots.

New Major League Baseball (MLB) Food Choices this Season

Any member of Red Sox Nation knows that Fenway Park is the most iconic, historical and oldest original MLB ballpark still in use today. However, when given the opportunity, most die-hard baseball fans will take the opportunity to visit other parks in various cities across the country. Part of that experience is sampling food items offered at each location. This season, there will be a number of new food options for baseball fans across the nation.

Although MLB will have two fewer venues during the 2025 season, with the displaced Tampa Bay Rays temporarily playing at the Spring Training home of the New York Yankees and the former Oakland, California Athletics utilizing a minor league facility in West Sacramento until their move to Las Vegas becomes official, there will still be plenty of new menu offerings at the other twenty-eight ballparks.

If you happen to be at the dreaded New York Yankees Stadium in the Bronx, try one of their newest desserts, the

Petroni tiramisu. New to Yankee Stadium in 2025, Petroni tiramisu is made of espresso mascarpone cream, lady finger cookies and cocoa powder. The tiramisu comes in a Yankees collectible helmet.

If your travels take you to the windy city of Chicago and Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs, try one of the rotating homestand selections including the jibarito sandwich containing roast beef, garlic, butter lettuce, tomato and garlic oil in between two smashed and fried plantains, or the chicken and waffles, a plant-based kimchi burger and puffy tacos topped with carne asada.

As you head southwest stop by Chase Field and catch an Arizona Diamondbacks game while enjoying the Grand Slamwich. This 20-inch sandwich is part chicken parmesan and part meatball with Marzano tomato sauce, provolone, pesto and Parmesan served with a side of kettle chips and house gardeniera. It's an amazing sandwich

and is deserving of its name.

As you swing up to California and take in a Los Angeles Dodgers game at Dodger Stadium try the Slugger, a 16-inch jalapeno cheddar sausage topped with corn relish, white cheddar cheese sauce, cilantro crema and crunchy tortilla strips, served with fries. Dodger fans can also indulge in a new home run platter and a fried peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

As you round the bases and work your way up to T-Mobile Park, home of the Seattle Mariners, grab a What Up Corn Dog, a Mariners blue, honey-battered corn dog with a spicy crunch and served with nacho cheese, or if that doesn't entice you try Ichi wings, created in honor of Hall of Fame player Ichiro Suzuki and ice cream nachos for dessert.

Where-ever your palate and passion for baseball takes you, enjoy and indulge in any of these gastronomical delights and remember, root, root for the home team — *Go Red Sox!*

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. M124C1085CA
In the Matter of
EYAN ALEXANDER NEWTON
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Eyan Alexander Newton of Marlborough, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Eyan Alexander Newton

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 23, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court
Date: March 26, 2025
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 04/04/2025

K's for a Cause

Strike outs, or K's as baseball fans refer to them, are often hard-fought battles between pitchers and batters. In this case, Pittsburgh Pirates star pitcher Paul Skenes and opening day starter against the Miami Marlins, will be working extra hard to garner K's in order to assist Hollywood actor Gary Sinise's foundation, for the 2nd straight season, in raising funds for veterans, the military and first-responder communities.

Skenes, winner of the National League Rookie of the Year Award last season, will try to strikeout as many batters as he can for this worthy cause. In coordination with the Gary Sinise Foundation (GSF) for a strikeout campaign, Skenes has pledged to donate \$100 for each strikeout he throws this season, to the organization.

"I am very excited to partner again with the Gary Sinise Foundation and help our veterans and first responders during the 2025 season. I have tremendous respect and admiration for the men and women who sacrifice so much to protect and serve our communities. GSF provides an amazing platform to honor and support those who have done so much for me. I look forward to another year of supporting this amazing cause," said Skenes.

Sinese started this foundation in 2011 after volunteering with other agencies and organizations over the years. "A big thank you and much gratitude to Paul for his support of GSF and for this amazing offer and

invitation to batting practice for the top donor," stated Sinese. Skenes will personally thank the individual who makes the largest donation and will do a meet-and-greet and offer tickets for the Pirate's game against the New York Yankees.

It's the second season Skenes has partnered with the GSF. He notched 170 K's last season finishing third in the National League Cy Young Award voting.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

Docket No. SU25P0662EA

Estate of
DEBORAH B. BROWN
Also Known As:
DEBORAH BRUCE BROWN

Date of Death: February 08, 2025

**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **B. Andrew Zelermyer of Brookline, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

B. Andrew Zelermyer of Brookline, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 04/04/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

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

Docket No. MI25P1387EA

Estate of
TENSI HOPKINS
Date of Death: November 14, 2024

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Digna G. Hampton of Temple Terrace, FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Blanche Hampton of Temple Terrace, FL** 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 May 21, 2025.

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 26, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 04/04/2025

Red Sox Vs. Sultanes Watch Party

Last week (April 25th) in anticipation of the 2025 Red Sox season beginning days later, the Veronica Robles Cultural Center held a Watch Party for a Red Sox versus the Sultanes de Monterrey and it was a night of energy, fun and baseball spirit. Veronica Robles was glad to have brought this Watch Party and all the excitement surrounding it to East Boston.

Happy Birthday to Walt Frazier

I was never really a NY Knicks fan but I always enjoyed seeing

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. MI25C0351CA

In the Matter of
YANDELIS IANIRIS SOTO
**CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Yandelis Ianiris Soto of Lowell, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Yandelis Ianiris Arroyo**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 25, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court
Date: March 28, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 04/04/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

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

Docket No. MI25P1481EA

Estate of
ELIZABETH T. SHEEDY
Date of Death: February 27, 2025

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Cheryl W. Carroll of East Kingston, NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Cheryl W. Carroll of East Kingston, NH** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 24, 2025.

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 27, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 04/04/2025

EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani

Walt Frazier and Earl "the Pearl" Monroe run up and down the court, especially while watching a great Celtics-Knicks game on TV back in the day. Well, Walt Frazier was a smooth operator on the parquet and dressed like Shaft too. He just turned 80 years old on March 28th. Can you believe it? Monroe will be turning 81 this coming November. These two guy made the Knicks work so well back in my younger days.

This Catcher is Now Rolling in Dough, Huh?

Catcher Cal Raleigh and the Mariners have finalized a \$105 million, 6-year pack on March 26th. The deal supersedes the \$5.6 million, one-year agreement on January 9th that avoided salary arbitration. He also gets a \$10 million signing bonus payable upon the contracts approval by the commissioner's office.

Happy Birthday to Rick Barry

NBA Hall of Famer Rick Barry just turned 81 years old last Friday. I can't believe he's that old but then again, I keep getting older too. As for Barry, I loved watching him play his brand of B-Ball for the Warriors. As a lefty like him, it was always good to see his great left hooks. When I played basketball growing up in Roxbury over on the concrete basketball court behind the Emmanuel House, I always pretended to be Barry, always one of the very few left-handed NBA players I ever knew.

What's Going on with Devers

Something's gotta be wrong with Rafael Devers, he's looking terrible at the plate. As of April 1st, he's still looking for his first hit at-bat. He's struggling and struggling badly. At the moment, he looks like a ballplayer looking to set the record for most strikeouts in a season. I don't think even Dick Stuart back in the day looked this pathetic. This past Monday, he was looking better in his first at-bat. He took nine

pitches, four of them foul balls. He got his hard-earned walk but that was it for the game. He struck out his next three plate appearances.

Watching him walk up to the plate and then back to the dugout and bench, he looks more than a little out of shape. Makes me think back to 1967 and remember Joy Foy. He was a large guy too, which impacted his abilities covering third base. As big as I remember Foy, he was a big boy and sometimes struggled out there at third base. However, he was a fan favorite along with the rest of the Impossible Dream Team from 1967.

I'm thinking that is probably why Devers is the DH this year. Last year at third base, he had many struggles coming up with the ball, tagging someone out at third or throwing over to first.

Winthrop Little League 5k Run & Walk

The Winthrop Little League will be holding a 5K RUN & WALK on Saturday, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. Get ready for a FUNraiser. Put on your running shoes, gather your friends and join up for a day of fun, fitness and community. For more information on this event, go to runsignup.com/winthrop5k. It all starts at Little League Field and ends in Winthrop Center.

Bottom Line

Well, it looks like the Boston Celtics are on their way, hopefully repeating as the NBA Champions again this year. Last year, the Celtics gave their fans a great season as they went all the way with no one stopping them.

Speaking of the no stopping them. Last year, everyone forgot about "Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now" by McFadden & Whitehead. We still won even though we all forgot about the 1979 hit back during the Larry Bird era when it somewhat became a Boston Celtics anthem. If we want to push the Cavaliers to the curb, we better start playing McFadden & Whitehead again this year. I remember 1981 and 1984 when everyone in Boston was singing that song. Brought us luck and if we want to repeat again this year start singing this song wherever you go.

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. MI25C0233CA

In the Matter of
SUZANNE MARIE CARLEO
**CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Suzanne Marie Carleo of Newton, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Suzanne Jao Wargo**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of April 18, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court
Date: March 21, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 04/04/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at **171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970**, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **April 21, 2025** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2001 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin # 2T1BR12E51C505701

2007 ACURA TSX
Vin # JH4CL96867C000565

2010 HONDA ACCORD
Vin # 1HGCP2F36AA179406

2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
Vin # 1C4RJFAG2MC779506

2009 NISSAN VERSA
Vin # 3N1CC11E89L475502

2011 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
Vin # 3VWVZ7AJ8BM367412

2006 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin # 5NPEU46F46H121882

2005 FORD F150
Vin # 1FTPW14555FB00365

2024 BAODIAO 9 LINES
Vin # L2BB9NCC6RB110127

2012 SUBARU IMPREZA
Vin # JF1GV7F61CG015578

2015 HONDA ACCORD
Vin # 1HGCR2F3XFA088575

2005 TOYOTA SIENNA
Vin # 5TDZA22C45S230152

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

Run dates: 03/28, 04/04, 04/11/2025

Boxing Ringside



WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

Was Ali's Suspension in 1967 Good for Boxing?

With the recent passing of former heavyweight champion George Foreman, much is once again being said about the 1970s being the Golden Age of Heavyweight Boxing. To be sure, it was an exciting time for the division and boxing fans have a lot of fond memories of that time. But how and why did it happen?

Muhammad Ali was back on the scene after having been banned from the sport in 1967 for refusing induction into the United States Army. He was sidelined for three years before returning in 1970. In 1971, he took on Joe Frazier who now was recognized as the champ. Their epic battle lived up to its billing as The Fight of The Century. This started a decade of very interesting and exciting fights.

At first it appeared that the ban on Ali performing in the ring would hurt boxing. In fact, in a backwards way, it was a shot in the arm for the heavyweight division. Before he was denied access to the ring, Ali had been cleaning out the ranks of top heavyweights. His blinding speed and phenomenal reflexes were too much for the slower moving contenders. There was really no one left who was considered a serious threat to the champion.



Oscar Bonavena trying to impress Jimmy Ellis at the Weigh-in for their fight

Ali was a very active champ. After defeating Sonny Liston for the title in 1964, he didn't remain idle. He put the championship on the line nine times. He had five defenses in 1966 alone, and started of 1967 with two

fights by March before being suspended.

Ali had finished off most of the old guard of the division with his wins over Floyd Patterson, Cleveland Williams, Ernie Terrell, and Zora Folley. He traveled to Europe where he took on the best that continent had to offer in Brian London, Henry Cooper, and Karl Mildenerger. He crossed the border to Canada to win over George Chuvalo. Who was left?



Joe Frazier lands a right on Manuel Ramos

At this point in time there were a number of young contenders on the scene. These included Jerry Quarry, Thad Spencer, Manuel Ramos, Oscar Bonavena, Leotis Martin, Jimmy Ellis, and 1964 Olympic Champion Joe Frazier. Floyd Patterson and Sonny Liston were still active but there was no interest in seeing Ali face these two former champs again. Ernie Terrell was a bridge from the older contenders to the current ones, but Ali had also beaten him in a one-sided fight, so again, not much interest in seeing a rematch.

At this point promoters would have had to start rushing the younger contenders into challenging the champ. None were ready to go up against Ali.

This is where the three-year exile of Muhammad comes into play. It allowed these younger fighters to gain experience. While a Joe Frazier/Muhammad Ali fight would have been a draw in 1968 or 1969, it would not have been a fight where Frazier would have been considered to have had much of a chance. By 1971 when they did finally meet, it was a different story.

Another thing happened during this time. The WBA (World Boxing Association) held a tournament to find a successor to Ali. Joe Frazier refused to take part, but the other leading contenders did. They were Jimmy Ellis, Floyd Patterson, Thad Spencer, Leotis Martin, Ernie Terrell, Oscar



Muhammad Ali lands a right on Karl Mildenerger

Bonavena, Jerry Quarry, and Karl Mildenerger.

The three men who had challenged Ali didn't make it out of the quarter finals. Patterson lost to Quarry, Terrell to Spencer, and Mildenerger to Bonavena. In the other quarter final match between two younger fighters, Jimmy Ellis beat Leotis Martin. The semi-finals became a battle of the rising stars with Ellis beating Bonavena and Quarry stopping Spencer.

In the final, Jimmy Ellis won a close 15 round decision over Jerry Quarry. This gave him the WBA Heavyweight Crown. The tournament, which had been broadcast live on home TV, gave all of

these young fighters much public exposure. None of them embarrassed themselves, and they all gained fans.

Meanwhile, Joe Frazier had taken on Buster Mathis in a fight that was recognized as being for the title by the commissions in New York and Massachusetts. Frazier proved to be as active a champ as Ali had been. Joe defended his piece of the title six times between June of 1968 and November of 1970. In his fifth defense he fought a unification fight with Jimmy Ellis, stopping the WBA Champ when Ellis couldn't answer the bell for the fifth round.

At this point, Ali had announced he was retiring and giving up the title since he wasn't allowed to fight. *Ring Magazine*, which had stood by Ali, now recognized Frazier as champion. The public also now pretty much accepted Joe as the one champion.

But as with Ali, Frazier was facing a dearth of suitable challengers. He had already beaten Chuvalo, Ellis, Quarry, and Bonavena. Young contenders such as George Foreman and Mac Foster were not considered ready for a shot at the hard punching champion.

Fortunately, in 1970 Ali regained his license to box. He took on Quarry and Bonavena, defeating both. This led to the showdown between two undefeated men both of whom had legitimate claims to the title. This had never happened before. Both men also received 2.5 million dollars for the fight, an unheard-of sum.

Boxing was now entering a new age of exciting fights and huge paydays. More young contenders joined the current crop. Those who had lost fights were able to reestablish themselves. Often they fought one another in competitive battles. One of the things that made this era so exciting was the fact that with so many of these matchups, no one could be sure who would win beforehand. It was the fact that so many of the fighters from that period were on a par when it came to ability that made so many of these contests interesting.

It was a new day for the heavyweight division, one that would last over a decade. But could this have happened if Ali had not been exiled? I very much doubt it.

While not allowing the champ to defend his title while his case was being heard was morally wrong, it did allow a break in which the division was able to grow. Normally, it would have been seen as a blow to the game, but it turned out better for all involved. Fans got to see competitive fights, the fighters got much bigger paydays, and we still ended up with one recognized heavyweight champion even though the title changed hands a number of times.

I certainly am not trying to justify the taking of the title from Ali, but rather I am just reflecting back on what came from all of what went on back then.



Jerry Quarry dropping Floyd Patterson in their WBA Tournament Fight

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



TERRIERS TO TRAVEL TO THE FROZEN FOUR — When the NCAA Division One men's national championship tournament started with 16 teams back in mid-March there were six teams from Hockey East in the field. Now, that has been whittled down to one lone representative — Boston University.

The Terriers earned the right to advance to the Frozen Four via an exciting 3-2 overtime victory over Cornell at the Regional Final in Toledo, Ohio. The winning goal was scored by junior Quinn Hutson with just over six minutes having elapsed in the extra session. The victory gave BU a 49-40-0 record overall in NCAA Tournament games. BU will enter the Frozen Four with a 23-13-2 record.

The victory over Cornell not only means that BU will advance to its third straight Frozen Four. It also highlights the fact that Hutson will come to St. Louis having amassed some 50 points that have come on 14 goals and a team-leading 32 assists.

BU will face Penn State (22-13-4) in the Frozen Four on April 10 while Denver will meet Western Michigan. The two winners will face each other in the national championship game on April 12th.

One has to go back nearly three decades to find the last time that BU made three consecutive Frozen Fours. Those came in 1995, 1996 and 1997 when the team was under the direction of iconic head coach Jack Parker, who played all four years at his alma mater before beginning a lengthy 40-year career behind the Boston bench.

In addition, it is the third consecutive Frozen Four for current head coach Jay Pandolfo, making him one of only three head coaches in NCAA history to lead a team to the Frozen Four in each of his first three seasons behind the bench.

The victory over Cornell gave Pandolfo a perfect 10-0 record in NCAA regional games, counting his years as both a player and head coach. This will be his seventh trip to the Frozen Four.

This will be BU's 25th appearance in the Frozen Four. The Terriers have made the overall tournament field on 40 occasions over the years, including 25 of the last 35 tournaments. It was BU's sixth appearance in an NCAA Regional in the last 10 years. BU is now 6-0 in NCAA regional play over the last three seasons.

Pandolfo has had much success as a player and as a coach. A native of nearby Burlington, he played for Burlington High School, graduating in 1992. He would later briefly return there, serving as an assistant coach during the 2005 NHL lockout. He is the first NCAA men's coach to have won an NCAA national championship and two Stanley Cups as a player.

He was a standout performer for four years at Boston University in the mid-1990s, serving as team captain during the 1995-1996 season. During his collegiate career on Commonwealth Avenue he amassed 169 points with 79 goals and 90 assists. During his senior season he was the leading goal scorer in Hockey East with 38 and was named Hockey East Player of the Year. He was also awarded a berth on the All-America team.

He experienced the euphoria of winning it all for the first time when the Terriers captured the 1995 national championship.

Then, as a player in the National Hockey League, he won two Stanley Cups—in 2000 and 2003 as a member of the New Jersey Devils.

Toward the end of his career he played one season with the New York Islanders and then saw action in 18 games with the Bruins during the 2012-2013 campaign.

From 2014 to 2016 he was a development coach with the Bruins. He was named an assistant coach in 2016 and served five seasons behind the bench on Causeway Street, making the 2019 Stanley Cup Final when the Bruins were defeated by Chicago.

He resigned in 2021 to assume an assistant position with Boston University. He was named the head coach in May, 2022 and has brought a high level of rejuvenated success to BU's foremost athletic program.

THE BRUINS CONCLUDE — As they continue to play out the season with only three more home games left before one of the most disappointing campaigns in recent memory comes to a conclusion.

The closing trio of contests features the B's hosting Carolina on April 5th, then meeting Chicago on April 10 followed by a matchup with the Devils in the last game of the season on April 15th.

Who would have thought that a day traditionally associated with the payment of income taxes would come to have an additional measure of meaning as the loss of both personal funds for many and the conclusion of additional agony for Bruins fans coincide?

But they will this year. Going forward, we believe the Bruins can only get better next season through a summer that will see much activity on Causeway Street. The coming of the so-called off season may well become one of the most interesting intervals of 2025.