

POST-GAZETTE

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Younger Demographic More Likely to Exit Boston

by Patti Sartori

What looks like a concerning and consistent trend over the past few years shows 26% of young professionals, mainly 20-30's, in and around Greater Boston, planning a mass exodus, according to a 2026 survey, seemingly driven by the high cost of living, housing shortages, high rents, inability to purchase a home, and other economic factors.

About a quarter of young residents plan to leave the area, just about the same number as 2023 data reported, and for similar reasons. While many are leaving the general area, about half of those planning to leave intend to stay within Massachusetts, towards Central and Western Massachusetts. For those departing the state, the southeast and southwest is their destination of choice.

Renters, singles and those living less than two years in Boston are most likely to move. The high cost of living is creating a tough situation and environment for young professionals, with many noting that even with good salaries, saving to own a home is challenging, and while Boston remains a hub, the high cost of living is affecting the ability to attract and retain talent.

A potential ballot question, supported by various business groups but opposed by Democratic State House leaders would decrease the state's current 5% income tax rate to 4% over three years, a move that many believe will entice people in to Massachusetts as well as remain in the state. Opponents of the measure worry state revenue would decrease and force cuts to programs.

250 Years After the American Revolution, England's King Charles Visits the United States

For the first time since ascending to the throne of England, King Charles III and Queen Camilla visited the United States, including afternoon tea, a garden party, a ceremonial military review and a State Dinner with President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump at the White House in Washington DC. It will be his first trip to America as a British monarch. His mother, Queen Elizabeth II last visited in 2007 to celebrate the anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

"The visit will be an opportunity to recognize the shared history of our two nations, the breadth of the economic, security and cultural relationship that has developed since then, and the deep people-to-people connections which unite communities," noted the U.K. Embassy in a press release.

Over the 4-day visit, April 27 to April 30, in celebration of the 250th anniversary of America's independence, the king and queen traveled to Washington D.C., New York City and Virginia, where they met the countries leaders and various community organizations. While in Washington D.C., his Majesty, accompanied by the Queen, delivered an address to Congress. This was only the second time a British Monarch has addressed a joint meeting, following Queen Elizabeth II's speech at the Capitol during a



(L to R): Queen Camilla and King Charles III of England, President of the United States Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump, prepare to enter the State Dinner at the White House on April 28, 2026.

State Visit to the United States, in 1991.

Before departing DC for New York, the king and queen laid a wreath and flowers in honor of the fallen, in recognition of the military alliance between the U.S. and the U.K. In New York, the King and Queen participated in engagements reflecting the modern relationship between the two countries, including strong economic and cultural ties. The Monarchs visited first responders and families of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in recognition of the upcoming 25th anniversary.

The King and Queen concluded their visit in Virginia where they met with local community organizations and attended performances by local Appalachian groups, and attended a block party to celebrate America's 250th birthday.

The visit to the United States comes just a few months after President and the first lady traveled to the U.K. in September 2025, making Trump the first elected political leader to be invited for two state visits. Trump was previously invited for a state visit in June 2019 by Queen Elizabeth II during his first term as president.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

First Lady Melania Trump on FLOTUS

"Kimmel's hateful and violent rhetoric is intended to divide our country. His monologue about my family isn't comedy — his words are corrosive and deepens the political sickness within America. People like Kimmel shouldn't have the opportunity to enter our homes each evening to spread hate."

No China – U.S. Cars Yet

Ford Motor Company and Chinese automaker Geely have been holding talks about whether Geely could enter the U.S. market. Talks have stalled recently between Ford and Geely, the second largest automaker in the world. A Ford spokesperson said the company is committed to protecting its home market.

He's Going Strong at 111

A 111-year old man believed to be the oldest man in the United States has revealed his three secrets of a long life. Luis Cano was born in Colombia on December 9, 1914, but now lives in New Jersey and still loves fishing. He married in 1948; his wife died in 2004. His advice, don't drink a lot, get good sleep and don't smoke. He also added "Behave well."

Quote to Note

"The poets have been mysteriously silent on the subject of cheese," suggested G.K. Chesterton. "Celebrate what you love and don't hold back. Maybe you'll be the first one, but you won't be the only one."

— Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

End Quote

"When you pray for rain, you gotta deal with the mud too. That's a part of it."

— Denzel Washington

Massachusetts Governor May Not be as Solid with Voters as Previously Thought

by Patti Sartori

Just like the temperature on an ever changing New England day, Maura Healey's poll numbers have quickly dropped. In a dramatic 7 point downturn, a UNH Survey Center Poll shows 51% of respondents either disapproving of her job performance as governor or remain undecided. The UNH poll results found Healey's approval rating fell from plus 11 in February to plus 4 in the most recent survey, with 49% of respondents approving of her performance as governor.

The poll showed 75% of Democrats, 45% of Independents and just 2% of Republicans approve of Healey's performance. Of the remaining 51%, 45% disapprove of her performance and 6% remain undecided. According to the poll, Healey's weakest numbers came on her handling of the



economy, housing, maintenance of roads and bridges, and the cost of living.

"Healey earns high marks for her handling of education (44% approve), while residents are divided on her handling of crime (28% approve, 33% disapprove), and the economy (7% approve, 40% disapprove). Pluralities disapprove of Healey's handling

of taxes (41%) and roads and bridges (41%). Majorities disapprove of her handling of housing (53%) and the cost of living. Majorities of Democrats approve of Healey's handling of these issues, other than the cost of living. Independents are somewhat positive of Healey's handling of education and crime, but few approve of her handling of roads and bridges, the cost of living, or housing. Republicans are overwhelmingly negative in their assessment of Healey on these issues apart from education," the UNH Survey Center wrote.

It must be noted, that even with her poll numbers taking a hit, the Governor still maintains a substantial lead over her Republican challengers, although each has closed the gap since the last UNH poll conducted in February.

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



RELIGIOUS GROTTOS



Dictionaries define religion as belief in divine or superhuman powers. Some sources say the etymology or origin of the word is doubtful, however its Latin root "religio" is defined as reverence, sanctity, sect, cult, or object of veneration.

The history of building construction reflects the manners, customs, and degree of civilization of nearly all known periods of man's existence. As each nation developed its social customs and religious beliefs, so did it develop its architectural character. From the dawn of civilization, men have built shelters as protection from the weather, from beasts, and from the attacks of other men, but it is the history of the shelters that they have built for their

gods or God, or because of their religious beliefs, that seems to cause all of the bits and pieces to fall together as in some giant jigsaw puzzle.

It all started in Egypt, which is known as the cradle of the art of architecture and the seat of the earliest known civilization of which we have any clear knowledge. That ancient country was originally a narrow strip of land on both banks of the Nile River, and we know it now as the Nile Valley. We also know that ancient man walked into this valley before 10,000 B.C. However, the Egypt that is of concern at this writing is the culture that started about 4400 B.C.

It is most important to understand that the ancient Egyptian

believed in life after death through the immortality of his ghost or double which he called "ka." Thus, because of his religion, it was considered very essential to preserve the body after death in order that the ghost might retake possession of it at some future time. He was reluctant to throw dirt over a dead body, hence the employment of tombs and stone coffins. These stone coffins were eventually given the name of sarcophagi (plural) and sarcophagus (singular). A statue or portrait of the deceased was placed in the tomb so that the returning ghost might recognize those features, which the corpse had lost. This point is also most important because it certainly identifies an origin of religious or memorial art. Food, drink, and money were also provided to start the journey into the new life. Because of their religious beliefs, the Egyptians mummified their dead, and built indestructible places of burial, such as pyramids and multi-roomed tombs.

If you have ever received spiritual gratification because of a visit to a religious grotto, or because of a memorial service for a deceased member of your family ... remember ... so did the Egyptians, 4,400 years ago.

NEXT ISSUE:

Some Religious Origins

Minogue Earns Republican Nomination for Massachusetts Governor

Anne Brensley Receives Lt. Governor Endorsement

by Patti Sartori



Mike Minogue handily won the Republican nomination for Massachusetts Governor last weekend, securing 70% and 1,262 votes. Challenger Brian Shortleeve's campaign barely hung on, garnering 278 votes, or the required 15% support while Mike Kennealy has suspended his campaign after just falling shy at 14.11% or 253 votes.

During his speech to the Republican delegates, Minogue promised to repeal the NetZero climate mandate by 2050 and the MBTA Communities Act, as well as declaring he would end free Right to Shelter laws for illegal immigrants in the Bay

State. He also said he would protect the 2nd Amendment and made it a point to highlight his status as a "political outsider" with his lack of political resume and his success in the private sector running a biotechnology company.

Anne Brensley won the Lt. Governor endorsement by a wide margin, gathering 1,100 votes or over 56%, while Anne Manning Martin was second with 536 votes or slightly over 27%. Shawn Oliver just cleared the hurdle to make it on the ballot with 325 votes or 16.57%. John Deaton, candidate for U.S. Senate earned the Massachusetts Republican nomination by acclamation.

With no Republican challengers, State Treasurer candidate Elizabeth Dionne and Attorney General candidate Michael Walsh won their respective nominations. Dionne is challenging Democratic incumbent State Treasurer Deb Goldberg, while Walsh is running to unseat Democratic incumbent Attorney General Andrea Campbell.

The Massachusetts State Election Primaries will take place on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 while the general election for the constitutional offices will take place on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey Demands Tariff Refunds from Trump Administration

by Patti Sartori

Governor Maura Healey continues to advocate on behalf of every Massachusetts resident and business owner, demanding the Trump administration refund \$1,745 to each household in lieu of his illegal tariffs. The Supreme Court

struck down the tariffs this past February, ruling Trump's use of International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose reciprocal tariffs and set import duties was illegal, maintaining that Congress alone has the taxing power.

"President Trump's illegal tariffs have increased costs for every Massachusetts business and resident. It's important that refunds are now available, and I encourage eligible businesses to apply. The people of Massachusetts have faced more expensive groceries, house hold goods, construction materials and more because of these tariffs. The Trump Administration must also issue refunds to American households, and the President needs to actually focus on making life more affordable and abandon his costly tariff plans for good," said Healey.

Businesses are now able to submit claims using an on line federal portal, to recover costs paid as part of the policy. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will oversee the system. At some point the process may lead to refunds for consumers who were billed for some or all of the tariffs for products shipped to them from outside of the country. Businesses have approval from the federal government to apply for and receive tariff duty refunds. Healey is demanding the Trump Administration refund every Massachusetts household \$1,745 each, for a total of almost \$5 billion dollars, due to extra cost they incurred from tariffs.

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BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans | Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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Friday, May 1, 2026

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

In Loving Memory of



Jean DiPrima
 May 12, 2020

Jim DiPrima
 May 10, 2020

Mom & Dad

Forever in our hearts.
 You'll always be loved.
 We cherish the memories.
 We miss you so much.
 Taken from us too soon

Spring Has Arrived at St. Leonard Church Peace Garden



St. Leonard Church in Boston's historic North End is known for its attractive Peace Garden and for its St. Anthony Shrine, which is the oldest of its kind in Boston. This tranquil, well-kept oasis located at 320 Hanover Street serves as a quiet, reflective space for parishioners, residents, visitors or anyone just wishing to stop and admire the beauty of Spring time in Boston.

St. Anthony Shrine, the oldest of its kind in Boston, is a steady presence in the St. Leonard Church Peace Garden on Hanover Street in Boston's North End neighborhood.



One of the many stunning Magnolia Trees featured in the St. Leonard Church Peace Garden on Hanover Street in the North End of Boston.

Renato "Renny" Spagnuolo

April 24, 2026

Renato "Renny" C. Spagnuolo passed away peacefully, accompanied by his loving family, at Massachusetts General Hospital on Friday, April, 24th. He was 79. Born and raised in Boston's North End, Renny was the son of the late Domenico and Rose (Mortella) Spagnuolo.

Renny was a restaurateur in the North End for many years and he is survived by his loving family. He was the beloved father of Francesca, and the dear brother of



Claudia Landoli and the late Frank Spagnuolo. He also leaves his wonderful nephew Jerry Landoli.

Relatives and friends were invited to visit with the family on Wednesday, April 29th at St. Leonard Church, Hanover Street, Boston's North End, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial. Services concluded with burial at St. Michael Cemetery, Boston.

Memorial contributions may be made in Renny's name to St. Leonard Parish.

Laura Benvenuto

Laura Benvenuto was born on November 4, 1943, and passed away on April 21, 2026. She was born into a second-generation Sicilian family in Queens, New York, the oldest of three children. Alongside her brothers, George and Richard Realmuto, she grew up closely connected to a large extended family.

She attended St. John's University, where she earned a Master's degree in Education.

During that time, she met her former spouse, Art Benvenuto. They married and had two children, Christine and Mark.

Laura was a devoted mother, a dear friend, and an active member of her community. She had a natural ability to connect with people. In addition to her career in teaching, she worked as a travel guide, leading tours both locally and across the country.

She had a strong spirit and a zest for life, with a love of food, travel, and bringing people together.

Her son Mark married Meredith (née Freeman), and they had two children, Ella and Siena. Being a grandmother was one of Laura's greatest joys.



For the past 18 years, Laura lived in Boston's North End, where she was an integral part of the community. She was actively involved with the North End Library and the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park. She had a twinkle in her eye that reflected her warmth and curiosity, and walking through the neighborhood with her often meant stopping every half block to talk with the many people who knew and cared for her.

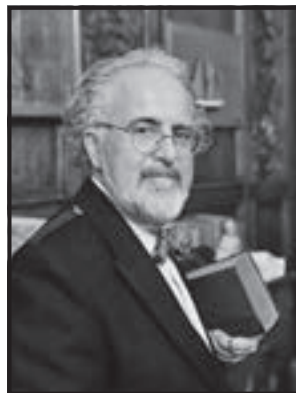
She will be remembered for her generosity, kindness, and deep connection to her family, friends, and community.

Laura is survived by her brothers, George and Richard; her daughter, Christine, and her husband David who brought children, spouses, families and grandchildren, her son Mark and daughter-in-law, Meredith; and their children, her granddaughters, Ella and Siena.

A Funeral Mass was held at Saint Leonard Church, 320 Hanover St., Boston's North End on Friday, April 24, 2026.

Donations in Laura's memory may be made to the North End Library through their website: friendsnelibrary.org or by mail at: 25 Parmenter Street, Boston, MA 02113.

Jeremy Bell's Latest Research on Freemason, Grand Master Paul Revere



On Wednesday, May 6th, beginning at 6:15 p.m., at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street, Jeremy Bell returns to the North End Historical Society (NEHS) to unveil his latest research on America's most famous Freemason, Grand Master Paul Revere.

Meeting at the legendary Green Dragon Tavern in the North End, Revere's Lodge of St. Andrews served as a crucible for the Revolution.

Bell recounts the extraordinary story of the Lodge's origins in 1730s London, utilizing dozens of rare period prints to connect the dots.

Central to this discovery is Copley's iconic portrait of Revere, which conceals several profound Masonic symbols including a Masonic Bible that is formed in the reflection of the white shirt on the polished table. Revere's working tools create



the formation of Square and Compasses that have been 'hidden in plain sight'.

While Revere's legend will be retold many times this year, this is your chance to hear a perspective that is entirely new.

Free admission. Bring a friend!!

To register visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jeremy-bell-his-latest-research-on-freemason-grand-master-paul-revere-tickets-1987996162036?aff=oddttdcreator>

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Many Delights of Merry May

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



(Photo by prostooleh on Freepik)

Italians love their *sagre*. These are the small, often highly localized feasts, scattered throughout the calendar that honor a particular saint, or food, or pleasures of the season. As May heralds warmer weather and the kind of sunshine that promises summer, more and more people find themselves called to the outdoors, to the company of others and the tantalizing pull of nature. No wonder, then, that May in Italy proves laden with these quaint *sagre* that provide communities with bountiful reasons to celebrate, sharing in the universal delights of good food and good company. From fried fish to trees, flowers to risotto, the May festivals of Italy encompass the myriad facets of Italian life and herald the summer with joy and purpose. Here is a sampling of these feasts:

• **Risotto Festival (First Sunday in May):** If you were

to visit the town of Sessame in the northern region of Piedmont on this day, expect a feast of creamy rice. Risotto is a popular dish in Northern Italy; a comforting meal of rice cooked in broth until it reaches a rich consistency. I love risotto because it is so versatile — I have had risotto with squash, extra cheese, warm spices, etc. When I visited Italy, I had a rather luxurious risotto in Milan with saffron and truffles — delicious! In honor of this festival, it may be a good idea to prepare risotto with seasonal vegetables like peas and asparagus.

• **Wedding of the Trees (May 8th):** What a charming little festival this is! In the town of Vetralla, located in the central province of Lazio, people decorate two oak trees with garlands and ribbons, and offer them bouquets of fresh spring flowers. Later, the

citizens plant new trees, and everyone enjoys an outdoor picnic. The Wedding of the Trees, or *Sposalizio dell'Albero*, recalls holidays like May Day which revel in the rebirth and fertility of nature in the spring. I also love the ecological significance of planting more trees.

• **Saint Fortunato Fish Festival (Second Sunday in May):** In the fishing village of Camogli, south of the Italian seaport city of Genoa, citizens honor the sixth-century Italian bishop Fortunato di Todi with a seafood banquet. The festival begins the night before with a fireworks display and bonfires. The next day, people feast on fried fish. As summer approaches, I think of days by the beach enjoying a clam bake or seafood platters as the smell of ocean water and the gentle rush of waves overwhelms me. This holiday serves as a wonderful introduction to a season spent by the sea.

• **Infiorata di Noto (Third Weekend of May):** Flowers rule at this festival in the Sicilian town of Noto. Artists receive allotted portions of the Via Nicolaci Street to create elaborate mosaics made out of flower petals. The result is a burst of bright colors and intricate artwork that bring a sense of joviality and springtime freshness to the city. Other events during the festivals include parades and fairs. On Monday, when the festival is over, children are allowed to run through the mosaics, scattering petals everywhere. This colorful end to the feast reminds us that things sometimes become more beautiful precisely because they do not last forever — all the more reason to enjoy spring while it is here!

May in Italy is a fantastic time to revel in the spring weather and take heart from the presence of others. Spring and summer cause the outdoors to beckon at us, and the local Italian *sagre* enable people with the opportunity to enjoy the pleasures of the season. Not to mention the food and drink — besides the risotto and fried fish festivals, visitors to Italy in May can also enjoy a Polenta Festival in Piedmont and a Chianti Wine Festival in Tuscany! In turn, the joys of these festivals remind us of what is truly important in life: family and friends, laughter, a supportive community, nourishment for both the body and soul. Though we may not have these *sagre* here in the United States, we can honor their spirit whenever we hug a loved one or sit down, together with the most important people in our lives, to share a delicious meal. Happy May!

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



Paul Revere's Midnight Ride Unfolds in Broad Daylight



(L-R): Frank Colvario, Dan Kovacevic, Annette Tecce and State Representative Dan Ryan at the event.

While in recent decades Marathon Monday has pushed the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere to the background, it is Patriots Day, a holiday that honors the birth of the American Revolution. The holiday was always celebrated on April 19 before it became a Monday holiday. However, Bostonians always know the true history of America and heroes like the North End's Paul Revere.

I always watched the re-enactment of Paul Revere riding down Hanover Street after seeing the lantern signal that the British ships were arriving in Boston Harbor. He had one job to do. Back in 1775, he took a rowboat over to Charlestown near what is now City Square. In recent years, his ride is re-enacted at City Square Park as the crowd of Townies, young families with little kids and oldsters like me, anticipate Revere riding his steed Brown Beauty across the brand new bridge. With sirens and lights, he rode into the Park warning all that the British were coming to the cheers of all assembled.

The kids love it all. They got a chance to talk with him, pet his horse and get photos taken to mark this special occasion. This year many of the kids actually got to sit on Brown Beauty and actually feel history, too.

If you missed him this year, he'll be back next year. Same time. Same place.

Here's something to remember: Always get to City Square Park by 9:45 a.m., because it will take Paul probably at least 15 minutes to make it through traffic; something the real Paul Revere never needed to contend with.



Jackson, sitting on Paul Revere's horse "Brown Beauty," during Charlestown's Patriots Day celebration.

(Photos by Sal Giarratani)

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Annual Meeting of the Italian American Alliance (IAA)

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 6:30 P.M.

Sons and Daughters of Italy Hall
520 Pleasant Street, Watertown, MA 02472.
There is ample free parking.

The Italian American Alliance continues to grow and build on its many achievements, thanks to our dedicated members. Our mission is to protect and share our Italian heritage in America for our descendants and for all Americans.

We believe that all cultures are an integral part of America and deserve equal respect. Our Italian heritage, history, language, and culture are no exception. We affirm that Christopher Columbus is not only an historic Italian figure but a key figure in American and world history during the Age of Discovery. Any movement to erase our heritage—or any heritage—is an affront to our shared American ideals. Our answer is to educate, to inform, and to stand firm in the truth and value of our culture.

Please join us to connect with the Board of Directors and share your ideas on how we can continue to fulfill our mission. Our agenda features guest speakers:

Arnaldo Minuti, Italian Consul General in Boston
&
Jeffrey Turco, State Representative

This year's meeting promises to be inspiring, educational, and unifying—
A true celebration of heritage and shared values.

Light refreshments will be served; finger sandwiches, fruit, dessert and coffee.

Please RSVP to theitalianamericanalliance@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!
Warm regards,
Marisa Di Pietro,
Secretary
The Italian American Alliance
617-650-3442
Marisadi Pietro65@gmail.com

The North End's Pirandello Italian Language Center Graduates 154 Students

Vanessa Parravano Gamble, Program Director

On April 18th, The Pirandello Italian Language Center (PILC) located at St. John's School in the North End concluded its 53rd year of activity with joyful group festivities and Italian food. The notes of *Fratelli d'Italia*, *Volare* and *O Sole Mio* once again echoed throughout the North End, creating a special atmosphere of warmth, pride, and a strong sense of community. Students from young learners to adults were outstanding in presentations of songs and poems.

This year, the school reached a record number of students (154) and, for the first time is offering two summer sessions. It is a testament to the dedication and passion of an incredible staff of teachers, directors, collaborators, and volunteers, spurred by its founder and current leader, Tino Valdesolo.

The rapid and growing interest in Italian language and culture is reflected in increased attendance at PILC. Community partners such as Saint Leonard Parish, I AM Books, Seven Hills Pasta, Coffee Kenon, and the *My North End* YouTube program have been very important. We continue to bring relevant, authentic, and meaningful experiences into the classroom, presenting realistic images of contemporary Italy, along with its great history and rich cultural contributions.

The school continues to build on its 3 generational foundations. Developed for both children and adults, the program aims to connect students with Italy's language, culture and great history and its influence on our beloved North End.

Italian classes are offered on Saturdays (10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) to students ages 3 to 16, as well as to their parents and friends, for 26 weeks following the Boston Public Schools calendar. Classes are structured by age and language proficiency and are taught by a group of enthusiastic, dedicated, highly professional native speakers who have lived in Italy.

The program also offers neighborhood-based curriculum series and cultural walks, taking students to bakeries, restaurants, coffee shops, pastry shops, butcher shops, and grocery stores. It further organizes educational trips to Italy. For over 53 years, it has contributed to maintaining *italianità* among its schools, restaurants, trattorias, bars, pastry shops, and cafés of Boston's "Piccola Italia"! PILC is affiliated with St. Leonard Church and St. John's School.

Student feedback has been enthusiastic. "As a person who grew up in the NE in the 1950s, we were taught to speak English primarily to have a good life. I am thrilled to be learning to read and converse in modern Italian. The teachers are outstanding," Tony Cortese

The *My North End* YouTube program has recently released a special 10-minute episode on the PILC program (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4MmeP6CZ4NI>) offering a wonderful illustration

of its mission and impact. Special thanks to Gino Mauro for his excellent filming and editing, to Tony Cortese for his assistance with the project, and to Father Michael Della Penna for his continued support and blessing.



Adult students and faculty from the Pirandello Italian Language Center (PILC) follow the direction of the music conductor in serenading the graduation attendees.



Teachers from the Pirandello Italian Language Center prepare to lead the musical portion of the curriculum.



Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna offers a blessing to the students of the Pirandello Italian Language Center as School Founder and leader Tino Valdesolo looks on.



Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna and Pirandello Italian Language Center (PILC) Founder and leader Tino Valdesolo.



Adults students and teachers singing the Italian National Anthem, *Volare & O Sole Mio*.



Adult students and teacher take a break during Pirandello Italian Language Center Saturday class.

umbria & mia

Italian steakhouse
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Maré
Seafood & Oyster Bar
223 Hanover St., 3 Mechanic St. • 617.723.MARE

Quattro
Grill, Rosicceria & Pizzeria
266 Hanover St. 617.720.0444

AquaPazza
Oyster Bar & Italian Kitchen
135 Richmond St. • 857-350-3105

Trattoria Il Panino
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Positano Cuisine Restaurant • Lounge
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Dolce
Italian Cafe with 33 Flavors of Tiramisu
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Italian Fine Dining
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MBTA Announces Blue Line Service Changes May 9-10

During one weekend in May, the MBTA will continue essential infrastructure upgrades, track renewal, and other critical revitalization work on the Blue Line. This regular, planned renewal and revitalization work is ongoing and continuous, ensuring the long-term stability of our infrastructure and preserving the system for future generations of riders.

To accomplish this work, the following service suspensions will take place:

- Blue Line service will be suspended between **Bowdoin and Airport** during the weekend of **May 9 – 10**.
- Free and accessible shuttle buses will make stops at Airport, Maverick, and Haymarket for Orange and Green Line connections in the downtown area.
- Shuttle buses will not stop at Aquarium, State, Government Center, or Bowdoin.
- Fare gates will be open at all Blue Line stations between Airport and Wonderland.
- Riders may also use the East Boston Ferry, which will be free during this service change with trips departing every 30 minutes from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., every 15 minutes from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and a trip at 9:30 p.m. A schedule will be posted soon at MBTA.com/EastBostonFerry.
- Accessible van service will be available within the downtown area. Riders should see station personnel for assistance.
- Riders using shuttles bus service should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider travelling to Government Center from Wonderland should budget at least an additional 30 – 40 minutes of travel in addition to their regular commute.



Friday, May 8th

12:00pm

ABCD North End NSC
1 Michelangelo St
Boston, MA 02113

RSVP Encouraged 617.523.8125

abcd | NORTH END



Friends, Romans, Countrymen!

by Laura Carlo

"In vino, veritas." (In wine, truth). I collect sayings, and there are many that apply to wine. That one, by ancient Roman author and naturalist Pliny the Elder, may be the most famous, but there are countless others. And why not? Wine is an ancient drink made and enjoyed around the world to this day. And now, thanks to a local restaurant family, Boston is part of that ancient tradition, too!

Meet Vito Bruno, the Operations Manager, who, along with his brother Ralph, the head Wine Maker, run Boston Winery. It's on the Dorchester waterfront, next door to his grandfather's restaurant, the Venezia. (My family has eaten at Venezia many times since it opened in 1985. We've needed to be rolled out of there every time!)

"My mother was born in Bari, Italy, and we'd visit our family there every year. My brother and I would actually volunteer to work in their vineyard, from pruning grapes and fruit trees to eventually driving the tractors. We didn't know it then, but that childhood experience set up our careers today."

"Funny story: my grandparents always made small batch homemade wine. When my grandfather decided to start retiring by slowly turning over the restaurant to other family members, he started making wine in earnest, often inviting friends over to taste his creations. My grandmother would cook for them, as Italians do, but when the crowds started getting too big, she asked Nonno to consider finding someplace else. He realized he just wasn't ready to retire! In the early 2000's he bought the old brick building next to the restaurant and a new business began!"

I asked about the Winery's early days. "Nonno realized people really wanted to learn the skills of proper wine making. Even people with Italian heritage didn't necessarily learn the steps when they were kids just from watching their grandparents make wine. I know I'd be sad if my 2-year-old grew up not knowing all about this. The art has been lost for so many that he decided it would be a winery with a twist: first as a Co-op (where someone would ask for a particular wine grape to be used and the winery would make it for them), but soon after, as a wine school! He'd



order your grapes, then you'd come in to help him crush the grapes with his professional equipment. He'd handle the fermentation, aging and filtering, then you'd come back to help bottle your wine."

Vito got involved by learning the business from the ground up. "When I first started, my job was to clean the bottles. That was a big job. Now, thank goodness, we have an automatic bottling machine!"



(L-R): (grandson) Ralph Bruno, (grandfather) Ralph Bruno, Sr., (grandson) Vito Bruno, and (their cousin) Nino Crugnale

"Many people see wine making as a lost art. Modern wineries treat it as a science, as labs. We think the industry can 'over science,' so we do it differently. To us, it's an art combined with science." He added, "So we love to answer people's questions, such as 'How do you know when wine is at its peak?' and 'How do you measure acidity?' We truly love passing along the knowledge so that it remains a continuing thriving art."

I asked about the grapes they use. "Did you know that during the World Wars Americans learned to grow grapes the way they do in Europe? We buy one varietal from Italy, but most of the grapes come from California. The fruit is delivered in refrigerated trucks, and after a 24-hour 'cold soak,' we go through every single crate, removing by hand any leaves, stones, or bad fruit. Next comes a choice of yeast so that fermentation can begin,

and a couple of weeks later we do a light press."

I recounted how my grandfather would squeeze every last drop out of the grapes in his homemade wine making days. "Science says the harder you press, your finished product gets more acid. There are many professional wineries around that still do that. We knowingly leave some of the juice behind for a smoother finished product."

Then comes the aging process. "That's where the wood used in the barrels you choose, American, French, Hungarian, makes a difference. Each gives off a different flavor, different 'notes,' much like when you steep your tea."

After the aging process comes filtering and bottling. "Something we can also do for

people — we can 'private label' for them! If someone wants something special to serve at their wedding, or for any reason at all, we get a label design approved (which must also be federally approved), and we're happy to follow through for them!"

The Boston Winery has function space for showers and weddings, to corporate events, with catering done by the Venezia restaurant next door. They also hold regular wine tastings and wine pairings. Vito was excited to say that they had just been licensed as a tap room, too, and now serve local beers.

As to future plans, he says he and his family are always looking ahead to give their visitors more wonderful experiences. They teamed up with Montilio's Bakery in November for a successful Fall Fest, which they'll repeat, and plan to expand their adult learning classes.

I asked what his Italian roots have taught him? "We learned a good work ethic, starting as kids helping out at the family vineyard, and from the amazing example of our parents and grandparents. And just as important, that you love and respect your family. I love having my grandfather, my brother and our cousin Nino in the business. Wine making can be a 60-80 hour work week. It's wonderful to know we can count on each other."

To find out more visit their website, bostonwinery.com.

And remember...wine flies when you're having fun! Alla salute!

Swan Boat Season Sets Sail in Boston Public Garden



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and family set out on the First Swan Boat ride of the 2026 season.

(Photo courtesy of the City of Boston)

Since 1877, the Swan Boats have served an iconic symbol of Boston and the Public Garden, the nation's first botanical garden. Still owned and operated by the Paget family, the Swan Boats continue to offer a traditional experience that allows generations of visitors to replicate from their own childhood memories.

Comprised of an oak pontoon frame, bench seats for passengers, ornamental brass, and copper sheath to create the swans, the fleet of six boats were each hand built and are meticulously maintained in the off season while polished and prepped daily. Each Swan Boat, carries up to 20 passengers, weighs up to 6,000 pounds and is powered by a single driver who pedals the boat while sitting atop a paddle wheel and steering the two ropes connected to a rudder. The trip around the pond is one-quarter mile and a driver can navigate over 7 miles in a day.

The Swan Boats operate on a weather permitting basis for safety. They do not operate in rain, high winds or extreme heat. The first day of the season was April 18 and will run daily through June 20, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and June 21 through September 7, daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the Swan Boat dock prior to boarding the boat, no advance reservation or ticket purchase is needed. Payment may be made with cash or card.

While you are there, don't forget to stop by and visit the "Make Way for Ducklings Statues," also known as the Mallard Family, made famous from Robert McCloskey's children's book.

LA FEDERAZIONE AND COMITES PRESENT

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH & SUNDAY, MAY 31ST

Italian Festival

Festa Della Repubblica Italiana

CONDON SHELL • MEDFORD, MA
2501 MYSTIC VALLEY PKWY, MEDFORD, MA 02155

All Are Welcome

BEER & WINE GARDEN • LIVE MUSIC • RAFFLE
FOOD VENDORS • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
FAMILY FRIENDLY ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH	SUNDAY, MAY 31ST
12p Festival kickoff with the playing of the National Anthems	12p Festival opens with the playing of the National Anthems with The North End Marching Band
12-30p Music by Dj Alan Labella	2p Italian Performances by local school students
3p-7p 2 Live shows by the Reminisants	4p-7p Enjoy an unforgettable afternoon of classic Italian and American favorites performed live by New York artists Maria Venuto & Vinnie Medugno

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR EVENT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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

Ieri e Oggi

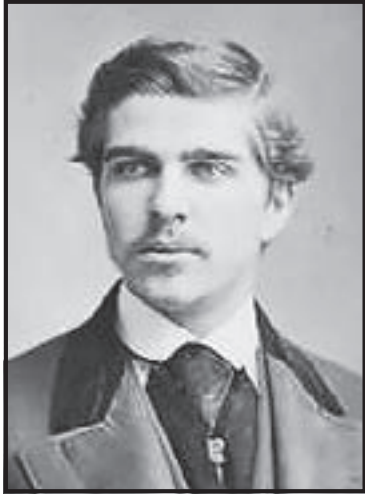
Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Louis Comfort Tiffany

Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933) was a pioneering American artist and designer, renowned as a leader of the Art Nouveau movement and a master of stained glass. Son of the Tiffany & Co. founder, he revolutionized glassmaking with his iridescent “Favrile” glass, creating iconic lamps, windows, and mosaics inspired by nature.



Louis Comfort Tiffany was born in New York City on February 18, 1848, to Harriet Olivia Young and Charles Lewis Tiffany, the founder of Tiffany & Co. Rather than joining the family business, Tiffany began his career as a painter, studying at the National Academy of Design from 1866–67 and, in the following year, with the French painter Léon Charles Adrien Bailly in Paris. He travelled throughout Europe and North Africa, sketching the exotic landscapes and architecture and translating them into early oils and watercolors.

Tiffany became a prominent decorator in Gilded Age New York. In 1881, he merged several interior design partnerships to create Louis C. Tiffany and Company, Associated Artists, which would decorate the Veteran’s Room of the Seventh Regiment Armory in New York.

In 1878, Tiffany began experimenting with glass, later developing opalescent glass and the copper foil technique, which allowed for more detailed, vibrant, and painterly stained glass designs.

In late 1892, he built his own glasshouse in Corona, Queens, New York, hiring the skilled artisan and designer Arthur J. Nash to oversee the factory, which produced Favrile and other unique varieties of glass to be used in ecclesiastical and secular stained-glass windows, lamps, vases, mosaics, and accessories.

A leading interior designer, Tiffany redecorated White House rooms for President Chester A. Arthur and designed his own luxurious estate, Laurelton Hall. Known as a “master of light and color,” his work was celebrated globally.

While the extraordinary and exceptional quality of Tiffany glass made this medium the most significant of his career, he continued to innovate, expanding his operations into enamels, pottery, and jewelry. In 1902, his father died, and Tiffany became the first Art Director of Tiffany & Co. The same year, Tiffany Studios was incorporated at 333-341 Fourth Avenue, New York, and Tiffany began to build his Long Island country home, Laurelton Hall, developing its famous gardens on 600 acres overlooking Oyster Bay.

Despite the enormous success he experienced in his many interrelated businesses over his long career, his firm went out of business in 1924, and Tiffany Studios filed for bankruptcy in 1932. When he passed away in 1933, the New York Times obituary counted him “among the best known of American artists.” Although his work went out of vogue with the advent of modernism, it was revived at mid-twentieth century and continues to be associated with unparalleled quality and beauty to this day and is now recognized as a pinnacle of American decorative art.

Saint Marguerite Bays

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Marguerite Bays was born in La Pierraz — a hamlet of Chavannes-les-Forts in the canton of Fribourg, Switzerland on September 8, 1815 as the second of seven children to Pierre-Antoine, Bays and Josephine Morel.



Her parents were farmers and devout Christians; Bays herself demonstrated great intelligence as a student while studying at school in Chavannes-les-Forts, and demonstrated a particular, though noted, inclination towards reflection and contemplation, deciding to limit her interaction with her peers at school in favor of the solitude of talking to God. Bays took an apprenticeship as a seamstress in 1830, before offering her services as a seamstress to different households.

Bays created a small altar in her room at home, where she placed flowers and a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Bays would awaken in the morning to request the intercession of the mother of God at the statue before going outside to complete her duties on the farm. In her spare time, she would tell children about the life of Jesus Christ. Despite the urgings of those around her, it was her desire to live a virginal life in the world in order to devote herself to an austere life for Jesus Christ. Her devotedness to service of the poor led her to discover the Secular Franciscan Order which she became a member.

Bays devoted part of her time on teaching catechism to children and often visited those who were ill. In 1853, she contracted bowel cancer and begged the Mother of God to heal her through

her intercession. But at the same time she asked that her pain be linked with the suffering of Christ for her condition was her own cross to bear. On December 8, 1854 — when Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception — she found that she was cured of her illness and she took this as a sign of greater service to both God and neighbor

Bays later discovered that she had the stigmata around 1854 and consulted with her local bishop to oversee the verification of just how authentic

the stigmata was. In addition she began to fall into ecstatic raptures when she would feel the pain of Christ once a week marking his death. She first tried to hide the wounds however her injuries were later recognized and news spread about her condition.

In her last weeks, she had difficulty eating or drinking and was capable of consuming only small amounts of herbal tea with milk and occasionally a light bread soup. Her condition worsened in the weeks leading into Lent of 1879 and she suffered from extreme pain during this period. Bays grew frail and thin. At the time her true condition was unknown and it is said she remained silent in relation to her level of pain during this period. Her symptoms are known to have included acute pain in her head as well as her throat and chest. Bays passed away on June 27, 1879. Her funeral took place on June 30, 1879. It is said hundreds attended. Her remains were later transferred to the parish church at Siviriez.

NORTH SQUARE

is Dressed to Celebrate Our Country’s 250th Birthday and More ...



Through the generosity of the Paul Revere Memorial Association and the assistance of its Executive Director Nina Zannieri, North Square is looking proud and patriotic with bows and flags of stars and stripes. North End residents and artists Tina Busa and Michael Dean teamed up to trim the chains, poles and sculptures just in time for Patriots Day and to greet the thousands of visitors that arrived for the Boston Marathon. The decorations will remain up in the Square through Labor Day to celebrate the FIFA World Cup, Memorial Day, July 4th, and the Tall Ships visit July 11-18.



North Square, America’s oldest public square, is tucked away in Boston’s oldest residential neighborhood. This quaint corner of Boston’s North End is rich with history. Numerous landmarks in and around this square tell many stories about Boston’s founding and evolution. Whether you are a tourist or a dinner guest by night, North Square is a must-see location!

SEWAGE BACKUPS ARE PREVENTABLE

No Valve = No Protection

If your home has plumbing fixtures in the basement, like a toilet or sink, a backwater valve will prevent sewage from flowing into your home during heavy rains or sewer backups.

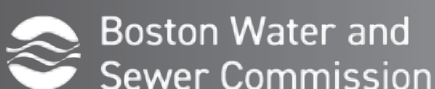
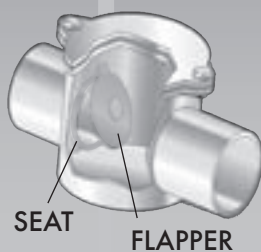


Maintenance Matters!

Without a properly installed and maintained valve your basement is vulnerable to costly and hazardous sewage backups.

Simple Maintenance Requirements:

- Inspect regularly, especially before storms.
- Wear protective gloves and eyewear.
- Remove debris from valve seat and flapper with water and gentle scrubbing.



Note: PSA for informational purposes. Backwater valve must be installed by a licensed plumber. BWSC does not install valves.

CITY OF BOSTON

FAN FEST

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING

Tuesday, May 5 | Register virtually at boston.gov/summer
6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Join the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services to learn about upcoming World Cup activities in your neighborhood!

NORTH END	BACK BAY	LEATHER DISTRICT
WEST END	BAY VILLAGE	
SOUTH END	CHINATOWN	
BEACON HILL	DOWNTOWN	



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

I LOVE LUCY – COMPLETE SERIES: 75th Anniversary Edition (DVD) Paramount Pictures

In October 1951, Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz debuted the first episode of what was to become one of the best-loved and most watched television shows of all time. Zany redhead Lucy and her Cuban bandleader husband Ricky Ricardo, along with their neighbors and comic foils, Ethel and Fred Mertz (Vivian Vance and William Frawley), got into the most hilarious predicaments ever imaginable. This must-own collection contains all the classic episode from the six seasons of *I Love Lucy* (1951-1957), plus three iconic seasons of *The Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour* (1957-1960). Overflowing with notable guest stars and escapades that never lose their entertainment value, it's no wonder everyone still loves Lucy. Included are 194 of your favorite grape-stompin', Vitameatavegamin spoonin', show-stealin' episodes contained on this 33-Disc Set.

ELVIS '56 (Blu-ray) Lightyear Entertainment

Nineteen-fifty-six was Elvis Presley's breakthrough year, and this program takes you back, including his early television performances on the *Dorsey Brothers Show* and the *Ed Sullivan Show* (where the cameramen were instructed not to shoot the lower half of his body!). This DVD remastered in High Definition has an entire hour of rare footage and performances captured during the amazing year when Elvis Presley became not only a star, but a phenomenon. So slip on your blue suede shoes and step back to the beginning of an era, with rare early recordings and never-before-seen footage. Narrated by The Band's Levon Helm. Plus iconic photos by photographer (Al Wertheimer) who toured with Elvis that year.

BORN INNOCENT (Blu-ray) Reich & Co.

Brothers Jeff and Steve McDonald were never a regular rock band. They were the group with the eleven-year-old bass player threading their way through the hardcore punk scene only to reappear, just a few years later, as masters of power pop hooks and bubble-gum fun. They were *Partridge Family* fanatics who influenced the entire grunge crowd. They were long-haired punks with stage costumes that would have put even the boldest glam rockers to shame. These sound like contradictions, but Redd Kross is the unfettered expression of two brothers and their rock'n'roll dream so exclusively informed by a visceral love of music and pop culture that it couldn't help but defy genres and conventions, evolved without pause and survive. Formed in 1978, the invented Beach Punk, influenced the grunge and Hair Metal movements, and still playing and recording today.

RANDY & THE MOB / THE ACCOUNTANT (Blu-ray) Lightyear Entertainment

Lightyear Entertainment presents the global Blu-ray debut of the crime comedy *Randy & the Mob*, plus the Oscar-winning

short *The Accountant*, and bonus features. Good ol' boy Randy Pearson runs numerous businesses in a small Georgia town. The problem is that none of them are prosperous. This leads the aspiring entrepreneur to borrow cash from Franco, a loan shark connected to the mob. Things get complicated when the IRS comes calling over his tax debt. Randy tries to hustle money from his wife and begs for bucks from his estranged gay twin brother Cecil to no avail. An impatient Franco sends Tino Armani to make things right with Randy and his floundering companies. Tino applies a mobster makeover to Randy's business plan while pursuing his love of clog dancing. The Blu-ray also includes *The Accountant*, with Ray McKinnon in the leading role, and with Walton Goggins and Lisa Blount. The O'Dell brothers Tommy and David O'Dell (Goggins and Eddie King) call in a mysterious chain-smoking accountant (McKinnon) with a knack for numbers and a fondness for beer, not just to help save the family farm, but to stop a national conspiracy and save a way of life.

DESPERATE TEENAGE LOVEDOLLS / LOVEDOLLS SUPERSTAR (Blu-ray) Eclectic

David Markey's *Desperate Teenage Lovedolls* (1984) and its sequel *Lovedolls Superstar* (1986), two underground Super-8 cult films together for the first time. Chronicling the rise and fall and the subsequent resurrection in the sequel of the fictitious all girl band, the Lovedolls. Made on a micro-budget and cast with members of the Los Angeles punk scene, shot guerrilla-style on the streets of Hollywood, Santa Monica, and Venice. It was also a testimony to inventiveness — made by disaffected kids without much resource, raised on junk food and trash television. The rags to riches story is one of classic Hollywood lore with tongue planted firmly in cheek. This film was made possible by *Desperate Teenage Lovedolls* success. *Lovedolls Superstar* was an even more ambitious project. The parodies were even more pointed, confronting pop and rock culture of the time. No one was spared; from feminism to cult behavior, and to punk rock itself. They were unafraid to poke fun at themselves! The Lovedolls films offer an antithesis to the squeaky clean, conservative 1980s America.

SAURIANS (Blu-ray) Visual Vengeance

When a routine construction blast shakes their sleepy town, a group of locals discover that the explosion has awakened two dinosaurs from a centuries-long slumber, which soon runs amok in the local woods on a rampage of terror, in this Super 8 classic from Mark Polonia. Brimming with wobbly effects, puppetry, and endearing stop-motion, it distills dinosaur fantasy cinema down to its most unpolished, childlike and heartfelt essence. Assembled with the help of family and friends, *Saurians* is a true homespun indie gem — radiating guts and grit.

NICE TO SEE WILLIAM DAWES REMEMBERED FOR HIS MIDNIGHT RIDE, TOO

Late at night on April 18, 1775, three midnight riders set out for Lexington and Concord to warn local militias that the British Red Coats were coming by sea. Thanks to a great poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Paul Revere still receives most of the praise. However, two other riders set out at the same time at midnight on the 19th of April. One was Samuel Adams, who is the most unknown of the three, the other was William Dawes who set out from his home in Roxbury.

I grew up in Roxbury and always wondered why Dawes was never honored where I grew up as was Paul Revere over in Boston's North End. This year, however, on Patriots' Day 251, William Dawes was honored with a National Lancers' William Dawes Re-enactment and Send-off. Dawes made it further before being caught by the British, but he didn't have a publicist like Longfellow.

CLASSIC ROCK CONCERT

This Saturday, the City of Quincy is presenting a Classic Rock Concert. Classic Rock Music from Pat Benatar, J. Geils Band and the Rolling Stones at the Hancock Adams Common / Quincy Center.

IS THERE SOMETHING IN THE WATER MAKING THIS HAPPEN?

UFC fighter Tim "Dirty Bird" Means allegedly punched, head-butted and choked his teenage daughter in a sickening attack over undone chores — in which he also threw a potato at her

ITALIAN AMERICAN PARADE FUNDRAISER



(L-R): Bob Paglucca, Stephen Scapicchio, Sal G., and Peter D.

A fundraiser was recently held for the return of East Boston's parade this coming October. It will be called the Italian American Heritage Parade. The fundraiser at Sacred Heart Church's lower hall was well attended, and soon in June there will be a Comedy Fundraiser held over on the Tall Ship. Stay tuned right here for more information. The march is on for the parade to return.

head, say court records. Oh, by the way, he's also a high school wrestling coach.

Means has a 15-14 win-loss record in the UFC and looked pretty heavy-eyed in his mugshot as he was being booked on child abuse charges. I find this another example of people who don't know whether they're alive or dead.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS KNUNKLEHEAD?

Hearing the news that several Iranian ships allegedly evaded the U.S. blockade, U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy went online stating "AWESOME ... at least 26 Iranian shadow fleet vessels bypassed U.S. blockage." Will he next be applauding U.S. Navy sailors killed in action vs. Iran?

WAS SHE IN A TRANCE??

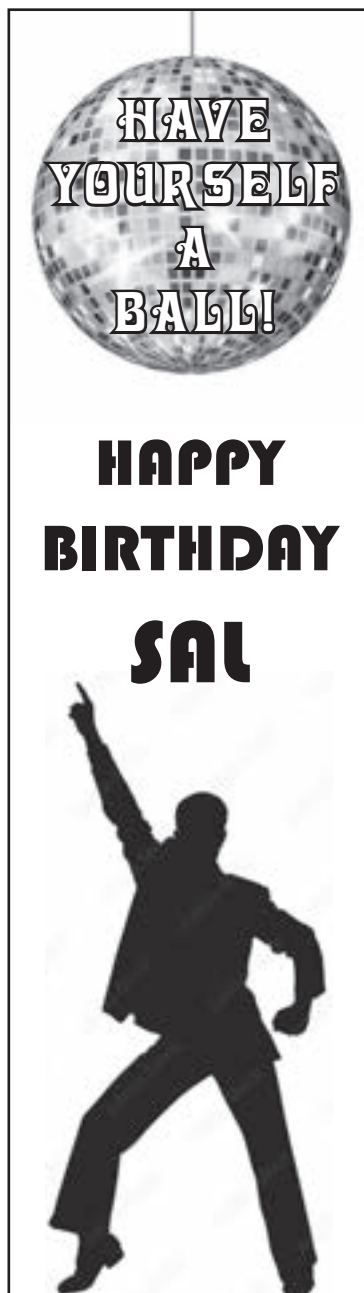
Earlier this week while driving down Bremen Street in East Boston on my way to the library, I noticed a teenage girl walking right out into traffic without looking anywhere as if in a trance. I guess she was the only one in the world at

the moment. She didn't even have the excuse she was on her phone; she simply didn't have a care in the world. Keep this up and one could find themselves inside an ambulance on the way to the ER.

LAST OF THE RONETTES DEAD AT 80



Nedra Talley Ross, the last surviving member of the Ronettes, has died at 80 years old, the iconic girl group's official Facebook page announced this past Sunday. The group had a number of hits like "Be My Baby" in 1963 and "Baby, I Love You" in 1964. The group split in 1967.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

LOVE YOUR BLOCK!

CITY of BOSTON

The Gassy DeFilippo Playground Cleanup

Saturday, May 2

10am-12pm
DeFilippo Playground ("the Gassy")
Hosted by
Friends of DeFilippo Playground and RUFF

Meet your neighbors and help beautify the North End and get it ready for spring!

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Mom had told me that Babbononno loved dogs. By the time I came along, the only pet I remember was Tippi the cat, which was Nanna's pet. When my mother and her brothers were young, Babbononno had a dog. I believe it was a German Shepherd, but I'm not sure. The only story I remember about the dog was based on a happening when my mother and her girlfriend, Ada Giorgione, were about 15 or 16. (Years later, Ada would marry Uncle Nick, but the marriage would disintegrate during WWII.)

The girls were in their mid-teens and Mom had asked Babbononno if she could go to the movies with Ada. It was a Sunday afternoon, and evidently there was a film showing at the Seville Theater that they desperately wanted to see. Babbononno reluctantly gave his okay, looked at his pocket watch and told Mom what time to be home. She and Ada later headed to the theater which, being a local neighborhood movie house, always had double features, usually a B level film preceded by a cartoon or short subject and then followed by the main feature.

Ada and Mom arrived after the first film had begun, settled in and watched the rest of it and then saw the main feature. Seeing that this was a Sunday, the Seville ran its films continuously. Mom and Ada decided to stay and see the part of the first film they had missed. Not returning home at the time Babbononno had given to his daughter, he decided to head to the theater to retrieve her and her girlfriend. First, he attached a leash to the German Shepherd, exited the house at 70 Eutaw Street, walked with the dog to Meridian Street, headed south toward Central Square and entered the outer lobby of the Seville with the dog. In his fractured English, Babbononno told the person collecting tickets that he wanted to pick up his daughter.

The dog must have had an intimidating appearance, as my grandfather was not stopped at the entrance, nor did any usher stop him as he entered the lobby and headed for the orchestra area where he knew the girls would be sitting. Once inside, he waited until his vision and the dog's became adjusted to the dark. He then unhooked the dog from the leash, and in Italian, told the dog to find Angelina, my mother's name in Italian. The dog then wandered through the orchestra seats sniffing out the patrons who began squirming, lifting their

legs and yelling about a loose dog. Finally locating the girls, the dog barked for Babbononno, who followed the sounds of his dog and found the two girls sitting together. He yelled at them and they immediately got up to leave with my grandfather. Hitching the dog up to the leash, Ada, my mother, Babbononno and the dog left the theater and headed home. They were reprimanded for not being home on time and tried to explain the circumstance, but Babbononno grounded my mother for a week in spite of Nanna trying to explain to her husband the situation as she understood it.

The dog was long gone by the time I was born, but Nanna had an orange and white cat named Tippi. Tippi was her bilingual pet. She spoke English to the cat as did Mom. Babbononno spoke only Italian to the cat, but the animal seemed to understand everything that was said. He was Nanna's cat, though. I remember, one day, Tippi brought a present home and dropped it at Nanna's feet, a mouse he had just killed. I don't ever remember my grandmother swearing at anything or anyone at any time, except this once. She started swearing and dropping Avellinese F-bombs at the cat loud enough for everyone to come running toward her location to see what was wrong.

I guess I inherited my love for animals, especially dogs from my grandparents. When we lived in East Boston, we didn't have any pets, but when we moved to Belmont, one of the first things I did was accept a puppy from a friend who had bought it but couldn't keep it due to restrictions at her apartment building. Tammy was my dog while I lived at home, but after I was on my own, it became my father's faithful follower. When he was home, the dog never left his side. When Tammi had to be put down years later, Loretta and I inherited a Keeshond and gave it to my folk to fill the void left by the absence of a pet.

After my kids came along, a woman who taught with Loretta told us that her beagle had had pups. She asked us to take one and the kids picked one out of the litter. He was the cutest little thing with orangish brown and white coloring like many beagles. The kids decided to name him Beagsley and he quickly became part of the family. Seeing he was now part of an Italian family, he became Beagsley Domenic Christoforo.

The backyard had to be sealed off to allow the dog to wander

around without wandering away, so I put in a chain link fence which Beagsley disliked, but it was safer that way. The only problem I remember occurred one Saturday afternoon when I got a call from the dog's vet. I answered the phone and the voice on the other end said, "It's Saturday afternoon. Do you know where your dog is?" I asked who was calling and when the vet told me who she was, I explained that the dog was in the backyard. She then told me to check, and when I did, I discovered that the dog wasn't there. Somehow, he had gotten out and wandered to a Little League field near the house. He decided to join the game that was in session and someone looked at the medalion hanging from his collar. The vet's name and number were listed on the metal disc and a cell phone call to the vet prompted her to call me.

When I arrived at the field, I discovered that the dog had stationed himself at 2nd base and had actually stopped a couple of grounders. The coach told me that he was better than the kid he had playing 2nd base, but the player covering the base had to be a human, not a dog. I leashed up the dog and took him home much to his chagrin.

Beagsley loved the water. When the kids were young, we had a boat that was moored at the Medford Boat Club and whenever we headed out, Beagsley's feet were firmly planted on the front deck. He was the navigator or lookout and led the way for us.

Those were great times and he grew up with my kids, John and Michael. For some reason, whenever Dean Saluti and Margie Cahn came over, Beagsley loved to jump on their laps and be lovey-dovey. They weren't too happy with this, but never really said anything to keep peace in the family.

When the boys went off to college, Beagsley became my dog and we grew older together. Eighteen years ago this coming summer, he had too many things wrong with him and we had to put him down. Michael was in Hollywood doing a film, but John was home and stayed with Beagsley at the vet's office until it was all over. To keep his memory alive, we use his name daily. I have his name immortalized in our email address. In the future, if any of you would like to get in touch, you can email me at beagsley@rcn.com. How's that for a memorial to a dog?

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by
Marianna
Bisignano

A Seat at the Table: La Festa della Mamma

This Mother's Day or *La Festa della Mamma*, I begin something very close to my heart, a journey through the North End of Boston, our Little Italy, where tradition is not recreated, but lived, protected, and passed from one generation to the next.

It is a place built by those who arrived with very little yet brought everything that mattered; their language, their customs, and most of all, their recipes, holding tightly to the flavors of home.

In this special series of *Nonna's Recipe Box*, I will be sitting with the heart and soul of the North End, the people behind the *trattorias*, *pasticcerias* and *caffés* that define this neighborhood, and listening to their stories. While these businesses are often shaped by generations of family, this series honors the mothers or *la mamma* who stood at the center of it all, whose influence lives on in the lives they've built, and for some, in the very businesses created in their honor.

Because in Italian culture, food is not separate from life, it is life. It marks every moment, every emotion, every gathering. It was how she loved us ... how

she held us together ... how she comforted us in times of joy and sorrow.

Here in the North End, that love did not end in the home, it became something lasting. It lives on in the businesses born from those kitchens, in recipes carefully preserved and passed down, and in a deep commitment to preserving our culture and heritage in this country, so that what was given to us is never lost.

In honoring the food, they are honoring her; her hands, her sacrifices, and the traditions she entrusted to them. Here, recipes are not simply followed, they are inherited and shared from one generation to the next, preserving who we are.

And in the end, this is not just about food. It is about the women who fed us, who formed us, and whose presence still lives on in every corner, at every table, and in every act of love that continues, one dish, one dessert, one memory at a time.

As each story closes, a family recipe remains, shared by the owner, not from a menu, but from memory, from the heart. It is where their story lingers, where love is remembered, and where tradition quietly carries on.

Beginning next week, I invite you to the table, where it is my honor to share these moments with you, just as they were shared with me, here in *Nonna's Recipe Box*.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI26P1757EA

Estate of
PAMELA MATHERS BANKS
Also known as:
PAMELA M. BANKS

Date of Death: March 22, 2026

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 Thomas P. Jalkut of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Thomas P. Jalkut of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/22/2026.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: April 24, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 05/01/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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

2011 HONDA CIVIC
Vin #19XFA1F59BE047103

2017 PETERBILT 579
Vin #1XPBD49X4HD445655

2025 ZHILONG Q-MAX
Vin #HZ2TBCNN9S1002129

2005 HONDA ODYSSEY
Vin #5FNRL38735B1423494

1997 FORD F250
Vin #1FTFF28L8VNB56199

2024 FENGYUAN BWS
Vin #H0DTABFK3RX080847

2012 CHEVROLET CRUZE
Vin #1G1PC5SH3C728143

2014 CHEVROLET IMPALA
Vin #2G1WA5E39E1162284

2005 TOYOTA PRIUS
Vin #JTDKB20U857014132

2009 FORDE ESCAPE
Vin #1FMCU49379KB08621

2008 INFINITI M35
Vin #JNKAY01F38M656082

2006 LEXUS IS
Vin #JTHCK262962006760

2015 NISSAN ALTIMA
Vin #1N4AL3AP0FC226013

2008 ACURA TL
Vin #19UUA66208A056490

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information

info@todiscotowing.com

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

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North End Athletic Association (NEAA) HONORS GERALD "SKIPPY" IMBERGAMO at 2026 Baseball Opening Day

(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

The North End Athletic Association held its Annual Opening Day Celebration on Saturday, April 25th at Langone Park. The day started with Dunkin' goodies donated by Landmark Donuts and our good friend Bill Galatis! There were 3 games at 10am, 2 at the minor league level and 1 Major's Game to kick off the season. Formal Ceremonies with the First Pitch thrown

as the Boston Red Sox had their 2013 World Series Trophy on display, The Boston Public Market, R.U.F.F., NEW Health and the BWSC Water truck were all part of a great day. There was also plenty of BBQ food provided through Joe Bono and Boston Pushcarts as well as a face painter and balloon artist. The final game of the day was played after the ceremony along with the start of the T-Ball &

plate! Also in attendance to honor Skippy was former NEAA Coach Freddie Petrigno and several members of the Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus' Officers.

A special thank you to the volunteers who made the day flawless: Mark Driscoll, Sean Drummy, Rosabri Mejia, Cosmin Cristescu and Patricia Romano. As always, a BIG

thank you goes out to all the volunteer coaches.

The day would not be possible without the help of our generous sponsors for the event:



NEAA 2026 Opening Day Baseball Honoree Gerald "Skippy" Imbergamo with NEAA Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone.



(L to R): NEAA Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone, Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna, and NEAA Sports Coordinator John "JR" Romano at the 2026 Opening Day Festivities.

out by Skippy commenced at 12 Noon. The park was filled with former players, coaches and even a teammate or two of Skippy's from his NEAA playing days! The event was fantastic



State Representative Aaron Michlewitz presents 2026 NEAA Honoree Gerald "Skippy" Imbergamo with a Proclamation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives for his years of service to the youth of the North End and the NEAA Baseball Program.

Instructional programs that are sponsored by the Boston Red Sox Nike Foundation and newly led by Marko Malich, Christi Gannon and Chris Filiberto, all of the NEAA.

Stella Murray, a student at N.E.M.P.A.C. sang the National Anthem while the Shriners Color Guard presented the colors. Skippy was honored by NEAA President Ted Tomasone, State Senator Lydia Edwards, Maria Perez from Mayor Wu's office, Samantha Perracchi of Councilor Coletta-Zapata's office and of course by the North End's own Representative Aaron Michlewitz — who was coached by Skippy in his early playing days before a series of trades landed him on the NEAA's Sports Coordinator, John Romano's team. It was a great day to honor a great man, who was surrounded by his family and threw a strike - right down the middle of the



2026 NEAA Opening Day Baseball Honoree Gerald "Skippy" Imbergamo with family members.



NEAA Team Cubs



2026 NEAA Team Phillies



2026 NEAA Team Astros



NEAA Team Cardinals

• NEAA Opening Day (Continued from Page 10)

Grand Slam - North End Athletic Association; **Home Run** - The Previte Family; **Triple** - Espresso Love, Margie & Dennis Vargo, Freddie & Doreen Petrigno; **Double** - Mayor Michelle Wu, Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, Senator Lydia Edwards, SOMA YOGA, Gloria Pizzarella, Lisa Musto, Battery Wharf Hotel, Post-Gazette Newspaper and Gordon

& Barbara Russell; **Single** - Jason Aluia, Mariellen Burns, Lesley Carvalho, Councilor Gabriella Coletta-Zapata, Mike Giannasoli, Sarah & Jeff Wharton, Mangia Mangia, John Fiumara, James & Francine Gannon. Raffle Prize Donors: Tony & Elaine's Restaurant, Rocco's Cafe, Boston Bottle, Tricon Sports and The Drummy Family.

The day rounded out with tryouts for both the 13U and 15U Dodger's Travel teams — who this year are sponsored by McGovern Auto Group.

Baseball is played virtually every night, Monday - Thursday on both fields at Puopolo Park and also at Langone Park. Stop by and route for all the great kids enjoying an awesome game!



NEAA Team Rays



2026 NEAA Team Rockies



Shriner's Color Guard presents colors at NEAA 2026 Opening Day Baseball Honoring Gerald "Skippy" Imbergamo.



NEAA Team Athletics



N.E.M.P.A.C. student Stella Murray sings the National Anthem at the 2026 NEAA Baseball Opening Day festivities.

• Hoops & Hockey (Continued from Page 12)

with Division One programs out of high school. Later he became the only one of the 2017 Draft class to use part of his rookie contract to pay off student loans he had accumulated during his early college years.

Now, you know why Derrick White is so grateful for how things turned out. On March 5, 2024 White signed a four-year \$125.9 million extension with the Celtics. From needing to pay off student debts in 2017 to a contract featuring an unbelievable sum in 2024, what a difference.

Derrick White — an extremely grateful person who will celebrate his 32nd birthday on July 2.

EXTRA Innings
by Sal Giarratani

The End Was Near for Alex Cora When He Kept Bello in for 8 Runs

Last Friday night we lost 10-3 to the mostly too green new BMore Orioles team jerseys. At best, Bello is a number 4 or number 5 starter. On this particular night, he was definitely not even one of the Top 10 starters on this team.

He had nothing from the get-go, yet Cora just left him in there getting beaten badly. At one point the camera was pointed at the Red Sox dugout where Cora was talking with I think his bench coach Ramon Vazquez. They both were mumbling back and forth to each other. When someone at the veterans post was watching the game with me, he asked what could they be talking about. I

looked at him and said they're probably talking about where to go and get a stiff drink after the game ended. It was so bad with Bello on the mound helpless and Cora leaving him in the game allowing 13 hits and 8 earned runs over 3.1 innings. Bello's stats right now, 1-3, 22 innings pitched, 22 earned runs for a perfect 9.00 ERA, and don't forget those 5 HRs too. Three HRs first inning alone.

Sunday morning the team's top brass met with the players and media to announce their reasons for dumping Cora and five of his coaches. "Right now, we feel like this change, these changes were warranted," stated Chief Baseball Officer Crag Breslow ... "By acting today it gives us 135 games ahead of us, so we've got almost a full season's worth of run to take advantage of this fresh start ..." He mumbled on a few more things but I was getting a headache from all the spinning going on.

Alex Cora is now history. How long was the 2018 season going to keep saving his job? For me, I thought the firing was overdue. Personally, I never really got over the suspected 2017 steel drum cheating scandal when Coach Cora was with the Houston Astros. Best of success to Interim Manager Chad Tracy.

Famous Last Words

"We've got a chance to win the series. That's the most important thing," Cora said prior to the firing being announced. "I keep saying get to .500. ... You win series and you keep moving and we have a chance to do that."

— Former Red Sox Manager
Alex Cora

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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

2011 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin #2T1BR12E31C516356

2018 NISSAN ROGUE
Vin #KNMAT2MV1FP549221

2012 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin #5NPEB4AC5CH399964

2010 FORD EDGE
Vin #2FMDK4JC5ABA49136

2013 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN
Vin #WVGVBV3AX7DW594835

2016 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin #5NPE24AF4GH288726

2022 DAIX PMZ50-16
Vin #L37MMJBT8NZ030005

2022 RAM 1500
Vin #1C6SRFV96NN143711

2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
Vin #5NPDH4AE0DH410169

2008 DODGE AVENGER
Vin #1B3LC46K78N659908

2013 FORD ESCAPE
Vin #1FMCU9GX4DUD33515

2008 TOYOTA PRIUS
Vin #JTDKB20U283362410

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information info@todiscotowing.com
Run dates: 04/24, 05/01, 05/08/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI26P1327EA

Estate of
JANE DENNISON MYERS
Date of Death: October 30, 2025

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Martha C. Kingsbury of Cambridge, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Martha C. Kingsbury of Cambridge, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/20/2026.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 22, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 05/01/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI26P1999EA

Estate of
HELEN NASEEB ZENKIN
Also known as:
HELEN N. ZENKIN

Date of Death: October 23, 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 Marie A. Goggin of Nashua, 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: **Marie A. Goggin of Nashua, 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 05/15/2026.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 17, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 05/01/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **May 25, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2013 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin #5NPEC4AC9DH623509

2006 NISSAN SENTRA
Vin #3N1CB51D16L624670

2011 FORD F150
Vin #1FTFX1EF0BFC54610

2005 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin #2T1KR32E85C379822

2013 BMW X5
Vin #5UXZV8C50DL899492

2012 HONDA FIT
Vin #JHMGE8H34CC038331

2011 AUDI A6
Vin #WAUFGAFB3BN060362

2026 HYUNDAI TRANSLAND TRAILER
Vin #3H3V482K8TJ118049

2012 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
Vin #5TDBK3EH3CS124929

2019 VOLVO S60
Vin #7JRA22TK8KG018460

2007 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin #2T1BR32EX7C846497

2009 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin #5NPE246C49H572999

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information info@todiscotowing.com
Run dates: 05/01, 05/08, 05/15/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI25P6473GD

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

In the interests of
REAGAN T. KINNEY
of **LOWELL, MA**
Minor

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 12/16/2025 by Vicki S. Janowicz of Lowell, MA will be held 06/11/2026 09:00 AM Review Hearing Located 370 Jackson Street, Lowell, MA 01852, 5th Floor, Courtroom 10

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

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

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

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

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
Date: April 09, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 05/01/2026

Boxing Ringside



WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

GEORGIE ABRAMS CAME SO CLOSE *But No Cigar*



Georgie Abrams and Tony Zale at the weigh-in for their fight, with NY Athletic Commission Chairman (Right) and Promoter Mike Jacobs (between the fighters).

Georgie Abrams had a spectacular career. The middleweight from Washington, DC fought from 1937 to 1948 and ended his career with a record of 61 fights, 48 wins (9 by Knockout), 3 draws, and 10 losses.

He fought the best of the best and beat top fighters such as Teddy Yarosz, Lou Brouillard, Billy Soose, Izzy Jannazzo, Cocoa Kid, as well as holding Charley Burley to a draw.

As great as those wins were, Abrams is best remembered for a couple of fights he lost. In 1941, he challenged Champion Tony Zale at Madison Square Garden. The fight started out looking good for Georgie when he floored Zale. Unfortunately for the challenger, in the second round Zale caught him in the left eye leaving him with blurry vision. When Georgie was taken to the hospital after the fight the doctor wanted to remove his eye because he felt the damage was so bad. Lucky for Abrams, his family said no, and he recovered his vision. Zale won the decision, but some thought it should have gone to Abrams. The *UP* had Zale the winner by 10-4-1 while the *AP* favored Abrams 8-7.

Nearing the end of his career, Abrams stepped in with Sugar Ray Robinson in 1947. Ray was the welterweight champion and was now testing the waters in the middleweight division. Georgie was considered tough but over the hill and not a serious threat to Ray.

Well, Abrams showed he had one last great fight in him, plus a ten pound weight advantage. Both the *AP* and *UP* scored the fight for Abrams: 6-3-1 and 6-4 respectively.

The *United Press* described the brutal fight:

“Sugar Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion, was awarded an unpopular split 10 round decision tonight over middleweight veteran Georgie Abrams after their non-title brawl at MSG. The fans indicated loudly that they thought Abrams had won the fight,

particularly after Robinson had been penalized in the 7th and 8th rounds for fouling his heavier opponent with low blows. Robinson hurt Georgie with a hard right to the chin in the 2nd round and had him groggy with two following left hooks, but the game veteran fought back fiercely. The aggressive, compact Abrams staggered Robinson with hard straight rights to the head twice in the 6th round and once in the 9th. Robinson left the ring



Georgie Abrams in the gym.



Abrams working the Heavy Bag.



Georgie lands a solid right on Zale.

bleeding from a deep gash at the corner of his right eye and from a slight gash on his left brow. Abrams was bleeding from cuts on his right brow and lower lip.”

After the Robinson fight, Georgie Abrams would fight just three more times without winning. His fight with Ray was his last hurrah, and he knew the writing was on the wall to call it a career, which he did in 1948.

Abrams worked various jobs after retiring from the ring, and even made some money as an illustrator. He passed away in 1994.

Here are some photos to remember his time in the ring.



Abrams rocks Zale with a jab.



Abrams on the losing end in a very close fight with Tony Zale.



Georgie Abrams (Right) gave Sugar Ray Robinson all he could handle. Abrams lost an unpopular Ten Round Decision.



In 1942, Abrams adorned the cover of *Ring Magazine*.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



THE TROPHIES BEFORE THE TROPHY — It is the post-season in the NBA but before the championship trophy is awarded in June to the team that survives the grueling two-month experience of the playoffs there are additional ones presented that harken back to the just completed regular season.

They may also seem as afterthoughts as the full attention of those that follow the NBA seem focused on the playoffs. But they really represent how one has done over the much more lengthy regular season that began in October and concluded in the middle of April.

There are several but we will focus on just one for this week.

We thought that perhaps the most significant one was the NBA Sportsmanship Award that was presented to Boston Celtics guard Derrick White.

We felt this way because it is the only award among the several that are presented that involves a vote by the players themselves. The award has been presented since the 1995-1996 season and “honors a player who best represents the ideals of sportsmanship on the court.”

The award is formally named the Joe Dumars Trophy and thus honors the basketball Hall of Famer and two-time NBA Champion who played his entire 14-year career with the Detroit Pistons.

The process consists of each of the NBA’s 30 teams nominating a player for the award. Then a group of league executives selects six finalists, one representing each division in the league.

That is followed by current NBA players voting to select the winner from the finalists.

This marks the second consecutive season that a Celtics player has won the award.

Last year Jrue Holiday, then with the Celtics but now with Portland, was chosen. He was also selected in 2020-2021 while a member of the Milwaukee Bucks.

Other former Celtics players who have been honored include Chauncey Billups (2008-2009) as a member of the Denver Nuggets and Ray Allen (2002-2003) as a member of the Seattle SuperSonics.

In the just-concluded regular season with the Celtics, White had the best campaign of his pro career, averaging 16.5 points per game while playing in 77 games as a starter.

He also was a member of the Team USA squad that won a gold medal in the 2024 Summer Olympics.

“Derrick has represented everything good about the game since he entered the league,” said Boston Celtics President of Basketball Operations Brad Stevens in a press release. “The Sportsmanship Award is a deserved honor because of how Derrick consistently carries himself both on and off the court. In every way Derrick exemplifies what it means to be a Celtic and is more than deserving of this honor.”

And for his part White is very content and happy to be on the Celtics roster and make a significant contribution to the team. “I just love playing with the guys we have in that locker room,” stated White. “That is probably what I am most proud of — just being able to say that I put on a Boston Celtics uniform with some amazing people.”

When you think about it, isn’t that what so many people who play basketball in our area would desire — just to say they played even a few moments with the members of the Boston Celtics roster — even in an intrasquad scrimmage.

Of course, they would. And they would gladly do it for free. It would be the ultimate access—with memories to last a lifetime.

The Sportsmanship Award comes two years after White was named the recipient of the 2024 Red Auerbach Award. That honor is given annually “to a Celtics player or coach who best exemplifies the spirit of what it means to be a Celtic through exceptional performance on and off the court.”

In addition, that same year (2024), White was also honored with the Community Champion Award “an honor presented to a Celtics player who extends the reach of the organization’s championship legacy into the community through contributions that directly benefit youth in need.”

A native of Colorado, Derrick Richard White graduated from the University of Colorado in May, 2017 with a degree in Business Management.

His time there continues to live on with him since his nickname around the league is “The Buffalo” — an apparent reference to his playing days at the University of Colorado where the team is known as The Buffaloes.

He was drafted 29th overall by San Antonio in the 2017 NBA Draft and played for the Spurs for over five and a half seasons before being traded to Boston in February, 2022.

And here is what one San Antonio fan wrote online while lamenting his departure:

“Alamo City will always cheer for a guy who humbly worked hard every day — a guy they watched grow from a player uncertain of himself to one confidently playing his role and impacting the game in all aspects and the bigger moments.”

But it was not an easy road to the Big Time. Although he scored more than 1,000 points during his high school career, he basically went unnoticed and enrolled at one of the branches of the University of Colorado system — without financial aid. He remained there three years before transferring to the main campus — the University of Colorado where he averaged 18.1 points per game his senior season.

He was invited to the 2017 NBA Draft combine, one of only three players who did not sign

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