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POST-GAZETTE

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, JULY 17, 2026

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Red Arrows Fly Over Massachusetts State House



The British Royal Air Force Acrobatic Team, known as the “Red Arrows,” honored 250 years of American Independence with a trail of red, white and blue smoke as they flew over the golden dome. “The Red Arrows are one of Britain’s most iconic symbols,” said the United Kingdom’s general counsel general for New England, while adding, “The flyover is a powerful reminder of the close friendship that has linked the United Kingdom and Massachusetts for generations. We are delighted to share this unique experience with our friends and partners across the Commonwealth.”

To commemorate America’s 250th Birthday, the Red Arrows embarked on a five week tour across the United States, called Operation Eagle Hawk. “Since arriving in the U.S., we have received a huge, warm welcome and a brilliant reaction to our spectacular displays and performances. We’re excited to return to Boston, a location not visited by the Red Arrows since 2019, and I am certain the flypasts will further underline the strong, enduring relationship between the United Kingdom and our strongest and closest partner.”

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

An Unbelievable Story of Resilience

A truly remarkable and harrowing story has emerged from Nepal, where a resident named Shanichara Bote has faced unimaginable challenges. A rogue elephant has sadly impacted his family over the span of 14 years, even after they moved miles away across two rivers to find safety. Despite tracking efforts and close monitoring by local authorities to prevent further tragedies, the community continues to look for lasting solutions to keep everyone safe. It is a powerful reminder of the complex relationship between wildlife and local villages.

A Friendly Heads-Up on Postage Stamps

Just a quick reminder for your mailing needs: the price of Forever Stamps will be adjusting slightly

(Continued on Page 11)

Society of Madonna Delle Grazie Annual Procession



The Ladies of the Madonna Delle Grazie Society gather in the St. Leonard Church Peace Garden on Hanover Street to express their devotion to their Patron Saint.

Founded in 1903 in Boston by Italian immigrants who originated from San Sossio Baronia, Avellino, Italy, the Madonna Delle Grazie Society held their annual procession in honor of the Blessed Mother (Our Lady of Grace), on Sunday, July 12, 2026. Following an Italian Mass at St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street in the North End, society members, faithful devotees, family, friends and neighbors followed the statue of the

Blessed Mother through the streets of the community. This is one of four North End religious societies who celebrate and honor our Blessed Mother.

The members would like to extend their deep appreciation to all who walked the procession, even on a hot, sunny Sunday, for all of the beautifully and generously adorned ribbons and for the marching bands that accompanied the Madonna.



Members of the Madonna Delle Grazie Society prepare to step off on their annual procession around the streets of the North End.
(Photos by Gerri Palladino)

Could 3:00 a.m. Last Calls Be Here to Stay?

by Patti Sartori

If Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and City Council members have their way, the 2026 Summer celebrations, 3 a.m. last call extended drinking hours and public drinking zones will last long past the upcoming July 31 deadline. Wu and certain council members spoke in support of a special state law allowing extended hours during the World Cup Celebrations, Sail 250 and other historic events throughout the city.

“We’ve had no incidents. The businesses have reported huge gains, and people have been having a great time,” reported

Wu on her weekly GBH Boston Public Radio segment. With the temporary extensions set to terminate at the end of July, city officials are considering avenues to make the changes permanent, via approval from the Massachusetts Legislature. “We would very much advocate for that. It should be on cities to be able to make those decisions and we are going to continue to advocate for keeping the momentum going. It’s not just World Cup and Summer events, but all throughout the year, there’s something happening in Boston,” said Wu.

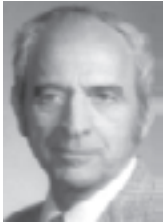
At last week’s council meeting, the members voted 8-2 in favor of a resolution supporting a State Senate bill that would keep public drinking zones and extended bar hours in place through Labor Day. More than 200 establishments now participate, and two social districts operate downtown. Residents and visitors have embraced the extended hours and social districts,” offered Council President Liz Bredon. The city approved two social districts last month, at Union and Marshall Streets

(Continued on Page 11)

Stirpe
Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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

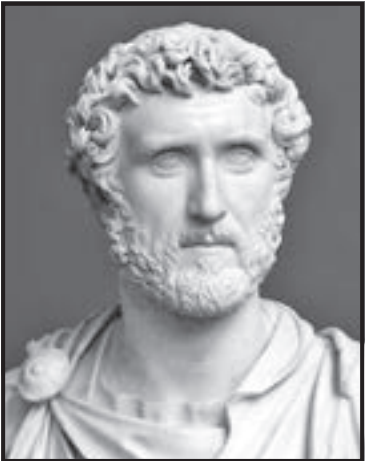


Res Publica

by David Trumbull



CRUX



Bust of Antoninus Pius, at Glyptothek, Munich

“Cruciatuſ” or “Cruciare” are the Latin expressions for torture, torment, or to put to the rack. “Crux” refers to the cross as an instrument of capital punishment during ancient times in eastern countries. Darius, an early king of Persia (about 500 B.C.), boasted that he had crucified the leader of every rebellious group that had opposed him. Persons who had been executed by other means were sometimes placed on a cross after death as an indication of dishonor upon the deed, which caused their demise. Tarquinius Priscus, the first Etruscan king of Rome (about 600 B.C.), resorted to this kind of disgraceful display of deceased bodies in an attempt to stop the suicides of those persons who were driven to despair in forced labor camps. We are also told that executions by crucifixion were very common with the Carthaginians, who were noted for the cruelty of their methods, and through them, it was introduced into Rome.

The ancient Romans were naturally a hard-hearted people. This fact is alluded to by many historians. The great Cicero

inferred that crucifixion was in use during the regal period (700 B.C.-500 B.C.) when he argued against the revival of laws permitting this kind of execution, and against capital punishment of citizens in any form.

When Spartacus, the famous gladiator, was finally defeated in his servile war against Rome (70 B.C.), about 6,000 of his followers (slaves) were crucified all along the Appian Way between Capua and Rome. This was the time when masters enjoyed such absolute power over their slaves that crucifixions were ordered for even slight offenses.

The first laws passed in favor of slaves occurred during the reign of Augustus. Later, the emperor Hadrian decreed that slaves could not be executed without the sentence of a magistrate. Finally, Antoninus Pius, successor to Hadrian, ordered that the murder of a slave by his master was punishable as a homicide.

In addition to slaves, those persons living in the Roman provinces were subject to crucifixion for such major crimes as murder, piracy, revolt, and conspiracy. During the Roman war and occupation of Jerusalem, the obstinacy and rebellious nature of the Jews caused the wholesale infliction of this punishment. Varus, a Roman consul, crucified 2,000 Jews at one time, while Florus, a procurator, crucified several hundred, including Roman citizens of Jewish birth. When Titus was commanding the Roman legions in that country, it was said that, “Rome was waiting for the crosses, and crosses for the bodies.”

NEXT WEEK:
Crucifixion

Two and a Half Centuries of Progress

“Yesterday the Declaration for Independency was Published out of the Balcony of the Town House.” In this letter Henry Alline, Jr. describes how the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed in Boston on **18 July 1776**.

“In his diary entry for **18 July 1776**, John Rowe writes that the Declaration of Independence was read from the balcony of the “Council Chamber” in Boston (the building that is now known as the Old State House).”

— **Source: Massachusetts Historical Society**

In our day of instant communications, we probably give little thought to the two-week journey by horse to bring the Declaration from Philadelphia to Boston.

Time consuming human, or animal-assisted, overland travel could not long be tolerated by nation characterized by the saying: “Americans were born in a hurry” (based on a similar observation by **Alexis de Tocqueville**). Now, in 2026, we might well attend to the **150th anniversary** of the **First Transatlantic Railroad** (1863-1869), which reduced the travel time to the West Coast from months to several days.

Gains in speed also accelerated **Italian immigration to America**. While there was an Italian presence in the British colonies by the 17th century, it was the advent of the steamships, which reduced the Atlantic crossing from a few weeks to several days, that launched the great influx of Italians to the Boston area.

Coming up next — human missions **back to the Moon ... and beyond!**



The “Gallia” on which Alessandro Di Zazzo (Great-Grandfather of late Post-Gazette columnist Mary DiZazzo-Trumbull) arrived in America in 1901.

The Ever Rising Cost of a U.S. Postage Stamp

Yes, the price of a First Class Forever U.S. Postage Stamp has officially increased, effective July 12, 2026, from .78 cents to .82 cents. No wonder people are sending fewer communication via mail. The United States Postal Service (USPS) claims it has made this move to combat a severe financial crisis and offset rising operational expenses. They suggest that costs are currently



outpacing revenue due to falling mail volume and soaring inflation, and that the agency needs the extra revenue to sustain universal nationwide service.

Any forever stamps you already own will remain valid without requiring extra postage. Let’s hope the increase will finally allow the mail to be delivered in a timely fashion!

Federal Election Monitors Eying Boston and New Bedford

by Patti Sartori

The U.S. Department of Justice will send federal election monitors to two Massachusetts cities, Boston and New Bedford, for the upcoming September primary according to Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon, who noted fifteen specific jurisdictions throughout Massachusetts, Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Virginia have been selected for monitoring.

“This is an important goal that increases voter confidence and it’s also important to make sure our voting is accurate so that every citizen who votes has their vote counted equally without being cancelled by somebody who shouldn’t be voting,” Dhillon posted in a video on X. It’s been documented that illegal citizens using stolen identities have voted in local, state and federal elections. This past May, Massachusetts U.S. Attorney Leah Foley announced the arrest of a legal permanent resident from Saugus who allegedly voted illegally in elections since 2018. This past February, an illegal immigrant in Boston was convicted in federal court for voting in the 2024

presidential election. In March of this year, the Boston City Council considered legislation that would allow non-citizens to vote in local elections.

New Bedford spokesman Jonathon Darling stated, “While no official communication has been received by the City or the Board of Election Commissioners to date, federal officials are welcome to observe elections here.” Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin’s office said his office

is only aware of election monitors coming to Boston for the primary election in September, and that all election monitors are welcome in Massachusetts as long as they do not interfere with voters. “I’m proud to be helping organize this effort and send those monitors to help increase all citizens’ confidence in the outcome of our elections,” said Dhillon while predicting “an even more expanded list of jurisdictions for the general election in November.”

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Friday, July 17, 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.*

Anthony “Tony” Joseph LoVuolo, Jr.

February 26, 1942 – July 7, 2026



Anthony “Tony” LoVuolo, formerly of Boston’s West End and later a longtime resident of the North End, passed away peacefully on July 7, 2026, following a brief illness.

Tony was the beloved husband of Barbara (Pasqua) LoVuolo, with whom he shared 63 wonderful years of marriage. He was the loving father of William LoVuolo of Boston and Susan (LoVuolo) Greco and her husband Joseph of Saugus. He was

predeceased by his son, Anthony LoVuolo of Stoneham, and is survived by his daughter-in-law, Janine LoVuolo of Stoneham.

Tony was the devoted grandfather of Anthony D. LoVuolo and his wife Alexandra of Danvers, Nina LoVuolo of Stoneham, Joseph M. Greco of Saugus, and Alana Greco of Saugus. He was the proud great-grandfather of Genaro Jannino of Stoneham and Aria LoVuolo of Danvers.

He was the loving brother of Nicolina “Lovey” Rivera and brother-in-law of Mary Hutchings of Saugus and Kathy Bellerose and her husband Joseph of Medford. He was also the cherished uncle of his nieces Theresa Saideh of Stoneham, Paula Rivera of California, Michelle Capadanno of Tewksbury, Desiree Rivera of Salem, NH and was predeceased by his nephew, Frank P. Rivera of Stoneham.

Tony enjoyed a successful professional career as a sales representative for Ben Franklin Smith Printing Company in Boston, where he worked for over 40 years. After retirement, he and Barbara embraced all that North End life had to offer, especially enjoying the neighborhood’s renowned restaurants and vibrant community.

A dedicated community leader, Tony was an active member and past president of the Madonna Della Cava Society of Boston, helping organize and support the Society’s annual festival for many years. He and Barbara treasured their winters in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Florida, and their summers in West Yarmouth, Cape Cod, creating countless memories with their children and grandchildren.

Tony was a passionate Boston sports fan who followed all of Boston’s teams faithfully. He maintained lifelong friendships in both Boston and Florida and was a longtime member of the West End House. Above all else, Tony loved his family. He will be fondly remembered at Sunday dinners, enjoying gravy and meatballs, sharing stories and laughter, and sneaking meatballs to the family dogs despite being repeatedly told not to. His warmth, generosity, humor, and devotion to family will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

The family received visitors on Monday, July 13, 2026 in St. Leonard Church, 320 Hanover Street, Boston followed by a Mass of Christian Burial. Burial will be at a later date.

Donations in Tony’s memory may be made to: West End House Boys & Girls Club, 105 Allston Street, Allston, MA 02134

Tony’s legacy of family, friendship, and community service will live on in the hearts of those he leaves behind.

Giuseppina “Josie” Prezioso

July 4, 1934 - July 5, 2026

Giuseppina, affectionally known as Josie was born in Calore, Avellino, Italy to her late parents, Angelo and Luigia (Buonapane) DeSimone. She was one of six children raised and educated in Italy. She met and married her husband Vincenzo Prezioso on June 10, 1954, and they began their life and their family together in Cerignola, Italy. On May 7, 1966, Josie and Vincenzo and four children journeyed



to America on a ship to begin their new life, they docked in New York and settled in East Boston. Later 1969 they were blessed with another child, Franco Vincenzo which they called, “the American”. They would later make a final move, settling in Revere in 1977 to begin yet another adventure. Josie and Vincenzo became proprietors of Vinny’s Food Market, located on Malden Street. They nurtured the store; they immersed and became a thread within the community. They are well recognized for their genuine support to the Revere community especially during the Blizzard of 1978. Vinny always had a welcoming smile to everyone who walked into the store. Josie always cooking authentic Italian foods, especially her famous chicken cutlets all in her small kitchen, while Vinny was working hard in the store, they always worked side by side. Josie’s life was built on family, food and faith. Padre Pio di Padua was her pillar and her faith guided her vocation. She advocated for the Italian Home for Children, ribbons loaded with donations up in the store, she constantly fundraised for all causes, St. Anthony and Padre Pio guided her every step. Her faith always part of her path in her day to day. Family was her heartbeat. Sunday dinners were so important, the light of the table was having everyone present, the table filled with foods each of her children cherished as a food memory. Giuseppina “Josie” gave a warm smile, and a piece of candy ready to

share. Giuseppina “Josie” will always remain in our hearts.

Giuseppina is the beloved wife of 40 years to the late Vincenzo Prezioso. The loving mother of Salvatore Prezioso and wife Carol of Revere, Angelo Prezioso and wife Angela of Orient Heights East Boston, Rosa Galeno and husband Pietro of Easton, Luigi Prezioso and wife Sandra of Saugus and Franco Prezioso and

his wife Lucia Fasulo of Revere. She is the cherished Nonna of Vincent Prezioso and wife Lynne, Michael Prezioso and his companion Som, Josephine King and her husband John, Antonina Hoos and her husband Chad, Vincent Prezioso and his wife Katherine, Peter Galeno and his wife Jill, Jacqueline Galeno and Evan Morris, Francesca Galeno and Jordin Spolidoro, Joseph Prezioso and Franco Prezioso. Nonna is the treasured great grandmother of Salvatore, Sabrina, Matteo, Gianni, John Jr. and Julius. She is the dear sister of Luisa Grasso, Violante Capurso, Flora D’Avolio and her husband Charles and late sister Amelia “Amy” Sponpinato and late brother Michael DeSimone. Also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, extended family and friends.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend visiting hours on Friday, July 17th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere, for Giuseppina “Josie” (DeSimone) Prezioso, passed away on July 5th surrounded by her loving family at The Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. She was 92 years old.

A funeral will be conducted from the funeral home on Saturday, July 18th, at 10:00 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. in St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Revere Street, Revere. Interment will immediately follow Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Barbara S. (Bruno) Maldero

Barbara S. (Bruno) Maldero, 98, of Boston’s North End, passed away July 10, 2026. Beloved daughter of the late Francisco and Carmella (DeVito) Bruno, and cherished wife of the late Louis D. Maldero. Barbara leaves behind a legacy of love, service, and devotion.



She is survived by her loving children, Stephanie A. Pyne and her husband Robert; Vito A. Maldero and his partner Diane

Giannelli. Barbara was a proud grandmother to Anthony Maldero, Tayla Martignetti, and her husband Ben, and the late Louis Maldero. She also leaves behind her late siblings: Vito, Joseph and his wife Margaret, Ralph and his wife Rose, Rocco, Pauline Centore and her husband Frank, Louis and his wife Eleanor, Angie DiBisceglia and her husband Nicholas, William and his wife Joyce, and Peter and his wife Mary, along with multiple generations of cherished nieces and nephews.

Barbara lived her entire life in the North End, a community she cherished deeply. She began her career as a seamstress in a local tie factory before dedicating 28 years to Blue Cross/Blue Shield as an Underwriter. A passionate traveler, she explored various corners of Europe, with Italy, the Holy Land, and Medjugorje holding a special place in her heart.

Deeply committed to her faith, Barbara was a pillar of the Catholic community and actively involved in numerous charitable initiatives. She held numerous fundraisers for St. Leonard Church and lived her life as a Third Order of St. Francis, embodying the principles of kindness and service. In the 1960s, she founded the North End Athletic Association Women’s Auxiliary, helped establish the St. Damien Society,

served as Vice President of the North End Younger Seniors, she was a committee member of North End Christmas Fund, and was a member of the Board of Directors for the North End Health Center and North End ABCD. Her commitment to her community earned her the honor of Woman of The Year from the City of Boston on two occasions.

Family and friends paid their respects on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the J.S. Waterman Langone Chapel, 580 Commercial St., Boston. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., in St. Leonard Church, 320 Hanover Street, Boston. Services concluded with interment in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

Donations may be made to St. Leonard Church, a cause that Barbara held dear to her heart. Her spirit will continue to inspire those who had the privilege of knowing her.

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

L’Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Sweet Ride Through Birthday Lore

by Ally Di Censo Symnkywicz



(Photo by prostooleh on Magnific)

My birthday is quickly approaching on Monday, July 20th, and it has gotten me thinking about these unique celebrations in general. Birthdays fall under the category of rites of passage, or milestones, and, as a result, cultures around the world celebrate birthdays with special customs and traditions. While we think of birthdays as great opportunities for parties and food, in ancient times people viewed birthdays as dangerous occasions because of their liminality, being poised between one year and the next. As such, birthday parties included — and continue to include — loud noise and noise makers to scare off the evil spirit believed to be lurking around during this period. Many vestiges of these ancient fetes remain. From birthday cakes to picking up the check, here are special birthday traditions from around the world.

Our first stop, of course, is Italy, one of the original homes of the birthday cake. Though scholars are still unsure about the roots of the birthday cake, many theorize that these sweet treats originated in the Mediterranean world. Ancient

Greeks baked round cakes to honor Artemis, the goddess of the moon and the hunt, and then illuminated the cakes with candles in order to better resemble the moon. The ancient Romans, on the other hand, made sweet honey cakes to serve at birthdays and weddings — where they were traditionally broken over the bride’s head for good luck! However, the custom of placing candles on a birthday cake comes from Germany, where a large candle was often situated in the center of the cake to symbolize life. Modern Italian birthday traditions resemble those of America. People gather for a birthday cake, food, a party and gifts. There are some differences, however. Beware of people pulling on your earlobes if you celebrate your birthday in Italy — they will pull the corresponding number of years you are turning. Also, if a group of friends go out to dinner, it is the friend celebrating the birthday who is expected to pay for the meal. Finally, since saints are an important part of Italian society, children are often named for the saint whose day coincides with their

birthday. Or they may celebrate on a smaller scale during the day belonging to the saint who shares their name. My father, for example, was born on August 16th, which is Saint Roch’s day, and so my grandmother appropriately named him Rocco!

Foods are an important part of birthday celebrations around the world. Australian children can expect to be served the charmingly named Fairy Bread, or buttered bread covered with multicolored sprinkles, during their parties. Children in Brazil receive marzipan candies shaped like fruit. Candies feature in Mexican birthdays as well, where they are concealed in a piñata which is later broken open by blindfolded guests. The Dutch, on the other hand, like to feast on pancakes sprinkled with powdered sugar. Many birthday foods also reflect the theme of good luck for the upcoming year. A person celebrating their birthday in China will eat long noodles, which symbolize a long life. Russians have birthday pies instead of birthday cakes, and a message bestowing good fortune upon the birthday person is inscribed on the crust. Finally, Canadian children can expect a more immediate form of luck at birthday parties. Whoever finds a coin hidden in his or her slice of birthday cake will have the first turn in all of the feast’s games!

(Continued on Page 11)

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. M126P3433EA
Estate of
PATRICIA HAZEL REX
Also known as:
PATRICIA H. REX
Date of Death: February 07, 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 Stephanie Reid of Concord, 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: **Stephanie Reid of Concord, 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 08/04/2026.
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: July 07, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/17/2026

THINKING
OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani

The Idea of Death Scares All of Us

I am writing to share some reflections from my experience as a permanent substitute teacher over the past six years at Quincy High School, specifically regarding the recent, tragic passing of one of our recent graduates.

As educators, we frequently observe high school students navigating a period of life where they often feel invincible. I often speak with seniors about the transition into adulthood and the responsibilities that come with steering their own lives after graduation. Some of them get it, others have no clue what I am saying. The young can’t wrap themselves about death because they think only old people die.

Unfortunately, we were recently reminded of the fragility of life. Kayron G. Costa, a senior who graduated on June 8, tragically drowned on June 20 at a pond in Milton. Following his passing, both staff and classmates gathered to mourn this sudden loss.

This tragedy has profoundly impacted our student body, serving as a stark reminder of how quickly life can change. Such events were deeply unsettling for students and staff alike, regardless of age.

I can’t remember the last thing I said to Kayron. I just know it had to be encouragement. He was a good student and when he was in one of my sub classes, we talked about his plans for after his high school graduation. I knew he would find his way through life like all the others.

You know why I like being in a school environment during the school year? It energizes me. Getting surrounded by young people can make one feel young. I know I am older today than I ever was before. I plan to be

and act as Sal Giarratani has always been regardless of my actual age.

I will miss Kayron and thank God he was one of those ships that passed all of us in our lives. We should all live our lives as best we can and for as long as God gives us the time to do so. Always try and do the right thing, be the right person. Appreciate everyone who enters your space. Enjoy their presence. Life should never be a gloomy place. Learn what is good and just beware that life and death can sneak up on us. No matter your age, enjoy life and share it with others.

Two of my friends just lost their elderly mother. They will cry at her loss but they will always smile at the memories she left behind for them.

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 August 03, 2026 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

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 - 2021 KIA SORENTO
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Vin #5J6RE4H77BL006035
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Vin #4T3Z2A3BB4DU067173
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ALLY

JULY 17-19, 2026
REVERE BEACH, MA

Friday, July 17th
10:00AM - 10:00PM

Friday, July 18th
10:00AM - 10:00PM

Friday, July 19th
10:00AM - 8:00PM



Alfred's Sicily

by Alfred M. Zappala



The Drumbeat of Life

I live on a bluff overlooking the Ionian Sea on Sicily's eastern coast. From my deck, I enjoy a sweeping 180-degree view of the Mediterranean world that has shaped this island for thousands of years.

To my left, I can see Taormina in the distance, perched above the sea like a painting. To my right lies the Port of Catania, busy and modern, connecting Sicily to the wider world. Straight ahead, across the water, sits Calabria on the Italian mainland, separated from Sicily by the Strait of Messina. It is a view I never tire of. In fact, it has become my television. Years ago, I got rid of the real one.

Most mornings begin at four o'clock. Long before the villages below begin to stir, I sit on my deck with a cup of black coffee overlooking the Ionian Sea. Calabria is little more than a dark silhouette across the water. The lights along the coastline still twinkle in the distance. Occasionally, a fishing boat moves silently through the darkness. It is my favorite time of day.

The early morning hours belong to writing. Like Hemingway, I try to put about 800 words on paper before the day fully begins. Some mornings the words flow easily. Other mornings they arrive a little more reluctantly. Either way, I sit down and write.

Only the most hardened heart could fail to find inspiration in such a setting.

By sunrise, I have usually finished my writing and turned my attention to the practical side of life. There are legal matters to review, correspondence to answer, business interests to attend to, and the occasional problem waiting patiently to be solved.

By nine o'clock, however, the important work is generally finished.

The remainder of the day belongs to life itself.

After a brief rest, I head out to attend to the ordinary chores of the day. Most often, that begins with a double espresso at a local coffee bar. The faces are familiar. The conversations are familiar. The coffee is consistently excellent.

From there, I might stop at the ortofrutta to see what fruits and vegetables look particularly good that day. Then it's off to the market.

One of the first things Americans notice is that Sicilian markets do not offer the endless variety found in many supermarkets back home. We do not have entire aisles devoted to twenty-seven versions of the same product.

What we do have is seasonality.

The question is not whether I can buy strawberries in December. The question is what is at its best today. What fish came in this morning? Which tomatoes are ready? What vegetables are in season? What am I making for dinner?

The biggest difference, however, is the taste.

The fruits here actually taste like fruit. The strawberries, peaches, plums, watermelon, figs, and berries remind me of what those foods tasted like when I was a kid growing up in Massachusetts many years ago.

Close your eyes and bite into a perfectly ripe Sicilian peach in July. That is what peaches used to taste like. The same is true of strawberries, tomatoes, melons, and so many other things. Somewhere along the way, many of us became accustomed to appearance replacing flavor. The

fruit looks beautiful, but often tastes like cardboard. Here, flavor still matters.

Perhaps that is another part of Sicily's rhythm. People are willing to wait for things to be ready. They accept that some foods belong to certain seasons and not others. Strange as it sounds, the result is that food once again tastes the way I remember it tasting when I was young.

After the market, I usually turn my attention to whatever business remains. Although Sicily has taught me to slow down, it has certainly not taught me to stop working.

There are legal matters to review, emails to answer, tour business issues to address, writing projects to advance, and the occasional problem that somehow finds its way across the Atlantic and lands on my desk. The difference is that these responsibilities occupy part of my life rather than consuming all of it.

By late afternoon, one of my favorite parts of the day arrives.

I connect with my three children by video. We have been doing that for years. Living three thousand miles apart has never changed the fact that we remain deeply involved in one another's lives.

We talk about everything — family news, work, books, Sicily, and, of course, the grandchildren.

Every so often one of the grandchildren appears on the screen and steals the show entirely.

Technology has changed many things over the years, but this may be one of its greatest gifts. My grandparents crossed the Atlantic and often waited weeks or months for news from family members. Today, I can sit on my deck overlooking the Ionian Sea and, within seconds, be face-to-face with my children in America. Those conversations have become part of the rhythm of my life. In many ways, they are the highlight of my day.

The sea, the mountains, the villages, and the scenery are all wonderful. But Sicily has taught me something important: places matter, yet people matter more. No matter how beautiful the view may be from my deck, it becomes even more beautiful after I have spent time talking with the people I love.

Then evening arrives. The lights begin to appear along the coastline. Ferries move across the distant water. The sea gradually darkens. Mount Etna stands quietly in the background, much as it has for thousands of years.

I sit on my deck and look out across the Ionian Sea. Nothing particularly dramatic has happened. No great crisis has been solved. No headlines have been written. Yet somehow it feels like a day well spent. Perhaps that is the greatest lesson Sicily has taught me.

Life is not measured solely by accomplishments, possessions, or productivity. It is also measured by friendships, conversations, family, simple pleasures, and the quiet satisfaction that comes from enjoying the day you have been given.

For nearly two decades, I traveled back and forth between Sicily and the United States. Twelve years ago, Sicily stopped being a destination and became my home.

Today, when I sit on that deck at four o'clock in the morning with a cup of coffee in my hand, watching the first light appear over the Ionian Sea, I am reminded once again why I stayed.

This is the drumbeat of my life.

Alfred M. Zappala is a Sicilian-American author, attorney, educator, and co-founder of *You, Me & Sicily*. He has lived in Sicily for more than two decades and writes about Sicilian life, culture, history, and traditions. Learn more at www.YouMeAndSicily.com.

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New York's Little Italy Ignored in Neighborhood Immigrant Map

by Patti Sartori

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani's newly released map of immigrant neighborhoods faced quite the uproar and backlash for ignoring long-time ethnic enclaves, including the Big Apple's Little Italy section of Manhattan. The map, titled "*New York City Immigrant Enclaves*," highlights multiple areas throughout the five boroughs, from Little Palestine in Brooklyn, Little Yemen in the Bronx, and Koreatown in Manhattan, but conveniently excluded Irish and Jewish neighborhoods as well as the famous Italian section of Manhattan, Little Italy, a nationally recognized historic district.

Critics did not hesitate to call out the mayor's snub with Councilwoman Joann Ariola (R-Queens) exclaiming, "They were able to get a little Bhod-Tibet in there, but what about the original Little Italy. And what about areas like Woodlawn in the Bronx, which are home to plenty of Irish immigrants. Do the Irish and Italians not count to the mayor's office?"

Joseph Scelsa, founder of the Italian-American Museum on Mulberry Street, called the exclusion of Italian-American enclaves a "terrible mistake. To respect one is to respect all. Italian-Americans are still a major population in New York City. To not recognize where Italian Americans came from and settled is a terrible mistake. I don't understand why Little Italy isn't included. I hope it's an oversight."

Mayor Mamdani's map also includes Little Guyana in Queens, Little Mexico in Staten Island and Little Dominican Republic in Manhattan. Kevin McCabe, a former City Council Chief of Staff, also noted the map disrespectfully left out generations of immigrants hailing



New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani

from the Emerald Isle. "I guess they never heard of Woodlawn or Sunnyside but that's ok, the Irish are everywhere, the way it's supposed to be. The British Empire at the height of its powers couldn't cancel the Irish, I'm not too worried about a couple of ill-informed bureaucrats," McCabe told the *New York Post*.

Others took offense at Mamdani for ignoring Brooklyn Borough Park, home to one of the largest Orthodox Jewish communities outside of Israel. "The Mayor's Office made a map of NYC's immigrant enclaves: Little Africa, Little Poland, Little Palestine. But they couldn't just figure out how to represent 11% of the city. Couldn't decipher where the Jews are from," writer Avital Chizhik-Goldschmidt posted on X.

State Assemblyman Kalman Yeger, who represents Southern Brooklyn, a heavily Orthodox Jewish neighborhood, said it's not the first time Hizzoner has tried to erase the Jews. "Mr. Mamdani's erasing Jews is an essential part of his brand. No Surprise" Yeger said.



North End Historical Museum

Open House Invitation
only for The North End Historical Society
Members & Donors!

July 16, 17, & 18 – 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Public opening is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21

One of the annual North End Historical Society membership benefits will be **Free admission to the Museum!**

This Museum would not have been possible without your tremendous support and the generosity of so many donors who cherish the North End as much as we do. The North End is not only America's oldest continually inhabited neighborhood, dating from 1630, but also a true birthplace and cradle of liberty of the United States.

The museum is located at 3 Prince Street, on the Freedom Trail, between Historic North Square and Hanover Street. Starting July 21, the museum will officially open to the general public, Tuesday - Sunday (Closed Monday), from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Admission prices: Adults (\$10.00), Seniors (62+) Military, Student ID (\$8.00), Children 13-18 (\$5.00), Children 12 & under (Free). For further information, contact Northendhistoricalsociety@gmail.com and be sure to check out the new website northendboston.org

Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

William Wallace



William Wallace was born in the 1270s in Elderslie in Renfrewshire, Scotland into a gentry family. Very little is known about his early years. In 1296, Edward I of England had taken advantage of a succession crisis in Scotland and imposed himself as ruler with an English administration. Within months, Scottish unrest was widespread.

The first act known to be committed by Wallace in the Wars of Independence was in May 1297 when Wallace assassinated William Heselrig, the Sheriff of Lanark. He continued to rebel, carrying out a series of raids across the lowlands and borders area. Many men flocked to his cause. Wallace would eventually join forces with other rebels who flocked to join Wallace and he began to drive the English out of Fife and Perthshire.

In September 1297, Wallace defeated a much larger English force at the Battle of Stirling Bridge. This and subsequent military successes severely weakened the English hold on Scotland. Wallace then launched raids into England. In late 1297 or early 1298 he was knighted and appointed 'guardian of the kingdom' in the name of John Balliol, the deposed king of Scotland.

The shock of the defeat at Stirling rallied the English around Edward, who marched north with an army. Wallace's strategy was to avoid confrontation and gradually withdraw. He destroyed the countryside as he went, forcing Edward to march deeper and deeper into Scotland. In July 1298, the Scottish and English armies met near Falkirk, and the Scots were defeated. Wallace escaped and little is known of his movements, but at some stage he resigned the guardianship and was succeeded by Robert Bruce and John Comyn.

Wallace then went abroad, notably to France, to seek support for the Scottish cause. He returned to Scotland in 1303. In his absence Robert Bruce had accepted a truce with Edward I and, in 1304, John Comyn came to terms with the English as well. Wallace was excluded from these terms and the English king offered a large sum of money to anyone who killed or captured him.

Wallace was seized in or near Glasgow in August 1305, and transported to London. He was charged and tried with treason, which he denied, saying he had never sworn allegiance to the English king. His execution was held on August 23, he was hung, drawn and quartered. His head was placed on London Bridge, and his limbs displayed in Newcastle, Berwick, Stirling and Perth.

Saint Didacus of Acala

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



Didacus was born c. 1400 into a poor but pious family in the small village of San Nicolás del Puerto in the Kingdom of Seville. As a child, he embraced the hermit life and, later, placed himself under the direction of a hermit priest living not far from his native town. He then led the life of a wandering hermit. Feeling called to the religious life, he applied for admission to the Observant (or Reformed) branch of the Order of Friars Minor and was sent to the friary in Arruzafa, near Córdoba, where he was received as a lay brother. As a friar he worked at various manual trades to support the brotherhood.

During his years living in that location, he journeyed to the villages in the regions surrounding Córdoba, Cádiz, and Seville, where he would preach to the people. A strong devotion to him still exists in those towns.

Didacus was sent to the new friary of the Order in Arrecife on the island of Lanzarote, part

of the Canary Islands. He was assigned to the post of porter.

In 1445, Didacus was appointed as Guardian of the Franciscan community on the island of Fuerteventura, where the Observant Franciscans soon founded the Friary of St. Bonaventure. Though it was an exception to the ordinary rules for a lay brother to be named to this position, his great zeal, prudence, and sanctity justified this choice. His defense of the indigenous people against the colonizers precipitated his return to Spain in 1449.

In 1450, Didacus was recalled to Spain, from which point he went to Rome to share in the Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope Nicholas V. An epidemic broke out in the city. Didacus served as infirmarian and spent three months caring for the sick at the friary attached to the Basilica of Santa Maria in Ara Coeli, and his biographers record the miraculous cure of many whom he attended through his pious intercession.

He was then recalled again to Spain and was sent by his superiors to the Friary of Santa Maria de Jesús in Alcalá, where he spent the remaining years of his life in penance, solitude, and contemplation. He passed away on November 12, 1463 due to an abscess. His body was also rumored to have remained incorrupt.

The Feast day of Saint Didacus of Acala is November 13.

Father Michael Della Penna: The Heart and Soul of St. Leonard Parish

by Patti Sartori

Family is a large part of what defines the North End community, and in most families, there is a core that holds it all together. For the North End, St. Leonard Church and Parish serves that purpose. For the people of Boston's North End, St. Leonard Church has always been more than a historic landmark — it is the spiritual home of generations of families.

At the center of that home has been Father Michael Della Penna, whose leadership, compassion, and deep roots in the neighborhood have made him the heart and soul of the parish. Born and raised just steps from St. Leonard Church, Father Michael returned to the parish not simply as its pastor, but as one of its own. His life has come full circle, serving the same community that helped shape his faith.

What has distinguished Father Michael most is his ability to unite people, of all ages, backgrounds, and ethnicity. Whether it was welcoming visitors, comforting families during times of loss, or simply greeting neighbors by name,



The ultimate symbols of family in the North End's St. Leonard Parish are Sister and brother duo Valerie Della Penna Marchese and Former Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna at a going away gathering in his honor.

he has made every parishioner feel seen and valued. His Franciscan spirit of humility and service has fostered a church where faith is lived through kindness, generosity and community.

Under Father Michael's leadership, St. Leonard Parish has continued to honor its rich Italian-America heritage while embracing new generations. From restoring the Peace Garden to supporting projects that celebrate the immigrant experience, he has reminded parishioners that the church is not simply a building but a living family bound together by faith and tradition.

With heavy hearts and tear-filled eyes, we must all say so long to Father Michael. Not good bye, just so long, as he is a North End son to his core and we trust he will never stray too far for too long. But he is also, first and foremost, a man of the cloth, who has taken a vow to dedicate his life to serving God. While we do not want to let go, Father Michael knows he must trust and follow God's will and calling.

As Father Michael begins his new assignment, we wish him well, continued success, and send him off with a piece of our hearts, knowing full well the North End is forever in his heart.

North End Youth Organization Lemonade Fundraiser



Who would say No to a cup of cold lemonade from the North End Youth Organization's (NEYO) smiling faces.

What a perfectly sweet idea for a fundraiser. The North End Youth Organization (NEYO) set up a lemonade stand last week at the corner of Hanover and

North Bennet Streets (outside of NEW Health), hoping to sell a few ice cold cups of homemade lemonade and add a few dollars to their kitty.

All proceeds go directly back into the organization to fund their summer camp and other programs. So far it's been a great start to summer.

Apply Today for the Elaine Wilson Scholarship!

Now Accepting Applications for the \$2,500 Elaine Wilson Scholarship for Community Health Outreach & Public Service!



NEW Health is now accepting applications for The Elaine Wilson Scholarship for Community Health Outreach & Public Service. Established in 2023, the Elaine Wilson Scholarship for Community Health Outreach and Public Service was named in honor of NEW Health's founder and first Chief Executive Officer, Elaine Wilson who joined the health center movement in 1971 and opened one of the first Federally Qualified Health Centers in the country. Through her unwavering commitment and passion to provide much needed accessible and affordable healthcare services for the residents of the North End she opened the health center in 1972.

The Elaine Wilson Scholarship will award \$2,500 to a resident of either the North End or Charlestown neighborhoods of Boston who is a matriculating student or applying to an institution of higher learning, (college or university) pursuing studies in healthcare, public health, or healthcare administration.

Please note that the application deadline is August 12th, 2026, and scholarship recipients will be announced on August 21st. If you have any questions, please reach out to Cristina Luna at acluna@mgb.org. You can submit your application digitally, print out the PDF, or pick up and drop off a physical copy at our front desks at the Tufts or Hanover St. sites.

Visit NewHealthCenter.org/giving-back/scholarships to download the application.



by
**Marianna
Bisignano**

Around the Table: THE LEGACY CONTINUES



In *Nonna’s Recipe Box*, we honored the mamas in *A Seat at the Table* and the papas in *At the Head of the Table*. This week begins *Around the Table: The Legacy Continues*, where we continue our journey through Boston’s North End, sitting with the people and families whose stories, traditions, and recipes have shaped this extraordinary Italian neighborhood and continue to keep it a living piece of Italy.

Our journey begins at *Ristorante Saraceno Cucina Napoletana* on Hanover Street, where I had the pleasure of sitting around the table with owner Frank Pezzano.

“So, Frank,” I asked, “where did your story begin? Was it here in the North End, or somewhere across the ocean?”

“I came here from Naples,” he replied. “I came when I was 13 years old, with my father. He was born right here in the North End in 1911.”

“It was just you and your dad?” I asked.

“Yes,” Frank said. “My mother, my brother, and my three sisters stayed behind in Naples. My father’s sister had a place right down the street, so when we first arrived, we stayed with her, found work, and sent money back to my mother.”

“Your father was born here,” I said. “So his family was originally from America?”

Frank smiled and gently shook his head.

“No. My father’s family was from the Baronia region of Avellino. They came to America, but then they returned to Italy. They had farms there... they had a lot of land.”

“What about your mother?” I asked. “She was from Naples?”

“Yes,” Frank said. “She was Neapolitan.”

“What was your mother’s name? And your father’s? How did they meet?” I asked.

“My father was stationed in Naples while he was in the Army,” Frank said. “That’s where he met my mother. They got married, and then I came along. My mother’s name was Ilda Nasti, and my father’s name was Pietro Pezzano.”

There was something I’d been wondering.

“So, your restaurant is called *Saraceno*. Is that your family name?”

Frank smiled.

“No,” he said. “My last name is Pezzano. I came to America when I was 13. After seven years, I finally went back to Italy to see my mother. I had a pocket full of money I’d earned working, and I brought it home to her. She took me to a restaurant in Procida. There were *Saracens* everywhere. That’s when I told her, ‘When I go back to America, if I ever open a restaurant, I’m going to call it *Saraceno*.’ ”

“So, all those years you were sending money home to your mother?” I asked.

Frank looked at me as though the answer was obvious.

“Of course,” he said. “She was my mother. It was my duty to take care of her.”

In that simple response was a value shared by so many Italian families of his generation. Family came first. Caring for your parents wasn’t considered a sacrifice. It was simply what you did.

“I worked hard,” Frank continued. “I worked in the garment industry. I worked construction. Then a friend got me a job as a busboy at a French restaurant on Newbury Street. They liked me, so I became a waiter.”

That opportunity introduced Frank to people he never imagined he would meet.

“A lot of important people came into that restaurant,” he recalled. “Many were wealthy Jewish and Irish families, and I waited on them. One man in particular changed my life. His name was Jack Connors. He believed in me. Whenever he needed a server, he would

call me. He helped so many people. He was a great man. I have his pictures hanging on the wall upstairs.”

Jack Connors became one of Boston’s most respected business and philanthropic leaders, known for his generosity and his commitment to helping others. As I listened to Frank speak about him with such admiration, I couldn’t help but notice that the qualities he respected most in Jack had become woven throughout his own life. Time and again, Frank spoke less about what he had accomplished and more about the people he had helped along the way.

As our conversation continued, Frank quietly spoke about losing his mother. Before opening his own restaurant, while still working on Newbury Street, he received a phone call from Italy. He immediately boarded a plane for Naples, hoping he would make it in time. He didn’t. His mother had passed away before he could reach her.

It is a story shared by so many who left Italy in search of a better life. They crossed an ocean with hope in their hearts, knowing that every goodbye to the people they loved carried the possibility of being the last.

In 1979, Frank opened *Ristorante Saraceno Cucina Napoletana* on Hanover Street in Boston’s North End, fulfilling the promise he had made to his mother years earlier while sharing dinner with her in *Procida*.

Today, his restaurant is a celebration of Naples. Authentic Neapolitan cuisine is served surrounded by beautiful reminders of home. Murals of Naples and Capri stretch across the walls, while photographs of the Ponte Nuovo, the Vesuvius Funicular Railway, Piazza Trento e Trieste, an Amalfi Coast market scene, and other treasured landmarks transport diners back to southern Italy.

By now, it had become clear that although Frank left Naples, Naples never left him. His restaurant stands as a living tribute to the city he loves and the promise he never forgot.

I asked Frank if he had done the cooking when he first opened the restaurant.

“I did,” he replied.

“So who taught you to cook?”

“Well,” Frank said, “the reason I know how to cook is because when I was six years old, my mother had to go to work. She was a nurse, and I took care of my three sisters. I cooked for them and looked after them.”

Frank also learned from his maternal Nonna. Smiling, he remembered his mother bringing him to her house, where she would make him *pane e Zucchero*, bread sprinkled with sugar, a simple treat warmly remembered by generations of Italian children.

The years Frank spent serving patrons at the French restaurant on Newbury Street proved invaluable. When he opened his own restaurant, many of those customers followed him. Among them was Jack Connors, who remained a loyal patron until his passing and introduced countless others to Frank’s restaurant.

“He came in all the time,” Frank told me. “He brought a lot of important people to my restaurant... a lot of important people.”

Although Frank began in the kitchen, it wasn’t long before his customers made it clear where they wanted him.

“They’d tell me, ‘We come here to see you. We want to see you out front, not in the kitchen.’ ”

His warmth and hospitality had become every bit as important as the food itself. Frank eventually stepped away from the stove, trained others to prepare his recipes using his methods, and returned to the dining room, where he has welcomed generations of guests ever since.

Frank didn’t arrive in America with money,



Frank Pezzano’s *Vitello Saltimbocca alla Napoletana* RISTORANTE SARACENO

6 thin veal cutlets, pounded
All-purpose flour, for dredging
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 cup butter
6 slices prosciutto
6 slices smoked mozzarella
(scamorza affumicata or smoked mozzarella)
6 fresh sage leaves (optional)
4 cloves garlic, chopped finely or pressed
Chopped fresh Italian parsley, for garnish
Toothpicks

Season the veal lightly with salt and pepper, then dredge each cutlet in flour, shaking off any excess.

Heat the olive oil and butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Sauté the veal, about 2 to 3 minutes per side (depending on thickness), just until lightly golden. Remove from the skillet.

Place a slice of prosciutto, smoked mozzarella, and, if desired, a sage leaf on each cutlet. Roll tightly and secure with a toothpick.

Add the pressed garlic to the remaining butter and oil in the skillet and cook for about 30 seconds, just until fragrant. Arrange the veal rolls in a broiler-safe baking dish and spoon the garlic butter over the top.

Broil until the cheese is melted and bubbling and the veal is cooked through, about 2 to 4 minutes. Sprinkle generously with chopped fresh parsley and serve immediately.

connections, or opportunity waiting for him. He arrived as a 13-year-old boy carrying little more than hope, a willingness to work, and a deep sense of responsibility to the family he had left behind in Naples.

He worked wherever he could, never afraid of hard work. Along the way, he earned the respect and friendship of people who believed in him and opened doors that helped shape his future. Yet through it all, he never forgot why he had come. He faithfully sent money home to help his mother and the family he had left behind.

Today, that same legacy continues through his own family. Frank spoke proudly of his wife and their two children, Anthony, named after his father, and Lucia, named after Santa Lucia in Naples. Both work alongside him in the restaurant today, carrying forward not only his recipes, but the values of family, sacrifice, and hard work that have always defined the Italian way of life.

Frank’s story is a reminder that the Italian immigrant journey was never about expecting something to be handed to you. It was built on sacrifice, perseverance, determination, and an unwavering commitment to family. Those values transformed hope into opportunity, opportunity into accomplishment, and helped shape Boston’s North End into the neighborhood it is today.

As I walked out of *Ristorante Saraceno Cucina Napoletana*, I realized Frank’s greatest accomplishment wasn’t simply building a successful restaurant. It was keeping the promise he made to his mother, honoring where he came from, and passing those same values on to the next generation. In doing so, he became part of the living legacy that continues to define *Boston’s Little Italy*.

Dr. Marianna Bisignano is a licensed psychologist and author whose doctoral research focused on expanding psychological services in Italy’s public schools

VIDEO
VIEWS... more than meets the eye

by Bob Morello

THE ANGRY RIVER (Blu-ray)
88 Films

The Angry River marks a cornerstone moment in Hong Kong cinema – the first film from the legendary Golden Harvest Studios, which was also responsible for launching the careers of icons Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan. Angela Mao, known as the “Queen of Kung Fu,” stars as Lan Feng, a courageous young woman on a desperate mission to find a cure for her gravely injured father. But danger lurks at every turn, as the villains responsible for her father’s fate pursue her relentlessly. What follows is a whirlwind of acrobatic combat, breathtaking choreography, and fierce determination, as Lan Feng’s journey becomes a battle for justice and survival. Mao’s commanding performance established her as one of the era’s defining screen heroines.

FUNGICIDE (Blu-ray)
Visual Vengeance

Deep within a tranquil forest, five strangers meet at a secluded bed and breakfast. But one of those guests happens to be a mad scientist, who uses his vacation to accidentally create an army of killer mushrooms. Now unleashed on the other guests, and with the body count quickly piling up, it’s up to the survivors to arm themselves and fight back against these slaughtering ‘shrooms, in hope of stopping them from world domination. *Fungicide* is a movie with jaw-dropping mushroom samurai fighting, puppet karate decapitations, so convincing, it will have viewers believing they have actually ingested mushrooms, the good kind.

FILM NOIR CLASSICS
DOUBLE FEATURE:
BORDERLINE (1950) &
D.O.A. (1949) (Blu-ray)
VCI Entertainment

On the dangerous U.S.-Mexico border, a federal agent goes undercover to dismantle a ruthless drug-smuggling ring operating across the desert frontier. Fred MacMurray stars with Claire Trevor and Raymond Burr in *Borderline*, a gripping film noir crime thriller where deception, danger, and divided loyalties lurk around every corner. As the investigation closes in on the smugglers’ operation, the tension builds toward a hard-hitting showdown on the edge of the law. In *D.O.A.*, Frank Bigelow (Edmund O’Brien) thought it would be just another night out — until he learns he’s been poisoned with a slow-acting toxin, and has only hours to live. Now he must race against time to uncover who murdered him ... and why. Bigelow is a doomed man investigating his own death through a shadowy world of crime, betrayal and fatal secrets.

DI’ANNO:
IRON MAIDEN’S LOST
SINGER (Blu-ray) Cleopatra
Entertainment

A pair of fans of the heavy metal band Iron Maiden launch a crowd funding campaign to help Paul Di’Anno (aka The Beast), the band’s iconic original singer (on the band’s first two albums, ‘Iron Maiden’

and ‘Killers’), get back on his feet literally, emotionally and professionally. Neglected by healthcare workers in the U.K., wheelchair-bound Di’Anno leaves his home in the middle of the pandemic and travels to Croatia, where he rides an emotional rollercoaster, running out of money, reuniting with his former Maiden bandmates and falling in love — all while his health makes a dramatic turnaround thanks to the goodwill of fans, doctors and nurses. Di’Anno makes a heroic, risky and drama-filled return to the stage as Metallica’s James Hetfield and Gene Simmons of Kiss, as well as members of Slayer and Megadeth make appearances and testify to Di’Anno’s importance and lasting impact.

MAGNIFICENT BODYGUARDS
(Blu-ray/3-D)

Cleopatra Entertainment
Jackie Chan leaps out of the screen in the 3-disc set of *Magnificent Bodyguards*. As Lord Ting Chung, he commits to leading a team of warriors escorting a gravely ill man across a treacherous land known as Stormy Hills — a place filled with danger, betrayal and possible death. But as the journey unfolds, could their mysterious charge be hiding a deadly secret?. Directed by Lo Wei, the filmmaker who gave the world *The Big Boss* and *Fist of Fury*, this is classic martial arts madness — complete with a score that may sound very familiar to fans of a certain galaxy-spanning sci-fi saga.

BADLAND (Blu-ray)
Ruby Max Entertainment

Traumatized by PTSD, an Iraq vet Jerry Rice (Jamie Draven) returns home to a life in ruins: a dead-end job at a rural gas station, and a failing marriage to his wife Nora (Vinessa Shaw). Rice murders her and the family, but spares his eight-year-old daughter Celina (Grace Caroline Currey). He drags her into a desperate flight across back-road America, where a lonely waitress Oli and a traumatized small-town sheriff Max become the last hope of saving what’s left of his soul. *Badland* is a character-driven drama exploring war’s long shadow and a father’s last chance to break a cycle of violence.

THE GOAT (DVD)
Cleopatra Entertainment

Starring Oscar winning Mira Sorvino, John Savage and Tik Tok phenomenon Jessica Hosam, *The Goat* is an exotic, gut-wrenching thriller with breathtaking cinematography that holds us captivated in fear and anticipation, where mirage and reality blur and magic await when least expected. The story follows Hadiya, a 12-year-old Egyptian girl who, after being forced into marriage, becomes the target of a Western corporation that seeks to control the only water source in her village. She decides she must help her village and sets out on a harrowing journey to find her father and bring justice to her community. Throughout her terrifying desert crossing, Hadiya’s only companion is Sparrow, the family goat who keeps her alive for seven long days.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Father Paolo from Sacred Heart Parish in East Boston celebrated his birthday last week at the monthly community dinner (Photo by Theresa Malione)

HEGSETH IS WORRIED
ABOUT FACIAL HAIR. IS
THAT REALLY A PRIORITY
AT THE MOMENT?

I wanted to share a quick update regarding a recent visit by War Secretary Pete Hegseth to a navy ship, where there seemed to be a bit of a surprise regarding the new Pentagon grooming policy. It looks like many of the sailors were still sporting their beards, which was unexpected given the recent changes. The situation was described as quite a surprise for War Secretary Pete Hegseth. Doesn’t Pete Hegseth have much more pressing matters to concern himself with, such as the endless war with Iran? Now he has declared war on beards in the military too? Remember

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. MI87P3670GR1
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION TO EXPAND
THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN
In the Interests of
ROBERT DOYLE
of Wrentham, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Developmental Service of Wrentham, MA, in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian.
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of August 06, 2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 09, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/17/2026

the lyrics to that old rock song that went, “You can’t get out of the room until you find the door.” Right now, I fear the door can’t be located. His main concern should be finding the exit door to get out of Iran. Find the door first and worry about facial hair later.

PETER LOONEY NIGHT
IN CHARLESTOWN

I lived for many years in Charlestown before eventually finding East Boston. I still stay connected to Charlestown today through my volunteering over at the Harvest on Vine Food Pantry located in the basement of the St. Mary’s and St. Catherine’s rectory. I moved out of Charlestown back in 1984, when I moved to the South Shore but I still stayed connected. My mom after all was a Townie and my maternal family roots here go back to the turn of the last century.



Recently, I caught up with two friends the other day. Gail Miller (left) is a local legend in Eastie. I’ve known her for over 40 years, long before I moved here. She and I were writers on the legendary East Boston Community News. I am still writing and Gail is now into taking care of lots of hungry cats. Somebody has to look out for those feral cats, right. She’s also available for cat babysitting too but don’t tell her I said that. Renee Taylor (on the right) works over at the A & L Bakery on Sumner street. It seems every time I go there; she is waiting on customers all the time or so it seems.

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. MI26C0383CA
In the matter of:
YISSEL VERENISE FERREIRA
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Yissel Verenise Ferreira of Lowell, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Yissel Verenise Franco.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of July 31, 2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 10, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 07/17/2026

Over the many years I called Charlestown home I became a political/community activist. Among the many people I came to know was Peter Looney. We were friends and often worked alongside each other when it came to standing up for what is good for the community.

When I drive along Austin Street heading toward Thompson Square, I always look right and see the park that was named after him. He got to see it before dying. It is a place with a meaning. His spirit still roams this play area and it hovers over those who come here with their children. It is a special park named in honor of a special human being. He will not be forgotten. He should not be forgotten

J. GEILS FANS AT
WATD MARSHFIELD



At a monthly veterans food drive, I met Tom, a longtime J. Geils Band fan, best live concert always, you can’t sit down at a J. Geils show, tons of rock energy

Once a month, I volunteer outside the WATD radio studio in Marshfield to hand out food boxes to a music critic or hungry veterans and their families. I met up with another volunteer, Tom, a longtime J. Geils Band fan. He was wearing his J. Geils t-shirt which got us talking about this legendary Boston band from way back in the day. The band is still playing somewhere down the South Shore to this day. I informed him that back in the seventies, I worked for the old *East Boston Regional Review*, located on Bremen Street right behind a funeral parlor and that Peter Wolfe from the band was a music critic for this paper.

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS
FROM MISSISSIPPI
AT THINKING CUP



Here is Stephen Scapicchio (center) standing outside his usual hangout, the Thinking Cup over on Hanover Street with alleged members of the Real Housewives of Mississippi on vacation in the North End.

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Something I am experiencing as of late, new acquaintances wanting to know my opinion on politics and religion. In either case, a conversation centered on either topic puts me in a no win/no win situation. If I were to defend any side, regardless of what it is, I put myself at a disadvantage, so I make light of things with unorthodox answers that usually cause these potentially adversarial opponents to change the subject.

As an example, when anyone who is probing asks me about President Trump and I know where they are coming from, I answer, “Oh, I’m not a Trump supporter. He’s way too liberal for me.” This usually shuts them up. When I’ve been asked about religion, I tell them I’m a Six Day Buddhist. Many know what a Buddhist is and some know what a Seven Day Adventist is but not my fictitious Six Day Buddhist religion. They will then ask me about the religion and my come back shuts them up, “We pray to Our Lady of the Heartbreak of Psoriasis, and we believe that when you die, your soul goes to a used car lot in Chelsea or Brooklyn, depending on whether you live, Boston or New York.” Again, this shuts them up and I go on my merry way.

The ones I am afraid of are the revisionists, the people who are trying to change history by erasing what they feel was wrong with it. As a perfect example of the attempt to change history is the defacing of the Christopher Columbus statue in the North End. Most of those activists who tried to destroy our Italian admiral did this not knowing who Columbus really was and what he did and didn’t do. They are reacting to a revisionist pandemic that is as bad for our future as the Corona Virus was for our health.

The fears of people who are different are not new. I remember want ads from the Boston news-papers of old that indicated, “No Irish need apply.” I remember the stories I heard from Babbononno and Grandpa Christoforo about how they were treated when they were new to America. I remember stories I heard from Dad about growing up in Boston in the first few decades of the 20th century, and I remember the tail-end of what I call discrimination slanted toward Italians from when I was a kid. Our generations didn’t try to change history, we learned from it. If it was bad, (slavery and the treatment of the Native Americans) we changed the future. If it was good, (the Constitution) we kept it and lived up to the standards included within.

When I taught World History on a college level, I researched the three major western religions, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. The practices differed dramatically, but the essence of each was the same, a belief in God, a set of laws to live by and a concept of good and evil and a family structure which affects us on Earth and beyond. When I looked at the Asian religions,

Hindu and Buddhist, Shinto, etc., they were very different, but some of the same tenants I found in our western beliefs were the same, a belief in god(s), a concept of family, a set of laws to live by and a concept of good and evil which effects those who believe.

One of my more reflective students once asked why we humans don’t look for what makes us similar rather than what makes us different. I wish I had had an answer for him. When I was young and Sal Meli and I traveled around the world, I would look for similarities between us and the people of the country we were in, and once they were established, we made friends. This includes people in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America (I’ve never visited Australia).

Even then, the image of the “Ugly American” was out there. It was blatantly shown to us in Puerto Rico in the mid-sixties. I was playing with a band in San Juan, P.R., and Sal had come to the island for a few weeks. After work one night, we decided to head into the hotel’s casino and try our luck. We hit it big on a crap table, and the next morning headed to a local bank to open an account and deposit our winnings.

We headed for Old San Juan where the bank was located and were stopped by two tourists, a man and a woman who were trying to ask us something in Spanish using a Berlitz phrase book. We didn’t understand and I was about to switch to English when the man said to his female companion, “Just like these Spics, they don’t even know their own lingo.” Sal continued speaking Spanish as the man flipped through his book looking for translations. Finally he understood and thanked us by taking a quarter and placing it in the palm of my right hand while saying to his companion, “So they won’t starve to death.” I looked at the quarter, showed it to Sal and in Spanish said, “Oh, look a quarter.” I then dropped it in the man’s shirt pocket and said in perfect Boston English, “Sir, you may need this more than we do.” At that point, Sal removed a wad of hundreds from a carrying case and began to count the bills. The couple was fit to be tied and walked away as both Sal and I laughed. I later got mad saying to Sal, “What if we were local farmers coming to the big city for the first time and were exposed to this type of tourist? I then understood where the term “Ugly American” came from.

If Babbononno and Dad were still alive, I would ask them where we go from here. Do we let the revisionists change our history to coincide with their distorted concepts of the past, or do we learn from the realities of the past and hope not to make the same mistakes again??? I wonder how they would respond to the way things are evolving in today’s America, especially in politics and education.

My suggestion for our future is to forget our differences and

team up to put together a more perfect union. Our Constitution isn’t perfect, but we can amend what doesn’t work, and we have done this in the past. It is not perfect, but it is better than any other political document that now exists on this planet. It allows for democracy. It allows us to be all we can be without restrictions put in front of us. Why is it that most countries have to put up borders to keep their people in and we have to put up borders to keep their people out (illegals). We must be doing something right if everyone wants to come here.

There is no country as diverse as the United States. I remember a conversation with Nanna about when she first arrived in New York. She had never seen a human that wasn’t Italian due to where she came from. She then saw a parade of people she called the League of Nations once she stepped foot on American soil. Before she left Ellis Island, she entered the gift shop and bought a model of the Statue of Liberty and kept it on her bedside table for the rest of her life. If I’m not mistaken, Babbononno placed It in her coffin when she passed away. It represented America to her, a new life and freedom. I wonder if it still means the same?

GOD BLESS AMERICA

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI26P2822GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
**Petition for Appointment of
Guardian of a Minor**
**In the interests of
PRESTON O NOU
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 **06/01/2026** by **Sok Sum** of Lowell, MA will be held **10/15/2026 08:30 AM** Review Hearing Located **370 Jackson St., Lowell, MA 01852 6th Floor, Courtroom 13**

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

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form (MPC 263). Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

Date: July 15, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/17/2026

2026 NORTH END FESTIVAL DIRECTORY

JULY

SAN ROCCO <i>Italian Mass St. Leonard Church</i> <i>Procession – Hanover – Prince Sts.</i>	July 19 10:30 am 1 pm
ST. JOSEPH Mass Sunday, July 26 <i>Sunday Procession – Hanover – Prince Sts.</i>	July 24, 25, 26 12 pm 1 pm

AUGUST

ST. AGRIPPINA <i>Hanover & Battery Sts.</i> <i>Sunday Procession</i>	July 30, 31, August 1, 2 Opens 7 pm on Thursday 12 noon
MADONNA DELLA CAVA <i>Hanover & Battery Sts.</i> <i>Sunday Procession</i>	August 7, 8, 9 Opens 7 pm on Friday 1 pm
MADONNA del SOCCORSO <i>North, Fleet & Lewis Sts. (Fisherman's)</i> <i>Sunday Procession 1 pm - Flight of the Angel</i>	August 13,14, 15, 16 8 pm
SAN GENNARO <i>Mass Sunday, August 23,</i>	August 21, 22, 23 12 pm
SANTA LUCIA <i>Thursday, Feast & Procession</i> <i>Thacher & Endicott Sts.</i>	August 27 5 pm
ST. ANTHONY'S FEAST <i>Endicott & Thacher, N. Margin Sts.</i> <i>Sunday Procession</i>	August 28, 29, 30 12 pm

SEPTEMBER

ST. ROSALIA di PALERMO <i>Procession Only - North Square</i>	TBA 1 pm
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ADDITIONAL ITALIAN FESTIVALS

Newton, MA ITALIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL St. Mary of Carmen Society <i>The Lake - Nonantum at Pelligrini Park</i>	July 15-19
Malden, MA SAINT ROCCO FESTIVAL <i>Pearl Street, Malden, MA</i> <i>Sunday Procession</i>	August 7, 8, 9 1 pm
Lawrence, MA FEAST of the THREE SAINTS <i>New Dates</i> Saints Alfio, Filadelfo and Cirino <i>Sunday Procession</i> <i>Common & Union Streets, Lawrence</i>	Sept. 4-6 3 pm
Cambridge Festival SS COSMAS AND DAMIAN <i>Sunday Procession</i> <i>Warren and Cambridge St., Cambridge</i>	Sept. 10,11,12,13 1 pm

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

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

LEGAL NOTICES

For information on placing a Legal Notice in the **POST-GAZETTE** please email postgazette@aol.com call (617) 227-8929, or mail notice to: **POST-GAZETTE** P.O. BOX 130135, BOSTON, MA 02113 Attn: Legal Notices

THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

Forgotten America: Route 66 Shamrock to Amarillo



The piece of Blarney Castle that has made Shamrock, Texas its new home.

I was particularly intrigued by Shamrock for one peculiar reason. I knew so little about Irish diaspora west of the Mississippi. I grew up in the historic stronghold of Irish immigration and since childhood was immersed in its heritage, a legacy that can be felt from Maine to Maryland. So intricately tied to the northeast have I come to see the influence of the Irish in the United States that I never conceptualized it further west. “Boston Irish” is a term that carries socio-historic implications as well as a prototype in the cultural zeitgeist. But what does it *mean* to be Irish in another state, far away?

Shamrock was the place to find out, a city that greets visitors with a stone plaque that could have been interchangeable with any in Southie depicting a leprechaun stating “Top O’ the Mornin’ to Ya!”. Even more incongruous with a city in the Southwest is the piece of the Blarney Stone that was shipped from the Emerald Isle in 1959 and has sat in the center of town since beside a mural recounting the legend of St. Patrick.

Despite the seeming misplacement of these tourist points, however, Shamrock is a city with deep Irish roots in its history. George Nickel, who came to Texas from Missouri in the late 19th-century, built the local post office in the growing

20th-century’s love for art deco design and road diner culture.

Despite its recognizable towering tulips and unusual design, U-Drop Inn fared but little better than most businesses with the decline of Route 66, struggling through a variety of corporate owners throughout the latter half of the century before closing in 1997. But, the citizens of Shamrock were not going to see such an icon go down without a fight and before the year was over the building was added to the National Registry of Historic Places and before the century was over the First National Bank of Shamrock purchased the building and gifted the once vibrant diner and gas station to the city, which has taken admirable pains to restore it to its former glory with a new diner and mini museum and gift shop.

When I arrived I was told that the diner was closed due to a medical emergency with the newest owners, but coffee and rolls were available which, honestly, sufficed for me and I



Cactus Inn

was glad to support this landmark in some way. The staff was wonderful showing me the seat

where Elvis sat when he passed through Shamrock. To prevent damage the seat is roped off but fully visible to visitors. The mini



Super Service 66

museum and store offered souvenirs and a lot of old-fashioned candy which were staples of gas station pickups in the early days of highway travel.

After departing U-Drop Inn I made my way into Gray County and through the town of McLean, a typical small town with many ghostly markers from Route 66’s lively past, like a Phillips 66 gas station that has stood frozen in time with the still-standing pumps not having filled up a car in decades and the giant size cactus-shaped



Leaning Tower of Britten

sign of the Cactus Inn Motel. Thanks to Billy Connolly’s journey through Route 66 I became aware of the Devil’s Rope Barbed Wire Museum in McLean, an attraction that would only make sense in Route 66. I was, admittedly, mildly intrigued after Connolly’s televised visit but I had to make haste as I had to arrive in Amarillo before the end of the day.

Alanreed, an unincorporated community with a population of just over twenty people, is



Phillips and Magnolia gas stations, that survive thanks to restorations



Cadillac Ranch line

even more of a ghost town. It is, however, worth visiting for the restored 66 Super Service Station. Though it hasn’t been used for nearly half a century, the small single-pump station, tucked away upon a lonely pathway looks unaware of the passage of time. Restored with a paint-job and integrity to the structure, the little station was another salvaged relic that, if visited at the right time, provides something of a meditative stop for motorists to reflect on the importance of preserving our heritage and the wonders that dedicated restoration can do.

When I arrived in Groom I found a much larger town with a population of over 500. Nonetheless, no one would mistake Groom as anything other than an agricultural city with its flowing wheat fields and granaries. Groom, however, has become a popular stop with Route 66 enthusiasts thanks to the Leaning Tower of Britten



Cadillac Ranch

a once-functioning watering tower which saved from demolition by local businessman Ralph Britten purchased it in the 80s and turned it into a local landmark. Leaning on a ten degree angle, the tower is one of the many fortunate oddities that have given the Mother Road her eccentric charm.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF TIER CLASSIFICATION
95 Everett Street
Allston, Massachusetts 02134
MassDEP RTN 3-52118

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been classified as TIER II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On July 2, 2026, 95 Everett Street LLC filed a TIER II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Kevin L. McAndrews, LSP for IES, Inc. at 617-623-8880. The Tier Classification Submittal and the Disposal Site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-52118 at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/> or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801, 978-694-3200. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

Run date: 07/17/2026

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 August 10, 2026 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

1998 LEXUS ES
Vin #JT8BF28G1W5045687

2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
Vin #5NPD74LF5HH070743

2019 TOYOTA RAV4
Vin #2T3F1RFV5KC048950

2012 NISSAN ALTIMA
Vin #1N4AL2AP4CC254256

2004 HONDA CRV
Vin #SHSRD788X4U213522

2008 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Vin #2GCEK19J081214455

2006 FORD F150
Vin #1FTPF14596FA46246

2007 GMC ENVOY
Vin #1GKET63M572110253

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

Run dates: 07/17, 07/24, 07/31/2026



U-Drop Inn

city, christening it ‘Shamrock’ as a tribute to his Irish ancestry. To this day, St. Patrick’s Day is still celebrated with much flare in the city and Irish Craftfest brings the community together every October.

But the big draw in Shamrock for me was the iconic U-Drop Inn café. Built in 1936, on the tenth anniversary of Route 66, U-Drop Inn became a classic example of the early

Improv Asylum

REVIEW BY JOHN JOSEPH FAHEY

Almost 30 now years now! That’s right, tracing its history back to 1997, Improv Asylum originated in 1997 Boston’s Bay Back, actually at Hard Rock Café located on Clarendon Street. The venue now, for one of the city’s popular comedy performances, takes place at the lower level of 216 Hanover Street in Boston’s North End.

Improv Asylum is just that! A show that is primarily improvisational – *and* interactive. And engaging and fun!

The July 3rd early evening show fell into the “Main Stage Show” category. The ensemble performed at the intimated well-attended black box theatre space with rapid fire scenarios based on audience suggestions, and sometimes participation. The 90 minute presentation, also offered on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays is unarguably enhanced with striking lighting and trendy music. All providing a thoroughly entertaining experience.

One wonders however at how effectively *and* quickly the actors come up with such credible situations developed from spontaneous propositions — well if one takes a look at the Improv Asylum website you’ll find that the answer is easy — training and performing. The Asylum is not just a comedy club but also a facility to train to be a performer too! Improv Asylum offers not just classes but provides the workspace to sharpen the skills necessary to be part of the program’s troupe.

For the Independence Day Eve show, a special mention to the talented cast: Zachary Barker who after the last 5 years in LA, is back in Boston. Zachary also divides his time performing sketch and improve in Boston, LA and New York. Zachary also writes music and can be found on social media (Instagram) *@zachary_barker123*

Sam Carty is a proud graduate of the Improv’s training center and is now a member of the Main Stage cast.

Madison Gillis, a product designer by trade, continues to enjoy her love of improve by being part of the Asylum’s Main Stage company.

“...former animation script writer turned improviser” James Melloni is also part of the Main Stage. James also did a very impressive drawing in

an interactive sketch (no pun intended!) during the show so it is no wonder James has an inclination toward the comic acting world.

Kellie Moon comes to the Asylum from studying theater performance from Salem State University. Certainly an appropriate background as Kellie performs at other comedy venues too.

Rhett Sosebee, like Sam, is also an alumnus of Improv Asylum’s training program. Originally from Alabama, has been in Boston about 10 years now and is now one of the Main Stage players. Rhett can be followed online *@KidDolphin64*.

Matt Catanzano, also part of the July 3rd production, “is an actor, writer, and former Mainstage cast member. After many years of honing his skills as Improv Asylum (and creating their annual Halloween Show,) he moved to LA where’s he’s become a horror/comedy filmmaker with multiple award-winning shorts and screenplays. He continues to perform in Boston when he’s in town and in LA on his show, the Last Video Store.’ Find him on socials *@MattCatanzano* or on his website *www.thehappyghostproductions.com*.”

Each show is different as each show has a different audience and therefore is unique and exudes its own dynamic.

Improv Asylum has been voted “Boston’s Best Comedy” multiple times. And not surprising! Check it out, and should there be an interest in trying out this type of comedy style, well, you never know, there might be place for you on the Improv Asylum stage.

The actors are also available for corporate and private events.

For further information, visit the website at *https://improvasylum.com/* or call 617-263-6887.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Stephens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 39A, that on **July 25, 2026 at 10AM**, at said address, the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of notice and sale:

- 2013 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT, WHITE**
Vin #NMOLS6AN9DT142496
- 2012 TOYOTA PRIUS, RED**
Vin #JTDKN3DU1C5425680
- 2011 MAZDA CX-7, SILVER**
Vin #JM3ER2AM8B0396908
- 2010 DODGE NITRO, SILVER**
Vin #1D4PU2GK8AW141972
- 2012 FORD FUSION, RED**
Vin #3FAHP0HA2CR153789
- 2010 TOYOTA PRIUS, GOLD**
Vin #JTDKN3DU0A0125476
- 2012 HYUNDAI VELOSTER, WHITE**
Vin #KMHTC6AD0CU066386
- 2009 SUBARU FORESTER, GRAY**
Vin #JF2SH63679H775478
- 2005 INFINITI G35, BLUE**
Vin #JNKCV51F45M308396
- 2019 CHEVROLET BLAZER, WHITE**
Vin #3GNKBBRA7KS581641
- 2023 ZHILONG KY6, BLACK**
Vin #HZ2TABGFXP1003820
- 2024 ZHILONG ANGEL, BLACK**
Vin #HZ2TBCN53R1000547
- 2010 MEIDUO BD50QT, SILVER**
Vin #LYDTCBPD1A1100020
- 2020 TREK PEDAL BIKE, BLUE**
Vin #WTU222C1644F
- 2025 ZHILONG ST, GRAY**
Vin #H22TBCNF2S1017788

• 3:00 a.m. Last Call (Continued from Page 1)

in the Blackstone Block Historic District and on Temple Place, near downtown crossing. Both Breadon and Wu favor the potential economic benefits the city would incur if the extended drinking hours were to be continued through Labor Day, September 7 or farther.

State Senators Barry Finegold and Julian Cyr, co-sponsored the bill. Cyr, a Democrat who represents the Cape and the Islands said, “I think there’s been a real recipe for change in Massachusetts this summer, and I want to figure out

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

starting Sunday, July 12, moving up by 4.8 percent to 82 cents. It might be a great time to stock up on your stamps before the change takes effect!

Exciting Nightlife Updates for Boston

It looks like there is some

how we can hold onto that. It makes abundant sense for us to extend this through the end of the summer. Boston City Councilor Brian Worrell has also proposed a home rule petition that would allow last call hours to be permanently extended from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. If approved by the council, the legislation would head up to the Massachusetts State House for consideration.

Not everyone’s on board with this proposal, with cries of public safety concerns and police staffing constraints heard

exciting momentum building in Boston! Both the mayor and city councilors are enthusiastically working to extend the vibrant 3:00 a.m. closing times for local bars and restaurants through Labor Day, building on the success of the World Cup tourism

• L’Anno Bello (Continued from Page 4)

In addition to food, sometimes the specific age a person is turning forms the focal point of birthday celebrations. Usually these special birthdays honor the entrance into adulthood. The United States has “sweet sixteen” celebrations, while Latin American countries hold elaborate *quinceañeras* when a girl turns fifteen. These parties rival weddings and the girl shares a special dance with her father. In the Jewish tradition, bar or bat mitzvah rituals near a teenager’s thirteenth

birthday welcome the boy or girl as adult members of the community.

Birthdays are a special time to honor both human joy and resilience. They indicate that we have once again made it through a year filled with myriad human emotions, from happiness to disillusionment, challenges and triumphs. They remind us that we have the strength to endure. Like holidays, birthdays are an indication that the year cycles on, and that is a good reason to celebrate. Whether we celebrate

the loudest. Larry Calderone, President of the Boston Police Patrolman’s Association (BPPA), the city’s largest police union, said the union is “100% against extending 3:00 a.m. last call hours, given that police can’t manage the calls that we have now. Extending last call from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. is a bad idea that invites and encourages bad behavior and elected officials pushing the measure should think long and hard about the undeniable negative consequences associated with excessive alcohol consumption.”

zones. City Councilor Brian Worrell is even championing a proposal to make these lively hours permanent, which could bring a boost to our local night-life and hospitality community. Or maybe not, as many critics of 3:00 a.m. closures believe.

with cakes or dinners, when we honor a birthday, we honor the passage of time, but also all that is timeless — love and family and good food. That is the true meaning of the candles winking and blinking cheerfully on a birthday cake, a symbol that, like us, has come a long way.

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

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 **July 27, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2010 NISSAN VERSA**
Vin #3N1BC1CP8AL445799
- 2007 FORD F150**
Vin #1FTVX14537KD02250
- 2008 MAZDA MAZDA6**
Vin #1YVHP80C985M44249
- 2008 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA**
Vin #3VVRZ71K68M167264
- 2003 CHEVROLET SILVERADO**
Vin #1GCEC14X93Z271293
- 1998 TOYOTA 4RUNNER**
Vin #JT3HN86R1W0151242

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

Run dates: 7/03, 07/10, 07/17/2026

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. MI26P3431GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

**In the matter of
MIA MARIE STEPHAN BIDMEAD
of Woburn, MA**

**RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Leighann T. Stephan Bidmead of Woburn, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Mia Marie Stephan Bidmead** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Leighann T. Stephan Bidmead of Woburn, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **July 29, 2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: July 01, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/17/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

**Docket No. SU26P1243EA
Estate of
MARY JAYNE STEPHENS
Also known as:
MARY STEPHENS
Date of Death: May 01, 2026
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **NEB Operator, LLC 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: **Arielle S. Howe, Esq. of Lowell, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal 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 August 12, 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. JANINE D. RIVERS,
First Justice of this Court.**

Date: July 08, 2026

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

07/17/2026

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. MI26P3266EA
Estate of
CHARLES ANTHONY BARBERA
Also known as:
CHARLES A. BARBERA
Date of Death: August 30, 2022
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Anthony F. Barbera of Milton, 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: **Anthony F. Barbera of Milton, 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 07/27/2026.

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: June 29, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/17/2026



EXTRA Innings



by Sal Giaratani

Time for All-Star Break

Back two to three weeks ago, the Sox were looking like the 1962 Mets but, all of a sudden, the Red Sox are Red Hot. For the longest time, they were in last place in the AL East Division. They were in a losing battle with the Orioles for that coveted last place position.

Looking at the hometown team now, the Sox are in third place with both the Orioles and Jays beneath them in the standings. All of a sudden folks are wondering if Tracey’s job as manager might get him hired as the next full-time manager to replace Cora. The winning streak they just finished to end the first half of the season was impressive to me. They did the same thing last year too heading into the All-Star break. We can only wonder.

Meanwhile, looking at the Sox stats, things seem on the upbound. They are still 12 games out of first but their record of 46-48 is a vast improvement from just weeks ago. They are 9-1 over the past 10 games and are having a great time on the road going 29-21. However, they are playing poorly at home going only 17-27 thus far and in the AL East, they are only 10-17. They need to do much better at Fenway Park and against teams in their own division too.

Now it’s your turn. What’s your opinion on the 2026 Sox. Are they actually back in range to make the playoffs this season? Is there a little bit of “Morgan Magic” in the air?

Can the Red Sox keep it up? Finally, do you agree with me that getting Sonny Gray this year made a big improvement this season. Right now he is 11-1 with a 2.54 ERA. The guy is 37 years old. Old guys do rule.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB



by Richard Preiss

There is a lot that goes into the preparation of a major story. There is quite a bit of research and thinking concerning possible angles.

There is the development of possible ideas and themes. This is especially true if the subject is multi-faceted and known to a wide audience.

We thought of these possibilities and more when we received a print edition of *TIME* magazine. Some of you may remember it from decades ago when it was a widely read newsweekly, one of the numerous offerings available in the era when newsweeklies were at their strongest.

Today, *TIME* is published every two weeks. Frankly, the magazine in its current form doesn’t do much for us. But when subscription renewal time nears the offer to renew is so low that we send the back the payment covering the next two years.

The edition we are referring to is themed around ‘the 100 most influential in sports literally using the designation “Time 100.” LeBron James is on the cover (more on that later). Inside there is a substantial article on James followed by the names and short descriptions of the rest of the 100. They are not ranked but simply called icons. They include athletes, coaches and athletic administrators as well as financial backers. Because of the inclusion of the latter two categories, even the most dedicated sports fans would probably not recognize everyone on the list.



LeBron James

We feel that this is not a proper designation. First, James has played in two centuries — the latter part of the 20th century and now in the first few decades of the current century. If one wanted to earmark him as the best athlete of current times, one might have a friendly debate over that — for there’s no denying that James and his long career in the NBA certainly proves he has staying power.

But more to the point, there are still more than 70 years remaining in the current 21st century.

That is more than seven decades for future athletes to be born, mature and have their own stellar careers. Who is to say that someone born later in this century will come to captivate the American public through their own stellar feats and accomplishments. Will they “overtake” not only the accomplishments but also the memory of those who have gone before?

By the end of the century — more than 70 years from now — the athletes who dominated the opening decades will be long gone — and they as well as most of their fans will be deceased.

What will it mean to bring up the name of LeBron James in 2080 — or later?

Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth’s career home run mark in April 1974. About 39 years after Babe Ruth had retired and 26 years after he had died of throat cancer in 1948.

There was a lot of discussion concerning the accomplishment at the time. But today, more than a half century later, there is hardly any. Aaron retired in 1976 and another athlete would come to dominate the closing years of the 20th century. You know (or remember him) as Michael Jordan.

The point is that it is much too early in this century to designate an “Athlete of the Century.” And yes, we have a strong feeling that those athletes who are so highly thought of today will simply be history book material as the century draws to a close in 2099.

And let us not forget that *Sports Illustrated* — who just named LeBron James the “Athlete of the Century” waited until the end of the last one in 1999 before naming an event the top sports moment of the 20th century. That would be the winning of the gold medal in ice hockey by Team USA at the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y.

So, as the current century moves forward don’t forget those from earlier decades but be open to the new experiences that will come on board as we move closer to mid-century and beyond.

Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway Bocce Tournament

The balls were rolling last Sunday, July 12, 2026 at the Greenway on Bremen Street in East Boston. The park quickly turned into a full-on-Italian celebration with games, music, and incredible food. A massive shout out to the amazing sponsors who kept the players and volunteers fueled throughout the day; Spinelli’s for the morning coffee, breakfast and cookies, and Milano’s for an epic lunch spread of pizza and delicious chicken, rabe, and hot pepper calzone.



(L to R) Michael Cucchiello, Peter Noe, Francesca Caponigro and Carlo Caponigro take a break during the East Boston Greenway Bocce Tournament.



(L to R) Gerald Carino, Francesca Caponigro, Carlo Caponigro and Mark Shea make up the First Place and Second Place 2026 East Boston Greenway Bocce Teams.

Congratulations to the big winners: Carlo and Francesca Caponigro and an honorable mention to the runner-ups Gerald Carino and Mark Shea! The day was packed with laughs, community and some serious old school fun. Due to the interest and positive feedback, there may be a Fall Tournament on the horizon. Stay tuned and be on the lookout for details.



East Boston Greenway Bocce Tournament participants and volunteers.

North End Athletic Association (N.E.A.A.) Thanks Dodgers Umpire Sponsors

The North End Athletic Association would like to thank the following for their generous donations to help cover the cost of umpires and baseballs for the 15U and 13U traveling baseball programs:

- THE PERRY FAMILY (5) • SOMA YOGA (2)
- KATHLEEN MANNING (2) • BRENNAN FAMILY (2)
- MATTHEW & RERE BAMONTE • THE PRINN FAMILY
- TED TOMASONE • ALAN DOHERTY

The two teams, which are sponsored by MCGOVERN AUTO, play a total of 34 games in the Lou Tompkins Allstar Baseball League and we are responsible for the cost of one umpire at each game and provide game balls at all home games and we lose a lot into the pool and ocean.

If you are interested in sponsoring a game, please reach out to N.E.A.A. Sports Coordinator John Romano at jromano45@gmail.com or (617) 750-9749.

We feel that this comprehensive piece could have been improved a bit by adding some additional information concerning James in his younger days.

The piece cites the fact that James grew up in “a tough area of Akron (Ohio). Later James himself adds “I knew the police sirens and that type of stuff” were not for him.

We think adding two or three additional paragraphs — explaining how James avoided the negatives of such an environment would have added a bit of explanatory depth to the story.

But the more prominent aspect that we have a problem with is the wording that appears next to a photograph of James on the cover — “Athlete of the Century.”