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POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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Happy 250th Birthday America!

July 4, 2026



It's official, the United States will proudly celebrate its 250th birthday this weekend, July 4, 2026, marking a quarter of a millennium since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. This historic milestone is an opportunity for Americans from every state, city and community across the nation to reflect on the ideals of liberty, freedom, and opportunity that have shaped our nation.

Over the past 250 years, America has overcome wars, economic hardships, and national challenges while continuing to strive toward a more perfect union. Generations of veterans, first responders, public servants, workers, entrepreneurs, teachers, and volunteers have all contributed to building the country we celebrate today.

The semi-quincentennial is more than just fireworks, parades, and family gatherings. It is a reminder of the sacrifices made by our Founding Fathers, the brave men and women who defended our freedoms, and the millions of immigrants who followed, arriving in America to seek a better life and build our nation.

As communities across the country celebrate this once in a lifetime anniversary, let us all renew our commitment to the values that unite us, freedom, democracy, hard work, and respect for one another, our flag and our country. May this 250th Independence Day inspire hope for future generations and remind us all that America's greatest chapters are still being written.

Happy 250th Birthday America! May God continue to Bless the United States of America for generations to come.

2026 Boston Pops July 4 Fireworks Spectacular

Jane Lynch to Host the Event

Megan Hilty, Lainey Wilson, Chance the Rapper, and Trombone Shorty as Special Guest Artists



Conductor Keith Lockhart

Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning actress Jane Lynch has been tapped to host the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular and Tony- and Grammy-nominated actress Megan Hilty joins as a special guest artist along with Lainey Wilson, Chance The Rapper, and Trombone Shorty. Led by legendary conductor Keith Lockhart, the free Pops concert returns to the Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade for its 52nd year on Saturday, July 4, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. ET.

As the Signature Event of the Commonwealth's **MA250** (Massachusetts 250) initiative honoring the 250th anniversary of America's founding, this year's *Fireworks Spectacular*



Host Jane Lynch

anchors a multi-year, statewide commemoration highlighting Massachusetts' legacy of leadership and innovation in shaping the nation's founding and future.

With an all-American lineup of top-tier guest artists, a revolutionary-themed drone show during the performance of the *1812 Overture*, and a fireworks display choreographed to music performed live by the Pops, the event showcases Massachusetts' creativity, collaboration, and community spirit to an in-person audience expected to break attendance records and millions of broadcast viewers nationally. Portions of the event including the fireworks will be carried



Performer Lainey Wilson

live on CNN's network broadcast of July 4/America 250 celebrations across the U.S., co-anchored by **Anderson Cooper** and **Pamela Brown**, who will be based on the Esplanade.

The concert program offers a patriotic sing-along and other Independence Day favorites performed by the Pops along with the **Boston Children's Chorus**, **Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Chorus**, **Middlesex County Volunteers Drums and Fifes**, **Tanglewood Festival Chorus**, and the **USS Constitution Color Guard**. The event roster also includes Mass. Poet Laureate **Regie Gibson** and pianist **Pelin Su Yavuz**.

(Continued on Page 10)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Paris Pol Blames U.S. for Heat

According to a Paris politician, Americans and our air conditioning are to blame for the record-breaking heatwave in Europe that has resulted in over 1,300 deaths. According to him, as the second largest emitter of greenhouse-gas emissions, we are responsible for what France is experiencing.

85-Year-Old "Street Racer"

An 85-year-old cigar-smoking Florida man has been accused of street racing and hitting over 100 mph before getting pulled over and telling police he was only out enjoying a late night drive in his favorite car. A bodycam recording shows him in his Nissan 350Z convertible racing a red Chevy Corvette in a 45 mph zone. He was arrested for speed racing and dangerous excessive speeding. The other driver was also pulled over by another officer up the road and arrested on the same charges.

Zoo Makes Ass of Itself

A Chinese zoo tried to pass a donkey off as a zebra by painting it with stripes. Photos showed the donkey marked with crude black stripes at a wildlife park. The animal's long ears and coloring, along with other

(Continued on Page 10)

St. Theresa Society Celebrates 3rd Annual Procession



St. Theresa Society members gather following an annual mass at St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street, prior to setting off on a traditional procession through the North End neighborhood.

On Sunday, June 28, 2026 the St. Theresa Society in Boston held a traditional celebration honoring their patron saint. Following a mass at St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street, the society members carried the majestic statue through

the streets of the neighborhood followed by ever faithful followers and the North End Marching Band leading the way.

Also, part of the St. Theresa festivities was a healing mass held on Saturday, June 27, celebrated by special guest

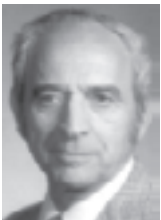
Carmelite healing priest Fr. Justin Maria Cinnante, O. Carm. Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna and offered a blessing of the First-Class Relic of

(Continued on Page 5)

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



VIRGINS VESTALES (continued)



House of the Vestal Virgins (Atrium Vestae)

Evidence of the luxurious lifestyle of the Vestal Virgins has been gained from the remains of the “Atrium Vestae” (House of the Vestal Virgins), with its spacious court, splendid decorations, baths, and hot air flues. They were granted the privilege of keeping horses and carriages, and when in public they were preceded by a lector who cleared their way. Their presence was expected where no other women, as a rule, might go; such as places of public amusement, the circus, the theater, and even the amphitheater where the best seats were permanently at their command. The only superior whom they acknowledged was the “Pontifex Maximus” who, representing their king of the ancient village, had a parental authority over them and who alone was responsible to administer corporal chastisement if any Vestal neglected their duties.

There were only two offenses that could normally be brought against them, and these were most rare. The first offense was to neglect the sacred fire, so that it became extinguished. For this kind of carelessness, the Vestal was scourged by the Pontifex. The second offense was to violate her vow of chastity. Those who were found guilty of this act were carried on a bier to the Campus Sceleratus, near the Colline Gate, beaten with rods and buried alive. Her seducer was also rewarded by being scourged to death.

Vacancies in the ranks of the Vestals were always filled by girls under ten years of age, and each in turn retired at the age of forty.

Every girl possessing the necessary qualifications was liable to be called on to undertake the duty, and no exception was granted, except upon very strict conditions. The age limit to qualify for selection was not less than six and not more than ten years of age, without personal blemish, of free, respectable family, whose parents were still alive and residing in Italy. Twenty girls were nominated by the Pontifex, and the final selection was made by lot. The selected candidate was immediately taken to the Atrium Vestae, her new home, properly attired and shorn of her hair. Her time of service was set by law at thirty years; ten for learning, ten for performing, and ten for teaching.

There was always a variety of ages in the household of the Vestals. There was the little girl with close-cropped head, running around the garden or up and down stairs, learning her duties in bits and pieces, for she had a long time to learn them. Then there were those in their twenties, by now well acquainted with all of this luxury, social consequence, political influence, and freedom of action. Lastly, of course, there was the oldest of the group, with all of the years of accumulated honor and the distinctive title of “Vestalis Maxima.” At the end of their 30 years of service, leave was granted to lay aside their priesthood, return to private life, and marry if they desired. What else can be said, other than “Figlio maschile e cento anni.”

NEXT ISSUE:
Flamen

Radical Change on the Horizon for MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY ELECTIONS

by Patti Sartori

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the highest court in the state, has cleared the way for a ballot question, if it passes muster with Bay State voters, would eliminate political party primaries for state elections. The proposed ballot question would allow candidates running for the same office to appear on a single primary ballot, regardless of political affiliation. The two with the most votes would then advance to the general election, which means voters may very well be choosing between two candidates from the same party.

The Supreme Judicial Court ruling determined the ballot question does not “discriminate against any party or idea, nor does it unfairly advantage one type of candidate. Voters may continue to support their preferred alternative candidate by adding that candidate’s name as a write-in candidate in the space provided on the general election ballot,” the court said in its decision.

The court made clear that “it is not their responsibility to determine whether the proposal at issue is better or worse than the current system or whether it

will serve government interests more or less effectively than the status quo; our responsibility solely is to determine whether the petition before us presents a season regulation of elections.”

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell had already certified the ballot question, the SJC simply gave a final stamp of approval. Some cities and towns within Massachusetts already use some version of this method for their elections, while states across the country also use it, including California and Washington.

Extended Last Call Hours are a Matter of Time

by Patti Sartori

It was simply a matter of time before the recently proposed temporary legislation to extend last call hours at bars and restaurants until 3:00 a.m. in Boston would be up for permanent consideration. Councilor Brian Worrell has suggested extending liquor sales through 3:00 a.m. permanently in Boston would go far in generating much needed revenue to the cash strapped city.

“We have seen the pilot program. Now is a good time to understand the impacts of that pilot, get all the stakeholders to the table to discuss the pros

and cons, and see if the city, the restaurant owners, the employees and the customers want to see this extended. I know that we have been looking at different ways of pulling in more revenue as a city,” Worrell said.

Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey signed a bill last month extending the last call hours until 3:00 a.m. Cities and towns across the state have the option to participate in the pilot program, and extend their liquor license by 1 hour, typically from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m., until July 31. Boston chose to opt in and take advantage of another

of Healey’s signed legislative initiatives creating two downtown social districts where patrons of adjacent establishments are allowed to drink alcohol outside through July 31.

These pilot programs have fit nicely into the current World Cup tourism boom, and should continue to be a benefit with the upcoming Sail250. It’s obvious Worrell and city officials view the proposal to permanently extend liquor license hours as a way to attract young people and added revenue and compete with other urban areas like New York City.

What’s Your Name Again? You Look Familiar ...

by Patti Sartori



Mike Minogue

It seems the two Republican candidates for Governor of Massachusetts are lacking in familiarity and name recognition with voters across the Bay State. According to a recent survey conducted by *Boston Herald* columnist Howie Carr, voters struggled to identify either GOP candidate, Mike Minogue or Brian Shortsleeve. The poll was conducted in five random Massachusetts locations including Waltham, Plymouth, New Bedford, Dartmouth and Fall River, Respondents were shown separate headshots of incumbent Governor Maura Healey, and Republican challengers Minogue and Shortsleeve.

Polling results showed less than 15% of those polled could identify either Shortsleeve (7.6%) or Minogue (13.7%), while Healey’s headshot was the most easily identifiable and recognized (98%). Minogue and Shortsleeve’s faces were somewhat recognized by 18% but respondents did not know their names. None of those polled acknowledged a voting preference for either of the GOP candidates.



Brian Shortsleeve

vote Democrat, so for Healey. My family’s been Democrat, their values make more sense than Republican values to me.”

Carr’s survey results align with a recent Suffolk University poll that showed over 40% of respondents could not list a single accomplishment of Healey’s during her first term as Governor, but she was heavily favored among respondents by 25 points (56% - 31%) over Mike Minogue and by 27 points over Brian Shortsleeve (56% - 29%).



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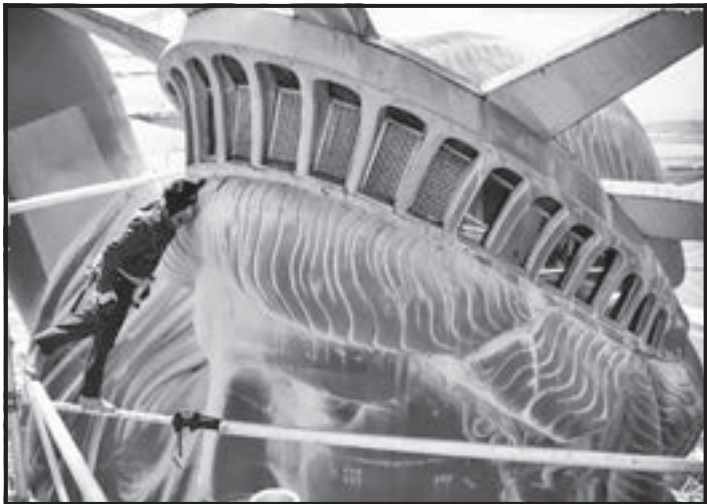
James V. Donnaruma 1896 to 1953 Caesar L. Donnaruma 1953 to 1971 Phyllis F. Donnaruma 1971 to 1990

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Friday, July 3, 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.*

A KISS for Generations Past



Once described as an iconic moment that captures the essence of America, this heart-warming photo shows a young construction worker standing on scaffolding, 200-feet off the ground, while leaning in to kiss the forehead of Lady Liberty. In 1984, decades after Anthony Soraci's grandparents immigrated from Italy, the young worker's actions symbolize the hold the American monument has on so many, standing as a beacon of patriotism, national pride and the hope of opportunity in a new land and country.

For Americans, the statue of Liberty is a reminder that freedom is not something to be taken for granted. It serves as a symbol of the sacrifices made by generations who fought to preserve democracy and ensure that future generations could enjoy the blessings of liberty.

For millions of immigrants, like Anthony Soraci's grandparents, the Statue of Liberty holds a deeply personal meaning. As ships entered New York Harbor, many newcomers caught their first glimpse of Lady Liberty before arriving at Ellis Island. It represented the promise of a new beginning, hope and prosperity through hard work and determination and a dream that they could build better lives for themselves and their families.

Today, the Statue of Liberty remains a timeless symbol of the American dream!

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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.

A Double Celebration Held at Christopher Coumbus Park

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) held a joint celebration last Saturday, June 27, 2026 in honor of America's 250th Birthday as well as the FOCCP's 25th Anniversary. A lovely afternoon was spent under the Trellis on the West lawn. Complimentary offerings and entertainment included Singing and Dancing, Big Joe the Storyteller, Bruce and Lady Jane making balloon animals and Giant Bubbles, not to mention NEMPAC's Musical Petting Zoo, Lawn Games by Knucklebones, North End Branch Librarian Face Painting and Craft Tables.

Thank you to all of the generous sponsors and the many volunteers for making these celebrations and milestones so special!



Friends of Christopher Columbus Park Volunteers



Peter The Magician



NEMPAC Volunteers



(Photos by Gerri Palladino)

L’Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Fiery, Festive Fourth of July

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



(Photo by freepik on Magnific)

No other holiday smells, tastes or feels like summer more than the Fourth of July. It is the scent of fired-up grills emanating from every American backyard, the light swirl of smoke rising up in the hazy heat. It is the taste of sweet buttered corn crunching between your teeth. The Fourth of July encompasses the sounds of families laughing as they share food and memories outside, and of fireworks exploding across a silky night sky. To this day, I still feel a mysterious shiver when I hear the faint sound of fireworks bursting from some far-off festival during a starlit evening. These distant fireworks instill in me the feeling of the unknown, the sensation that little feasts are sweeping the country before the big celebration of Independence Day. Because of these exciting and myriad feelings, the Fourth of July remains one of my favorite holidays, the quintessential celebration of summer. It is a commemoration of family and food, patriotism and heritage, history and diversity, all converging in a brilliant summer day.

Had Massachusetts representative John Adams been correct, we would have been honoring our country’s Independence Day on the second of July. That was the day in 1776 when, during the height of the Revolutionary War, the convention of delegates from the Thirteen Colonies, known as the Second Continental Congress, approved a resolution that declared independence from Great Britain. Adams predicted that this day would forevermore be marked with parades, bonfires and games. In reality, Adams’s speculation on the nature of Independence Day celebrations proved accurate, only the date shifted to the fourth, when the Congress finally approved this declaration after

much revision. Therefore, the Fourth of July commemorates a tremendous event — a bold statement of independence, a desire to free oneself from oppression that would inspire revolutions the world over. As a patriotic holiday, the Fourth of July is also a perfect time to honor America’s diversity, and during this holiday I often reflect on what it means to be Italian-American. Italians have been involved in America’s quest for liberty and equality since the country’s early days. The Tuscan physician Filippo Mazzei inspired the Declaration of Independence’s statement that everyone has fundamental equality. Giuseppe Garibaldi, the hero of Italian independence, was recruited to fight in the Civil War and though he did not because of his commitment to Italy’s freedom, his name inspired a Union Army regiment composed of soldiers from both Europe and America. An Italian immigrant, Constantino Brumidi, painted the U.S. Capitol dome. I believe that America’s diversity, blend of cultures, and historical dedication to democracy and anti-fascism is precisely what makes our country so special, and on the Fourth of July I celebrate my pride as both an American and an Italian-American.

Along with its history, the Fourth of July is also a revelry in the primordial pleasures of summer, of outdoor festivities and food and fire and the splash of water. In this way, it resembles European Midsummer celebrations, which mark the height of the season around the summer solstice. My family has several Fourth of July traditions which I hold especially dear, all of which epitomize the unbridled joy of summer. On the night of July 3rd, my husband and I would watch a fireworks display put on by our

old hometown. As we sat in the stands of the high school football field, we were surrounded by images of vintage Americana: children playing tag across the field, glow sticks waving like little bursts of starlight brought down to Earth, snatches of classic rock tunes, and streaks of color illuminating the night sky as the crowd hushes with awe. On the Fourth, my family gathers for a festive meal which would not be complete without my two Independence Day mainstays: a Southwestern corn pudding and, for dessert, Zebra Pudding, a delectable dessert consisting of chocolate wafers layered with whipped cream, decorated with chocolate sprinkles, and refrigerated until properly cool and the wafers turn soft. My mother usually makes a panzanella salad and, as an appetizer, a dip of salsa and cream cheese served with tortilla chips. As we gather for food and fun, we laugh and share nostalgic and funny stories as the hot summer day descends into a balmy, firefly-filled evening. I will always be thankful for this day of community, love, pride and food!

The Fourth of July grants us an opportunity to pause and reflect on what is most important in life. As we celebrate the freedoms that make America wonderful, we should pause and honor the sacrifices of the men and women throughout history and the modern day who made these freedoms possible. We should continue to follow their example by always advocating for the protection of democracy and the demise of tyranny. We should take this holiday as a chance to feel proud to be an American but also proud of our ethnic heritage, which contributes to our unique identities. Finally, we should see the Fourth of July as a prime feast of summer, and all of the joys that the season entails. With that, I must take the time to wish everyone ... A Happy and Safe Fourth of July!

Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a Graduate Student in History at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She appreciates 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.

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Aaron Michlewitz Receives 2026 Health Care Hero Award



State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, life-long resident of the North End, received the Healthcare Hero Award, presented by NEW Health. This is the highest honor the agency bestows upon deserving individuals. (L to R) President of NEW Health Jason Aluia, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz and CEO of New Health Vincenzo “Vin” Scibelli.

NEW Health is proud to present the Healthcare Hero Award, our highest honor, to Representative Aaron Michlewitz in recognition of his extraordinary commitment to the health, well-being, and quality of life of the residents of the neighborhoods he so proudly represents.

Throughout his career in public service, Representative Michlewitz has been a steadfast advocate for the people of his community, consistently demonstrating a deep understanding that strong communities begin with healthy residents. His leadership, accessibility, and unwavering dedication to his constituents have made him an invaluable partner in advancing access to high-quality healthcare and essential services for individuals and families across Boston’s waterfront neighborhoods and the North End.

Representative Michlewitz has long been a champion of NEW Health and the Community Health Center Movement. He recognizes the vital role community health centers play in ensuring that every person — regardless of age, background, or circumstance — has access to compassionate, patient-centered care close to home. Time and again, he has stood beside NEW Health, supporting our mission, advocating for our patients, and helping strengthen the programs and services that our community depends upon.

What distinguishes Representative Michlewitz is not only his leadership, but his genuine connection to the people he serves. He is deeply invested in the well-being of his constituents, listening to their needs, responding to their concerns, and working tirelessly to improve the health and vitality of the neighborhoods he calls home. His partnership has helped ensure that NEW Health remains a trusted and accessible resource for generations of residents.

The Healthcare Hero Award honors individuals whose actions embody the values of service, compassion, community, and commitment. Representative Aaron Michlewitz exemplifies these ideals through his continued dedication to public service and his enduring support of community-based healthcare. We are honored to recognize him as this year’s recipient of the NEW Health Healthcare Hero Award, celebrating his leadership, advocacy, and unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of our community.

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Department

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You can sign up to receive Planning Department emails and learn about opportunities to get involved here: bosplans.org/GetInvolved



A Question of Fairness *at Massachusetts State Colleges*

Once again the state of Massachusetts is facing a federal lawsuit, this time the issue stems from a state law the Department of Justice (DOJ) says provides in-state college tuition rates and financial aid to “illegal aliens” while denying out-of-state students the same benefits. The DOJ filed the lawsuit this past week in Boston federal court against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Board of Higher Education.

The lawsuit states, "Federal law prohibits illegal aliens in our nation from receiving resident tuition benefits that are denied to U.S. citizens residing

in other states.” The crux of the lawsuit centers around the High School Completer’s Tuition Equity Law which was passed in 2023 by state legislators, extending eligibility for in-state tuition benefits, financial aid and scholarships at Bay State colleges to illegal aliens, while requiring payment of higher tuition rates by and denying similar benefits from U.S. citizens from other states.

The DOJ is pushing for the court to strike down the Massachusetts Tuition Equity Law on the basis of it being unconstitutional, however the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education (MEOE) is

defending the state's immigration policy on higher education. "These young people have built their lives in Massachusetts, attended our schools and are valued members of our community. We want them to stay in Massachusetts, enter our workforce, start companies, and pay taxes."

Assistant U.S. Attorney General Brett Shumate stated "This is a simple matter of federal law. Colleges cannot provide benefits to illegal aliens that they do not provide to U.S. citizens." Similar lawsuits are pending in other states across the country, including Rhode Island, New Jersey, California and Virginia.

• **St. Theresa's Annual Procession** (Continued from Page 1)



(L to R) Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn, Bishop Reed of Catholic TV, Carmelite healing priest Fr. Justin Maria Cinnante, Pastor of St. Leonard Church Father Michael Della Penna and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.

St. Theresa along-side Bishop
Reed of Catholic TV.

other North End Religious societies but is growing stronger each year supported by a growing group of devotees.



(Photos by Gerri Palladino)

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Best Wishes
Nina Gaeta Coletta



For the past 28 years, Nina has served East Boston High School in a number of roles and capacities, continuously advocating for her students and families and always leading with compassion. No one believes Nina's commitment to service is ending, it's too deeply embedded in her DNA.

Wishing Nina a healthy and well-deserved retirement with her husband Ed and beautiful family!

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Please note: Only tables of ten (10) may be reserved.

We look forward to seeing all the girl friends of the North End once again on September 28th

The Committee: Francine Capodilupo Gannon, Chair - 617-742-6912
Carol Langone Catanzaro - 617-283-1925
Diane Passero Pesaturo - 781-443-3624
Christina Penta - 617-227-9568
Darlene D'Elia - 617-791-2656



(Photos by Gerri Palladino)



by
**Marianna
Bisignano**

At the Head of the Table: BUONA FESTA DEL PAPÀ



(L to R) Pictured are Antonio “Anthony” Polcari and his son Ralph Polcari as Antonio proudly rests his hand on the original coffee bean roaster used by the Polcari family from 1932 right up until the 1970’s in the family business, Polcari’s Coffee, which still going strong at its original location, corner of Salem and Parmenter Street, (105 Salem Street) in Boston’s North End.

This week, as we continue to honor the Papas and Nonnos who left their homeland and crossed the ocean in search of better opportunities, we journey to Polcari’s Coffee, a nostalgic coffee, tea, and spice shop on the corner of Salem and Parmenter Streets in Boston’s North End that first opened its doors nearly a century ago.

The moment you step inside, it feels as though you’ve been transported back in time. Wooden walls and shelves lined with glass jars of imported spices and canisters of coffee beans surround you. Antique computing scales dating back to 1906 still rest upon the counter, the original cast-iron radiators continue to warm the shop, and photographs covering the walls tell the story of Antonio Polcari and the generations who helped shape this cherished neighborhood.

Records from Ellis Island indicate that Antonio “Anthony” Polcari arrived in America on May 25, 1923. Born in Montefalcione, in the province of Avellino, he came to America in his early twenties with a dream of opening his own coffee shop. After marrying Rose Giarusso, who had immigrated from Siracusa, Sicily, Anthony worked as a pocket maker for a local tailor, saving every dollar until he opened Polcari’s Coffee in 1932, when the North End’s streets were still lined with pushcarts selling produce, household goods, and the familiar foods of home.

I had the pleasure of sitting at the table with Bobby Eustace, owner since 2002, and longtime employee Pasquale Paolucci. As we spoke, my eyes were drawn to a large black-and-white photograph.

“That’s Anthony and his son Ralph,” Pasquale said, pointing to the coffee roaster Anthony leaned against. “It used to be over there. We roasted all of our own coffee until the early 1970s.”

For a moment, I could almost picture it: pushcarts lining the sidewalks, neighbors stopping to talk, and the aroma of freshly roasted coffee drifting out onto the busy streets.

Anthony and Rose had three children, Ralph, Anthony, and Marie, all of whom worked in the store. Eventually Ralph assumed ownership, continuing the legacy his father had built. Yet none of the three siblings had children of their own, leaving one question: who would one day carry Polcari’s Coffee into the future?

“It was 1978 when I started working here,” Pasquale recalled. “I was fourteen. My cousin Louie worked here first, then his brother Angelo, then my younger cousin Anthony, and Bobby joined us in 1984. There were five of us. We were Ralph’s five boys.”

Pasquale smiled as he reflected on the lessons Ralph taught them.

“He believed there was a place for everything. He taught us to be reliable, dependable, organized, and always prepared. His sister Marie was the social butterfly. Ralph was all business. Bobby,” he said, smiling across the table, “is the perfect combination of both.”

Ralph believed character mattered above all else. He often hired relatives of trusted employees because he believed honesty, loyalty, and a strong work ethic ran in families. Time and again, he was proven right.

As Pasquale stepped away, Bobby Eustace, who assumed sole proprietorship of Polcari’s Coffee in 2002, joined me at the table. I began by asking whether his family was from the North End.

“My mother was an Onessimo,” he replied. “She was born on Margaret Street.”

I then asked Bobby about his connection to Ralph Polcari.

“I can’t say enough good things about Ralph,” he said. “I started working for him in September of 1984. I was seventeen years old, right out of high school. I had great parents, but Ralph became a second father to me. He was my best teacher in life.”

For the next twenty-six years, Bobby worked alongside Ralph six days a week. At the time, he was a young musician playing in a band and admitted he didn’t fully understand the lessons Ralph was teaching him.

“I didn’t realize everything I was learning until years later,” he reflected. “He taught me how to handle every situation, how to talk to people, he guided me in so many areas... he taught me about life.”

As Bobby spoke, his eyes filled with emotion. It was impossible not to see the profound impact Ralph had on his life and the deep love, admiration, and gratitude he still carries for the man who became much more than an employer.

“I was blessed,” Bobby continued. “He was dedicated... a working machine. Everybody loved him, his customers, his employees... including me. He was just a wonderful guy to be around. He was the guy everybody wanted to hang out with, and I feel blessed that I got to spend so many years with him. I can’t speak enough about him.”

“This store was his center stage. That’s where he felt his best, and I understand that now. After everything I’ve been through and the different challenges I’ve faced, this store has saved my life too. I can come in here, talk to people, and I love talking to people.”

One lesson Ralph impressed upon Bobby from the very beginning was the importance of showing up.

“He always told me, ‘You’re going to be here on Saturdays.’ Saturdays were the big day, and he believed the owner needed to be here. That has stayed with me all these years.”

There was another piece of advice Bobby has never forgotten.

“Ralph always told me, ‘Don’t ever have a partner, Bobby. Just you... just you, Bobby.’”

Today, as the sole proprietor of Polcari’s Coffee, those words carry even greater meaning.

“Things have changed a little, but I want to keep it as is,” Bobby added. “Ralph never did mail orders, but now I open a little later so I can fill those first. You have to adapt, but Saturdays are still the most important day.”

Although Bobby never knew Anthony personally, he knew how deeply Ralph loved his parents.

“He came from a wonderful North End family. People around here still talk about what wonderful people they were.”

With a smile, Bobby added, “What’s funny is that none of the three children ever had children of their own. They all married later in life, but none of them



Ralph Polcari’s Homemade Anisette Courtesy of Bobby Eustace Polcari’s Coffee 105 Salem Street North End, Boston, MA

- 16 ounces water
- 10 ounces granulated sugar
- 11 ounces grain alcohol
- ½-ounce bottle anisette extract
(available at Polcari’s Coffee)
- 1 sterilized glass bottle with a tight-fitting lid

In a saucepan, bring the water to a boil. Add the sugar and stir until completely dissolved.

Remove from the heat and allow the syrup to cool completely, at least 4 hours or overnight.

Stir in the grain alcohol and anisette extract until well combined. Pour into a sterilized glass bottle and seal tightly.

had kids. That’s unusual for an Italian family. If Ralph had children, my path probably never would have happened.”

As I sat across from Bobby, it became clear that the legacy of Polcari’s Coffee has never rested solely in its shelves of coffee, tea, and spices. It lives in the people.

Bobby carries within him the very qualities Ralph Polcari spent a lifetime cultivating. He possesses the business sense, dedication, and unwavering work ethic that defined Ralph, while welcoming every customer with the warmth and kindness that Marie Polcari was so well known for. In many ways, he has become the perfect blend of both.

Although Ralph never had children of his own, it was evident that he considered the young men who worked beside him his family. The five boys he mentored over the years became much more than employees. They became part of his life.

When Ralph passed away, he left Polcari’s Coffee to Bobby, entrusting him with the responsibility of preserving the business his father had built nearly a century earlier. Yet Ralph’s generosity did not end there. He divided his personal assets among all five of “his boys,” a final expression of the love, loyalty, and gratitude he felt for each of them.

Listening to Bobby speak, it was impossible not to feel that Ralph had, in many ways, chosen the son who would carry his legacy forward. Through twenty-six years of mentorship, friendship, and trust, he passed on far more than a business. He passed on his values, his love for people, and his unwavering commitment to preserving everything Polcari’s Coffee represented. In Bobby Eustace, he found the perfect gentleman to continue that legacy.

Today, Polcari’s Coffee is far more than a coffee shop. It is a living reminder of the Italian immigrants who built Boston’s North End, preserving not only the flavors of home, but also the traditions, craftsmanship, pride, and sense of community they carried with them across the ocean. Within these walls, the business, the stories, and the people, continue to embody the values, customs, warmth, and love that have defined Italy’s families for generations.

And, as with so many Italian families, some of life’s greatest memories are shared around the table. Bobby continues that tradition today by preparing one of Ralph Polcari’s own recipes, carefully preserving yet another piece of the legacy Ralph entrusted to him.

2026
NORTH END
FESTIVAL
DIRECTORY

JULY

MADONNA DEL GRAZIE

July 12

Mass St. Leonard Church

10:30 am

Procession – Hanover – Prince Sts.

2 pm

SAN ROCCO

July 19

Italian Mass St. Leonard Church

10:30 am

Procession – Hanover – Prince Sts.

1 pm

ST. JOSEPH

July 24, 25, 26

Mass Sunday, July 26

12 pm

Sunday Procession – Hanover – Prince Sts.

1 pm

AUGUST

ST. AGRIPPINA

July 30, 31, August 1, 2

Hanover & Battery Sts.

Opens 7 pm on Thursday

Sunday Procession

12 noon

MADONNA DELLA CAVA

August 7, 8, 9

Hanover & Battery Sts.

Opens 7 pm on Friday

Sunday Procession

1 pm

MADONNA del SOCCORSO

August 13,14, 15, 16

North, Fleet & Lewis Sts. (Fisherman's)

Sunday Procession 1 pm - Flight of the Angel

8 pm

SAN GENNARO

August 21, 22, 23

Mass Sunday, August 23,

12 pm

SANTA LUCIA

August 27

Thursday, Feast & Procession

5 pm

Thacher & Endicott Sts.

ST. ANTHONY'S FEAST

August 28, 29, 30

Endicott & Thacher, N. Margin Sts.

Sunday Procession

12 pm

SEPTEMBER

ST. ROSALIA di PALERMO

TBA

Procession Only - North Square

1 pm

ADDITIONAL
ITALIAN FESTIVALS

Newton, MA

ITALIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

July 15-19

St. Mary of Carmen Society

The Lake - Nonantum at Pelligrini Park

Malden, MA

SAINT ROCCO FESTIVAL

August 7, 8, 9

Pearl Street, Malden, MA

Sunday Procession

1 pm

Lawrence, MA

FEAST of the THREE SAINTS

New Dates Sept. 4-6

Saints Alfio, Filadelfo and Cirino

Sunday Procession

3 pm

Common & Union Streets, Lawrence

Cambridge Festival

SS COSMAS AND DAMIAN

Sept. 10,11,12,13

Sunday Procession

1 pm

Warren and Cambridge St., Cambridge

Arrivederci for Now Father Michael

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Six and a half years ago Father Michael Della Penna was made pastor of Saint Leonard Parish, our parish. A native of the North End, he came to us with a unique understanding of our Neighborhood, It is customary at the end of a pastor's tenure to wish them goodbye by listing their accomplishments, Father Michael's accomplishments were many, and they will be listed but in Father Michael's case, his impact goes far beyond his accomplishments and his presence among us will not easily be replaced. His departure from us is creating a void that his replacement simply cannot fill, it is the unique void that is created by the departure of a native son.

During his six and a half years at Saint Leonard Parish, Father Michael has had a profoundly positive impact on our parish community. Under his leadership, Mass attendance among young people has grown significantly; the Ministry to Street People was established; and a residence was created for young people discerning religious life, several of whom are now in formation. His ministry has also helped bring many people into the Catholic faith and inspired the formation of several Catholic theology study groups. He added a weekly Mass at a senior housing facility, added a 5:00 pm Sunday Mass and began a weekly Rosary Group. These examples reflect only part of Father Michael's contributions.

As stated earlier, this column is not meant to be a summation of Father Michael's many accomplishments, but an expression of the heartfelt sorrow that many of us feel at his departure, a man whose heart could not be contained by the shackles of his body. Goodbye for now Father Michael, a fellow North Ender as he leaves the place that he both calls home and considers one of the finest places on Earth to have grown up and lived in. Rather than goodbye, we prefer saying arrivederci, vai con Dio (until we meet again, go with God.)



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Taxi Cabs on Par with Ride Share Apps

A new pilot program launched by Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and Police Commissioner Michael Cox will place city taxi drivers on a level playing field with ride share apps, including Uber and Lyft. As part of the new one-year pilot program, customers using these apps may now be matched with a licensed Boston taxi in the hopes of offering an increased revenue stream to cab drivers and ride share companies meet increasing demand.

“This pilot program will help Boston’s taxi industry participate fully in meeting demand, improve earnings for drivers, reduce wait times, and improve the experience of the riding public,” said Mayor Wu. The program is rooted in a request from taxi cab drivers. Rides accepted by taxis, via a ride share app, will be subject to the same rates offered by Uber and Lyft, and not the traditional metered fares used by the Boston Police Hackney Division, but riders hailing a cab on a city street will still be charged the city’s regulated metered fares. Airport trips will be excluded as will additional exclusion for special events determined by the Hackney Division.

“This change is a major boost for taxi drivers in Boston and the passengers we serve,” noted one longtime taxi driver.

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NEW Health is
Accepting Applications for a
Community Advisory Board

NEW Health is starting a Community Advisory Board! This group will share perspectives, ideas, and experiences to help shape the care at NEW Health. Your voice will contribute to improving the experience of patients and families. To apply or for more information, please email NEWHCommunityAdvisoryBoard@mgb.org, or go to https://newhealthcenter.org/community-advisory-board-applications/

Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway
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Registration Form available at
www.maryellenwelchgreenway.org/events



SUN. JULY 12, 10AM

BREMEN STREET PARK, EAST BOSTON
AIRPORT STATION



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Loved Ones

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NCIS: TONY & ZIVA - SEASON ONE (DVD)
Paramount

NCIS: Tony & Ziva places Special Agents Tony DiNozzo (Michael Weatherly) and Ziva David (Cote de Pablo) at the front and center of the action. Once presumed dead in a mortar attack, Ziva is very much alive, and living in Paris, where she and Tony, her fellow agent, and on-again, off-again lover, are co-parenting their young daughter, Tali. When Tony's security company is attacked, the family must go on the run across Europe, attempt to piece together who's after them, and maybe even learn to trust each other again so they can finally achieve a kind of happily ever after — unconventional though it may be.

THE CHRISTOPHERS (Blu-ray) Neon

A mainstay of the London art scene since his breakout in the 1960s, Julian Sklar (Ian McKellen) has drifted into a self-imposed seclusion. In *The Christophers*, his two estranged children enlist Lori, a forger, to pose as an assistant, and access a series of unfinished canvases Julian has buried in his studio in a deceptive bid to secure an inheritance for themselves.

MICKI & MAUDE (Blu-ray) Columbia Pictures

Dudley Moore and director Blake Edwards are reunited in this laugh-packed romp about a lovable bigamist. TV reporter Rob Salinger (Moore) longs for a baby. But his career-minded wife, Micki, is too busy for motherhood. A romantic fling with a seductive cellist, Maude (Amy Irving), leads to her pregnancy. Rob receives another shock when Micki announces that she's also expecting! In love with both women, he marries Maude and starts leading a double life full of complicated and riotous situations. *Micki & Maude* reaches the heights of hilarity when both women are delivering babies in adjoining rooms, while Moore serves double duty at the frantic father-to-be.

RELENTLESS (Blu-ray) Sony Pictures Home Entertainment

In *Relentless*, a sadistic serial killer holds Los Angeles in the grip of unspeakable fear in this hard-hitting action-thriller. Rejected from the police force on psychological grounds, Buck Taylor (Judd Nelson) exacts revenge by committing a string of brutal murders and taunting the Los Angeles Police Department. The only clues are pages torn from a telephone book and victims who appear to have

somehow participated in their own deaths. But when a brash rookie detective (Leo Rossi) pairs up with a cynical veteran (Robert Loggia) to track down the killer, the cat-and-mouse game ends in a deadly fight to the finish.

AGATHA CHRISTIE - MURDER IS EASY (DVD) Neon

England, 1954. Young, ambitious Luke Fitzwilliam arrives in England from Nigeria with the promise of a job at Whitehall. On the train to London he meets the elderly Miss Pinkerton, who confides in him that there is a killer on the loose in the respectable village of Wychwood-Under-Ashe. The locals believe the deaths are accidents, but she suspects otherwise. When Miss Pinkerton is struck down on her way to Scotland Yard, Fitzwilliam knows he must find the murderer before they can kill again. Because for a certain kind of person, murder is easy. *Murder is Easy* is an Agatha Christie thriller.

IS GOD IS (Blu-ray) MGM

Twin sisters with disfiguring burn scars have their world upended when the mother they'd believed long dead, summons them to her bedside and reveals that their father is responsible for her bedridden state as well as the twins' scars. The suspense of *Is God Is* heightens when she orders the girls to kill their father for what he has done, and the sisters must decide whether to seek vengeance or find mercy.

DEEP WATER (Blu-ray) Magenta Light

A flight from Los Angeles to Shanghai goes down in the middle of the Pacific. *Deep Water* follows the survivors of the crash, who soon discover that they're not alone and they must survive the shark-infested waters.

THE DRAMA (Blu-ray) A24

Robert Pattinson and Zendaya star in *The Drama*, as a happily engaged couple whose relationship is put to the ultimate test after a sudden revelation throws their happily ever after into spectacular turmoil. Rising comedic auteur Kristoffer Borgli pushes the wedding comedy into fresh new territory in an inventive, darkly funny, and unexpectedly heartfelt look at love in the age of oversharing.

STRANGE JOURNEY: THE STORY OF ROCKY HORROR (Blu-ray) Magenta Light Studios

Strange Journey: The Story of Rocky Horror, is a profound and deeply personal documentary that pulls back the curtain on

(Continued on Page 10)

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

WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE SPEEDING MOTORIZED SCOOTER

Last Sunday, I almost took out someone who looked about 20 years old who sped through his red light while I was taking my green arrow turning left. I almost creamed him and but for the grace of God I just missed killing him. For him, luckily, it wasn't his day. It is the Wild West out there as these small vehicles speed in and out of traffic, going too fast and forgetting about things like traffic lights. I am amazed that more of these cowboys aren't dying out there on the streets.

Recently, in Queens, a passenger on a motorized scooter (13-years-old) was killed in a crash with a truck. Here, closer in Haverhill, days before, a 12-year-old girl was killed in traffic when she and a school bus collided. These kids are too young to be playing in traffic. Scooters, no matter the size, always have the odds stacked against them. Also, why aren't scooter riders concerned about their skulls? Too many of them ride helmetless, I guess hoping to never hit the pavement with their heads.

WIFFLE BALL BAT KILLER GETS SPRUNG

First, I would like to address the Massachusetts Parole Board's decision to grant parole to the individual convicted of the 1983 second-degree murder of his two-year-old son. Despite the brutal nature of the crime, the Board cited the individual's accountability, age, health, and mentorship of other inmates as grounds for release, stating it is compatible with the welfare of society. I remain concerned that this decision overlooks the gravity of the victim's loss and the necessity of lasting justice.

LARGER ARROWS NOW ON ORLEANS STREET SPEED BUMPS

On a separate note, I observed that the arrows on the speed bumps along Orleans Street in East Boston have been repainted significantly larger. While the maintenance is complete, questions remain regarding the original necessity of these speed bumps and the allocation of the city budget for such projects.

"POLICE OFFICER AHEAD"

Whenever you see construction being done at a site and the streets gets partially closed, you see a police detail officer and sometimes you just see a sign that reads "Police Officer Ahead." If you see the sign, you know there's no police officer ahead. The sign itself serves as the police detail. I see it happening all the time. Kind of silly if you ask me.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CITY'S PARKING ENFORCEMENT?

Did all the parking enforcement officers get last weekend off? Jeffries Point was a madhouse with all the crowds and all the vehicles that came in. Cars and vans were parked everywhere, illegally many for some that were sitting in crosswalks and blocking hydrants. There was one SUV plastered with FIFA on both sides of this vehicle. Looked like it was



Sacred Heart Parish in Eastie has some cool hats for sale. Show your parish pride and stay in the shade all summer long. Suggested donation for the hats only 10 bucks, doesn't the price just make you wanna holler? On sale this coming weekend when you come to Mass. Still plenty left.

(Photo by Peter D.)

owned by the FIFA organization. It took up a residential parking spot for three days 24/7. Someone could have planted flowers in it. Never got one of those orange-colored parking citations. I am thinking the mayor had something to do with the seemingly lack of legal parking enforcement.

We all know the Tall Ships are coming, will Jeffries Point once again be the wild west like it was this past weekend? Residents

of Jeffries Point pay taxes; we live here and make East Boston a great place to live. We need Parking Enforcement.

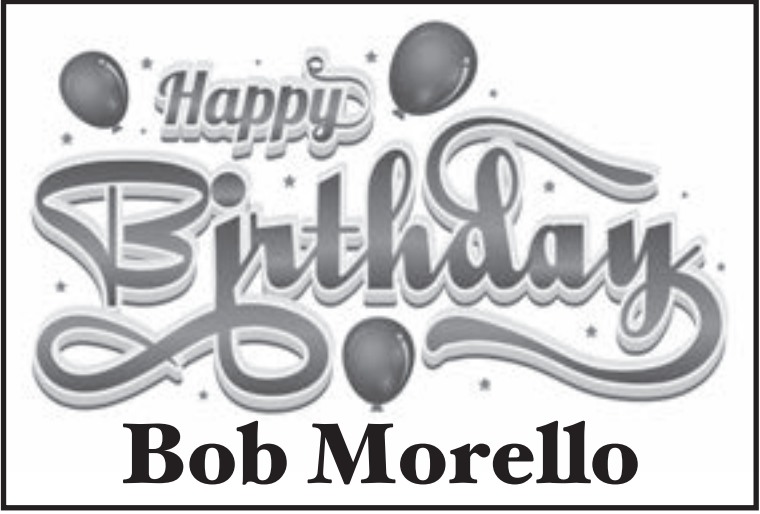
COMMUNITY DINNER COMING UP AGAIN

The next community dinner at Sacred Heart Parish is coming up next week, Wednesday, July 8 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come enjoy a great meal. The grill will be fired up for all those hot dogs and burgers. Bring a friend along.



With AI, anything can look real. In one photo, there's a photo of myself with Carpentry Shop teacher Bob Burke posing for a photo. Then the next thing you know, Bob Burke looks like the "Irish Stallion" in the ring with his trainer offering some good boxing advice to his ear.

(Photo by Tom Baird)



Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



About this time of year, Nanna and Babbononno would plan a family barbecue. The 4th of July weekend was upon us and the rush to celebrate the holiday was important. Dad would book a barbecue pit at Mystic Lake Reservation on the Saturday or Sunday before the holiday, and once he did, we were all set.

My grandparents would invite their relatives, who like them, came from the old country. This would mean that Zi’Antonio, Nanna’s oldest brother and Babbononno’s best friend.

Also invited were Nanna’s sisters and their husbands, her youngest brother and his wife, and oh, yes, Zi’Antonio’s wife Mariauccia. Dad and Mom would invite some of the children of those old-timers, and by the time we had a list put together, there might be 20 or more people, if you added in “us kids.”

During the week prior to the 4th, all of the necessities were bought and the preparations would begin. Now, an American barbecue usually consists of hotdogs, burgers, cold beer and more cold beer. An Italian barbecue is a bit different. The ladies would make ravioli, meatballs, sausages, a meat sauce with chunks of pork, beef, lamb with the afore mentioned meatballs and sausages mixed in. The fixin’s for a salad would be readied along with the oil and vinegar dressing. Dad and my uncles Nick, Paul and Gino would pick up barbecue briquettes, and steaks, hot and sweet sausages, and hot dogs to cook on the grill, for those who wanted just barbecue. An Italian barbecue needed hot peppers and an assortment of them were added in.

Dad had a Coleman gas stove which meant Mom could make coffee and an American pot and an espresso pot would come with us along with a pound of ground up Eight O’clock American coffee and a pound of Medaglia D’Oro Italian coffee. Several types of pastries and cookies were picked up in either East Boston or the North End for dessert. (We always wound up with more cannoli than we could eat.)

Babbononno and Zi’Antonio would bring a couple of gallons of homemade wine, and Dad, my uncles and a couple of cousins my folks age would add in the beer and hard stuff for those who didn’t drink wine. For us kids, there was orange soda, 7up, and ginger ale. Checking off a list of things, Dad, Mom, Nanna and Babbononno would determine what else should accompany us to a family picnic. As a result, Babbononno would bring a set of bocce

balls, a deck of Italian playing cards, and a deck of American playing cards. Dad and I would bring baseball equipment and my female cousins would add in badminton rackets and shuttlecocks.

When all seemed ready, a final list would tell everyone if anything was missing, and Dad would call one and all and remind them to wear their bathing suits as there was a beach at the Mystic Lake Reservation. Of course, none of the old-timers even owned a bathing suit. A few of my folk’s generation would bring theirs, but all of us kids would wear ours to the reservation and leave our shorts and shirts in our folk’s cars.

On the morning of that 4th holiday, we were usually the first at the lake, with Dad locating the barbecue pit reserved for us. Mom and Nanna would set up a nearby picnic table or two to handle all of the family members who were coming. A blanket would be spread on the ground for us kids and anyone taking a baby along.

While the women would bring out the prepared foods and heat them up, the old-timers would play bocce or cards. We kids would head for the beach with one of my uncles or my mother’s cousins to watch over us. Dad and my uncles would play catch with a baseball or a football. As soon as Dad would tire of this, he would begin to cook the meats slated for barbecuing. Within the hour, someone would yell, “Vieni a mangare, vieni a prenderlo.” (Come and eat, come and get it) At that point, all sports activities would stop and everyone would sit at the tables. The ladies would serve salad, the pasta, the meatballs and sausages and gravy meats family-style. Babbononno and Zi’Antonio acted as the bartenders and the wine and beer would begin to flow. Someone would be sent to the beach to round up us kids and the adult watching out for us. We were usually threatened because we wouldn’t get out of the water, but we eventually obeyed, knowing that we could be punished if we didn’t obey.

The meal would last for an hour or so before Dad and Mom made the pots of coffee. When they did, the tables would be covered with dishes of pastries and cookies, after dinner liquors, and dishes of fruit. We kids were then warned by an adult in either English, Italian or both, “You can’t go into the water for an hour. You just ate and if you go back in the lake, you will get a cramp and drown.” As a result, we played

games on the grass that surrounded the barbecue site, and prayed for the hour to slip by so we could go back into the lake.

After everyone ate, the women usually cleaned up (what else), and the men headed for the blankets. After another drink, almost all were asleep. In the meantime, as we kids played on dry land, I would ask Mom what time it was every few minutes. When the hour was up, we all would cheer and head back to the lake with a now full and tired adult running after us. There we would stay until our skin was wrinkled. We were Italian and there was no need to worry about the July sun doing any damage to our skin. We would just tan and not burn like other American kids did.

As the sun started to head toward the west, the entire gang would begin to pack up leftovers and all of the things they had brought with them. Someone always invited the entire group back to their home, but at this point in time, most everyone just wanted to get home, change their clothes and relax. Once all of Mom and Dad’s belongings were situated in the trunk of Dad’s car, Nanna and Babbononno, would say goodbye to everyone and this would take a half hour or more. Italian goodbyes can be never-ending, but once they were over and the sun was setting, Nanna, Babbononno and I pile in the back seat of Dad’s Chevy and leave Mystic Lake. I and Babbononno would soon be asleep and stay that way all the way home.

Loretta and I will be heading to a couple of barbecues on the 4th, but they won’t be the same ... hotdogs, burgers, potato salad, macaroni salad, tonic and beer. It isn’t the same as the old days, at Mystic Lake. My grandparents and parent’s generations are gone and I’m now one of the old-timers, plus most of the folks surrounding me these days are American. None of them would ever know the fun we had back when three generations of my family decided to celebrate an American holiday, the 4th of July, Italian-style.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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 13, 2026 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

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Vin #1N4AL21E78C281408

2009 HONDA ACCORD
Vin #1HGCP26829a093386

2005 LEXUS ES
Vin #JTHBA30G355109212

2001 NISSAN MAXIMA
Vin #JN1CA31A41T105047

2010 HONDA NHX110
Vin #LWBJF1905A1004879

2010 INFINITI G37
Vin #JN1CV6AR2AM251940

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

Run dates: 06/19, 06/26, 07/03/2026

Saint Francisco Blanco

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Blanco was born in Ourense, Galicia, and studied with the Jesuits in Monterrei. After moving to Castile and León he became a novice with the Franciscan order in Villalpando.

Blanco’s desire to be a missionary led him to Mexico, where he was ordained a priest. In 1593, he moved to the Philippines. In 1596, he travelled with his teacher Martin of the Ascension to Japan.

Toyotomi Hideyoshi, who was a Samurai feudal leader, began persecuting Catholics in fear of growing European influence. On December 8, 1596, Blanco was among a large number of Christians in Kyoto who were arrested and had part of their



left ears cut off. On January 4, 1597, they were sent on a forced march of 600 miles to Nagasaki. The following day Blanco and twenty-five other Christian men and boys were executed for preaching Christianity, an act prohibited by Japanese law. They were crucified and pierced with spears on Nishizaka Hill.

All of the martyrs were beatified on September 14, 1627 by Pope Urban VIII and canonized by Pope Pius IX in 1862.

When religious freedom was re-established in Japan under Meiji Restoration in 1868, about 30,000 members of the underground Kakure Kirishitan or “Hidden Christian” church came out of hiding.

The feast day of Saint Francis Blanco and the Holy Martyrs of Japan is celebrated on February 6.

In June 1962, the Twenty-Six Martyrs Museum and Monument were built on Nishizaka Hill to commemorate the 100th anniversary of their canonization.

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. SU26P1237EA

Estate of
LAURA ANNE BENVENUTO

Also known as:

LAURA BENVENUTO

Date of Death: April 21, 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 Mark S. Benvenuto of Concord, MA and Christine M. Benvenuto of Oakland, CA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Mark S. Benvenuto of Concord, MA and Christine M. Benvenuto of Oakland, CA 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 July 31, 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: June 26, 2026

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

07/03/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO26A0156AD

CITATION

G.L. c. 210, § 6

In the matter of

JULIUS ROBERT HOOVER

To: Emma Elizabeth Hoover, any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by: Erin E. Williams of Southbridge, MA, Scott R. Williams of Southbridge, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Jack Robert Williams.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: WORCESTER ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: AUGUST 18, 2026.

Witness, HON. KATHRYN M. BAILEY,
First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 14, 2026

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

Run dates: 06/26, 07/03, 07/10/2026

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. MI26P3343GD

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

In the interests of
AIZEN CHARLES WILLIAMS
of Lexington, 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 06/26/2026 by Angell Williams of Lexington, MA will be held 08/31/2026 09:00 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 Courtroom 3

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

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

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

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

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

Date: June 26, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/03/2026

— FOR YOU WHO APPRECIATE THE FINEST —

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Johnny Christy Orchestra

MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS



781-648-5678

THOUGHTS BY DAN

ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

Forgotten America:

My Journey through Route 66 Oklahoma to Texas



It was by no means my farthest journey, but certainly my most ambitious in terms of preparation and demand and also my most rewarding. On paper a road trip through the heart of America from Oklahoma City to Las Vegas indicates nothing out of the ordinary, but this was a celebration of Route 66, America’s Highway or, as she is more commonly known, the Mother Road, on her centennial.

Cutting from the heartland to the West Coast, this once indispensable pathway to the Pacific has fallen into neglect in the last forty years but it remains the embodiment of America from the vastness of the land to the changing landscapes, to the celebration of the American spirit and the struggles of the American experience. Pop-culture has kept it alive and though it has been decommissioned it is never empty. It is fabled more than any other road and in the story of Route 66 lies in many ways the story of America, in tragedy and triumph.



Over ninety years before me, the Okies traversed Route 66 to the great unknown, much like their own forefathers did building this country.

I had visited parts of Route 66 before. In 2017, I visited the start point in Chicago and have been to its end point many times on visits to Santa Monica. Also in 2017, I rode through it from Southern California to Oatman, Arizona. But

this would be my first exploration of the road that defines Americana and I began my journey in Oklahoma City, a fitting place for Oklahoma is where the Okies also began their journey westward on the Mother Road to the promised pastures of California after the Dust Bowl destroyed the last of their crops in 1934. This desperate journey, in the great tradition of other journeys west throughout our history from Lewis and Clark to the Oregon Trail, was immortalized by John Steinbeck in his masterpiece *The Grapes of Wrath*, from which Route 66 earned not only its namesake as the Mother Road but an eternal place in the story of America.

Much like America and her history, Route 66 has many faces and many renditions and not only due to the changing landscapes. It began its history as a practical route to the west, became a trail of survival for many who saw their livelihoods destroyed, then it became a road of dreams and the host of Americana in everything from diners and kitschy motels to gigantic muffler men and the kookiest of attractions. Domestically alone, it became a place for generations to get their kicks, but it has mesmerized foreigners as well as the stretch of land to best experience our country.

I was never going to see much of Oklahoma on this trip as my plan was to pick up the rental car at Will Rogers International Airport and drive straight to Shamrock, Texas. This meant that I would be missing the Blue Whale of Catoosa, the concrete leviathan built by Hugh Davis, a retired zoologist in 1972 as a gift for his wife and grandchildren, but I was looking forward to seeing much of the legendary fields of the Sooner State. Due to a mishap with the airline, however, I ended up arriving in Oklahoma City much later, in the dawn hours of the next morning to be exact. This meant I had to cancel my rental car with Hertz but luckily was able to arrange for a Jeep Wrangler with Budget. And off I set for the near-three-hour drive to Texas in the darkness.

I could see very little once I left Oklahoma City, but the vastness of the plains was evident nonetheless. And even here signs of life came out to greet this weary traveler. My first encounter was a coyote that hurried across the road in front of the jeep and into the wheat fields followed by a small herd of deer by the roadside (in the darkness I couldn’t tell if they were white-tail or mule deer, the two species found in the state).

I did not reach Shamrock until close to four in the morning and checked into the Western Motel. I was tired but not enough so to not notice the delightful U-Drop Inn Café across the street or two bats circling the sky above me. My adventure had started and the next day was going to be the true first taste of life on the road that shaped a continent.

• Boston Pops July 4 (Continued from Page 1)

The Pops performance concludes with a magnificent fireworks display illuminating the Charles River and choreographed with music performed by the Boston Pops, beginning at 9:15 p.m.

The live event is free and open to the public. Access to the Oval lawn in front of the Hatch Shell opens at 12:00 p.m. Throughout the afternoon, the Esplanade will offer a variety of

concessions and activities for all ages.

The entire event will be streamed on **CNN All Access** and will be broadcast locally on **WHDH-TV Channel 7** from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. E.T.

Public Safety Information and Site Restrictions

- The rehearsal on July 3 is closed to the public.
- Gates will open to the public at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on July 4.

- Alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis are prohibited on the Esplanade per Mass DCR rules.

More public safety information including details about when Storrow Drive will be closed to vehicles will be provided by state officials on the event website. Visit www.bso.org/boston-pops-fireworks-spectacular for complete event information, including resources to help you plan your trip and sponsors.

• Video Views (Continued from Page 8)

one of pop culture’s most defiant and beloved masterpieces. Directed by Linus O’Brien, the film explores the intricate life and creative mind of his father, Rocky Horror creator Richard O’Brien and his enduring work. Far beyond the cult-classic midnight screenings and iconic costumes, the documentary delves into the deeply human heart of a story that has served as a beacon of radical acceptance

and self-expression for over fifty years. Through a unique familial perspective, exclusive insights, and a dedication to the truth of its creator’s vision, *Strange Journey* strips away the spectacle to reveal the authentic narrative of an experimental stage show that accidentally changed the world. It is a heartfelt testament to the power of art to foster connection, champion the wonderfully bizarre,

and create a sanctuary where everyone is welcome to simply be themselves.

PROTECTOR (Blu-ray) /Magenta Light

In *Protector*, former war hero Nikki Halsted’s (Milla Jovovich) peaceful life is shattered when her daughter Chloe is kidnapped. Thrust into the criminal underworld while hunted by cops and military, she must fight to rescue her child.

Eastie Weeks 2026

Eastie Weeks is a celebration of the rich, vibrant, and resilient community of East Boston — its people, history, culture, music, and art. This year we’re delighted to celebrate thirteen years of Eastie Week with two full weeks of activities taking place between July 12 and July 29. Please view the complete schedule of FREE and low-cost, family-friendly community-led activities hosted by East Boston organizations and partners. For further details go to BostonHarborNow.org!

Eastie Weeks 2026 is a community initiative made possible by the support and efforts of organizations across East Boston.

ZUMIX –
ZUMIX WALK FOR MUSIC
Sunday, July 12th — 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM — Free
An annual celebration to benefit ZUMIX. Starting at 260 Sumner St., and ending in Piers Park. All are welcome, and support is appreciated. ZUMIX Firehouse, 260 Sumner St., East Boston, MA

THE TALL SHIP -
LIVE MUSIC: BEACH NIGHTS
Sunday, July 12th — 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM — Free
1 East Pier Drive, Boston, MA

EAST BOSTON COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN —
FOURTH OF JULY BBQ CELEBRATION
Tuesday, July 14th — 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM — Free
Celebrate the Fourth of July! There will be a barbecue, activities, and more. 28 Paris St., East Boston, MA

WE RUN EASTIE —
TUESDAY WEEKLY COMMUNITY RUN
Tuesday, July 14th — 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM — Free
Join We Run Eastie every Tuesday at 6pm at Caffè Dello Sport (973 Saratoga St., East Boston). Run, jog, walk, skip! Whatever you feel comfortable doing, movement is for everyone!

FRIENDS OF MARY ELLEN WELCH GREENWAY —
COFFEE AND CARTOONS
Saturday, July 18th — 10:00 AM — Free
Classic cartoons and coffee morning in the park. Cereal for the kiddos! Bremen Street Park Amphitheater

BOSTON HARBOR NOW —
EASTIE WEEKS SUNSET COMMUNITY CRUISE
Tuesday, July 21st — 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Free sunset community cruise with dinner, live music, and more! Logan Airport Dock

BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA —
EASTIE CLEAN UP
Wednesday, July 22nd — 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM — Free
Join neighbors on a summer evening to help beautify Eastie. Clean up materials will be provided. Clean up will take place on Wednesday, July 22 at 5:30 pm. Maverick Square

SAVE THE HARBOR/ SAVE THE BAY -
EASTIE BEACH BASH
Wednesday, July 29th — 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM — Free
Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is inviting youth groups and families to the Eastie Beach Bash at Constitution Beach. Constitution Beach, 799 Bennington St., Boston, MA. The event is near the shaded pavilion/gazebo on the North side of the beach, towards the Orient Heights T stop (or the yacht club).

EASTIE FARM -
EASTIE FARM HARVEST PARTY VOLUNTEERING
Wednesday, July 29th — 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM — Free
Come for gardening, refreshments, and a chance to meet your neighbors! 294 Sumner Street

FRIENDS OF THE MARY ELLEN WELCH GREENWAY —
BIG BAND MUSIC NIGHT
Wednesday, July 29th — 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM — Free
Bremen Street Park Amphitheater

For further information and a complete listing of events, please visit www.BostonHarborNow.org

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

donkeys in an enclosure tipped off visitors. Bottom line, this zoo made a jackass of itself.

Boy, 7, Dies Weighing 255 Pounds

The hoarder parents of an obese 7-year-old Michigan boy who weighed 255 pounds when he died of heart failure have been charged with murder for their “extraordinary, terrible neglect,” according to prosecutors. The child was 4-feet-2 and far exceeded the normal weight of between 50 and 73 pounds, according to the CDC.

Must Have Been His Time Too

A suspected murderer is believed to have died of a heart attack while dumping the body of a woman he’d strangled in

the remote woods of Alabama, according to police. The body was found next to that of his apparent victim, a 47-year-old mother of three.

The autopsy and investigation showed that the female victim had been strangled and it appears the male was attempting to dispose of the body in a remote location.

End Quote

“We wanted (Hakeem) Jeffries to know our hearts and prayers are with him, his candidates, and whatever remains of his influence.”

— *Republican National Congressional Committee sent flowers to Jeffries, House Minority Leader following the DSA beating up on the Democratic Party in NYC*

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. MI26P3165EA

Estate of
MARYBETH BARKHOUSE
Date of Death: February 19, 2025

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Carl Barkhouse of Burlington, 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: **Carl Barkhouse of Burlington, 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 07/24/2026.

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 26, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/03/2026

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. MI26P2939EA

Estate of
JOHN DAVID MIDDLETON
Also known as:
JOHN D. MIDDLETON
Date of Death: March 11, 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 **Diane M. Crouse of Quincy, 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: **Diane M. Crouse of Quincy, 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 07/24/2026.

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 26, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/03/2026

NEAA Goes to Fenway

It's a Whole New Ball Game for North End Athletic Association



No more PawSox and forget the Woo Sox, this year the North End Athletic Association (NEAA) set off on a whole new journey. In keeping with a baseball tradition, the NEAA annual adventure took the group to a Boston Red Sox game at Fenway Park. Not even blazing hot sun and heat could deter this group, although was another faction of camera-shy individuals hiding in the air-conditioned luxury motor coach who chose not to sit for the group photo.

Thanks to the continued generosity of NEAA and its President, “Teddy Ballgame” himself, Robert “Ted” Tomasone, another day and year of lifelong North End friends came together to enjoy each other’s company, reminisce, catch up on life, while spending a day watching America’s favorite past-time, and taking the opportunity to trade “remember when’s.” The North End will forever hold a special place in the hearts of these gentlemen.

Following the game, the group was treated to a delicious dinner at Cantina Italiana on Hanover Street in the North End of Boston. A good time was had by all.

LEGAL NOTICE

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CATAWBA
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
25SP001493-170**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE
OF PROCESS BY
PUBLICATION**

**HENRY S. MORPHIS,
Public Administrator of the
Estate of KAREN JULIE EGAN,
Catawba File No. 25E000908-170,
Petitioner**
vs.
**JUDITH McEVOY a/k/a
JUDITH McAVOY, CHARLES McEVOY,
Estate of RICHARD McEVOY
and COLLEEN LeMAY
Respondents**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you in the above-entitled in Superior Court of Catawba County bearing file number 25SP001493-170. The nature of the relief being sought by the Petitioner is as follows:

On December 15, 2025, the Petitioner filed with the Clerk a petition for Possession, Custody, and Control and Sale of Real Property located at 1977 8th Street SE, Hickory, NC 28602. The Petitioner is seeking to be granted an Order by the Catawba County Clerk of Superior Court through a hearing to grant Possession, Custody and Control and Sale of Real Property located at 1977 8th Street SE, Hickory, NC 28602, so that claims, debts and administration cost of the estate can be paid and any remaining proceeds be distributed to the Decedent's heirs.

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than 40 days from June 26, 2026, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 23rd day of June, 2026

Henry S. Morphis, Public Administrator
Estate of Karen Julie Egan
MORPHIS LAW & MEDIATION
Post Office Box 3149
Hickory, North Carolina 28603
(828) 328-5297

Run dates: 06/26, 07/03, 07/10/2026

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 **July 20, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2017 NISSAN ALTIMA
Vin #1N4AL3AP6HC140708

2014 CHEVROLET MALIBU
Vin #1G11B5SLEF118268

2013 FORD F150
Vin #1FTFX1EF9DFC75538

2002 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin #2T1BR12EX2C529347

2008 TOYOTA COROLLA
Vin #JTMBD33V686088180

2007 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT
Vin #SALSK25457A992613

2005 HONDA CIVIC
Vin #1HGENM21975L017632

2025 ZHILONG ST
Vin #HZ2TBCNF5S1014268

2010 CHRYSLER 300
Vin #2C3CK5CV4AH101037

2007 HYUNDAI ENTOURAGE
Vin #KNDMC233576027843

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

Run dates: 06/26, 07/03, 07/10/2026

Silver Celebration Cruise

It's our 25th Anniversary — come celebrate with us!

Join us aboard the beautiful Seaport Elite yacht.
An unforgettable evening of dining, dancing, and cruising
under the stars made possible by Boston Harbor City Cruises.

TUESDAY, JULY 28
5 PM: Boarding, music, cocktails, apps station
6 PM: Departure, dinner, dancing, sightseeing
8:30 PM: Return

Commonwealth Pier, World Trade Center
200 Seaport Boulevard

Visit bit.ly/silver-cruise or scan the code to purchase tickets!

This event is a fundraiser for the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park. Please support our work to keep the park beautiful and help fund our annual Fall Festival scheduled for October 13!

Your Ad Could Go Here

For information about advertising in the Post-Gazette,
call 617-227-8929.



EXTRA Innings



by Sal Giaratani

Did The Red Sox Just Come Out of a Coma?

OMG, what’s happened to the Red Sox? It is Tuesday evening and the Sox are still playing the Nationals. Over the weekend, the Sox whooped the yankolers taking the 3-game series with ease. They now have beaten the Nationals too. A 5-game win streak. What Gives?

Against the Yankees, the starting pitchers looked like starting pitchers. Young lefty rookie pitcher Jake Bennett went an impressive 6.1 innings, three hits and one run, beating the Yanks in his first game against them. Sonny Gray was just as impressive; he didn’t get the win but he pitched 7.1 innings of shutout ball giving up 1 hit.

I was just talking about Gray. He has done everything we expected of him. He is a solid starter, 37 and is looking like he’s heading toward another good season on the mound. At the moment, he is 9-1 with a 2.69 ERA in 14 starts so far this season. We can only pray that management won’t let him walk away after one season.

This team needs more power. All they got so far is 71 team homers. That’s way too few, which is why they keep losing close low scoring games. Low run games hurt the Sox. By now, Gray should be 11-1.

Carlos Hits Mendoza Line

It was only a matter of time before Mendoza got sacked as Mets manager. As the Mets play another horrible season in Queens, it is way past time to right this sinking ship if it is at all possible. Mendoza is only 46 years old but he’s aged considerably this season as the Mets keep finding new ways to lose games. They’ve got the second highest payroll in Major League Baseball and are just so hapless. The Mets are holding onto last place in the NL East. As one Mets fan said, “The team

is lifeless. The team last year was lifeless.”

Alonso Plays 500th Consecutive Game This Week



Pete Alonso

Pete Alonzo played in his 500th consecutive game earlier this week. He’s with the Orioles and joined the team this past offseason. Their franchise record for consecutive games, which is also the major league record, belongs to Cal Ripken, Jr., at 2,632 games.

Before Ripken, the record was 2,130 and set by Lou Gehrig. Ripken broke the record in 1995.

The only player with a longer active streak is Matt Olson who’s on the verge of breaking his current team’s mark. Olson has played in 864 straight games, the last 730 of which have come for the Braves. The Braves’ record belongs to Dale Murphy, a 2-time MVP at 740, Olson is on track to break the record July 10 on the road in St. Louis.

Olson would tie Murphy’s mark July 9 exactly 40 years to the day from when Murphy’s streak ended.

Kyle Schwarger Hits Home Run #30

Kyle Schwarger just hit his 30th home run of the season as the Phillies came from behind to beat the Orioles. He connected



Kyle Schwarber

for his 30th homer in 84 games, the fastest anyone has ever reached in franchise history. He now has six straight 30-home run seasons, the longest streak in the majors. Remember we had him for one season and let him get away. Remember, 1 single season. Today, the Red Sox have only 71 as a team. Tell me that was a big mistake we made letting this guy take his homers and run production elsewhere.

Finally ...

I just heard the NHL is exploring the idea of expansion in Houston or Austin. The total investment required would amount to \$3.5 billion with a B. Both cities would require building a new arena. At this point, it is just an exploration. Austin is still a college football town. It has no major league team in any sport. The closest NFL team is in Dallas, closest minor league baseball team is in Round Rock, affiliated with the Houston Astros. The closest NBA team is 85 miles away in San Antonio. Maybe Austin is ready for the major leagues and why not hockey?

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB



by Richard Preiss

It commenced and concluded in a most distinctive way, and perhaps that is the most fitting for the journey and odyssey that comprised the complete experience of the 2018-2019 Boston Bruins.

In terms of actual mileage accrued during the season it was close to a circumnavigation of the globe, which was a fitting symbol for a team that had come full circle — one that had questions in September during its formation but grew in strength during the regular season and blossomed in the spotlight of the postseason run.

You may recall — and it really does seem a long time ago — that the Bruins saw their first action in a pair of preseason contests against the Calgary Flames — played half a world away in China less than two weeks after Labor Day. When the B’s got back, 30 other NHL teams were also looking forward to the upcoming campaign.

When the final contest was played — on a late spring night at the TD Garden some nine months later — just blocks away from the heart of the Hub’s historic North End, there were only two still standing, the town was bathed in Black and Gold and the long journey had been completed.

Fittingly, it was the first time in their history that the Bruins would complete their postseason with a deciding Game 7 in the Stanley Cup Final being contested here in the Hub. It’s worth noting that the Bruins had the second highest number of regular season victories in the Eastern Conference (49) after Tampa Bay, despite having a few bumps in the road early on. However, they were able to overcome them with a strong second half, including a stellar 11-0-2 record for February.

They got to their strong postseason position as a team, of course, but also because of the performance and leadership of several players. Brad Marchand was the regular season pacesetter in points with 100 on the board by scoring 36 goals and assisting on 64 others while David Pastrnak led the way in goals scored and was second in points produced (38-43-81). Patrice Bergeron followed at 32-47-79 while David Krejci was next (20-53-73). Defenseman Tory Krug was big in the assist department (6-47-53) while Captain Zdeno Chara, the tallest player in the NHL at 6-9 and the team’s senior statesman, provided leadership both on and off the ice.

When Chara left the ice following an injury to his jaw in Game 4 of the Final, there was much speculation concerning whether he would play in Game 5. The standing ovation he received just prior to the start of the game was one of the most emotional scenes in Boston sports history.

And yes, Rask was ready in the nets. It was Tuukka’s time to shine and overall he did just that. The Bruins played a total of 24 games in the 2019 postseason and through 23 of them, Rask had a sparkling 1.92 goals against average.

He was especially effective in the three elimination games that saw the B’s dispatch a trio of opponents on their path to the Stanley Cup Final. In those closeout games, all Rask did was post a 5-1 victory over Toronto, followed by a 3-0 shutout over Columbus, and a 4-0 whitewashing of Carolina.

And, for Coach Bruce Cassidy, it has also been the experience of a lifetime. Injuries curtailed his career as a player and later he was dismissed as the head coach of the Washington Capitals. Life, of course, goes on. He was an assistant in Chicago for a season and eventually would become an assistant with the Providence Bruins. Three years later, he was named head coach, a position he held for five years before being elevated to the top position on Causeway Street in February 2017, following the dismissal of Claude Julien.

The transition for many of the players was seamless, since a good number had played for Cassidy in Providence and all had worked with him for the several months he was behind the Boston bench as an assistant. As a man in his 50’s he experienced the pinnacle of directing a team in the Stanley Cup Final.

And perhaps the person who deserves more of a share of the spotlight than he has received is Bruins General Manager Don Sweeney. A Bruins lifer if ever there was one, he accomplished what general managers are supposed to do — assemble a team that is able to contend for the Stanley Cup Championship.

A Bruins draft pick who played all but one year of his NHL career for the B’s, he was often somewhat overlooked during his active career as a defenseman because of his teammate in the Bruins back end — star defenseman Ray Bourque.

After a year away from the game, he would join the Bruins front office, work his way up and eventually be named General Manager following the dismissal of Peter Chiarelli in April, 2015.

There’s no doubt that the General Manager’s seat has been a position that is not for the timid in contemporary times. The Black and Gold did not qualify for the playoffs in his first season, lost in the first round to Ottawa in his second, and were bounced in the second round by Tampa Bay in his third year.

So yes, the GM’s seat was warm and moving to hot, but this year’s overall results should quell the qualms of any doubters. He had a fine fourth season in the executive’s chair and is well-positioned to continue into the future.

And we would be remiss if we did not thank the loyal and diligent employees of the Bruins media relations department — including Vice President Matt Chmura, plus Sarah McMahon, Travis Basciotta, Brandon McNelis, and Heidi Holland (a veteran staffer who authors the game notes that are distributed to media members prior to each contest). The hospitality and professional courtesies extended to us were very much appreciated.

Simply put, it was a most memorable year for all those privileged to be associated with the 2018-2019 Boston Bruins.

(Reprinted from June 14, 2019)

Boston Police Area A-7 Offers Street Hockey Clinic

Officers from District A-7 returned to the Porrazzo Rink in East Boston to continue the Boston Police Department (BPD) Street Hockey Skills Program. This session introduced rollerblades as an option, giving participants an opportunity to build additional skills while having fun



alongside our officers. Youth from three different age groups worked on fundamentals including balance, stick handling, positioning, and more.

If you know of a youth(s) interested in joining, sessions take place on Saturday, 9:30 a.m., at the handball court outside the Porrazzo Skating Rink at Constitution Beach in East Boston. For more information and further details, please contact the District A-7 Community Service Office at 617-343-4752.

