

THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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Celebrating Our Anniversary!



James V. Donnaruma - Founder
Publisher - 1896 to 1953



Caesar L. Donnaruma
Publisher - 1953 to 1971



Phyllis F. Donnaruma
Publisher - 1971 to 1990



Pamela C. Donnaruma
Publisher - 1990 to Present

*As we celebrate our anniversary,
we would like to thank our advertisers and
subscribers for their loyalty throughout the years.
We couldn't have come this far without you!*

131 Years of Continuous Publication

One hundred and thirty-one years ago, an Italian immigrant who arrived in Boston when he was only 16 years old saw the realization of his fondest dreams, the establishment of an Italian language newspaper that would be the genuine voice of the increasing flow of Italians to the United States. The boy was James V. Donnaruma, and the newspaper was *LA GAZZETTA DEL MASSACHUSETTS*, which is now published in English as the *POST-GAZETTE*.

He remained at the helm of this well-known publication until his demise in 1953, at which time his son, Caesar, took over the reins of running the now famous national weekly newspaper located in the North End of Boston. Caesar was loyally assisted by his ingenious wife, Phyllis, who assumed the role of publisher in 1971, becoming one of the nation's first Italian-American women publishers. Upon Phyllis' death in October 1990, their daughter, Pamela, continued the tradition as the third generation publisher of the *POST-GAZETTE*.

LA GAZZETTA, as it was properly called, was very short on

financial means but had a large vision, to give its readers a better and wider understanding between two countries. The so-called Italian Colony, or "La Colonia," had to face a variety of complex problems and *LA GAZZETTA* had to understand the slow and difficult transition of men who, in most cases, had been engaged in agriculture in their home country. Here, they had to work in construction, factories and restaurants, eventually becoming small business owners, and finally professionals, heads of business enterprises, industrial leaders, even heads of state — people to be respected by others.

If America was to some a bitter disappointment, to more it remained a great adventure filled with excitement. There were new ways to be learned as well as new institutions. There were speculators and exploiters to be fought, and a "padrone" system that needed to be destroyed. There were churches to be built and, above all, education to be had. Immigrants took great advantage of America's free education

while learning the process of citizenship. We devoted pages and pages to that very important mission!

LA GAZZETTA became a guide, so to speak, the go-between that brought American political life to the Italian immigrant. Many times, our people were sent unknowingly to work in places subject to a strike and were therefore exposed to physical violence on the part of strikers ... in time, the situation changed as they learned more about the new land of opportunity.

The Italian immigrant was a hard worker, a thrifty man, a family man. He had pride. As a family, their goal was to build a future in America. *LA GAZZETTA* stressed these virtues. We began to publish an all-English section which became a real forum for discussing many problems, and criticizing discriminating laws while advocating Americanization and responding to community needs such as the Red Cross appeals.

A typical Horatio Alger story could be repeated by thou-

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St. Joseph Society of Boston Celebrates 101st Festival and Procession



St. Joseph Society members carry their Patron Saint during the annual 2026 procession.

On a beautiful bright, clear Friday evening, July 24, 2026, the St. Joseph Society of Boston kicked off its 101st annual festival and procession on Hanover Street in the North End. The beloved Saint, from Riesi, an

area of Caltanissetta, Sicily, was blessed by Father Jack before setting off on the first of two weekend processions led by the North End Marching Band. Following last year's sentimental 100th anniversary

celebration, it was unclear if the members would continue hosting the festival. Thankfully the society moved full steam ahead, as this was a quite enjoyable

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News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

The DSA "Wish List"

A top Democratic Socialists of America leader recently admitted during a *Fox News* interview that the group wants to abolish prisons, borders, the U.S. Senate, and more.

Mickey D's Grease & Desist

A woman has recently filed a lawsuit claiming that French fries from a New York City McDonald's location were so blisteringly hot they burned the inside of her mouth. The customer alleges she was scorched by the "extremely hot and overheated" fries. Her potentially "permanent and lasting" injuries were so severe they left her bedridden, she claimed in the filing. She blamed the "careless" chain for serving her the sizzling fries and for failing to warn her that eating them came with a risk. According to news reports, this woman has already filed lawsuits against Walmart in 2025 and against Panera in 2018.

This alleged incident comes more than 30 years after an elderly New Mexico woman sued the burger chain after a hot cup of coffee spilled onto her lap giving her third degree burns.

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Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CATACOMBS



Early Christians worship in the catacombs of Saint Calixtus from image: “Fig 8: ‘Divine Service in the Catacombs of St. Calixtus, A.D. 50.”

Christianity was born in Judea and carried to Rome by St. Peter, St. Paul and others. Their religion grew out of the teachings of Jesus Christ and his twelve Apostles. The shortest and most simple explanation of these teachings is that they are composed of three parts: 1. Rules of Christian conduct; 2. Duties of Christian leaders; and 3. Baptism.

During the height of power in ancient Rome, Christian bands started forming. They refused to serve in the Roman Army, and

because they worshipped a God of their own, they refused to honor the emperor as one. They were also accused of starting a fire, which burned for about 6 days, left more than a 100,000 people homeless, and destroyed more than half of the city. Emperor Nero consequently banned Christianity and started the persecutions that lasted for 250 years.

The hills of Rome are mainly composed of a soft rock of volcanic origin, which is called “tufa.” The pre-Christian Romans

had very adequately developed the technique of excavating deep into this tufa to form their “Caemetaria” (underground cemeteries) which contained “Columbaria” (pigeon-hole niches for the cremated remains).

The Christians who came later were in quite a dilemma. They could not bury their deceased within the city walls because the law did not permit it, and any kind of funeral service either within or without the walls would expose them to arrest and persecution. The excavation work for the catacombs was a necessary function brought about by the geology of the area, their religious beliefs, and the social attitudes of the party in power at that time.

Outside the walls of ancient Rome, there were about 15 main roads radiating out from the city. About 25 great catacombs were constructed at various locations near these roads. It is estimated that the combined length of the tunnels in all of these catacombs was 350, and that they contained about 6,000,000, deceased. Corridors were generally about 30 inches wide, with “loculi” (shelves) in tiers on both sides. These underground cities of the dead were built from one to five stories deep. The depth never exceeded 75 because this would bring them below the volcanic crust and into the humid clay. The stratum chosen for these underground labyrinths was sufficiently hard to support the weight from above, yet soft enough to excavate the seemingly endless tunnels. The secrecy of their location was maximized by taking the excavated material from the newly formed tunnels and packing it into the old and fully occupied ones. The difficult chore of raising the debris to the surface and undoubtedly revealing their location was thus eliminated. Stairs, airshafts, and some light shafts were built as the advantages of the terrain presented themselves.

(Continued on Page 15)

Massachusetts Reaches into Taxpayer Pocket Once Again

by Patti Sartori



Once again, Massachusetts state lawmakers are finagling to pick pocket the average taxpayer. A recent Massachusetts Senate amendment would cancel a current law requiring any tax surplus to be returned to taxpayers. Amendment 14 to a joint economic development bill (S. 3178), filed by State Senator Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), and co-sponsored by a number of other Democratic senators including, Sal DiDomenico, Rebecca Rauschenberg, Jamie Collins, Liz Miranda, Patricia Jehlen, Jamie Eldridge and others, would repeal Chapter 62F, voted into law by taxpayers in 1986, requiring tax rebates for Massachusetts residents under state law.

The Pioneer Institute pushed back on the legislators attempt to deny Massachusetts tax payers, posting on X, “Massachusetts voters approved an independent audit of the Legislature in 2024 and Beacon Hill has refused to implement it. Now the Senate wants to repeal Chapter 62F, the voter-approved law that requires the state to return money to taxpayers when state collections grow much faster than taxpayers’ incomes. That’s contempt for voters.”

In 2022, Chapter 62F returned almost \$3 billion to Massachusetts taxpayers when state revenues exceeded the legal cap. It was the second time since the law was approved that Chapter 62F was used. According to MassFiscal, the 2022 rebate returned an approximate 14% of each taxpayer’s personal tax liability in 2021.

It is unclear if Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey or the House will support this amendment, but there is possibility the Senate may vote on it in late July or early August.

Proposed Changes to Boston Police Department Recruits Up for Discussion

With the Boston Police Department (BPD) severely understaffed, Councilor Ed Flynn is proposing new measures to help deal with the shortfall. Flynn is suggesting the BPD waive residency requirements and allow retired officers to take shifts. “We are dangerously short staffed by at least 500 police officers. This is unfair and unhealthy to police officers and their families,” said Flynn.

Flynn plans to introduce a hearing order to study the proposal around waiving residency requirements for police officers from other Massachusetts police departments to transfer into BPD, along with a resolution allowing retired Boston

cops to work paid police details. The deficit in BPD officers was brought to light recently following the critique by Larry Calderone, President of the BPD Patrolman’s Association on the understaffed and over-worked officers, as well as the uptick in attacks, shootings and alleged murder near the Boston Common and surrounding neighborhood/business district.

The Massachusetts State Legislature is also reviewing a home rule petition, put forth by East Boston State Representative Adrian Madaro, which would increase the maximum age to take a BPD entrance exam to 44 years of age, from the current 39 years old.



Happy 131st Anniversary
to the Post-Gazette
& Continued Success ...

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MADARO

STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Congratulations
to the
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on its
131st
Anniversary!

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Happy Anniversary!!



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on its
131st Anniversary

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COLETTA ZAPATA

Boston City Council, District 1

Buon Anniversario!!



Richard J. Vita, Esq., President
Italian Heritage Month Committee of Massachusetts
and daughters Kristin, Kimberly and Katelyn

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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 31, 2026

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

In Loving Memory of
Gabriel Robert "Bob" Caggiano
August 2, 2016 - August 2, 2026



I Miss You

Sometimes when I first awake
I think that you're still here,
And for a fleeting moment
The clouds all disappear.
For you brought endless sunshine
Until you went away.
And now I miss you desperately
Each minute of the day.
You would not like to see me sad
So, what I try to do.
I try to live a bright and happy life
In memory of you.
For though I'll always miss you
And is dreadful being apart,
I haven't really lost you,
You're still here in my heart.

Your Loving and devoted wife
Ninetta

Happy Anniversary!

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In Loving Memory
Louise J. Cafasso
November 5, 1950 - July 25, 2026

Louise J. (Annese) Cafasso passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving family, on Saturday, July 25, 2026, after facing her illness with remarkable courage. She was 75.

Louise's roots run deep in Everett, where she was born on November 5, 1950, to Peter and Anna (DiGiacomo) Annese. She remained devoted to her hometown throughout her life, graduating from Everett High School in 1968 and earning her Associate Degree from the Forsyth Dental School at Northeastern University and worked as a Dental Assistant specializing in Orthodontics.

On March 25, 1973, Louise married her high school sweetheart, Frederick E. Cafasso, in Our Lady of Grace Church in Chelsea beginning a marriage defined by devotion, partnership, and quiet strength. Together they built a life centered on family, service, and community. Louise's influence extended far beyond her home. At Cafasso and Sons Funeral Home in Everett and Short, Williamson & Diamond Funeral Home in Belmont, she was the steady, compassionate presence behind the scenes, ensuring that families in grief were met with dignity and care.

Her smile was bright, warm, and unmistakably infectious and could light up a room with ease. And although she delighted in being a wife and mother, it was in her later years that she found



her truest joy as "Nunnie" to her eight adored grandchildren. Louise's happiest moments were spent with her family, especially at their cherished retreat on the Milton Three Ponds in Milton, New Hampshire. There, surrounded by nature and the people she loved most, she created memories that will endure for generations.

In addition to her husband of 53 years, Fred, she leaves her children, Frederick E. Cafasso, Jr. of Everett, Joseph W. Cafasso (Lucy) of Wakefield, and Kerry A. Cafasso - Szulewski (Joseph III) of Wakefield; her grandchildren, Joseph, Anna, Amelia and Emma Szulewski and Lucca and Daniella Cafasso and Vanessa and Gabriella Marques; also survived by nieces and nephews and sister-in-law, Claudia Annese. She was predeceased by her brother, Peter Annese and sister-in-law, Janet Escott (late Peter).

Family and friends will honor Louise's life by gathering on Monday, August 3rd in Saint Anthony's Church, 38 Oakes Street, Everett where her funeral Mass celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery. At Louise's request there are no visiting hours.

Contributions in Louise's memory to Children's Hospital Boston Trust, 401 Park Drive, Ste. 602, Boston, MA 02215 would be sincerely appreciated. Arrangements by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, Everett, MA

Patrick E Guerrini

August 8, 1945 – July 26, 2026

Patrick E. Guerrini was born in the North End of Boston, Massachusetts on August 8, 1945, and passed into eternal rest on July 26, 2026.

He is survived by his cousins Barbara Donadio of Chapel Hill, NC, Anthony Donadio of Quincy, MA, Patirica Donadio of Milton, MA (wife of the late cousin, Peter S Donadio), Lisa Puopolo Blackman of Fort Worth, Texas. He was the beloved uncle to nephew, Steven Guerrini of Hyannis, MA, niece, Jean Alman of Barre, MA, and nephew Michael Guerrini of Yarmouth, MA. He had a close childhood and lifetime friendship with Lonnie Langone. Patrick also leaves behind many younger cousins and extended family members of Boston, MA and Chapel Hill, NC. He was predeceased by his parents, Emanuel and Josephine, his brothers Richard and Eugene and grandparents Saveria and Dominico Puopolo.

Patrick grew up in the North End of Boston, MA, born to parents of Italian descent. He graduated from Brighton High School. He went on to work as the Head of the Maintenance Department in the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 19 years. He then went onto to work professionally as a florist for many years. Patrick belonged to the Sons of Italy and served as the treasurer for this organization.

Patrick lived life with great love and great faith. Patrick's parents owned a family Italian restaurant called Ramona in uptown Boston. He had a love of fine dining and cooking. He often cooked for family and friends. Patrick enjoyed travel to Rome and to the Vatican. Patrick loved his la famiglia and was incredibly devoted to the love and care of his parents and grandmother. He also enjoyed frequent gatherings with all his extended family members.

Faith was the foundation of Patrick's life. He had a lifelong commitment to service. He started in elementary school at St. Mary's Catholic Church in the North End as Head of Altar Service and started the Boys' Choir. Patrick initially discerned to



become a Franciscan priest and then a Trappist monk. He later heard his call to become a Deacon and attended the Diaconate Program of Archdiocese of Boston, MA. He was ordained on May 17, 1980.

Patrick ran the Benedict House for homeless men in Mattapan, MA for three years. He was a deacon in St. Angela's church in Mattapan, MA and St. Anne Parish in Readville, Hyde Park and St. James Catholic Church in Stoughton, MA. Patrick was a Chaplain for St. Elizabeth's Medical Center. Patrick was the Deacon Chaplain to Cardinal Law. He was also the Deacon Chaplain to Cardinal O'Malley. Patrick was the recipient of the Cheverus Award, named for Boston's first bishop, Jean-Louis Lefebvre de Cheverus, the award recognizes service to the church.

From 2007 to 2020, Patrick became the Assistant Director for Clergy Personnel for the Office of Clergy Support. He also became the Assistant Master of Ceremonies for the Archdiocese of Boston. In 2010, he became the Director of Diaconal Life and Ministry. Through these positions, he mentored and helped form many new deacons. Though Patrick served as deacon at St. James for many years, he was finally assigned as deacon to St. James Parish and Immaculate Conception Parish before becoming a Senior Deacon.

Patrick maintained a strong devotion to his faith and to his service to parishioners, fellow deacons, his family and friends. Patrick served as a Deacon, as a servant of Christ to bring charity to the world, in his own unique way.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in St. James Catholic Church on 560 Page Road, Stoughton, MA, 02072 on Monday, August 3, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. Visiting Hours at St. James Church on Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Interment at St. Michael's Cemetery 270 Walk Hill Street, Roslindale, MA, 02131.

In place of flowers, donations may be made in Patrick's memory to My Brother's Keeper in Easton, MA. <https://www.mybrotherskeeper.org/>

L’Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Lammas and the Season of Harvest Blessings

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



(Photo by prostooleh on Magnific)

I can feel the month of August approaching like a golden ray of sun, a month perfectly poised between the warm, blithe nature of summer and the rhythmic pulses of autumn. Back-to-school ads beckon from television commercials and posters plastered on shop windows, recalling the scent of freshly sharpened pencils and smooth notebooks. The honey-colored sunset occurs earlier and earlier each evening, prompting me to spend cozy nights indoors with a home-made meal. This is the time for the high produce of summer, for the delectable tomatoes and corn and zucchini that line the stalls of farmers’ markets, and also for the crisp first fruits of the autumn, such as succulent red and green apples. However, whenever August looms near, my mind always drifts to the summer I spent in Italy years ago. Throughout the quiet month of August, it was common to see round, tightly bundled bales of hay baking under the sun in the fields that dotted the Italian countryside. After all, late summer in Italy means *la mietitura*, or haying, in preparation for the autumn months. It was in Italy that I truly felt the power of Lammas, a wonderful seasonal holiday that carries with it the poignant symbolism of harvest and the arrival of autumn.

Lammas, which occurs on August 1st, was a widely celebrated feast in Europe until the Industrial Age pushed it into obscurity. Fortunately, interest in this rustic festival has been rekindled recently across Europe and the United States. Lammas stems from the ancient Celts, who viewed

the holiday as the first day of autumn. Modern audiences may find it hard to associate the first days of August with the fall, as the temperatures still soar to ninety-degree heat and the leaves remain full and vibrant green. However, Lammas honors the start of the agricultural autumn, when farmers harvest grain along with the first fruits of the year. Indeed, the very name Lammas hearkens back to this harvest, as it derives from loaf-mass, the ritual in which bread made from the first harvested grain of the year was brought to the local church for a blessing. Preceding Lammas was the pre-Christian festival known as Lughnasadh (pronounced loo-na-sah), a harvest feast held in honor of a god of light known as Lugh. Lughnasadh celebrations involved igniting bonfires, trekking to mountaintops in order to be closer to the sun, gathering the first fruits of the harvest, and dancing. Evidence of Lughnasadh celebrations has even been found in Northern Italy, a region with Celtic influence! Lammas is still a holiday in Ireland today, full of reunions between families and friends, and ritual blessings of fields by parish priests. Lammas remains one of my favorite holidays because it combines the communal pleasures of summer — reuniting with loved ones and enjoying the outdoors — with the honoring of the Earth’s bounty, which will become more evident as autumn progresses.

On Lammas, when I can sense the changing of the seasons pulsing beneath my feet, I also honor grain by making a lemon-blueberry quick

bread. Blueberries are another Lammas staple, due to their seasonality in August and their resemblance to bilberries, some of the first fruits to be harvested in the Celtic Lughnasadh. The recipe I use is a traditional one, made with plump blueberries, tangy lemon zest, and hearty walnuts. I admire the way the lemon juice and milk mixes with the flour to create dough as if by magic, and I feel a special kinship with my ancestors who scraped a living out of Italian farmland by using the most basic ingredients. Indeed, my Italian forbearers viewed holidays like Lammas or harvest like *la mietitura* with a special significance precisely because bread played such an essential role in the diet. Bread, known as *pane* in Italian, is more than a food, but also a cultural touchstone, a staple that brought life to peasants and formed the basis of the society’s major dishes. Bread serves a deeply religious function in Italian life as well, as the bread honored in the sacrament of the Eucharist symbolizes a spiritual nourishment that is just as crucial as a physical sustenance. No wonder then that Italian superstition brims with warnings against disrespecting the essence of bread, such as the restriction against turning bread upside-down or, even worse, discarding bread. Italians in olden days believed that these actions insulted the Earth’s bountiful harvest and affronted one of the most vital cores of their diet. Unfortunately, we have lost this spiritual connection with our food and the Earth which provides it as society industrialized. For this reason, I think it is important to honor seasonal festivities like Lammas, which connect us to our ancestors and teach us that the food which springs from the Earth is a sacred gift.

Celebrate Lammas this August by honoring the grain that forms the building blocks of our lives. Whether you bake a focaccia or quick bread from scratch, or simply remain conscious of the Earth’s abundance as you bite into a sandwich roll or cut into a loaf of bread, think about the nourishment that goes into both your body and soul. By reveling in the joys of seasonal food and respecting the signs of the changing seasons around us, we can truly appreciate the glorious rhythms of the natural harvest. Lammas tells us not to mourn over the end of summer, but rather recognize the necessity and the wonder of the cycle of the year. Without autumn, there would be no harvest to sustain us through the dark winter nights. Let the sight of wheat waving in the golden sun and hay bales standing proudly in fruit-laden fields remind us of the way our ancestors lived so close to the Earth, and let us vow to keep that sacred connection even within the busiest moments of our lives.

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

THINKING
OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani

Summertime in Boston Needs to be Longer

This past Sunday I was over to the North End for the St. Joseph Feast, following the procession as it made its way through every nook and cranny of the neighborhood. This year, I made the mistake of wearing shoes. I have no idea what possessed me to do that; by the time I finished, I thought I was going to need a wheelchair. I limped all the way over to the Blue Line. I rarely need to sit down, but I absolutely had to this time. Eventually, I made it back to my place, kicked those shoes off, and jumped onto my couch. Despite the sore feet, it was a great day meeting up with so many friends, both old and new.

While at the Fisherman’s Club, I even had my photo taken next to the statue of Saint Calogero. My grandfather joined that Society in early 1907, shortly after moving to North Square from Sicily. Since the Society was founded in 1910, he was one of its earliest members.

I always tell folks that the Fisherman’s Club was, as the name implies, for fishermen. However, who wants just a platter of fish? You also need the spuds, the veggies, the salad, and, of course, the vino. Farmers formed their own society both back home in Italy and here in the North End.

Growing up, my family always took in the feasts, especially the Madonna del Soccorso. It was a family tradition. When I was little and still living in the North End on Lewis or Salutation Streets, I loved the bright lights and the music. I also always wondered why only girls could be the angels flying out to that wooden ship hanging above North Street to release pigeons into the wind.

The North End is not the same anymore, but most places aren’t. That is why I loved seeing the brand-new North End Historical Museum open up right next door to the Post-Gazette newspaper office. The North End neighborhood is steeped in history, and it is wonderful to see it preserved.



*The Friends of the North End
is pleased to extend its congratulations to the
Post-Gazette for its 131 years of journalistic service
to our Italian-American community and for its
54 years of generous collaboration with its fraternity.*

Congratulations celebrating 131st Anniversary! from the



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Alfred's Sicily

by Alfred M. Zappala



What Would I Do With a Million Dollars in Sicily?

Many years ago, while writing my second book about Sicily, Gaetano's Trunk, I included a chapter built around a whimsical question:

What would I do if I had a million dollars in Sicily?

Now, I should point out that I did not have a million dollars. In fact, I wasn't even close. But writers are allowed to dream.

The question intrigued me. If someone handed me a million dollars and told me I had to spend it in Sicily, what would I do? Buy a villa? Restore an old church? Purchase a vineyard overlooking Mount Etna?

The more I thought about it, the more I kept coming back to the same answer. I would invest in young people. Specifically, I would help Sicilian students learn English.

During my years in Sicily, I met countless bright, hardworking young people. Many were every bit as talented as their counterparts in America. Yet one obstacle often stood in their way. English had become the international language of tourism, business, technology, and opportunity. The better a student's English skills, the larger the world became.

So, I wrote about it. Not as a business plan. Not as a fundraising proposal. Just one of those "Wouldn't it be nice if..." ideas that writers occasionally toss into a book.

Then something happened that I never expected.

A reader named Steve Carbone read the chapter.

At the time, Steve and I weren't friends. We had never met. He was simply a reader who connected with an idea. Steve's interest in Sicily was deeply personal. His grandfather had been born in Messina before immigrating to Vermont, where he built a successful life for himself and his family. The Carbone family prospered in America, and Steve himself became a highly successful businessman, building a network of automobile dealerships and real estate holdings throughout Vermont.

Yet despite that success, he never forgot where his family had come from.

Something about that chapter struck a chord.

Steve contacted me and asked if we could talk about the idea. During one of our conversations, he asked a simple question.

"If I wanted to help get the ball rolling with a small donation, would you be interested?"

I told him, "Sure."

Truthfully, I thought he meant maybe a hundred dollars or so. After all, at that point we barely knew each other, and the whole thing was still little more than a dream floating around in my head.

A few days later, a check arrived in my mailbox. It was for \$10,000.

Apparently, Steve and I had very different definitions of the phrase "small donation."

At that point, the idea stopped being hypothetical. It was one thing to write about what I would do if I had a million dollars in Sicily. It was another thing entirely when somebody believed in the idea enough to put real money behind it.

Well, that certainly got the ball rolling.

Once the shock wore off, I realized I had a responsibility to do this properly. The first step was incorporating a nonprofit organization in Massachusetts. Then came the task of

assembling a board of directors. Fortunately, I knew no shortage of people who loved Sicily and believed in the idea of helping its young people.

Among them were Gaetano Cipolla, founder of Legas Publishing and one of the foremost advocates for Sicilian culture in America, and Giovanni Lanza, who would later become President of The Sicilian Project. Together with other dedicated board members and supporters, they helped transform a dream into a functioning organization.

Then came the paperwork—and there was plenty of it. Applications, forms, filings, regulations, and enough documents to keep several lawyers occupied, which was somewhat ironic since I happened to be one myself.

Eventually, we completed the process and received our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.

The Sicilian Project was officially in business.

Of course, an organization needs more than paperwork. We wanted The Sicilian Project to have a public face that reflected both its mission and its connection to Sicily, so we created a website where people could learn about the organization, its goals, its students, and its progress.

Little by little, the project began to develop a life of its own. Donations arrived from Sicilian-Americans who understood the value of education. Friends told friends. New supporters joined the cause. Educators reached out. Opportunities emerged.

Over the years, more than 2,000 students have participated in programs supported by The Sicilian Project. Through the generosity of donors, English-language classes and educational materials have been provided free of charge to students throughout the program. Educational opportunities have expanded. Friendships have developed. Sicilian-Americans and Sicilians have discovered they have far more in common than an ocean might suggest.

For me, the greatest reward was always the people.

I met remarkable educators, students, and community leaders throughout Sicily. One of them was Professor Rosario Faraci, one of Sicily's leading educators, and his wife Agata. Their belief in the mission led them to become valued members of The Sicilian Project's Board of Directors, but more importantly they became treasured friends. Time and again, I saw how education could create confidence, opportunity, and hope.

What began as an idea eventually became something much larger than English lessons. It became a bridge—a bridge connecting Sicily with the descendants of Sicilian immigrants throughout the United States.

Looking back now, I still smile at the whole thing. A whimsical chapter in a book became an idea. An idea inspired a reader. A reader made a phone call. A phone call led to a "small donation." A small donation turned out to be \$10,000. A check became a nonprofit organization.

And that nonprofit organization has helped thousands of young Sicilians expand their opportunities and build brighter futures—and continues to do so today.

I never did get my million dollars.

But thanks to one reader whose family never forgot its roots in Messina, a small piece of that dream came true anyway.

Alfred M. Zappala is an author, Chairman of The Sicilian Project, and co-founder of You, Me & Sicily, which explores the people, places, food, culture, and life of Sicily. He welcomes comments from readers and can be reached at alfredzappala1950@gmail.com

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Around the Table: THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Antonio Bova opened the doors of Bova’s Bakery in 1926, and this year the North End landmark celebrates its 100th anniversary. To mark the occasion, I had the privilege of sitting down with the oldest living member of the Bova family, Victoria Bova Kluse, daughter of Antonio Bova’s eldest son, Raffaele, to learn how a century-old legacy first began. Although the bakery opened at 79 Prince Street in 1926, the story began decades earlier in Reggio Calabria, Italy. Born in 1890, Antonio left behind his wife, Victoria, and their young son, Raffaele, to come to America with one dream, to open a bakery and build a better life for his family.

“He left my father and my grandmother in Italy for seven years,” Victoria told me. “He first worked as an understudy at Parziale’s, learned everything he could, and then opened his own bakery. But it wasn’t easy. There were already so many bakeries in the North End, and there wasn’t a lot of opportunity. It took him seven years before he could bring my father and grandmother to America.”

Like so many Italian immigrants, Antonio’s dream was never handed to him. It was earned through sacrifice, perseverance, determination, and an unwavering commitment to family.

Antonio and Victoria Bova raised five sons: Raffaele, Anthony, George, Joseph, and Francis. Their eldest, Raffaele, Victoria’s father, began working alongside Antonio as soon as he was old enough to carry bread. Nearly a century later, Bova’s remains a true family business, still owned, managed, and worked in by the descendants of Raffaele, George, and Joseph.

I asked Victoria if her grandmother had ever worked in the bakery.

“No,” she replied. “She stayed upstairs with the boys. She had trouble with her legs and was always so sad because she couldn’t make it downstairs.”

Victoria smiled as another memory came back to her. *“I started working in the bakery when I was six years old. My grandmother would lower a basket tied to a rope from the window and call, ‘Vicky! Vicky!’ so I could fill it with fruit.”*

Like so many southern Italian families, her grandmother used a *panaro*, a basket lowered from a window to bring up fruit, bread, and other necessities.

Meanwhile, Antonio devoted himself to the bakery.

“My grandfather worked day and night,” Victoria told me. “He was a really smart man. He had a lot of savvy and a lot of grit.”

She smiled as she remembered asking him one day, *“Nonno, do you ever sleep?”*

His answer made her laugh.

“Victoria,” he replied, “I sleepa standing up with one eye open.”

The early years were anything but easy. With bakeries throughout the North End competing for customers, Antonio did whatever it took to keep his dream alive. He gathered discarded wooden peach crates and boxes from Haymarket Square to fire the ovens, baked bread through the night, then filled a basket and went door to door introducing himself.

“I’m Antonio Bova. If you like my bread, come visit my bakery at 79 Prince Street.”

Little by little, people came. But many families were struggling just as he had. Victoria smiled as she told me, *“My grandfather had so many IOUs from people who couldn’t afford a loaf of bread, he could have wallpapered the bakery with them.”*

Yet he never turned anyone away.

Listening to Victoria, I realized this wasn’t simply the story of one bakery. It was the story of the North End itself, where neighbors became family, everyone looked after one another, and no one went without if someone else could help. That was the Italian way.

Weather created another challenge. The ovens were fired with discarded wooden produce crates from Haymarket Square, and after days of rain there was no dry wood to be found.

Victoria then shared one of the stories her father never forgot.



Antonio Bova with eldest son Raffaele “Ralph” Bova sitting in front of the original location at 79 Prince Street.

As a little boy, Raffaele had proudly built himself a wooden scooter with roller skates fastened to the bottom. He had even painted his initials on it. It was his prized possession. But after a week of steady rain, when there was no dry wood left to fire the ovens, Antonio had no choice, he needed its wood to bake bread.

“My father looked and saw the roller skate wheels at the bottom of the oven,” Victoria recalled. “He cried, ‘What did you do?’ My grandfather felt terrible...but he had no choice. It was survival. It was survival.”

In the beginning, Bova’s sold little more than fresh bread and anise biscotti. The aroma of warm bread and sweet anise greeted everyone who walked through the door.

“There were no bags in those days,” Victoria remembered. “Every loaf was wrapped by hand in white paper and tied with string.” Before handing it to a customer, Antonio tucked an anise biscotto beneath the string, a small gesture of kindness Vicky smiled and said “was his signature.”

“Making bread is a science,” Victoria told me. *“People don’t realize that.”* Smiling, she described the beautiful golden crusts and perfectly scored loaves her grandfather and father created. *“My mother used to tell my father, ‘Raffaele, you have the hands of Michelangelo.’”*

Little by little, word spread beyond the North End, and before long Bova’s bread was being served in some of Boston’s most celebrated restaurants, including Jimmy’s Harborside and Anthony’s Pier 4.

But Antonio Bova was more than a baker. *“My grandfather sponsored immigrants from Italy, gave them jobs in the bakery, and helped so many people,”* Victoria said. *“He was an entrepreneur long before that word was ever used.”*

He secured a 24-hour bakery license, purchased property throughout the North End, and invested in multifamily buildings in Charlestown near the old state prison. Although the family continued to live in the North End, the Charlestown property gave Antonio something the neighborhood never could, a place to gather with friends, tend a large vegetable garden, play bocce, and make homemade wine, preserving the traditions and way of life he had carried with him from Italy.

“I remember telling my Nonno how beautiful his tomatoes were,” Victoria recalled with a smile. *“He’d pick me pink and white carnations from the garden. I’ll never forget how wonderful they smelled.”*

As Victoria spoke about her grandmother, her voice grew quiet.

She remembered the day her grandmother passed away. She was just 74 years old.

“My grandfather was feeding her soup,” Victoria recalled. *“She was sitting in her favorite chair, and all of a sudden, she just put her head down.”*

After a lifetime of sacrifice, crossing an ocean, enduring years of separation, raising five sons, and building Bova’s Bakery together, Antonio was still caring for the woman he loved until her very last moment.

After a long pause, Victoria smiled.

“My grandfather died when he was 83. He outlived all of his sons. If it wasn’t for him, we wouldn’t be what we are or have what we have.”

As I walked out of Bova’s Bakery, I couldn’t help but think about the young man who left Reggio Calabria with nothing more than a dream, spent seven years separated from his wife and young son, knocked on doors with a basket of bread, burned his little boy’s prized scooter to keep the ovens burning, and never stopped working to build a better life for his family.

One hundred years later, Bova’s Bakery stands as a reminder that the Italian immigrant journey was never about expecting something to be handed to you. It was built on sacrifice, perseverance, determination, and an unfaltering commitment to family. Antonio Bova didn’t simply build a bakery. He left behind a legacy rooted in the values he carried across the ocean and planted in the heart of Boston’s North End.



BOVA’S BAKERY Anise Biscotti

In Memory of Antonio Bova

1 cup shortening (Crisco)

1½ cups granulated sugar

5 large eggs

2 teaspoons vanilla extract

*2 teaspoons anise extract **or***

3 to 4 drops anise oil

A splash of Anisette liqueur

5 cups all-purpose flour

4 teaspoons baking powder

¼ teaspoon salt

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a large mixing bowl, cream together the shortening and sugar until light and well combined. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in the vanilla extract, anise extract, and a splash of Anisette.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients, mixing until a soft dough forms.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured wooden board. Knead gently, adding a little extra flour if needed until the dough is easy to handle. Divide the dough in half. Place each half onto the prepared baking sheet and shape into two long logs. Gently flatten each log.

Prepare an egg wash by beating 1 egg with 1½ to 2 tablespoons of water. Brush the tops of the logs generously with the egg wash. Bake for 15–20 minutes, or until the logs are lightly golden.

Remove from the oven and allow the logs to cool just enough to handle. Slice into biscotti, about ½ to ¾ inch thick. Arrange the slices cut-side down on the baking sheet. Return to the oven and bake for 5 minutes, then turn each biscotti over and bake for another 5 minutes, or until lightly toasted.

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

Safety Issues Persist in Downtown Area of Boston

by Patti Sartori

Residents and business owners are expressing continued demands for more police and assistance in dealing with safety issues in the Boston Common area and surrounding downtown neighborhoods. Feelings of fear and apprehension have neighbors and at least one city councilor calling for action from elected officials and police command staff. According to a number of reports, the Boston Police Department is less 600 officers of its optimum staffing level.

Following alleged attacks and fatality last week on the common, District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn, who represents the area, is urging more police in Downtown Boston, Chinatown and the Leather District, posting on social media that he met with residents and business owners, concerned about significant public safety issues. "Residents in Chinatown don't feel safe. Residents in Downtown Boston don't feel safe. We need more police; we need more accountability. Those who are committing violence must be arrested, prosecuted, and if convicted, state-sentenced," Flynn posted on X. He also called for "the establishment of a city, state, and federal task force to address violent crime, drug dealing and human trafficking in Boston."

The Downtown Neighborhood Association sent a letter to residents and community leaders describing the continued violence and urgent need for assistance. Recent reports indicate five people were shot in three



District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn

instances between June 29 and July 15, all within the adjacent vicinity of the Tremont Street area and Boston Common, resulting in the neighborhood group formally requesting additional police presence.

Rishi Shukla, co-founder of One Downtown Task Force believes it is time to convene the group, initiated in 2025 to combat drug use, homelessness and crime in the area. Shukla and Flynn co-chair the group with Mayor Michelle Wu, Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden and State Representative Arron Michlewitz. "This fatal act of violence comes amid a deeply troubling series of violent incidents in and around Downtown Boston and Boston Common. As we have said repeatedly, residents, workers, visitors, and students deserve to feel safe. What we have witnessed and experienced over the past few weeks unacceptable," stated Shukla.

Tax Relief for Seniors Becomes a Political Football

by Patti Sartori



Massachusetts State Senator Nick Collins

A back-and-forth political volley between Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and Massachusetts State Senator Nick Collins (D-South Boston/First Suffolk District) shows the Beacon Hill politician one upping the mayor by slipping a tax relief clause into the economic development bill in an attempt to negate an unnecessary tax increase for city homeowners. Collins said his property tax relief amendment was unanimously approved by the state senate and would expand senior tax exemption eligibility and provide rebates to Boston homeowners using city surplus funds.

"The purpose of the senior property tax exemption is to support seniors on a fixed income who deserve tax relief to ease the burden of the city's unnecessary tax increase on homeowners. In addition, the legislation would authorize the city to issue rebates to homeowners to mitigate unnecessary tax increases levied by the city year after year," said Collins.

The proposed amendment

would expand eligibility of the senior property tax exemption and triple the benefits to \$1,500. It would also provide tax rebates to homeowners using funds from the massive \$1.7 billion surplus or reserve fund currently held by the City of Boston. Mayor Wu and Senator Collins have been publicly battling since 2024 when Collins blocked her signature tax shift legislation, with Wu openly blaming Collins for the failure of the tax shift bill, pointing to his procedural

move to block a number of votes before it was doomed by Senate President Karen Spilka for lack of support. The billion question was set to provide a tax break to homeowners by increasing commercial tax rates. It was approved by the Boston City Council and House of Representatives on three separate occasions, but never made any headway in the Massachusetts State Senate.

Collins also noted that his amendment attempts to counter unfair city assessing practices, such as the home in the swanky Back Bay which was assessed at 12.5 million but actually valued at \$20 million, allowing for lower property taxes, compared to the small home in Roslindale that was recently sold for \$435K yet assessed shortly thereafter at \$485K, leading to higher property taxes for a working-class family. According to Senator Collins, "It's clear the city needs assessment reform." I am sure the majority of average Boston homeowners will agree.

Massachusetts Chair of the Democratic Party Arrested

It has been kept hush-hush for the past six weeks, but it's headline news now. The Chair of the Massachusetts State Democratic Party, Steve Kerrigan, was arrested in mid-June for an alleged drunk driving offense. A Southborough

Massachusetts Police log shows Kerrigan was arrested around midnight on June 13, for OUI liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation.

"In June I was pulled over for a marked lane violation and blew a .089 on the breathalyzer. I regret and take full responsibility for my actions and their consequences," Kerrigan said in a written statement. The Democratic Chair pleaded not guilty to the charges in Westborough District Court, where he received one year of probation through June

15, 2027, a 45-day suspended license until August 14, and a \$650 penalty in fines and fees.

Kerrigan was first elected Democratic State Party Chair in April 2023. He is also a member of the Lancaster Select Board and is President and CEO of the Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center. Following his plea deal, Kerrigan's OUI charge was continued without a finding and the negligent operation of a motor vehicle charge was dismissed. He was also found not responsible for the marked lanes violation.

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• St. Joseph (Continued from Page 1)



St. Joseph of Boston Society gather on Friday, July 24, 2026 in preparation of the first of two weekend processions.



A St. Joseph devotee places a ribbon on the statue.

and well-attended gathering, bringing together a mix of log-time society members, families, neighbors as well as visitors and attendees of all ages and backgrounds.

The entertainment throughout the weekend were class acts, the food vendors offered a nice variety of options, and the opportunity to reconnect with past and present neighbors and friends is always a highlight. On Sunday, July 26, 2026 following an annual mass at St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street, society members and devotees set off on a traditional procession through the streets of the North End, amassing an abundance of ribbons honoring the beloved saint.



North End Marching Band leads the annual St. Joseph Society procession.



Claudia Spagnuolo never misses an opportunity to thank the St. Joseph Society members for stopping by.

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Remembering the Good Times with Caesar and Phyllis



VIDEO
VIEWS... more than meets the eye

by Bob Morello

**EXIT 8 (Blu-ray)
DECAL-NEON**

Based on the global hit video game: a man is trapped in an endless subway corridor on his way to fine *Exit 8*. He discovers a set of rules in order to escape: do not overlook anything out of the ordinary; if you discover an anomaly, turn back immediately; if you don't, carry on. A single oversight will send him back to the beginning. Will he ever reach his goal and exit this infinite nightmare?

**HOKUM
(4K ULTRA HD/Blu-ray)
DECAL-NEON**

A reclusive novelist (Adam Scott) visits a remote Irish inn to scatter his parents' ashes, when tales of an ancient witch, who is haunting the honeymoon suite, consumes him. Disturbing visions and a sudden disappearance soon draws him into a nightmarish battle with the darkest secrets of his past.

**HUNGRY (DVD)
Aura/Decal Partners**

Tourists embark on a riverboat journey through the treacherous Louisiana swamplands, lured off the beaten path by the promise of an exclusive adventure. They soon find themselves fighting for survival against a vicious hipopotamus lurking beneath the bayou's murky waters. *Hungry* is a tense survival thriller about a battle with one of nature's deadliest predators.

**EPIC: ELVIS PRESLEY
IN CONCERT
(4K ULTRA HD/Blu-ray)
DECAL-NEON**

For the first time ever, Elvis Presley, the King of Rock and Roll, tells his own story through candid conversations and dazzling performance footage from the early days of his Vegas residency. Witness never-before-seen archival footage unearthed for the first time. Visionary filmmaker Baz Luhrmann presents an intimate and riveting cinematic portrait of the greatest performer of all time, with his *EPIC: Elvis Presley in Concert!*

**FRESH HORSES (Blu-ray)
Mill Creek Ent.**

Passion knows no limits for Molly Ringwald and Andrew McCarthy in the provocative romantic drama *Fresh Horses*. After Matt Larkin announces his engagement to a beautiful debutante, his best friend takes him off to the country for one last bachelor bash. There Matt meets Jewel. Although they have little in common, they are drawn to one another, and begin a passionate affair that blows

apart Matt's previously "safe" existence forever. *Fresh Horses* is a compelling tale of love and awakening, set against the dual backdrop of city and country in the American heartland.

**PAST MIDNIGHT (Blu-ray)
Mill Creek Ent.**

Rutger Hauer and Natasha Richardson star in this penetrating psychological thriller, *Past Midnight*, about a man's search for a new beginning, and a woman's deadly search for the truth. Ben Jordan is released from prison after serving 15 years for killing his pregnant wife. Laura Matthews is his social worker. Undeniably drawn to the intelligent, intense convict, Laura starts to believe Ben's story that he was framed. But as she pieces together the 15-year-old puzzle, someone begins to terrorize her in her home. Edge-of-your-seat suspense builds to unbearable heights of fear, as Laura discovers that passion can be the most dangerous crime of all.

**POPEYE
(4K ULTRA HD/Blu-ray)
Paramount Pictures**

With remastered picture and sound, the legendary, beloved big screen debut of the anvil-armed sailor of the seven seas looks better than ever. Robin Williams is the iconic *Popeye*, under the masterful direction of Robert Altman. Shelley Duvall is Popeye's devoted, long-limbed sweetie, Olive Oyl, one of many loveable characters who join the 'sailor man' in his adventures in the harbor town of Sweethaven. **DEAD MAN'S WIRE (Blu-ray)
Row K Ent.**

Dead Man's Wire tells the fascinating true story of the 1977 kidnapping of a prominent banker — a case that captivated the nation and unexpectedly turned the abductor into an outlaw folk hero. As the media frenzy intensifies, the standoff evolves into a spectacle of desperation, defiance, and blurred justice, with themes that still resonate today. Directed by Gus Van Sant, starring Bill Skarsgard, Colman Domingo and Al Pacino.

**THE YEAR BEFORE THE
WAR (DVD)
IndiePix Films**

As Europe teeters on the brink of World War I, Hans, a humble doorman in Riga, is swept into a whirlwind of radical ideologies, political upheaval, and rising nationalism. His journey becomes an odyssey across a continent in turmoil, carrying

(Continued on Page 13)

The time has come, the walrus said,
TO TALK OF MANY THINGS
of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

I am writing to share my latest thoughts on a few current topics the State House seems to have forgotten.

**BEACON HILL SEEMS TO
HAVE FORGOTTEN 250
YEARS OF HISTORY
Bill on Beacon Hill Seeks
to Prioritize Specific Job
Seekers for State Jobs**

This past Sunday, the *Boston Herald* reported on legislation at the State House that would prioritize Muslim applicants for state government positions. The bill, "An Act Promoting the Civil Rights and Inclusion of American Muslims in the Commonwealth" (S. 2134), is sponsored by Senators Jamie Eldridge and Vanna Howard, alongside Representative Manny Cruz.

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, we must remember the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the separation of church and state. Having worked in state government for 40 years, I was never once asked about my religion for a hire or a promotion, as doing so would be unconstitutional. We need to contact our legislators on Beacon Hill to voice our opposition to this bill.

**WHAT IS GOING ON OVER
ON ORLEANS STREET?**

First they put down speed bumps between Sumner and Porter streets. Six of them. Then

the city puts up those bright orange signs that tell folks riding bikes and folks out for a good power walk that Orleans Street is now the alternative route for biking or walking while construction is being done down at the Greenway bike path and walkway. Who pays attention to the city for most anything nowadays? We live in a free country, at least I thought. What's wrong with using an alternative route of your own choice? One more thing, how many folks riding their bikes actually like multiple speed bumps to ride over? Just asking.

**GOING MY WAY WITH
U.S. MARSHALS**

I have thoroughly enjoyed watching the television series *U.S. Marshals*. It offers great action, drama, character development, and excellent country music. I recently rewatched Season 1, Episode 9, which features actor and country singer Riley Green performing his song "My Way." The lyric "If I had it my way" certainly resonates as we grow older.

**MOULTON ON THE
CAMPAIGN TRAIL
TELLING TALES**

U.S. Representative Seth Moulton said recently, "There are also a lot of immigrants

who are getting killed and we don't even know about it." It is concerning that a congressman would make such an unverified claim, especially given the extensive resources available to his office to verify facts before speaking publicly. Fact number 1, I ain't voting for Moulton in the primary. I might even put a clothespin on my nose and vote for the former ice cream truck driver.

I could also vote in the GOP primary for governor but both guys look like losers to me. I wish there had been a primary fight for the U.S. Senate too. Not hooked on John Deaton either.

**BY THE WAY,
IS IT JUST ME?**

This year's primary election is Tuesday, September 1, six days before Labor Day. Is the date picked nothing more than voter suppression that liberals always talk about? We have never before had a primary day this early. Most people will still be in summer mode at the beach getting as much tan as possible before the beach curtains fall. Primaries should not be held this early unless you like even lower voter turnouts!



Here is Sal G enjoying a great night of R & B music over at the Wednesday Night Mary Ellen Welch Greenway Summer Concerts. Sal seemed to enjoy R & B Artist Bre Redbone and the music from the 70ps to the 90s. East Boston has been enjoying these summer concerts quite well.



You never know who's gonna stop by the Offices of the *Post-Gazette* newspaper. I met up with Jamie Bugajski from St. Louis at the North End Historical Museum. She was in Boston and stopped by the North End to enjoy the St. Joseph Feast and procession. Don't let her surname fool you, she is Italian American. Kudos to Tommy for keeping the museum open during the feast. Lots of folks were signing up for membership too including Jamie.

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State Representative Aaron Michlewitz Presents San Damiano Cross to St. Joseph Society



A San Damiano Cross hangs prominently under the photo of Pope Leo XIV in the Saint Joseph Society on Hanover Street in Boston's North End.

During an official visit to Rome, Italy following an invitation from the Vatican to



State Representative Aaron Michlewitz presents a San Damiano Cross, blessed by the first American Pope, Leo XIV, to the members and officers of the St. Joseph Society of Boston, in the North End.

discuss climate resiliency, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz took the opportunity to ask the first American Pope, His Holiness Leo XIV, to bless a San Damiano Cross, a 12th-Century Byzantine-style icon crucifix that famously inspired St. Francis of Assisi to rebuild the church. As Francis sat before the original cross in a ruined chapel, he heard Christ tell him to “rebuild my

church”, leading him to found the Franciscan order. Just prior to the start of the 101st St. Joseph Society of Boston Annual Festival, Representative Michlewitz proudly presented the society with the blessed cross. The officers and members of the society were humbled and honored to receive this special gift and proudly placed it over the photo of Pope Leo XIV for all to see.

Boston’s Finest Goes Above and Beyond

Officer Saoirse McTavish, Area A-7 East Boston, went above and beyond her duties during the recent St. Joseph Festival in the North End. Due to city approved street closures, a *Post-Gazette* newspaper photographer Gerri Palladino and assistant Helena, were unable to access their transportation, the “Ride” which was picking them up at the corner of Hanover and Harris Street. When made aware of this fact, Officer McTavish offered to keep a sharp eye out for the driver and allowed the women to sit in the cruiser to wait so they wouldn’t have to stand any longer than necessary. When plans changed and the women were notified an uber would be picking them up instead, Officer McTavish insisted on verifying the plate of the vehicle before putting the ladies safely into their ride home.

Geri and Helena were quite appreciative of Officer McTavish’s kindness and compassion. The women felt like they were with a family member. Officer McTavish is a shining example of the Best of Boston Blue. *On behalf of Gerri, Helena and the entire Post-Gazette newspaper staff, thank you Officer McTavish for being one of Boston’s Finest.*



Thank you to one of Boston’s Finest in Blue, Officer McTavish, who went above and beyond for *Post-Gazette* newspaper photographer Gerri Palladino and assistant Helena, during the recent St. Joseph Festival in the North End.

North End Historical Museum Review

by Luke Martorano



On July 21, 2026 the North End Historical Museum opened its doors to the public for the first time. As a young person who did not grow up in the North End, I was curious to see what the museum was about. In elementary and middle school, I have learned about Boston and the historic role it played in making America. During my visit I could see the museum provides interesting information on the rich history of the North End, and it wound up teaching me so many things about the neighborhood that I never would have known if I had not visited. The museum is very interactive, with different screens explaining batches of information separated into different categories that allows you to scroll through at your own pace. Personally, my favorite part of the museum is an area that provides information on the food in the North End, and the cultural impact that it has had on the neighborhood. In addition, there are a number of other sections to the museum, including a display case of various North End historical artifacts, and a wall of portraits of the North End and the people who lived there over the years. The museum was a very interesting experience, and it was very cool to learn about the history of the North End over the past 400 hundred years. I would highly recommend visiting!

2026 NORTH END FESTIVAL DIRECTORY

AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

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

Malden, MA SAINT ROCCO FESTIVAL <i>Pearl Street, Malden, MA</i> <i>Sunday Procession</i>	August 7, 8, 9 1 pm
Lawrence, MA FEAST of the THREE SAINTS <i>New Dates</i> Saints Alfio, Filadelfo and Cirino <i>Sunday Procession</i> <i>Common & Union Streets, Lawrence</i>	Sept. 4-6 3 pm
Cambridge Festival SS COSMAS AND DAMIAN <i>Sunday Procession</i> <i>Warren and Cambridge St., Cambridge</i>	Sept. 10,11,12,13 1 pm

Congratulations to the Post-Gazette on 131 Years of Publication

from your friends at

NORTH END CARES

Buon Anniversario!!

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THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

Forgotten America: Route 66

From the Quiet Towns of the Texas Panhandle to Tucumcari

Environment often dictates behavior and for that reason, most anywhere else I would have passed by a Buc-ee's with little more consideration than I would have passed by any random rest area. But since its opening in Clute in 1982 and its expansion throughout and outside of Texas, Buc-ee's has brewed such local fervor that I had to stop at its Amarillo location before departing the city.



Buc-ee's Amarillo

It is, to be sure, unlike any rest stop I've seen before. Tacky, perhaps, but not without value. Roughly the size of a smaller K-Mart, Buc-ee's offers its own merch (hats, shirts, plush toys of its mascot, the titular beaver etc.) as well as a wide array of snacks, baked goods and take-out options. I stocked up for the road, mostly with bottled drinks and cleaning supplies, and can win the approval of any Texan I tell I've been to a Buc-ee's.



Big Texan Steak Ranch

My final stop in Amarillo, if anything, cemented my experience as deeply Texan even further. I found my way to the Big Texan Steak Ranch, home of the (in)famous eating challenge: a 72oz steak dinner accompanied with a salad plate,



Big Texan Cowboy

dinner rolls and fried shrimp consumed in whole results in a free meal. Eating challenges aren't my thing anywhere and I definitely wasn't going to risk making myself sick on the road. Besides, I had something more aligned with the purpose of this journey planned for later on that day. So, rather than make myself a spectacle for rallying diners as I've seen a number of influencers do on YouTube, I limited my visit to the steakhouse noting that comparison of its neon cowboy to the 2nd Amendment Cowboy statue further up Amarillo and learning



2nd Amendment Cowboy

the history of Big Tex-Rex, the playful dinosaur depicted in a colorful structure near the parking area.



Vega, Texas

Vega is a charming little city. On a Saturday morning, with most of its businesses and offices closed, it looked rather like a movie set depicting an archetypical Texan small town. Sadly, this meant that Mama Jo's Pies and Sweets, which was supposed to be the highlight of my visit, would also be closed and its acclaimed bakery not to be discovered by me. Nonetheless, I'm glad I made the stop at Vega. A serene air runs through this sleepy little town, sweeping away the toils and weariness of the road. A lovely little plaza in the center provides shade as well as placards telling the history of the town.

Adrian, Texas would be where I would sit to dine. Here is the midpoint of Route 66, with its starting point in Chicago and its end in Los Angeles both



Midpoint Cafe

1,139 miles away and here is also the aptly named Midpoint Café. Opened in 1928 when the Mother Road was still in its youth, the Café continues to capture the spirit of America's highway. Americana lines the walls and tables and the waitresses love to chat it up with you. As the midpoint of the road that meant so much to a nation's movement and continues to live on in the collective national psyche, the Midpoint Café encapsulates the essence of everything we, as a people, love about Route 66, real or imagined, whether we lived through it or not. If I were to sum up the feel, taste, sights and even the warmth of Route 66, I would nominate the Midpoint Café as its heart.

Neighboring the Midpoint Café is another Route 66 landmark, the long-closed Bent Door Café. Although it's been closed since the early 1970s, an eccentric architectural decision by Bob Harris when it was built in 1947 ensured the Bent Door Café (originally called Tommy's Café), would not be erased from memory. Incorporating features of the air traffic control tower that once stood in its footprint but decommissioned after the war, the door of the café was built with a slant across bend across its middle to match the tower's slanted windows.



Me at the midpoint of Route 66

Of course, the midpoint is marked on the route, encouraging photos and this was my last act before leaving Texas (sort of, as I'll explain) making my way into New Mexico.

Once I arrived in New Mexico my first stop was a visitor center and then, in a sense, I returned to Texas. For the little ghost town of Glenrio lies across the border of both states and legal battles have been fought since its founding in 1903 as to which state it truly belongs. Now, with a population of zero and only decaying structures and a few rusted vehicles, Glenrio belongs both to no one and everybody at the same time.

(Continued on Page 13)

Saint Clare of Assisi

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



St. Clare of Assisi was born in Assisi on July 16, 1194, as Chiara Offreduccio, the beautiful eldest daughter of Favorino Sciffi, Count of Sasso-Rosso and his wife Ortolana. Tradition says her father was a wealthy representative of an ancient Roman family and her mother was a very devout woman belonging to the noble family of Fiumi.

In her youth, Clare dedicated herself to prayer. At 18-years-old, she heard St. Francis of Assisi preach during a Lenten service in

the church of San Giorgio and asked him to help her live according to the Gospel. On Palm Sunday in 1212, Clare left her home and went to the chapel of the Porziuncula to meet with Francis. While there, Clare's hair was cut off and she was given a plain robe and veil in exchange for her rich gown.

Under Francis' direction Clare joined the convent of the Benedictine nuns of San Paulo, near Bastia. When her father found her and attempted to force her back into his home, she refused and professed that she would have no other husband than Jesus Christ. In order to give her the greater solitude she desired, Francis sent Clare to Sant' Angelo in Panzo, another Benedictine nuns monastery.

Clare's sister Catarina, who took the name Agnes, joined her at this monastery. The two remained there until a separate dwelling was built for them next to the church of San Damiano.

Overtime, other women joined them, wanting to also be brides of Jesus and live penniless. They became known as the "Poor Ladies of San Damiano." They all lived a simple life of austerity, seclusion from the world, and poverty, according to a Rule which Francis gave them as a Second Order. St. Clare and her sisters wore no shoes, ate no meat, lived in a poor house, and kept silent most of the time. Their lives consisted of manual labor and prayer. Yet, they were very happy, because Our Lord was close to them all the time.

San Damiano became the center of Clare's new order. For a brief period of time, the order was directed by St. Francis himself and by 1216, Clare became the abbess of San Damiano. Ten years after Clare's death, the order became known as the Order of Saint Clare.

Clare was so devoted and dedicated to Francis that she was often referred to as "alter Franciscus," or another Francis. She encouraged and aided the man she saw as a spiritual father figure, and took care of him as he grew old. Following Francis' death, Clare continued to promote her order.

In 1224, an army of rough soldiers from Frederick II came to attack Assisi. Although very sick, Clare went out to meet them with the Blessed Sacrament. She had the Blessed Sacrament placed at the wall where the enemies could see it. Then on her knees, she begged God to save the Sisters.

"O Lord, protect these Sisters whom I cannot protect now," she prayed. A voice seemed to answer: "I will keep them always in My care." In that moment, a sudden fright struck the attackers and they fled as fast as they could without harming anyone in Assisi.

St. Clare became sick and suffered great pains for many years, but she expressed that no pain could trouble her. So great was her joy in serving the Lord that she once exclaimed: "They say that we are too poor, but can a heart which possesses the infinite God be truly called poor?"

On August 9, 1253, Pope Innocent IV declared Clare's rule would serve as the governing rule for Clare's Order of Poor Ladies. Two days later, Clare passed away at 59-years-old. Her remains were placed in the chapel of San Giorgio while the church dedicated to her remains was being built. At Pope Innocent's request, the canonization process for Clare began immediately, and two years later in 1255, Pope Alexander IV canonized Clare as Saint Clare of Assisi. The Feast day of Saint Clare of Assisi is August 11.

Happy Anniversary!!

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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



It was the summer of 1959, and I was heading into my senior year of college. Ken Reeves’ booking agent called to tell me that I was being assigned to play bass with the trio that entertained at the Chatham Bar’s Inn in Chatham, Mass on weekends. Don Ellis, the number one sax player with the Reeves office was the leader and pianist, Hank Gilsdorf and I would complete the trio. We were to play for drinking and dancing Friday night, Saturday afternoon cocktails and Saturday night dinner (and dancing).

If I was to pick up Don Ellis, the Reeves’ leader and drive to the Cape, I would be paid extra, so I volunteered to pick up Don. At that point in time, I lived in East Boston and Don lived in Arlington. I had that 54 Chevy I wrote about a few weeks ago, and drove it over the Meridian Street bridge to Chelsea and looked for gas stations that were having a gas war. Meades Brother’s Sunoco and Quincy Gas were just over the bridge and often competed with each other on their prices. If I was lucky, I could buy five gallons of regular gas for \$1.00. If this was the case, I would put \$2.00 worth of gas in my tank, and with my tux hanging in the back seat and my bass violin stretching from the front to the back across the top of my seats, I would head out to Arlington to pick up Don Ellis.

I had been with the Reeves office for a year now, and was accepted by the musicians who worked for Reeves, and due to leaders like Ellis, I was playing at the best of locations, locally, down the Cape and in New Hampshire. The pianist I mentioned earlier, Hank Gilsdorf, played and sang at the Chatham Bars Inn resort all week, and on weekends Reeves expanded the group to a trio or quartet, following the desires of the management. Heading to Arlington, I would pick up Don Ellis, head to the South East Expressway, head to Quincy, pick up Route 3 toward the cape, and after crossing over the Sagamore Bridge, would head onto Route 6 fighting traffic all the way to Chatham.

Before I ever left Eutaw Street in East Boston, Babbononno would check out my tuxedo, pleated formal dress shirts starched to the hilt, bow ties, pocket handkerchiefs, and make sure my shoes were spit shined. Once I had his approval, I could pack a small suitcase for all needs except the tux, which I would hang on a hook in the back seat.

Route 16 brought me via the Chelsea/Everett Parkway to Arlington and Don Ellis’ house. Regardless of whatever time I was supposed to pick him up, he would look at his watch and give me a dirty look as if I was late. I was usually early, but he was always nervous. At one point, when I was just on time, he let out a barrage of profanity in Italian, which shocked me, seeing his last name was Ellis. When I questioned him about his ability with Italian, he let me know his real last name was Alessi, and he was a relative of Don Alessi, the late-great famous guitarist from Boston. He even qualified things by saying the name had at one time been Alessio, but was shortened along the generational line. Each time we headed down the Cape, Don would talk about his career in music, especially during the depression when he, like Dad and Uncle Nick, played with the big bands of the era. He knew who my father and uncle were, but had never played with them back in the day. Don had a mellow tone and sounded just like the famous jazz saxophonist, Lester Young, except that Don played dance music mostly. On our two to three hour drives to the cape, he would talk about the bands he worked with as a young musician, spending months on the road playing one-nighters and living out of a suitcase. His stories sounded familiar as I had heard them over and over again from Babbononno, Dad and Uncle Nick. Years later, I would experience then myself.

I don’t know about now, but back in the day, the Chatham Bars Inn was exclusive. The resort catered to old Boston society, their families and guests, and they would literally check out who you were and your ancestors were before allowing you to make a reservation to stay there, regardless of your financial situation. I would run into the same format at several other places over the years. Another location booked by the Reeves office, that I would play at in the early 60s, was Bald Peak Colony Club in Melvin Village on Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire. It was just as exclusive as some of the places on the Cape.

A similar location where, in the late ’60s, I would lead a band for the George Graham office is the Colony in Kennebunk-port, Maine. During the summer I worked there, I met several well-known people of Hollywood fame, Edward Everett Horton, Soupy Sales, Rose Marie, and

several members of the Bush family including two former presidents. (The Bush family compound is within walking distance of the Colony.)

Back at the Chatham Bars Inn, we would play for cocktails on Friday night, then dancing during and after their dinner. We were given space at one of their cottages, and had most of the next day off to do whatever. By cocktail hour, we were back in our tuxes and repeating the routine of Friday night. Dancing on Saturday nights ended at midnight, and there wasn’t much to do once we had finished playing, as they used to pull in the sidewalks of Chatham early, no matter which night it was. On Sunday, we would play for brunch and then head back home.

I would drop Don off in Arlington, head back to East Boston, and on that original \$2.00 worth of gas (10 gallons), enough to get me through the first part of the week.

On the way back, Don would go over our performances of the weekend and plan the music for our next venture “down the Cape.”

When I arrived home, Babbononno would be waiting for me to regale him with stories of the weekend. He had spent most of his life playing music as a sideline, had brought his sons up to be musicians, had seen his daughter marry a musician, and was now experiencing his grandson following in the family footsteps. He was delighted and waited for all the stories of my weekend experiences. More often than naught, he would add in stories of his young days as a musician in the Royal Italian Marine Band traveling through Europe and the Mediterranean countries. If there was more to tell, he would add in playing with Italian dance bands and marching bands once he had settled in America. I sold off Uncle Nick’s instruments after he passed on, and still have Dad’s tuba and bass violin stored away with some of my own instruments. But I wonder whatever happened to Babbononno’s drums and guitar?

Those musicians I played with on the Cape back in the day are gone and I am now part of the older generation, but those were glorious days, and the best part of it ... I was young.

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 August 24, 2026 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2013 FORD FOCUS
Vin #1FADP3N20DL103096
- 2015 KIA OPTIMA
Vin #5XXGM4A70FG463799
- 2008 TOYOTA AVALON
Vin #4T1BK36BX8U257504
- 2009 MERCURY MARINER
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Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 07/31, 08/07, 08/14/2026

• Thoughts by Dan (Continued from Page 12)

Built as a railroad siding for the Rock Island Railroad, Glenrio built up throughout the mid-century, adding a Texaco gas station, a motel, post office, the Brownlee Diner/Little Juarez Café as well as an iconic sign marking either “First Motel in Texas” or “Last Motel in Texas” depending on the direction of the driver. Always a small unincorporated town, however, Glenrio was hit especially hard by the bypassing of the town and after the State Line Café and Gas Station and the Texas Longhorn Motel both closed in 1976 the town practically disappeared, its ruins the only remnant of its existence.

The road from Glenrio to San Jon, New Mexico is a long stretch of desert, taking you over a number of rickety bridges over dried up brooks. By any stretch, San Jon is a very small town but, after emerging from



What’s left of Glenrio

the abandoned town of Glenrio, San Jon, with a population nearing 200, felt like a return to civilization. To me, the biggest relief was arriving at a Valero gas station. The gas meter on the Jeep was running at just beneath half-full as I was driving the desolate roads out of Glenrio and, I must confess, my paranoia was getting to me only because I did not know how long the road went for. I was never happier to see gas pumps.

And so, as twilight fell on the trails, I made my way to Tucumcari, my first stop in New Mexico. And that is a story for next time.

• Video Views (Continued from Page 10)

him from utopian communes to imperial capitals. Bearing witness to violence, passion and intrigue, he crosses paths with some of the era’s most influential figures — including Mata Hari, Sigmund Freud, Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, and Leon Trotsky — amid the unraveling of the old order.

SUGAR COOKIES (Blu-ray)
Troma Films

Welcome to the world of wealth and privilege ... where everyone lives life in the fast lane! Meet the beautiful people ... at their most thrilling and dangerous sex game. A producer and

her lover join forces to find an innocent young acting student and, in a bizarre experiment, transform her into the exact replica of a dead movie star. Sugar Cookies is filled with the mystery of a Hitchcock classic.

STARBRIGHT (Blu-ray)
Ruby Max Ent.

During an eclipse, Aisling makes a wish on a falling star that will either change or destroy her life. Archangel Raphael entrusts the star’s life force to Aisling, but its light draws dangerous villains who hunt her. Joshua, a charismatic stranger comes to their aid. In Aisling he recognizes a shared loss passing through time, space and destiny. Together they discover the star’s true power: not to grant wishes, but the courage to hope, forgive and love. From the darkness comes the light, and all things are possible ... if you believe!

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. MI26A0353AD
CITATION
G. L. c. 210, § 6
In the matter of
OLIVIA MAEVE FERREIRA

To 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 Fernando Henrique Negri of Lowell, MA, Kauana Ferreira Negri of Lowell, MA requesting leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Olivia Claire Negri.

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran’s benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT WOBURN ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2026.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 08, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run dates: 07/24, 07/31, 08/07/2026

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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• 131 Years (Continued from Page 1)

sands of immigrants and their American-born children who became an integral part of this great country, fighting in its wars and facing every national crisis. It would be impossible to enumerate here the many initiatives taken by our publication, from its inception as “LA GAZZETTA” to its present-day format as the “POST-GAZETTE,” in its 131 years of uninterrupted publication. We have never missed an issue, even when the going was very hard.

The moral reward, over the years of hard work, came in many ways when American presidents, senators, congressmen, governors, and other officials praised the work of the newspaper in times of war and peace. The newspaper had to fight vigorously against all forms of discrimination in employment and immigration laws, yet on the issue of loyalty and patriotism, there was never any question.

The Italian immigrants, after a long period of confusion which was often bewildering, accepted in full the American concept of school, church and state

and have become an integral part of this democratic society, bringing to it all the qualities the Italians have always possessed as builders, dreamers, organizers, fighters, artists, inspired teachers and defenders of both Italian and American ideals.

Throughout the U.S., especially in Boston where freedom began 250 years ago, LA GAZZETTA or the POST-GAZETTE has played a vital part in history.

Today, the University of Minnesota and the University of Florence in Italy have compiled all of our issues from the first to the current publication on micro-film for future generations, thereby recognizing the POST-GAZETTE’s historical contribution to this country and the contribution of our unique culture to the people on these shores. We continue to bring to our readers the incredible stories of Americans from coast-to-coast who are the “Builders of America.” We salute these great men and women who have made a tremendous contribution to our country and heritage.

Neighbors Gather for a Festive Independence Day Celebration at the ABCD North End NSC

Red, white, and blue filled the room as the ABCD North End Neighborhood Service Center (NE NSC) welcomed neighborhood seniors for a joyful Independence Day party featuring delicious homemade favorites, wonderful company, and plenty of patriotic spirit. Guests enjoyed a summertime lunch of hot dogs, potato salad, cornbread, salad, baked beans, and ice cream sandwiches while catching up with friends and celebrating the holiday together.

The event was made even more memorable thanks to the support of community partners and volunteers. Maria Perez, North End, West End, Wharf District Liaison, for Mayor Michelle Wu’s Office; Victor Pelatere, District Director for Senator Lydia Edwards; and Sam Peracchi, North End and Wharf Liaison for Boston City Councilor Gabriela “Gigi” Coletta Zapata, joined North End NSC staff in helping to serve the meal and visiting with neighborhood seniors. Councilor Coletta Zapata’s office also sweetened the holiday by providing cupcakes for everyone to enjoy.

The NE NSC also extends heartfelt appreciation to Robyn Bostrom, who generously volunteered throughout the celebration, lending a hand wherever needed. Together with Dr. Paul Bostrom, she also made a heartfelt donation in memory of their beloved son, Axel, who passed away in June 2025. Their generosity and compassion added a meaningful tribute to the day.

At the NE NSC, holidays are an opportunity to bring neighbors together, create lasting memories, and celebrate the friendships that make the North End community so unique.



Behind the scenes in the kitchen: Volunteer Robyn Bostrom (center) with Director Julia Power and Client Advocate Emma Davis



Maria Perez (Office of Mayor Michelle Wu) assisting with lunch



Sam Peracchi (Office of City Councilor Coletta Zapata) and Maria Perez (Office of Mayor Michelle Wu) visiting with seniors



NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Wishes the
Post-Gazette
a Happy

131st Anniversary



ROBERT “TED” TOMASONE,
President

JOHN “JR” ROMANO,
Sports Coordinator

Serving the Community for Over 60 Years!

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court (North)
370 Jackson Street
5th Floor
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 656-7700
Docket No. MI26P3856EA

Estate of
LINDA ANNE BIBEAULT
Also known as:
LINDA BIBEAULT, LINDA A. BIBEAULT
Date of Death: May 15, 2021
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Stephanie M. Berardi of Lowell, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: Stephanie M. Berardi of Lowell, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/24/2026.

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: July 27, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/31/2026

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. MI26P3803EA

Estate of
PAMELA J. PEKICH
Date of Death: May 05, 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 Jennifer Arthur of Arlington, MA and Elizabeth O’Connell of Arlington, 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: Mari Ann O’Neil of Medford, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/21/2026.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: July 24, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/31/2026

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. MI26P3662EA

Estate of
JOAN SWETT
Date of Death: March 19, 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 Jody Swett of Somerville, 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: Jody Swett of Somerville, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/17/2026.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: July 20, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 07/31/2026

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Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Westminster Abbey

Westminster Abbey is one of the world’s most significant churches. It has been the coronation site for British monarch since William the Conqueror 1066 and the final resting place of 18 monarchs and over 3000 notable historical figures.

Westminster a stunning Gothic masterpiece and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a working church that continues to host daily services alongside high-profile royal events, weddings, and state funerals.

This magnificent and world-famous building is England’s most important church and has been the site of every coronation since that of William The Conqueror in 1066.

Founded as a Benedictine monastery over a thousand years ago, the Church was rebuilt by Edward the Confessor in 1065 and again by Henry III between 1220 and 1272 and is renowned worldwide as an architectural Gothic masterpiece.

During the Protestant Reformation, Westminster Abbey transitioned from a Catholic Benedictine monastery into a Protestant collegiate church. King Henry VIII dissolved the original monastery in 1540, stripped its treasures, and briefly made it a cathedral before Queen Elizabeth I permanently re-founded it in 1560 as a royal peculiar. (Royal Peculiar is a specific type of Church of England parish or church that is exempt from the jurisdiction of the local bishop and diocese. Instead of falling under standard regional church authority, it answers directly to the British monarch.)

Some of the most interesting attractions within Westminster Abbey are the following:

The Coronation Chair, also known as St. Edward’s Chair. The Coronation Chair is an ancient oak throne commissioned by King Edward I in 1129, it has been used to crown almost every English and British monarch since 1308. It is permanently housed at Westminster Abbey, and was most recently used by King Charles III in 2023. The Chair was built specifically to encase the Stone of Scone, (also known as the Stone of Destiny). The stone is an ancient block of sandstone that served as a symbol of Scottish royalty. Edward I seized the stone from Scotland as a symbol of English overlordship. In 1996 the stone was officially returned to Scotland.

Poet’s Corner, located in the Abbey is a world-famous burial and memorial location for towering literary figures like William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Geoffrey Chaucer, Kipling, Tennyson and more.

A spectacular addition to the Abbey was the glorious Lady chapel built by King Henry VII, first of the Tudor monarchs, which now bears his name. This has a spectacular fan-vaulted roof and the craftsmanship of Italian sculptor Pietro Torrigiano can be seen in Henry’s fine tomb. The chapel was consecrated on February 19, 1516.

The Tomb of the Unknown Warrior is the only grave in the entire Abbey that visitors are strictly forbidden to step on, serving as a solemn World War I tribute.

Scientists’ Corner is the resting place of era-defining minds like Sir Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, and Stephen Hawking.

The Abbey has not only been the setting for Coronations, it has also witnessed numerous other royal occasions such as state weddings and funerals, including the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales in 1997.



• Stirpe Nostra

(Continued from Page 2)

The countryside around pagan Rome was literally undermined by these tunnels. During the height of the Christian persecutions, the catacombs, which were not backfilled, housed as many of the living (in hiding) as they contained of the dead. The Catacombs of St. Callistus (Calixtus) and those of St. Sebastian on the Appian Way are probably the most popular tourist attractions today. The bodies of St. Peter and St. Paul were originally buried close to the spot where they were martyred. Later they were exhumed and hidden temporarily in the Catacombs of St. Sebastian.

NEXT WEEK: *The Basilica*

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at **147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960**, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **August 17, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2014 HONDA MSX125**
Vin #MLHJC6113E5004282
- 2014 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT**
Vin #NMOAS8F7XE1145322
- 2024 ZHILONG ST**
Vin #HZ2TBCNF5R1010814
- 2007 FORD EDGE**
Vin #2FMDK49C77BB36484
- 2008 CHEVROLET SILVERADO**
Vin #2GCEK190781323700
- 2016 TOYOTA COROLLA**
Vin #2T1BURHE2GC582247
- 2015 CHRYSLER 200**
Vin #1C3CCCCG0FN582552

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

Run dates: 07/24, 07/31, 08/07/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU26P1445GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
In the matter of
PASQUALE ANDREOTTOLA
of Boston, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Salem Hospital of Salem, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Pasquale Andreottola** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that _____ (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **August 19, 2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

Witness, HON. JANINE D. RIVERS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 24, 2026
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate
Run date: 07/31/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI26P2704GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of
Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
JADIEL E. TORRES
of Framingham, MA
Minor

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

- Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **05/22/2026** by **Juan B. Rivera** of Framingham, MA **Eva E. Rivera** of Framingham, MA will be held **08/18/2026 09:00 AM** **Guardianship of Minor Hearing** Located **370 Jackson Street** **Lowell, MA 01852** **6th Floor,** **Courtroom 14**
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form (MPC 263). Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

Date: July 14, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/31/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU26P1444PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
CONSERVATOR OR OTHER
PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

In the matter of
PASQUALE ANDREOTTOLA
of Boston, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Salem Hospital of Salem, MA, in the above captioned matter alleging that **Pasquale Andreottola** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that _____ (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **August 19, 2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

Witness, HON. JANINE D. RIVERS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 24, 2026
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate
Run date: 07/31/2026

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. MI26D1519DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
WENDY A. HUGHES
vs.
KEVIN H. HUGHES

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

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: **Sydney M. Doneen, Esq., The Second Step, P.O. Box 600213, Newtonville, MA 02460** your answer, if any, on or before **September 03, 2026**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 23, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 07/31/2026

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at **147A Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960**, under the provisions of Mass G.L.c.255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **August 10, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 1998 LEXUS ES**
Vin #JT8BF28G1W5045687
- 2017 HYUNDAI ELANTRA**
Vin #5NPD74LF5HH070743
- 2019 TOYOTA RAV4**
Vin #2T3F1RFV5KC048950
- 2012 NISSAN ALTIMA**
Vin #1N4AL2AP4CC254256
- 2004 HONDA CRV**
Vin #SHSRD788X4U213522
- 2008 CHEVROLET SILVERADO**
Vin #2GCEK19J081214455
- 2006 FORD F150**
Vin #1FTPW14596FA46246
- 2007 GMC ENVOY**
Vin #1GKET63M572110253

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

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

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. MI26A0352AD
CITATION
G. L. c. 210, § 6
In the matter of
ALYSSA KHLOE FERREIRA

To 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 **Fernando Henrique Negri of Lowell, MA, Kauana Ferreira Negri of Lowell, MA** requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to **Alyssa Khloe Negri**.

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran’s benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT WOBURN ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2026.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 08, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run dates: 07/24, 07/31, 08/07/2026

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

Quote to Note

“We are only on this Earth for a short time.”

— lyrics from an old ’70s hit tune

Sounds Like A Lassie Movie

A missing dog has been reunited with his Nebraska family five years after it disappeared when it was found at a truck stop more than 600 miles away. The dog escaped from the family home in 2021 but the family never gave up hope of finding him. Thanks to a posting on social media, that little pup was located at an Indiana truck stop 642 miles away.

Danny Ortega

Now President for Life

Nicaragua’s lawmakers said they will carry out a plan to abolish elections and make President Daniel Ortega president for life. The move was announced last week by the Nicaraguan Congress; firmly

putting the government into the hands of Ortega and his co-president wife.

The government says the latest constitutional overhaul will ensure Nicaragua’s “peace, security and stability.” Ortega has now ruled for 19 years and counting.

End Quote

“There’s also a racist history that exists as it relates to Argentina.”

— U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett, D-TX

The above drop the mic moment came after she first declared that “the vast majority of the world” was rooting for Spain over Argentina in the World Cup Final (which Spain did win), then revealed why. Argentina had slaves. Crockett forgot though that Argentina belonged to Spain and only after it got its independence, did Argentina begin to end slavery.



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



Red Sox Beat Jays to Cap Stellar Homestand

This past Sunday the Red Sox capped their stellar homestand by beating the Jays 6-1. The Sox went 8-2 at home and now go on the road. They are now 54-50. Randy Suarez just came off the injured list and pitched four scoreless innings and 64 pitches. Chad Tracy pulled him after the four frames. I am old school. I would have let him go back out in the 5th inning to at least get two outs. Four great innings is great but he deserved a win on this day's game. Apparently all managers today play the odds. If they had a pitch count that is all that matters. Guts and instincts don't matter anymore.

Now, it's on to the second half and the ball is in the hands of the Red Sox and Tracy. If

they want to make the post-season, they have to win as many games as possible. That hasn't changed in today's baseball. Winning always counts. Playing small ball always counts too.

Now the Sox are hitting the road for 7 games, four against the No-Name Athletics and three games against the Dodgers. The team's gotta keep the momentum going now. The Sox needed that 6-1 victory to cap the homestand, especially after the Jays made mincemeat out of the Sox the prior game.

Dylan Cease the day before threw a gem against us. A full-game one-hit shutout. As Mac Cerullo sports writer in the *Boston Herald* stated, "sometimes you're the windshield and

sometimes you're the bug." On Saturday against Cease, the Sox were buggers. He struck out 12 batters over 120 pitches in this game. Cease is 7-5 on the year but in this game he looked like Bob Gibson. His season ERA to date is now 2.46.

I did feel sorry for Sonny Gray. After a poor performance, he is now still 12-2 with a 2.78 ERA.

He looked horrible going up against Cease but he's still my guy and has done wonders for this team during that dismal first half.

Hey, until next week keep on keeping on and pray for the Sox too. As for dropping the "interim" from Chad Tracy's title, it is still too soon to advocate for that. Let's just continue on with the season first.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



We have been thinking quite a bit about seasons in sports recently – what they once were and what the situation has now become. It seems to us that the era of specific sports seasons is in the past and a more constant situation – call it a perpetual season – has replaced it.

Perpetual season activities never end—they just continue throughout the calendar year. Various sports hop on and off as the perpetual season continues in motion throughout the 12-month period.

We will start with baseball since once it owned a highly regarded specific season – a specific start date with a conclusion in the fall that kept getting later and later in the autumn. It is quite possible that the final game or two of the 2026 World Series will be played in November, for example.

But winning it may not be a blessing. The first three champions lost in the early rounds of the NBA playoffs.

Thus, in the fall in the USA you have a number of sports being played at once – baseball, college and pro football, college and pro hockey plus college and pro basketball – with all competing for an increased share of attention while football (especially the NFL) continuing to receive the most.

We have read that there may possibly be some sort of labor action within MLB starting this coming winter.

If it is resolved by the start of spring training then no harm will be done. But it continues into the spring, then baseball will become an afterthought to many.

Boston Edge Out Kansas City for a Home Field Win

by Angela Cornacchio



The Boston Legacy gathered late in stoppage time after receiving a red card and created a game plan to finish out the match with only ten players.

The National Women's Soccer League Boston Legacy FC kicked off this past Saturday at Centerville Bank Stadium in Pawtucket RI which has been their home since the start of the World Cup at Gillette Stadium.

They faced off against the Kansas City Current in front of a near sellout crowd of 8,939 fans. The Current was the last team the Legacy faced before the month long NWSL break for the World Cup. Their last meeting was away and not in the favor of Boston with a 0-1 loss.

This past Saturdays match was a revived Legacy and it showed on the pitch immediately and for the full 90 minutes. In the 17th minute Boston was awarded a corner kick that deflected off Bianca St-Georges and fell to Aïssata Traoré who slammed a low strike into the back of the net for a 1-0 lead for the Legacy.

From there the fans got what they came for. A well-played



The Boston Legacy beat KC Current 1-0 at home in Centerville Bank Stadium in front of 8,939 fans.

match with attacking opportunities for both sides. Boston showed as the stronger side and was eagerly awaiting the final whistle as in the in-stoppage time Ella Stevens was issued a red card leaving the Legacy down to ten players. Boston held on to their lead, securing three points and posting their third shutout in four games.

Post match Head Coach Filipa Patão spoke on Aïssata Traoré's importance to the team before departing to represent Mali at WAFCON. "Aïssata is doing an amazing job with us. She's a player that wants to grow, wants to improve all the time, and we are here to give that support to Aïssata. It is important for us that she stay in the game, but again, we know that she will go and she will show all the capacity and the ability that she has in the national team."

Next to take a seat with the press was Bianca St-Georges and Barbara Olivieri after a 1-0 win at home over the KC Current. They dug into their preparations going into the match, the long strip of road matches ahead and the thrill of the home crowd fans.

Barbara Olivieri on only having four home matches remaining, "It's such a different experience. Hearing, just feeling like you're backed by your people in the city that supports you is just a one-of-a-kind feeling. I just love being out there! It's a little sad in that way, but we'll have our away fans. We've seen them every time, so I mean, we'll see them."

The Legacy are at Denver Summit on August 2nd at 9:00 p.m. ET, 7:00 p.m. In the last meeting between the two expansion sides, Boston prevailed 3-2 in the club's first ever win. Boston Legacy FC is the 15th team in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), currently playing its inaugural season at Gillette Stadium and Centerville Bank Stadium. Founded and led by women, the club is committed to creating a home for the greatest female athletes of our time, building upon the supercharged legacy of Boston's historic sports teams, cultivating a community of fans with impact at its core, and forging new connections across our city through sport. They are back home on August 9th vs. the Portland Thorns at Centerville Bank Stadium.

Visit bostonlegacyfc.com for tickets.



The Boston ISA is the official team fan club that shows up to every match with drums, flair, and a vibe that pushes the team to thrive. (Photos by Angela Cornacchio)