

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 131 - NO. 32 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, AUGUST 7, 2026 \$.35 A COPY

Boston Mayor Insists DOWNTOWN AREA IS SAFE

by Patti Sartori

After convening a secret meeting, assembling downtown areas elected officials, neighborhood representatives, business owners and law enforcement personnel, in response to a string of attacks, an alleged murder and uptick in crime that has occurred in the downtown and Boston Common area, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu insists the city's core remains safe. Wu has not publicly or personally acknowledged the safety issues that have begun to effect the downtown area and surrounding residential and business district, but did issue a statement through a spokesperson.

"Our city teams and community partners work every day to deliver the highest quality of life across our neighborhoods, for every resident to feel a sense of safety and belonging. Any incident is one too many and isolated incidents in close succession can have a real impact on the feeling of safety across a community. Addressing these challenges requires a sustained, coordinated, year-round partnership with residents, businesses and community organizations," said mayoral spokesperson Marcela Dwork.

Rishi Shukla, who leads the Downtown Neighborhood Boston Association, attended the recent closed-door meeting, is calling for a heavier police presence downtown to



Mayor of Boston Michelle Wu

counteract crime. District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn, who represents the area and also attended the recent meeting said "the city needs to put more effort and resources in providing a safer and healthier downtown."

State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, who represents parts of the downtown area, said he attended the meeting and described it as laying the groundwork for future conversations on downtown safety. "I think the area is still safe, but if some people feel unsafe, then the work has to be done to try to rectify that." Dwork added, "The Boston Police Department will continue to partner alongside our residents and community organizations to keep our city safe and ensure downtown remains a safe and welcoming place for everyone."

112th St. Agrippina di Mineo Religious Festival



The St. Agrippina di Mineo Men's Society members in front of the Prado during the 2026 annual procession.



St. Agrippina Women's society members during the 112th annual festival.

(Continued on Page 6)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Cops Back Daddy

A dad was confronted in Oklahoma by an angry person at a gas station and was forced to speak with cops after he took his two young daughters into an empty women's bathroom. He made the pit stop on his way home to Oklahoma from Florida. The situation escalated when he was confronted by three people who called the police about a man in a women's bathroom. When the police arrived, the man was cleared of any wrongdoing and allows to continue home. Here's a dad who will never forget the tail end of his vacation.

Quote to Note

"Today's headlines and history's judgement are rarely the same."

— Condoleezza Rice

Florida Drivers' License Test English Only

For the first time in 20 years, folks in Florida seeking driver's licenses will be required to pass the state's exams entirely in English, a move that came about in response to a fatal crash involving an illegal

(Continued on Page 9)

Massachusetts Republican Party Upset with One of its Own

by Patti Sartori

Massachusetts Republican gubernatorial candidate Brian Shortsleeve has incurred the wrath of his own party. Republican Party leaders, committee members and other local republicans are upset with Shortsleeve for airing a statewide television attack against his Republican opponent, Mike Minogue. The ad slams Minogue for his "defense of election fraud."

"As Chair of the Party, it is my responsibility to stand up for and support Republican candidates, particularly when they are being unfairly attacked, misrepresented, or wronged. Brian Shirtsleeve's attempt to exploit for political advantage, while disparaging fellow Republicans is both misleading and deeply disappointing. This kind of conduct does a disservice to the candidates, the Republican Party, and the voters whose trust we are working to earn," said Mass-GOP Chair Amy Carnevale.

The Shortsleeve ad is based on the voter signature issue that caused two Republican



candidates to be disqualified from the September ballot. The situation created an in-house battle between the Massachusetts Republican Party, with Minogue and others criticizing Shortsleeve for joining forces with the

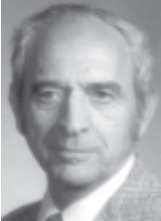
Massachusetts Democratic Party to challenge Lt. Governor candidate Anne Martin Manning's signatures. "It's shameful that anyone would oppose unifying to win, but unfathomable that anyone would join arms with bad actors to block the democratic process, Minogue said of Shortsleeve.

The Shortsleeve campaign fired back declaring Minogue defended election fraud and has yet to talk that back. "Mike Minogue can have his bought and paid for MassGOP allies defend him all he wants, but the facts remain unchanged. To this day he has refused to explain or walk back his comments defending election fraud. His silence is deafening," said Shortsleeve campaign spokesperson Pat Nestor in a *Boston Herald* interview.

Stirpe
Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



THE BASILICA



Basilica of Maxentius and Constantine c. 307-312

Mention the word “basilica” and many people immediately think of the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome. The name “basilican-style” is correctly applied to any church that is rectangular in plan, has columns at the side aisles, a raised altar, and a semicircular section behind the altar, which is called the apse. Any church can be built in the basilican-style, but it is not properly called a basilica until the Church hierarchy confers that title upon it. During recent years, however, that policy has been relaxed to the point where a Catholic Church of any shape can be designated a basilica if the hierarchy so desires. There are many churches in this country, which are laid out along basilican lines.

The whole concept of the Christian Basilica was taken from the pagan Roman court of law that was called a basilica. This, in turn, was copied from the earlier Greek civilization. The climate of Greece is intermediate, between rigorous cold and relaxing heat, and it favors outdoor life. The “Ecclesia,” or Town Meeting of the ancient Greek communities met once a year in their “agora,” or marketplace. Later, it was held in open theaters and the number of meetings was increased to four per year. In the event of a rain shower, the meeting had to be adjourned and everyone scooted for cover. The problem was soon solved by a

supreme authority known as the “Archon-Basileus,” who ordered the construction of a huge building for the purpose of transacting civil and legal affairs. The Roman counterpart to this structure was first built about 200 B.C. by a high civil officer named Marcus Porcius Cato. He was commonly known as “Cato the Elder.” He used public funds to purchase about six buildings, demolished them, and constructed a civil and legal courthouse on the site. The name Basileus was changed to the Latin “basilica” and the structure was called the Basilica Portia after his family name. Many similar structures were built during later years. These included the Basilica Julia by Julius Caesar, and also one by the emperor Trajan. Probably the largest of all basilicas was the one that was started by the emperor Maxentius in 306 A.D. and completed by Constantine a few years later.

Although Constantine’s basilica is now in ruins, many of the walls and some of the domed roof sections are still standing. We are told that the architects Bramante and Michelangelo spent a considerable amount of time studying the structural principles of this edifice before finalizing their plans for St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

NEXT WEEK:
The Basilican Connection

East Boston Italian Heritage Parade Committee

Hosts Disco Night Fundraiser



(L to R): The 2026 Italian Heritage Day Parade Committee members: Nick Moulaison, Gina Guange, Ann Guange, Josephine (Speranza) Tescione, Al Mangini, Jr., John Zirpolo and Patti (Sartori) Braid. (Missing is Joe Ruggiero)

It was a non-stop Disco Party last month at the Beachmont VFW in support of the East Boston Italian Heritage Parade Fundraiser. DJ Jimbo LaGrassa turned one disco song into another as the dance floor rocked all night long. This was the third fundraiser held by the parade committee and by far the most successful and enjoyable. It was an incredible opportunity to bring together current

and former East Bostonians, along with family and friends for one common goal, to revive and celebrate once again the “Columbus Day Parade” on October 11, 2026. It has been a long 10-year drought and the community is clamoring to honor their Italian Heritage and the long-standing tradition they hold dear to their heart. On behalf of the parade committee a huge debt of gratitude

is extended to Dina DiMarzo and the entire crew at the Beachmont VFW for donating the venue, to Jimbo LaGrasso for keeping the music playing literally all night long and to all the attendees and donors for their generosity. If you missed this most recent event, be on the lookout for information on the next fundraiser. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

Saint Francis of Assisi

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

This year marks the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi’s death. Francis was born in 1181, in Assisi, Italy, His father was a wealthy cloth merchant who owned farmland around Assisi, and his mother was a beautiful Frenchwoman. Francis during his youth; was spoiled, indulging himself with fine food, wine, and wild celebrations. By age 14, he had left school and become known as a rebellious teenager who frequently drank, partied and broke the city curfew. He was also known for his charm and vanity.

Francis was expected to follow his father into the family textile business but was bored by the prospect of life in the cloth trade. Instead of planning a future as a merchant, he began daydreaming of a future as a knight; who in the Middle Ages were Medieval action heroes, and if Francis had any ambition, it was to be a war hero like them.

In 1202, war broke out between Assisi and Perugia, and Francis eagerly took his place in the army. Unskilled and with no combat experience, Francis was quickly captured by enemy soldiers. Dressed like an aristocrat and wearing expensive new armor, he was considered worthy of a decent ransom. He and the other wealthy troops were taken as prisoners, led off to a dank underground cell. Francis would spend nearly a year in such miserable conditions awaiting his father’s payment — during this time, he would later report, he began to receive visions from God.

After a year of negotiations, Francis’ ransom was accepted,



and he was released from prison in 1203. When he came back to Assisi, however, he was a very different man. Upon his return, he was dangerously sick, a battle-fatigued casualty of war.

Francis, now in his early 20s, began turning his focus toward God. He spent an ever-increasing amount of time at a remote mountain hideaway as well as in old, quiet churches around Assisi, praying, looking for answers, and helping nurse lepers. During this time, while praying before an old Byzantine crucifix at the church of San Damiano, Francis reportedly heard the voice of Christ, who told him to rebuild the Christian Church and to live a life of extreme poverty. Francis obeyed and began preaching around Assisi and was soon joined by 12 loyal followers.

Francis experienced another defining moment in his life. In order to raise money to rebuild the Church, he sold a bolt of cloth from his father’s shop, along with his horse. His

father became furious upon learning of his son’s actions and dragged Francis before the local bishop. The bishop told Francis to return his father’s money, to which his reaction was extraordinary: Francis stripped off his clothes, and along with them, returned the money to his father, declaring that God was now the only father he recognized. This event is credited as Francis’ final conversion, from now on, he would live according to the Gospel.

Francis’ embrace of Christ-like poverty was a radical notion at the time. Francis and many others, who felt that the long-held apostolic ideals of the Church had eroded. Francis set out on a mission to restore Jesus Christ’s own, original values to the Church. With his incredible charisma, he drew thousands of followers to him. They listened to Francis’ sermons and joined in his way of life; his followers became known as Franciscan friars.

Continuously pushing himself in the quest for spiritual perfection, Francis was soon preaching in up to five villages per day, teaching a new kind of emotional and personal Christian religion that everyday people could understand. He even went so far as to preach to animals, which earned him the nickname “God’s fool.” But Francis’ message was spread far and wide.

In 1224, Francis reportedly received a vision that left him with the stigmata of Christ — marks resembling the wounds Jesus Christ suffered when he was crucified, through his

(Continued on Page 10)

A HISTORY OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE.



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POST-GAZETTE

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

Website: www.BostonPostGazette.com

Subscriptions in the United States \$35.00 yearly

Published weekly by
Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., P.O. Box 130135,
Boston, MA 02113
USPS 1538 – Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the
POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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

Vol. 131 - No. 32

Friday, August 7, 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.

Josephine "Jodie" Pagliuca

May 11, 1957 – August 2, 2026



Josephine "Jodie" Pagliuca, a lifetime resident of Boston's North End. Jodie passed away on Sunday, August 2, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

Loving daughter of the late Mary and Alfred "Freddie" Pagliuca. Cherished sister of Paula Bruno and her husband Frank of Stoneham, and Christine Pagliuca of the North End. Jodie is the adored Aunt of Christopher Bruno and his wife Jennifer of

Billerica, and Samantha Bruno of Stoneham. Great-aunt of Nina Bruno of Billerica.

Jodie was known for her quick wit and sharp sense of humor. She treasured her family and loved spending time with them. She lived a lifetime of strength and courage.

Visitation on Friday, August 7, 2026, in St. Leonard Church, 320 Hanover Street, Boston, MA. Followed by a Mass of Christian Burial. Services at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett, MA.

Donations can be made in Jodie's Memory to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

In the Care of J.S. Waterman Langone Chapel

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Ian J. Dillon

November 6, 1992 — July 27, 2026



Ian J. Dillon, a resident of Charlestown and formerly of Winthrop, entered into eternal life unexpectedly on Monday, July 27, 2026 at the CHA Everett Hospital. He was 33 years old.

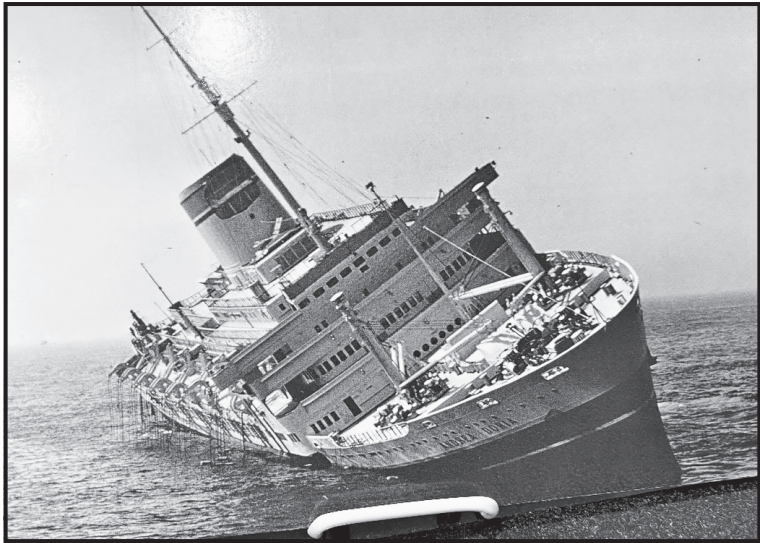
Ian was born in Melrose on November 6, 1992, a son of Julia (Hormann) Dillon and the late John Dillon Jr. He grew up in Winthrop where he was educated in the Winthrop Public School system and Winthrop High School. Ian touched countless lives with his generous heart and compassionate spirit, dedicating his career as a call center specialist for addiction treatment, supporting families in their most challenging moments. His remarkable talent for making others feel valued and important was a testament to his character. To Ian, family and friends were everything, and while his circle was small, his affection for those within it was boundless. Known for his dedication and commitment, when Ian set his mind to something, he gave it his all. His legacy of kindness and friendship endures in the hearts of the many who loved him.

Ian is the beloved son of Julia (Hormann) Dillon and the late John Dillon Jr. He is the loving brother of the late Ciaran J. Dillon. He is the dear grandson of John M. Dillon, Eileen (Murray) Dillon, Birgit Hormann, and Lenny Shea. He is survived by his beloved fiancé Isabella Frayne and his cousin Caiden Beauregard.

Relatives and friends attended Ian's funeral on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, from the Carr Funeral Home, Charlestown, MA, followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Francis De Sales Church, Charlestown. Services concluded at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden, MA.

Remembering the Andrea Doria
70 Years Later

Seventy years ago, on July 25, 1956, the Italian ocean liner *Andrea Doria* met a tragic fate off the coast of Nantucket, Massachusetts. Today, seven decades later, her story remains one of the most memorable chapters in maritime history. On that foggy night in 1956, the *Andrea Doria* collided with the Swedish liner *Stockholm*. The collision killed 51 people. While severely damaged the *Andrea Doria* remained afloat for nearly 11 hours before sinking the following morning. More than 1,600 survivors were rescued in what became one of the most remarkable and successful maritime operations of the era, as their memories continue to live on through their



The *Andrea Doria* lays on its side after being struck by the *Stockholm* on July 25, 1956, off the coast of Nantucket, Massachusetts.



Consulate General of Italy to Boston Arnaldo Minuti

families and descendants, many of whom continue to gather and share the stories of survival, loss and resilience.

The *Andrea Doria* was more than a passenger ship. Launched in 1953, she was a symbol of post-war Italy, elegant, modern and proudly Italian. With beautiful artwork, luxurious accommodations and state of the art technology for her time, she represented Italy's return to the world's oceans and carried thousands of passengers between Europe and America. For many Italian

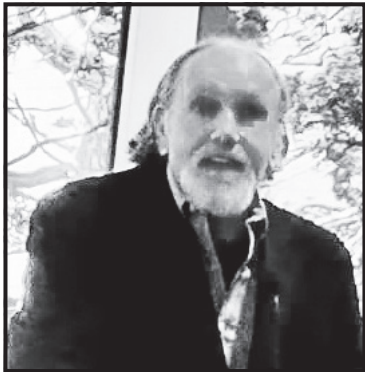


Andrea Doria survivor and author Pierette Domenica Simpson

chapters in the United States. Her loss became not only a maritime tragedy, but a deeply personal memory for many Italian American families.

To commemorate the 70th anniversary, the Consul General to Boston from Italy, Arnaldo Minuti held a gathering of survivors and family members of those who have since passed on as an opportunity to bond, unite, and allow the shared stories to be told and re-told to keep the memories alive.

Today, the wreck rests deep beneath the Atlantic and has become known among divers as the "Mount Everest of diving." Yet the *Andrea Doria* is



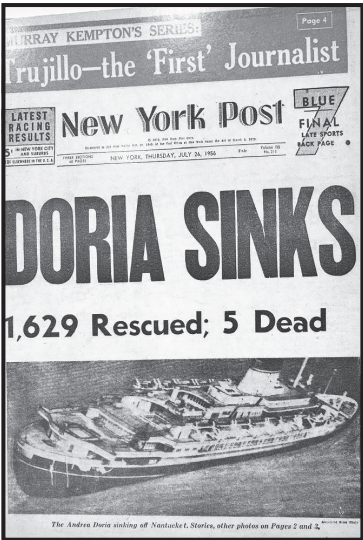
Andrea Doria wreck diver John Moyer has recovered numerous artifacts over the years.



An actual life preserver from the *Anrea Doria* as recovered from a wreck dive.

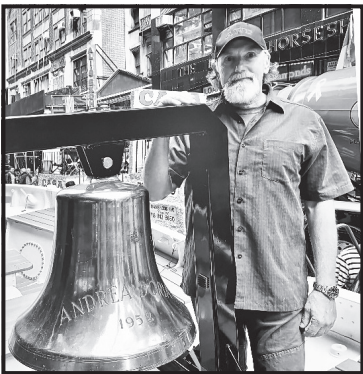
ones whose lives were forever connected by one tragic night at sea. The many artifacts and items recovered, are often on display at various maritime and Italian museums throughout the northeast.

As the 70th anniversary was commemorated, we remember those who never came home, honor those who survived, and recognize the families who have kept their memories alive for generations. Thank you, Consul General Minuti, and staff for hosting the 70th Anniversary Survivors Reunion.

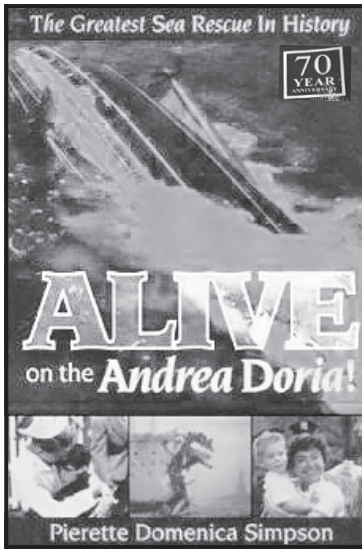


Newspaper headlines following the *Andrea Doria* tragedy.

immigrants, the *Andrea Doria* also represented the journey to a new life in America. She carried passengers who were traveling to visit family, pursue opportunities and begin new



The original *Andria Doria* bell



Andrea Doria survivor and author Pierette Domenica Simpson's real life account of survival.

remembered for much more than the wreck lying on the ocean floor. She is remembered for the people who sailed aboard her, those who lost their lives, the courage of the rescuers and the generations whose lives were connected to her. The survivor's families remind us that the *Andrea Doria* should never be remembered as a ship that sank. It should be remembered as the stories of mothers, fathers, children, immigrant families, survivors and loved



An invitation from the Consulate General to Italy from Boston Arnaldo Minuti's 70th Anniversary remembrance of the *Andrea Doria*.

L’Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Sunny, Shifting Song of August

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

The month of August is like a sunflower for me: big, bold, warm and colorful. Indeed, I know that August has arrived when I see these cheerful flowers carpeting the fields of the small farm near my home or beckoning happily from behind white picket fences on someone’s front lawn. Just like the butter-hued sunflower, August is a month where the light seems more golden and the sky bluer. However, August also brims with bittersweet nostalgia. I know that soon school will start again, and I will need to readjust myself to the order and rhythm of my teaching job. Store shelves begin to sport decorations of scarecrows and hay, and even pumpkins for Halloween, signaling the commencement of fall and the busy nature of the harvest season. For these reasons, August truly teaches us to live in the moment, to enjoy the beautiful weather that accompanies the end of summer and the early autumn, and to revel in the bounty of Mother Earth. We can take a cue on how to celebrate August from the Italians, who honor the month with a plethora of feasts and proverbs that highlight the pleasures of this special time.

August in Italy contains several unique festivals that emphasize the communal spirit of summer. Many of these festivals are actually medieval tournaments and jousts, harkening back to the days of old when Italy was a collection of city-states and such pageantry served as a means of displaying the power and might of one’s city. At the Medieval Palio in Felire, Veneto, held on the first weekend of August, spectators can watch a parade of costumed locals and participate in an archery competition. Those who wish to witness an exciting joust can head to the La Quintana tournament at Ascoli Piceno, a city in Italy’s Le Marche region, or the Giostra di Simone at the Tuscan town of Montisi, where “knights” representing the four neighborhoods of the village compete. When I spent an August in Italy years ago, I saw a similar medieval parade at my father’s hometown of Sulmona in Abruzzo. As I watched noblewomen float by wearing elaborate dresses of crushed velvet and stately knights in glistening chainmail, I felt as if I had been transported to the early days of my ancestors, when life was harsh and people clung to the bounty of the Earth for survival. However, the most



famous August holiday in Italy is Ferragosto, which occurs on August 15th, the day of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. Many Italians take the whole month off for Ferragosto, and visitors to the country will find the cities largely deserted as nearly everyone has flocked to the beach or mountains.

Italians also reference a wide array of proverbs relating to the weather or agricultural conditions of August. These bits of folklore are remnants of the past, dictums left over from the epoch when society was dependent on agriculture and people’s survival depended on the quality of the harvest. However, these nuggets of wisdom still find a home among Italian farmers and folklorists who preserve them for generations to come. Many of these proverbs refer to specific crops, as August is a month of abundant harvest. One such saying intones: “*Acqua d’agosto, olio, miele e mosto.*” Translated, this means that the rains of August prepare the important Italian staples of olive oil, honey, and must, or the juice of grape skins and seeds which comprises the first step of winemaking. Another proverb declares: “*Agosto matura, Settembre vendemmia,*” referring to the fact that grapes ripen during August in order to be ready for the *vendemmia*, or grape harvest, the following month. Other maxims allude to the fact that August serves as the entry point for autumn and the colder period of the year. “*Agosto annunzia il inverno*” means that August announces winter. Meanwhile, the proverb “*Alla Madonna di Agosto si rinfrasca il bosco*” roughly translates to the fact that after the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (August 15th), the forest becomes chillier. These types of truisms were well known to my grandmother, who often admonished that the first rain

of August ushers in the winter. Of course, much of Italy remains very warm throughout August and into September and October, yet these aphorisms brim with the readiness and knowledge of a people aware that they must prepare their crops and livestock early in order to weather the difficult winter months.

So there you have it: a folkloristic compilation of feasts, holidays and proverbs relating to August. This cultural heritage can teach us a lot about how to enjoy this beautiful month. Let us revel in its warm weather and its sunflowers, in the last burst of summer before we step into our fall routines once again. Let us pay homage to harvest and prepare ourselves for whatever life has in store. These are the timeworn and much honored lessons of August, a month which even today bridges two seasons with abundance and a wealth of lore.

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.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Middlesex
The Superior Court
Civil Docket #2681CV1698

RE: MASS BAY CREDIT UNION

v.

MATTHEW JAMES GIBBONS

ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Matthew James Gibbons, a Massachusetts resident, with a last and usual place of residence at 41 Fifth Street, Medford, Massachusetts, 02155

AND TO ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICE MEMBERS’ CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED 2003 as amended:

Mass Bay Credit Union, a Credit Union authorized to do business in Massachusetts and having its usual place of business at 147 West 4th Street, South Boston, Massachusetts claiming to be the holder of a mortgage encumbering 41 Fifth Street, Medford, Massachusetts given by David T. Gibbons to Mass Bay Credit Union dated June 18, 2021 recorded in Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 78092, Page 579, has filed with said court a Complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers’ Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended, and you object to such foreclosure you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court in said County on or before September 14, 2026 or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said Act.

Witness, Ricciuti, J., Esquire,
Chief Justice of the Superior Court,
at Middlesex, Massachusetts,
this 30th day of July, 2026.

Clerk of the Courts
Michael A. Sullivan

Nicholas W. Hegarty
A true attested copy
Deputy Assistant Clerk

Run date: 08/07/2026

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giaratani



“One Nation Under a Groove”

The above headline for this commentary was a song title by the band Funkadelic, a big hit back in 1978 and as I listened to it while driving the other day here, there and everywhere, I wondered whether or not we are today still one nation or if we still have the same groove when we were in during that Bicentennial celebration. Then we were still hungover from the way the Vietnam War came crashing down on our America. My generation paid the biggest price tag for a war our politicians started. Maybe some of them had noble intentions. I don’t really know. The end result is still the same.

Now here we are again today grooving into a new endless war of sorts. One day it is on, the next day not. Repeat the rinse cycle and begin again. I see President Johnson in the things President Trump is doing today. Should we have gone into Vietnam? With hindsight, I say a thousand times no. What about Iran today? It all seems like folly to me. I voted for Trump three times and I thought he meant it about no more endless wars.

Back when I was a registered Democrat, I voted for Ronald Reagan in 1980 when I was 32 years old in hopes that he could set a new course forward for this nation. I also remember a quote of his that should never be forgotten. As I look at our nation right now I see his warning coming closer and closer to our nation. Reagan was right, “Freedom is never more than a generation away from extinction.” Just look how our Democratic Party stands helplessly to a hostile takeover by the likes of Mamdani and his minions.

When folks quote Reagan about our extinction, they never finish his quote which goes, “We don’t pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected and handed on for them to do the same.”

BOTTOM LINE: We all know where we have been. Where we’re going is something else. Ever read *Alice in Wonderland*? Remember when Alice gets confused when she reaches the fork in the road? She saw a cat in the tree above and asked, “Which road do I take?” because she didn’t know.” He tells her “Then it doesn’t matter.”

Reagan’s advice still works today. If we don’t know where we’re going, that is what we will find. That’s New York City today where voters chose Mamdani as their mayor. Just like Rome, the barbarians are inside the gates. Wake up America.



City of Boston
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Department

The City of Boston’s Planning Department invites residents to participate in planning that will help shape the future of the City.

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



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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director / Secretary

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LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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



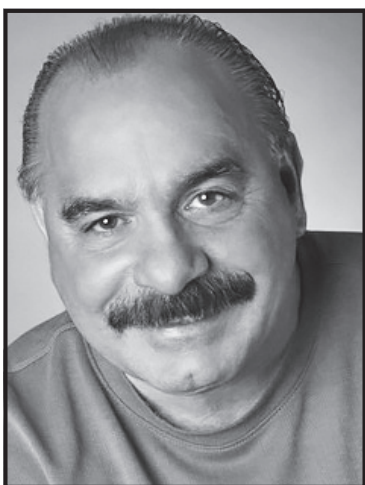
Friends, Romans, Countrymen!

by Laura Carlo

It takes the average person just a few minutes of walking at a good pace to go from one end of the North End's major road, Hanover Street, to the other end. That is, unless you're walking with a North End native known for everything from being a celebrity chef, cookbook author, and a character actor in about 50 Boston-based feature films. In that case, be prepared to stop and say hi to at least 3-dozen people. Meet Frank Imbergamo, a retired postal worker who clearly has no interest in sitting still!

"Proud to say I was born and raised in the North End. I went to the Elliott School, the Michelangelo, and then to Charlestown High because the North End no longer had a neighborhood high school. Then I started as a clerk for the U.S. Postal Service, working my way up the ranks. I was a window clerk, a supervisor, a manager, a route supervisor, 10 years in Malden, then at the South Station General Mail Facility. We're a postal service family as my brother was a postal manager in Waltham, and my wife worked for the USPS for 40 years. Now I have a nephew following in our footsteps!"

In 2005 TV chef Emeril Lagasse announced an "Italian Recipe Contest," calling for recipes and people's bios. "I entered my recipe for 'Frank's Gravy and Meatballs.' Well, I was working at the Malden P.O. at the time and I received a phone call from a show producer saying that they had had over 1500 submissions from across the country, but that I had made the final cut! They flew out an 8-man crew to film me shopping at my favorite food shops in the North End, and then to film me in my house in Medford. Shortly after that I was flown to the Food Network in New York City. Chef Lagasse made the recipes of the 4 winners on his show, 'Emeril Live!' By the way, once that was over, he invited me back on his show



Frank Imbergamo

another few times to talk Italian recipes!"

It turns out that TV appearance started a new career! "I then get a call from Angela Peri, of Boston Casting. She saw Emeril's show and thought I'd fit the bill to serve as a mourner in a funeral scene with Danny Aiello in a movie called *Stiffs*. I said, 'Why not?' That then turned into roles in *Pink Panther 2*, and *Mall Cop* with Kevin James. Anyway, I've been in about 50 movies so far. Plus, TV commercials and print ads, too! I really enjoy it."

I mentioned that I had seen his cookbook, *The Good Life*, in Polcari's store window on Salem Street. Was winning the TV contest what prompted his cookbook? "No, I actually did that 2 years earlier! By the way, there are 40 recipes in it including my gravy and meatballs recipe, but only meals, no desserts." How did he learn to cook? "Mostly from my mother and her mother, my grandmother Rose, who came from Avellino. But I also learned a few recipes from my Dad, who came from Sicily. For example, my Vinegar Peppers recipe is the less-common Sicilian style. I called the book *The Good Life* because to me, and let's face it, to Italians in general, having good food means having a good life!"

Would there be any more cookbooks in the future? "I have

the recipes, but honestly, it is a lot of work getting a book out. There are so many things you didn't know you had to know to get it published. On the other hand, I will gladly stay in the acting field."

One thing he also had a blast doing was being a regular on a YouTube comedy video series called *Pizzer Makers*, about wacky people who worked in a pizza parlor, featuring a cast of local comedians led by producer Chris Palermo. You can still see those videos on the 'tube!

What were some of his favorite memories of growing up in the North End? "That's easy because there is no place else like it. Growing up here in the 60s and 70s, there were at least a dozen butcher shops, bread bakeries, you name it, and all with the freshest foods. Even though my dad died young, everybody knew each other, everybody looked out for each other and we always felt at home and safe. We were members of the Madonna Della Cava Society, a social club that runs one of the street feasts every August. We loved living here, and honestly, once I retired from the postal service, we sold the house in Medford and headed back to the North End.

I marveled at Frank's "say yes to life" attitude. "You never know where one thing is going to lead you. Saying 'yes' to new experiences is part of the joy of living. In fact, after that first movie, I liked the idea of continuing in the acting field and signed up for acting lessons from the New England Model Group. Just doing that got me into a New Hampshire power plant TV commercial, some print work for Hannaford Foods, and the list goes on. If the Donnie Wahlberg TV series 'Boston Blue' continues another season, I've already been asked to be part of the new local shoot! Look, age is just a number. I stay busy, I like to travel. I stay interested...and that's what keeps you young!"

And with this column, my dear readers, I say "Ciao" for now. I've begun a new job as Morning Host on the World Classical Network, a classical music radio service you can access through the internet via the I-Heart app, or on affiliates WCRI 95.9, (RI) and WSCS, 90.9 (NH). I've loved both sharing the stories of amazing people over the last 10+ months, and reading your lovely, encouraging comments. I'm also grateful to publisher Pam Donnaruma for telling me that she'll keep the porch light on if my schedule ever lightens up enough that I can submit a future column or two! Meantime, as Charles Osgood used to say, "I'll see you on the radio!"

Two Favorite North End Photographers Team Up

Whether it's a Sunday Religious Society Procession or a neighborhood event in the North End of Boston, you can all but guarantee you will come across long-time *Post-Gazette* photographer Gerri Palladino with her camera in hand, snapping away, recording some of our most precious memories, and always with a smile on her face. Thanks to Gerri's energy, commitment and love of the North End, we never worry that a community occasion or gathering will not be preserved. She always manages to capture the essence of the neighborhood, its people and their traditions.

With the feast season in full swing and many more neighborhood celebrations on the horizon, it is the perfect opportunity to extend our thanks and appreciation to Gerri for making us all look so good and for keeping us connected through her photos. Don't stop snapping Gerri and most importantly keep smiling.



(L-R): North End Photographers Charles Rachel and Gerri Palladino share a hug and laugh during the recent St. Joseph Society of Boston Procession. A huge shout out of gratitude to this dynamic duo for their beautiful photos.

umbria Italian steakhouse & mia ROOF DECK



Bricco
Boutique Italian Cuisine
241 Hanover St. • 617.248.6800

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

Quattro
Grill, Rosticceria & Pizzeria
266 Hanover St. 617.720.0444

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

Trattoria Il Panino
Boston's 1st Original Trattoria
11 Parmenter St. • 617.720.1336

Assaggio
Positano Cuisine Restaurant • Lounge
29 Prince St. Boston • 617-865-1265

Umbria
Steakhouse & mia Roof Deck
250 Hanover St. • 617-868-1265

Dolce
Italian Cafe with 33 Flavors of Tiramisu
272 Hanover St.

Encore
BOSTON HARBOR
1 Broadway, Everett

Fratelli
Italian Fine Dining
617-420-8833

Frank and Nick's
The Italian Experience
857-770-3483

Giardino
Breakfast & Lunch
857-770-3360

35th Annual Eastie Pride Day Celebration

Saturday, August 15, 2026 - 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Eastie Pride Day is all about uplifting the East Boston community while celebrating our history, traditions, and resilience. This event has always provided an opportunity to gather with our neighbors at Piers Park for an afternoon of fun and festivities. Many of the vital businesses and organizations throughout the neighborhood are showcased for the work they do to support and uplift East Boston.

This year, we are incredibly excited to announce that the **36th Annual Eastie Pride Day at Piers Park** located on Marginal Street. This will include activities and entertainment for all ages, from face painting to live music and performances. As in years past, many local businesses and organizations that call East Boston home will be joining us to make this Eastie Pride Day the best one yet! We hope that you can join us for a day full of Eastie spirit as we highlight the very best values and qualities of our community. This event is free and open to the public.

There is NO PARKING at Eastie Pride Day. The only parking available is on street. We strongly recommend you take public transportation to the event via either the MBTA Blue Line or the ferry from Long Wharf to East Boston.

MBTA resources to plan your trip to Piers Park:

The Blue Line Trip Planner & Ferry Schedule to East Boston



JOIN US FOR THE

37TH ANNUAL EASTIE PRIDE DAY Celebration!

AUGUST 15TH
2:00PM-6:00PM

PIERS PARK
Marginal Street, East Boston

THIS EVENT IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF
FOOD ★ MUSIC ★ FACE PAINTING
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ★ CHILDREN'S GAMES

Interested in volunteering? Fill out a form on our website at
www.EastiePrideDay.com/volunteer

Follow us for updates and additional details!

Instagram: EastiePrideDay Facebook: @EastiePrideDay

Presented by
EASTIE PRIDE DAY

• **St. Agrippina** (Continued from Page 1)

The intersection of Hanover and Battery Streets served as the heart of the 112th Annual St. Agrippina di Mineo Religious Festival beginning Thursday, July 30 to Sunday, August 2, 2026 as the North End neighborhood of Boston celebrated one of its oldest feast. From the opening ceremony and blessing of the feast on Thursday evening, to the Friday night entertainment, Saturday's children's procession and ultimately an annual mass, grand procession, tug of war and return of La Madonna to her home chapel on Sunday evening, it was non-stop faith, family and celebration of Italian Heritage.

Blessed with a weekend of beautiful weather, an amazing crowd, newcomers, long time family, friends, dedicated and passionate society members it was another successful opportunity to honor the traditions and customs that our ancestors brought with them from Italy to their new home, America. The St. Agrippina di Mineo Society Members and officers would like to extend their sincere appreciation for the continued support of their beloved patron saint and for the continued devotion over the years.



It takes 20 strong men to carry St. Agrippina through the streets of the North End.



The Italian American Band from Lowell leads the St. Agrippina procession down Hanover Street.



Greeting St. Agrippina and society members from an apartment window.



The younger generations pay tribute to St. Agrippina.



A dancing St. Agrippina Society member, Anthony Gambale, keeps step with the band's tunes.



Joe Blazo, Sr. displays a St. Agrippina ribbon.



Members of the Mustacchio family continue to honor their family's patron Saint, Agrippina di Mineo.



An American Flag holder, St. Agrippina Flag holder and Italian Flag holder proudly march in the 2026 annual procession.



Visitors from Mineo, Sicily participate in the North End Festival in Boston, MA



A full-size ribbon in honor of St. Agrippina di Mineo, 2026.

(Photos by Gerri Palladino)



Each summer, Boston’s North End celebrates Feast Season, a time when the patron saints Italian immigrants brought from their towns and villages throughout Italy return to the streets in grand procession. The neighborhood comes alive as the aromas of Italian food fill the air and generations of families gather to celebrate the faith, traditions, and way of life that continue to make the North End one of the last living pieces of Italy in America. For those who grew up here, the feasts weren’t simply annual celebrations, they were part of who you are.

For lifelong North End resident Joe Spagnuolo, those traditions became the foundation of his life’s work. Encouraged by the business owners who helped shape his childhood and guided by the love of his Nonna Josie, he transformed a lifelong passion for the food, feasts, and way of life he grew up with into Cini’s, a successful arancini company. Now, as he prepares to open a restaurant in the same neighborhood that raised him, his goal is not simply to build another business, but to give back to the only place he has ever called home while helping ensure the legacy of Boston’s North End lives on for generations to come.

Sitting around the table with Joe, I asked him to take me back to the beginning.

“I was born and raised here,” Joe smiled. “I’ve always been a North Ender. I never left. My Nonna’s family came from Cusano and Abruzzo, and my Nonno’s family came from Montefalcione in Avellino.”

I couldn’t help but notice the Saint Anthony medal and crucifix he was wearing.

“My father gave them to me,” Joe said. “My family has always had a strong devotion to Saint Anthony. My Nonna even had a Saint Anthony tile built into the outside of our home.”

“August is like our December,” he smiled. “This is our Christmas. Especially being from Endicott Street and Saint Anthony’s being the biggest and best feast, it was more exciting than going to Disney World as a kid.”

Immigrants from Montefalcione brought the Feast of Saint Anthony to Boston’s North End 107 years ago, where it has since grown into the second-largest religious feast in the country.

“What was it like growing up in the North End?” I asked. “Was it different from growing up anywhere else?”

“It was,” he said. “Back then, the North End was divided into three sections. Everyone knew each other. Everyone was a North Ender, but you stayed in your own section.”

“There weren’t all the restaurants’ people see today?”

“No,” he responded. “There were families.”

That simple answer said everything.

“So, growing up here inspired what you’ve built?”

“Yes,” Joe replied. “You don’t realize it until you’re older and start talking about it. Food revolved around everything in our lives. It’s just who we are. Other people eat to live. We live to eat.”

It wasn’t hard to understand where that love of food began.

“My Nonna Josie,” he smiled. “She cooked for about twelve of us, seven nights a week, and every night was something different. Puttanesca, chicken cutlets, chicken soup...and pizza. She made pizza every single night. Everything was homemade, even the dough. If she didn’t have time to make it herself, she’d get it from Parziale’s.”

“You spent a lot of time with her?”

“Every Saturday we’d walk the neighborhood together. We’d stop at Pace’s for the cold cuts, then Parziale’s for bread and pizza dough, then the butcher on Salem Street. And if I was lucky, we’d end up at Caffè Vittoria for ice cream.”

“Did she take you to church too?”

“Sometimes,” he laughed. “But only if she promised we’d go to Caffè Vittoria afterward for ice cream.”

Our conversation naturally turned to faith.

“Did your family belong to Saint Leonard’s Parish?”

“No,” Joe replied. “We always belonged to Sacred Heart. Today, we do everything at Saint Leonard’s, but when my Nonna passed away, something happened there, the heat wasn’t working or something, so her funeral Mass ended up being at Sacred Heart.”

“She was baptized at Sacred Heart,” he continued. “She went to Saint John’s School. I went there too. So did my brother and my aunt.”

“Even Christmas was so special,” he reflected. “But now, many people are gone, it’s just not the same. There were so many of us. I don’t eat fish, so every Christmas Eve my family would make veal cutlets just for me. They still do.”

“What do you remember most?” I asked.



The more Joe talked, the more I understood why he never left the North End.

Laughing, he shared a story that sounded like it belonged in an old Italian movie.

“When I was a kid, we had to wear uniforms to school,” he said. “The seamstress lived in the building next door. Our apartments faced each other, and the fire escapes were right across. They would send me out onto the fire escape, she’d lean out from hers and hem my pants right there. Tell me that’s not something straight out of a movie.”

“I never really left the neighborhood for anything,” he smiled. “You just never left.”

“So, you didn’t go to the mall?” I asked.

“No,” Joe laughed. “You didn’t need to. You had everything here. Salem Street had Sheldon’s for underwear, Italian tank tops, stuff for school clothes... everything.”

“This is truly the best Little Italy in the world,” he said. “I’ve been to Little Italy’s all over the country. I’ve been to Italy. It’s hard to find people who still live like this. A lot of people never left. They’re still here, and that’s what makes this place so special.”

Then he added, “I’ve been everywhere, and I’ll always say the same thing. This is the best neighborhood in the world. It really is.”

As our conversation continued, Joe began talking about another side of growing up in the North End. Like many Italian immigrant families, money was limited, and people simply learned to make the best of what they had.

“I’ve heard it was a very different place back then,” I said. “The buildings were old, and many were eventually torn down.”

“It’s a double-edged sword,” Joe replied. “What would they have become...projects? You’ve got to pick your poison.”

“I remember the first time I saw a bathroom in the hallway. We didn’t have that in our building, but a lot of people did. If there were three apartments on a floor, everyone shared one toilet.”

“No showers?” I asked.

“No showers. Where the Nazzaro Center is today, that was the bathhouse.”

“The Nazzaro Center on North Bennet Street? That’s where people went to take a shower?”

“Yeah,” Joe nodded. “Can you imagine? Three apartments on one floor, everybody using the same toilet. How crazy is that? It’s insane.”

Finally, our conversation turned to Galleria Umberto, one of the places that had the greatest impact on Joe’s life.

“Joe, you mentioned something earlier,” I said. “While other kids were going to McDonald’s, you were going to Umberto’s.”

He laughed. “Every Saturday, my friends would come wake me up, and we’d go to Umberto’s for rice balls, pizza, and calzones. But it was the rice balls everyone loved. Nobody else had them. No one in the North End even made rice balls back then. They were the best. They still are the best, and they’ll always be the best.”

“For us, Umberto’s was what McDonald’s was for other kids,” he said. “Every friend I ever had, I brought to Umberto’s, and I still bring people there today. And the pizza...nobody else had square pizza. People call it Sicilian, but when I went to Sicily, I didn’t see square pizza there.”

Like so many lives, Joe’s wasn’t without its challenges. During one difficult chapter, he found himself thinking about the future and the kind of life he wanted to build.

“I remember thinking, what can I do? I knew I didn’t want to end up back where I was,” Joe said. “I kept thinking about the rice balls at Umberto’s. They were the best, but they were so big that after you ate one, you were done for the rest of the day.” That’s when the idea for Cini’s was born. “I thought, what if I made them smaller? Different varieties ... bite-sized. I’ve always loved to cook, so I started putting the idea together in my head.”

The first person he turned to was Anthony Deuterio of Galleria Umberto, affectionately known throughout the North End as “Buckwheat.”

“I went to see Anthony,” Joe recalled. “I told him what I was thinking.”

“Did Anthony teach you how to make them?” I asked.

Joe laughed. “Anthony is the Godfather of Rice Balls. Nobody makes them like he does at Umberto’s. They are

Around the Table: THE LEGACY CONTINUES

In memory of Nonna Josephine “Josie” Spagnuolo
Nonna Josie and Mama Denise’s Pastiera
(Pastiera Abruzzese they made together every Sunday)

6 large eggs
1-pound whole milk ricotta cheese
1 handful grated Pecorino Romano cheese
Fresh Italian parsley, finely chopped (about ¼ cup, or to taste)
Abruzzese salami, cut into small cubes (about 8 ounces, or to taste)
12 ounces Mueller’s Old Fashioned Wide Egg Noodles
1 stick butter, cut into pats (more if needed)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
Preheat the oven to 375°F.



Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook the egg noodles until al dente. Drain well and rinse under cold water to stop the cooking and cool. Set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, beat together the eggs, ricotta cheese, Pecorino Romano cheese, and chopped parsley until well combined. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Fold the cubed Abruzzese salami into the ricotta mixture. Add the cooled egg noodles and gently mix until the noodles are evenly coated.

Thoroughly grease a 13 x 9-inch baking dish. Pour the noodle mixture into the prepared pan and spread it evenly. Dot the top with pats of butter.

Bake for about 45 minutes, or until the top is lightly golden brown and the center is set. Allow the Pastiera to cool before cutting into squares and serving. Mangia!

the best, and they’ll always be the best,” he said. “He gave me his blessing and his knowledge.”

“So, he taught you?”

“Yes, he did,” Joe smiled.

Listening to Joe, I was reminded that Boston’s North End has always been about people helping people. There aren’t many places where an established family business would welcome someone in, share the craft they had spent a lifetime perfecting, and encourage them to follow their dream. Anthony “Buckwheat” Deuterio and the Umberto family did exactly that for Joe.

But the support didn’t end there.

“When I was working on my recipes, I’d go to Saraceno’s early in the morning,” Joe recalled. “Frank Pezzano’s chef, Joe, would let me work in the kitchen, tinkering with recipes.”

“So, Anthony taught you how to make the rice balls, and the chef at Saraceno’s gave you a place to perfect them?” I asked.

“Yes,” Joe said. “And my friend Joe Bono helped me too. He owns three restaurants in the North End. He helped me get into the feasts because, in the beginning, my plan was just to sell Cini’s there.”

The feasts that had been such a special part of Joe’s childhood became the first place he shared the business they inspired.

“So, Cini’s started at the feasts, then grew into a storefront at The Hub, and now you’re wholesaling these miniature arancini while still doing the feasts. What made you decide to open a restaurant?” I asked.

“It just feels like the next step,” Joe replied. “We have a culture that a lot of other ethnicities don’t have, everyone loves our food, and I want people to have that experience ... to feel what it was like growing up here.”

“You want people to experience the North End through your eyes ... to feel what it was like sitting around Nonna Josie’s table?” I asked.

Joe smiled. “Exactly.”

“The food ... the traditions ... the way of life you never want to let go of?”

“That’s exactly it,” he said. “This is my way of giving back and helping preserve what we still have.”

Before we finished, I asked Joe one last question.

“Joe, earlier you mentioned that when you were growing up, the North End was divided into three sections”

Smiling, I asked, “Does the restaurant you’re opening happen to be in the section where you grew up?”

Joe laughed. “Yes, it is. Why?” he asked with a grin.

“Are you saying this might have been my subconscious?”

“Maybe,” I smiled. “I’ll never tell.”

As I left, I found myself thinking that for Joe, perhaps it all began as a little boy around Nonna Josie’s table, where family, food, faith, and tradition were simply a way of life. In Boston’s North End, tradition isn’t recreated. It is lived, protected, and quietly passed from one generation to the next by those determined never to forget where they came from.

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

Facts

ON

wax

by bob morello

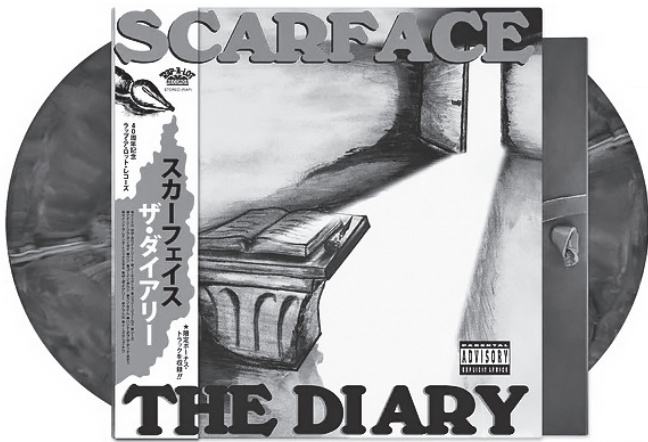
reviewing the best . . . forgetting the rest

**GETO BOYS –
WE CAN'T BE STOPPED**
(Metallic Blue Vinyl 2xLP) Rap-A-Lot Records



As Rap-A-Lot Records celebrates its 40th anniversary, the label proudly marks another milestone with the return of the Geto Boys' landmark album *We Can't Be Stopped*, available today in several new collector vinyl variants. Widely regarded as one of the most important hip-hop albums ever released, *We Can't Be Stopped* helped redefine Southern rap while establishing the Geto Boys as one of the genre's most influential groups. Originally released in 1991, the platinum-selling album brought Houston's voice to a global audience and remains a defining moment in rap history. Anchored by the timeless classic "Mind Playing Tricks on Me" — widely considered one of the greatest hip-hop songs of all time — *We Can't Be Stopped* expanded the emotional depth of rap music through its honest portrayal of paranoia, trauma, and mental health, while helping shape the sound and storytelling of generations that followed. Featuring the legendary lineup of Scarface, Willie D, and Bushwick Bill, the album pushed artistic boundaries with fearless lyricism and uncompromising authenticity. More than three decades later, its influence continues to resonate throughout music and culture, serving as both a landmark recording and a blueprint for countless artists who followed. Following the acclaimed vinyl return of Scarface's *The Diary*, *We Can't Be Stopped* becomes the second cornerstone release in Rap-A-Lot Records' 40th Anniversary vinyl campaign, giving longtime fans and a new generation of collectors the opportunity to experience one of hip-hop's defining albums in premium collector formats. The Rap-A-Lot Records 40th Anniversary campaign continues throughout 2026 with additional vinyl releases, special projects, and anniversary initiatives celebrating the enduring legacy of one of hip-hop's most iconic and influential independent labels.

**SCARFACE –
THE DIARY**
*(Red Vinyl 2xLP)
Rap-A-Lot Records*



Rap-A-Lot Records continues its yearlong 40th anniversary celebration with the return of Scarface's landmark album *The Diary*, available today in several new collector vinyl variants. Widely regarded as one of the greatest hip-hop albums ever recorded, *The Diary* remains a defining work in Scarface's legendary catalog and a cornerstone release in the history of Southern rap. Originally released in 1994, the album helped cement Scarface's reputation as one of hip-hop's most respected storytellers and features classics including "I Seen A Man Die," "Hand Of The Dead Body," and "No Tears." Released as part of Rap-A-Lot Records' year-long 40th anniversary celebration, the new vinyl edition also features "Ease Up Now," a previously unreleased Scarface recording unearthed from the archives. Founded by James Prince in 1986, Rap-A-Lot Records helped define Southern hip-hop and established a blueprint for independent success that would influence generations of artists and labels to follow. Throughout 2026, the label is commemorating four decades of music, culture, and influence through special vinyl releases and anniversary initiatives. "Forty years later, we're still standing on the same principles — independence, ownership, and building something that lasts," said James Prince. "Rap-A-Lot was never about following trends, it was about setting a foundation. What we built continues to influence the culture, and we're still adding to that legacy."

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 Giarattani

**ANOTHER WEEKEND IN THE
SAFEST CITY IN AMERICA**



According to Mayor Wu, Boston is the safest city in America. That is until the bullets start flying around. This past weekend, violence struck from one end of the city to the other. Four shot in Hyde Park leaving one dead. Closer to home for me, one dead up on Meridian Street not far from the bridge to Chelsea.

City councilors Erin Murphy and Ed Flynn have been speaking out on this issue of violence that has been hitting city neighborhoods and even the downtown area. Where is the rest of the Boston City Council on this matter? It's time to stop playing pretend. Boston is better than most large cities across America but hardly the safest. What is your opinion out there?

**AS A BEACH BUM
I HATE A DAY WITHOUT SUNSHINE**

We had too much rain last week and over the weekend too. For me every day of rain is a wasted day. It brings back songs sung by either Paul Simon or Karen Carpenter. While driving home on the highway a few days black with rain falling all around me, my radio dial was tuned into Sixties music and I heard Dee Clark singing "RAINDROPS" from back during the summer I was only 13 years old,

I am now getting ready for my annual end of the summer trip to Minnesota where they have 10,000 lakes but not a drop of ocean weather. I put up with it because it is a great time of the year over in Dayton and Maple Grove. Nowhere near Minneapolis and I like it like that as the Dave Clark Five once sang. It is another of those blue cities where the mayor thinks it is safe.

Enjoy the rest of summer everyone, every moment of it. I'll take a little rain maybe over-night when I could care less about it falling. My suntanning days are still on before I have to pack everything up in my cellar.



Here is a great photo op of the North End's long history. In one photo you get the trifecta, the offices of the *Post-Gazette* founded in 1896, right next door the spankin' brand new North End Historical Museum and the procession during the St. Joseph Feast.

**GREAT CAR SHOW UP IN SAUGUS
THIS PAST SATURDAY**

I drove up Route 1 in Saugus to the new Saugus High School parking lot for a Cops and Cars fundraiser. (carsandcopscarshow.com)-I never saw more restored old police cruisers in one place before. There was a Starsky and Hutch 1973 Ford Torino and how 'bout that black and white Ford cruiser that Reed and Malloy rode in *Adam-12*? I had a great time. More on this car show next week.

**IS KAMALA SERIOUS
ABOUT '28 RUN?**

I'm thinking the newspaper headlines should read "THINKING ABOUT LOSING AGAIN IN 2028." Hasn't she had enough time to reflect on what happened to her in 2024? Apparently not.

NYC HAS GONE BANANAS

Here's a great comment from a good friend of mine from Charlestown, Sean Flaherty. Seems in New York City when Mayor Zohran Mamdani gets his city-owned neighborhood grocery stores up and running, there's a catch. In order to purchase anything there you must show an ID to prove you live in the neighborhood. As my friend Sean remarked, "Only in socialist New York City is it racist to require an ID to vote, but not necessary to buy bananas." Go Sean!

**TONY FAUCI
IS A PIECE OR WORK**

Dr. Anthony Fauci is a disgrace. What's worse he's an Italian American. He just took the Fifth under oath before Congress 111 times! He wouldn't even answer what color his socks were without answering he was taking the Fifth. My God, this guy got a pardon from all of his alleged wrongdoings from President Biden before Trump took over and before Fauci was even charged with anything. Thumbs down for Tony Baloney.

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. MI26A0375AD
CITATION
G. L. c. 210, § 6
In the matter of
NICHOLAS WILLIAM CHAMNESS
To Nicholas Charles Chamness 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 Sheryl Ann Taylor of Malden, MA, requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Nico William Chamness.
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 SSL. 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 24, 2026.
Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 31, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run dates: 08/07, 08/14, 08/21/2026

LEGAL NOTICE



Watertown
Housing Authority

**WATERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY
PUBLIC COMMENT & PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**
The Watertown Housing Authority (WHA) is providing an opportunity to receive public comments on their proposed Moving to Work (MTW) Supplement, impact analysis for the Housing Choice Voucher as well amendments to its Administrative Plan and HUD-50075-5 Year Plan for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026.
THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS ON AUGUST 31, 2026 AT 4:30 PM.
During the public comment period, WHA program participants and members of the general public are invited to provide written comment and to submit them via email to WHA at jweir@watertownha.org, or by mail to: Watertown Housing Authority 55 Waverley Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472 ATTN: Jacqueline Weir
In addition, in-person public hearings will be held at the *Watertown Housing Authority, Lexington Gardens Learning Center, 38 Philip Darch Road, Watertown, MA 02472* which is handicapped accessible. The public hearings will occur on **Monday September 21, 2026**, with the first hearing regarding **WHA's MTW Supplement at 4:30 PM**. At this time, WHA will review its draft MTW Supplement, answer questions and receive comments. Immediately following the conclusion of the preceding public hearing, WHA will hold a separate hearing on its Administrative Plan and HUD-50075-5 Year Plan. If translation and/or interpreter services are needed, please contact WHA at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.
Copies of the proposed MTW Supplement, Administrative Plan and HUD-50075-5 Year Plan are available prior to the hearing upon request, or are available for review at the WHA's office or on its webpage at: (www.watertownha.org). If you are unable to attend the hearing and want to submit written comments on the plan, please submit them prior to the meeting to the *Watertown Housing Authority, 55 Waverley Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472 ATTN: Jacqueline Weir*. For more information about the MTW supplement, Agency Specific Waiver or the hearing, contact *Jacqueline Weir* at 617-923-3950.
WHA will consider all comments received during the public comment period and at the public hearing and may modify the MTW Supplement, Agency Specific waiver and related materials in response. WHA's Board of Commissioners will meet on **Monday, September 21, 2026 at 5:00 PM** at the *Watertown Housing Authority, 38 Philip Darch Road, MA 02472* to take action on the MTW Supplement, Administrative Plan and HUD-50075-5Year Plan. *The meeting is open to the public.*
Run date: 08/07/2026

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Right after the 2nd World War began, life changed for the Christoforo/Contini family.

My dad and uncles had been on the road with the big bands (except Uncle Gino) and that came to an end with the beginnings of the war. Uncle Paul went to work days as a journeyman printer, Dad accepted a job teaching machine shop at his old alma mater, East Boston High School, Uncle Nick got hooked up with a band that played for the dinner crowd at one of Boston’s hotels, and Uncle Gino went to work at the Chelsea Navy Yard. All just waited for the draft to catch up with them, because we were at war on two fronts, and early on, it was called World War II.

By the summer of 1942, Uncle Nick was called, and to avoid the draft, enlisted in the Navy. Uncle Paul was rejected due to his age and never went into the military. Once Uncle Gino was called, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. Dad had a high lottery number, and wasn’t called right away, but by the end of ‘42, or early ‘43, he was approached by the OSS (the Office of Strategic Services) ... the forerunner to today’s CIA, and asked to become a part-time operator for their Boston division. It seems that they were housing Italian war prisoners at some of the old forts on Boston Harbor Islands and at the closed immigration station on Marginal Street in East Boston. They needed someone to interrogate the captured soldiers, and somehow, Dad’s name came up. With Babbononno as his recording secretary, he accepted the job on a part-time basis. (He actually needed Babbononno. Dad couldn’t read nor write Italian and barely spoke the dialect he learned from his father.) So, Dad’s schedule included teaching at EBHS, working for the OSS, and, oh I forgot, playing six nights a week with a quintet, the Jimmy McHale Orchestra, at the Fife and Drum Room, a downstairs café at the Hotel Vendome on Commonwealth Ave. He would eventually work in coaching football.

Gasoline became rationed early on and all car owners were issued rectangular stickers that were placed on the bottom corner of the passenger’s side of the windshields. Most people were issued stickers with a capital “A” in the center. They were only able to buy, I believe, five gallons of gas per week. Dad and my uncles were issued stickers with a capital “B,” which allowed the purchase of ten gallons per week. Ration books were also issued, and a person buying gas had to hand over ration stamps that corresponded to the purchase. This meant that there was no joy riding or side trips. Most cars were used for business, and that was it. Oh, and new tires were impossible to get, which didn’t help the situation.

It was the summer of ‘42, and Babbononno wanted to have a dinner for his family before they all went off to fight the war, with,

God forbid, some never returning home. Back then, there was no home air conditioning. There were window fans or just screens located on the outside of open windows. As a result, it was often too hot to cook and eat in an East Boston kitchen. The alternative was a kitchen in the cellar where it was a bit cooler than on the upper floors.

In the cellar was the old ice box that was replaced by an electric refrigerator in the kitchen. There was the old kitchen set that was replaced by a new one just before the war. Along with this was a black soap-stone sink. Surrounding these creature comforts were shelves where Nanna stored the vegetables she had prepared the winter before. Not too far away, were the barrels filled with the red and white wines vinted by Babbononno and almost ready to drink. This was the downstairs summer kitchen.

Outside in the backyard was another table and six to eight chairs that had been in the cellar at one time and in the upstairs kitchen even before that when they were new. If the day selected for the dinner was a good one weather wise, this is where they would all eat, al fresco.

A Sunday was selected and both Nanna and my mother prayed to St. Anthony for good weather. He answered their prayers and the dinner was served outside. Nanna had made the pasta a day or two earlier and had the strands slung over the nails on the kitchen curtain stretcher that stood in the backyard. I had never eaten store bought pasta until I was about fifteen. Up until then, it was all homemade.

The dinner started out with antipasto that contained cold cuts, cheeses, and vegetables that grew in the backyard, nurtured by both Nanna and Babbononno. This was followed by what today is called Italian Wedding Soup. Next came the tagliatelle with Bolognese sauce. (thick homemade spaghetti with meat sauce) This was followed by an assortment of meats cooked

in Nanna’s gravy. (sauce to non-Italians) This was accompanied by sautéed vegetables, and lastly, garden salad. The old-timers served the salad after the main courses, not before them. They claimed it was better for the digestion. There would be bottles of Babbononno’s red and white homemade wine on the table and a couple of carafes of red with cut up peaches. That was intended to be the dessert. Pastry and coffee might come later, but not right after the dinner. What did follow the dinner was a large bowl of fresh fruit, dishes of nuts and maybe little boxes of torrone, in case someone wanted something sweet, early on.

When the dinner came to an end, Babbononno would light up a cheroot, and my father and uncles handmade Cuban cigars. From this point on, the men would relax in the shade and the ladies would do the dishes in the black soap stone sink in the cellar. My cousin, Paula, and I would be allowed to leave the table, both to babysit her sister, my infant cousin Ellie. This is while we romped around in the backyard.

This was one of the last dinners we would all share together during that summer of 1942. Soon, Uncle Nick would head off to the Navy and Uncle Gino to the Air Corps.

We would not all be able to sit down again until after the war ended, about three and a half years in the future.

The war took its toll on the family. Uncle Nick and his first wife, Ada Giorgione, separated, and later divorced. Uncle Gino, while in New York on leave, would meet a Flamenco dancer, and later, marry her (Aunt Ninna). Nanna would suffer a massive heart attack and never fully recover, causing Babbononno to have to sell the big house at 70 Eutaw Street in East Boston, and move into a small apartment. He also retired from his day job to take care of my grandmother. And that’s the way it was in 1942.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Before I close, to those of you who try to contact me at the paper: If you have a computer, my email address is: beagsley@rcn.com. This might be an easier way to go.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000
Docket No. MI26C0611CA
In the matter of:
REYA BEGUM
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Reya Begum of Cambridge, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Masuda Begum**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of August 26, 2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.**

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 29, 2026
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 08/07/2026

• **News Briefs**
(Continued from Page 1)

immigrant who failed a test 10 times prior to the accident. This new policy also drew criticism. “This is not about safety; this is about racism,” stated Nikki Fried, chair of the Florida Democratic Party.

End Quote
“I’ll turn Karnes ICE Immigration Detention Facility into a prison for American Zionists and ... and former ICE offices for human trafficking.”
— The above quote from *Maureen Galindo, an unsuccessful candidate in a Texas primary election for a U.S. House seat*

2026 NORTH END FESTIVAL DIRECTORY

AUGUST

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. 11,12,13 1 pm

EAST BOSTON SPORTS DAY ON THE GREENWAY FREE!

YOUR FAVORITE NEW ENGLAND TEAMS, MASCOTS, ACTIVITIES, MUSIC AND MORE!

Sat. August 22, 1-4PM
Bremen Street Park

www.maryellenwelchgreenway.org



Save the Date for SPORTS DAY on the Greenway!

We are thrilled to bring New England Major sports teams to East Boston with activities, team mascots and more!
Local sports leagues will be on hand promoting programs offered to our youth.

VOLUNTEER/SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

We are looking for volunteers to assist with set-up / event staff / teardown, along with sponsors to help defray costs by providing refreshments and / or services such as face painting.
Please reach out to lisa@maryellenwelchgreenway.org if you are interested!

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Notice is hereby given by **Ramsay's Towing 152 Prospect Street, Waltham, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **August 22, 2026 beginning at 10:00 PM** by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Ramsay's Towing.

SARAH KIZZA, NSIGAYE
2005 FORD ESCAPE
VIN # 1FMCU9GD6JUB65782

MURA MUZI, PRUDENCE
2007 MB C CLASS
VIN # WDBRF52H27F925777

PAUL M. DELERME
2005 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
VIN # JTEEP21A950097383

Run dates: 08/07, 8/14, 08/21/2026

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

Docket No. MI24P5794EA

Estate of ADRIAN EMMANUEL SOTO
Also known as:
ADRIAN SOTO

Date of Death: August 07, 2024

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for *S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative* has been filed by **Elizabeth Vega of Concord, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Elizabeth Vega of Concord, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With 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 08/31/2026.

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

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 06, 2026

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 08/07/2026

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 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
Vin #4M2CU97759KJ17982

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

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

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. 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 for 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

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

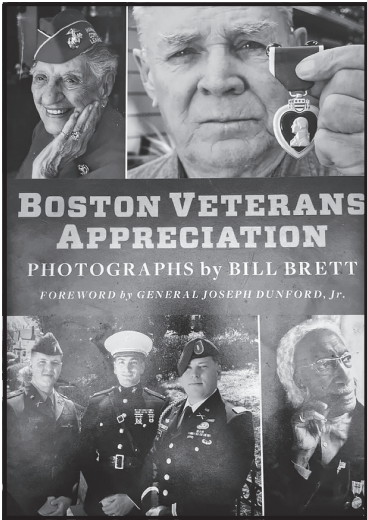
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

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

BOSTON VETERANS APPRECIATION

BY BILL BRETT

Review by John Joseph Fahey



Published only two months prior to the nation's Semiquincentennial, Photographer Bill Brett's latest book (and weighing in an imposing 4 lbs!) is a fitting tribute to Greater Boston's veterans ranging from World War 2 through to the current conflicts where America's armed forces have courageously fought in service to their country.

Brett's 7th book, *Boston Veterans Appreciation* has already enjoyed impressive sales; it's many photos of those veterans representing the country's various military branches, and the information about these men and woman will allow readers to get a good glimpse of the many people who answered their nation's call — some of whom served as far back as the Second World War in the early 1940s. Of course, one can easily discern that a few of the veterans have surpassed the century mark, and others certainly close to it. Others included were those who participated in following engagements such as the Korean and Vietnam conflicts; and of recent memory, engagements in the Middle East.

Definitely a project worthy of consideration — indeed, Brett's narrative along with photographs allows the reader not a look at many of the veterans represented in the book, but

also their stories and their time in serving in America's Armed Forces. One will also glean some insight at the historical aspects of the nation's military involvement across the globe with a first-hand account of the experiences of these men and woman. Truly a study in Humanities as these veterans were part of the historical chronicle of the country — spanning almost a century! The Research and Interviews were conducted by Paul Doyle and the editor is Carol Beggy.

Close to two hundred subjects, undoubtedly too many to mention, those included are perhaps neighbors, acquaintances, friends or family. There are many who served — and many who had lived and some who are still living in the area. For example, former Lt. Governor of the Commonwealth in the early 1960s Frank X. Bellotti, who served in Navy during the Second World War. A Boston native but settled in Quincy. The Murray Brothers of Dorchester, John Michael and Patrick, who participated in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) while at Harvard. And, like their father Tim, followed him in the military.

Many readers might remember Quincy native Luigi V. Pasquale, long time host at Blinstrub's Old Colony House on Morrissey Blvd. and as Boston Veterans Appreciation indicates "... enlisted in the

U.S. Army at age 17 (with his parents' permission) on November 27, 1944.

"After basic training, Lou was assigned to the 7th Infantry Division, which along with the 96th Infantry Division and the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions, landed on the Japanese island of Okinawa on April 1, 1945."

What many perhaps do not know is that Lou was a highly decorated veteran.

Then there are the Santoro Brothers of Medford — all seven of them! Seven joined the military and seven returned! Rosario C. Santoro is profiled, who like his brothers served in the Second World War.

Dorchester native Herb Chambers — naval veteran in the late 1950s is also covered as well as those who served in the subsequent Vietnam conflict and throughout the later twentieth and first quarter of the twentieth first century.

Special mention must also be given to the author's granddaughter Morgan Clark Hurley who writes a moving Dedication to Bill's wife Virginia Marie Brett, who passed not long before the book's publication.

Boston Veterans Appreciation is highly recommended. As he states in his Forward, General Joseph Francis Dunford, Jr. (who is also profiled along with Joseph F. Dunford, Sr., and Michael Dunford,) born in Boston and is now retired From the United States Marine Corps after having served as the 19th Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff, fittingly and effectually wrote of what veterans have given to the country "The freedoms we enjoy were made possible because of their service, sacrifice, and commitment. This book captures a few of the many from the Boston area who answered the call to service to the next generation."

Boston Veterans Appreciation is "For the Men and Woman of the U.S. Armed Forces" and is published by Forest Lang Publishers, Hingham, Malden, and Savin Hill, Massachusetts and is 271 pages.

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. MI26D1443DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING NOEL SANTANA vs. ROSALBINA P. SANTANA

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: **Noel Santana, 233 Moody St., #B, Lowell, MA 01854** 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: 08/07/2026

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 31, 2026** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2025 SUBARU IMPREZA
Vin #JF1GUABC5S8297793

2007 NISSAN SENTRA
Vin #3N1AB61E07L650233

2025 ZHILONG ST
Vin #HZ2TBCNF1S1011125

2018 HONDA PILOT
Vin #5FN1YF6H54JB029878

2013 SUBARU IMPREZA
Vin #JF1GPAS62D2829704

2002 TOYOTA TUNDRA
Vin #5TBRT34102S287822

2025 HYUNDAI TUCSON
Vin #KM8JBDD1XSU287752

2009 HONDA FIT
Vin #JHMG88619S005229

2007 HONDA ACCORD
Vin #1HGCM56417A229656

2009 NISSAN ALTIMA
Vin #1N4CL21E59C132764

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

Run dates: 08/07, 08/14, 08/21/2026

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



EXTRA Innings

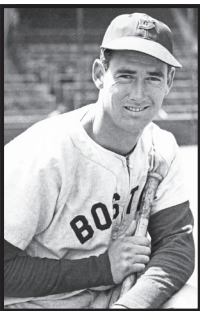


by Sal Giaratani

Red Sox Look Like They Mean Business

With three hours to spare before the trade deadline, the Red Sox went shopping and acquired three-time All-Star Adley Rutschman from the Orioles. The 28-year-old is a switch-hitter to boot. Just six weeks ago, the team looked like it was on life support. Hiring Chad Tracy to replace Alex Cora as the interim manager has proven to be the best move of the season.

Two Teddy Baseball Anniversaries



Ted Williams

I Remember Bob Skinner from the Pirates

Back in May, I learned that one of my favorite baseball players from my youth passed away at 94 years old. Bob Skinner began his career with the Pirates, later played for the Reds, and finished his career with the Cardinals. Over a career that spanned four decades as a player and coach, he won three World Series rings and made the All-Star team three times, finishing with a lifetime batting average of .277. He was with the Pirates from 1954 to 1963 before being traded to Cincinnati, and then quickly to the Cardinals, where he became

part of the 1964 team that upset the Yankees in the World Series.

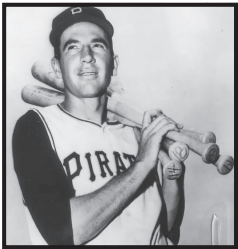
Skinner returned to Pittsburgh in 1979 as the team's hitting coach, earning his third World Series ring as part of the "We Are Family" Pirates team that defeated the Orioles.

Another Member of the Sox Left Us in June

He may not be the most memorable pitcher who ever played for the Red Sox, but Wes Gardner, who recently passed away at age 65, did something extraordinary on July 22, 1987. On that day, Oil Can Boyd was the starting pitcher but struggled heavily in the first inning. After Boyd allowed four home runs in the opening frame, Manager John McNamara replaced him with Gardner. Gardner finished the game in relief, giving up just two runs in a tight 6-5 loss.

Gardner pitched 8.2 innings of relief that day — a feat that will likely never happen again. I believe it was the most relief innings pitched in a game since 1962, when Dick Radatz accomplished a similar feat against the White Sox when the Monster pitched 8 innings of shutout relief innings.

Gardner was in the majors from 1984-91 with the Mets, Sox, Padres and Royals. He appeared in 189 games, 142 with the Sox. After he retired, he turned himself into an electrician. Remember, back in the day, baseball players were regular people and not high-priced superstars.



Bob Skinner

The Coveted FIFA World Cup Trophy

The sought-after FIFA World Cup Trophy 2026 was captured by Team Spain last month after a long-fought battle and marathon tournament play. Lifting it up in a victorious celebration and bringing it home to their country is a dream of every soccer player. But before any team or country could take possession, a trophy had to be created. So where else would one turn, to an Italian sculptor of course!

Giorgio Gazzaniga, son of the late sculptor Silvio Gazzaniga, set out to capture three sporting emotions in his final singular spiraling design: the athlete's struggle, the fan's jubilation and the moment of victory. Silvio first designed the trophy in his studio in Milan, Italy following a 1970 open design competition. This original design, familiar to many world cup fans, featured two figures swirling up toward an orb representing the earth. "When he started to design the cup, he was sketching a huge number of drawings and finally started to develop the idea to have the world and this symbol that it is like two DNA spirals, that are moving up," said Giorgio, who was a teenager at the time.

The first World Cup Trophy was known as the Jules Rimet Troph, named for the tournament's



founder. The original trophy was permanently awarded to Brazil after becoming the first nation to win three World Cups. The trophy was then stolen on two separate occasions, first in 1996 while on public display in England, it was later recovered and then again from the Brazilian Football Confederation headquarters in 1983 after Brazil had taken permanent possession. It has never been recovered and it believed to have been melted down.

The winning team hoists a 14 inch 18-carat gold trophy, which sits on a base of two rings of green malachite, symbolizing the playing fields. After the tournament, the original trophy goes back to FIFA, where it is kept at its Swiss headquarters between World Cups. The winning team is given a gold-plated replica.

This is the 14th World Cup to use Gazzaniga's design, and FIFA has decided to keep the trophy in use through at least the 2038 tournament. Giorgio vividly recalls the first time his father's trophy was presented at the World Cup, in 1974. "The real explosion of joy came when the German team raised the cup in Munich and the whole stadium erupted. That was the moment an object became an icon."

Take Them Out to the Ballpark



State Representative Aaron Michlewitz (standing on steps in rear) donated Red Sox tickets to the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street, North End allowing an excited group of youth to enjoy a Night at Fenway Park.

Thanks to the generosity of State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, in coordination with the Nazzaro Community Center, a group of North End children

enjoyed a Night at the Ballpark, Fenway Park of course, taking in a Red Sox game and picking up a courtesy t-shirt as well. A fun time was had by all.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB



by Richard Preiss

SLEIGHT OF HAND — We really did not know that the National Hockey League employed a magician.

We knew, of course, that over the decades the talented players throughout the league often pulled magical displays of hockey maneuvers from their stock of hockey moves. But while we did on a number of occasions consider such moments magical we knew they were confined to the talents displayed on the ice — and not to decisions made away from it.

That is why it has been interesting to read over the past couple of weeks a decision by the NHL's powers that be that really does not change much of anything but places a different interpretation on the same thing.

For a good number of years now NHL teams have played a certain number of games before the playoffs — that is preseason games and regular season games combined.

For most teams that has meant playing six preseason games and for all teams it has meant playing 82 regular season games. That works out to a total of 88 games before the playoffs.

But what if that changed slightly — not the number but the interpretation of that number? There would be a change in numbers within the categories but not really a change in the overall number.

That is what occurred this summer at NHL headquarters regarding the total number of games played prior to the playoffs.

The overall number of games did not change but how some of them were designated did change.

There are still a total of 88 games to be played prior to the playoffs but now two of them have been shifted into a different category. Two of the previous preseason games have now been placed on the regular season list giving each team a total of 84 regular season games.

In headlines across North America, the move had the desired result — big news that each of the 32 NHL teams would now have an 84 game regular season schedule — up from the 82 of years past. But where did this so-called increase come from?

It came from moving two games from the preseason category into the regular season category. Thus, starting in the fall each NHL team will now play only four preseason games while engaging in 84 regular season games.

But notice that the total number of games played prior to the playoffs — 88 contests — has not changed at all. It is still 88 with the number of preseason games per team now down to four while the number of regular season games increases to 84.

So now you know. There has been a change — but there really has not.

There are still a total of 88 games — preseason and regular season combined — that the players and coaches must engage in. That has not changed.

But how two of those games are designated has changed—moving

two from the preseason category onto the regular season list.

See — no change 88 — but a headliner grabbing "increase" denoting moving from 82 to 84.

A pretty good sleight of hand by that magician down at NHL headquarters in New York wouldn't you say?

The change also means that the Bruins have a very early home opener and season opener with the B's taking on the rival Original Six New York Rangers on Tuesday, September 29 at the TD Garden at 7:00 p.m.

That is correct. Before September even ends the entire preseason camp of the Bruins — along with those four preseason games — will have been completed. And the regular season will be with us.

The Bruins head west early and thus are involved in the home openers of two other teams along the way-on October 2 when they play at Winnipeg and the next night — October 3 — when they take on Minnesota.

And back to September 29. That is also the opening date of the 2026 Major League Baseball playoffs. A potential for quite a bit of action in the Hub as October comes on stage.

REMEMBERING A GOOD TIME — It was over three decades ago — a few days after Labor Day back in 1991 that we got in the car and drove to our first Boston Bruins practice at Ristuccia Arena in Wilmington.

Although it was still summer outside, we brought a jacket for the arena. And as we were walking down the aisle, a man saw us zipping up the front and commented. "It is pretty cool in here, isn't it?"

And that was our introduction to Bruins head coach Rick Bowness, whose career we have followed ever since with interest as he has made his way across the NHL via numerous stops.

He was only in Boston for a season but what a season. From the opinion night 5-3 takedown of the New York Rangers to the playoff sweep of the archrival Montreal Canadians there were a host of lasting memories made for this writer.

Some 53 players made the roster for at least one game over the course of the season as the B's fashioned a 30-32-12 record in the Adams Division.

There were some white-knuckle times before the B's dispatched Buffalo in the opening round that went seven games — a reality that made the sweep of Montreal that followed that much sweeter as the coach who wore curling shoes to all his games ran across the ice in the euphoria of victory.

Things came to an abrupt halt when the B's were swept by eventual Stanley Cup winner Pittsburgh in the conference finals but all in all it was a successful season.

To all that is but the Bruins administration that let Bowness go, starting him on a long and varied coaching experience across the NHL. He is still coaching — some 35 years later — leading the Columbus Blue Jackets.

But that single season with the Bruins sure was special!