

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, FEBRUARY 13, 2009

\$.30 A COPY



Buon
San Valentino

Presidents' Day Observed February 16, 2009



Abraham Lincoln
1809 - 1865
President 1861-1865

Remember
these men
as you enjoy
the holiday



George Washington
1732 - 1799
President 1789-1797

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Obama's Tax Reform

When it comes to President Obama's tax proposals, it appears the only folks not paying taxes under his plans are Obama Cabinet nominees!

Whom Should We Save?

If you listen to the likes of US Rep Barney Frank, D-Newton, we should be saving all those poor credit risk borrowers who thought they could make a quick and easy profit by buying over their heads, then quickly flipping the property for a big payday. However, payday never came. Ouch!

Frank apparently doesn't seem to care about homeowners who bought what they could afford and are going down in this financial meltdown.

Help these folks and tell the rest to go to (expletive)!

Kennedy Politics?

Caroline Kennedy seemed to want to be the next US Senator from New York but apparently things didn't look too good to her so she decided to get out of the race to reportedly care for her ill uncle. Sure!

Governor David Patterson appointed Democratic US Rep. Kirsten Gillibrand to fill New York's vacant Senate seat settling on a woman from a rural, eastern district of the state to replace Hillary Clinton.

Kennedy politics seems to be about getting coronated not actually working for anything. Sweet Caroline, anyone?

(Continued on Page 14)

Local Boston Boy Wins Grammy Award

Joe Chiccarelli, born and raised in East Boston and now a freelance Record Producer/Engineer won a Grammy Award this past Sunday night in Hollywood to add to his previous Grammy Awards:

Category 92 — Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical.

• **Consolers Of The Lonely Joe Chiccarelli, Vance Powell & Jack White III, engineers (The Raconteurs)** [Third Man/Warner Bros.]

Chiccarelli attended St. Lazarus Grammar School and then St. Domenic Savio High in East Boston. He began his music career after taking guitar lessons and then becoming an engineering intern at his cousin's



Fleetwood Record studio in Revere, MA. After working for a couple of years in Boston at the former Studio Designers on Boylston Street, Chiccarelli moved to Holly-

wood in his early 20's and went to work for Cherokee Studios. After working with such artists as Frank Zappa, Juice Newton, Pogo and Pat Benetar, with whom he achieved a Gold Record ... he went out on his own and also worked on music for television and motion pictures. His motion picture music credits include a Robert Teppar song in one of Sylvester Stallone's Rocky films and additional songs in such films as "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" and "Last American Virgin".

Now, celebrating his 56th birthday later this month, he still resides in Hollywood and his mother Irene Chiccarelli still lives at the family home in East Boston where he grew up.

ETHICS MAY BE TOO MUCH TO ASK

by Donald Kaul

Give Barack Obama credit. Barely a month on the job and already he's increased tax revenues by hundreds of thousands of dollars. He nominated Timothy (Tiny Tim) Geithner to be Secretary of the Treasury and Geithner immediately discovered he'd forgotten to pay \$48,000 in back taxes. So he paid them.

Then he chose Tom Daschle as his Secretary of Health and Human Services and Daschle quickly coughed up \$140K in back taxes. Too late. He had to withdraw his candidacy; just after the president's candi-

date for chief government performance officer withdrew hers because of tax problems. She paid up too.

I have two words for the Obama administration: H&R Block.

It's not been the happiest of times for ethics in public office, which is rapidly becoming an oxymoron. We have seen the governor of Illinois thrown from office by his legislature after it found him trying to sell the vacant Obama Senate seat on e-Bay. Then there is the revelation that Senator Christopher Dodd, head of the Senate banking committee

and outspoken opponent of tightening certain bank regulations was getting sweetheart loans from a bank that is also one of his biggest political contributors. What a coincidence.

All this, of course, happened not long after Ted Stevens, the longest-serving Republican in the Senate, was deselected by voters after being found guilty of using his office as a home improvement enterprise. His home.

And who could forget Louisiana Representative Will-

(Continued on Page 15)

Mayor's Column

by Thomas M. Menino, Mayor, City of Boston

Last week, Superintendent Carol Johnson joined concerned students, families, teachers, and Boston Public School staff to present the department's preliminary fiscal year 2010 budget. The proposed budget that Superintendent Johnson presented to the Boston School Committee is a courageous one in a time of deep economic uncertainty. It emphasizes that we will do everything possible to maintain our advancements in public education and continue to make sensible investments in our children's futures. While these unprecedented economic circumstances are challenging, the Superintendent has a proven dedication to student learning and excellence in the classroom.

The school department's preliminary budget proposal for the 2009-2010 school year totals nearly \$787 million, a 5.5% decrease from last year's budget. This proposal is the result of weeks of thorough review and planning to craft the most responsible budget for the next fiscal year. Unfortunately, with federal, state, and private resources declining, and costs rising, difficult decisions must be made to bridge an estimated \$107 million shortfall. Such a significant budget gap would result in a reduction of the district's workforce by approximately 917 positions. About 218 of these positions are in central offices, with the

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This office will be open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, for the convenience of our East Boston and North Shore clients and contributors

Call **617-227-8929** for more information

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



ATHENA

As we continue to delve into the world of ancient mythology we are amazed to find such striking similarities between the Greek and Roman systems. Greek mythology identifies Zeus as chief of all gods, Hera as his wife, and Athena as the most famous of their daughters. The Romans identified Jupiter as chief of their gods, Juno as his wife, and Minerva as the most famous of their daughters. Probably the most popular legend regarding this deity tells us that Zeus swallowed his first wife, Metis, because he feared that she would bring forth a son stronger than himself. Later, one of the other gods cleaved open the head of Zeus with an axe, permitting Athena, the goddess of eternal virginity, to spring forth in full armor. Zeus, being immortal, suffered no physical problems because of this activity.

From her very beginning, Athena occupied a prominent place in Greek mythology. She was usually represented as the favorite of her father, who refused her nothing. With the exception

of Zeus and Apollo, no other deity was treated with such high moral regard among mortals. She was intimately connected in the religion of Attica and Athens became the most important seat of her worship. As the maiden daughter of Zeus and goddess of the sky, she shared with him the power to use thunder and lightning as weapons. Like her father, she carried the "aegis" (A shield representing storms, thunder, and lightning). The shield of Zeus was trimmed with tassels of gold. When Zeus shook his aegis, thunder, lightning, horror, and destruction, fell upon those against whom it was lifted.

Some statues of Athena showed her hurling a thunderbolt but legend also implied that she sent down the light, the warmth, and the moisture which was so necessary for a prosperous growing season. This goddess was also honored as the inventress of the yoke and the plow.

Poseidon (god of the sea) argued with Athena over which of them should offer the name for the capital of

Attica. The gods decided that the honor should be reserved for whichever of the two bestowed upon mankind the most useful gift. It was at this time that Poseidon created the horse, and Athena gave the olive tree, which she caused to grow out of the rock that eventually became the Acropolis. Athena won, of course, and the city was named Athens.

During ancient times Athena was worshipped as the goddess of War. This feeling was brought about because of her ability to send down storms, bad weather, thunder, and lightning. Additionally, she dispensed the blessings of nature, bestowed health, and warded off sickness. She represented human wit and cleverness and presided over the intellect and morals of Athenian life. Lastly, we find that Athena was also instrumental in the building of that fifty-oared ship for the Argonauts, taught mortals the art of spinning, weaving, handicrafts, music and dancing.

NEXT ISSUE: Phidias and his Athenian Sculptures

LAMATTINA NAMED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION



Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina has been appointed to a committee that plays a role in shaping and advancing transportation policy at the national level.

The District 1 councilor has been named to the Transportation Infrastructure and Services (TIS) Steering Committee, which is part of the National League of Cities (NLC), a resource and advocacy group for more than 19,000 municipalities throughout the country.

"I'm honored by this appointment. I will work hard to represent the City of Boston and to push for smart and cost-effective policies that are beneficial to people across America," LaMattina said. "We cannot neglect our responsibilities to maintain the nation's

infrastructure and to expand services offered by public transportation."

LaMattina has been deeply involved in transportation issues as a member of the Boston City Council, and he previously worked as the director of operations for the Boston Transportation Department and as part of the Central Artery Team, helping to mitigate the effects of the massive project.

"My district includes the usual urban transportation features, such as subway stations, highways and bridges, but also includes an airport, three harbor tunnels and a significant amount of waterfront," said LaMattina, who represents Charlestown, the North End, East Boston and Beacon Hill. "All of this affects my constituents, as well as residents throughout the city and those who work in Boston or come to visit."

The TIS Steering Committee develops policy positions and drafts resolutions for the broader NLC membership and works toward adoption and implementation of the policies at the state and federal levels. Its areas of concern are the planning, funding, safety and security of public transit, streets and highways, aviation, railroads and ports.

SAM YOON TO RUN FOR MAYOR

by Sal Giarratani



City Councilor Sam Yoon has announced his intention to run for mayor of Boston making this year's mayoral race just a bit more crowded.

The 39-year-old councilor from Dorchester is a term-term City Councilor at large, first elected in 2005. He is

the first Asian-American to sit on the council and seeks to be the first Asian American mayor of Boston.

Yoon joins City Councilor Michael F. Flaherty and South End businessman Kevin McCrea as official announced candidates for mayor.

Said Yoon, "The campaign will be about the city's future, not about the past, and that's the rubric that I'm going to be working with."

Yoon's and Flaherty's candidacies also mean there will be two open at large seats on the City Council this fall.

Said former City Councilor Larry DiCara, "This adds to what could be the highest turnout in a generation" for a city election.

Mayor Thomas M. Menino first elected in 1993 has yet to announce whether he intends to run for a fifth term.

Said former Councilor Michael McCormack, "This is old school versus newer school. But my sense is the mayor will sleep well at night regardless who he faces."

Patrick Layoffs Take Effect, Affect Not Good

by Sal Giarratani

The cutbacks in the State Department of Mental Health have taken effect. Over at the Fuller Mental Health Center inside the Boston Medical Center, eleven case managers finished their jobs on January 30. Now fewer case managers will have a larger patient load and community care will suffer.

Eventually, the cutbacks with upfront savings will see service go down while clients in the community will start getting admitted into acute in-patient beds where the costs to taxpayers will strip away any anticipated

savings from the layoffs.

The real bottom line will be folks getting sicker living in the community causing them and their families additional pain in a cold, cruel, cost-savings plan that couldn't really offer anyone hope of help or taxpayer savings.

As usual politicians, starting with our governor do what they always do and try and spin themselves out of any blame.

Cutting case managers is backwards, mental health care. Bad medicine. Bad economics.

Killer Wants New Trial in Curley Case

by Sal Giarratani

Charles Jaynes who served 10 years in prison for killing 10 year old Jeffrey Curley of Cambridge is seeking a new trial, arguing jurors who convicted him of the crime had no right to hear he was sexually attracted to little boys.

His lawyer Janet Hetherwick Pumphrey said Jaynes doesn't claim he was not guilty. She says Jaynes sexual history was irrelevant since he was on trial for kidnap-murder charges. She says he's claiming "his trial was unfair".

Reportedly, he and his partner Salvatore Sicari,

smothered the little boy with gasoline for refusing to submit to sex and then dumped his body in a Maine river in a Rubbermaid container.

Jaynes believes his written and oral statements expressing his desire for the victim should not have been admitted into evidence.

Last week, the killer appeared before Judge Hiller Zobel in Middlesex Superior Court to present his case. A decision on holding a hearing on the motion has not yet been decided.

He is currently sentenced to life plus 9 to 10 years in the Curley case.

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Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher and Editor
 5 Prince Street, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113
 617-227-8929 617-227-8928 FAX 617-227-5307

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James V. Donnaruma 1896 to 1953
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Friday, February 13, 2009

GUEST EDITORIAL

AS FOR ME, GIVE ME SAFETY

by Edward P. Shallow

In my editorial of 1/30/09, "To Safeguard America" in which I declared Obama's Executive Order to close GITMO was a major blunder ... I feel vindicated when I read John Yoo's article, "Obama Made a Rash Decision on Gitmo". Mr. Yoo was an official in the Justice Department from 2001-03 and a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. Mr Yoo's conclusion is a reflection of my editorial to keep America safe from terrorism. Yoo is convinced closing GITMO and terminating the CIA's special authority to interrogate terrorists will please Obama's base, they will also seriously handicap our intelligence agencies from preventing future attacks. Obama is returning America to the failed law enforcement approach to fighting terror that prevailed before 9/11/01. He is drying up the valuable sources on al Qaeda that CIA Director Michael Hayden has come largely out of tough interrogations of high-level operatives early in the war.

The question Obama should have asked right after his inaugural was what happens after we capture the next Khalid Mohammed or Abu Zubaydah? He took action without legal review of all policies options available to meet the threats facing our country. The review would have made clear civilian law enforcement require are the tools used by George Bush, the CIA could hold and interrogate high value leaders. These coercive methods were used by Israel and Great Britain in their antiterrorism campaigns. Obama also ordered all military trials be stayed and held in civilian courts.

I indicated in my editorial unlawful combatants do not qualify for protection under the Geneva Conventions and because they do not apply to an insurrection or uprising, in addition they have no national status and above all are not in military uniforms which is a must rule under Geneva Conventions.

What is it about the Geneva Conventions liberals find so hard to comprehend?

I have often indicated, "Liberals Will Kill Us All Sooner Or Later".

By eliminating the Bush system of military trials at GITMO, will end getting information from al Qaeda terrorists. Every prisoner will demand the right to remain silent and a speedy trial, likely to lead to acquittal by liberal judges more concerned for the rights of these soulless demons who would slit their throats in a second if given the chance.

(Continued on Page 14)

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 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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In Loving Memory Liberatore Federico

July 18, 1917 - December 19, 2008



God saw you were getting tired
 And a cure was not to be,
 So he put his arms around you
 And whispered, "Come to me."
 With tearful eyes we watched you,
 And saw you pass away.
 Although we loved you dearly,
 We could not make you stay.
 A golden heart stopped beating,
 Hard working hands at rest.
 God broke our hearts to prove to us
 He only takes the best.

May you rest in Peace

Ernest Ubaldo Curelli

formerly of East Boston

May he rest in Peace

Ernest Ubaldo Curelli formerly of Beverly, MA and Beverly Hills, FL died January 25 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He was 87 years old. Ernie was predeceased by his loving wife of 56 years, Elena.

He was the son of Biaggio, "GiGi" and Fausta Donnaruma Curelli who had emigrated from Italy. He was always proud to be part of a generation of first-borns in this country. He grew up in East Boston and graduated Boston College, Class of 1948.

His college years were interrupted when he was drafted by the Army Air Forces, serving as a Medical Corpsman during World War II, an experience that provided windows to history for his family and friends. This included vivid descriptions of flying over "The Hump" (the Himalaya Mountains) in a C47 "Gooney Bird" Transport Plane to bases in the China-Burma highlands. He was proud to aid his fellow soldiers as well as provide public health services to local communities. As a sign of gratitude he was given a pair of monkeys, Cheetah and Zambi that warned of any Bengal tigers approaching his tent. He also befriended many Gurka soldiers while in India and

Nepal. His brother Rocco served as a B24 and B17 pilot, his brother Rudy as a forward infantryman, all driven by pride, gratitude and determination.

Ernie began a career as a Food Technologist working with Clarence Birdseye, Gloucester, MA, in the development of frozen foods, and later freeze-dried foods used in the military and aerospace programs. He also worked with the City of Beverly Board of Health. He promoted the work of fishermen and preservation of fishing grounds while a member of The New England Fisheries Institute.

Ernie was a quiet man, devoted to his wife and sons. Road trips throughout New England were as cherished as travels around the globe. He gave new meaning to the words "puttering around", enjoying his garden, and turning a few wrenches on his '54 Chevy. For many years his baritone voice could be heard in his church choir. Dancing the jitterbug brought his widest smile, even as recently as at his grandson's wedding.

The past 2½ years Ernie lived with his sons and their families in Oak Bluffs and Wisconsin. His greatest pride was in the accomplish-

ments of his four grandchildren, especially their college graduations. He shared with them the excitement of Doug Flutie's Hail Mary pass, Patriots Super Bowl wins, and two Red Sox World Series wins. He loved all animals, but was inseparable from Clover-Murphy and Shamrock, dogs that provided him constant amusement and devotion.

Ernie will be missed by his son, John Curelli, and his wife Jane, of Martha's Vineyard; his son, Tom Curelli, and his wife Susan, of Two Rivers, WI; his grandchildren Benjamin Curelli, of Boston, Nicholas Curelli, and his wife Nicole, of the Vineyard; Diane Curelli of Minnesota, and Stephen Curelli of Hancock, MI. Ernie also leaves a brother, Rudy Curelli, of Marstons Mills, and a sister and brother-in-law, Gloria and Alan Mills of Sandwich. He was predeceased by his brother, Rocco Curelli.

A funeral Mass was held at St. Angela's Church, with interment at the Forest Hills Cemetery in Boston.

Ernie would be happy that donations in his memory be sent to Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, One Elmwood Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66103

Spend an Evening with Ron Della Chiesa

Ron Della Chiesa will Host a "Strictly Sinatra Music America Dance Party," Friday, April 24, 2009 at Raffael's Nantasket in the Clarion Beach Resort Hotel, Hull, MA. The evening will be highlighted by a special "live" performance by the phenomenal, youthful and incredibly talented 18-piece Beantown Swing Orchestra. Awesome Crooner John Stevens, whose spot-on emulation of Sinatra's singing style and mannerism's made him an American Idol finalist, will sing the big hits

of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin, Harry Connick Jr., Enjoy an evening of music and dancing.

Support your favorites playing on Strictly Sinatra Saturday and MusicAmerica Sunday, 7 P.M.-12 A.M., weekends on Today's Easy 99.1 WPLM-FM.

Charlton Memorial Hospital April 4, Rat Pack Tribute with Ron Della Chiesa, The Auxiliary of Charlton Memorial Hospital invites you to the Venus DeMilo Restaurant in Swansea, MA, for The Best Is Yet To Come ...

A Rat Pack Tribute hosted by Ron Della Chiesa featuring Frank, Dean & Sammy. Impressionist extraordinaire Michael Dutra and friends will be live from the Sands Hotel. Enjoy a five course Italian dinner, live and silent auction and dancing. Proceeds will be used to purchase eight fetal heart monitors for the Family Centered Unit (maternity) at Charlton Memorial Hospital. For tickets call 508-679-7038 or go on line to: www.southcoastorg/give/special.html

Financially Speaking

with Ben Doherty



DOW JONES GAINS IN VALUE

Stocks snapped a four week losing streak on Friday fueled by expectations that a grim jobs report would hasten the approval of the economic stimulus bill on Capitol Hill. The Dow rose 2.7% to 8280.59. Twenty-nine stocks of the thirty components of the Dow finished higher and General Motors was down less than 1%. This was the best performance in more than a month. Bank of America's CEO, Lewis said that he doesn't expect to need more funding as the stock was up 27%. The acquisition of Merrill Lynch would need more capital he said, but it will need more government intervention. The S&P 500 Index jumped 2.7% to 868.60, with financials leading the way up 7.5%. The enthusiasm came from the strides in Washington on the stimulus bill, as it moves forward. Other banks such as Citigroup gained 11% and Wells Fargo gained 18%. Some smaller regional banks rose and gained more ground. The stock market rose in spite of the jobs data which underscored the need for a massive economic stimulus. The 10-Year U.S. Treasury note gained to yield 2.98% the highest level since November 26th, 2008. Oil prices settled @ \$40.17/bbl. The Labor Department reported that 598,000 jobs were lost in January, the most in 16 years from 577,000 jobs in December, a rise of .4% to 7.6%. Larry Summers, formerly President of Harvard University, is now the confidant of President Obama and meets daily with him to judge the economy and runs daily intelligence briefings for him. The worst job losses were in the auto industry and those

that make fabricated metal products, which includes everything from knives to shipping containers. Economists say the accelerating job losses make it less likely that there will be an economic recovery in the second half of this year. Consumers are spending less, and saving more, as companies are preparing to let go tens of thousands of jobs for 2009 and beyond. Consumers cut their spending and reduced borrowing in December for the 3rd straight month. The Fed is bracing for even higher unemployment in the months ahead having already cut interest rates to near zero, they are trying to provide consumer and business loans that have been blocked by the credit crunch. Friday's report confirmed that temporary help firms were among the hardest hit as businesses that supply other businesses with workers, cleanup help, marketing assistance, and other services, etc., were hardest hit and lost 26% or 76,000 jobs last month. "They will be the first to hire and the first to fire," said Ms. Korupecy. Demand for unskilled temps has fallen by 40% versus 10% for skilled workers, she said. The economic stimulus bill designed by Henry Paulson, Treasury Secretary, has its flaws. The first \$350 billion in TARP-funds were awarded to inject capital into nine systematically important troubled banks, and also to help GM and Chrysler. It has not yet resulted in an increase in bank lending or the attraction of more capital to the banks system. The issue is how to price the assets. It's difficult to set a price for these assets which come in complex and incom-

parable varieties. If the U.S. Treasury pays close to par for the assets it is paying too much. If it pays current prices no one will sell because of the adverse impact on their capital. If it pulls a price out of a hat, it will be acting arbitrarily. It would take months to execute these trends and will be at a disadvantage. They were going to create a bad bank owned by the government to hold their certificates. The bank may be more exposed to losses that have been written down and have no value. There are \$16.5 trillion of their assets out there. Another proposal is to securitize them. In the case of Citigroup, a \$306 billion jointed funding was created and the FDIC jointly funded 90% of the first \$15 billion of losses, from TARP-funds and the government received \$7 billion in preferred stock with a 8% yield, and \$4 billion Treasury Stock, and this valued the stock. This finesse hasn't worked, as a nationalization of the banking sector would nationalize the losses, which would leave the gains in private hands. The road to further recovery is now depending on the economic recovery and the success of the fiscal stimulus package. The plan to limit executive pay to \$500,000/year is understandable. The problem is the board of directors that allow this giveaway to happen in the first place. They should be held accountable to the shareholders for any excessive pay packages and we should have more management responsibility. The \$500,000 limit is reasonable and should be enacted. *It's time to call your financial advisor or call me 617-261-7777.*

Fearing Deportation, Paying Taxes and Identity Theft

It appears that for decades, thousands of Hispanics have been going to Amalia's *Transition and Tax Services* to pay their income taxes. It didn't matter to Amalia Cerrillo who runs the business in the small farming town of Greely in northern Colorado whether folks were legal or illegal since IRS requires everyone to pay taxes. Said Cerrillo, "My clients wanted to do what any other American does. And they wanted to show that they paid their taxes if there is ever a chance for amnesty or a green card." That theory changed for Cerrillo on October 17th when the Weld County Sheriff's office armed with a search warrant seized records of tax returns from her office. She was told they were looking for people with make believe Social Security numbers. That seizure was the first step by the county called Operation Number Games. Sheriff John Cooke has said 1,300 illegal immigrants had filed tax returns with fake or stolen SS numbers. Many are facing deportation as a result. Since October, 40 people have been either arrested on identity theft or criminal impersonation charges. Sixty-five additional arrest

warrants have been issued. The I.R.S. says illegals have paid almost \$50 million in taxes from 1996 to 2003. Two weeks ago, the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado filed a lawsuit in State District Court arguing that by seizing records, Weld County has violated privacy rights of thousands of taxpayers. Said the ACLU of Colorado, "If the sheriff and D.A. can comb through thousands of records ... then none of our confidential information is safe." Since 1996, the I.R.S. has issued about 15 million Individual Taxpayer Identification numbers enabling people without Social Security numbers to pay taxes. District Attorney Ken Buck says, "They (illegals) are committing felonies through identity theft" and Sheriff Cooke adds, the federal policy itself is tantamount to "the government turning its back on victims of identity theft." The sheriff says the I.R.S. knows, "The Social Security numbers are stolen and they chose to ignore it." Kudos to those local law enforcement folks in Colorado and elsewhere who are simply doing their jobs. Too bad the federal government has turned "politically correct" on this issue.

Silly Season Up on the Hill

by Sal Giarratani

Aren't there enough issues that need the attention of our state representatives and senators up on Beacon Hill? Why is it that so many of these legislators are wasting their time and ours passing useless or minor issues up there?

One state senator recently

is pushing a bill in the senate to outlaw chain-linked basketball nets. Sounds like Big Nanny Government to me. Kids have been playing B-ball with chained nets, plastic nets and no nets for decades. Just like the kids play without micromanaging a game of hoop.

Another state legislator in the House is pushing a bill to outlaw the debarking of dogs. I hate it when people debark their dogs but does everything have to have a law to prevent it? How about educating folks first!

Sadly, most people just don't care about government trying to control our lives. I think its time for the people to stop de-barking themselves and speak out against stupidity from Beacon Hill.

Teacher Facing Sex Charge Seeks Benefits

by Sal Giarratani

The 29-year-old former Abington teacher Christine McCallum who has been accused of having sex with a teenage boy has apparently applied for unemployment benefits, according to town officials.

Abington was notified in January that the ex-teacher had applied for unemployment insurance benefits.

McCallum, of Rockland is free on bail awaiting trial on statutory rape charges.

The alleged victim was not one of her students, but was 13 years old when it allegedly started and it continued over a two year period.

People who are fired for cause usually are ineligible to collect unemployment benefits.

Homes We Can Believe In?

by Sal Giarratani

President Barack Obama has vowed to make foreclosure prevention and other related housing issues top priorities for the Obama administration.

President Obama is seeking a foreclosure relief plan by March 15. Experts say the best way to tackle foreclosures involves loan "modifications." Where lenders voluntarily cut homeowners' monthly mortgage payments

since foreclosing actually costs more than adjusting bills.

Obama also seems to support bankruptcy judges to have the power to order "cramdowns." Where a judge cuts a mortgage's unpaid balance to make bills more affordable.

The National Association of Mortgage Bankers have already filed a lawsuit to block some of the rules.

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ON 96.9FM

by Sal Giarratani

DeLeo promises action on Beacon Hill which certainly thrilled Michele McPhee and her listening audience. Hopefully under his leadership and with his leadership team, Beacon Hill can get back on message without the endless distractions that recently clogged the works.

State Representative Bobby DeLeo, D-Winthrop was elected Speaker of the Massachusetts House on January 29. The evening before, I called his house and left a message with his wife. On the day following his election, he called back. That's my kind of Speaker. One who hears and gets back to you.

DeLeo in many ways reminds me of my own state rep, the almost dean of the House, Angelo Scaccia, D-Hyde Park/Readville. A down to earth, hardworking voice and vote for Bay State residents. They're two of a kind, a pair of aces when it comes to addressing the needs of their constituents. Recently, DeLeo showed



up as a guest on McPhee's Friday night show on WTKK and seemed like a big hit saying what we were waiting for forever. He promises to be a hearer, listening to our concerns, he promises to be a doer, not a talker.

McPhee congratulated him on his election as Speaker and hopes to have him often as a guest.

HOME CARE WAITING LIST DOUBLES

675 Seniors Now Waiting for Help at Home

Just before Christmas, forced a waiting list in the home care program for the elderly. As of December 15th, 320 seniors were waiting to get into the home care program, which is managed by 27 non-profit Aging Services Access Points.

Based on numbers released today by Mass Home Care, the statewide association that represents the ASAP network, the home care has jumped to 675 older people unable to get help at home. "These wait list numbers will continue to get worse," said Mass Home Care Executive Director Al Norman. "Cuts will be felt for the rest of this fiscal year, and could extend into next year depending on how we do in the fiscal year 2010 budget debate." The waiting list is a direct consequence of \$6.99 million in "9c" cuts made in October of 2008. Based on the Mass Home Care survey:

- 675 elders are on waiting lists for home care.
- 18 ASAPs (66%) had home care wait lists, 9 did not.
- 11 ASAPs (41%) had 30 or more elders waiting to get into home care.

In addition, Mass Home Care said that a total of 269 elders are waiting to be enrolled into a related home care program known as "ECOP," or the Enhanced

Community Options Program. The ECOP program is for elders who are more disabled than those in the home care program. Many of these people are at least receiving home care services — but are unable to move into a higher level of supportive care.

Massachusetts spends roughly \$140 million on home care services, which includes the care managers who work with families to assemble the best package of services to keep people living independently at home. Home care helps 33,400 elders per month with eating, bathing, dressing and other daily living needs. The typical senior on home care lives alone, is a woman in her mid-eighties, and receives \$8.76 a day worth of home care. By contrast, the state spends \$158 a day for nursing home services.

"The irony is that the state is restricting the very programs that have been driving down the use of nursing homes," Norman said. Since 2000, patient days in Massachusetts nursing home have fallen by more than 21%. According to Mass Home Care, the Commonwealth will save more than \$439 million this year due to lower nursing home utili-

(Continued on Page 12)

SPECIAL ELECTION CALENDER FOR THIRD SUFFOLK REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin issued a calendar for the special election called for June 16, 2009 in the Third Suffolk Representative District to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of former Speaker Salvatore F. DiMasi.

Nomination papers are now at the Elections Division of the Secretary's

Office, Room 1705 at Ashburton Place, and at Boston City Hall, Elections Department.

Nomination papers for state representative require 150 certified signatures. The deadline for submitting signatures to local registrars of voters for certification is April 7, 2009. The deadline for filing certified signatures with the Secretary of the

Commonwealth is April 14, 2009.

The primary election is on May 19, 2009.

The House of Representatives adopted an Order for the June 16 special election.

The Third Suffolk consists of Ward 3, precincts 1-4, 6-8; Ward 4 precinct 1; Ward 5 precinct 1; and Ward 8, precincts 1-3 in the City of Boston.

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ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo



"Have a PURRR-FECT Valentine's Day"

Ciao bella,

Treat yourself to some special Valentine Treats to share of course. For some Purrrlicious scentuals dial up "Honeycat Cosmetics." Just viewing the web page will bring out that feline kitty in you and make you purrrrr ... for more!

Honeycat "Lick My Fur" edible Banana Creme body powder ... Wow....wear it and get it licked off ... delish!!!

Sooth away aching muscles with "Chick of the Sea" Chocolate Raspberry foaming bath crystals made with desert mineral salts. Make it for two and feel sexy and refreshed!!! OOOhhh ... lala!

Who needs calorie ridden Cinnamon buns when Honeycat has "Whisker Slickers — I'm in heat", Warming Cinnamon lip balm ... sweet kitty!

Need your tummy rubbed and who doesn't? Honeycat created a Milk and Honey "Rub My Tummy" body cream — can be used anywhere for a soft, smooth smelling "coat" of skin-silly!

Unleash your Sexy Feline and Meow Baby! www.honeycatcosmetics.com or dial-up home in New York 1-212-924-2720

Find True Love at LUSH on Valentine's "Strawberry Fields Forever Massage Bar" — massage your sweetheart with this scentual solid oil made with crushed Strawberries and an infusion of hibiscus flowers. (I just used mine today — yum ... yum!)

"Hello Sailor" Gifts-brings back a few memories for me when the Italian and French ships pulled into Boston Harbor with some handsome

uniformed gents! This gift is great for someone who floats your boat! Includes "Sea Salt Shower Scrub" — Rub, rub, rub — two in the tub! Infused with peppermint. "Two Drunk" Emotibomb for the shower for the morning after — to re-energize. And Lydia would like this one — a temporary tattoo.

You can find many limited edition gift sets for Valentine's Day at the fabulous and scentuous LUSH to celebrate lover's day.

Located at various convenient locations in Boston, Cambridge, Natick and now Peabody.

Also at LUSH and still time to celebrate the year of the OX, Chinese New Year with "Double-fast Luck" Emotibomb. The "New Business Time" massage bar-inspired by "Flight of the Concorde" — made with quick melting Fair Trade Shea and cocoa butters with almond and coconut oils. Use on yourself or a loved one to set a mood and elicit some serious business time-I love it ... indulge and be satisfied!!!

Valentine Kisses for all ... XXXXXXXXXXXXX

Buona giornata and God bless the United States of America!

— Mary N. DiZazzo-Trumbull

Read prior weeks' "All That Zazz" columns at www.mary4nails.com. Mary is a third-generation cosmetologist and a Massachusetts distributor of Kosmea brand rose hip oil products. She may be contacted at (978) 470-8183 or mary@mary4nails.com

Myopic Leaders

by Bennett and Richard Molinari

We have all known people whose sight is so poor that they must bring an object close to themselves in order to see it clearly; they are said to be myopic a symptom of a condition known as Myopia. Myopic can be used to describe the way a person views a subject as, he is said to be myopic when it comes to the economy. It is an appropriate way to describe the manner in which many of our political leaders view the terrible state of our economy; surrounded by the privileges of their office, they seem to be distant from the problem, insulated by the "perks" of office. They seem unable to see or comprehend the true nature of the problems that beset our economy and therefore incapable of formulating a sound economic solution.

Recently we have seen President Obama surrounded by economists promising to turn the economy around with the help of the formidable brain power he amassed. We have also witnessed the House of Representatives cobble together a rescue plan for the economy that was neither a rescue plan nor a plan at all, but simply the coming together of a "wish list", a veritable Christmas tree of items placed on back burners brought forward by myopic politicians.

One does not have to hold a doctorate in economics to discover what is wrong with our economy. A simple walk through the streets of your neighborhood, in our case the North End will speak volumes to the problem. Store fronts have become apartments, small factories converted into condominium complexes, small businesses that once supported families driven out by Draconian tax laws that favor large corporations. Over and over again we've seen the small succumb to the conglomerate. Witness the waterfront, once it thrived with warehouses and docks that employed thousands of people, today converted to condominium complexes; where once a fishing fleet was blessed during the Feast of Madonna Del Soccorso now yachts are blessed in the marinas that encircle the inner harbor.

Not everyone has the capability or inclination to work in the financial service industry that we heavily rely on for employment in Boston. The shoe and fabric mills of Brockton and Lawrence that once employed thousands were allowed to fall victim to imports, mills replaced by more condominiums, the engine of our economy became more and more reliant on an ever shrinking base and workers turned to the service indus-

try, a fickle substitute to manufacturing.

We are told by some myopic politicians that we cannot impose quotas on imports or write into the stimulus bill a preference for American made goods, disregarding the fact that the purpose of the bill is to create jobs in America. We fear retaliation from our trading partners; this after we've transferred millions of jobs abroad and have been an open market to imports at the peril of our home manufacturers. Our trading partners have done just the opposite by manipulating their currency and setting import barriers, major factors that have contributed to the imbalance in trade we have suffered for decades.

Less myopic politicians would have seen the job destruction resulting from cumbersome tax laws and trade policies and passed legislation to right the wrongs. Unfortunately the gulf between our leaders and their constituents grows wider; the stimulus bill working its way through Congress is just the most recent example of legislation that offers only a bandage not a cure to an economy bleeding jobs and deeply in debt. It offers a political solution generated by more debt, debt that promises to be the source of inflation and deeper problems in the future.

Pirandello Lyceum Presents Film on ALCIDE DE GASPERI, ITALY'S MAN OF HOPE AT THE NORTH END BRANCH LIBRARY

De Gasperi: Man of Hope (DeGasperi, uomo della speranza) a dramatic and moving Italian film with English subtitles will be shown on Saturday morning, February 28, at 10:30am (Sharp) at the North End Branch Library, 25 Parmenter St. Boston. At 10:15am, coffee and biscotti will be served. **The film is free and open to the public.**

As Prime Minister of Italy, Alcide De Gasperi, moved his country after World War II into the free light of democracy. One of the most moving elements of the film is when the articulate and passionate DeGasperi convinces the great powers, the US, England and France, to assist Italy rebuild itself after the war's devastation to the country.

A man of high intellect, culture and political genius, De Gasperi was the longest serving leader of the Italian government. He loved his country and with immense courage he transformed Italy from a nation in despair to a people of great hope.

Weather advisory: If the library is open, the film will be shown. Library (617) 227-8135.

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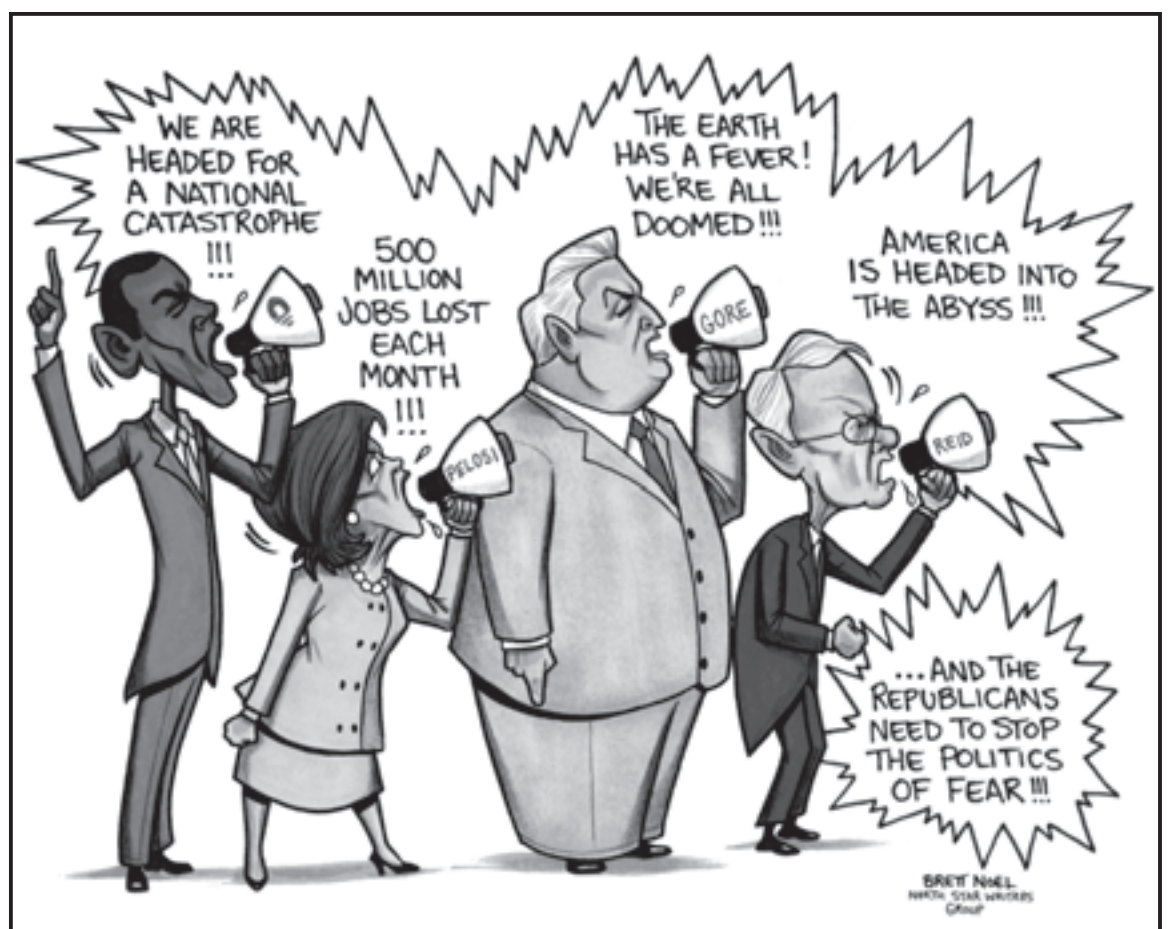
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MC Mr. Napkins

Hosts Workshop at ZUMIX



Zach Sherwin, a.k.a. MC Mr. Napkins

Join us for this exciting workshop which will feature Zach Sherwin, aka MC Mr. Napkins. He is a stand-up comic and rapper based in Cambridge. In this workshop, Napkins will explore the ways that comedy and hip-hop overlap. We'll talk about how you can use stand-up comedy techniques to write funny (or serious) raps. And you'll try writing a rap or a poem that is a little bit out of your comfort zone — you'll decide exactly how. (It doesn't have to be funny, but it might wind up that way.) The workshop is open to the public and free to ZUMIX participants. There is a small suggested donation for the general public.

Participants should come prepared to tell one embarrassing story about themselves — the more humiliating, the better!

The workshop will be on Wednesday, February 18th from 6-8PM and will be held at ZUMIX, 202 Maverick Street, East Boston, MA 02128.

Please call 617-568-9777 x16 for more information.

Hip-hop and comedy have

a lot in common. Great MCs and stand-up comics both think a lot about the rhythm and timing of their words. They take on a wide range of topics, which can sometimes be painful, controversial, or awkward. They entertain you by sharing their unique perspective on life — even though it can make them feel or seem vulnerable. And what wins MC battles? Punchlines, of course.

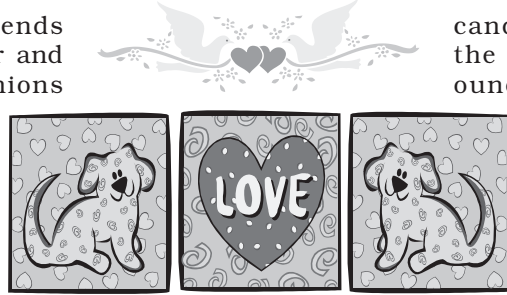
Napkins has loved both comedy and rap music since he was a kid — in fact, he wrote his first rhyme at the age of ten. Years later, after graduating from Brandeis University, Napkins decided to combine his two favorite forms of creative expression into one hilarious hip-hop comedy act. But don't mistake him for a goofy white parody rapper — Napkins layers infectious beats under thoughtful, funny rhymes, rapping about everything from his humiliating defeat in the Ohio State Spelling Bee to blood pressure measuring cuffs. (Did you know they're technically called "sphygmomanometers?") Napkins has been seen on VH1's "The White Rapper Show" and CNN Headline News, featured on the front pages of CollegeHumor and YouTube, and will star in a national Pepsi promotion, launching in June 2009. He also appeared in the 2008 Boston International Comedy Festival and hosts a weekly show at the Comedy Studio in Cambridge, called "The Greatest Comedy Club on Earth" by the producers of Late Night with Conan O'Brien. "MC Mr. Napkins has exploded onto the comedy scene and is now considered by fans and comedy peers to be one of Boston's hottest must-see acts." — *The Boston Phoenix*.



Freeway Says ...

Due to his increasing popularity and several suggestions from readers (and after much negotiating on our part with his huge salary demands), our friend Freeway has consented to try to answer readers' questions concerning him or any of our little four-legged friends. You can email your questions to postgazette@aol.com to the attention of Freeway. Don't forget folks, Freeway is not a vet, so please keep the questions light-hearted! Thanks.

To all my pooch friends "Valentine's Day" is near and all our human companions will be getting a lot of chocolates. BEWARE! Pets raiding the chocolate supply can face needless suffering or death. Every spring, animal clinics and hospitals see an increase in visits during the springtime holidays. A bit of CAUTION can save the life of your pet. Chocolate is toxic to animals and if enough is ingested it can create complications or kill an animal. Symptoms from chocolate ingestion include hyperactivity, tremors, racing heartbeat, and seizures. It is risky to leave boxes of



Happy Valentines Day!

candy out anywhere in the house. As little as four ounces is enough to kill a ten pound dog or cat. Provide pet treats to occupy your pet during the celebrations. Candlelight dinners are romantic just make sure that pets are not to be left unsupervised around flames. Give those pampered pets a new toy or pet specialty item. I would like our human companions to enjoy their special day and most importantly to keep ALL my pooch friends safe. So enjoy! Have a Wonderful "Valentine's Day."

That's all for now ... Life is good ...

YMCA and Children's Hospital Boston Host Photographic Exhibits of Children in Need of Homes

The Huntington Avenue YMCA and Children's Hospital Boston are hosting the acclaimed Heart Gallery, a striking collection of portraits of local children in foster care awaiting adoption, beginning February 2.

Local photographers volunteer their talent to create the Heart Gallery, organized by the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) to raise awareness about adoption from foster care and recruit families for the hundreds of children in state care waiting for "a permanent place to call HOME."

Currently, more than 500 children waiting for adoption have no potential adopters - no grandparent, aunt, or teacher who is considering providing them with a home. Some of these hardest-to-place children are featured in the Heart Gallery. They are mostly school-aged, in sibling groups, children of color, and those with emotional, intellectual and/or physical difficulties. But they can thrive with a loving adoptive family.

"Each year more than 600 local teens 'age out' of the Massachusetts foster care system to fend for themselves," said Lisa Funaro, MARE's executive director. "MARE's outreach programs, such as the Heart Gallery, are working hard to alleviate this problem by finding permanent adoptive families for these children before they 'age out' of the system. We truly hope that this year's exhibit will draw in more families who are eager to

learn about adoption from foster care."

The Heart Gallery travels across the state and portraits of waiting children can be seen at the following locations:

• **Now through March 30: Huntington Avenue YMCA, Boston**

• **Now through June 1: Children's Hospital Boston, 1295 Boylston St. Building, Boston**

• **March 30 - May 11: South End Community Health Center, Boston**

In addition, Jordan's Furniture hosts permanent Heart Gallery displays in its Reading, Natick, Avon, and Nashua, N.H., stores. Heart Gallery portraits are also on display in a variety of locales across the state, including the Dorchester YMCA, the Cambridge Health Alliances' Malden Family Medicine Center, and the Greenfield Savings Bank in Amherst. For a full list of where you can see Heart Gallery portraits, please visit www.mareinc.org and click on the 'Heart Gallery' link.

MARE is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1957 to find a "permanent place to call HOME" for CHILDREN in foster care, including sibling groups and children who are traditionally harder to place. MARE works in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF) and private adoption agencies. For more information on MARE's Heart Gallery, or on the process of adopting a child from foster care, con-

tact MARE at 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678) or visit www.mareinc.org

The Huntington Avenue YMCA is dedicated to improving the health of mind, body and spirit of individuals and families in our communities. We welcome men and women, boys and girls of all incomes, faiths and cultures. For more information about the Huntington Avenue YMCA, call 617-927-8060 or visit www.ymca.boston.org/huntington/.

Children's Hospital Boston is home to the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric medical center, where its discoveries have benefited both children and adults since 1869. More than 500 scientists, including eight members of the National Academy of Sciences, 11 members of the Institute of Medicine and 10 members of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute comprise Children's research community. Founded as a 20-bed hospital for children, Children's Hospital Boston today is a 397-bed comprehensive center for pediatric and adolescent health care grounded in the values of excellence in patient care and sensitivity to the complex needs and diversity of children and families. Children's also is the primary pediatric teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School. For more information about the hospital visit: www.childrenshospital.org/newsroom.

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Titian, Tintoretto and Veronese

Venetian Masters of the 16th Century

by James DiPrima

Last week the *Post-Gazette's* article "That's Amore" encouraged all of us romantics to purchase tickets to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston on February 14, Valentine's day. Needless to say this is a very good suggestion. As stated in the article, starting on March 15, 2009 and extending through August 16, 2009, the Museum of Fine Arts, In Boston, MA, will have on display paintings by three of the greatest Venetian Renaissance painters of the 16th century, **Titian, Tintoretto and Veronese**. I do not intend this article to be in any way publicity for the Museum of Fine Arts, they handle publicity for themselves very well; they don't need me to give them publicity. For the sake of full disclosure, I volunteer at the MFA on Tuesday from 10am -1pm, at the West Wing entrance. This newspaper may well be invited to the press preview by the MFA to publicize the exhibit. I have written in past issues of this publication on some other Italian painters. I have been to Italy many times and have viewed many paintings as I am sure you have as well when you have visited Italy and have stood in awe of some of the magnificent paintings. I do intend, through this article, to bring to the Italian community, and others, some little insight to these three painters as part of our Italian background. I would urge those who can, to visit the MFA and view the paintings as they are part of our heritage and we should be very proud of their accomplishments.

TITIAN (1485 -1576)

Tiziano Vecellio known as Titian was born in 1485 in the town of Pieve di Cadore in the Dolomite range off the Alp Mountains near Belluno in the Veneto area, in the Republic of Venice. He went to Venice and worked for *Sebastiano Zuccato* and was taught the art of mosaics. He later went on to the studio of *Giovanni Bellini*. He was swayed by the painter *Giorgione* who he helped in 1511 to paint the fresco that



Titian

decorates the *Fodaco dei Tedeschi* on the Grand Canal in Venice. In 1511 he received a commission to paint a *Battle* for the Grand Council Chamber in the Doge's Palace at the Piazza San Marco, in Venice. His painting of the *Assumption*, depicting Mary rising up to God, which he did for the Church of S. Maria Gloriosa dei Frari in 1518, was one that received the most accolades. So did the *Worship of Venus*, the *Bacchanal and Bacchus and Ariadne* in 1518-1523. In addition he did an alter piece in Ancona, in Brescia he did the *Resurrection of Christ* in 1520-1522. In 1519-1526 he painted an alter piece for the Pesaro family in the alter at the side of the Church of S. Maria Gloriosa dei Frari. During his lustrous career he was able to create many religious, portrait and mythological paintings. Titian was active until his death on August 27, 1576 at the age of 91. It has been said that he was the greatest painter of the Venetian school.

TINTORETTO (1518 - 1594)

His father was a dyer (tintore) and so the name he was know as was *Tintoretto* his actual name was *Jacopo Robusti* and was born in 1518. He, along with *Venonese*, became the most celebrated and very successful painters following Titian passing. Not much is known of his early life. What is known is that he spent most of his life in Venice and did study some with Titian, al-

though his style is much different. Many of his paintings such as his painting, *The Miracle of the Slave*, can be seen in places such as the *Gallerie dell'Accademia* in Venice. *Veronese* and *Tintoretto* were commissioned to be the lead painters in restoring the Doge's Palace in Venice, following the fires there in 1574 and 1577. *Tintoretto's* major painting was the huge painting for the main hall, *Paradise*. He was commissioned to do a series of paintings for the *Scuola di San Rocco* in Venice depicting scenes from the life of Christ that have been described as his greatest works. Author *Henry James* said of his painting, the *Crucifixion*, done in 1565, "Surely no single picture in the world contains more of human life; there is every thing in it, including the most exquisite beauty." *Tintoretto* died in Venice in 1594.

VERONESE (1528 - 1588)



Pietà by Venonese, 1581 (The Hermitage, Russia)

His name originally was *Paolo Caliari*, born in the beautiful city of *Verona*, Italy in 1528. Because he came from *Verona*, as was the custom, he was called *Veronese*. After learning painting in *Verona* from *Antonio Badile* he later went to live in *Venice* in 1553. His artistic ability began to be shown around 1555 -1566 with his many canvases that he painted for the *Church of San Sebastiano* in *Venice*. His frescos depicted in the *Villa Barbaro* at *Maser* included architecture of the villa that was built by *Andrea Palladio*, and included images of the inhabitants of the villa and some mythological persons. Around 1583 there was a change in direction in his paintings. Darker scenes replaced bright ones; joyful scenes were replaced with more serious scenes. This can be seen in his painting *Pieta* which he painted in 1581 and resides in the *Hermitage, St. Petersburg Russia*. *The Apotheosis of Venice* in the *Palazzo Ducale* is by far his most stunning ceiling frescos painted in 1585. *Paolo Caliari "Veronese"* Renaissance painter and one of the great Masters of the 16th century died in *Venice* on April 9, 1588.

What ever paintings will be on display at the MFA, I am sure it will be an **Italian Feast** for the eyes.

ICE CARVING CONTEST

Coming to Christopher Columbus Park

If you missed the ice sculptures at *First Night* — or just want to see more — then you are in luck: the *Boston Parks and Recreation Department* has announced that the fifth annual *Chisels and Chainsaws* ice carving competition will kick off *School Vacation Week* on Monday, February 16, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at *Christopher Columbus Park* in the *North End*.

Chisels and Chainsaws is an annual ice carving competition amongst art students from *Boston area universities*. Each year on *President's Day*, teams of contemporary artists tear through hundreds of pounds of ice to create sculpture, installation, performance art, video works, and more.

The public art event, produced by *Boston-based artists Dennis Svoronos and Nicole Seisler of REAL LIVE ART*, will move from its traditional venue of the *Museum of Fine Arts* to *Christopher Columbus Park* on *Atlantic Avenue* along the waterfront. Eight teams of art students from *Boston area universities* will receive 1,200 pounds of ice each to cut, carve, and transform.

The event is free and open to the public. The carving will begin at 10 a.m. and viewers are asked to vote for their favorite work of ice art from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The winning team will be announced at 4:30 p.m. for the awarding of the "Golden Chainsaw" trophy. This year's event is co-sponsored by the *Friends of Christopher Columbus Park* in partnership with the *Boston Parks and Recreation Department*. The ice art will remain on display as long as weather permits.

For further information, please call the *Parks Department* at (617) 635-4505.

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The Socially Set

by Hilda M. Morrill



All decked out in their best '60s duds at "Big Night 10" are Christa and Joe Ayoub, left and right, with bandleader Steve Miller. (Photo by Jeff Thiebauth)

On Saturday, January 24, more than 1,000 flower children "returned to Woodstock" via the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center to celebrate "Big Night 10," a benefit gala for Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Massachusetts Bay. The fun-and-festive party surpassed the committee's expectations by raising more

than \$1.2 million to support the work of BBBS. Since being launched, the annual "Big Night" benefit has raised nearly \$16 million.

Popular comedian Lenny Clarke was the Master of Ceremonies, with the Steve Miller Band providing the groovy music. In fact, the band enjoyed performing at the event so much that they played a full 30 minutes longer than planned.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay's mission is to promote the healthy development of children through the nurturing of continuing, one-to-one friendships with caring, responsible adults, supported by trained professional staff. Congratulations all around!

For more information about their programs and upcoming events, visit www.bbbsmb.org.

..... Noted Boston-based fashion designer Denise Hajjar will debut her "Spring/Summer 2009 Collection" with a fashion show to benefit The ALS Association Massachusetts Chapter on Wednesday, March 25 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza.

The fun-and-fashionable soiree begins with a cocktail reception and will feature both silent and live auctions.

Themed "Eleanor's Affair," the event is in honor of Eleanor Gehrig, who was the wife and caregiver of the late baseball legend Lou Gehrig, who passed away from ALS.

The event will also honor a local caregiver in the ALS Community who has significantly made a difference in the lives of patients and families with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.

For tickets and further information, please visit www.eleanorsaffair.org or call 781-255-8884.

..... Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops kick off the Symphony Hall season on Wednesday, May 6, with a gala "Opening Night at Pops" filled with festive music, chilled champagne, and a special guest, the legendary Broadway star and cabaret performer Barbara Cook.

Season highlights include "Film Night" led by the incomparable John Williams (May 26-30) and a number of unique tributes, such as a special homage to the legendary Ballets Russes, featuring some of the music and dance that catapulted



Museum of Fine Arts curator George Shackelford, left, and Dr. Horace Wood Brock at the preview of the exhibit "Splendor and Elegance: European Decorative Arts and Drawings from the Horace Wood Brock Collection," currently on view in the Torf Gallery through May 17. The collection features aristocratic European furniture and decorative arts, drawings, and paintings from the mid-sixteenth to the early nineteenth century. (Photo by Hilda M. Morrill)

ballet to a new level of artistic achievement (May 19).

Two of today's most gifted vocalists turn their considerable talents toward inspiring tributes to two of the greatest superstars of American culture — Linda Eder sings the songs of Judy Garland (June 9 & 10); and Michael Feinstein's classy "The Sinatra Project" (June 19 & 20) is an homage to Ol' Blue Eyes, conducted by Erich Kunzel in a welcome return to the Pops podium for

the first time in twelve years.

Tony nominee Michael Cavanaugh reels through a high-spirited evening of Billy Joel favorites (May 8 & 9). Special evenings also honor two of the Pops' most beloved conductors, Harry Ellis Dickson (May 20) and the legendary Arthur Fiedler, whose annual tribute this year also celebrates the 100th anniversary of the

(Continued on Page 13)



Bob Sherman and Kim Sawyer enjoy "Big Night 10" at the Boston Convention Center. (Photo by Jeff Thiebauth)



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Bob D's Beat

by Bob DeCristoforo



George Washington Statue

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Back in the day February School Vacation honored President George Washington, born on February 22, 1732 and President Abraham Lincoln, born on February 12, 1809. The Monday of February Vacation was celebrated as Presidents Day. Today, we celebrate all our Presidents. Check out www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents for short biographies of all our Presidents ... vacation week is also a good week to visit the JFK Library and Museum.

2009 MAYOR MENINO SUMMER YOUTH JOBS HOPELINE OPENS VACATION WEEK

If you are interested in a job this summer, a Boston resident, and 15 years old on or before July 5, 2009, not turning 18 years old on or before August 14, 2009 you can register for a chance to get a summer job (no guarantee). From 10 am February 17th until 11:59 pm, March 16 you can register on line at www.bostonyouthzone.com clicking on the Summer Jobs link. Registration can also be completed by calling 617-635-HOPE (4673) during the following days and times: Tuesday, February 17th from 10am-2pm; Wednesday, February 18th from 10am-2pm; Thursday, February 19th from 10am-4pm and Tuesday, February 24th from 4pm to 8pm.

ROCKY MARCIANO STATUE

Word is the Rocky Marciano statue will be placed outside Rocky Maciano Stadium in his Brockton hometown and be unveiled and dedicated on his birthday September 1, 2009.

NEAD DISNEY FAMILY TRIP

On Friday February 13th NEAD will host their Annual Disney on Ice Family Night at TD Banknorth Garden 275 of our very best will

participate. It couldn't be done without the good people at the TD Banknorth Garden Neighborhood Charities. They have always been a big supporter of NEAD.

BOSTON CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hockey February 19th Semifinal at Northeastern, February 20th 12 noon, final at Northeastern Girls Basketball February 18th Semifinals 4pm and 5:30pm at Madison Park, February 20th 5pm, final at Madison Park. Boys Basketball February 19th Semifinals 4pm and 5:30pm at Madison Park, February 20th 6:30pm, final at Madison Park

HIGH SCHOOL PREP NOTEBOOK

In hockey action CM defeated BC High 3-0 in the Edward Wright Memorial game. Vinny Repucci was the game MVP. The win qualified CM for the Tournament. Falmouth stung Malden Catholic 3-2. Arlington Catholic defeated St. Bernard's 5-0 to take the Catholic Central Large Championship. Mike Settiani had a goal and two assists for AC.

On the basketball court East Boston tipped Snowden 67-66 and Latin Academy topped Charlestown 67-63. CM defeated BC High 80-75, but the Knights were stopped by St. John's Prep 75-66, and BC came back to stop Malden Catholic 69-53. St. Clement did defeat Marian and Old Testament to qualify for the States.

DEADLINE STOPPER! BU TOP DOG ... AGAIN!

Just about 10:40pm on Monday, February 10th in the 57th Beanpot Hockey Title game Boston University won their 29th Championship, 25th in the last forty years, defeating a very good Northeastern team 5-2 before a sellout crowd at TD Banknorth Garden. Colby Cohen put BU up 1-0 at 16:09 of the first period, but Mike McLaughlin got the NU equalizer with just 26 seconds to go in the period. Just 27 seconds into period two Terrier Nick Bonino put BU ahead on a shorthanded tally. Shocked NU tied it up again, when Tyler McNealey scored at 10:01, but a little more than a minute later Jason Lawrence put BU ahead to stay. Guttly Northeastern has the 'no quit attitude' this season, and they didn't, but BU took out a lot

of the Huskie starch, when Terrier Dave Walsosky scored a shorthanded goal at 13:54 of the third period, and put it away one minute later at 14:54 when Terrier Colin Wilson scored another BU shorthanded goal. In the nets NU Brad Theissen, winner of the Eberly Goal-tender Trophy for the save percentage for the second straight year, and BU Kieran Millan came up big and very big when hey had to. Terrier Nick Bonino was named Beanpot MVP. Take note BU had three shorthanded goals, four of their five goals were scored by underclassmen, and their goaltender was a Freshman! Northeastern has fourteen underclassmen on their team. In the National Polls BU went into the game ranked #1, and Northeastern went into the game ranked #3 in the nation! In the no-Consolation game Eagle Benn Ferriero scored with just 42 seconds left in the third period to give BC a 4-3 come from behind victory over Harvard. Ryan Carroll had 42 saves for the Crimson.

COLLEGE BOARD

Congratulations to Boston University Coach Jack Parker, who milestone with his 800th win when the Hockey Terriers defeated Merrimack on Friday, January 30, 2009!

In Hockey East weekend action BC shutout UMass 2-0, Vermont swept Providence 4-1, and 4-1 Northeastern tipped Merrimack 4-3, but the Warriors came back to shutdown ECAC foe Brown 2-0. UNH defeated Maine 4-1, but on Saturday the Black Bears shutout UNH 1-0. BU came from behind to topple Lowell 5-3, but Lowell stopped UMass 2-1. The standings by points as of February 12th Northeastern 29, Boston University 27, Vermont 25, UNH 21, BC 20, Lowell 20, Maine 16, UMass 15, Providence 11, Merrimack 6. In Women Hockey East Northeastern defeated Providence 3-2, and BU took three points from UConn tying up the Huskies 2-2, and stopping them 3-1 in the rematch.

TIDBITS

- Congrats to all those who made the NEMPAC 'Concert for Scholarships' a success.

- Aaron Michlewitz is off and running for State Representative!

- Be sure to sign up for NEAA Baseball.

- Mark Your Calendar: April 4, 2009 is the date for the St. John School Annual Gala.

- Thank you Ricky S.
- Celeb Sightings: Rising star-to-be Chris Periera and barber-to-be Ricky Scimeca checking out the sights on Hanover Street, Carl Ameno and the Sulz family taking in a Bruins game, Joe Bono, and son at the Celtics-Dallas game.

- Pitchers and Catchers have reported, and Spring Training has begun ... YEAH!

HAPPY VALENTINE DAY and SMILE!



BILLY CURRINGTON — LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING (CD) Mercury

Billy Currington is on a roll, having topped the country singles chart for the third time with "Don't," the first single off Currington's third album *Little Bit of Everything*. Currington, earned a spot on *People* magazine's "Sexiest Man" list, and had a hand in writing five of the 11 tracks on his exciting album. Billy whets appetites with "Swimmin' In Sunshine," the power of "Life & Love and the Meaning Of," his attempt at discouragement via "Every Reason No To Go," the conversation of "People Are Crazy," and marks the midpoint with the all-inclusive "Everything." As the title of his previous album (*Must Be Doing Something Right*), Billy's career confirms that he's going in the right direction. Second half cuts of note have, "Walk On," the vote shows the ayes have it on "No One Has Eyes Like You," the rockin' "That's How Country Boys Roll," rambling on with "I Shall Return," and ends with the romantic cure-all "Heal Me."

KODO — HEARTBEAT: BEST OF KODO (CD) Sony Music Japan

Kodo is a premier Japanese taiko drum group touring 29 cities across North America while on their 'One Earth Tour,' hitting Boston's Symphony Hall, March 22nd. The giant taiko drum delivers rumbling sounds synonymous with Kodo. Together they deliver 'Best of Kodo — 25th Anniversary,' 14 pulsating tracks. Delve into Kodo's world with the vibrations of, "Lion," "Zoku," "Ibuki," the spirited "Shake," followed by "Miyake" and the obsessive "Kyosui (O-daiko)." The group previously known as Ondekoza, had a powerful impact at its North American debut in the 1970s, running here in the Boston Marathon, and then hopping on a cart to start a full-on taiko performance. The rhythmic "Yatai-Bayashi" sets the pace, trailed by the rapid beat of "Berimbau Jam," stepping up to "Strobe's Nanafushi," the formative "Floor," the heartbeat sound of "Biei (Ethereal Flow)," and end with the double-barreled "Chonlima" and "Kuyurage." The throbbing sound of the taiko drum is powerful!

THE READER: MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK (CD) Lakeshore

The Reader is the much-talked about film based on the best-selling 1995 German novel by Bernhard Schlink, starring Kate Winslet and Ralph Fiennes. The haunting soundtrack contains music composed by Nico Muhly whose film credits include the films *Choking Man* (2006) and *Joshua* (2007). *The Reader* is a haunting story about truth and reconciliation, about how one generation comes to terms with the crimes of another. The film contains a

passionate but secretive affair, mystery, and much suspense, and is truly enhanced with a score that creates and surrounds the moment with an intensity that is difficult for words. Muhly is able to 'frame' the moment with emotional reality worthy of the many awards attributed to the film. *The Reader* requires no words, just music!

ERIC CHURCH — CAROLINA (CD) Capitol Nashville

Nashville singer-songwriter Eric Church's debut Capitol CD, *Sinners Like Me*, in 2006, and it didn't take long for him to catch a following with songs as, "How 'Bout You" and "Guys Like Me." Eric's new album, *Carolina*, (3/24 release date) has moments of vulnerability, tenderness, longing and even a few love songs. Favorites can be culled from Church songs as the raw attitude of "Ain't Killed Me Yet," the manly "Lotta Boot Left to Fill," the reckless abandon of "Young and Wild," an earful of "Where She Told Me to Go," the funky "Longer Gone," and the album's first single, "Love Your Love the Most." Church appearing in Foxborough MA, March 20th at Showcase Live! Eric exposes his cool side via "Smoke A Little Smoke," the lonely "Without You Here," baring his soul with a song he wrote for his wedding "You Make It Look So Easy," reminiscing with "Carolina" the song that takes him home, plus the hook-laden "Hell On the Heart," ending on a real personal note with the reality of "Those I've Loved." Church is 'religiously' honest with his music, which makes him very appealing!

JOHN CAPARULO — MEET CAP (CD) Warner Bros.

It's not often that a doorman becomes a comedian, but John Caparulo did, and he delivers an hour's worth of laugh-out-loud stand-up comedy that swings both ways. Possessing sharp humor, a different take on life and love, all sprinkled with a few cuss words, and Caparulo keeps his audience laughing in the aisles. His credits include a half-hour special on Comedy Central, appearances on the "Tonight Show With Jay Leno," and a spot on the 2008 Next Generation of the Blue Collar Comedy Tour. Caparulo was featured as one of the four comedians on "Vince Vaughn's Wild West Comedy Show." He touches on subjects that include, "Cleveland Rocks," "Pepper Spray," "Airport," "People Who Read," "Fast Food Nation," "I Love," "Dirty Jobs," "Relationships," "I'm All For Porn" and "Weird Pets." Caparulo's simple approach to life and comedy endears him to audiences everywhere. If you enjoy this CD, you will certainly look forward to his first DVD release on Warner Bros. Records, coming in April. Cap is easy to laugh at or with, whether you're seeing him or just listening to him!



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Global superstar Tom Jones is "opening up shop" once more with the release of *24 Hours*, his first U.S. album release in more than 15 years. The exuberant performer first rose to fame in the early 1960s, but it was his hit single "It's Not Unusual" in 1965 that made him a living legend. Jones' clean-cut style, infectious blues and energetic pop tunes have helped him sustain a long career that continues unabated. Performing at the new House of Blues in March. Check out Music Section for more details.

THEATER

THE COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
A BRONX TALE - March 31 through April 11, 2009. Actor Chazz Palminteri gives an unforgettable performance as a young boy's rough childhood in the 1960s-era Bronx, and the unforgettable people he encountered. For tickets call Ticketmaster at: 617-931-2787.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY THEATRE
264 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW - Now through February 18-28, 2009. The premiere of this play sent shockwaves through London audiences, who were scandalized by its lewd humor and madcap energy. Forbidden trysts, a web of lies and a government inquisition highlight this farce. For more information call: 617-266-0800 or log onto www.huntingtontheatre.org.

SHUBERT THEATER
265 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
JERSEY BOYS - July 23 - August 30, 2009. JERSEY BOYS, winner of the 2006 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Show Album, features their hit songs "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll," "Oh What a Night" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You." "IT WILL RUN FOR CENTURIES!" proclaims Time Magazine. The JERSEY BOYS creative team comprises two-time Tony Award®-winning director Des McAnuff, book writers Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, composer Bob Gaudio, lyricist Bob Crewe and choreographer Sergio Trujillo. For general information call 617-482-9393. For tickets log onto www.telecharge.com or call (800) 432-7250.

THE BOSTON CONSERVATORY THEATER
31 Hemenway St, Boston, MA
42ND STREET - March 4-8, 2009. A classic reproduction of the small Broadway hit about a young actress, Peggy Sawyer, who gets her big break on the stage.

SHOWBOAT - April 24-26, 2009. It's a majestic, sweeping classic about life, love, tragedy and survival on the Mississippi River at the turn of the 20th century. For tickets, times of the performances and more information, call the box office at: 617-912-9222 or www.bostonconservatory.edu

LOEB DRAMA CENTER
64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square Cambridge, MA
ENDGAME - February 14th through March 15, 2009. This is one of the greatest dramas of the modern age. Both an existential comedy and a domestic tragedy, it charts a day in the life of a family fallen on mysteriously hard times. For more information, please call: 617-547-8300.

THE FACTORY THEATRE
791 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK - Now through February 22, 2009. This is a story of a girl who with her family, goes into hiding during World War II in order to escape persecution by Hitler's plan to rid Europe of Jews. For tickets and more information, call: 617-697-6012 or visit: www.bostonstagecompany.org.

TUFTS UNIVERSITY
Balch Arena Theater Medford, MA
ANYTHING TO DECLARE? - February 19th through February 28, 2009. When newlyweds Paulette and Robert return from their honeymoon, the bride's overbearing parents are devastated to hear that their new son-in-law was unable to consummate the marriage. This deliciously libidinous French farce keeps the laughter flowing and the energy up. For more information, directions to the theater and tickets, please call: 617-627-3493.

BOSTON COLLEGE
140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, MA
UNCLE VANYA by Anton Chekov - Wednesday, February 18th through February 22, 2009. This story is filled with the palpable sense of "what might have been" for the characters inhabiting a decaying country estate in a small Russian village in the late 1890's. For more info and times of the performance call: 617-552-4002.

MUSIC

TD BANKNORTH GARDEN
Causeway Street, Boston, MA
FLEETWOOD MAC - March 11, 2009 at 8:00 PM. "We love our band and think the title of the tour "UNLEASHED" perfectly describes how we all feel when we get on stage together — especially in 2009. We're so happy to get back out on the road,

perform everyone's favorite songs and see our fans." Direct from Fleetwood Mac. Do not miss this performance. For tickets call 617-931-2000 or log onto www.ticketmaster.com.

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER
136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston
The Sovereign Bank Music Series at Berklee. Pop music chases fads; great music surprises us. The Sovereign Bank Music Series presents great music from Peru to Nashville; from soul to lando to jazz. Eight shows. No boundaries. Full of surprises. **Mint Condition**, March 1, 2009 - **The Great American Songbook: The Music of Burt Bacharach**, March 7, 2009 - **Shining Stars: The Music of Earth, Wind & Fire**, April 16, 2009 - **Singers Showcase: The 25th Anniversary**. All concerts begin at 8:15 p.m., except where noted.

THE REGENT THEATRE
7 Medford Street, Arlington, MA
THE MAN IN BLACK: A TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY CASH - Saturday, February 21st at 8:00 PM. Shawn Barker takes the stage with traditional Johnny Cash greeting to his exit. Shawn truly captures the presence of Cash, not only through his music, but in his storytelling. For tickets and more information, please call: 781-646-4849 or visit: www.regenttheatre.com

THE BOSTON CONSERVATORY THEATER
31 Hemenway St., Boston, MA
SERSE - April 2-4, 2009 at 8:00 PM and April 5, 2009 at 2:00 PM. This is an opera by George Frederic Handel and tells the story of King Xerxes who harbors an unrequited love for a princess who loves his brother. **The opera is sung in Italian with English surtitles.** For tickets and further information, please call: 617-912-9240 or 617-912-9222 or visit: www.bostonconservatory.edu/performances.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM
Lexington, MA
AN AMERICAN JOURNEY - March 1, 2009. Irish, Italian and Eastern European Jewish immigrants share songs, dances and stories as they sail to New York in 1907. For more information, visit: www.revels.org.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY THEATRE
264 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA
THERESE RAQUIN - February 19-22, 2009. Composer Tobias Picker and librettist Gene Scheer transform Emile Zola's gritty tale of adulterous love and tragedy in late 1800's Paris into a breathtaking opera. Come and listen! **The music and lyrics will be in English.**
LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR - April 16-19, 2009. The moors of 17th century Scotland are the melancholy setting for Donizetti's classic tragedy of a young woman driven to madness when forced to marry a man who doesn't love. **This evening of music is in Italian with English super-titles.** For tickets, times of the performances and more information please call: 617-933-8600 or visit: www.BostonTheatreScene.com.

THE SHUBERT THEATRE
265 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
RUSALKA - March 20-31, 2009. This opera will captivate the audience with its tale of obsessive love and its consequences. A performance not to be missed.
DON GIOVANNI - April 24-May 5, 2009. This opera will captivate the audience with its tale of obsessive love and its consequences. For more info, and tickets call Tele Charge at: 800-447-7400 or visit: www.telecharge.com

THE NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY - JORDAN HALL
30 Gainsborough St, Boston, MA
MUSIC OF BEETHOVEN, BRITTEN AND FINZI - Friday, March 13, 2009 at 8:00 PM. For tickets and more info, please call: 617-868-5884 or visit: www.cantatasingers.org.

HOUSE OF BLUES BOSTON
15 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA
TOM JONES - Sunday, March 1, 2009 at 8:00pm. Going strong after all these years. Don't miss Tom Jones at the newly built House of Blues location. Call 888.693.BLUE for tickets and information.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVES
24 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA
THE UNCANNY CINEMA OF WILLIAM FRIEDKIN - Now through February 21, 2009. Some of the films presented are: **The Exorcist; To Live**

and Die in LA; Cruising; The Birthday Party; the French Connection and much more. For more information and times of these films, please call: 617-495-4700 or visit: <http://hcl.harvard.edu/hfa>.

TD BANKNORTH GARDEN
Causeway Street, Boston, MA
SPINNING THE GLOBE - Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 1:00 PM and Monday, March 30, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The legendary Harlem Globetrotters are bringing their world tour to Boston for 2 shows only. For more information and tickets, call: 1-800-745-3000 or visit: www.ticketmaster.com.

TOP OF THE HUB RESTAURANT
800 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY ALL WEEKEND - Friday, February 13th, Saturday, February 14th and Sunday, February 15, 2009. Providing the ideal setting for a memorable Valentine's rendezvous, the Top of the Hub will present a special four course prix-fix menu during these days. For further information and reservations, please call: 617-536-1775.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
Boston, MA
BOSTON WINE FESTIVAL - Now through April 3, 2009. Come and enjoy the annual celebration which includes events, tastings, seminars, rare wine auction, and celebrity guests. For more information, call: 617-330-9355 or visit: www.bostonwinefestival.net.

ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ITALIAN RADIO
"The Sicilian Corner" 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and **"The Italian Show"** w/Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10AM to 1PM www.1110wccm.com
"Italia Oggi"(Italy Today) Sundays 1PM to 2 PM with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM www.1460WXBR.com
"Dolce Vita Radio" DJ Rocco Mesiti 11 AM-1 PM Sundays. 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com
"The Nick Franciosa Show" - Every Sunday at 12 Noon to 3:00 PM on radio stations WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM.

SACKLER LECTURE HALL, ARTHUR M. SACKLER MUSEUM
485 Broadway, Somerville, MA
SYRACUSE: LAND OF ART, MYTH, AND CULTURE. PART OF THE CITIES: THEIR ART AND ARCHITECTURE LECTURE SERIES, DANIELLE CARRABINO, THEODORE ROUSSEAU CURATORIAL INTERN, PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND DECORATIVE ARTS - Wednesday, February 18, 2009 from 6:30 - 7:30pm. Syracuse, situated at the crossroads of the Mediterranean, was one of the preeminent port cities of the ancient world. Its domination by the Romans, Normans, Muslims, and Spanish resulted in a rich cultural history that is reflected in its art, architecture, and artifacts. We will tour Syracuse through several centuries, from its Greek temples and Roman amphitheater to exquisite examples of baroque architecture. Space is limited. To purchase tickets to the lecture, call 617-495-4544. Participants in this series may make reservations for dinner at the Harvard Faculty Club following the lectures. A dish inspired by the cuisine of the city presented that evening will be served. For dinner reservations, please contact the Faculty Club directly at 617 495-5758 and mention the *Cities* lecture series. Complimentary parking will be available at the Broadway Garage on Felton Street, between Cambridge Street and Broadway.

BOSTON'S NORTH END LIBRARY
25 PARMENTER STREET
Saturday, February 28, starting at 10:15 AM - **the Pirandello Lyceum** will sponsor an Italian film **Alcide de Gasperi, Italy's Man of Hope**, with English subtitles, caffè e biscotti will be offered. The film starts at 10:30 AM SHARP. The film is free and open to the general public, however the film may not be suitable for children, adults only. Weather advisory: If the library is open, the film will be shown. RSVP is not required for this presentation.

SONS OF ITALY HALL
King Hill Road, Braintree, MA
ITALIAN CARNIVAL (Carnevale) Saturday, February 21, 2009 from 6:30 PM-12 Midnight. Sponsored by Festa Calabrese this event will include a delicious dinner and danc-

CONCORD MUSEUM
Concord, MA
A PRESIDENTS DAY VISIT WITH ABE LINCOLN - Monday, February 16, 2009. What better way to celebrate Presidents' Day than with a visit from Abraham Lincoln. Once again host Steve Wood will delight visitors with his amazing performance as Abraham Lincoln. For more info and time of this event, call 978-369-9763 or visit: www.concordmuseum.org.

THE REGENT THEATRE
7 Medford Street, Arlington, MA
THE BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL - Monday - Wednesday, February 23-25, 2009 at 7PM. The Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour brings the spirit of outdoor adventure to the Boston outdoors community, at the Regent Theatre. For more info log onto www.banffmountainfestivals.ca/tour/ or call 781-646-4849.

THE HARVARD COOP
1400 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA
FEBRUARY COOP KIDS - Saturday, February 14th at 11:00 AM. Valentine stories will be read, games will be played and crafts will be learned. This event is free and open to the public.
VACATIONS - Saturday, February 21st at 11:00 AM. Today we will take a vacation and will read stories about all kinds of vacations and make a vacation craft!! For more info call: 617-499-2000 or visit: www.thecoop.com.

ing. Festa Calabrese is a non-profit organization that raises money to support local charities in Eastern, Massachusetts. For tickets to this event and for more information about Festa Calabrese please call 617-842-4222.

FAIRMONT COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL
138 St James Ave, Boston, MA
"LA FESTA DELLA MUSICA" - February 28, 2009, a great event filled this year with a special Italian flavor, to benefit NEC Scholarship's fund. Honorary Chairman is Consul General Liborio Stellino. For more information go to www.newenglandconservatory.edu/feastofmusic

SANDERS THEATER
45 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA
RENZO PIANO - March 9, 2009 at 6:00 PM. Renzo will discuss the renovation of the Harvard Art Museum, in the context of his architectural work. Free admission, but ticket are required Harvard Box Office: 617-496-2222.

ALGONQUIN CLUB
217 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
ITALIAN NIGHT - February 27, 2009. Celebrate an evening of culture and fun. Please check back for more details.

BOCELLI'S RESTAURANT
374 Main St, Medford, MA
FESTA DELLA DONNA - Domenica, 8 Marzo 2009 - Ore 1:00 P. M. -La Societa' San Domenico, Protettore di Augusta ha il piacere di invitarVi all' **"Internazionale Women's Day"**, per celebrare la giornata dedicata alla donna, commemorando tutte coloro che hanno sofferto e si sono battute per ottenere i risultati di oggi. Il menu consiste Antipasto Pasta Choice of Surf & Turf, Chicken Marsala or Baked Haddock Contorni Soft Drink Caffè & Dolce Musica by Enzo Amara Se interessati, siete pregati di chiamare al piu' presto una delle seguenti persone: Maria Mellace -781-289-6323, Maria Teresa Costa-781-662-2752, Carmela Noe-781-284-3353, Silvana Lanzerota-603-437-0055, Franca Daniele- 781-485-1042. L'assegno deve essere intestato alla Societa' San Domenico e spedito a Maria Mellace at 76 Fairfield St., Revere, MA 02151. entro il 20 di Febbraio specificando la scelta del secondo. All income will be donated to charity

THE SAINT DOMENIC SOCIETY OF AUGUSTA cordially invites you to participate in the "Festa della Donna" - International Women's Day on Sunday, March 8, 2009 at 1:00 PM held at Bocelli's Restaurant at 374 Main Street, Medford, MA. There will be plenty of food and entertainment by Enzo Amara. For tickets and more information you may call Maria Mellace -781-289-6323, Maria Teresa Costa-781-662-2752, Carmela Noe-781-284-3353, Silvana Lanzerota-603-437-0055, Franca Daniele- 781-485-1042.

Special Events

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS



Tomorrow is Valentine Day and of course, we look forward to receiving your cheap, Valentine Day cards. Seriously, Saint Valentine, Roman martyr priest is honored on February 14. The customs connected with him in English-speaking countries are probably a survival from a period when a pagan festival associated with love occurred about February 14. He is now popularly considered the Patron of lovers and the helper of those unhappily in love. The lovers' greeting cards sent on this day (and parodies of them) are called valentines for him.

Hey? Did you kiss your wife this morning? Well, statistics show that men who kiss their wives goodbye in the morning live five years longer than those who don't. Some of you men had better pucker-up before you tucker-out.

Tom Analetto, of Medford, says, "Formerly a kiss used to follow a nice evening, but nowadays a nice evening follows a kiss."

Bella Culo of Chestnut Hill wants you to know, when a man tells you your kisses are intoxicating, watch out: he is probably mixing his drinks.

It was actress Mae West who said, "Few men know how to kiss well; unfortunately, I've always had to teach them."

The astute Lisa Cappuccio thinks they should erect signs at airports stating "Start kissing goodbye early, so the plane can leave on time."

Huh? Nearly 20 percent of young adults have a significant mental-health problem, says a new study. In the most extensive study of its kind, involving face-to-face interviews with 5,000 men and women between the ages of 19 and 25, Columbia University researchers found a troubling array of personality disorders that interfered with daily life. The majority of people with such disorders have never been treated, the study says, and many turn to alcohol and other drugs to cope with their problems.

As if luxury retailers weren't hurting enough, high-end diamond merchant Harry Winston's Paris store was the victim of a record \$108 million heist. It was the famous store's second robbery in a year.

Carlo Scostumato claims some women wear so much jewelry; it's hard to tell whether they belong to the mineral or animal kingdom.

It has been said, a woman sometimes buys jewelry to satisfy a need, but more often to gratify a greed.

For the record, twenty-four karat gold is not pure gold, there is a small amount of copper in it. Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands. And remember, the best diamonds are colored blue-white.

Questions people ask: Where does the word *salary* come from? It evolved from *salarium argentum*, or "salt money," fees paid to Roman soldiers to buy them precious commodity. Where did the word *crap* come from? Does it have anything to do with shooting craps? No, it derived from the first flush lavatory, Crapper's Valveless Water Waste Preventor, developed in 1837 by English sanitary engineer Thomas Crapper. How much water does the average American use every day? For drinking, washing, etc., an average American uses 168 gallons per day. The average American residence uses 107,000 gallons per year. What is the most popular month for births in the United States? According to 1980 figures, August registered 9.2 percent of the year's births. The second most popular month was October, with 9 percent of the year's births. And what do Americans fear most? 1. Speaking before a group. 41 percent. 2. Heights. 32 percent.

We asked Mother Superior Frances Fitzgerald, what happened to Pontius Pilate after he ordered the crucifixion of Christ? He killed himself. In A.D. 36, Caligula ordered Pilate to Rome to answer charges of cruelty in the massacre of a group of Samaritans. Shortly after that, Pilate committed suicide, possibly by order of Caligula or in anticipation of harsh treatment.

Next question! Who was the original Peeping Tom? He was a tailor who dared to look at Lady Godiva as she rode through Coventry. In 1040, Lady Godiva's husband, Leofric, Earl

of Mercia and Lord of Coventry, agreed to rescind a tax on the town if Lady Godiva rode naked through the streets. Godiva asked everyone to observe custody of the eyes — and everyone did, except Tom. Ah, Peeping Tom!

Commercial free TV: France's five state-owned TV stations have stopped showing commercials at night, a result of President Nicolas Sarkozy's media reforms. Advertising is now banned on public television from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., and will be eliminated altogether starting in 2011. Sarkozy said the ban would "end the dictatorship of ratings" and allow for higher-quality programming, such as the commercial-free BBC shows in Britain.

Bragging rights! My ad agency created the first TV commercial for a furniture store — the Joseph V. Ippolito Furniture Store in Lawrence. At that time we held the record of having created the most TV commercials in New England. Yes, we created the AAMCO and MAACO commercials, New England Toyota Dealer's TV commercials, Barclay Preserves, Lechmere Sales, Rambler Dealer's TV commercials. Ernie Boch at that time was a Rambler dealer in Norwood and wondered what good the TV commercials would do for him because his dealership was way off in Norwood. In brief, along with Al Solari, a sales executive at WBZ-TV, we convinced Boch TV would work for him. And so we created a few TV spots featuring Ernie jumping from out of a trunk of a Rambler. The rest is history. Boch would go on to become a millionaire and a dear friend. He once asked my beloved wife Marilyn, if we were billionaires because I made many individuals millionaires.

Sean Connery has revealed the secret of his happy marriage — not being able to talk to his wife. The 78-year-old actor has been married to French-born wife Micheline for more than three decades, but he still can't speak a word of her native tongue, while her English is limited. Their inability to hold extended conversations — and to bicker — is "what has kept us together all these years," Connery says. "What should be a handicap is actually a godsend."

Interesting to note, slaves helped build the White House that Barack Obama and his family occupy. A dozen previous American presidents owned slaves. Yes, many more servants than Presidents have lived in the White House.

Some bits and pieces about show business from our noted musicologist Albert Natale Nancy Sinatra majored in economics at the University of Southern California, while studying piano, voice, dance and drama. Frank Sinatra learned all there was to know about microphone techniques in his early years as emcee and entertainer at Hoboken's Union Club and the Rustic Cabin near Alpine, New Jersey. Helen O'Connell had a way with a song. Men would melt as Helen sang in her own style, "Those cool and Limpid Green Eyes." The high notes of Jack Haley's singing of "If I Only Had a Heart" in the "Wizard of Oz" were actually sung by Adriana Caselotti. Rudy Vallee was the first of the romantic crooners and, as a national heart throb, paved the way for Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley. "Tammy," by Debbie Reynolds, was the only single recording by a female vocalist to go to number one between July 28, 1956 and December 1, 1958. It is one of the longest periods of female domination of the #1 position in the entire RoRockra. Barbra Streisand's first choice as her co-star in "A Star Is Born" (1976) was Elvis Presley. The part, of course, went to Kris Kristofferson. And Frank Sinatra and drummer Buddy Rich were roommates with the Tommy Dorsey band for about a year. Although the Three Suns have managed a comfortable living by playing hotel gigs, they did make the charts with two big hits: "Twilight Time" in 1944 and "Peg O' My Heart" in 1947.

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME

Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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BEEF HONEYCOMB TRIPE in Tomato Sauce

TOMATO SAUCE:

14 ounces crushed tomatoes
1 medium onion chopped
1/4 cup olive oil
3 small dried sprigs bay leaf
1 tablespoon basil flakes
1/4 cup red wine
Light sprinkle red pepper flakes (optional)
Salt and pepper

TRIPE:

4 to 5 pounds beef honeycomb tripe
2 small onions
5 small dried sprigs bay leaf

SAUCE:

In an eight-quart pot, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add chopped onion, bay leaf and basil. Simmer slowly, careful not to burn onion. When onion is opaque, add crushed tomatoes and eight ounces of water. Stir thoroughly and cover. Simmer sauce over low/medium heat for about half an hour before adding any tripe. *

TRIPE:

Using an eight-quart pot halfway with cold water. Add peeled whole onions and five small sprigs of bay leaf to pot. Place on burner to boil. When water boils carefully place washed tripe into the water. Cover and boil moderately for about one hour. (One hour is satisfactory for the first boil of four to five pounds of tripe). Check frequently. Covered pot tends to boil over easily. When tripe is tender but not fully cooked, drain from pot. Add cold water to that pot and place tripe into water.

Drain a portion from the cold water and place on a cutting board. Cut tripe portion into long three-inch strips with sharp knife or scissors. Then cut each three-inch strip diagonally into half-inch-wide portions. Place all cut tripe into separate bowl. After all tripe is cut, run under cold water, drain, and set aside.

*When tomato sauce has cooked about half an hour, add cut-up tripe, salt and a few red pepper flakes (optional). Stir thoroughly. Cover pot and simmer tripe for one hour or until it is tender. (Approx. time - an additional hour). Then add red wine, a sprinkle of red pepper flakes (optional), stir and simmer for one minute before removing from burner.

The tripe and sauce mixture can be reheated before serving.

Serves five.

NOTE: My introduction to tripe was in 1950 when I began preparing this for our Somerville luncheonette customers. I had learned the recipe from watching my mother-in-law, Mary Sinopoli prepare this meal at home. At that time she had to scrape and clean the tripe before boiling it. Today, Tripe is made available already cleaned. This eliminates some of the unpleasant odor and work.

Often times I prepare a double recipe of tripe with tomato sauce and enjoy sharing it with family and friends.

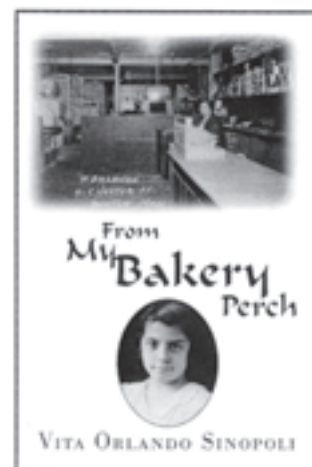
Vita can be reached at voswriting@comcast.net

• Home Care (Continued from Page 5)

zation. "We're helping to delay or divert people from needing nursing home care" Norman added, "which has resulted in windfall savings for the Commonwealth."

Although the Commonwealth has increased home care spending modestly over the past eight years — especially MassHealth spending — last October's 9c cuts threw the home care funding

back to 2006 funding levels. "We have at least 10,000 seniors in home care today who would otherwise be in nursing homes," Norman noted. "The savings from these people should be reinvested in home care so this network can keep on creating that kind of a 'community first dividend. It's sound financial strategy as well as good service strategy."



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Vita Orlando Sinopoli
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of her memories as a child
growing up in
Boston's "Little Italy"
and a collection of
Italian family recipes
from the homeland.*

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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Friday the 13th!!! I am not a superstitious person (knock on wood), but I don't tempt fate. That's like saying, "Look before you leap," and then, "He who hesitates is lost." All bases are covered. Babbononno wasn't a superstitious man. He considered himself, well educated (up through the 6th grade in the Old Country) and a man of the world. Nanna on the other hand was more prone to the wives tales heard round the neighborhood. She was a farm girl from Avellino and never attended school. She couldn't read and write but wanted to become an American citizen. Babbononno went through the manual to prepare her and made her memorize the questions and answers. At the same time, Uncle Gino taught her how to write her name. Somewhere in my archives, I have a scrap envelope that Nanna, on a given day, used to practice writing her name, "Giovannina Ceruolo Contini." Beyond this, her education was whatever she had learned on the farm at her mother's side.

Nanna had a dream book. It was mostly a picture book that interpreted dreams and classified the results into numbers. If she remembered her dream, she would put a three or four number setup together, give Babbononno a nickel and ask him to play the number with the local bookie. There were no state lotteries in those days and the winning numbers were based on federal financial computations found in the evening papers. The return was about \$7.00 a cent for a three number play. If she happened to hit, her three number play would give her \$35.00, enough money to buy added groceries and something nice for each of her kids, Babbononno and herself.

She had a scientific method that allowed her to win periodically. She said a prayer to one of her favorite saints. But, being superstitious, she would never play a number on Friday the 13th; it was bad luck.

Babbononno, on the other hand, would walk under ladders, ignore the aspects of a black cat crossing in front of him and didn't take stock in any curses placed on Italian friends by jealous rivals. I once caught him spilling salt at dinner one night when I was a kid, and asked him

why he then shot a spray of the white condiment over his shoulder. He answered, "Jenny, I no believe in gooda oh badda luck, ma I no take-a chanza, capisce?" Whether he believed in Friday the 13th or luck didn't matter. He always had stories of supernatural things that happened on that date or other important days like Halloween and a third glass of wine would enable him to tell a tale to his first born grandson, me.

One of his favorite stories was about the time he went hunting for mushrooms. It was Friday the 13th many years ago and the cold weather came early that year. Let me preface this story by saying that, Babbononno like many of the old timers, liked to go into the woods and find mushrooms. Each of the old timers had their own secret place somewhere in a wooded suburban area where the best mushrooms could be found. All of the mushroom hunters considered these places their own domain and would keep them a secret from all others for fear that someone might encroach on their sacred territory.

As I said, it was Friday the 13th back in the early 1920s, and Babbononno went mushrooming. He was dressed for a day in the woods: twill pants, a sweater, a jacket, a hat, a pair of hunting boots and work gloves. He carried a large galvanized metal bucket, let's say a two gallon pail, and a large burlap sack. He didn't drive and took a bus or the train from North Station to his secret location somewhere north of Boston.

On this particular day, he arrived at the center of the town and walked the rest of the way into the woods and began to hunt in areas that seemed familiar from past experiences. Not finding much at the edge of the woods, he continued to advance farther and farther into the thicket, knowing that he would find a big score. He was right. He came to an area that contained large edible mushrooms in a never-ending supply. He filled his bucket and then began to fill the burlap bag. As the bag began to be filled, Babbononno became aware of the fact that it had begun to snow. He was dressed for the woods but not for an early winter storm. As a result, he decided that it was time to

quit and headed out of the woods.

Babbononno walked in the direction he had come from but couldn't find his way out. He continued to walk in what he thought was the right direction but with no luck and now becoming tired, cold and panicky, began to walk in circles. All the while, the snow came down harder and everything began to look the same. In other words, he was lost. Just before total panic set in, he heard a voice calling out in Italian, "Scusi signore, lei e perduto?" (Excuse me sir, are you lost?) He looked around and saw a soldier in the uniform of the day and answered that he couldn't find his way out of the woods. The soldier smiled and said, "Solo accompagniarmi." (Just follow me.)

My grandfather did just that, and within a short period of time, they were at the edge of the woods. He offered the soldier a drink or a cup of coffee as a thank you gesture, but the soldier refused. Babbononno thanked him again and asked the soldier his name. The reply was, "Mi chiamo Antonio 'Tony' Reballo."

Babbononno thanked him again and he headed back into the woods.

As he looked around, Babbononno had discovered that it had stopped snowing and considering it was early in the season, nothing had stuck to the ground. He found a nearby coffee shop, entered and decided to warm up with a black coffee.

Being one of the few customers, he and the counter man struck up a conversation. While they were talking, he asked the man if he knew Tony Reballo, and explained what had happened. The counter man just stared at Babbononno with a look of bewilderment on his face. When my grandfather asked what was wrong, he was told that he must have been mistaken with the name as the man he named was a local boy from that town who joined the army when World War I started but was killed fighting in France just before the Armistice was signed.

This was one of Babbononno's favorite stories about strange events that could happen on Friday the 13th, and I close with my usual, GOD BLESS AMERICA.

• The Socially Set (Continued from Page 9)



Among the beautiful items featured in the current "Splendor and Elegance" exhibit at the MFA is an exquisite Tulip Vase (one of a pair) from The Netherlands (about 1690-1700) displayed on a golden English caryatid pedestal. We can just imagine how spectacular it looked full of tulips!

(Photo by Hilda M. Morrill)

birth of the "King of Swing," Benny Goodman (June 2 & 5).

"A Richard Rodgers Celebration" takes audiences on a journey down the Great White Way in a program showcasing the vivid and memorable theater music of one of the world's greatest songwriters (June 16-18).

Long-time audience favorites, such as "Gospel Night," led by Charles Floyd and featuring Edwin Hawkins and the New Edwin Hawkins Singers (June 6), are complemented by programs showcasing genre-defying contemporary artists, such as cello diva Maya Beiser, featured on concerts headlined by the popular multi-faceted jazz guitarist/vocalist/bandleader John Pizzarelli (May 12-13).

Erich Kunzel, one of the world's leading pops conductors and a Boston Pops favorite, leads the season's rousing finale, "Let's Dance" (June 21). This special program offers audiences the chance "to dance the night away" to music ranging from the familiar standards of the Swing Era to the pop favorites of here and now.

Tickets for the "2009 Boston Pops Season at Symphony Hall" go on sale on February 23 and may be purchased online at www.bostonpops.org or by phone through Symphony-Charge at 617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200. For group sales of 25 or more, please call 617-638-9345 or 800-933-4255.

..... Congratulations are in order to Berklee College of Music, where they are celebrating last Sunday's Grammy Awards. Berklee alumni were honored with eight awards on music's biggest night for their outstanding contributions to some of last year's top releases.

The winners were recognized for their work in varied categories and fields, including pop, rock, rap, jazz, Broadway show music, producing, mixing/engineering, and mastering. With Sunday's wins, Berklee alumni have now received a total of 176 Grammy Awards.

John Mayer '98, who performed in a tribute to Bo Diddley at the ceremony, won two Grammys in the Best Male Pop Vocal Performance, bringing him the sixth and seventh awards of his career.

In other rock categories, Thomas Pridgen '03, of the Mars Volta, won Best Hard Rock Performance. Joe Travers '91, of Zappa Plays Zappa, won Best Rock Instrumental Performance.

Andrew Dawson '01, who has two previous Grammys for his work with Kanye West, won Best Rap Album for engineering/mixing Lil Wayne's smash-hit album *Tha Carter III*. Gavin Lurssen '91 took home an Album of the Year award for his work as mastering engineer on Robert Plant and Alison Krauss's *Raising Sand*, which was the night's biggest winner.

Gary Burton '62 was awarded the sixth Grammy of his career in the category Best Jazz Instrumental Album for *The New Crystal Silence*, with Chick Corea. Alex Lacamoire '95 won his first award, in the category Best Musical Show Album for *In The Heights*, a show for which he also won a Tony Award.

Enjoy!

(Be sure to visit Hilda Morrill's gardening Web site, www.bostongardens.com. In addition to events covered and reported by the columnist, "The Socially Set" is compiled from various other sources such as news and press releases, PRNewswire services, etc.)

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NEWS BRIEFS

(FROM ITALIAN
NEWSPAPERS AND
OTHER PUBLICATIONS)

Compiled by Orazio Z. Buttafuoco

THE BRITISH MILITARY PREFER PASTA! The British troops are getting tired of eating beans & sauce, curry and chocolate biscuits which have the tendency to often melt! Now the British troops of the contingent deployed in Afghanistan will get, at last, a ration more attuned to the local climate, namely food prepared according to the well known Mediterranean recipes, particularly pasta with tuna fish, soup made with tomato and basilico, no less! As reported by the "Times" of London, the British troops will get provisions next year which will be 'multi-climate' and 'multi-cultural'. The portions will be lighter and more digestible. The number of rations will be at least 26, which will include special 'options' for those whose religion calls for special foods. Instead of chocolate cookies/cream, the troops will receive healthier foods such as fruit and cereal bars. The change will be limited to the availability of food items that the troops will carry with them when they are on a mission, or in isolated areas. The food portions will be prepared by specially trained chefs who will be able to produce high quality dishes. The individual who started this 'food change' movement was no other than Prince Harry, who had unkind words, to say the least, about the tasteless food distributed to the troops. Prince Harry has scored a sensational coup by speaking, loud and clear, about something no one had before attempted to do. But, thanks to pasta!

LIVER TRANSPLANTATION IN PALERMO, FROM TEL AVIV! Experts are still talking about an exceptional transplantation of a small liver, from an 8-month old Israel infant, of Tel Aviv, to an Albanian living in Palermo, of the same age. An effective network worked hard in getting the small liver in Tel Aviv bringing it to the celebrated Mediterranean Transplant Institute known worldwide. This Institute was founded by Dr. Ignazio Marino with resources from the local Regional Government as well as financial and expert assistance from the School of Medicine/Surgery of the University of Pittsburg, Pa. USA. The Institute is a shining example of international cooperation between Sicily and the US (University of Pittsburg, where Dr. Marino often performs surgeries). When a request for a small liver was issued in Palermo, the CNT (National Transplantation Center) which is connected with several European countries was able to locate a tiny donor in Israel. An aquipe from the Palermo's Institute went to Tel Aviv where it extracted the organ (from the dead patient) and headed to Palermo. It took a few hours to transplant the liver on the recipient.

• Editorial (Continued from Page 3)

Relying on civilian justice robs us of the most effective tool to avert future attacks; it provides our enemies an opportunity to obtain intelligence on us. Defense lawyers will insist that U. S. government produce in open court all U. S. intelligence on their client along with the methods used by the CIA and NSA to get it.

In his inaugural speech, Obama said, "We can reject as false the choice between

our safety and our ideals." Translated, it means we must give al Qaeda the same rights as garde-variety criminals at the cost of losing critical intelligence about real, future threats.

About "safety or ideals", as for me, give me safety or death for America will surely follow.

John Yoo's article appeared in the Wall Street Journal (1/29/09).

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

IS FOURTEEN ENOUGH OR IS HER CLOCK STILL TICKING?

That recent news story about the 33-year-old woman who lives at home with her grandparents now has fourteen children seven and younger with the recent birth of her new eight babies. This woman never married, has no job and makes babies through reportedly in vitro fertility because it is reported that she loves babies. Loving babies and starting your very own public school is just a bit crazy to me.

When doctors were asked about this recent octuplets, they said who am I to say how many babies are too many babies. However, I want to know how the federal government authorized taking drugs to up the baby count for an unmarried woman who already had six other children?

Taxpayers should not have to foot the bill for becoming a baby factory. Our tax dollars are financing her lifestyle and her herd of babies. What's to stop her from having more babies? She's pretty fertile as America can see. She's probably good to go for about seven more years. If she keeps up liking babies, this herd could grow into a little town.

In the end, it will be the children who will survive.

Is this the face of America in the 21st century? Acting totally irresponsible?

If doctors won't intervene, then it is up to government to cut off the money line for this

obsession with having as many babies as possible. Cut the funding and dry up the doctor pool.

Poor grandma and grandpa. In their golden years, they will be running a family school building where clocks tick and babies are born. No wonder Grandpa volunteered for Iraq!

CASINOS ON THE HILL

According to Jay Ash, Chelsea's City Manager who is part of a coalition of city officials, union leaders and business groups who support casino gambling in the Bay State, stated the day prior to Speaker Sal DiMasi's resignation that, "When a new speaker takes office, casinos will get a fresh look."

Well, we have a new speaker in State Rep Bob DeLeo, D-Winthrop and I do hope his elevation to Speaker does mean a jumpstart in the casino debate long stalled.

Reportedly, DeLeo is flexible on the issue. My former State Senator Mike Morrissey, D-Quincy says, "I expect a free and open debate under the new leadership."

A dozen proposals are pending on Beacon Hill and casino proponents hope that in post-DiMasi Beacon Hill, the initiatives will be heard.

The State AFL-CIO is hopeful that Speaker DeLeo will allow members to decide for themselves whether casino gambling makes sense.

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

Meanwhile, Andrew Cuomo

Meanwhile, NY State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo who also liked the idea of getting appointed to the vacancy can now set his sights on 2010 and the Democratic primary against Patterson. Many see the younger Cuomo, son of former NY Governor Mario Cuomo as some one interested in running for the presidency, say, in 2016. Wait and see how this goes.

Leadership?

I can't wait to get my hands on the upcoming memoirs of our Governor

Deval Patrick entitled, "Leadership".

What a more inappropriate title for a book by Patrick about himself. And he's getting \$1.3 million to pen it.

Good Country, America!
Classics IV and 104.9

The other day while listening to my favorite music station, North Shore 104.9 FM, Charlie Curtis played the Classic IV big hit from 1966 or 1967, called, "Stormy".

It was a favorite of mine sung by Dennis Yost who just passed away a few weeks ago.

The Sixties had some great music, didn't it?

The Day the Music Died

February 3, 1959 was for many baby boomers and pre-baby boomers born (1940-1950) the day the music died as a hit tune from the early 70's sang about.

Three rising stars in the history of Rock & Roll died with their pilot when their plane crashed in light snow outside Madison City, Iowa.

The three singers were Buddy Holly, 22, Ritchie Valens, 21 and J.P. Richardson, a.k.a. Big Bopper. Bye, bye Miss American Pie and to those Chevys in the levies.

• Mayor's Column (Continued from Page 1)

remaining 699 in schools, including 372 teaching positions.

Dr. Johnson has proposed a number of innovative ways to reduce expenses while maintaining our shared commitment to families. Her proposals include creating a five-zone student assignment plan to reduce costs associated with the current three-zone plan. This action preserves school choice while reducing transportation costs. By adopting a new approach to student assignment, Superintendent Johnson's plan would create walkable communities, provide continuity of educational experience, and ultimately reduce transportation costs so that our investments go into classrooms, rather than the gas tanks of underutilized school buses. In the face of a budget shortfall, the Superintendent continues to pursue initiatives to further education, including expanding K-8 opportunities, increasing AP classes, and continuing to tackle the issue of dropouts.

I believe in leading by example because I know

these are difficult times for all families. Starting immediately, I will take a 3% reduction in my salary. Every member of my cabinet has also volunteered to accept a 3% cut in order to help reduce costs. However, this is about more than dollars and cents; it's about standing together to overcome our challenges.

To minimize the impact of painful layoffs, Superintendent Johnson joins me in city unions to accept a one year wage freeze that could save \$55 million overall. If accepted by school employee unions, this would save nearly \$30 million next fiscal year. I thank Dr. Johnson and her executive cabinet for their willingness to forgo any pay increases next fiscal year, saving nearly \$1 million. High school principals have also showed their commitment to our students by affirming their willingness to accept a wage freeze and take a 3% salary reduction for most of their members. Their willingness to share in the economic hardship will help to preserve jobs for teachers.

Dr. Johnson understands this need for cooperation, and she has prioritized reductions to help keep cuts

out of the classroom. In order to minimize the impact on classroom teaching, Dr. Johnson proposed reductions to central offices and services over reductions to schools. In fact, some central departments have proposed reductions in excess of 30% of their current budgets.

I encourage you to engage Superintendent Johnson in the public process to gather feedback and ideas about the budget. Through a six-week series of public hearings, she will discuss the proposed budget in neighborhoods across the city, from Dorchester, to Jamaica Plain, to the South End. Learn more about these hearings and the preliminary budget by visiting www.bostonpublicschools.org/budget. While there are tough choices ahead, by engaging people at every level, we will come to a plan that moves the education of our children forward.

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BBB Warns Deceptive Auto-Warranty Solicitations

Better Business Bureau is warning consumers to be extremely wary of telemarketing calls and mailers which claim their auto warranty had or is about to expire. BBB advises that the deceptive solicitations could persuade car owners to purchase an extended auto service contract of questionable value.

BBB has seen a considerable spike in both complaints and inquiries from consumers who state that they received misleading mailers or high-pressure telemarketing calls claiming their auto warranty was about to expire. Complaints against Auto Warranty Processing Services rose by more than 40 percent over the prior year. In 2008, more than 140,000 consumers across the country contacted their BBB to confirm the legitimacy of companies claiming to sell auto warranties.

"As an outgrowth of our country's economic troubles, and to some extent problems in the auto industry, BBB is hearing from consumers nationwide who are being bombarded by telemarketers and mailers trying to scare them into thinking their auto warranty is about to expire and if they don't sign-up now the offer expires," said Paula Fleming, BBB spokesperson. "Not only are these telemarketers lying about the consumer's coverage, they are potentially ignoring federal laws such as the Do-Not-Call registry."

BBB has received complaints from consumers across North America who were informed that their car warranty was about to expire, when such was not the case, and that they needed to take immediate action in order to avoid a lapse in coverage. BBB research shows that the consumer is actually being sold an extended service contract and despite the impres-

sion given, the offer is not associated with the car manufacturer's warranty.

The value of the various extended service contracts being sold also has been called into question, as many consumers complained that the contract had numerous conditions that might be difficult to meet. For instance, pre-existing conditions often are not covered, proof of maintenance records may be required and restrictions on authorized repair facilities and repair charges must receive prior approval making many of these contracts virtually worthless. Others report difficulty in obtaining refunds.

BBB offers the following advice for dealing with a firm selling extended auto service contracts:

- Never give personal information, including Social Security, bank or credit card numbers, over the phone to an unknown telemarketer.
- When considering an extended service contract or any other type of telephone solicitation, insist on getting a contract in which all terms and conditions are clearly explained before signing up or providing credit card or other payment information.
- Read your auto manufacturer's warranty and contact your dealer or manufacturer so that you are not purchasing duplicate coverage.
- Before purchasing extended warranty coverage, consumers should always check the company out first with BBB at bbb.org.

Consumers can place their phone number on the federal do not call list by visiting donotcall.gov. If the consumer is already on the list but continues to receive telemarketing calls, he or she can use the same Web site to report the incident to the FTC.

For more information you can trust on avoiding fraud and identity theft, go to bbb.org.



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani



Thanks to Boras, Tek Got ...

You can fill in the dots above. Had Jason Varitek gone for arbitration, he would be \$5 million happier right now. When you're coming off a bad year, don't expect a pay raise but if they offer it, take it.

I'm glad he's back even though his hitting days appear behind him. He can blame part of his year long slump on his divorce but mainly he just got kinda old real fast at the plate. He got more than he's worth, so it still worked out for him. Take the money and run (hit too) as the song goes.

Meanwhile, Ramirez

The LA Dodgers offered him a one-year deal for \$25 million. He said no. He remains un-signed. He already turned down a 2 year deal for \$45 million before going on the open market where it was a big NO SALE!

Everyone saw what he did on the Sox last year before going to the Dodgers. They remembered and passed him on.

Bonds Case Heats Up

Federal agents raided the home of the mother in law of Greg Anderson, Barry Bond's personal trainer. Anderson thinks the raid was aimed at pressuring him to testify at Bond's perjury trial next month. So said his lawyer.

• Ethics (Continued from Page 1)

iam "the Refrigerator" Jefferson, of the \$90,000 in (very) cold cash? Did I mention Eliot Spitzer, the former governor of New York? I won't. Let lying dogs sleep, that's my motto.

It almost makes you wish for the good old days when President Dwight Eisenhower had to fire Sherman Adams, his right-hand man, for taking the gift of a vicuña coat from a grateful political patron. (Which inspired the apocryphal story that had Ike saying to Adams: "Vicuña? Vicuña waited until after the election?")

Today Adams wouldn't have to resign. He'd be laughed out of office for thinking small.

How does all of this square with President Obama's pledge to bring a new integrity into the political pro-

cess? Technically, it doesn't. However, I would argue it's just a matter of commendable idealism clashing with the harsh realities of political life.

We work within a system of capitalism that celebrates greed as a virtue, after all. That being said, it's unfair to say that it's OK for everyone in the private sector to take every dime that isn't nailed down (think Wall Street bonuses) while people seeking government service are expected to have lived the lives of monks who have taken vows of poverty. You have to give people a little slack. If you're taking bribes and putting the cash in your freezer ... that's a definite no-no. If you just chisel a little on your income tax, well, maybe we can let you off with a warning. Or not.

It's a matter of degree. I've always thought that the proper rule of thumb in these matters is this:

Don't expect anyone to take less advantage of their situation than you would if you had their chances.

And here's another: Never trust a totally honest man.

He received a government subpoena two weeks ago. His lawyer declined to say what Anderson would do but he could return to prison if he doesn't testify.

Mariners Ship Heilman to Cubs

Aaron Heilman's stay in Seattle was pretty short. The righty obtained by the Mets last month was traded last week to the Chicago Cubs for infielder Ronny Cedeno and lefty Garrett Olson. Heilman could become a starter this upcoming season.

One More thing on Manny

Isn't everyone in Red Sox Nation glad he isn't our problem anymore? He's looking for a deal that doesn't seem to be out there in this solar system.

If Clemens Never Retires

If Roger Clemens never retires he can't start 10-year personal services Astro contract. If that's the case, can he ever even be placed on a Hall of Fame ballot?

Meanwhile, Barry Bonds and Mark McGwire both appear hopelessly way out in left field far from the homeplate called the Hall of Fame.

Maybe in a hundred years when people forget the controversy, both will get elected as real old timers. But don't hold your breath on the either.

He has no sympathy for human failings.

I think we could eliminate half the hypocrisy in government by privatizing the U.S. Senate. Instead of electing senators, as we do now, we could put Senate seats up for auction for corporations and special interests to bid on, with the money going into the Treasury.

What about the will of the people, you say? That's why we have the House of Representatives. A key point: No corporation or special interest could own shares in more than four senators (several fewer than they own now). The senators would be required to wear the corporate logos of their sponsors while on the floor of the Senate, sort of like NASCAR drivers.

The plan would slice through the hypocrisy and go a long way toward balancing the budget.

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email: dkaul2@earthlink.net

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LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Department
MIDDLESEX Division
Docket No. 97P5253GR2
In the Matter Of
SUSAN ABERLE
Of BURLINGTON
In the County of MIDDLESEX

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MENTALLY RETARDED PERSON

To SUSAN ABERLE of BURLINGTON in the County of MIDDLESEX, and her heirs apparent or presumptive, a petition has been filed in the above captioned matter alleging that SUSAN ABERLE of BURLINGTON in the County of MIDDLESEX is a mentally retarded person to the degree that she is incapable of making informed decisions with respect to the conduct of her personal and/or financial affairs and praying that BARBARA ABERLE of BURLINGTON in the County of MIDDLESEX and LISA GIRARD of BILLERICA in the County of MIDDLESEX or some other suitable person be appointed guardian, to serve with surety, of the person - and property.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT CAMBRIDGE ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON FEBRUARY 20, 2009.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI, ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at CAMBRIDGE this day, January 16, 2009

Tara E. DeCristofaro
Register of Probate

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
PLYMOUTH Division
Docket No. PL08D1761
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION & MAILING
ELIZABETH RENDON,
Plaintiff
v.
PAULO CESAR B OBREGON,
Defendant

To the above named Defendant:

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, ELIZABETH RENDON, seeking to DISSOLVE THE BONDS OF MATRIMONY.

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. Please refer to Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411 for more information.

You are required to serve upon ELIZABETH RENDON, plaintiff - whose address is 57 KENNETH STREET, W. BRIDGEWATER, MA 02379 your answer on or before April 13, 2009. 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 in the office of the Register of this Court at PLYMOUTH.

Witness, Catherine P. Sabaitis, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at PLYMOUTH, this 22nd day of January, 2009.

Robert E. McCarthy
Register of Probate Court

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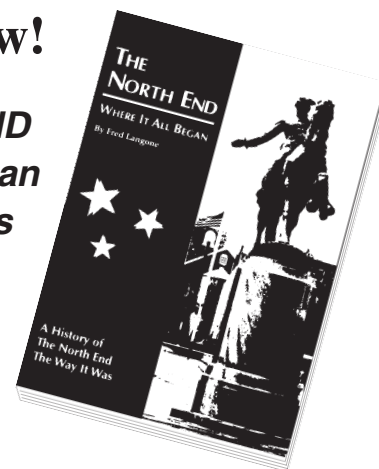
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CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.



Irish Joe McCreedy and Bobo Starino after the war.

Jimmy Burchfield, and CES! "Just do it again!" Have a "**February Frenzy**, maybe in **May**, or some other month!" This same fight card unchanged, will do it for me as I believe it would for others. Revisit **February Frenzy** again, in another month. I walked in. A few seconds later I heard, Plop! I looked up and saw **Kevin Varnadore 0-5**. He was up now, on his feet and this fight was stopped in the first round, **Jay Holland** won this fight, his professional debut, and is now 1-0, 1 KO. This **fight card turned out to be, one of the most exciting that I have seen in awhile**. Let's go right to the Main Event, **Joey "KO Kid" Spina 24-1-1**, 17 KO's stopped late substitute **Matt Gockel 12-10**, 7 KO's of Kansas, at 1:55 of the first round. **Spina** did say before, "I knock people out!" The semi eight, a fight for the vacant **EBA Super Middleweight New England Title**, **Irish Joey McCreedy 10-2-1**, 5 KO's, of Lowell battled **Bobo Starnino 9-5-2**, 2 KO's of Providence, Rhode Island. Both displayed the desire to win. **Bobo "the Bull" Starnino** swarmed all over **Irish Joe McCreedy**, in an attempt to establish the upper hand. **Irish Joe McCreedy** appeared to be gaining support from the crowd. **McCreedy** valiantly fought for the win. Fighting, with the ferocity of "**Attila the Hun**". This crowd continually chanted loudly. "**Joey, Joey, Joey, Joey ...**" The bell, for the ending round. The referee had to jump in between these two warriors, and separate them. Neither of these two gave quarter to the other. We have by scores of 78-75, 79-73, and 76-76, the newly crowned **EBA New England Super-middleweight Champion, Irish Joey McCreedy**. In a special 6 rounder, for the vacant EBA New England Lightweight Title fight between undefeated, 11-0, 4 KO **Eddie Soto** of Pawtucket, R.I., and **Sean Eklund 6-3**, 1 KO of Lowell. Member of the tough **Eklund/Ward Family**. **Micky Ward** is his uncle, and trainer. Need I say more. **Sean** sends **Soto** to the canvas, in this fight. I knew that **Eddie Soto**, was in for a rough time in the ring tonight, **Sean Eklund** came here to win. The scores for the fight to **Sean Eklund 57-56**, **Eddie Soto 57-56**, 58-55. The crowd erupted with Boos. The decision, to **Eddie Soto** was loudly disagreed with by this crowd. **Eddie Soto**, is the new Champion. A remembrance of **Francesco "Kid" Fratalia** was presented, as **Family**, and **friends** were in attendance. Pleased and honored by this remembrance given to **Francesco Fratalia (1926-2008)**, were many. In attendance **Steve Fratalia, Robert Fratalia, Mark Prisco, Phil Coleman, Louie Sheinhite**, Ring Announcer **John Vena** close family member to Francesco. (John Vena, is a Ring announcer with class, who does great work. My name, I include as a close friend to Francesco Kid Fratalia. In attendance were many notables of the Boxing World. Former World Rated Light-heavyweight **Bobby Covino**, Trainer of Former World Heavyweight Champion John Ruiz **Norman "Stoney" Stone, Jim Powers**. Referees **Charlie Dwyer, Referee Lupino**. USA Olympic Center, **Robert McKittrick MD, Scott Press** owner of the **Federal Hill Gazette, Billy Payne, Larry Army, Michael Parente, Emily Harney, Boxing Star Bobby Harris** who himself was inducted into the CES Ring of honor along with many other greats of the

game, such as former five time World Champion **Vinny Paz**.

"**Ingo!**" **Ingemar Johansson**, of Sweden, was the World Heavyweight Champion from 1959-1960, European Heavyweight Champion, and 1952 Olympic Heavyweight Silver Medal Winner. **Ingemar Johansson**, fought three memorable battles with World Heavyweight Champion **Floyd Paterson**. He won their first match in New York on June 26, 1959. He lost the return title match to Floyd Paterson in Gothenburg on June 20, 1960, and again he lost in their rubber match on March 13, 1961. **Ingemar Johansson**, with "**The Hammer of Thor**" (his right hand) wrecked Havoc on the Heavyweights in his era. Other notable wins on his record were against **Henry Cooper KO 5, Eddie Machen KO 1, Dick Richardson KO 8**, and in his 12 round decision win over **Brian London**. World Heavyweight Champion **Ingemar Johansson** is now in that Golden Ring in Heaven, Refereed by God with recently departed May 11, 2006 Brother in boxing **Floyd Paterson**. Both of your hands now raised together in victory, as champions eternally by **God!** Rest in Peace! Boston crowd favorite **John Duddy** and **Matt Vanda** will be introduced in the ring for battle, on the **Miguel Cotto** versus **Michael Jennings** fight card on February 21st. The Big Boys, In Boxing! Heavyweight **Chris Arreola 26-0**, 23 KO's, is being called out by **Brian "The Beast" Minot 32-2**, 21 KO's, on April 11, 2009 for a Heavyweight Showdown. He says to Chris Arreola, "I'm willing to earn my shot." "Is Arreola willing to earn his?" These are two rough, tough, aggressive Heavyweights. This should be a crowd pleaser. **Danny O'Connor** of Massachusetts, now 3-0, 1 KO wins this fight, as he splits his gloves in Canada.

Battles in February - the 14th on HBO **Nate Campbell** fights with **Ali Funeke** in a WBA/IBF/IBO Lightweight title fight. Also on this card, **Alfredo Angulo** battles with Veteran **Ricardo Mayorga**, Middleweights. The 21st, P.P.V., Ohio, World Champion **Kelly Pavlik** and **Marco Antonio Rubio** battle it out, for the WBC/WBO World Middleweight Title. On this same day, the 21st on P.P.V., from New Jersey, #1 contender **Miguel Cotto**, dukes it out with #3 contender **Michael Jennings**, for the vacant WBO World Welterweight Title. **Great news!** Added to this under card recently, is **Boston** fight favorite **John Duddy**, who plans to introduce himself and his **right hand** on this night, to opponent **Matt Vander**. February 25th, **Ash Wednesday 9:00 AM**, at the **Monsignor Frank McPharland Memorial Building**, 34 Chestnut Street, Watertown. This Mass will be televised on **Catholic Television**, a Mass for all our Brothers in Boxing. Please contact myself, or Ring 4 Boston President **Mickey Finn** at (774) 838-0055. **Mickey Finn** has put together, another great time. Come! Share a wonderful Ash Wednesday, with your Brothers in Boxing. "**God Bless you all!**"

James "Lights out" Toney says that he is willing to drop down to 185 pounds, and fight **Bernard Hopkins**. **James Toney** says that he will knock out **Bernard Hopkins**. This would be a very interesting match. Both **Toney** and **Hopkins** are well versed in the art of "Old School Boxing." Throwbacks to the good old days. Both are on the other side of their youthful years, yet both still have the cunning to beat the best of today. **James Toney** defeated **Fres Oquendo** in December, and **Bernard Hopkins** defeated **Kelly Pavlik** in October. These two still are in an elite class as fighters. This would be a very interesting match that I feel the public would like to see. "**Get it on. Just do it!**"

Ricky Hatton, says "Beating **Pacquiao** is my ultimate goal." **Freddy Roach** says, "If **Pacquiao** fights smart, he beats **Hatton** easily." **Julio Cesar Chavez** and **John Duddy** are being eyed for the summer.

Joe Calzaghe calls it a career.

World Super-middleweight, and Light-heavyweight Champion **Joe Calzaghe** calls it a career, after achieving everything he wanted to achieve in boxing. He said "I've been World Champion for 11 years ... and that "I'm proud to be one of only a few fighters in history, to retire undefeated.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



If you peruse the pages of *Hemmings Motor News*, as I do during the summer months, you'll see page after page of advertisements for Chevrolets from the middle of the 1950's. They are all considered classics but one model year stands above all the rest — the '57 Chevy.

To purchase one of those in top condition will cost you as much as a brand new vehicle today — but what you will possess will be a classic, not one of the thousands of common model cars that dot the parking lots in contemporary times.

For media members and fans who were privileged to witness the 57th annual edition of the Beanpot Championship at the TD Banknorth Garden on February 9, it was a true college hockey classic, pitting the #1 and #3 teams in America — Boston University and Northeastern University respectively — against one another for the title in a unique tournament that just can't be replicated anywhere else in America.

BU has a history of prevailing in this event on Causeway Street, once again captured the title (by a 5-2 score), but not before experiencing one of its toughest challenges of the season from a more than worthy Northeastern team that was up for the test as it sought to bring home the first Beanpot crown to the Huntington Avenue campus since 1988.

The place was full and if voices in the stands had counted in the tally, then Northeastern would surely have won, its student ranks somewhat more numerous and more boisterous than their counterparts who hail from Commonwealth Ave.

Even a hockey deity was on hand to share in the excitement, tradition and color of the proceedings. Yes Indeed, one Robert Gordon Orr, he of Bruins Stanley Cup fame more than three and a half decades ago, paid one of his rare visits to the Hockey House in the Hub and thus lent his presence to the importance of the event.

It would turn out to be a somewhat historic night but for reasons that no one could have foreseen. It would not come via a victorious Northeastern parade back to Huntington Avenue but rather a trio of goals that would be scored in a memorable way — they were all shorthanded and they were all scored by the Terriers.

It was the 29th championship for BU in this February festival and its 15th title since 1988 — the last time the Huskies won.

Coach Greg Cronin, the fourth year mentor at Northeastern who has resurrected a mediocre program and brought it to the ranks of national respectability, said it best when he noted that if a team lets in that many shorthanded scores then it is not going to win.

Taken in aggregate those

three tallies, all coming with Northeastern on the advantage, meant the difference in the game. Take them away and you have a 2-2 contest headed for sudden death overtime where uncertainty, luck or fate would prevail.

If it had been just one shorthanded score — as it seemed when eventual tournament MVP Nick Bonino found the range to give BU a 2-1 lead in the opening minute of the second period — then things wouldn't have been that memorable at all. Shorthanded goals are fairly common in hockey — to be sure not nearly as common as power play scores — but not exactly rare.

NU forged back to tie it at 2-2 while BU scored again to take a 3-2 lead into the decisive third stanza.

That's the way things stood until BU got called for slashing with just over seven minutes left in regulation. Now, the Huskies had the man advantage. They would storm back, tie the game and send it into overtime. Or so it seemed.

That would have been memorable. But what happened next was unforgettable. In the space of 30 seconds the Terriers proceeded to score not one, but two shorthanded goals — first by freshman David Warsofsky and then by Colin Wilson. A half minute before the door of opportunity had swung wide open. Some 30 seconds later it had been slammed shut.

The next night it was the Bruins who were at center stage, hosting the Western Conference leading San Jose Sharks at the Garden in their one and only meeting of the regular season. The B's took a 2-1 lead into the third period before the Sharks put four on the board in the final stanza, including one by former Bruins star Joe Thornton, to come away with the 5-2 victory. It was the first time this season that the Bruins have been defeated by a three-goal margin.

The goal by Thornton, who had not played in Boston in over three years, continued a hockey tradition whereby it seems that a traded player often comes back to haunt the team that dealt him away.

Finally, in a pair of incidents that point up the need for all those on the ice to at least wear visors, both college hockey referee Scott Hansen and Bruins center Petteri Nokelainen suffered eye injuries at the Garden.

Hansen was injured when a puck hit him in the right eye during the first period of the Beanpot championship game while Nokelainen was struck by a high stick the following night during the first period in the contest with the Sharks.

These were very unsettling incidents to witness but they were preventable with eye protection visors and shields. Let's not have good games spoiled by injuries that could easily be prevented.