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WELCOME TO SOUTHIE

Where They Sink and Swim Every New Year's Day

by Sal Giarratani



Over in South Boston they have this crazy ritual on New Year's Day. No matter how cold it is on the sand or in the water. They jump into the water as a rite of passage into the brand new year. What a tradition!

They come in all ages, shapes and sizes, wearing all sorts of great costumes. Hundreds upon hundreds kept coming out of the L Street Bathhouse for that quick dip into Dorchester Bay this past Sunday.

This was my first time watching the L Street Brownies Polar

Plunge celebration. Superman was there. Hulk Hogan, Mad Hatter, Cat Woman and all sorts of Santa-like Clauses. A sight to behold and a tradition in motion.

Proceeds from this plunge, one of Boston's oldest New Year's Day traditions, fund scholarships and after-school programs at the Curley Community Center.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Israel Barack-Stabbed?

"On the eve of Hanukkah, Barack Obama stabbed Israel in the front. The departing president refused to veto United Nations Resolution 2334, a measure ostensibly about Israeli settlement policy," said former U.S. Ambassador to the UN John Bolton. It was clearly intended to tip the scales in favor of the Palestinians, and was so predictable.

President-elect Donald Trump should echo the words of another U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, in his response to the UN's "Zionism is racism" resolution in 1975. He said that America "does not acknowledge, it will not abide by, it will never acquiesce in this infamous act."

I am sure the irony has not been lost on Israel that Resolution 2334 passed without a U.S. veto just before the start of Hanukkah, which commemorates the Maccabees' recapture and rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 BC.

After the Carter administration in 1980 acted like the Obama administration today, the *Washington Post* editorialized against Jimmy Carter stating, "It cannot be denied that there is a pack and that it hounds Israel shamelessly, and that this makes it very serious when the United States joins it." The editorial was titled "Joining the Jackals."

(Continued on Page 8)

Mayor Walsh Announces Expansion of Tuition-Free Community College

With Addition of Massbay, Three Options Now Available for BPS Graduates

Mayor Martin J. Walsh recently announced that the City of Boston's Tuition-Free Community College Plan, which pays for up to three years of community college for eligible Boston Public School graduates, has expanded its participating schools to include MassBay Community College.

"I'm proud to announce the addition of MassBay to Boston's Tuition-Free Community College Plan. We're committed to increasing access to higher education and providing more pathways to economic stability for all of Boston's students," said Mayor Walsh. "Now, with an increase in location and program options, this plan opens more doors for young people to

learn and develop the skills necessary to join Boston's talented workforce."

MassBay Community College is a multi-campus college with a 55-year history of preparing students for transfer to four-year colleges or universities, direct entry into the workforce, and ongoing education.

"MassBay has a long tradition of providing affordable, high-quality pathways to top-notch bachelor degree programs and meaningful careers," said Dr. David Podell, president of MassBay Community College. "We are thrilled to partner with the city to increase college access and expand options for the Boston students who need it most."

The Tuition-Free Community College Plan had previously only enrolled eligible students attending Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) and Roxbury Community College (RCC). The inclusion of MassBay Community College provides plan enrollees with greater choice of both location and academics. MassBay operates campuses in Wellesley, Framingham and Ashland. MassBay also adds more available programs of study, such as automotive technology, interior design, and marketing.

Mayor Walsh announced the launch of the Tuition-Free Community College Plan last

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Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



IMPERATOR JULIUS CAESAR

The Roman calendar became quite hopelessly confused after much tampering by officials for various reasons, such as prolonging their terms in office, and to hasten or delay elections. Caesar consulted with the Egyptian astronomer Sosigenes to fix the normal year at 365 days plus a leap year. This we call the Julian calendar, and it was in use until 1582 when the Gregorian calendar corrected the error of eleven minutes and fourteen seconds per year.

Julius Caesar reduced a welfare list for grain hand-outs from 320,000 to 150,000 and established colonies for jobless Romans. Citizenship was conferred on all foreigners who practiced medicine in Rome, and this offer was also extended to teachers of the liberal arts. He placed new controls on the payment of debts, increased penalties for crimes, and administered justice with the utmost conscientiousness and strictness. He enforced laws against extravagance and had agents penetrate public markets and dining rooms for compliance. He also made the greatest possible libraries of Greek and Roman books available to the public.

Among the honors bestowed upon Julius Caesar was dictatorship for life, the forename of Imperator, the surname of father of his country. His statue was placed among those of the



early kings of Rome. He was given a raised couch in the orchestra at the theater and a golden throne in the Senate house. Lastly of course, the month of July was named after him.

He is said to have been quite tall with a fair complexion, shapely limbs, full face, keen black eyes, and excellent health. He was meticulous about the care of his person, always well trimmed and cleanly shaved. He combed his hair forward to hide a bald spot, and often used the privilege voted him to wear a laurel wreath at any time. He usually wore a senator's tunic with fringed sleeves.

He completed a country estate at great cost and then tore it down because he was not exactly satisfied with it in every

particular. He was always a most enthusiastic collector of gems, carvings, paintings, and exceptionally well-built slaves. His invasion of Britain was done in hopes of obtaining a fortune in pearls.

When in the provinces, he usually gave banquets in two dining rooms; one for his officers or Greek companions, and the other for Roman civilians and distinguished provincials. He managed his household very strictly, even putting his baker in irons for serving him one kind of bread while guests were served an inferior quality.

It is the general opinion that he had an eye for good-looking women regardless of their marital or social status. It is particularly interesting to note that two of his close female friends were Servilia and Tertia, the mother and sister of Brutus. The top of his list was reserved for at least two queens — Eunde, a Moorish queen and, of course, Cleopatra, with whom he often feasted until daybreak.

At one time, there was consideration given to presenting a bill in the Senate making it lawful for Caesar to marry as many wives as he wished for the purpose of begetting children. The bill did not pass because it was felt that this would beget Caesar “troppo stanco” (pooped).

NEXT ISSUE:
Exitus Julius Caesar

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



The Sound of Music

This column appears in the issue of the *Post-Gazette* of January 6th, the Epiphany, or “Little Christmas,” marking the end of the Christmas season. Appropriately, Mary and I plan to spend the final days of Christmastide in Vermont, at the **Trapp Family Lodge** in Stowe, returning on Little Christmas.

You undoubtedly know of the Trapp Family from the 1965 movie adaption of the 1959 Broadway musical, **The Sound of Music**, often shown on television around Christmas. Here’s some *Sound of Music* trivia you may not have known.

1. It’s based on the real lives of Georg Trapp, Maria, and their musical family, as recorded by Maria in her 1949 book, **The Story of the Trapp Family Singers**.
2. While it is true, as the movie shows, that the Trapp family did flee Austria after Nazi German occupation, they did not escape secretly over the mountains to Switzerland. The world was not at war in 1938. They simply told their friends that they were going to America to perform a concert. Austria being land-locked, they took a train to **Italy** to get the ship to England, and from there to America.
3. One possible factor in going to America by way of Italy was the fact that **Georg**

Trapp, although ethnically a German-Austrian, was an **Italian citizen**. He was born in the Dalmatian city of Zadar, which at that time was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and later, after WWI, became part of Italy.

4. All but Georg (who died in 1947) were, or became, **U.S. citizens**. In 1944, Maria and her stepdaughters Johanna, Martina, Maria, Hedwig, and Agathe applied for U.S. citizenship. Their naturalization papers are at the **National Archive in Waltham, MA**. To become U.S. citizens, they had to renounce their Austrian citizenship. Rosmarie and Eleonore derived citizenship from their mother.
5. The adult sons of Georg Trapp, Rupert and Werner, also fought the Nazis, serving in the **U.S. Army** during World War II. They became U.S. citizens while in the Army. Young son Johannes was born in the United States and was a citizen in his own right.
6. **They sang for their supper**. Baron von Trapp (strictly honorary title, as Austrian titles of nobility were abolished after WWI) was not the wealthy man portrayed in the film. He lost nearly everything in the world-wide economic down-turn of the 1930s. The family toured as singers because they needed the money.



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THE PIRANDELLO LYCEUM

Italian Opera Aria Concert



The Pirandello Lyceum invites all members and friends to enjoy a wonderful concert being planned by the Boston Bel Canto Opera Artistic Director Bradley Pennington. The concert will be performed on Sunday, January 22nd at 2:30 pm, at the Dante Alighieri Cultural Center, 41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge.

Beautiful arias will be sung by the exquisitely talented Boston Bel Canto vocalists. Included in this performance will be Italian arias from *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Madama Butterfly*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

The concert is free for Pirandello members in good standing. If you are a member, you may bring a non-member guest, or guests at a significantly discounted price.

Parking is available at the Dante for “early birds.” Overflow parking is available nearby at the Kendall Theater Cambridge at a reduced rate with validation from the Dante.

This opera concert is now in its 20th year. The Pirandello Lyceum hopes you will join us!

For more information, please call 781-640-3637, or e-mail pirandellolyceum@aol.com.

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

Saint Antonio Maria Gianelli

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Antonio Maria Gianelli was born in 1789 to Giacomo and Maria Gianelli. He and his five brothers grew up in a small village of farmers. Antonio was an exceptional student, so much so that the owner of the farm he lived on paid the cost of his studies for the priesthood. He began his studies in November 1807 at the age of 18, studying theology and sacred liturgy, and earned his doctorate.

Cardinal Archbishop of Genoa Giuseppe Maria Spina ordained him to the diaconate in March 1812. Gianelli was ordained to the priesthood on May 28, 1812, receiving a special dispensation since he was not at the canonical age. He served as a parish priest in Mantua after his ordination. Gianelli was made the archpriest of Chiavari in 1826, a position he held until 1837. He founded the Missionaries of Saint Alphonsus in 1827; it was an order for men which lasted until 1848. On January 12, 1829, he founded the Sisters of Our Lady of the Garden. It was a teaching order for women that worked with the sick. Its work continues today in Europe, Asia, and the United States. The order was formally approved by Pope Leo XIII on June 7, 1882, years after Gianelli's death.

Pope Gregory XVI appointed him Bishop of Bobbio in 1837 and he received episcopal con-



secration after his appointment. Bishop Gianelli restored devotion to Saint Columbanus in his diocese and conducted two synods. He continually visited each parish in his diocese. In April 1845, he started to show signs of illness that had not been immediately diagnosed. He seemed to recover, but his illness returned a year later, and his condition rapidly deteriorated. He died on June 7, 1846. The push for sainthood commenced under Pope Leo XIII on June 2, 1896, which gave him the title of Servant of God. Pope Benedict XV recognized his life of heroic virtue and declared him to be Venerable on April 11, 1920. Pope Pius XI beatified him on April 19, 1920, and Pope Pius XII canonized him on October 21, 1951. The Feast of Saint Antonio Maria Gianelli is celebrated on June 7th.

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.

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C.A.S.IT. General Assembly Celebrates Italian Education

by Angela J. Cristiani

Each year, the caring, wonderful professionals of C.A.S.IT. (Centro Attivita Scolastiche Italiane) come together for its annual General Assembly. At this time, policy is reviewed; committees share their progress; and the mission of C.A.S.IT. seamlessly moves forward, ensuring that children throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island have Italian in their school curriculums, affording them opportunity to learn Italian language and culture.

C.A.S.IT.'s mission is "to assist communities that wish to introduce, preserve, rejuvenate or broaden the study of Italian language in their schools. C.A.S.IT. offers grants of varying amounts for the establishment of Italian language and cultural programs with the ultimate purpose to institute Italian as a subject in the school curriculum."

C.A.S.IT.'s President, Maria Gioconda Motta, convened the General Assembly at Spinelli's in Lynnfield just prior to Christmas. In attendance were Nicola De Santis, Console Generale; Paul Donato, State Representative of the 35th Middlesex District; Joseph Giangregorio; Dr. Roy Belson, Medford Public Schools Superintendent; Ann Marie Cugno, Medford School Committee member; members of the C.A.S.IT. Board; educators; and many honored guests.

With students taking Advanced Placement classes in Italian on the rise, the pinnacle of the General Assembly was recognizing school systems for their effort in promoting the AP in Italian. All in attendance broke out in loud applause with the announcement that commencing in January 2017, C.A.S.IT. will be establishing an English/Italian dual language program in collaboration with



L-R: Dr. Giuseppe Giangregorio; Italian Consul General Nicola De Santis; Medford School Committee Member Anna Marie Cugno; C.A.S.IT. President Prof. M. Gioconda Motta; State Representative Paul Donato; Educational Officer Prof. Domenico Teker; and Medford School Superintendent Dr. Roy Belson.

the Eliot K8 Innovation School, making the Eliot the first and only school within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where every student will ultimately be taught in English and Italian, regardless of their home language.

The members of C.A.S.IT., including Board members, teachers, and many unsung heroes and heroines who graciously give of their time and money, quietly make the magic of C.A.S.IT. happen. Maria Gioconda Motta's leadership and vision continue to serve as both guidance and inspiration since C.A.S.IT. was established in 1995. It was originally proposed by the Italian Consulate General in Boston as a non-profit educational and professional organization.

C.A.S.IT. 2016 celebrated many successful programs consistent with its mission that benefited children and adults alike: supporting public and private schools throughout Massa-

chusetts and Rhode Island with grant monies to promote Italian language and culture; Italian Immersion Summer Camp at the Eliot KB Innovation School, Boston; Italian Heritage Month student Contest; adult Italian language classes; Gioca con Me, Italian laboratories geared for children ages 4 through 10 to discover all that is "Italian"; Italian Book Club; Italian Movie Nights; attendance and participation at the ACTFL Convention in Boston; Casino Night; and more. A successful 2016 program year, capped off with the launch of the dual language program at the Eliot KB Innovation School, is testament that C.A.S.IT., always in strict collaboration with the office of the Italian Consulate, is on the move shaping Italian language and cultural education in the U.S.!

We invite you to join us in 2017!

For more information on C.A.S.IT, visit www.casit.org.



C.A.S.IT. Board Members, Teachers, and School Districts Representatives.

Red Cross and Dunkin' Donuts Celebrate a Decade of Dunkin' Donors Make a Difference Campaign

For the 10th year, the American Red Cross and Dunkin' Donuts will partner in January to help increase donations and reward generous donors. Through the *Dunkin' Donors Make a Difference* campaign, all those who come to give blood or platelets in January at Red Cross blood drives in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and parts of New York will receive a \$5 Dunkin' Donuts card.

"Donating blood or platelets helps to save lives, and with Dunkin' Donuts' support, we can help ensure donations meet our current critical need for blood donations," said Donna M. Morrissey, director of national partnerships, Red Cross Biomedical Services. "We are so appreciative of Dunkin' Donuts for its decade of dedication to our lifesaving mission through our annual January partnership. The need for blood doesn't break

for winter weather. Please make an appointment to give the gift of life through a blood or platelet donation this January."

The \$5 DD card can be used toward the purchase of any item at participating Dunkin' Donuts. The DD card features a Red Cross logo, is reloadable, and can be enrolled in the DD Perks® Rewards program.

"We're proud to partner with the Red Cross once again to thank blood donors this January," said Todd Wallace, Dunkin' Donuts Senior Field Marketing Manager. "*The Dunkin' Donors Make a Difference* campaign clearly resonates with donors and benefits countless people and communities in need. It reflects Dunkin' Donuts' steadfast commitment to the health of the communities in

(Continued on Page 7)

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Get Ready for La Befana!

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



If we only take a quick glance around us, the Christmas season appears to have basically finished. Scraggly trees stand forlornly next to dumpsters and dusty ornaments once again occupy shelf space in the closet. Dwindling leftovers and stale cookie crumbs speak of the great holiday feasts of the previous week. However, according to both religious and folkloric calendars, we are not quite done with the Christmas season. Christmas lasts for twelve days, up until today, January 6th, which is the feast of the Epiphany. In Italy, the Epiphany, or *la Epifania*, is a significant holiday with traditions that equal those of Christmas Eve. An ancient feast day, the Epiphany honors the visit of the Three Magi to Baby Jesus. On the eve of this holiday, Italian children excitedly head to sleep, knowing that in the morning they will find their stockings full of presents from *La Befana*, Italy's premiere gift-bringer. Along with the arrival of *La Befana*, the Epiphany also ushers in the Carnival season, a joyous time of mischief which paves the way for spring. With its appealing imagery of magical witches and playful silliness, the Italian Epiphany bursts with unique and fascinating customs.

Nowadays, Italian children will receive presents on Christmas from *Babbo Natale*, or Santa Claus. However, *La Befana* has still retained her status as Italy's most famous folk figure and favorite gift-bringer. So, who exactly is this mysterious character? *La Befana*, whose

name derives from a corruption of the word "Epifania," is a fairy-like witch who, like her male counterpart, drops presents in the stockings of good children while leaving behind coal for the naughty. She is typically depicted as an old woman in raggedy clothes mounted on a broomstick. A well-known legend explains *La Befana's* connection to the Biblical story of the Epiphany. According to this folktale, *La Befana* was sweeping her house when the Three Magi approached her, inviting her to accompany them on their way to find Baby Jesus. *La Befana* initially declined, saying she was too busy with her cleaning. However, she later changed her mind and hopped on her broomstick, flying through the sky in an effort to find the Magi. Unfortunately, she was never able to locate them, and still soars through the air with her broom to this day, depositing presents for children as she continues to search for Baby Jesus and the Magi. When I was a little girl, I was frightened of *La Befana*, whose stern and haggard countenance formed a sharp contrast to the jolly and merry-faced Santa Claus. My apprehension was amplified by the haunting traditional melody my grandmother sang, which intoned: "*La Befana vien di notte/Con le scarpe tutte rotte/Col vestito a la Romana/Viva, viva La Befana!*" (Translation: "*La Befana comes at night/With her shoes all broken/Dressed in the Roman style/Long live La Befana!*"). However, I now love *La Befana* for her powerful symbolism of feminine strength

and her unique sense of magic. Many scholars believe that the figure of *La Befana* originated from old folk goddesses who oversaw the transition from winter to spring, which intensifies her cultural significance.

As a matter of fact, the Epiphany as a whole functions as a threshold to the arrival of spring. The winter solstice has already passed, and the hours of sunlight slowly lengthen. The sapphire-blue skies and golden sunsets of these mid-winter evenings instill in me an excitement over the turning of the yearly cycle. Though we can of course expect more months of snow and cold, the promise of spring now unfolds quietly before us. The Epiphany ends the Christmas season, as is evident in an Italian dictum which proclaims: "*La Epifania tutte le feste le porta via*" ("The Epiphany sweeps all the feasts away"). However, the Epiphany does introduce another season, that of Carnival. Carnival, the precursor to Lent and Easter, extends from the Epiphany to Mardi Gras, or the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. As such, Carnival serves as a spring festival, a herald to the still far-off festival of Easter. All over the world, people bake King Cakes on Twelfth Night, or the eve of the Epiphany. King Cakes are bread made specifically for the Epiphany and Carnival season, with variations differing worldwide. In France, King Cakes contain a flaky crust and an almond frangipane filling. Spanish King Cakes are adorned with candied fruit. Louisiana-style King Cakes are ring-shaped, with a cinnamon-sugar swirl inside and a colorful topping. I make this kind of King Cake every Twelfth Night, decorating it with the traditional Carnival colors of green, purple and yellow. I follow the folk custom of hiding a chickpea inside the cake — whoever finds it will receive good luck in the coming year! With such a cheerful dessert promising good times ahead, the revelry of Carnival can officially begin!

Though the Twelve Days of Christmas are nearing their close, the celebrations do not have to end. The Epiphany provides us with ample ways to bring more festivity into our life. We honor the arrival of *La Befana*, the magical witch who fills children's stockings with presents under the cover of night, who symbolizes the ancient strength and power of women while also ushering the change of the seasons. We can celebrate Carnival, that long welcome to spring that fills our days with color and laughter. As the Christmas season yields to the bright new days of January, we should always maintain our childlike wonder and our love for the magic and mysteries of Mother Earth inside us. So let us get ready for *La Befana*, for she lights our way to a joyful season of hope and promise!

Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a Graduate Student in History at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at adicenso89@gmail.com.

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giaratani



Uniting Against ISIS is a Must

As news came of the multiple attacks on December 19, 2016, in Switzerland, Germany, and France, we once again saw the world assaulted by apparent terrorism. Innocent people were once again targets of those attempting to undermine the world order. Nations have been under attack for some time now. We in the United States who lived through 9-11 will never forget how the world changed that morning. Never again would we feel immune from acts of terrorism like those witnessed in recent decades. It hit home that day and continues to hit home.

The world is no longer shocked by such events and at times can feel so helpless. As President-elect Donald Trump stated, "These terrorists and their regional and worldwide networks must be eradicated from the face of the earth, a mission we will carry out with all freedom-loving partners."

Now, when we need unity in this fight against Jihadists and other terrorists, we find the United States and Russia at odds with each other over the recent hanky-panky with the 2016 presidential election. Right now the United States and Russia need to unify over how to battle radical Islamist terrorism and the war being waged on civil society. At the moment, there

is much discontent over what Putin's Russia did to influence the outcome of the Trump-Clinton race. Many liberals are now sounding like U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy back in the 1950s during the Red Scare. Is Putin our enemy? Where do our mutual interests lie? Can we trust Putin? These questions are not easily answerable. However, just like World War II when America formed an alliance with the Soviets and Joseph Stalin, today we must view Putin as an ally, not antagonist, in the fight against ISIS. It is in our mutual interests to do so. As the French statesman Talleyrand once said, "There is no such thing as permanent friends, just permanent."

It is time as Trump has said, for the world's community to stand up together against the threat of terrorism against civil society. It is time to make the world safe again for all peace-loving people.

We need to enter this New Year with hope and unity. There is always more that unites us than divides us. Our world is a work in progress. We must all take those steps that show all of us are members of the same human race. Let us begin 2017 with confidence that this New Year will be much better than the one we just let go into history.

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Mayor Walsh Breaks Ground on Redevelopment of Orient Heights in East Boston

Boston Housing Authority, DHCD and Trinity Financial Celebrate Phase One of Multi-phase Effort to Redevelop Orient Heights



Mayor Martin J. Walsh, the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), the state's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), along with the development team of Trinity Financial and East Boston Community Development Corporation (CDC), recently celebrated the groundbreaking of Phase One of the redevelopment at Orient Heights, a 331-unit state public housing development in East Boston. Built in 1951, Orient Heights has long been the most physically distressed property in the Boston Housing Authority's state-funded portfolio.

"I am grateful to join with our state and community partners as we celebrate the beginning of a new era for the Orient Heights housing development," said Mayor Walsh. "This public housing facility has been the home of many families for decades, and I am proud that with the support of our state and federal partners we are revitalizing current facilities, while creating new living spaces for future residents."

The Orient Heights public housing development is owned and managed by the BHA, which undertook a planning process in 2008, funded by DHCD, to consider redevelopment options for the site. The BHA commissioned a master plan with an overall design concept and established the goals for the site's redevelopment — to transform the site into an attractive, energy-efficient and healthy housing community modeled on the successful transformations of the BHA's previous public housing redevelopments at sites such as West Broadway, Maverick, and Old Colony.

"Every resident in Massachusetts deserves the opportunity to live in housing that is safe, affordable and modern, and the first phase of the redevelopment of Orient Heights is an important step forward for this community's residents," said Governor Charlie Baker. "I congratulate the City of Boston for embracing efforts to modernize its public housing stock, and look forward to seeing the benefits this transformation will bring to the entire neighborhood."

"Strong neighborhoods are the building blocks of strong cities and towns, and this redevelopment project will further knit together the Orient Heights development with the rest of East Boston," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "This public-private collaboration between DHCD, the Boston Housing Authority, the East Boston Community Development Corporation, and Trinity Financial will create a housing development that will bring much-needed new amenities to its residents, while preserving every unit of affordable housing on-site."

Orient Heights Phase One includes the demolition of 90 units of existing housing and a decommissioned boiler plant, and the construction of 120 new units of affordable rental housing. The new housing units will be spread throughout four clustered townhouse buildings containing 40 dwelling units and a mid-rise building containing 80 dwelling units. All 120 units will receive an operating subsidy-75 percent of the units will receive state public housing operating subsidy and 25 percent of the units will receive project-based subsidy through the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP).

"Across the Commonwealth, we are making significant investments and working creatively to update and preserve state-funded housing units," said Housing and Community Development Undersecretary Chrystal Kornegay. "Our administration is proud to support projects like this that ensure affordability, and create communities that are inclusive, vibrant and strengthen their surrounding neighborhoods."

Current Phase One residents of the site worked with a relocation team to find alternative housing options that best fit their needs. Options included moving to another BHA public housing development of their choice or moving to privately owned housing with a state subsidized MRVP voucher. Following the completion of this project, residents have the option to return to the redeveloped site when construction is complete or remain in place after initial relocation.

"Phase one is the start of a long overdue modernization of the Orient Heights housing development," said State Senator Joseph Boncore. "As we break ground, this project will ensure needed affordable and safe housing in a growing East Boston community."

"I am excited about this collaborative effort that will bring much needed investment and improvement to Orient Heights," said State Representative Adrian Madaro. "This project will not only be transformative for residents of the development, but for the entire East Boston community. I thank Governor Baker and Mayor Walsh for making this a priority and I look forward to seeing it become a reality."

"I am very happy for the residents of Orient Heights. Our friends and neighbors who live in these affordable units deserve nice spaces to call home," said District 1 City Councilor Sal LaMattina.

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) authorized a 121A agreement for the project which will result in a streamlined regulatory process, an expedited construction schedule, and continues the tax exempt status for the public housing component.

"Over the past 15 years, MassHousing has worked in partnership with the BHA to revitalize close to 2,000 units of its most physically distressed rental units in the city and transformed housing communities like Maverick Landing, Franklin Hill, Washington Beech, Old Colony, Lower Mills, Heritage, and now at Orient Heights, into modern, mixed-income communities for the residents of Boston," said MassHousing Executive Director Tim Sullivan. "We are very pleased to be working with the city of Boston, DHCD, Trinity Financial, and all the public and private partners who are committed to the redevelopment of Orient Heights."

In January 2015, the BHA selected the development team of Trinity Financial and East Boston CDC to work with BHA and DHCD to finalize a redevelopment strategy for the site. This development team will secure financing to implement

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the redevelopment, and will own and manage the buildings post-redevelopment, subject to applicable laws and regulations. The BHA will continue to own the land and will lease the land to Trinity-affiliated entities.

"We're thrilled to begin Phase One of the Orient Heights development," said Trinity Financial Vice President of Development Eva Erlich. "The multi-phased project will help deliver the type of housing the East Boston community needs: housing that is affordable, energy efficient, accessible, and integrated with the rest of the East Boston community. Phase One will also result in updates and improved housing for the residents in the initial 90 units. We're looking forward to working with our partners to create a development that the entire community can benefit from."

"We are looking forward to working with our development partners Trinity Financial to revitalize the community as we successfully did together at the Maverick development in Eastie several years ago" stated Bill McGonagle, BHA Administrator.

The total development cost for Orient Heights Phase One is approximately \$51.2 million. The financing plan includes \$17.5 million in private equity

raised through an allocation of federal four percent Low-Income Housing Tax Credits; tax-exempt bonds for construction financing; \$32.725 million in state public housing capital funds from BHA and DHCD; and affordable housing resources from the City of Boston.

This groundbreaking furthers Mayor Walsh's commitment to increasing affordable housing options for residents and families in Boston. As part of the sale of the Winthrop Square Garage in downtown Boston, Mayor Walsh will advocate for the allocation of \$10 million in funding to be used for additional improvements at Orient Heights.

Mayor Walsh's administration to date has built historic levels of affordable housing as part of the effort to create 53,000 new units of housing at a variety of income levels across the city by 2030, including setting a 15-year record for housing completions, surpassing the record of new affordable housing units permitted in a single year, and leveraging the private development market to ensure the continued development of affordable housing in Boston through changes to the Inclusionary Development Policy.

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ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo

It's All About the Base ...

Ciao Bella,

A New Year makes us all feel like brand new! New beginnings, clean slates, and new makeup with application techniques.

First up, I want to point out that I have been using a "primer" after my moisturizer and before my makeup (foundation) for years. It gives my skin a velvety base before applying my foundation. Primers fill in fine lines and dull imperfections, leaving a canvas to paint as you wish. Most primers are 20 or 30 SPF for sun screen. However, in summer I am au naturel, only primer! No foundation.

Application of foundation has become important to achieve a smooth and even surface. Forget using your first two fingers to apply it! Naughty, naughty!

My preference recently has been a sponge applicator with a handle. Easy to maneuver around the corners of the nose, and other places hard to get to ordinarily. I used to use a fine, plain makeup sponge shaped like a triangle. Both of these "tools" give a smooth and even look for seamless coverage. Try it damp for a dewier finish. Easy to clean with a few drops of Dawn.

I love my makeup brushes! They are great for powders for sweeping, tapping and swirling out to make skin tone even. Powder over foundation seals the deal of keeping makeup on and not sinking into your skin. Of course, moisturizer, primer, and foundation help to keep makeup from sinking, too. Foundation can also be applied with a "foundation brush" for even coverage.

There are so many foundations out there. It's all about what you're looking for. A day-



time or nighttime look. The most Flawless look you can achieve is a spray-on, air brush foundation! You can also try full-coverage, anti-aging formulas. (Test on your jaw line, not your wrist.) Get a glow on with luminous, sheer radiance for a subtle sheen, "a lit-from-within complexion" Visit your nearest cosmetic counter for a professional opinion on these tips.

Hint: Charlotte Tilbury is a fabulous makeup line. There are professional makeup artists on line to help you complete your new color palette. A new generation of makeup, how it's applied and made to make you look your best at any age! Google it!

So my Glamazons, hope you're New Year is going swell. Look your best and feel beautiful always!

— Mary N. DiZazzo-Trumbull

Read prior week's "All That Zazz" columns at www.allthatzazz.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 mary4nails.com.



A Difficult Story, But A Happy Ending

by Prof./Cav. Philip J. DiNovo



I have often thought that I should write a book about our American Italian Heritage Association and Museum. If I did, so many people would think it to be a work of fiction. Our faithful members who reside all across the country know the true story.

In the year 1979, I invited eight professors of Italian descent to a meeting which took place in the Law Lounge of Syracuse University. We met to discuss the possible formation of an organization to preserve our Italian heritage and culture. As a result, we came to an agreement to form the American Italian Heritage Association. There was conflict from the beginning, when one professor had a strong philosophical difference with the other professors. That person dropped out because he was told that the group could not work with a person whose views were in such disagreement with our own. We didn't have any money, so I was compelled to dig into my own pocket. Our first newsletter was published with the help of a friend. It took some time to develop through trial and error, but we were eventually able to build-up membership in our fledgling organization.

The thought occurred to me in 1985 that we should operate a museum. I was aware of a vacant convent sitting next to an Italian American Church in Utica, NY. Even though funds were nil and our reputation had yet to be established, I went to speak with the pastor and asked if we could use the building for a museum. We came to an agreement that the American Italian Heritage Association would be responsible for all operating costs in exchange for utilizing the space rent-free. It took some time to develop a group of volunteers, and we worked very hard to turn a convent into a museum and raise the necessary funds, an ongoing and very difficult venture. Most of the needed money came from our core members and, to my surprise, not from the larger Italian-American community or from the area's well-to-do folks. Our record of accomplishments was outstanding. We had an Italian choir, and adult and children's Italian folk dance group. We offered classes, programs, cultural events, and were deeply involved in the community. After fourteen years of hard work, many of the volunteers just got tired of raising money. At around the same time, the Italian-American community changed and the economy of the area incurred difficulties. To say that it was not well-received when I proposed that we close the museum in Utica and look for a new location in Albany, NY, is an understatement. I did not plan on relocating in Albany upon my retiring from my teaching position at the college, but I thought that keeping the museum in Utica, NY, was not viable. I understood how many people felt, but we had to be realistic. Needless to say, the

final decision was painful for all of us.

Finding a suitable place in the Albany area was difficult as we had very little money and the cost of property was very high at the time. (*Please be aware that I am telling you only a small part of what a horrendous ordeal it was to actually establish our present museum.*) In the first place, six years passed before we found the right property in Albany. Keep in mind that we had to store the museum collection and furniture for all of those eight years – very expensive and equally frustrating. Ultimately, we found an old church that was built in 1922, and then sold in 1975 to a firm that added a floor and changed it into an office building. Having been vacant for a number of years, we decided to by the building with the assistance of a member who offered to hold the mortgage for us. The building was a mess and it took us five years to restore. Limited funds coupled with the building's horrible condition were among the reasons it took so long to accomplish. Even today, there are issues and many of the problems have to do with building codes. It is very expensive dealing with town requirements regarding fire and disability codes in addition to many others. Astoundingly, nine years passed before we were allowed to use the second floor because we first had to install a sprinkler system that cost us over \$55,000. Presently, there are still many unexpected expenses as we have three buildings on our campus that require constant up-keep, not to mention the constant work on our beautiful, spacious grounds. We fix/resolve one major problem and soon thereafter need to deal with yet another large expenditure.

Our museum, which comprises artifacts, memorabilia, old photos, documents, paintings, works of art and sculptures, occupies the first floor, while our Italian Cultural Center is on the second floor. The outside of our mission-style building is a unique and beautiful structure that is not often found in this part of the

United States. Our museum is the largest Italian museum in the East, with 4,000 sq. ft. of space encompassing eleven rooms of exhibits, a Hall of History, two offices, and a Gift Shop. Our Italian Cultural Center has 1,800 sq. ft. of space. Occupying this floor is a small hall, art gallery, library, classroom, chapel, and a kitchenette. We offer Italian language and cooking classes along with numerous cultural and social events. We have two other buildings on the campus that are rented out, and our Thrift Shop occupies the first floor of the house (former rectory) fronting our property.

Our annual budget is \$128,000 and not one person is paid; our staff is all-volunteer. It has been and continues to be a real challenge to raise that kind of money. Our dues are very low (\$25 per year) and most of our income is generated by fundraising and donations. I wish we could obtain more financial support. Our members are carrying a heavy load to provide the community with an institution that carries out the noble mission of recording and preserving our Italian heritage and culture.

We have welcomed visitors from 22 countries and 35 states and you, too, are invited to visit and see for yourself what blood, sweat and tears have built for the Italian-American community. My enduring hope is that Italian-Americans will financially support our institution so we can continue to keep our Italian heritage and culture alive and be assured of passing on our treasures to future generations. Our website is very informative: www.info@americanitalianmuseum.org. You may also reach us by email: info@americanitalianmuseum.org.

My goal for this article is that it convinces you to visit our museum, to treasure your Italian heritage, and to support our Italian-American institutions, newspapers and other media, and organizations. I pray that you do!

A chi vuole, non mancano modi. (Where there is a will, there is a way).

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FRANK ZAPPA 50th ANNIVERSARY VINYL CELEBRATION
Zappa Family Trust + UMe

The Zappa Family Trust and UMe continue their extensive reissue campaign by releasing five iconic works of the musical innovator on vinyl for the first time in decades: **Cruising with Ruben & The Jets**, **Joe’s Garage**, **Lumpy Gravy**, **Weasels Ripped My Flesh**, and **We’re Only in it for the Money**. The five monumental Frank Zappa & the Mothers of Invention albums spanning Zappa’s incredibly fertile late ’60s-late ’70s period will be available on vinyl. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Zappa’s first release, the Mothers of Invention’s debut album *Freak Out!* — to celebrate, the Zappa Family Trust and UMe are steadily reissuing the cultural icon’s catalog as part of a long-term licensing agreement. The five vinyl releases represent some of Zappa and his cohorts’ most challenging, exhilarating and groundbreaking work:

Zappa’s first solo album, **Lumpy Gravy**, is the work of Zappa the composer, and was recorded at Capitol Studios in 1967. Zappa’s compositions were performed by the 50-piece Abnuceals Emuukha Electric Symphony Orchestra, which included several musicians from the legendary Wrecking Crew. With the session tapes and a razor blade, Zappa pieced together a masterwork that included the use of tape collages, dialogue, parody, musique concrete, and DADAist tendencies. The self-produced album became one of his personal favorites, and is from a pristine 1968 analog safety tape found in Zappa’s vault. Side A contains “Lumpy Gravy-Part I,” and Side B “Lumpy Gravy-Part II”

In the top 300 of *Rolling Stone*’s 500 greatest albums, **We’re Only in it for the Money** is a scathing satire of right-versus-left politics that’s as fresh in today’s charged political atmosphere as it was upon release in 1968 — now restored and pressed on vinyl. In part a parody of *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*, the album pits the hippies against the squares, skewering them equally, as pawns held sway by corporate sellouts catering to the masses in the name of profit. A total of 18 tracks.

Cruising with Ruben & The Jets is the fourth Mothers of Invention album. Released at the end of 1968, the concept album was written in the style of 1950s doo-wop and classic R&B, a childhood love of Zappa’s and members of the band, including singer Ray Collins, who all came up with the idea while in the studio recording other music. The result was 13 outstanding tracks.

Weasels Ripped My Flesh is the last album of recordings made by the original Mothers of Invention lineup, released after Zappa disbanded them. The group, which included a horn section, made the blend of studio, live experimental, and traditional tracks from 1967 to ’69. Released in 1970, it provides a fascinating look at the group’s range and diversity of influences, from avant-garde tracks (11 total) like “Didja Get Any Onya” to the straight-up R&B of their cover of Little Richard’s “Directly from My Heart to You.”

Conceptually and musically as challenging as anything Zappa released in the 1970s, the three-act rock opera **Joe’s Garage** was released as two separate packages in 1979 (the new release arrives as a three-LP set), and includes Acts I-III with 14 tracks. Zappa described the dystopian tale as “a stupid little story about how the government is going to do away with music.” The rock opera proved prophetic years later when the government began to examine ways to limit the spread of explicit content in music. The song cycle, conceived over a weekend, tells the story of a young rock ‘n’ roller who’s thrown into prison and released into a world turned upside down by evil corporate, political, and religious forces who’ve outlawed music. Zappa used the practice of “xenochrony” to record parts of the album; taking previously cut live guitar solos and overdubbing them onto new studio tracks.

Taken together, these albums are a master’s class in subversive wit, creative genius, and uncompromising artistry that flies in the face of convention.

BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS – LIVE
Tuff Gong + UMe

The Marley family and UMe has released an expanded three-LP vinyl collection, **Bob Marley & the Wailers – Live**, featuring both nights of the historic 1975 *Natty Dread Tour* concert at the Lyceum Theatre in London.

Bob Marley & the Wailers were at the peak of their artistic powers when they performed at London’s Lyceum Theatre for two shows, July 17-18, 1975. The group had just released *Natty Dread* the year before, and were about to unleash *Rastaman Vibration*. The Rolling Stones mobile studio recorded both shows, with seven songs from the second released as *Live!* in December of that year, and broadcasted on the syndicated radio program *King Biscuit Flower Hour* in 1976.

Marley and the Wailers’ classic line-up included bassist Aston “Family Man” Barrett, drummer Carlton “Carly” Barrett, guitarist Al Anderson, keyboardist Tyrone Downie, percussionist Alvin “Seeco” Patterson, and the I-Three — backing vocalists Rita Marley, Judy Mowatt, and Marcia Griffiths. The group had just finished its legendary five-night stint at the Roxy Theater in L.A., when they stepped on the stage at London’s Lyceum Theatre for an abbreviated U.K. tour, which also included dates at The Odeon in Birmingham, and The Hard Rock in Manchester. Marley was in top form during the two Lyceum shows, animatedly interacting with the crowd, who sang along to what most consider the definitive version of “No Woman, No Cry.”

A classic album that delivers 22 reggae-flavored tracks, as Marley & the Wailers powered their way on to becoming legendary music icons!



Freeway
Says ...

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.

Happy New Year

I will try to do my best this coming year and also give my pooch friends some advice to help them with their New Year’s Resolutions.

1. I’ll try to remember that the garbage collector is NOT stealing our stuff.
2. I will not roll my toys behind the fridge.
3. I must shake the rain water out of my fur BEFORE entering the house.
4. I will not eat the cat’s food, before or after they eat it.
5. The diaper pail is not a cookie jar.
6. I will not chew my human’s toothbrush and not tell her.
7. I will not chew crayons or pens, especially the red ones, or my human companion will think I am hemorrhaging.

8. We do not have a door bell; I will not bark each time I hear one on TV.
9. I will not throw up in the car.
10. I will not steal my human companion’s underwear and dance all over the backyard with it.
11. I will not bite the officer’s hand when he reaches in for my human companion’s driver’s license and registration.

I would like to wish my pal Louie Graffeo a “Happy Birthday” and many, many more.

To all my readers, pooch friends, and colleagues at the *Post-Gazette*, a Healthy, Happy, and a safe “New Year.”

That’s all for now!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!

• Red Cross & Dunkin’ Donuts (Continued from Page 3)

which we live and operate.”

The Red Cross and Dunkin’ Donuts partnership has achieved great success during the past nine years by supporting the collection of approximately 720,000 blood and platelet donations during January, which is often a challenging month for donations due to winter weather forcing blood drives to cancel and seasonal illnesses temporarily keeping some donors at home.

HOW TO DONATE BLOOD

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor

App, visit redcrossblood.org, or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in generally good health may be

eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood donors can now save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, prior to arriving at the blood drive. To get started and learn more, visit redcross-blood.org/RapidPass and follow the instructions on the site.

Finish the Lyrics

ACROSS

1. Face fringe
6. Go low, as in jeans
9. “Oh, my!”
13. Underway
14. Tire measurement
15. Wear away
16. Luciano Pavarotti, e.g.
17. Roman goddess of plenty
18. Previously an Oiler
19. “...I’m ready, yes, I’m ready for you. I’m standing on my own _____”
21. “On a dark desert highway, cool wind in _____”
23. It’s all the rage
24. Person, place or thing
25. PC brain
28. Bingo-like game
30. Moses’ older sister
35. Be in pain
37. Sail support
39. “Come on, shake your body, baby, do the _____”
40. “Heat of the Moment” band
41. Single-cell protozoan
43. “Then along comes _____”
44. Great white, e.g.
46. “Goodness gracious!”
47. Commoner
48. “Raindrops are falling on _____”
50. Saharan-like
52. “Cause I’m a woman! W-O-M-A-N...” singer
53. Like Roman Empire
55. ENT’s first concern
57. “My daddy’s sleeping and mama ain’t _____”
60. “So put another dime in the _____”
64. “...I’ll tell you all about it when I see you _____”
65. “_____ to Joy”
67. Abomination
68. Formal dishes
69. “So bye, bye Miss American _____”
70. “Oh, I was only twenty four hours from _____”
71. Front-line combat vehicle
72. Credit card acr.
73. Wheel shafts

DOWN

1. Quilter’s stuffing
2. Not many
3. Something that’s unacceptable
4. Disappear, like into the sunset
5. Unbroken series of events
6. See him run!
7. Cleopatra’s cause of death
8. Whatchamacallit
9. “Summertime” or “Porgy and Bess,” e.g.
10. “Laughing on the inside” in text
11. Month of Purim

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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12. D.C. bigwig
15. Thai or Mexican food, e.g.
20. a.k.a. dropsy
22. Delish!
24. Small bouquet
25. Geological rift
26. Aggressive
27. “Umble” Heep
29. “I’ve got a blank space, baby, and I’ll write your _____”
31. Boisterous play
32. Collectively
33. Come to terms
34. “...Here’s my number, so call me _____”
36. Container weight
38. Kind of ski lift

42. “Farewell” in Paris
45. V.I.P. in Hawaii
49. Draper of “Mad Men”
51. Actress Fanning
54. Parkinson’s drug
56. Updike’s “Rabbit _____”
57. Turkish honorific
58. “All you get is pain. When I wanted sunshine I got _____”
59. Sound on Old MacDonald’s farm
60. Audience’s rejection
61. Hillary’s hubby
62. British river
63. December 25th, for short
64. Pre-college challenge
66. Party bowlful

(Solution on Page 10)

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

by Sal Giarratani



A memorial in honor of Lt. Kevin M. Kelley is outside the Huntington Avenue Firehouse. (Photo by Sal Giarratani)

**REMEMBERING
FIRE LT. KEVIN M. KELLEY**

I still remember when Fire Lt. Kevin M. Kelley was killed in the line of duty on January 9, 2009. Hard to believe it has already been eight years since that day. The ladder truck he commanded was going down Parker Hill Avenue in Mission Hill on its way back to the Huntington Avenue Firehouse next to Wentworth. How often were they up on the top of Mission Hill, taking Parker Hill down to South Huntington Avenue and turning right?

However, on this particular day, the usual routine took a turn for the worse. The fire apparatus lost its brakes, racing down the hill unable to stop. It sailed right across South Huntington into a brick wall at Mission Park and into the front of a daycare center.

Somehow, it made its way across the avenue without any traffic or streetcars passing by the intersection. The only fatality that day was my friend Kevin Kelley, who died in the passenger seat of the ladder truck's cab. Miraculously no one else was killed in this horrible accident. He left behind his wife, daughters, and a firehouse grieving over his tragic loss.

He remains in the hearts of all who knew him. I first met him back in my younger days as a DMH police officer at Mass. Mental Health Center on Fenwood Road, not far from the firehouse. Often when an alarm was struck at my work site, Kelley was among the first on the scene, riding shotgun in the ladder truck. We struck up a friendship, and I will always remember the smile he wore on

his face every day he went to work. He was one-of-a-kind, a one-of-a-kind character forever in the memories of all who knew him.

WHO'S WHO IN EAST BOSTON

If you want to know where the makers and shakers are to be found in East Boston, you need to stop by the Dunkin' Donuts in Orient Heights on Bennington Street. There you will find members of the Knights of Dunkin' Donuts almost anytime, day or night. Many of the senior Knights meet in the afternoon, because they mostly hate driving at night. However, in the evenings you will always find at least one or two Knights on any night of the week. The groups grow and wane from time to time. They even do birthdays there together many times.

One of the longest Knights is Viola Pucillo, who is often the glue that holds the whole organization together. Recently, one of our longtime members moved away to Braintree. Two weeks ago, he returned, and was greeted like the Prodigal Son in the *Bible*. Everyone missed Eddy and his red neck and was glad to see he is doing quite well down on the South Shore.

AFTER CHRISTMAS SALES

Recently, I was at the supermarket shopping and noticed an "After Christmas" sale. You could get two rolls of Christmas wrapping paper for just a buck. Lots of After Christmas deals out there, but what does the guy who sells Christmas trees do with his leftover stock? Over in Eastie, across from Wood Island Park, they had plenty of leftover trees that never made it to the

celebrations. You can't save 'em for next year--who would purchase an "After Christmas" Christmas Tree?

I actually feel sorrier for the trees than the guy who had been trying to sell them. They were cut down in the prime of life just to end up in someone's fireplace.

**TASTE OF EASTIE
JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

It seems like I was just at the Taste of Eastie, but that was almost a year ago now. The event will be in late January. As soon as I know more details, I will pass them on to you right here.

**THE KING AND I
COMING TO BOSTON**

Rogers & Hammerstein's *The King and I* will be coming to the Boston Opera House April 11th-23rd. For more information, call 800-982-2787, or go to www.broadwayinboston.com.

**SULLIVAN'S REOPENS
AT CASTLE ISLAND**

The iconic and robust landmark Sullivan's has shut down for the winter and will reopen on Saturday, February 25th, at 8:30 am.

RADIO WBCA IN BOSTON

There's a new radio station located just outside Egleston Square. WBCA is a new service offered by Boston Neighborhood Network (BNN) in partnership with the City of Boston. Morgan Jaffe is station manager and wants residents to make their voices heard on air.

WBCA 102.9 FM is located at BNN Studios, 3025 Washington Street, next to Egleston Square. For more information, go to www.wbcaradio.org.

**THE FINANCIAL EXCHANGE
RADIO SHOW EXPANDING**

The Financial Exchange radio show with Barry Armstrong and Chuck Zodda is currently heard on 12 radio stations across New England, and has picked up new channels in New Hampshire. NH1 News Radio WNNH FM 99.1 in Concord and WEMJ FM 107.3 and AM 1490 in Laconia.

HELEN DIMASO, RIP

Helen Dimaso, a lifelong Revere resident, recently passed away. She worked 32 years for Sky Chef in Boston and retired at the age of 77. I am told she loved watching the Red Sox, Bruins, and Celtics. Maybe she wasn't a football fan. I am sure if she was, Tom Brady would have been her guy.

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

As Bret Stephens recently wrote in his *Wall Street Journal* commentary, "Unlike Mr. Carter, Mr. Obama hasn't joined the jackals. He has merely opened the doors wide for them. What a fitting finish to this ruinous presidency."

**New Police Dog Calendars
Anyone?**

There are all kinds of calendars out there. You can get those firefighter calendars, cabbies have theirs, too. Now you can even get NYPD police dogs. Those who donate \$20 to the New York City Police Foundation get a calendar, and all proceeds benefit NYPD programs and initiatives. What dog-owner out there doesn't think a police dog calendar is a fantastic idea? Just saying.

**When It's Not Your Time,
It's Not Your Time**

We have heard the stories of people who luck out because they were late for a train or plane, right? Here's the latest. A 29-year-old singer for Russia's Red Army Choir has his expired passport to thank for being able to see 2017.

The 29-year-old singer was never able to board the doomed Russian plane. He was going through immigration, and was told he couldn't board because his passport had expired last July unknown to him.

He went home as news of the plane crash went viral. He checked and found he was listed as one of the dead. My mother always said when it's not your time, it's not your time. She never worried when she travelled because it was a waste of time.

One time while flying with my dad, who was always nervous about flying, she told him not to worry. She didn't feel like it was her time yet, and if it wasn't her time, it wasn't his time, either. My father remained nervous. My mother asked for a window seat.

**Nobody's Looking Out for
You Most of the Time**

A mugger robbed a 94-year-old woman in the Bronx on Christmas Eve. In the "City that Never Sleeps" and has over 8 million residents, nobody came to her aid. She was screaming, and her calls for help fell on deaf ears. Good country America, where everyone is on their own, even when your 94 years old. Welcome to New York, where bad people rule because we let them rule.

Morgan Freeman is So Right

Morgan Freeman was great in *Shawshank Redemption*, which came out over 25 years ago. It did poorly at the box office, but over the years since it has become a classic on TV. It is now up there with *It's a Wonderful Life* as a most-loved movie.

Morgan Freeman thinks it had to do with the movie title itself. As Freeman recently said, "Nobody could say *Shawshank Redemption*. Marketing works with word of mouth. Since few could actually remember how to say the movie title correctly, it fell on deaf ears. Even I always had a difficult time saying it. Was it "shamshot" or shawshame?" With a better title, who

knows how many more people would have seen it at the movie theater. I watch it all the time when it's on the air and once, being a substitute teacher in a criminal justice class; I used the movie as a lesson about criminal justice.

**More Living with
Mommy and Daddy**

Despite an economy we are told is getting stronger and with a rebounding job market, almost 40 percent of young Americans are still living with their parents, siblings, or other relatives, the largest number since 1940 according to census data.

Here's a Great Quote
"Liberals love humanity, they just hate people."

— Anon

**U.S. Senator Warren,
Is She Ever Happy?**

The *Boston Herald* on New Year's Day ran quotes from famous folks about their wishes for the New Year. Our very own U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren stated, "I expect 2017 will be filled with tough fights over whether this country will be run just to suit Trump and his cabinet of billionaires, or if it will work better for working families."

I'm betting she thinks it will be better for billionaires, right? With her, everything is always the same. Different year, same song.

**Britain Now Thinking
About Photo IDs**

Britain is now thinking of requiring photo IDs in order to cast votes at election time, and the opposition over there is just like here. There is little proof illegal voting is taking place. We don't need no stinkin' photo IDs!

The issue, whether in Britain, or here in America, is not to prove that noncitizens are voting. The issue is that everyone should prove they are citizens before voting, period. We can't cash checks at a bank without an ID. We can't board a plane without an ID. Hello? What's the problem?

**Post Trump
Stress Disorder?**

Apparently, a lot of liberals out there are suffering from PTSD, but it's Trump who is causing their trauma. They still can't believe they lost after the liberal mainstream media all but guaranteed them a historic victory at the polls.

Even the outgoing First Lady can't get over it, saying all hope is now lost. I said the very same thing eight years ago when she and her hubby moved into the White House. Like me, she'll get over the election results, and move on with her life as the former First Lady.

I had to laugh at Donald Trump's latest New Year's Eve tweet, "Happy New Year to all, including to my many enemies and those who have fought me, and lost so badly they just don't know what to do - LOVE!"

End Quote

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

— John Adams



Here's a Who's Who you won't likely forget, with "Glue" Viola Pucillo surrounded by Maria Giardina on the left, and Jimmy and Patty Santori on the right.

(Photo by Sal Giarratani)

The Federal Trade Commission
works for the consumer to prevent fraud and deception.
Call 1-877-FTC-HELP or log on to www.ftc.gov.



Something Rotten! will be at the Boston Opera House. See **THEATER SECTION** for further details.

MUSIC

TD GARDEN
100 Legends Way, Boston, MA
617-624-1050
www.TDGarden.com

ERIC CHURCH — January 28, 2017. Eric Church brings the *Holdin' My Own Tour* to TD Garden. There will be no opening acts on the *Holdin' My Own Tour*. Instead, Church will headline two full sets each night. "It's just us," Church said of his upcoming tour. I'm going to do an intermission in the middle so people can get beer, which is not really done in country shows. I think it's a neat way for fans to interact, and it gives us a breather, and it gives them a breather. You can talk about what's been played and how the show is so far." In addition, Church said the split show with two sets gives him the opportunity to have two different opening songs, two closing songs and two separate themes and looks if he so chooses.

LYNN AUDITORIUM
3 City Hall Square, Lynn, MA
781-599-SHOW
www.LynnAuditorium.com

DECADES REWIND — January 27, 2017. Experience the greatest music of the '60s, '70s, and '80s with Decades Rewind — a new concert extravaganza featuring a live 14-piece band performing hit songs spanning 30 years. See the *Decades Rewind Promo Video* on YouTube. Featuring over 60 songs, Decades Rewind blends unique medleys from the most prominent decades in music history and has "the audience singing along, dancing in their seats and down the aisles" all night long. This fully live concert features an 8-piece rock band and 6 brilliant rocking vocalists surrounded by rock and roll stage lighting, poignant videos of American culture, and over 100 costume changes. From ABBA to Aretha, Cyndi to Chicago, Madonna to Marvin Gaye, Decades Rewind pays tribute to the biggest and best hits of the '60s, '70s, and '80s.

THE CABOT
286 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA
978-927-3100
www.TheCabot.org

VIRTUOSO SOLOISTS OF NEW YORK — February 19, 2017. Founded in New York City in 2014, Virtuoso Soloists

of New York (VSNY) is the realization of a group of young musicians' dream to commission, perform, and record classical music on the international stage. Each player comes from a diverse background, and brings his or her own personality, culture, life experiences, and musical flair to every performance. Bound together by a passion for musical exploration and excellence, VSNY attracts new audiences by crafting unique programs that highlight the connection between well-known classics and newly commissioned pieces. VSNY has been working closely with living composers such as Boston-based John. H. Wallace and Ketty Nez, Italian composer Mario Pagotto, and Portuguese composers Tiago Cabrita and Eurico Carrapatoso. Program: Sergei Rachmaninov, Trio élégiaque No. 1 in G minor; John H. Wallace: Triskele (A Trio for Viola, Oboe and Piano four-hand); Anton Dvorak, Terzetto in C major, Op. 74; and Robert Schumann, Piano Quintet in E-flat major, Op. 44.

MAVIS STAPLES — March 24, 2017. Mavis Staples is living, breathing history. She is an alchemist of American music, having continuously crossed genre lines like no musician since Ray Charles. Weaving herself into the very fabric of gospel, soul, folk, pop, R&B, blues, rock, and hip hop over the last 60 years, this iconic singer has seen and sung through so many changes, always rising up to meet every road. Now in her seventh decade, with the release of her new album *Livin' on a High Note*, she is only gaining momentum. The album serves as a summation and furtherance of her illustrious career. Refusing to fade away, she continues to tour incessantly, remaining as vital, engaged, and true as always. There is no persona; she is, simply and untouchably, Mavis — and *Livin' on a High Note* is the symphony of her life.

SPECIAL EVENTS

TD GARDEN
100 Legends Way, Boston, MA
617-624-1050
www.TDGarden.com

THE BEANPOT — Monday, February 6th and Monday, February 13, 2017. The Beanpot, the official battle for Boston's hockey bragging rights, returns to

TD Garden for its 65th year this winter. Don't miss Harvard, Northeastern, Boston College, and Boston University face off this February at TD Garden for the coveted Beanpot trophy. Semifinals: **Monday, February 6th, Harvard vs. Northeastern @ 5:00 pm; Boston College vs. Boston University @ 8:00 pm. Monday, February 13th. Consolation/ Finals 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm.**

DISNEY ON ICE Follow Your Heart — February 17-26, 2017. Just keep swimming with Dory and new pal Hank from Disney•Pixar's *Finding Dory* as they set out to find her parents and discover the devotion of family. Cheer with Joy, Sadness, and the rest of the Emotions from Disney•Pixar's *Inside Out* as they work together to boost Riley's spirit and win the big hockey game. Venture to wintery Arendelle where Olaf and Kristoff help reunite royal sisters Anna and Elsa from Disney's *Frozen* and learn love is the most powerful magic of all. See Cinderella, Rapunzel, Ariel, and the Disney Princesses make their dreams possible through virtues of bravery, kindness and perseverance. And celebrate true friendship with Buzz Lightyear, Woody and the *Toy Story* gang.

HYNES CONVENTION CENTER
900 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
617-954-2000

Info@MassConvention.com
ANIME BOSTON 2017 — March 31 through April 2, 2017. Anime Boston is the Northeast's largest anime convention, celebrating Japanese animation, comics, and pop-culture. The event provides a truly passionate and focused event for the city to enjoy. Anime Boston stays true to the comics and animation brands that originally inspired the event, providing individuals with a particular attraction to Japanese anime an outlet for experiential celebration. The convention will be presenting popular events including a masquerade, an anime music video contest, video programming rooms, an artists' alley and art show, karaoke, game shows, video games, manga library, dances, and much more. The approximate number of exhibitors at this event is over 120. Over 25,000 visitors are expected at this anime convention.

COMEDY

WILBUR THEATRE
246 Tremont St., Boston, MA
617-248-9700
www.TheWilburTheatre.com

VIC DiBITETTO — January 13, 2017. An incredibly powerful performer, comedian Vic DiBittetto churns energy, honesty and humanity into nonstop laughter. His pace is frenetic. He's been called a cross between Rodney Dangerfield and Ralph Kramden. The bottom line is, DiBittetto leaves his audiences breathless with laughter. He is referred to by most other comics as a "killer," which means you just can't follow Vic onstage. And that has been uttered by many very famous stand-ups over the years. An Internet sensation with tens of millions of YouTube views and his now famous Bread and Milk, Justin Bieber, and Kanye West viral rants.

WANG THEATER
Citi Performing Arts Center
270 Tremont Street Boston, MA
800-982-2798
www.CitiCenter.org

CAROL BURNETT — April 8, 2017. During *An Evening of Laughter and Reflection Where the Audience Asks Questions*, Burnett will take questions from the audience, and show video clips from her shows in a format that harkens back to the legendary openings of *The Carol Burnett Show* where her studio audience had an unfiltered opportunity to engage Burnett with questions and receive spontaneous answers. "I love the spontaneity of these evenings," said Carol. "I never know what anyone is going to ask, or say, or do, so it keeps me on my toes!" Burnett is widely recognized by the public and her peers for her work on stage and screen.

DANCE

WANG THEATER
Citi Performing Arts Center
270 Tremont Street Boston, MA
800-982-2798
www.CitiCenter.org

DANCING WITH THE STARS LIVE — January 19, 2017. *Dancing with the Stars: Live!* — *We Came to Dance* features the hottest cast in dance, including Lindsay Arnold, Alan Bersten, Sharna Burgess, Artem Chigvintsev, Val Chmerkovskiy, Hayley Erbert, Jenna Johnson, Keo Motsepe, Gleb Savchenko and Emma Slater, with more casting to be announced. This all-new production

showcases every type of ballroom and modern dance seen on ABC's hit show *Dancing with the Stars*, including sizzling group performances, romantic duets, contemporary numbers and original pieces created specifically for the nationwide tour.

SHUBERT THEATRE
265 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
866-348-9738
www.CitiCenter.org

JESSICA LANG DANCE — January 27-28, 2017. Founded in 2011, Jessica Lang Dance (JLD) is a New York City-based dance company dedicated to creating and performing the work of Jessica Lang (a former dancer with Twyla Tharp), who was hailed as "a master of visual composition" by *Dance Magazine*. The recipient of a 2014 Bessie Award, JLD seamlessly incorporates striking design elements and transforms classical ballet language into artfully crafted, emotionally engaging contemporary works.

THEATER

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE
539 Washington St., Boston, MA
617-259-3400
www.BostonOperaHouse.com

SOMETHING ROTTEN! — January 19-29, 2017. A mash-up of 16th century Shakespeare and 21st century Broadway, *Something Rotten!* tells the story of brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom, two playwrights stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rockstar Will Shakespeare. When a soothsayer foretells the next big thing in theatre, the Bottom brothers set out to write the world's very first musical. Directed by Casey Nicholaw, *Something Rotten!* features a score by Wayne Kirkpatrick and Karey Kirkpatrick and a book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell.

CABARET — January 31-February 12, 2017. First appearing on The Great White Way in 1966, *Cabaret* is based on writer Christopher Isherwood's time in the bohemian clubs of Berlin in the early 1930s. With decadence and sexual exploration being the first orders of business, *Cabaret* tells the story of one Sally Bowles, a daring femme fatale in training, and her new roommate, the shy runaway Cliff. On a mission to experience every sight and sound, Cliff follows Sally to the Kit Kat Klub, a seedy underground cabaret club presided over by the all-knowing Emcee. But whilst the night goes on forever inside, the music is not loud enough to cover the ever growing voice of fascism, as Nazi ideals seep into the city, and eventually the club itself. This wildly entertaining musical thrills easily, as the narrative takes on ever more terrifying subject matter. *Cabaret* is an absolute must see!

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME — March 7-19, 2017. When 15-year old Christopher finds himself at the scene of a crime, namely the murder of his neighbor's dog Wellington in his owner's garden (at seven minutes past midnight), he finds himself a suspect due to his Asperger's condition. So he embarks on an extraordinary journey across the country that pits this amateur detective against the murder mystery culprit, forcing him into conflict with his family, his dreams, and his ambitions with a triumphalist spirit that will uplift and keep you thinking long after you've left the theater. This National Theatre of London production won an incredible five Tony Awards in 2015, including Best Play.

SHUBERT THEATRE
270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
866-348-9738
www.CitiCenter.org

RENT — April 11-30, 2017. In 1996, an original rock musical by a little-known composer opened on Broadway ... and forever changed the landscape of American theatre. Two decades later, Jonathan Larson's *RENT* continues to speak loudly and defiantly to audiences across generations and all over the world. And now, this Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning masterpiece returns to the stage in a vibrant 20th anniversary touring production. A re-imagining of Puccini's *La Bohème*, *RENT* follows an unforgettable year in the lives of seven artists struggling to follow their dreams without selling out. With its inspiring message of joy and hope in the face of fear, this timeless celebration of friendship and creativity reminds us to measure our lives with the only thing that truly matters — love.

STONEHAM THEATRE
395 Main Street, Stoneham, MA
781-279-2200
www.StonehamTheatre.org
I LOVED, I LOST, I MADE SPAGHETTI — June 8-25, 2017. *Dish*

with Giulia! For Giulia, an Italian New Yorker trying to navigate life as a single gal, a new date is the perfect opportunity to show off her home cooking. While preparing a three-course dinner from scratch, she recounts stories of good Italian food and bad boyfriends. Her superior cuisine far surpasses her inferior taste in men in this mouth-watering new comedy. Eight audience members at each performance can even purchase seats to join Giulia on stage and be served the dinner she is cooking during the show!

WANG THEATER
Citi Performing Arts Center
270 Tremont Street Boston, MA
800-982-2798
www.CitiCenter.org

ANNIE — May 9-21, 2017. The world's best-loved musical returns in time-honored form. Directed by original lyricist and director Martin Charnin and choreographed by Liza Gennaro, this production of *Annie* will be a brand new incarnation of the iconic original. Featuring book and score by Tony Award®-winners Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, *ANNIE* includes such unforgettable songs as "It's the Hard Knock Life," "Easy Street," "I Don't Need Anything But You," plus the eternal anthem of optimism, "Tomorrow."

MUSEUMS

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston
617-267-9300
www.MFA.org

PAST IS PRESENT: REVIVAL JEWELRY — February 14, 2017 – August 19, 2018. Whether copying or choosing motifs to reinterpret, jewelers have always looked to the past for inspiration. The practice became popular in the 19th century, as designers like Castellani, Giacinto Melillo, and Eugene Fontenay began reviving examples of ancient ornaments, newly unearthed in archaeological excavations. Examine more than 4,000 years of jewelry history through about 70 objects — both ancient and revival — tracing the revival movement from the 19th to the 21st centuries. The exhibition focuses on four types — Archaeological, Classical, Egyptian, and Renaissance. Highlights include a 1924 brooch, on loan from Cartier, paired with an Egyptian winged scarab (740–660 BC) with a similar design; an 1850s embellished gold brooch by Castellani; a Renaissance revival neck ornament (1900–04) designed for Tiffany & Co.; a 1980s Bulgari necklace adorned with Macedonian coins; and a 2002 Akelo pendant that emulates an ancient Etruscan granulation technique.

MICHELE & DONALD D'AMOUR MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
220 State Street, Springfield, MA
413-263-6800
www.SpringfieldMuseums.org

THE GRAND TOUR: GEORGE AND BELLE SMITH COLLECT IN ITALY. Avid art collectors, George and Belle Smith traveled to Europe in 1882, just after promising their art collection to the city of Springfield, Massachusetts. The couple had planned a two-year sojourn to study and collect fine and decorative arts. Many socialites and intellectuals participated in the Grand Tour of Europe, a favorite activity for English and American aristocrats beginning in the late 17th century through the Victorian era. Because the Smiths enjoyed the opportunities available to them in Europe, they extended their visit by almost four years. For two-and-a-half years, the Smiths lived in Venice, Italy, and the couple purchased the paintings on display in this gallery and the lobby during that time, including works by Noë Bordignon, Raffaele Mainella, Pietro Pajetta, Pasquale Ruggiero and Ettore Tito.

THE NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mount Vernon Street
Beacon Hill, Boston, MA
617-227-6993
www.NicholsHouseMuseum.org

The Nichols House Museum is located at 55 Mount Vernon Street on Beacon Hill in Boston, Massachusetts. The house in which it is located was designed by the architect Charles Bulfinch, and built by Jonathan Mason, the politician, in 1804. The building was renovated in 1830. The museum is named for Rose Standish Nichols (1872–1960), the renowned landscape gardener, suffragist, pacifist, and member of the Cornish Art Colony, who lived in the house between 1885 and 1960. She left the house to be used as a museum after her death. The museum preserves the lifestyle of the American upper class during Nichols' lifetime, with turn-of-the-century period rooms.

ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

"The Sicilian Corner" — every Friday 10:00 am to Noon with hosts Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and **"The Best in Italian Music"** with Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 9:00 am to Noon. Go to www.1110wccm.com.

"Italia Oggi" — Sundays 11:00 am to Noon with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM.

"Dolce Vita Radio" — Sundays DJ Rocco Mesiti 11:00 am-1:00 pm; 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com.

"The Nick Franciosa Show" — Sundays from Noon to 3:00 pm on WLYN 1360 AM.

"Guido Oliva Italian Hour" — Sundays 8:00 am-9:00 am on WSRO 650 AM and online at www.wsro.com.

"Tony's Place" on MusicAmerica WPLM FM 99.1 — Sundays 7:00 pm–2:00 am on MusicAmerica. Host Ron Della Chiesa presents Tony's Place. Visit www.MusicNotNoise.com.


"L'Italia Chiamo Italian Radio Show" hosted by Stefano Marchese and Elisa Meazzini — Thursdays 3:00 pm-4:15 pm. Visit litaliachiamo.com; email: litaliachiamoshow@gmail.com. Tel. 857-334-0868.

"Intervallo Musicale" — Sundays 10:00-10:30 am; Host Carmine Guarino on WUNR 1600 AM and online at www.wunr.com.

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



It was the middle of January in the early 1960s. Sal Meli, a fellow East Bostonian that I had grown up with, invited me to a ski club that he belonged to in North Conway, N.H. I had never been to a ski resort or on skis at any point in my young life. Sal explained that the club and surrounding resorts were the “in places” for skiers, and most of them were young ladies. That sounded convincing and I decided to take him up on the offer.

At that point in time, I was teaching at Hyde Park High School and had made a few friends, especially with the younger single members of the faculty. A young science teacher named Tom Aylward and I had become friends and he was a skier. I mentioned this to Sal, and he told me to extend an invitation to Tom for that weekend in the middle of January.

I was playing at the Charter House on Friday and Saturday evenings. This long-gone hotel was located on the Lynnway set back a bit on the right, just over the bridge from Point of Pines. They had a jazz lounge and my trio had been featured there for about a year. I asked my cousin, Ralph Pepe, to fill in for me and he was open. I okayed my absence with the hotel manager and I began preparing for my first ski trip. The one thing everyone insisted I bring with me was warm clothing. I either bought or borrowed the necessary outdoor clothing and was supervised by Babbononno while packing. He looked at the things I had planned to fit into my suitcase and asked, “Hey, Jenny, you go ah da Northa Pole?” I told him what I was up to which was totally foreign to him. He had lived his young life in Foggia (sweater weather in the winter), and while in the Italian Marines, never ventured anywhere north of Venice. He had never experienced anything in the way of our kind of weather until he settled in Boston, and proceeded to give me a run-down of what I needed, “Jenny, first, you take-a widda you da muntande, longa unda ware. Den, you packa warma soxa foh you feet. Metta due o tre swetta, a cupalini foh da heada anda niza warma glove a keepa you handza warma.” I agreed with him and packed enough warm clothing for two weeks instead of a two day weekend.

Dad, being a very practical man, told me that I was crazy giving up two nights pay to play in the snow. Mom said a Rosary, fearing that I would ski right into a tree. Babbononno assured them that he had supervised my packing and told them not to worry about me being cold. When Dad told him that I might even try skiing, Babbononno walked away swearing in Italian, adding, “I giovane sono pazzi.” (The young people are crazy) That Friday morning, I placed my suitcase in the trunk of my white ’58 Thunderbird and headed to school. When it was time to leave, Tom, who had gotten a ride to school that morning, threw his suitcase in the trunk

next to mine and we headed to 128 and Polaroid to pick up Sal, who also had gotten a ride to work. Sal was waiting for us and, with his suitcase wedged in the trunk, off we went heading north on 128.

When we reached the Portsmouth Circle, we stopped at Howard Johnson’s for a quick bite to eat and then proceeded north on Route 16 to North Conway. It was early evening when we arrived at the ski club that Sal belonged to, and we were assigned to a dorm room with bunk beds. I don’t remember the name of the club, but it was typical of that part of New Hampshire, rustic and geared solely for ski enthusiasts. Sal had made the reservations and breakfast and dinner were included. He introduced us to many of the lodge members as we sat down to dinner, and several more as we headed to the main room of the lodge, where a large fire place was blazing away and the bar was in full operation. We socialized a bit, but made it an early night as ski lessons and ski rentals began right at sun up.

The next morning, following Sal’s direction, we headed to Cannon Mountain, rented the ski equipment we needed for the weekend, tied up with a ski instructor and took a beginner’s lesson on how to ski. We gave Tom the money for the ski lift tickets as he didn’t need lessons; we surely did. The instructor told us to stay on the Bunny Slopes, the lower part of the mountain where the novice skiers could practice and not get hurt. He then instructed us on how to start off, steer and stop. Sal and I tried out his instructions and, finding a bit of success with them, headed for the beginners’ slopes. You couldn’t see the snow through the falling beginners at that novice site and I decided to leave Sal and go to the next level of Cannon Mountain, the intermediate slope. This, too, was so busy that I decided to take the cable car to a 3rd level, an advanced slope, but didn’t get out of the cable car fast enough and wound up heading for the top of the mountain where only expert skiers had the right to go.

Being in my early 20s, fearless (or brainless — I’m not sure) and innocent regarding what I was doing, I snapped on my skis and kicked off right from the summit, pushing myself forward and downward with my ski poles, silently saying to myself, “Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee ...” The slopes were steep and expert skiers whizzed past me as if I was standing still. I was actually dragging my poles in the snow so as not to speed up. I made it down the expert slopes without falling, skied past several people on the intermediate slopes without mishap and continued down the mountain until I reached the Bunny Slope. I somehow zigzagged around the falling novice skiers who were practicing at that location and saw the main building of the Cannon Ski Lodge looming in front of me. I pointed

my skis toward each other and snowplowed, a procedure I had learned earlier to slow down and stop. I then twisted my body to the right, and turned at a right angle stopping parallel to the side of the lodge, about two feet away from the outside wall of the building. I took off my skis, turned, came to attention, and saluted the mountain. Carrying my skis into the building, I returned them to the rental office, headed for the lounge, ordered a hot cocoa with a shot of brandy in it and waited for my companions to return.

I have never ever been on a pair of skis since that episode. Beginners luck was hovering over me and I didn’t want to press it any further. Tom and Sal returned within the hour, both covered with snow and cold. They joined me in the lounge over cocoa and told me of their ventures on the slopes for that morning. Sal and I had had it. He didn’t want to push his luck either. We left Tom there to endanger his life again and asked what time he wanted us to pick him up. Our next venture was to head to North Conway Village and check out the shops. Later, back at Sal’s ski club lodge, we eat, drank and socialized. The following weekend, I was kicking off the first set with my trio at the jazz lounge at Charter House Hotel. My silent comment was, “Don’t tempt fate ever again, this is where I belong.” When I told this to Dad and Babbononno, they agreed with me! GOD BLESS AMERICA

Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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BRACCIOLI

Served in Tomato Sauce

4 thinly sliced beef steaks

3/4 cup flavored bread crumbs

1 small garlic clove chopped

1 tablespoon of grated Romano cheese

1 tablespoon olive oil

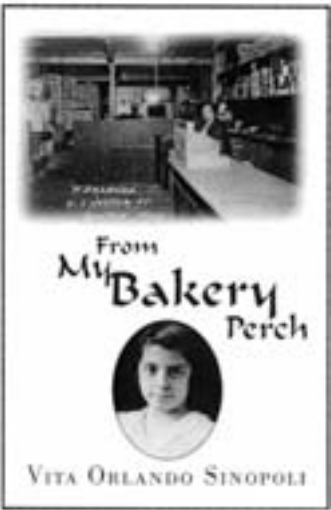
White thread

In a bowl, mix bread crumbs, chopped garlic and grated cheese. Add olive oil to slightly moisten the bread crumbs. Take one beef slice at a time. Spread some bread crumbs in the center of meat. Leave sides of meat about half-inch clear of bread crumbs. Gently roll from long end of meat, gradually folding in the sides so bread crumbs won’t fall out. Roll the meat to the end. Squeeze the rolled meat in your hands. Take white thread, and wrap around the roll and sides of meat to secure ends from opening.

Brown on all sides in a skillet before adding to your tomato sauce. Cook in sauce about 45 minutes. Before serving, remove Bracciori from sauce. Let stand in platter a minute before removing thread. Then slice into 1/2-inch portions and serve separately or with cooked pasta.

NOTE: I learned to make Bracciori from watching my mother and mother-in-law. Patience and experience are needed but are well worth the effort.

In my childhood, I remember going to Moscardino’s Meat Market on Salem Street. The butcher cut the beef for Bracciori for the customer as we watched. Today, supermarkets have taken the place of personal butcher shops in many cities. We depend on finding thinly cut beef steaks packaged and on display. Occasionally, I have purchased a bottom of the round roast and carefully sliced thin steaks myself to make my Bracciori.



1st Generation

Italian-American

Vita Orlando Sinopoli

Shares with us
a delightful recollection
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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LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
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Docket No. MI16P6568EA

Estate of
RICHARD N. SHEA
Date of Death April 2, 2013
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Sarah A. McPhillips of Framingham, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Sarah A. McPhillips of Framingham, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 24, 2017.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 27, 2016

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/6/17

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16P6553EA

Estate of
RITCHIE P. LOWRY
Date of Death September 20, 2016
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Robin E. Lowry of Fitzwilliam, NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Robin E. Lowry of Fitzwilliam, NH** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 24, 2017.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 27, 2016

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/6/17



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



December in Baseball History

Back on Christmas Day 1989, Yankees great Billy Martin, who managed the NY Yankees five different times after retiring as a Yankees infielder during the 1950s with the likes of Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford, died in a car crash in upstate New York at age 61.

The birth of free agency began on December 23, 1975, when Peter Seitz ruled for pitchers Andy Messersmith and Dave McNally, and ended baseball’s reserved clause system that bound players to one team and thus brought to life free agency.

Both Messersmith and McNally can thank Curt Flood. When Flood was traded by the Cardinals in the offseason of 1969, he wrote Commissioner Bowie Kuhn on December 24, 1969, saying, “I do not feel I am a piece of property to be bought and sold irrespective of

my wishes.” He went to the U.S. Supreme Court, lost and retired in 1970, but his was the first blow in favor of free agency.

Remember when Jim Lonborg, the team ace of the 1967 Impossible Dream Red Sox, went skiing at Lake Tahoe after losing Game 7 of the World Series and tore ligaments in his left knee? He was never the same again. In 1968, I think he went 11-11, returning to 1966 form when he went 10-10. He was sent packing to the Brewers after the 1971 season where he simply faded into history. The date of his skiing injury was December 23, 1967.

Happy Birthday
Christmas Happy Birthdays go out to Hideki Okajima (41) and Ricky Henderson (58).

Where Will Napoli Go in 2017?
Former Red Sox player Mike Napoli is now a free agent. The Rangers have always liked his

leadership skills as did the Indians and Sox before that. In 2016, Napoli had a killer year with 34 homers and 101 RBIs, but now he is looking again. The Orioles might be interested if they can’t keep Mike Trumbo.

Speaking of Mike Trumbo, he too is a free agent looking for a big raise after leading the AL with 47 homers and 108 RBIs. But the Orioles apparently haven’t offered him enough to keep his talents in Baltimore, which might be good news for Mike Napoli, eh?

Cubs Named AP’s Sports Story of 2016
Everything changed for the Chicago Cubs this past November when the lovable losers were no more. The Cubbies, who last won the World Series in 1908, beat the Indians in Game 7 and took home the World Series trophy. Even after they seemed down and out, they never gave up.

• Expansion of Tuition Free College (Continued from Page 1)

spring with the goal of helping more Boston students afford and complete college. In order

to assist students in completing college, the plan matches all enrolled students with Success Boston coaches who can help them navigate the challenges of higher education. In its first semester, the Tuition-Free Community College Plan has enrolled 41 students, a number that is expected to rise as the plan’s benefits become more widely known.

The Tuition-Free Community College Plan is funded by the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development (OWD), part of the Boston Planning & Development Agency, and the Neighborhood Jobs Trust, a public charitable trust fed by linkage fees generated by large-scale commercial building projects in the city.

“Providing opportunities for Boston’s residents to attend community college tuition-free is a direct benefit of Boston’s building boom and strong economy,” said Director of the Boston Planning and Development Agency Brian Golden. “We know that there are profound benefits — economic and otherwise — to the recipients of community college degrees throughout their lives. I am pleased we are able to use funds from the Neighborhood Jobs Trust to make positive investments that will have long lasting impacts in our community.”

To learn more about the Tuition-Free Community College Plan, or to apply, please visit: www.bostonpublicschools.org/tuition-free-college.

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY (Authority) is soliciting consulting services for MPA CONTRACT NO. A 382 – **ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES, ALL FACILITIES.** The Authority is seeking an energy consultant to support development of Authority-wide energy management services, including but not limited to; energy efficiency and renewable power through the use of third-party financing. The consultant/s shall demonstrate experience in several disciplines including but not limited to energy management services, energy efficiency and renewable power development, including but not limited to solar and wind.

The Authority expects to select a single consultant. However, the Authority reserves the right to select a different number if it is deemed in its best interest to do so. The consultant shall be issued a contract in an amount not to exceed **\$250,000**. The services shall be authorized on a work order basis.

A Supplemental Information Package will be available, on **January 11, 2017** on the Capital Bid Opportunities webpage of Authority http://www.Authority.com/doing-business/_layouts/CapitalPrograms/default.aspx as an attachment to the original Legal Notice, and on COMMBUYS (www.commbuys.com) in the listings for this project. If you have problems finding it, please contact Susan Brace at Capital Programs SBrace@Authority.com. The Supplemental Information Package will provide detailed information about Scope of Work, Selection Criteria and Submission Requirements.

In recognition of the unique nature of the project and the services required to support it, the Authority has scheduled a Consultant Briefing to be held on **January 19, 2017 at 1:00 PM** in the **Bid Room** at the Capital Programs Department, Suite 209S, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128. At this session, an overview of the project will be provided, the services requested by the Authority will be described, and questions will be answered.

By responding to this solicitation, consultants agree to accept the terms and conditions of Authority’s standard work order agreement, a copy of the Authority’s standard agreement can be found on the Authority’s web page at www.Authority.com. The Consultant shall specify in its cover letter that it has the ability to obtain requisite insurance coverage.

This submission, including the litigation and legal proceedings history in a separate sealed envelope as required shall be addressed to Houssam H. Sleiman, PE, CCM, Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs and received no later than **12:00 Noon on February 20, 2017** at the Massachusetts Port Authority, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, Suite 209S, Logan International Airport, East Boston, MA 02128-2909. Any submission which is not received in a timely manner shall be rejected by the Authority as non-responsive. Any information provided to the Authority in any Proposal or other written or oral communication between the Proposer and the Authority will not be, or deemed to have been, proprietary or confidential, although the Authority will use reasonable efforts not to disclose such information to persons who are not employees or consultants retained by the Authority except as may be required by M.G.L. c.66.

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Run date: 1/6/17

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16D2772DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
JESSICA SSENFUKA
vs.
DOUGLAS S. HARPER

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Jessica Ssenfuka, 562 Main Street, Apt. 1B, Waltham, MA 02452** your answer, if any, on or before **February 3, 2017**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 23, 2016

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/6/17

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16D3844DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
HUSSEIN A. ABDEL-BAKY
vs.
NELIDA PEREZ

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Francis X. Sacco, Esq., McManus & Sacco, P.O. Box 290572, Boston, MA 02129** your answer, if any, on or before **January 24, 2017**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 13, 2016

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/6/17

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16P5962EA

Estate of
MEREDITH FRANCES DUNN
Date of Death November 22, 2009
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **John P. Dunn of Monroe, LA**.
John P. Dunn of Monroe, LA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 1/6/17

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16P6559EA

Estate of
THOMAS W. LINEHAN
Date of Death November 23, 2016
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Mary-Beth Maes of Lynn, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Mary-Beth Maes of Lynn, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

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Boxing



Ringside

WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

Jack Sharkey vs. Joe Louis

The Gob Showed Brilliance in His One Sided Defeat

The works of great artists show us something new no matter how many times we view them. I have yet to walk away from viewing or reading a play by William Shakespeare without seeing something in it I had not seen before. That is sometimes true because of the way it is directed or performed, but I have the same experience when I read his works. Great art is always open to interpretation. It also affects different people differently, and can even have a different effect on the same person each time he views it.

Often times there are subtleties we miss during a previous experience. Many times I have noticed something in a movie I had missed before even if I have seen the film multiple times. I have watched *The Third Man* at least two dozen times and I still find new things in it.

Over the past few years, I have enjoyed revisiting fights from the past. I have found it interesting how many times I have been surprised at how different a fight was from my memory of it, either having seen it when it occurred or having watched it many years ago and seeing it again after all those years. The first Louis vs. Conn fight and the Ali vs. Foreman fight are two that I have written about that turned out to be very different from what my memory told me. In the case of the Louis Conn bout, there seems to be a collective memory that has grown into a legend about that match that is really quite different from what actually occurred that night.

There is something else I have learned from reviewing these fights from boxing's great past. It is possible to learn a lot from watching a great fighter at the end of his career, even in a one-sided defeat. I recently watched the Joe Louis vs Jack Sharkey bout and found it very interesting. The match lasted only seven minutes and was a one-sided win for the Brown Bomber, but Sharkey was very interesting to watch as he fought the last fight of his career.



Louis drops Sharkey.

The bout took place on August 18, 1936, at Yankee Stadium. Just two months, earlier Louis had suffered his first career loss, a knock-out at the hands of Max Schmeling. Close to 30,000 fans showed up to see if the loss had a lasting effect on Joe.

Jack Sharkey and his manager, Johnny Buckley, had talked their way into the fight with Louis, and even managed to get a guarantee of 25% of the gate. It looked like a good final payday for the ex-champ. Unless Louis had been completely demoralized by Schmeling, it didn't appear Sharkey would have any chance of beating him.

Sharkey had lost the title to Primo Carnera in 1933. After that, Jack had six fights leading up to the Louis fight. He only won two of them, with three losses and a draw. Given his record, it would appear he would be a perfect comeback opponent for Louis, and maybe that is why they were agreeable to giving him such a good payday. He still had the cache of being a former Heavyweight Champion of the World.

When the opening bell rang, it didn't take long to see that Joe was not at all gun shy. The loss to Schmeling had not hurt his confidence. If anything, it had

only made him more determined and focused.

Jack came out to meet Louis in the first round, only to run into a sharp young opponent. Max Baer once said, "Fear is looking across the ring at Joe Louis and knowing he wants to go home early." Well, Sharkey may not have felt that when he stepped into the ring, but he certainly knew that's what he was dealing with seconds into the bout.

Now here is where my comments about seeing things that have gone unnoticed in previous viewings comes into play. Jack Sharkey was definitely an artist in the ring. He was a master boxer whose biggest fault was his lack of consistency. Given that, he still possessed outstanding talent. At this point in his career, he was well over the hill. You can see that in his lack of leg movement. Jack had been light on his feet when younger, but now he looked to be stiff and tired. It is not good being in a race with a young athlete while having two flat tires.

Once the bout got underway, Jack had to know he had no chance of beating Louis. But Jack was also a champion and wasn't going to just quit. So what could he do? Well, this is where you get to see some amazing moves.

Jack reached down for every trick he knew. He used body feints, arm feints, he rolled with the punches, and he tied Louis up when he could. He attempted to counter Louis's jab, but no longer had the reflexes to be effective.

What you end up seeing when watching this fight is a once great boxer performing some amazing moves; only they are now being done in slow motion, which makes them easier to see. Nothing worked to save him from being stopped, but they did prevent Jack from suffering a much worse beating. The treat for students of boxing in watching this seven-minute fight is in studying how Sharkey attempts to survive the Louis onslaught. Yes, it is a one-sided fight, and Sharkey goes down four times. But in between you get to see a formerly great artist reaching to his palate in an attempt to paint one more masterpiece. He is not able to do it, but he still shows amazing skill. A lot can be learned from watching Jack Sharkey during his final few minutes in the ring.



Sharkey in defensive mode.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



HITTING THE BOOKS — There's a category for hits on all NHL stat sheets, but the meetings that occur as player's whiz up and down the ice are of short duration, some barely interrupting the flow of play.

But for at least one former NHL veteran, his hits are focused on the academic courses he must pass in order to keep his current job.

Last March, when the University of Wisconsin hired former U-W star player Tony Granato as the head coach of its storied men's hockey program, there was a stipulation written into the contract terms. Granato would have to complete the courses needed for his undergraduate degree in human development and family studies during the following academic year. His student/coach status has been featured in several publications.

It's not well-known by the general public, but the vast majority of colleges and universities require their full-time head coaches to be college graduates. The major doesn't matter. What matters is that the coach possesses an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher learning.

The mandate is consistent with the requirements for most professional positions in higher education across the country. And in sports, it can lead to some interesting scenarios to ponder.

For example, veteran Bruins head coach Claude Julien is a proven NHL mentor, respected far and wide throughout the league. But he couldn't serve as the head coach at just about all of the colleges or universities in the Boston area. Why? Because he is not a college graduate.

By contrast, Harvard head coach Ted Donato is in the opposite situation. Following the conclusion of his NHL career in 2004, the former Bruins stalwart easily transitioned into the collegiate coaching ranks just months later when he took over as the head coach of his alma mater. Why? First, because he is a college graduate, having played hockey at Harvard while remaining with the Crimson all four years. And, of course, being familiar with the history and culture of the program in Cambridge was also a big plus.

Which brings us back to Granato. A four-year performer for the Badgers, he chose to leave the Madison campus and pursue his dream of playing in the NHL before taking the final few courses that would have enabled him to earn an undergraduate degree back in the 1980s.

The decision didn't appear to derail his future. He was drafted and played for three NHL teams during a 13-year career. That was followed by another 13-year span in the NHL coaching ranks that began in 2002 and included serving as head coach of the Colorado Rockies, not once but twice. His most recent NHL position was serving as an assistant coach with the Detroit Red Wings.

But with the U-W program in free fall the last few sea-

sons, most seasoned observers in Wisconsin felt a coaching change would be made. When the phone rang in Detroit, Granato was available. But those final 15 academic credits needed to be completed.

There's a modern mantra in big-time college and professional athletics today: there are no days off, just days in which games are not played. Every day athletes are expected to hit the workout facility. For the coaches, the so-called college offseason brings a focus on recruiting, evaluating prospects by studying videos as well as preparing for the upcoming season.

As a new coach — and a rookie college coach (he had previously only coached in the pros) — Granato also had to put together a staff while restarting his academic life. One of those new assistants is his brother Don, who served five seasons as the head coach of the AHL's Worcester franchise in the early 2000s.

He took a couple of summer school classes. Then he finished two more in the fall semester and will take the final two in the upcoming spring term — all while immersed in guiding his team and himself through the rigors of his first collegiate coaching season.

In essence, Granato, a former finalist for the Hobey Baker Award, is doing again what he once did and what his current players do today: take classes in the morning or early afternoon and then head over to practice or take time to prepare for that night's game. The former two-time All-American is, at the age of 52, one of the few head coaches in America whose life on campus comes quite close to that of his players.

He undoubtedly has a renewed appreciation of the academic challenges his players face while also coping with team travel schedules for far-flung road games throughout the Midwest. There are books to read, papers to write, plus being present and prepared to participate in classroom discussions.

In some classes, it doesn't really matter all that much that Granato still holds the New York Rangers' team record for most goals by a rookie (36) and went to the 1993 Stanley Cup Final with the Los Angeles Kings.

Or that with all the talk about concussions these days, Granato can relate. He sustained a bad one in February, 1996, that led to brain surgery to stop bleeding inside his head. He's also been on the other side of the debate, hitting Chicago's Neil Wilkinson in the head back in 1994 by employing a two-handed swing of his stick, an infraction that earned him a 15-game suspension.

Off campus, of course, he leads a different life. Granato and his wife Linda have four grown children. And now it's time for Granato to grow the team at his alma mater. Wisconsin has been in a downward spiral, most recently turning in two consecutive losing seasons. Can Granato return the Badgers to greatness? Only time will tell.