# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 128 - NO. 46

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, NOVEMBER 17, 2023** 

\$.35 A COPY

# Have a Happy & Blessed Thanksgiving Day!

# News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

#### **MassGOP Starts Veterans Coalition**

The MassGOP has recently announced the formation of a Veterans Coalition in honor of Veterans Day to help this political party find qualified political candidates from the military population. According to GOP State Chair Amy Carnevale, the group will be led by two veterans tasked with addressing issues important to veterans and veterans' families. This coalition says Carnvale will be the party's bench from which to call up conservatives to seek public office as Republicans. According to the Executive Office of Veteran Services, Massachusetts is home to over 240,000 military veterans.

#### Elk Attack Fatal in Arizona

An Arizona lady has died more than a week after being trampled by an elk she was reportedly feeding, in what is believed to be the first deadly attack of its kind in the state. The victim, not identified, was found by her husband with critical injuries in their backyard in remote Pine Lake. The Arizona Game and Fish Department said "multiple elk tracks were found."

# Now You Gotta Ask at the Counter for TP

Amid rising thefts in Washington, DC, CVS has wiped its shelves clean of toilet paper and replaced it with framed photos of the products. Customers wishing to purchase bathroom tissue or paper towels must tap a buzzer to summon a store employee. The unusual display at the H Street NE store was started after the homeless began snatching products

(Continued on Page 10)

# North End's VFW Post 144 Veterans Day 2023

by Ralph Masciulli



Paying Tribute at the Afghanistan-Iraq Memorial — Joe Blazo, Paul Da Silva, Leo Eagan, Christian Kulikoski, Ralph Masciulli, Paul Spera, and Paul La Vecchia
(Photo by Gerri Palladino)

Veteran's Day is always a special day for those who served in the Armed Forces. Members of the North End's VFW Post 144 paid their respects to their fallen comrades. This day is always special because, it gives former North Enders an opportunity to revisit the place where it all

began and to yet pay tribute to fallen comrades. Post 144 never misses its obligation to rededicate the wall monument, to the right of the Paul Revere Statue in the Prado and the War Memorial at the entrance to the park of the Old North Church. Although Post 144 no longer

resides on Hanover Street across from the Modern Pastry shop where it began, it is well aware of its responsibility to the North End community. Post 144 is now a virtual Post that meets at least six times a year at various venues.

(Continued on Page 6)

# Christopher Columbus Park Trellis Lighting

**NOVEMBER 20TH** 

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park will host the 21st annual holiday lighting of the trellis at Christopher Columbus Park in the North End on Monday, November 20th, at 5:00 p.m.

Located at 110 Atlantic Avenue on Boston's historic waterfront, Christopher Columbus Park will be transformed into a beautiful holiday display when the park and its trellis are illuminated with 50,000 blue lights.

The celebration is sponsored by H.P. Hood LLC and the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park. Additional support is provided by PNC Bank and LEGO Discovery Center Boston with an exciting new feature, the LEGO Discovery Center Boston tent.

Entertainment will be provided by students and instructors from the North End Music and Performing Arts Center, vocalist Phadedra performing holiday classics, Northeastern University



a cappella group Pitch, Please!, and special guests Santa Claus and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Refreshments will include treats from Drake's Cakes, eggnog from H.P. Hood, clam chowder from Joe's Waterfront, water from Roche Bros., coffee from New England Coffee, and hot chocolate and cookies from the Boston Marriott Long Wharf. Visit boston.gov/lights-on-bos for more information about the season's festivities. To stay up to date with news and events in Boston parks, sign up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



#### CHOW DOWN IN OLD ROME, Part III



A Roman dining couch or kline, in metal and reconstructed wood, from a tomb

During the cena, when hunger's needs were satisfied, the diner usually turned on his left side and rested on his elbow with the aid of a cushion. The couch of honor was always opposite the empty side of the table. This place was usually reserved for the host or a very important guest. Other guests were assigned places in order of their importance, first on the left side and then on the right.

The "mensa" or serving table came in all varieties and shapes. The simplest had round tops and three legs. They were made of wood or white marble. Some were very costly and were regarded as heirlooms. Wood tops were cut to display a great variety of markings and curling veins. The feet were often made of ivory and were beautifully carved. Table tops were often overlaid with plates of gold, silver, or bronze, and some were inlaid with jewels. According to present day values, some of these tables could easily be valued at fifty to one hundred thousand dollars. No table

cloths were used, the mensa was either cleaned between courses or the entire table was carried away and a clean one substituted.

The first part of the meal was called "frigida mensa" (cold table). This part consisted mostly of shell fish, vegetables with savory sauces, olives, mushrooms, and eggs. The drink was a mixture of wine and honey called "mulsum." This was followed by the cena proper which contained at least three courses called the "prima, altera, and tertia cenas." Each course was brought in on a tray called the "repositorium" which was made of fine wood or of silver. The arrangement of the food on the trays was a work of art and was performed by a "structor."

Between each course the repositorium was carried away and the following course brought in. Meat was sometimes expertly sliced at the table by a "carptor" (carver) or a "scissor" (splitter). The kinds of foods served at luxurious dinner parties are too numerous to list, but it is said that they contained all of the products of land, sea, rivers, and air.

Consuming the enormous amounts of food that was served at these gastronomical orgies could never be accomplished without resorting to an often used but seldom talked about indoor sport called "forced vomiting." Rules for this famous Roman up-chuck were laid down by physicians. These rules contained specific instructions regarding ... how to ... and when to, but common courtesy dictated ... where to. For this purpose, the well-designed domus of the wealthy Roman contained a special room with special equipment.

After the cena proper was finished, the table was removed and offerings to the household gods were thrown into the hearth. When it was felt that the gods were satisfied, a short period of silence was observed. A saltcellar and some meat were placed before a shrine and then they went back to "mensa secundae" (dessert). This consisted of pastry, fresh and dried fruits, apples, grapes, and probably a double brioschi.

**NEXT WEEK:** 

Chow Down in Old Rome,

# "Blessed, not Lucky"

On August 29, 2023, I was in the passageway to Haymarket Station, when an invisible hazard sent me sprawling flat onto the pavement. Immobile but conscious, just beyond my reach I saw a piece of my prized antique African trade bead necklace on the ground.

Behind me and out of sight, I heard a woman calling 911, asking my age and if I wanted medical assistance. YES!, and there were other people around. I answered the questions for the EMTs, and we went to Mass General.

Nothing else was broken. All images were clear, with incidental findings being checked

In my bag the next day, I found 2 pieces of the broken bead. I will keep them as another reminder of how truly "blessed not lucky" I was in the whole ordeal.

A special thanks to you, anonymous neighbor.

> Sunny Davidson, North End Neighbor

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# Saint Margaret of Cortona

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



Margaret was born in 1247 on a farm in Laviano, a little town in the diocese of Chiusi. At the age of seven, Margaret's mother passed away and her father remarried. Neither Margaret nor her stepmother liked each other. As she grew older, Margaret became more willful and reckless, and her reputation in the town suffered. At the age of 17, she met a young man, according to some accounts, the son of Gugliemo di Pecora, lord of Valiano, and she ran away with him. Soon Margaret found herself installed in the castle, not as her master's wife, for convention would never allow that, but as his mistress, which was more easily accepted. She lived with him for ten years near Montepulciano and bore him a son.

When her lover failed to return home from a journey one day, Margaret became concerned. She searched for him and found his murdered body in the forest. The crime shocked Margaret into a life of prayer and penance. Margaret returned to his family all the gifts he had given her and left his home. With her child, she returned to her father's house, but her stepmother would not have her. Margaret and her son then went to the Franciscan friars at Cortona, where her son eventually became a friar. She fasted, avoided meat, and subsisted on bread and vegetables.

In 1277, after three years of probation, Margaret joined the Third Order of Saint Francis and chose to live in poverty. Following the example of Francis of Assisi, she begged for sustenance and bread. She pursued a life of prayer and penance at Cortona, and there established a hospital for the sick, homeless and impoverished. To enlist nurses for the hospital, she instituted a congregation of Tertiary Sisters, known as "le poverelle" "the little poor ones.'

While in prayer, Margaret recounted hearing the words, "What is your wish, poverella?" ("little poor one?"), and she replied, "I neither seek nor wish for anything but You, my Lord Jesus. She also established an order devoted to Our Lady of Mercy and the members bound themselves to support the hospital and to help the

She moved to the ruined church of Basil of Caesarea, now Santa Margherita, where she spent her remaining years. Margaret passed away on February 22, 1297. Margaret was Canonized on May 16, 1728. The Feast Day of Saint Margaret of Cortona is February 22nd.

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In Memory of

Judge Joseph V. Ferrino November 22, 2020

# **POST-GAZETTE**

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

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Friday, November 17, 2023

1971 to 1990

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Giuseppe "Joe" Leone October 5, 1946 - November 14, 2023

Giuseppe "Joe" Leone, 77 years of age, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023.

One of six children, Joe was born in Bracigliano, Italy on October 5th, 1946 to his late parents, Luigi and Viola Leone. As a teenager, Joe packed up his life and moved to Springfield, MA with only a few dollars in his pocket in pursuit of the "American Dream". He briefly returned to Italy to marry his wife Anna Maria, and they came back together, settled in East Boston, and welcomed three beautiful children. Soon after, he and his wife then moved to Revere and have been proud Revere residents for over 40 years.

A jack of all trades, Joe started working in construction (bricklaying and gunite pools) at a young age, proudly owned and operated an auto body business in East Boston for 25 years, and then worked at Mass General Hospital for 10 years before retiring. He was the family handyman, teaching his children and grandchildren how to build and fix things. Joe had an impeccable eye for detail and took great pride in all of the work that he did. His unmatched work ethic was met with his immense love for his family. Family meant everything to him, especially his grandchildren. Outside of work and family, Joe enjoyed taking care of his abundant gardens and spending time in his yard sipping espresso while playing card games with his family and friends.

Joe is survived by his loving wife, Anna Maria Leone, and his children: Emilio and wife Josephine Leone of Peabody, Joanna and husband Michael Hill of Revere, and John and wife Joy Leone of Revere. Cherished grandfather, "Papa", of Michael J. Hill, Joseph Leone, Nicholas Leone, Vanessa Leone, Gianni Hill, John E. Leone, Emilio J. Leone, Steven Leone, Andrew Leone, and Matthew Leone. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

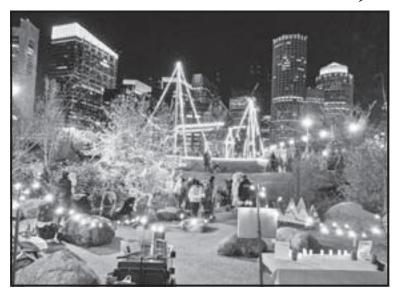
Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Visiting Hours on Friday, November 17th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at St. Anthony's Church, 250 Revere Street, Revere. A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Anthony's Church on Saturday, November 18th at 10:00 am. Internment will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery in

The opinions expressed by our columnists and contributors are not necessarily the same as those of The Post-Gazette, its publisher or editor. Photo submissions are accepted by the Post-Gazette provided they are clear, original photos. There is a \$5 charge for each photo submitted. Photos can be submitted via e-mail: postgazette@aol.com. If you want your photos returned, include a selfaddressed, stamped envelope.

#### CITY OF BOSTON TO HOST

# 3rd Annual Ship Lighting at Martin's Park

ON NOVEMBER 25TH



Boston's newest holiday tradition will be held on Saturday, November 25th, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Martin's Park at the Smith Family Waterfront. Located in the Seaport District and Fort Point neighborhoods, this third annual children's celebration is hosted by the Friends of Martin's Park and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

Located at 64 Sleeper Street and visible from the Northern Avenue Bridge, Martin's Park at the Smith Family Waterfront is a climate-resilient park built in memory of eight-year-old Martin W. Richard, the youngest victim of the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. The accessible park provides play opportunities for children, families, and visitors of all abilities.

The Park's wooden playship is the centerpiece of the space and will be transformed into a beautiful holiday display when the ship, surrounding beach fencing, and pedestrian bridge are illuminated with over 5,000 feet of white and blue LED lights.

Visitors are encouraged to head inside the park for the celebration, sponsored by the Friends of Martin's Park and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, with additional support from Nan Fung Life Sciences Real Estate, MacKay Construction, WS Development, Cambridge Trust, Barking Crab, and Lusterity Design + Events. Refreshments will include eggnog from H.P. Hood, hot cocoa from Tuscan Kitchen, and coffee from Caffe Nero Seaport.

Santa Claus and The Grinch will arrive by boat with the Boston Police Harbor Unit at the Harborwalk and enter the park to switch on the lights. Entertainment will be provided by the acapella group Ball In The House, performing a selection of holiday classics. Special guests include the Boston Red Sox official mascot Wally the Green Monster, and the Seaport's own Betty the Yeti. In addition, the Boston Park Rangers Mounted Unit horses will be on hand, along with a fire truck from the Boston Fire Department.

The City of Boston celebrates the lighting of Boston's official 2023 Christmas tree from Nova Scotia on Boston Common on Thursday, November 30th, at 6:00 p.m. This year's tree is a 40-year-old, 45-foot-tall white spruce donated by Bette Gourley of Stewiacke, N.S., and her family. The celebration will be immediately followed by the lighting of the trees on Commonwealth Avenue Mall at Arlington Street and Commonwealth Avenue at 8:15 p.m.

Visit boston.gov/lightingmartins-park or call 617-635-4505 for more information or visit Boston.gov/LightsOnBos for information on other holiday lighting events. To stay up to date with news, park improvements, and events, sign up at bit.ly/ Get-Parks-Emails and follow our social channels @bostonparks dept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

# A Spooktacular Halloween at the ABCD

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) held its Halloween party on Friday, October 27th. Special thanks go to the neighborhoods' elected officials, including Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, and City Councilor Gabriela Coletta for their variety of spooky and sugary treats. The seniors were delighted to visit with their elected officials and their staff, who made the rounds of all the tables.



Acting Director Julia Power with a senior



Serving meals to the many attendees



(L-R): City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, Karen D'Amico and Patrick Lyons Office of Aaron Michlewitz, Acting Director Julia Power and Fundraising Specialist Johannah Malone ABCD NE/WE NSC, and Ciara D'Amico Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

## L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Thankful Thanksgiving

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



As November curls its golden glow around us, my mind wanders to images of Thanksgiving, as vivid and fragrant as a perfectly seasoned stuffing. I think of pale sunlight painting patterns on the floor, shining through the last orange leaves which stubbornly cling to otherwise bare branches. Memories of relatives bustling through a crowded kitchen carrying plates of steaming food fill me with the warmth of a hug, especially when I smile as I remember the peals of laughter ringing throughout the house. The buzz of cheering crowds emanates from the sound of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on television, occasionally interrupted by commercials featuring jingle bells and Santa's robust ho-ho-ho. Most of all, however, I can taste the explosion of flavors in my mouth from our delectable Thanksgiving dishes: creamy sweet potato, tart cranberries, a velvety pumpkin cheesecake. Thanksgiving remains one of my favorite holidays because it celebrates the very essence of togetherness, reveling in the pleasures of the home and hearth. My family's Thanksgiving combines Italian and American customs, resulting in a feast that honors the universality of love and family.

Food has always been an

invaluable staple of Italian culture, and as such my family views Thanksgiving as the epitome of the primordial desire to share a meal. Every item on the menu is prepared with an abundant amount of thought and care - yes, even my vegetarian Tofurkey, replete with its own gravy and wild rice stuffing. I always eagerly await my mother's sweet potato casserole, warm with autumnal spices and topped with a crunchy streusel of brown sugar and pecans. I contribute my fresh New England-style salad made with crisp apples, blue cheese and cranberries, as well as a pumpkin cheesecake with a seasonally appropriate gingersnap crust. My father-inlaw provides a pecan pie with a silky chocolate bottom, while my grandmother would make heaping bowls of spaghetti homemade on an ancient handcranked utensil caked with flour. No matter the food on the table, however, whether Italian or American, what proves most important is that we honor the bountiful harvest of the Earth. Thanksgiving occurs at the point of the year after the gathering of the harvest and withering away of vegetation; as such, it beckons us to enjoy the cozy warmth of family and friends, forming a barrier against the encroaching dark,

cold winter. This symbolic connotation compels me to believe that Thanksgiving should never be celebrated alone but rather with others in a celebratory atmosphere, sharing in communal feasting and unending love of family. The more the merrier on this most ritual of holidays!

Indeed, communal food-based festivals similar to Thanksgiving dot the Italian calendar during the autumn and winter. The most famous of these, St. Martin's Day, occurred this past week on November 11th, when Italian villages gathered for banquets featuring chestnuts, goose, and the year's new wine. Now that the Christmas season quickly approaches, Italians are busy in the kitchens or markets preparing delectable meals for the holiday gatherings and various saints' days that pepper the months of November and December. These ritualistic celebrations and meals tap into the powerful desire not only to share strength and sustenance with the community, but also to maintain an irrevocable connection to the traditions of the past. According to Italian-American author Helen Barolini in her book Festa, the most significant part of sharing food is the ritual behind it, the repeated customs and motifs that link it to larger, universal themes. Whenever I gather for a Thanksgiving feast, I sense a special kinship with my Italian ancestors of yore, who also congregated around a family table on cool, blustery days to pay homage to the last bounty the Earth bestowed on them before settling for its long winter repose. A tradition does not have to be intricate and fancy to remind us of our subconscious desires for love, gratitude and hope. For example, my husband and I sometimes go out for sushi the day after Thanksgiving, a way of eating a light meal to counterbalance the excesses of the day before and to eschew the rampant commercialism of Black Friday. Honoring our traditions, no matter how small, simultaneously joins us to our past while imbuing our present with renewed meaning.

There are many ways we can commemorate the importance of feasting and tradition this Thanksgiving — ways that last beyond the date of the holiday on November 23rd. We should donate food to local charities and food banks, giving families in need the chance to partake in this festival of gratitude, togetherness, and love. We should relish the time we spend in the company of family and friends, ensuring that we fill the air with laughter and constantly remind each other of our mutual love. And finally, we should all share food together, reveling in that highly symbolic act of community and familiarity, an act which formed the backbone of our ancestors' lives and drives us forward with hope for the future.

#### Happy Thanksgiving!

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



#### Don't Give Up Your Liberties,

Government Works for Us Not the Other Way Around

Generational tobacco bans like the one proposed by Brookline town officials basically shun civil liberties. While I have never smoked any tobacco products in my life and have urged folks to kick the habit of smoking cigarettes, I am very concerned about using the pretext of youth smoking prevention to ban the sale of a legal product to those who have reached the statewide legal age to purchase such products.

In Brookline, a new bylaw has been enacted that bars the sale of such products to folks born on or after January 1, 2000. The anti-smoking fanatics believe creating a generation ban will keep our young folk from smoking ever again. Town fathers or maybe town mothers might think they can legislate the sale of items they oppose will curb smoking habits of those living in Brookline, when townsfolk are still free to travel, say to Mission Hill or Allston-Brighton to buy such products.

We still have something called the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights protecting us from overbearing governmental rules or edicts. Brookline's use of generational bans clearly violates the 14th amendment's equal justice under the law. If someone is old enough to purchase a product, no municipality has a right to bar them from purchasing it anywhere they wish.

However, it would appear that zealots really do believe they know better than we do. They want to "help" us even if we don't want to be helped. Any public health policy that violates our civil liberties would be a policy I would oppose.

There is ongoing litigation going before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. I believe these bans by Brookline, and other municipalities will be shut down by the courts. We can't be treating citizens of Massachusetts as if they were all a bunch of 12 year olds. Brookline is part of Massachusetts and we can't have different or conflicting laws based on what town you are residing in. If something is legal to purchase at a certain age in this state, it is legal to purchase across the entire

Stop treating adult citizens as if they're all just a bunch of kids needing to be saved from themselves. It would appear those in Brookline behind this ban actually think they were elected to save us from ourselves because they think they can.



In Loving Memory of
Pasquale "Pat" Barrasso
in Heaven
on Your Birthday
November 18th
from Your
Loving Family

# In Memory of



Judge Joseph V. Ferrino November 22, 2020

# **leri e Oggi**

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

#### Music of the Season

Saint Leonard Parish will host three concerts this coming December. On Saturday, December 3rd at 5:00 p.m., the **Boston Conservatory at Berklee** Christmas Concert sponsored by the Consulate General of Italy in collaboration with Comites Boston (representing Italian citizens residing abroad) will take place at Saint Leonard Church.

The Concert will showcase first year students of the Conservatory

singing Italian arias and songs of the Christmas season. Refreshments will be served at Saint Joseph Hall. No admission fee

On Saturday, December 9th at 4:00 p.m., the Saint Leonard Choral Society and Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Dan



Drzymalski will present their annual Christmas Concert. "Concerto di Natale." The concert will be held at Sacred Heart Church, North Square in the lower chapel, the upper church where the concert was traditionally held is currently under renovation. After the concert, refreshments will be served at Saint John School Hall just across the street from Sacred Heart Church. Tickets \$15.00 on line, \$20.00 at door.

On Sunday, December 10th at 4:00 p.m., as part of their concert tour "What Sweeter Music," the acclaimed 24-voice Polyphony Choir of Magdalen College will present at Saint Leonard Church a concert of sacred music for Advent and Christmas. No admission fee.

# **2023 Annual Medicare Open Enrollment Deadline December 7th**

Reminder - the deadline to enroll in Medicare to receive coverage for 2024 is less than a few weels away! Open Enrollment is a period of time where residents can join or renew their enrollment in Medicare.

Join us at one of the following locations to get assistance from a trained counselor to find the best coverage for you. To schedule an appointment for these events or to make a counseling appointment for another time, please call us at 617-635-4366.

Monday, November 20th, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Veronica B. Smith Senior Center

20 Chestnut Hill Ave Brighton

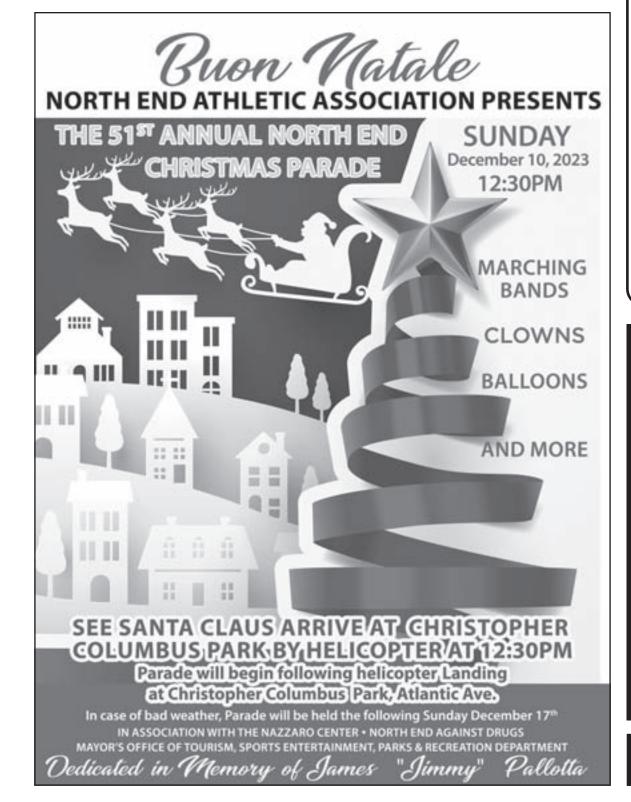
Wednesday, November 29th, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Grove Hall Branch Library 41 Geneva Ave.

Dorchester

Wednesday, December 6th, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. South Boston Neighborhood House 136 H St., South Boston

Be sure to bring a list of prescriptions, your Medicare/other insurance cards, and your medicare. gov username and password if they are already set up



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#### • North End VFW Post 144 Veterans Day (Continued from Page 1)



Forever Remembered



Ralph Masciulli - A Military Salute





Paul Spera placing the flag at the Afghanistan-Iraq Memorial



Joe Blazo, Commander



Paul Spera and Leo Eagan - A Military Salute



Paul DaSilva



Leo Eagan, Ralph Masciulli, Paul Spera, Joe Blazo, front Paul DaSilva, and Paul Lavecchia
(Photos by Gerri Palladino)

# Veterans Tribute to Stephen Steriti

from Domemic Piso Friends of the North End Member

Hello All,

I cannot believe 1966 was so long ago but every Veterans Day, the memories of serving become very haunting because multiple friends "gave all" in the Vietnam War that year.

While I was in basic training, my longest, closest, and dearest North End childhood friend was among those who made the supreme sacrifice. As many of you may know, Stephen Steriti, U.S. Army, bravely and heroically was Killed in Action (KIA) during a firefight in Vietnam in 1966. I believe his actions warranted the Medal of Honor, the highest of all military awards. The following is a verbatim posthumous Silver Star Award Citation, which ranks as one of our nation's highest military honors for his heroic action, reads:

"On May 8, 1966 while serving as point man during a search and destroy mission along a narrow jungle trail near the Cambodian border in the Republic of Vietnam with keen alertness, Private First Class Steriti detected a Viet Cong ambush consisting of at least two machine guns and several other positions. Private First Class Steriti aggressively assaulted the first Viet Cong machine gun, firing from his hip, killing one insurgent and forcing the others to flee. While charging the second machine gun position, Stephen was critically wounded. Although, bleeding profusely, Private First Class Steriti crawled toward the insurgent position firing his weapon until he died. His valiant actions disrupted the Viet Cong ambush and prevented numerous casualties." The citation concludes by stating, "Private First Class Steriti's devotion to duty and extraordinary heroism against a numerically superior hostile force were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army." By the direction of President Lyndon B. Johnson, Private First Class Stephen Steriti was awarded the Silver Star on June 21, 1966, one of our nation's highest military honors for his heroic actions that day.

Thank you Stephen, your family, and friends have never forgotten you and your ultimate sacrifice of "giving all."

Domenic Piso USAF-1966-1971

# Approaching its 30th Anniversary

# **Boston Bel Canto Opera**

Makes it Mark as Founder Moves Forward

by Frank Conte

In 1993, Bradley Pennington, already an accomplished musician and teacher, formed the Boston Bel Canto Opera making it a much-welcomed addition to Greater Boston's cultural arts community. Its aim — then and now — is to bring the absolute finest in operatic performances to its audiences. Most of the performances over recent years have taken place at the Dante Alighieri Cultural Center, often with the support of Italian American organizations such as the Pirandello Lyceum. Pennington was lauded in 2018 by Pirandello as one of "I Migliori in Mens et Gesta, is from the Latin meaning, "The Best in Thought and Actions" that promote Italian culture.

As its founder and artistic director, Pennington has assembled numerous soloists who work under his direction. Since that time Pennington's passion is not only providing musical accompaniment on piano but also organizing the multi-faceted tasks that comprise a performance — from choosing the repertoire to be sung to overseeing the printing of concert programs. As with most cultural institutions, BBCO depends of the support of donors who have built a legacy of excellence

BBCO will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a concert of arias and ensembles on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. at the Dante Alighieri Cultural Center. Among the selections are works by Rossini, Puccini, Verdi, and Donizetti and others.

The following interview took place online. It has been edited for brevity and clarity.

#### As a musician, did you start out with opera or with some other genre? What drove you to this musical form?

I began piano lessons at age 12 in the seventh grade and was told by my teacher that I had a major talent. My progress was such that I usually won first prize in local piano competitions. I did not "discover" opera until I went to the Indiana University School of Music to acquire the Master of Music degree in solo piano. There, I played accompaniments for the voice majors, thereby learning

much of the standard operatic repertoire. I was simply enraptured by the sound of it!

# Who were your major influences?

At Indiana, I was influenced and inspired by two voice faculty members, soprano M argaret Harshaw and mezzo-soprano Martha Lipton. Both ladies had

been major artists at the old Metropolitan Opera house in the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's

My other major influence, this in piano instruction, was Menahem Pressler, the celebrated pianist who had founded the Beaux Arts Trio at the university which was located in Bloomington. He gave me the technical foundation to play piano in the grandest, most correct manner.

My most important mentor in classical vocal music, and particularly in opera, was Madame Iride Pilla. She had been a successful operatic soprano, both in Europe and in the United States and was the senior member of the Boston Conservatory voice faculty.

I made her acquaintance in 1976 while I was a doctoral degree piano candidate at Boston University. She was impressed by my knowledge of opera, and engaged me to play for her voice students. Within a few short weeks, she had the president of the conservatory hire me for the school faculty as a vocal coach and accompanist, a position which I held for 20 years, 1976-1996. She also had the administration appoint me as teacher of opera history for graduate voice majors in master's degree programs.

How did Boston Bel Canto get off the ground? And why did you give it the name Bel Canto, which is a particular style of opera growing out of the genre?

In 1993, I had been living and teaching in Boston for almost 2



Soloist Paul Soper performing in October 2023 at the Dante Alighieri. He will also be a featured soloist at Bel Canto's 30th anniversary concert

decades. My private voice studio had so many wonderful singers that I contrived the intention to found my own opera company in the city to give these vocalists public performing opportunities. I decided to name the business "Boston Bel Canto Opera" because I had a special affinity for the operatic music of the early nineteenth century, especially the works of Italian composers. I had previously done extensive research into the repertoire of this period while I was a graduate student.

Obviously, opera is an Italian invention and your choices of selections for the Nov. 19 represent among the greatest Italian works. What is it that sets apart Italian opera to this day? Moreover, how much of those classics are open to interpretation?

Italian operatic music in the Bel Canto era is known for endless melodies of beauty and expression. It is also characterized by ornamental "additions" to the vocal line which are chosen by the singer to enhance the composer's original thoughts. No other style of operatic composition permits this option.

Over the years, you have been featured at many events sponsored by Italian American organizations such as the Pirandello Lyceum often at the Dante Alighieri in Cambridge. How did that relationship begin and how critical was it to your success?

The Pirandello concerts began in January 1998 at Harvard Club of Boston, in the Back

Bay. The (then) president of the Lyceum, Dr. Stephen Maio, was acquainted with me from my faculty status at Wakefield High School, where I taught voice and piano lessons from 1993 to 2007; he was the school's former superintendent. Having heard my excellent voice students in performance,

he initiated the request that resulted in my company's singers giving opera concerts under the aegis of the Lyceum. Since then, the Boston Bel Canto's reputation has blossomed to glowing proportions.

There are so many selections you could have chosen to celebrate your 30th anniversary. Does the selection for the 19th have any significance?

Some of the operatic selections for the November 19th concert harken back to some of the complete Italian operas which BBCO gave at Jordan Hall, this from 1994 to 2004.

There are so many great composers, which one did you never tire of playing?

The best answer is probably Verdi, although Bellini and Donizetti are runners up!

What sets Verdi apart from the others?

Verdi's works combine the ethics of the Bel Canto composers with modernistic trends, offering something aurally satisfying for almost everyone.

Six soloists will be performing on the 30th anniversary concert. How long have you worked with them and are there any new performers we should watch?

I have worked with Joanna Porackova for 37 years; Joseph Holmes – 30 years; Giovanni Formisano – 8 years; Paul Soper – 3 years; Letitia Stevens – 3 years. The one to watch from now on is the debutant Adrianna Repetto, who I have been working with for the past 6 months. She is the principal soprano soloist at the historic Old South Church in Boston.

What is the most difficult piece for your singers to perform?

The most difficult pieces for any voice category would be those which have either very high notes and/or fast coloratura. Considering the standard opera fare, those works would have been composed in the early to middle 19th century, both those written in Italian and in French.

# Can opera be more accessible to young listeners? What needs to be done?

Young attendees at operatic events would likely increase in number if the program repertoire for a specific date included pieces in English as well as the usual foreign languages. My only other suggestion that could be a possible incentive for younger people would be to organize concert programs which offered a repertoire mixture of both opera, operetta, and famous musical theatre pieces. Classically-trained singers in my organization could easily interpret American musical theatre numbers as well as those in foreign languages.

Has Bel Canto ever performed the works of more modern, 20th century composers? BBCO has offered music from the works pf Puccini, but only one complete opera, Suor Angelica (1918). Additionally, my singers have performed music from Manon Lescaut (1893), La Boheme (1896), Tosca (1900), Madama Butterfly (1904), La Fanciulla del West (1910), and Turandot (1924). Only Giancarlo Menotti's Amahl and the Night Visitors (1951) has been done by BBCO, the whole opera in 4 different productions.

# You have accomplished much over this period. What is next for Boston Bel Canto Opera?

To advance BBCO's reputation might require a liaison with some of the venerable oratorio societies in Boston, thereby sharing soloists in sacred works which demand extreme technical capability. Insofar as considering doing complete operas in concert, the current formidable expense of production would necessarily require substantial financial underwriting by local philanthropic organizations.

Tickets for the November 19th performance at available at the door. Admission is \$26.00; \$23.00 for seniors (62 and older) and students with proper ID. (Cash and personal checks only.)

Frank Conte is the editor and publisher of EastBoston.com. He can be reached at editor@eastboston.com.



Bradley Pennington and his soloists from a 2019 performance at the Dante Alighieri





# TENORS' AMAZING BOSTON CONCERT



The Tenors (formerly known as The Canadian Tenors) recently began their current Now and Forever tour, which made a stop at the Wilbur Theater in Boston. The talented vocal trio comprised of Canadians Victor Micallef, Clifton Murray, and Fraser Walters, was expanded to four, with the departure of Walters (July 2022), and adding Italy's Alberto Urso, the winner of Italy's most prestigious TV competition "AMICI," and Canada's Mark Masri, a Grammy and Juno award nominee, to their international lineup.

Brought to The Wilbur by The Tenors was their collection of covers that included music from many different genres. Included in their set list were covers of the Four Seasons hits, "Oh What A Night" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You." The Italian flavor was served up by Alberto Urso, a native Sicilian, who added the perfect touch on songs as, "O Sole Mio," "Quando Quando Quando," and "Volare." Additional Tenor gems included a moving rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah," which has become one of their trademark songs, along with the spiritual "The Prayer," written in part by David Foster. Sprinkled in were flashbacks in time covers as Rosemary Clooney's 1954 chart-topper "Mambo Italiano." the Spanish-flavored "Bésame Mucho," B.J. Thomas'1968 pop hit, "Hooked On A Feeling," Rod Stewart's 1988 hit "Forever Young," along with a solid job on Elvis Presley's 1961 hit "Can't Help Falling In Love." Their performance of Joe Cocker's 1974 winner "You Are So Beautiful" was enhanced when the group ventured into the audience to bring an audience member to the stage and sing the song directly to her. One of the many highlights was Clifton Murray's story about his father's dedication to work on their farm in British Columbia, followed by a rousing rendition of Frank Sinatra's "My Way." Tenors' member Micallef took a minute to admit he was not a fan of the Boston Bruins — drawing a barrage of boos from the audience explaining that being Canadian, he took umbrage to Boston constantly coming out ahead of his Toronto Maple Leafs. He did later admit he honestly did admire the Bruins and their success over the years.

As the evening wound down, the group performed a majestic delivery of Giacomo Puccini's 1924 composition "Nessum Dorma" from his Aria 'Turandot.' The latter song was Puccini's final opera as he died of throat cancer before finishing the piece, which was then completed by composer Franco Alfano in 1926, and became a trademark song and achieving pop status, when Luciano Pavarotti's version was used as the theme song of BBC television's coverage of the 1990 FIFA World Cup in Italy. The group's encore finale featured a fiery cover of the Freddie Mercury/ Queen's classic "Bohemian Rhapsody," and featured an outstanding guitar solo by The Tenors' band member. This exciting concert could easily be re-labeled as "A Potpourri of Pleasure!"

#### RACHEL ECKROTH -HUMANOID (Vinyl) Sam First Records

Pianist Rachel Eckroth's newest offering is her first all-acoustic album, titled Humanoid, and features bassist Billy Mohler, drummer Tina Raymond, and guitarist Andrew Renfroe, The live album has the quartet recorded at the Sam First Jazz Club in Los Angeles. The title track, "Humanoid" was written specifically for this album, and reflects Eckroth's desire to slow down and streamline her music on four lengthy tracks. Take the time to enjoy the cinematic, mysterious, and whimsical title track opening the album: the intimacy of

the club, the attentiveness of the audience, and the openness and synergy of the band. An original composition, "Humanoid" also highlights Eckroth's strong chemistry with Renfroe, illustrating her experience — matching up on different tones and places and spaces. Eckroth's composition, the propulsive "Mind" further reveals her compositional strengths. The longest track (9:30) is Duke Ellington's "Fleurette Africaine," and begins with a two-minute intro. Bassist Mohler's explosive "Evolution" displays an attractive interaction with Eckroth and drummer Raymond that includes an exciting drum 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

#### EAST BOSTON COFFEE HOURS

The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services liaisons hosts weekly Coffee Hours located in each neighborhood. This is an opportunity to connect with your neighborhood liaison to receive support connecting with city departments, addressing any concerns, or just to say hello. East Boston Coffee Hours are hosted on Fridays from 3:30-4:30 p.m., by Eastie's liaison Manuela Villa Gomez. Next coffee dates are November 17th and 24th, at Bono Boston Restaurant and Catering at 271 Meridian Street. For more information, call 617-635-3485.

## CONGRATS TO MAX TASSINARI

Over in Winthrop, Max Tassinari defeated Todd Sacco for an open councilor-at-large seat. Tassinari garnered 2,652 votes to 1,368 for Sacco. Not a bad showing for a first-time candidate.

## CHELSEA POLITICS GETTING INTERESTING



Stephen Scapicchio of East Boston (Center) with Tanairi (Left) and her sister Kelly Garcia (Right) as he congratulates them on their election night victories.

#### (Photo by Sal Giarratani)

The recent Chelsea election had a dismal turnout of about 12 percent. Two of the biggest winners when the votes were counted election night turned out to sisters, Kelly and Tanairi Garcia. Tanairi was re-elected in her district race defeating her opponent Marnie MacAlpine 131-65. Kelly, the School Committee chair, topped the ballot for City Council at-Large with 749 votes, followed by Leo Robinson with 706, Jimenez Rivera with 606, Olivia Anne Walsh and Yanmir Rodriguez finished out of the running.

## OFFICIALS LOOK TO COVER UP HISTORIC SIGNS

With all the issues tearing us apart from each other today locally and nationally, it now appears town officials in Concord are looking to cover up signs that have stood in their town for over 90 years because they say the plaques have lost appeal and are offensive to indigenous people. Three plaques were given to Concord as part of the 300th anniversary of the Mass Bay Colony's founding.

The Town Select Board has now decided to cover them up to create what they say would be a more respectful community for all. These plaques, as well as the many others across our state conveyed what life was like 400 years ago when the town was settled, but now officials say the markers no longer convey the true history of the people of Concord. Some Concord residents think these

# THE EAST BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMEMORATES VETERANS DAY



The East Boston Chamber of Commerce placed a display of American flags to commemorate Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at the Daniel H. Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464 Bremen Street.

Veterans Day celebrates the bravery and sacrifice of all United States veterans. It was originally known as "Armistice Day," which began on the one-year anniversary of when the agreement to cease fire was made to end World War I.

plaques are "slurs" and do "ongoing harm to people visiting our community."

Anyone have an opinion of covering up all these plaques? I think it is all part of the culture that wishes to remove these plaques from sight. Is that a good or bad idea? Let me know at sal.giarratabni@gmail.com.

# THAT LAST PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE WAS HORRIBLE

Recently I watched that last GOP presidential debate and it was godawful. If I had anything else to watch that night, I would have been watching it. Taking a nap might have been my best choice. Except for Nikki Halley or Ron DeSantis, none of the others needed to be on stage. They're not going anywhere but home. I like Tim Scott but he was useless as a candidate. Thankfully, he dropped out the other day. Now Christie and

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The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
Middlesex Probate and Family Court

10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI21P6312EA Estate of

JOHN WRIGHT WOOD, JR.
Date of Death: September 21, 2021
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Dermot J. Nugent** of **Hingham, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Dermot J. Nugent** of **Hingham, 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 anv can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 11/17/2023

Ramaswamy need to go too. I am starting to sour on DeSantis, and Halley sounds like a neocon warhawk as Vivek said she was.

I think Trump has the nomination locked up unless something happens to change things, it is Round Two of Biden versus TRUMP. I am still looking at RFK Jr., as a third party and maybe even Joe Manchin. Manchin hurts Trump and Kennedy hurts Biden, which is why the Democrats are working overtime to DESTROY Kennedy from being ballot status..

# THE PRICE OF GAS ALL OVER THE PLACE

Anyone living in or around East Boston knows that pump prices for gasoline in this community are all over the place and somewhat high at \$3.79 or #3.99 per gallon. With a high of \$4.19 per gallon down by the courthouse.

If you travel over to Quincy as I do, the prices are much better at \$3.39 or \$3.43 per gallon, and if you travel over to JP, Roslindale, or West Roxbury, the prices are even better at \$3.29 to \$3.37. Inquiring minds want to know, what gives with these discrepancies in posted prices?

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 02, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

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> Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 11/17, 11/24, 12/01/2023



by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



When I was a youngster, I attended the Chapman School on Eutaw Street in East Boston. At about this time of the year, the teachers of this elementary school began to prepare their students for the upcoming holiday, Thanksgiving.

Preparation meant telling us the story of the Pilgrims and their 1620 arrival at Plymouth.

Their stories would describe the sacrifices they made just to survive. One of the last of the lessons would include the thank you celebration at the end of November the following year, the first Thanksgiving. After the question and answer session that followed, we were taught to sing a Thanksgiving song which included the line, "Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's house we go."

Coming from East Boston and an Italian family, there was no way we kids could identify with the song. Nanna and Babbononno originally lived next door. Later they moved just a few blocks away to a flat in a similar three-decker. This never seemed like, "Over the river and through the woods," to me, and the title for our maternal grandmother was Nanna, Nonna, or Mammanonna, not grandmother. Our teachers were American and thought we kids could identify with what they were telling us, but we couldn't.

At about this time of the month, Nanna and my mother would begin to plan the Thanksgiving dinner. First, they had to know who was coming. The immediate family consisted of Mom, Dad, and me on one side, Uncle Nick and Aunt Ada on another, then there was Uncle Paul, Aunt Eleanor and their two daughters, Paula and Ellie. Uncle Gino and Aunt Ninna had a set of twins still in diapers, but they would be at Nanna's dinner table also. The extended family consisted of just Nanna's side. All of her brothers and sisters immigrated to America with the exception of her oldest sister. In retirement, her parents, my maternal great-grandparents would come here to live with Nanna and Babbononno. No one from Babbononno's family ever came to America, but he was accepted as part of Nanna's family. Before plans could be made as to how much food would be needed, Nanna and Mom would have to find out if any paesani would be coming for dinner. Paesani usually consisted of single friends of my grandparents who had no family in this country. Just a side note: My great-grandparents came here to stay permanently. If

I'm not mistaken, that makes my grandkids members of the 6<sup>th</sup> generation in the family. I wonder if this fact makes them Yankees???

Years earlier, when my mother and uncles were kids, they explained the Thanksgiving holiday to their parents, and Nanna and Babbononno accepted the celebration of it as the American way and it became part of the celebration ritual that happen on Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter, the 4th of July and Labor Day. You might ask, "What about New Year's Eve?" My family consisted of musicians. They didn't celebrate on New Year's Eve, they worked, and so did I, from 1958 until

With Thanksgiving just a week away, the menu would be put together with the quantity of food being determined by the total number of people who would be in attendance. But, you have to remember, Nanna was Italian. If there were 14 people at the table, she would cook for about 25, just in case. I guess she factored in the leftovers that each person would take home for the next day's lunch or dinner.

The essence of the Thanksgiving dinner table is the turkey, the fowl introduced to the Pilgrims by the natives who joined them on that first communal dinner in 1621. Like the Pilgrims, Nanna planned to roast a large turkey. Mom would figure out how large the bird should be, depending on that number of people I mentioned before. There was one problem, although you might not call it a problem. Even though Thanksgiving was an American holiday, we were Italian. The American menu might consist of vegetable soup, followed by a garden salad, and then the turkey with a bread stuffing. The bird would be surrounded by steamed vegetables and baked or sweet potatoes. The tail end of the meal would include the desserts: apple pie, mincemeat pie, Indian pudding or Boston cream pie. The beverages would include beer, apple cider, and soda for the kids, and with the desserts, coffee, and tea. The Italian menu was a bit different: escarole soup with pastina and tiny meat balls, followed by ravioli, meat balls, hot and sweet sausages, gravy meats of all kinds, stuffed artichokes, an assortment of vegetables all cooked in garlic and olive oil, stuffed mushrooms, and at the tail end, a garden salad with oil and lemon or oil and vinegar dressing. After all of these courses, fruits, nuts, and

chestnuts would be brought out accompanied by the table wine from dinner and assortments of after dinner wines and liquors. Later in the evening, Italian and American coffee would be served with several types of Italian pastries, cookies and imported candy. I mentioned that the essence of the Thanksgiving dinner table was the turkey. Nanna's could have been made out of plaster or plastic, as no one would have eaten it. It was just decorative. The stuffing might have been sampled when the sautéed or stuffed mushrooms were brought out, but the bird would remain untouched.

That's the way it was. Today, the family is mixed with other nationalities and it's a generation or two later. The turkey in the center of the Thanksgiving table will be consumed by one and all. With three grandchildren in the family, all the grandparents will participate in holiday celebrations. On my oldest son's side, they are American. On my youngest son's side, they are Korean ... so food offerings should be interesting.

For years, I combined my family with that of my cousin, Ralph Pepe. When all of the kids were single this was fun. For Ralph and me, it approximated the extended family we remembered as kids growing up in East Boston. His kids are married with children of their own. With his kids' in laws thrown into the mix, and my sons now having families of their own, it made it impractical to continue the extended family set up, just too many people ... and we are a lot older to boot.

Probably the only holiday dinner I don't compromise on is the seven fishes at my house on Christmas Eve, but we can talk about that next month.

In the mean time I would like to answer a couple of questions readers have asked. 1. Yes, the actor, Michael Christoforo is my son. You can Google his name to find out what films and TV work he has done or is working on. 2. He can be looked up as a health and wellness trainer who specializes in ice water therapy and meditation. In the meantime, again, **HAPPY THANKSGIVING from all the Christoforos**.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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Run date: 11/17/2023



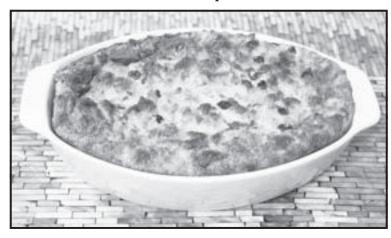
by Marianna Bisignano



Budino di Pane, or Italian Bread Pudding, evokes the charm of Italy's bygone bread and milk breakfasts. Created by soaking stale bread in a mixture of milk, eggs, sugar, and flavorings such as vanilla, citrus, or almond. This dessert bakes into a creamy, custard-like masterpiece. Rooted in Italy's rich tradition of repurposing leftover bread, Budino di Pane pays homage to classics like "latte e pane," a cherished breakfast of dipping stale bread into warm milk.

This dish holds a special place in my own memories, as my Sicilian grandfather enjoyed a similar breakfast with the addition of espresso and sugar to the milk. Using leftover Italian bread, sweet bread, or even Panettone, Budino di Pane became a staple in my Nonna's home, enjoyed on weekends or holidays for breakfast or dessert. This recipe, a cherished heirloom, embodies simplicity and tradition, showcasing the Italian abilities for turning humble ingredients into a comforting and nostalgic taste that transcends generations.

#### NONNA'S ITALIAN BREAD PUDDING Budino di pane



1-day old loaf of Italian or Challah bread, cut into cubes

6 large eggs

4 cups whole milk

1 cup granulated sugar

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1 teaspoon cinnamon <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon nutmeg

1/4 cup raisins or dried sweetened cranberries, soaked in amaretto, rum, or brandy to soften (optional)

Generously butter a casserole baking dish, set aside. In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs with the milk, sugar, and spices. Add the bread cubes and raisins or cranberries (if desired) and toss to coat well. Pour mixture into prepared casserole dish and refrigerate for 20 minutes. In a preheated 350° oven, bake for 45 to 50 minutes. Do not overbake or it will become dry. Serve warm or cold, for breakfast or dessert!

Marianna Bisignano is a psychologist for the Boston Public Schools and can be reached at nonnasrecipebox@gmail.com

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# THOUGHTS BY DAN **ABOUT THIS & THAT**

with Daniel A. DiCenso

#### A Visit to Iceland Part II:

The Golden Circle



Kerid

A drive around Iceland's Golden Circle brings a traveler to three of the world's most beautiful natural sights. But getting to it and through it is why visitors must rent a car in Iceland if they plan to travel outside of Revkiavik. Driving in Iceland. especially outside of towns can be intimidating as the further out of civilization one goes the rougher the roads become. The weather can often be brutal and punishing and the cost of gas is nothing to laugh at. For instance, filling up from a half tank cost me over \$80 and just over \$60 for a tank three quarters of the way full.

If you are going to visit Iceland, however, do what it takes and what it costs to see its unique natural beauty. Iceland is a testament to the power of raw nature left to its own devices, creating for itself a beauty that no landscaper could ever hope to duplicate. It is nature at its most awesome and at its least forgiving; a sight to behold.

It did not take long for nature to start taking over the landscape once the drive began out of Reykjavik, but the journey to Kerid Crater took hours. Even by Iceland standards, Kerid is unique and something of an enigma. Unlike Iceland's famed beaches, the rocks surrounding this crater lake are red rather than black. Though born of volcanic magma reserve (and not an explosion as once believed) Kerid is a most peaceful sight, the lake calm and almost mystifying to look at. Soaking up the colors of the surrounding land to create a spot of wonder and soothing escape.

Much more active is Strokkur, the geyser along the Hvítá River, which never fails to draw a crowd awaiting its eruptions every 6 to 10 minutes (though these vary). In a half hour, I witnessed about eight eruptions at varying intervals. Slowly the pool starts bubbling until a water tower shoots out into the sky while the crowds cheer.

Perhaps the most iconic sight of the southwestern Iceland, however, is the Gullfoss waterfall,



Strokkur

a roaring giant of rocks and cascades. If Kerid inspires calm and Strokkur excitement, Gullfoss is the reminder of the strength of our planet, its fierce resiliency, its unwavering spirit at once both frightening and tantalizing. Together, these three marvels make up a natural trinity for the Golden Circle.



Gullfoss

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

without paying. Reports of robbery in DC are up by 68 percent in 2023 compared to last year.

#### **Inclusivity Versus** Objectivity

"A growing requirement in STEM disciplines," warns Debra Soh at the Washington Examiner, is mandating ' positionality statements" with

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2007 MAZDA 3, GRAY VIN # JM1BK12G871603396 Elaine B. Lemos

84 Pond St. Waltham, MA 02451

2011 BMW 328i, GRAY VIN # WBAPK7C59BF085491 Matthew Farnham 247 Pearl St., #403 Somerville, MA 02145

Run dates: 11/17, 11/24, 12/01/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 39A, that on December 03, 2023 at 10AM, at said address. the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of

2018 TOYOTA COROLLA, WHITE

2007 HONDA ACCORD, GRAY

10 Howe St., #1 Dorchester, MA 02125

Somerville, MA 02143

PV Holdings

Somerville, MA 02144

#### The One Where the World's First

# **Central Perk Coffeehouse**



first Central Perk Coffeehouse opened its doors in Boston, within a historic brownstone on Newbury Street. Central Perk Coffeehouse is a rei-

magined adaptation of the iconic coffeehouse made famous by the TV series FRIENDS. Blending nostalgia with contemporary flair, featuring a modernized version of the iconic orange couch as the centerpiece for friends to gather. Highlights include the bespoke piece and the 'Orange Room,' a semi-private, reservable area that features the replica orange couch, with a neon sign above that reads "The One With ..."

With a menu that boasts a wide variety of tasty coffee and food options, in a setting that is contemporary yet reminiscent, the soul of Central Perk remains intact, promising a premium quality dining and coffee experience for everyone. Central Perk Coffeehouse will serve a selection of traditional coffees, cold brews, and specialty drinks made with the six original artisanal coffee blends from Central Perk Coffee Co: How You Doin'? medium roast, Pivot Blend medium dark roast, We Were On a "Coffee" Break dark roast, Oh My

world's Gawd! cold brew, Moo Point decaf, and Gunther espresso, along with assorted morning fare and choices from an allday menu. Aptly named savory and sweet dishes include Joey's Meatball Sandwich, The Moist

Maker Turkey Sandwich, Grandma's Chicken Salad, Mama's Little Bakery Cheesecake, and more. Guests will also discover subtle nods to the series and characters within the space, such as artwork and coffee cup sleeves featuring iconic quotes from each of the six Friends.

Central Perk is located at 205 Newbury Street, Boston, MA and will be open seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. In coming weeks, the coffeehouse will extend its hours of operation and introduce a selection of beer, wine, and cordials including a creative twist on espresso martinis. For fans seeking a special memento, Central Perk Coffee Co. coffee blends and exclusive Central Perk Coffee Co. themed merchandise will be available for purchase at the Boston location and online. For additional information, you can visit centralperk.com and follow @centralperk on Instagram.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

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

Docket No. MI23P5960PO TRUST CITATION

In the matter of: **REVOCABLE TRUST OF GAIL L. FLEMING** 

To all interested persons A Petition has been filed by Anne C. Rosenberg of Wellesley Hills, MA requesting this honorable court issue an order for distribution as stated in said trust petition in accordance with M.G.L. c203e.

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 November 27, 2023.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: November 10, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 11/17/2023

"details about the author's personal characteristics, such as their race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and geographic location." This is supposedly to improve "inclusivity" and draw "attention to power imbalances." But "there has yet to be any proof" such statements achieve that "stated purpose." This "ideological obsession with replacing objectivity and excellence with diversity, equity and, inclusion fanaticism will only derail future scientific achievement" and "deter anyone belonging to so-called 'over-represented' groups, particularly white and Asian men, from pursuing scientific endeavors regardless of how competent or passionate they are."

#### Don't Ban Menthol Cigs Says Sharpton

Reverend Al Sharpton is urging the Biden Administration to halt its plan to ban menthol cigarettes, saying the move would lead to an illicit market and potential clashes such as the Eric Garner case.

The FDA sent its final pitch for the ban to the White House's Office of Management and Budget this past October, signaling the menthol ban mandate is in the final stages of approval.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**WATERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY** 55 Waverley Avenue Watertown, MA 02472

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID TO ALL BIDDERS ON THE PROJECT TITLED: **DESIGN SERVICES** 103 NICHOLS AVE. The Watertown Housing Authority,

the awarding authority, invites bids for designer services to respond to the Request for Proposals for Design Services to design a group home located on a vacant lot at 103 Nichols Ave. Watertown, MA.

The deadline for the application form is December 12, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Kristen Monti by calling 617-393-0241 or by emailing kmonti@watertownha.org

Run date: 11/17/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Middlesex Division

Middlesex Probate and Family Court **Lowell Justice Center** 370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor Lowell. MA 01852 (978) 656-7700

Estate of MARJORIE KAY THOMPSON Also Known As MARJORIE K. THOMPSON and

Docket No. MI23P5298EA

MARJORIE THOMPSON Date of Death: August 08, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Kristina Kathleen Thompson of Framingham, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Kristina Kathleen Thompson of Framingham, 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.

Run date: 11/17/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after November 25, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

> 2012 NISSAN VERSA VIN # 3N1CN7AP2CL866523

2009 BMW X3 VIN # WBXPC93469WJ27616

2006 AUDI A6 VIN # WAUEH74FX6N115784

2009 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

VIN # KMHDU46D89U805673 2011 HONDA ACCORD

CROSSTOUR

VIN # 5J6TF2H55BL005620 Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

> Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 11/10, 11/17, 11/24/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Suffolk Division** 

**Suffolk Probate and Family Court** 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

> Docket No. SU23P2245EA Estate of

WILLIAM J. FREW Date of Death: April 13, 2023

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner

Joseph Frew of Salisbury, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Joseph Frew of Salisbury, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety

on the bond.

from the Petitioner.

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

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** 

The Trial Court

**Probate and Family Court** 

Middlesex Probate and Family Court

10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801

(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI22A1469AD

**CITATION** 

G. L. c. 210, § 6

In the matter of

**BRIGIDO JOSE-EVENOR RODRIGUEZ** 

unnamed or unknown parent and persons

interested in a petition for the adoption of said

child and to the Department of Children and

A petition has been presented to said court

by Kevin Arnold Cristobal of Ashland, MA,

Lorianne Perdomo-Cristobal of Ashland, MA

requesting for leave to adopt said child and that

the name of the child be changed to Brigido

If you object to this adoption you are

An indigent person is defined by

SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but

is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC,

EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits.

Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if

you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial

Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court

on or before the date listed below to obtain the

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO.

YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE

A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID

COURT AT WOBURN ON OR BEFORE

TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM)

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run dates: 11/10, 11/17, 11/24/2023

ON DECEMBER 29, 2023.

First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 03, 2023

entitled to the appointment of an attorney if

Families of said Commonwealth.

Jose-Evenor Perdomo.

you are an indigent person.

To Rigoberto Jose Rodriguez any

Run date: 11/17/2023

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions they will sell the following vehicles on or after November 18, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2008 HYUNDAI SANTA FE VIN # 5NMSG13D38H144274 **2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA** VIN # 5NPDH4AE0DH337837

VIN # 3C3CFFBRCT104859

Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only

> Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2023

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Middlesex Division

Middlesex Probate and Family Court Lowell Justice Center 370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor Lowell, MA 01852

Estate of PHYLLIS C. DOHERTY Also Known As

**INFORMAL PROBATE** 

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner James D. Doherty of Medfield, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

James D. Doherty of Medfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without

Run date: 11/17/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that to satisfy their garage keepers

2012 FIAT 500

Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco

Signed

(978) 656-7700

Docket No. MI23P5591EA

PHYLLIS CARDAMONE DOHERTY, PHILOMENA CARDAMONE DOHERTY Date of Death: July 27, 2023

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

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

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI22A1470AD

**CITATION** G. L. c. 210, § 6

In the matter of **BRIMA LEILANI RODRIGUEZ** 

To Rigoberto Jose Rodriguez any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by Kevin Arnold Cristobal of Ashland, MA, Lorianne Perdomo-Cristobal of Ashland, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Brima Leilani Cristobal.

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

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

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT WOBURN ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON DECEMBER 29, 2023.

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

Date: November 03, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run dates: 11/10, 11/17, 11/24/2023



# **EXTRA** Innings

by Sal Giarratani



#### Use of the DH Has Changed Over the Years



#### Orlando Cepeda

When the use of designated hitters came to the American League in 1973, it was as many fans assumed it would be, they were used to extend the careers of aging sluggers who could no longer be position players due to slowing down with age. The Red Sox first DH was Orlando Cepeda. Once known as the Baby Bambino for his slugging ability and his 46, YES, 46-ounce bat. He hit 21 homers that year as our first DH. Other sluggers like Willie Mays or Hank Arron as they aged headed over to the AL too, extending their careers a little longer.

The National League recently accepted the DH position and now the universal designated hitter position has been used for two full seasons now. The DH position always seems to be evolving. For years, there were players like Dave Ortiz, Edgar Martinez, or Frank Thomas who recreated what DH-ing meant. I think of old pre-DH baseball players like Rocky Colavito, Boog Powell, Mickey Mantle, etc., who would have loved just to go to bat in a game.

Nowadays there are many players who hate the idea of being a DH because they love more being IN the game rather than waiting on the bench for the next at-bat.

I was not a fan of DH. I loved pitchers going up. Most of the time they were easy outs; other times not so. What about Earl Wilson or Jim "Mudcat" Grant to name just two guys who could whack a ball over the fence at times?

If I had my way, I'd let pitchers go up to the plate again. It was more interesting watching managers have to strategize late into games. Keep the pitcher in or take him out for pinch hitters. I used to love seeing a good pinch hitter come up to bat.

#### **Bob Guindon** Lived His Dream



I love reading Peter Abraham's Sunday Boston Globe baseball page. This past week, he spoke of the recent death of former Red Sox first baseman / outfielder Bobby Guindon who died last month in Florida at the age of 80. He hailed from Brookline and signed with the Sox in 1961 out of Boston English High School for what was a thenrecord \$125,000. It sounds like he was a so-called Bonus Baby.

It was big news, a local Boston high school player signing with his hometown Red Sox. He was a lefty, hit 76 homeruns over his first 4 seasons in the minors and was called up late in 1964 making his debut on September 19th as a pinch-runner at Fenway. Over five games, he was 1 for 8 with a double. He went to spring training in 1965, and was re-assigned to Triple A Toronto and never returned to the biggies following a short stint with the Cardinals' farm system. After his 1970 season, he left baseball in the rear view mirror.

He had a good post-baseball career in business. He and his wife were married for 60 years and had two sons, and plenty of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, too. He had a great life to look back at and did get to put on a Red Sox uniform. No bad for a fellow alumnus of the English High School of Boston.

#### Cora's Bro Lands New Job

Joey Cora is joining the Tigers' coaching staff. Alex's older brother has spent the past two seasons as the Mets' third base coach. Meanwhile, it appears that the Angels are hiring Ron Washington as their new manager.

#### Astros Promote Espada



Joe Espada

The Astros promoted bench coach Joe Espada to be the club's new manager replacing Dusty Baker who just retired. Espada, 48, has been bench coach since 2018 for the Astros and was third base coach for the

Yankees from 2015-17. **LEGAL NOTICE** 

#### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Suffolk Division** 

24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 Docket No. SU23P2378EA

Estate of MARJORIE-LINDA READY Date of Death: January 19, 2021 **INFORMAL PROBATE** 

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Lara Seigneur of Boston, MA.

Lara Seigneur of Boston, 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.

Run date: 11/17/2023

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23P3864GD

NOTICE AND ORDER: **Petition for Appointment of** Guardian of a Minor In the interests of

MARCUS N. POM

#### of Lowell, MA Minor **NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 07/21/2023 by Yeng Noun of Lowell, MA, will be held 12/05/2023 11:00 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located Lowell Justice Center, 370 Jackson Street, Lowell, MA - Courtroom 13.

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

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing. 3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to

request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

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

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

Date: October 03, 2023 Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 11/17/2023

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI23P3866GD NOTICE AND ORDER: **Petition for Appointment of** Guardian of a Minor In the interests of **ALIANA MONTEIRO** 

#### of Lowell, MA Minor **NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 07/21/2023 by Yeng Noun of Lowell. MA. will be held 12/05/2023 11:00 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located Lowell Justice Center, 370 Jackson Street, Lowell, MA - Courtroom 13.

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

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing. 3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

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

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

Date: October 03, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 11/17/2023



# Happy Thanksgiving!



Bette Davis

"When I'm worried and I can't sleep
I count my blessings instead of sheep
And I fall asleep counting my blessings"
Irving Berlin (Count Your Blessings, 1954)

Thanksgiving is a time for us to give thanks for all we have, but we should take time to count our blessings everyday. No matter how down you may feel there is always much to be thankful for.

One blessing on my list everyday is having been born in this country. Whether you were born here or came from another land and are now a citizen, you really hit the jackpot having the United States as your home.

There are many naysayers out there who barrage us with negative talk about this great country. Ignore them, be proud, and feel blessed to have so much. With all of its faults, this is a very great and good country. We forget that at our peril.

Everyone, have a Happy Thanksgiving, and forget the sheep at night; count your blessings instead. You'll find you have many.

#### HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB



by Richard Preiss

Charlie Coyle feels comfortable in a crowd. Currently it is the over 17,000 members of Bruins Nation that fill the TD Garden every night of a home game in a ritual that is common on Causeway Street.

But to the Bruins center, who recently scored his first career hat trick in a 5-2 victory over the New York Islanders, it is just the latest iteration of what has always been a normal feature of his life. In an article that Coyle wrote for The Players' Tribune — an online publication that features perspectives and insights from athletes across a wide variety of sports - he opened the piece by citing that fact that he had more than 70 cousins - 20 of whom he referred to on a first name basis, plus 52 additional ones that were simply placed together.

"And that's just the cousins on my dad's side," stated Coyle in the article that was published on May 27, 2019. "I could start on my mom's side but I'd for sure miss the puck drop for Game 1."

That was a reference to the start of the 2019 Stanley Cup Final, a duel that pitted the Bruins against the St. Louis Blues for the right to hoist on high hockey's holiest hardware. The Blues turned out to be a speeding freight train that would not be denied. Buried in last place in the then 31-team league on New Year's Day, they gradually rose through the ranks, claimed a Western Conference playoff berth and advanced through three rounds of the competition.

By mid-June, St. Louis had conquered the Bruins in seven games, winning the deciding one on Garden ice, a victory that saw the Blues conclude their successful six-month march up the mountain to hockey's summit.

But that was then. The article appeared before the first game of the championship series. What had brought Charlie Coyle to that point, not only playing for the Stanley Cup but playing for a team that he had felt an affiliation for all his life?

Charlie Coyle is the personification of the time-honored story of the local lad who grew up in the region, went elsewhere for a few years and then returned to star in the locale that was dearest to his heart.

For Charlie Coyle was raised in Weymouth, just south of the Hub, a community with a strong hockey heritage.

Or as he wrote, "I have tons of cousins and those cousins have their own cousins who have their own cousins. And whenever you get all those people in the same place, two things are certain: It's going to be really, really loud and there's going to be hockey involved in some way."

One of the cousins that Coyle felt very close was Tony Amonte, who had a 15-year career in the National Hockey League with various teams. "I only had two teams growing up: The B's and whoever Tony was playing for."

Coyle went to say that his father had played high school hockey for Weymouth South and the big battle in town was when his dad's team played Weymouth North — "back when the town

had two high schools." Cousins were well represented on both rosters. "Apparently it was like a cage match," said Coyle.

Early on then, Coyle knew two things: "Playing in the NHL was my dream but I wanted to play high school hockey in Weymouth, just like my dad."

And he went on to achieve both goals — with a stop at Boston University thrown in for good measure.

Coyle not only made his high school team — he did so as a freshman. That was a team that went 19-1 in the regular season (the best record in the state) and then was awarded a berth in the 2007 postseason Super Eight tournament.

After a first round 3-2 victory over Malden Catholic, Weymouth took down perennial powerhouse Catholic Memorial 2-1. Then a 5-2 victory over Central Catholic sent the Wildcats to the semifinals where they defeated Austin Prep 5-4 in overtime. But the good times ended when Weymouth lost to Boston College High 6-1 in the championship game at the Garden.

While it was a discouraging end for the Wildcats, they were the first public school to reach the Super Eight championship game since 1993. Years later in his 2019 article, Coyle would describe his experience: "Just making the tournament as a public school was a huge accomplishment. We were out there going against basically these all-star teams that were hand-picked by these Catholic schools. Safe to say outside expectations for us were pretty low going in."

The Super Eight hockey tournament was "paused" in 2021 by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) and is not scheduled to return before 2026.

Charlie Coyle would only play that single season for Weymouth High. He would go on to play two seasons at Thayer Academy. He then returned to Weymouth while he was playing junior hockey. He later played at BU, amassing 26 points in 37 games. He first played in the NHL with Minnesota in 2013. He was traded to Boston in February, 2019.

Although playing in the Stanley Cup Final would obviously be the top experience for any hockey player let alone one playing for his local team, it is important to understand how much that single season at Weymouth meant to him.

"I was a relatively undersized freshman at Weymouth High who was lucky enough to make the varsity," wrote Coyle in that Players' Tribune piece. "Our captain was Tim King. He was our best player and my cousin."

Coyle added: "His younger brother, Trevor, was my age and we had played together a ton growing up. Our families were all very close so the opportunity to represent Weymouth just like our dads had — it was everything."

And thus it was that on the eve of the start of the 2019 Stanley Cup Final Charlie Coyle could still write: "Without question, the highlight of my career to this point (May, 2019) was playing with them in the Super Eight."