# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 121 - NO. 48

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 1, 2017** 

\$.35 A COPY

# Renovation and Re-opening of Saint Leonard Church

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Saint Leonard Church recently underwent a muchneeded, year-long renovation project. The multi-million-dollar project, completed in December, is one of the most extensive restorations of the church since its construction in 1885.

The sensitive renovation of the historic church focused on the refurbishment of the beautiful stained-glass windows that help illuminate the church and gilt ceiling and the restoration of frescoes throughout the church. The worn wooden floor has been replaced with a white porcelain floor. All plaster work has been restored and new wiring has been installed with lighting enhanced by new ceiling fixtures. A major change is the arrangement of handmade pews to form a center aisle and

the elimination of side aisles giving the church a spacious and uncluttered look. Parishioners and visitors familiar with the church will recognize the marble altar, once located in Saint Anthony Chapel, now completely restored and gracing the sanctuary of the renovated church. Elements of the railing in the former lower chapel have been incorporated into a magnificent baptismal font and a podium both surmounted by white marble.

Special attention has been given to people with disabilities with access ramps throughout the church and a much-needed lavatory installed for the convenience and comfort of the public. The goal of the renovation was to create an effective and accessible space of grace for



the North End community and the many thousands of visitors who pass through our historic neighborhood each year.

Please join the Franciscan the church and the consecra-

Friars and parishioners on Sunday, December 17th, when Cardinal Sean O'Malley will be present for the Blessing of tion of the altar officially reopening Saint Leonard Church. Light refreshments will be served following the Mass and ceremony.

# **News Briefs**

by Sal Giarratani

### This Story Sounds Ridiculous, Doesn't It?

Just days before returning home from Texas, I was reading the Sunday paper, the Austin American-Statesman and there was a large news story concerning something that sounds pretty bad. Seems many folks are now calling Lyft or Uber to rush to the ER for a medical emergency. Yes, taking not an ambulance, but a ride-hailing vehicle to the emergency room.

The story talked about a man who ended up in great pain soon after checking into a hotel after getting off a plane. He was concerned about his health insurance and his deductible as he lived in D.C., but was at a Virginia hotel and wondered how much the ambulance ride would be. So he called Uber and the driver rushed him to the hospital where he was rushed into surgery. However, he saved himself thousands by choosing an Uber ride. He only had to pay a \$20 co-pay.

When folks feel so insecure about their health insurance that they opt to call Uber, it means Washington, D.C. needs to make health insurance both affordable and accessible. Worrying about how much things are going to cost before deciding whether to go the hospital or what mode of transportation to use to get there is stressful and will only exacerbate health problems!

The guy who took Uber lived to tell his story, but he easily could have died in the backseat of a ride-sharing car depending on an Uber driver to get him to the ER. I wonder how often this kind of story is replayed daily across America.

# Rising Tides Lift All Yachts?

I have been following the ongoing drama in Washington, D.C., over the Republicans getting their tax reform legislation moving from House to Senate.

(Continued on Page 8)

# **POST-GAZETTE SATELLITE OFFICE** 343 CHELSEA ST., DAY SQ., EAST BOSTON

Tues. 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thurs. 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM Call **617-227-8929** for more information

# **North Station Area Mobility Action Plan**

City to Implement 18 New Projects in North Station Area to Improve Transportation Safety and Access for All Modes of Travel

Mayor Martin J. Walsh, the Boston Transportation Department, and the Boston Planning and Development Agency released the North Station Area Mobility Action Plan, a set of transportation improvements and initiatives for the North Stathe West End, North End and Bulfinch Triangle neighborhoods. Developed in partnership with the community, the Action Plan affirms the City of Boston's 15 improvements in the next 5 years, as well as 3 longer-term Station, whether they choose to walk, ride bikes, take public transit, or travel in motor vehicles. The project advances the goals outlined in Go Boston 2030, the City's long-term mobility plan, as well as Imagine Boston 2030, the City's comprehensive planning document.

"I'd like to thank residents and other community members from the West End, North End, and Bulfinch Triangle neighborhoods who have volunteered their time and effort to collaborate with BTD and BPDA on this important project," said Mayor Walsh. "For over a year, they have shared their vision and concerns and prioritized solutions at community meetings, pop-up sessions, and online. We look forward to putting this plan into action alongside the community, and working with them on additional future neighborhood improvement projects."

worked on this for a long time," said North Station area resident Jane Forrestall. "We are happy to see improvements for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists."

"The business community tion area that includes parts of around North Station is looking forward to working with our neighbors and the City to implement the many good projects in this plan," said Jay Walsh, Director of the Downtown North commitment to implementing Association. "Improvements to walking, biking, driving, and transit will allow our employees projects that will transform and customers to access and how people move around North move around the neighborhood more easily and provide a more pleasant place to spend time."

Nearly 2,000 people an hour currently walk on Canal Street during the morning and evening rush hours. Public transit use is high with direct access to commuter rail service, Orange, Green, Blue, and Red line subway trains, and MBTA buses, while numerous people take advantage of public bike share docking stations located in the area to incorporate cycling into their daily commute. Traffic on local streets is frequently congested due to a combination of weekday commuters, commercial vehicle deliveries to area establishments, events at TD Garden, and private shuttle

"Go Boston 2030 plans for a citywide transportation network that provides people with safe ton's streets using all modes

"As a community we have of transportation," said Boston Transportation Department Commissioner Gina N. Fiandaca. "By incorporating a combination of pedestrian enhancements, protected bike lanes, improved transit connections, and updated traffic signal technology, the North Station Area Mobility Action Plan brings us one step closer toward realizing the goals established in Go Boston 2030."

"Recent development has revitalized the North Station area, bringing new housing and stimulating the local economy," said BPDA Director Brian Golden. "The North Station Mobility Action Plan develops a strategy to respond to this increase in neighborhood activity and I thank the community for its feedback and all of the local stakeholders whose funding and involvement will help shape the future of this neighborhood."

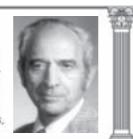
Improvements being designed include safer pedestrian access at Charles Circle, street direction changes and parking regulations in the Bulfinch Triangle, and pedestrian priority on Canal Street. Included among the short-term action items are protected bike lanes on Cambridge Street, digitally coordinating traffic signals, a bus lane on North Washington Street, bike lanes and safer pedestrian crossings on Blossom Street, and programs to encourage residents and commuters to get around without

The North Station Area Mobiland efficient access on Bos- ity Action Plan is available online at https://tinyurl.com/y8r9nwfl.

# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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

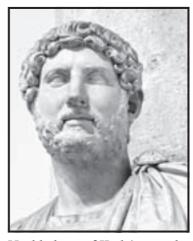


### HADRIAN THE GREEKLING

Publius Aelius Hadrianus, commonly known as Hadrian, was born in Rome in January 76 A.D. When he was ten years old, his father died and Trajan, a second cousin, became his guardian. During his younger years, Hadrian became so deeply involved studying in Greece that he acquired the nickname "Greekling." He returned to Rome at the age of fifteen, entering the military service, and was sent to Italica, a city in Spain. He became so fond of hunting that he was often criticized for it, consequently Trajan recalled him to Rome, treated him as a son, promoted him to the office of magistrate, and later to the position of military tribune (second commander). Hadrian eventually married Sabina, the niece (or grandniece) of Trajan, and quickly rose to the position of companion to the emperor. He particularly distinguished himself in the war against the Dacians and shortly thereafter was appointed the Governor of Pannonia. His fame greatly increased when he was called upon to compose orations for the emperor.

Later, after being promoted to "quaestor" (chief magistrate), Hadrian read one of the emperor's speeches in the Senate and this is said to have provoked laughter because of his very provincial accent. He then gave serious attention to his studies until he became very fluent and proficient in his oratory. He also accompanied Trajan throughout the Dacian wars and was placed in command of the First Legion. The emperor even presented him with a diamond for his remarkable deeds.

It is said that Hadrian was adopted by Trajan, but this is disputed by some authorities who attributed his rise to



Marble bust of Hadrian at the Palazzo dei Conservatori, Capitoline Museums

the intrigues of Trajan's wife, Pompeia Plotina, the sweet young thing who soon learned the ways of the emperor's court. Whatever the situation might have been, on August 9, 117 A.D., Hadrian was informed that he had been adopted as successor to Trajan and two days later he learned of Trajan's death.

Conflicting reports tell of Trajan's intention to appoint a man named Priscus as successor and not Hadrian. Another report claims that Trajan had intended to submit several names to the Senate along with a request that they choose their next emperor. A third and fairly convincing report tells us that Hadrian was not declared adopted until after Trajan's death. The emperor's wife, Plotina, smuggled in someone who impersonated the emperor and spoke in a feeble voice. Hadrian did, however, assume the reins of government with the approval of many legions and the Senate. The day of his accession is listed as August 11, 117 A.D., and he immediately devoted his effort to a peacekeeping mission throughout the Roman world. He had strong feelings that the extent of the Roman territories made them extremely vulnerable. Also, many of the conquered nations began to revolt. The spirit of rebellion grew in Mauritania, Samartia, Britain, Egypt, Libya, and Palestine. Peace was negotiated with the Persians and the Parthians and outposts were established. This was an act that historically ended the expansion of the empire.

Hadrian did everything that was possible to gain popularity. He cancelled large debts that were owed to the government by private citizens and extended this policy to include many of the provinces. He gave orders to burn promissory notes in the Forum of Trajan and give property to senators who became impoverished. He made those grants in proportion to the number of their dependents. He provided subsistence money in order that worthy persons might hold public office and even donated funds to help a number of women sustain life.

Hadrian refused all honors except those which recognized his birthday and administered the empire so that all men knew it was theirs and not the emperor's. He maintained a close friendship with the Senate leaders and attended regular meetings of the Senate whenever he was in Rome.

> **NEXT WEEK:** Hadrian the Administrator

# LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI17P5684EA Estate of MARGARET MARY JOHNSON Also Known As MARGARET M. JOHNSON

Date of Death September 8, 2017 INFORMAL PROBATE **PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Robert Ludwig of Lexington, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Robert Ludwig of Lexington, 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

# **Small Ads Get Big Results**

call 617-227-8929.

# Res Publica

by David Trumbull



# President Trump Wants a NAFTA that Delivers Profits and Jobs for America

On November 17th, the Trump Administration released a summary of the U.S. objectives in re-negotiating the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as it relates to trade in industrial and agricultural goods.

- 1. Improve the U.S. trade balance and reduce the trade deficit with the NAFTA countries.
- 2. Increase transparency in import and export licensing pro-
- 3. Discipline import and export monopolies to prevent trade distortions for industrial goods.
- 4. Maintain existing reciprocal duty-free market access for industrial goods and strengthen disciplines to address non-tariff barriers that constrain U.S. exports to NAFTA countries.
- 5. Expand market access for remanufactured goods exports by ensuring that they are not classified as used goods that are restricted or banned.
- 6. Maintain existing duty-free access to NAFTA country markets for U.S. textile and apparel products and seek to improve competitive opportunities for exports of U.S. textile and apparel products while taking into account U.S. import sensitivities.
- 7. Promote greater regulatory compatibility with respect to key goods sectors, including pharmaceuticals, medical devices, cosmetics, information and communication technology equipment, motor vehicles, and chemicals, and on issues such as energy efficiency, to reduce burdens associated with unnecessary differences in regulation, including through regulatory cooperation where appropriate.
- 8. Maintain existing reciprocal duty-free market access for agricultural goods.
- 9. Expand competitive market opportunities for U.S. agricultural goods in NAFTA countries, substantially equivalent to the competitive opportunities afforded foreign exports into the U.S. market, including by eliminating remaining Canadian tariffs on imports of U.S. dairy, poultry, and egg products.
- 10. Seek to eliminate and prevent non-tariff barriers to U.S. agricultural exports such as restrictive administration of tariff rate quotas; and discriminatory barriers and unjustified technical barriers, including to U.S. grain and alcohol beverages.
- 11. Seek to eliminate unjustified measures that unfairly limit access to Canada's markets and unfairly decrease market access opportunities in third countries for U.S. dairy products, such as cross-subsidization, price discrimination, and price undercutting.
- 12. Provide reasonable adjustment periods for U. S. imports on sensitive agricultural products, engaging in close consultation with Congress on such products before initiating tariff reduction negotiations.
- 13. Promote greater regulatory compatibility, including through regulatory cooperation where appropriate to reduce burdens associated with unnecessary differences in regulation, including regulations and standards for processed foods and beverages.
- 14. Establish specific commitments for trade in products developed through agricultural biotechnologies, including those on transparency, cooperation, and managing low level presence issues, and a mechanism for exchange of information and enhanced cooperation on agricultural biotechnologies.

North End

Christmas

Luncheon



Please, you must confirm no later than December 4th. All children

10 and under will receive a picture with Santa and a gift. Children must be

★ Saint Agrippina's Christmas Program is for North End Residents Only.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

"VIVA ST. AGRIPPINA

JUST A MERRY GOOD TIME

Don't miss seeing "Santa Claus

God Bless America

present & accompanied by an adult. Also: Face Painting, Balloons,

Characters, Gift Bags. Please Bring a Camera!



# **POST-GAZETTE**

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

e-mail: postgazette@aol.com

Website: www.BostonPostGazette.com

Subscriptions in the United States \$35.00 yearly

Published weekly by Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

USPS 1538 - Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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

1953 to 1971

1971 to 1990

Vol. 121 - No. 48

Friday, December 1, 2017

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

# **My Dad Never Forgot** The Cocoanut Grove Fire

by Sal Giarratani



Survivors of the Cocoanut Grove night club fire in the Back Bay section of Boston are carried out to safety during chaotic rescue efforts, Nov. 28, 1942, during a blaze that took the lives of 492 patrons.

Once again, the City of Boston remembers the deadliest nightclub fire in U.S. history. The fire at the Cocoanut Grove and Melody Lounge killed 492 in a matter of a few minutes. It forever left a scar on all of Boston. It also led to many new public safety rules and to medical advances in the treatment of burn victims.

A small fire started and spread like wildfire and people reportedly went into a panic and were trapped inside. Boston's fire code changed forever in the aftermath of this fire. Had doors not been locked, had the club had sprinklers, had this and had that happened...all the what ifs.

My dad always remembered this fire in the days leading up to November 28th. In 1942, he was a 29-year-old orderly at Boston City Hospital when the bodies started arriving in huge numbers. With so many victims, Boston City Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital both started taking in the fire victims. My father told me he remembered bodies being piled up along the walls of the Dowling Building and the smell of death everywhere.

I spoke once with Rev. Francis J. Gilday SJ, who was a chaplain at City Hospital, and he told me he gave the last rites to over 200 victims of that blaze on that night. He vividly remembered it, probably to the day he died.

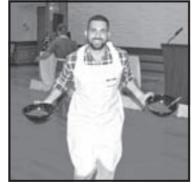
My dad worked as a medical worker at Boston City Hospital, retiring on December 31, 1977. However, in the months that followed the Cocoanut Grove fire, my dad guit his job. Perhaps it was due to what he saw that night. He later returned to Boston City Hospital in 1947 and spent the next 30 years caring for the injured.

When I think of the Cocoanut Grove Fire, I think of my father and Father Gilday and what the night of November 28, 1942, was like for them and for all the caregivers who tended to victims and watched so many die and smelled the

My dad was proud of his long career at Boston City Hospital, but always remembered what he saw that night.

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  $e\hbox{-}mail: postgazette@aol.com. If you want your photos returned, include$ a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

# Over 600 Seniors and Those in Need Attend Lombardo's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



Sal Lombardo, fourth generation of the Lombardo Family, has spent every Thanksgiving serving with his family.

Over 600 seniors and people in need were served a donated fourcourse Thanksgiving Dinner at Lombardo's in Randolph on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year marks the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the annual dinner. Nearly 100 volunteers from the local communities showed up to help serve food at the Randolph event venue.

Guests enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving dinner along with music and dancing. Tickets are sent to local senior centers and Salvation Army centers throughout the South Shore towns each year. This has been a tradition that the Lombardo Family has hosted since 1971.

Lombardo's is a full-service



Maddie and Lisa teamed up to serve the first course, broccoli cheddar soup, prepared by Lombardo's Executive Chef Eric

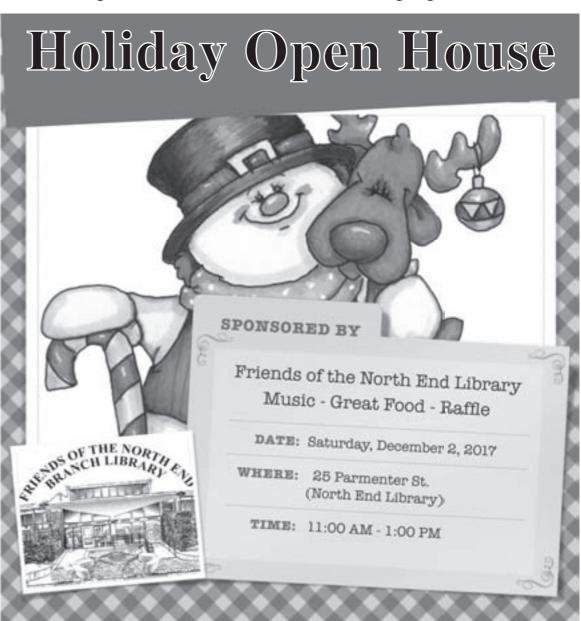


event venue located in Randolph, Massachusetts. Owned and operated by the Lombardo Family, now in their fourth generation of ownership, Lombardo's hosts weddings, social events and corporate events. Lombardo's originated in East Boston in 1963 and celebrated 50 years of business in 2013.

Susan and John of Avon have been volunteering for over 10 years. Susan told us "we start our Thanksgiving every year here. We serve the same section of the ballroom and I've gotten to know many of the guests who come year after year. It is our tradition."



Over 600 guests attended the Lombardo's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Donation.



of citywide celebrations on this

# L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Here Comes Santa Claus!

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



The Christmas season, that most wonderful time of the year, is fully upon us! I feel its merriment whenever I take a sip of spicy eggnog, its velvety texture warming me inside with the taste of the holidays. On the first day of Advent, my husband and I will decorate our home for Christmas, setting up our small tree and placing an evergreen wreath on our door. The twinkling lights of these adornments shine through even the darkest midwinter night, while the greenery reminds me that the cycle of life rolls on despite the blustery cold of the season. Christmas carols, ubiquitous on the radio now, compose the soundtrack of my days, filling them with the sounds of iingle bells. However, the most inescapable symbol of secular Christmas celebrations remains the jolly man in the North Pole himself — Santa Claus! Santa Claus appears everywhere nowadays, from thrones in shopping malls to television ads, from cookie faces to household decorations. Sometimes, Santa Claus manifests as the elegant Father Christmas — a seriousfaced man clad in long, intricate robes, holding a staff. More often, however, he is a rotund, merry-faced man with a bushy white beard and a red suit, a bag bursting with gifts slung around his shoulder. Though Santa Claus has become a prominent figure in Christmas commercialism, at his purest form he is a comforting symbol of the mirth, goodwill and kindness which characterize this season. This complex character even has his own holiday on December 6<sup>th</sup>, a day abounding with Christmas history!

The idea of Santa Claus may seem rather strange, even bizarre. Here is a man who lives in the North Pole, wears red, owns a toyshop run by elves, and hops aboard a sleigh to deliver presents to children on Christmas Eve. Why is this figure so attached to the holiday

season? Like most Christmas symbols, Santa Claus derives from both Christian and pagan roots. Some of his characteristics hearken back to the Norse god Odin, who led a wild hunt across the midwinter night sky on an eight-legged stallion. Children would leave carrots out overnight for Odin's horse, similar to the tradition of offering cookies and milk to Santa Claus. Elves also form a major part of Scandinavian folklore, where tales abounded of magical creatures who were especially active during the Twelve Days of Christmas. Nevertheless, Santa Claus's most immediate ancestor is St. Nicholas of Myra, a fourth-century bishop hailing from Asia Minor, now modern-day Turkey. St. Nicholas became famous for his generosity, eventually serving as the patron saint of children. His association with gift-giving stems from a famous legend in which he secretly made gifts of gold to three sisters too poor to afford a dowry. The very name "Santa Claus" is a corruption of "St. Nicholas," hailing from Dutch settlers who brought the figure of Sinterklaas to America. In other countries, such as England, Santa Claus's name is "Father Christmas." This corresponds to his Italian moniker as well, as the jolly man is known as Babbo Natale — literally, "Father Christmas." Though the premiere gift-bringer in Italy remains La Befana, the kindly witch who circles the world on Epiphany Eve, Babbo Natale has an enormous presence there as well and Italian children do write letters to the merry, red-suited man.

St. Nicholas, Santa Claus's predecessor, even boasts his own feast day on the 6th of December. My grandmother hails from the southern Italian city of Bari, which holds the relics of the saint, so la Festa di San Nicola, or St. Nicholas' Day, is one of her most cherished holidays. She still speaks fondly

day, replete with parades and processions, most centered around the Basilica di San Nicola. In other areas of Europe, St. Nicholas' Day functions as a

With a combination of Christian and pagan roots, Santa Claus celebrates the values of compassion and kindness. The feast day of his predecessor St. Nicholas honors children and is imbued with the optimism and generosity that characterizes the Christmas season. While it may seem far too easy to impatiently wait for Christmas's arrival, St. Nicholas' Day serves as a welcome reminder that the whole Advent period brims with unique and special holidays that reveal the various facets of Christmas. During the holidays this year, let us make a pact to face life with the same sense of magic and wonder that typifies Santa Claus, or Father Christmas, or Babbo Natale. When we look at Christmas with joyous, childlike eyes, we can finally enjoy the true magnanimous spirit of the holidays, making our souls as bright as Santa Claus' smile!

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





# Getting Homesick for Back Home

Vacations are a great break from everyday life. It is good to fly off somewhere different every so often or you might just fly off the handle as my mom always said. I was a child of the '50s; I was in high school in the '60s and college in the '70s. I grew up with some great music and loved my younger years when life seemed so much simpler.

I am still in Texas as of this writing, but by the time you are reading this commentary, I will be back home with you reading it again in the paper. By the way, as I write this, the temperature is about 70-something; back home, I think its maybe 40-something.

Everyone down here is already starting to think beyond Thanksgiving and thinking Happy Holidays, Santa, and all that stuff, when you can run around in shorts and a tee-shirt. Down here they have Christmas bar-b-cues with ribeye and all that great stuff to eat. I even saw a bar-b-cue pit placed into the belly of a lifesize, make-believe steer. It must be a Texas thing.

Last week I ended up at the H.E.B. Supermarket on Slaughter Lane (love these Texas streets names). Biggest chain in Central Texas and Mexico, bigger than Stop & Shop or anything we have up in the Boston area.

I met up with the Knights of H.E.B. over at Slaughter Lane again on this trip. Same supermarket, same café area, same guys, and same free coffee and donuts, too. Just like here, where I am a member of the Knights of Dunkin Donuts in East Boston. We meet and attempt to solve all the problems of the world. Apart by over 1,700 miles, old guys rule everywhere in East Boston and South Austin.

By the way, going to Texas helps me get a better perspective on life, comparing my norms with those of Austin, Texas. As conservative as I sometimes think I am, down in Texas I am somewhat liberal. If I ever re-located to Texas, I would have to be a Texas Democrat. Republicans are really "kinda" crazy, especially over the gun thing. Of course, liberals are "kinda" crazy over all things Confederate, too.

I m getting too old to get too crazy over political difference! Life is too short to get all wound up over stupid stuff.

I was home for Thanksgiving with family and await more family time at Christmas. Next year, I will be a first-time grandpa, too. Politics can't compete with any of that.

I will return to Texas in 2018; it is my home away from home but it isn't home. My Texas time began in November 1966, when I arrived in San Antonio as a raw 18-year-old recruit heading for Lackland, AFB. Since then, I have grown more in love with Texas, but not always with its politics. But, hey, I am not always thrilled with politics up in the Bay State, either.

Seven years ago, I spent Christmas in Austin. Felt like summertime, wearing shorts, getting tanned, and looking at Santa Claus out there on the front lawn. Not right.

This member of the Giarratani family loves the Austin-Boston connection. I keep my accent, unlike my nephew Dominic, who sounds more and more like a Texan. I go there to keep his Boston accent alive for the sake of my Giarratani family.

# Leave the Delivery to Us!



With a Gift Subscription to the Post-Gazette, your generosity will be remembered every week of the vear.

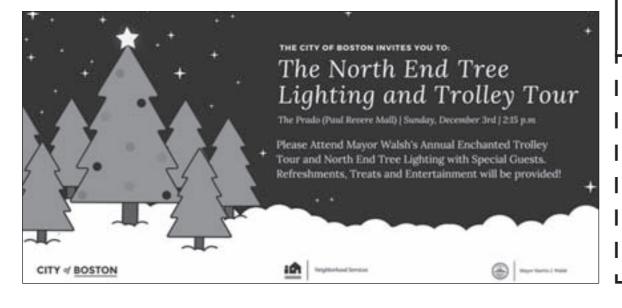
We'll send the recipient an announcement of your gift. Their subscription will begin with our Christmas issue and continue for one year



Fill out coupon below and mail with payment to Post-Gazette, PO Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

I would like to send a one year Gift Subscription of t	h
Post-Gazette to the following person(s).	
I have enclosed \$35 per subscription.	

Recipient Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone
Given by Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone





# Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

The 99th Eastie-Southie Thanksgiving Game made Eastie proud! E.B. Jets

emerged as BIG WINNERS! It was a blowout for the East Boston High School Jets football team Thanksgiving morning at White Stadium after whipping South Boston 16-0 in a shut-out game. The Rivalry between these two teams and their coaches over the years has been second to none. Although the entire Jets team played their best, it was five foot, nine inch Brandon Ortega that was the star of the show. Ortega launched the Jets to victory in a thrilling game by putting the Jets over the top with his two touchdowns. South Boston hasn't had a win against East Boston since 2006. Congratulations E.B. Jets on your stunning victory ... Today, December 1st begins the count-down to Christmas. Black Friday brought out the same die-hard shoppers looking for mega deals (though, in reality, there are none). These days there are far more people who are Christmas shopping online to avoid the chaos. If you're a shopper that likes to see the merchandise, try and keep your business in East Boston. These merchants are there for you all year round and deserve your business during the busiest holiday season! ... It was a room packed with hundreds of well-wishers at Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina's Farewell Party held sat the Orient Heights Yacht Club. After 30 years of public service, Councilor LaMattina decided to give someone else a chance at the office. Boston City Councilors, State Representatives, State Senators past and present, friends, supporters and family attended the farewell event. Newly elected Boston city councilor Lydia Edwards was there to deliver a speech. Spotted among the crowd were two of Eastie's favorites, former State Rep. Gus Serra and former Senate President Bobby Travaglini, as well as State Representative Adrian Madaro, State Senator Joe Boncore, Paul Scappicchio, John Nucci, Anthony Petruccelli and many more too numerous to name. Well-wishers flocked around LaMattina throughout the night to say goodbye to a public servant who was revered and much beloved by his East Boston constituents. Good Luck, Mr. LaMattina, on your next venture ... City Hall Plaza ice skating has opened for everyone's enjoyment ... Rumors are the State Traffic Division is preparing a plan to remove or push back Jersev barriers narrowing the entrance to the Callahan Tunnel in an attempt to alleviate the heavy traffic going into the tunnel during rush hours. There are mornings that traffic is backed up all the way onto McClellan Highway into Revere. The traffic is so unbearable, commuters trying to get into the tunnel are disgusted ...

Bennington street, a two-way main street, is another traffic nightmare for motorists. With traffic going both ways on this narrow street and huge trucks that frequently double-park to make deliveries, driving up and down Bennington Street is an ordeal. (Most people, if they're smart, use Chelsea Street!) Recently, an 18-wheeler truck making a delivery was doubleparked on the first block of Bennington street causing a traffic backup until cars could make their way around the truck. This is a dangerous situation for both motorists and pedestrians trying to cross. And buses struggle to pass these humongous trucks. It's a mess, that's what it is! It appears there is no solution on the table to date from the traffic department, or something would have been done a long time ago. If you're a smart driver, avoid Bennington Street if you can! ... Revere Beach residents can expect a new hotel built on the boulevard. The Revere Conservation Commission approved hotel plans recently at the Shipwreck Lounge site. It will consist of eight stories with 175 rooms and an 80-seat restaurant ... New hotels are in the process of being built near the Everett Casino. East Boston, Chelsea, Everett and Revere hotels anticipate lots of business when the new Wynn Casino and Resort that is currently under construction in Everett opens ... Until next time!

# Donne 2000 Visits Biloxi and New Orleans

by Rose Giammarco



Donne 2000 members and friends dressed in Mardi Gras theme

of Donne 2000 members and friends traveled "outside the box" to the South for a memoentertaining and vivacious tour guide from Conway Tours, accompanied the group of 25 people. Beignets, Jambalaya, spicy creole spices and sauces, chicory coffee, seafood gumbo, bread pudding, pecan pie, and ited the casinos.

This past October, a group Mint Juleps were among the culinary highlights of the trip.

The tour started out in Biloxi, Mississippi, at the luxurious rable six-day tour of Biloxi Beau Rivage Resort & Casino. and New Orleans. Ellie, the While in Biloxi, the group went on a shrimping cruise, visited the Hurricane Katrina Memorial, enjoyed a delicious lunch at the quaint and famous Mary Mahoney's Old French House Restaurant and, of course, vis-

Next stop was New Orleans (pronounced "NAWLINS"). The group stayed at the charming Hotel Provincial located in the French Quarter. New Orleans has a personality like no other place. It is truly a very charming and lively city. Some of the tour highlights included listening to the talented jazz street performers, shopping at the French Market, riding the trolley, walking along infamous Bourbon street, strolling through Jackson Square, visiting the beautiful Oak Alley Plantation and Beauvoir Jefferson Davis Home, and enjoying a cooking class and three-course meal at the New Orleans School of Cooking. Other fun activities included going for a muledrawn carriage ride and tour of the French quarter and enjoying a delicious Jazz Brunch at the Court of Two Sisters. The group also enjoyed chicory coffee and delicious fresh beignets at the famous Café DuMonde, which

(Continued on Page 10)



Donne 2000 members and friends at Beau Rivage Resort & Casino





FRANK ZARBA MUSIC

Music of Quality

251 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsboro, MA 01879

> 978-453-7484 978-270-4883 cell www.frankzarbamusic.com frankzarba@comcast.net

Order Frank's "UNFORGETTABLE" CD by sending a check for \$15 to above address.



Mattéo Gallo

**Appraisals** Sales & Rentals

Real Estate

376 North Street • Boston, MA 02113 (617) 523-2100 • Fax (617) 523-3530

# Richard Settipane

Insurance Services

**Public Insurance Adjuster** Since 1969

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS **AUTO • HOMEOWNERS • TENANTS COMMERCIAL** 

Experience makes the difference

209 BROADWAY, REVERE, MA 02151 Fax 781.284.2200 Tel. 781.284.1100

Free Parking Adjacent to Building

**The Federal Trade Commission** works for the consumer to prevent fraud and deception. Call 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357)

or log on to www.ftc.gov.

# Saint Beatrice of Silva

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Beatrice was one of the eleven children of Rui Gomes da Silva, the first governor of Campo Maior, Portugal after its re-conquest from Arab rule, and of Isabel de Menezes, the Countess of Portalegre.

Beatrice was raised in the castle of Infante John, Lord of Reguengos de Monsaraz. In 1447, Beatrice, as Lady-in-waiting to his daughter, Princess Isabel of Portugal, accompanied her to Castile where Isabelle was to marry King John II of Castile and became Oueen of Castile and León. Beatrice, in time, fell out of favor with the Queen, incurring her jealousy, and was imprisoned. During her incarceration, Beatrice experienced an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in which she was instructed to found a new Order in Mary's honor.

Beatrice managed to escape her imprisonment and took refuge in the Dominican Second Order monastery of nuns in Toledo. It was at the monastery that she remained for thirtyseven years, leading a holy life but not becoming a member of that Order. In 1484, Beatrice, with some companions, took possession of a palace in Toledo given to them by Queen Isabel for the new community under the name Monastery of Santa Fe, which was to be dedicated to honoring the Immaculate Conception of Mary. In 1489, the



community adopted the Cistercian Rule by permission of Pope Innocent III. The nuns adopted and bound themselves to the daily recitation of the Office of the Immaculate Conception and were placed under obedience to the ordinary of the archdiocese.

Beatrice passed away in the monastery she had founded on August 16, 1492. She was canonized on October 3, 1976, by Pope Paul VI. The Feast Day of Saint Beatrice of Silva is August 17<sup>th</sup>. She is venerated as the patron saint of prisoners.

The Order founded by her soon spread through Portugal, Spain, and their colonies in South America as well as in Italy and France. At its height, there were some 200 monasteries of the Order throughout the world.

# **San Martino Celebration**

by Joe Moscaritolo



Greg Montillo, Andrew Lyne, Domenic Candelieri, Joe Moscaritolo, MC John Ventresco, Rudi Viscomi and Jackie Butera (Frank Butera's wife)

On November 11th, IACO (Italian American Cultural Organization) of Braintree and the South Shore celebrated the Feast of San Martino. The event was held at Braintree Town Hall with 250 guests in attendance. How appropriate for this feast to fall on the same day as Veteran's Day, because San Martino (St. Martins) was a soldier himself. The band Sea Breeze opened the evening with "Funiculi, Funicula," which moved the crowd into hand clapping and singing. While guests were arriving, they were serenaded by Paul Carvallaro and his accordion. The MC for the evening was Joe Moscaritolo, who gave an introduction to the evening and called for a moment of silence for our veterans and their families along with those IACO members who have passed.

It is said that at the San Martino celebration, "ogni mosto e' vino" (every juice becomes wine). With that thought in mind, it is time to pour a glass from the vats in which the juices have been fermenting for approximately two months and get a taste of the new wine. This tasting is to determine the quality and characteristics of the year's vintage and to preview what's to come when the wine ages and fully matures. It is also the perfect excuse to throw an autumn party. No Italian feast is without great food and a procession.

Before dinner, a procession was lead by Deacon Pat Guerrini with members and winemakers depicting "The Legend of San Martino." President Richard Leccese portrayed San Martino while Vice President Gerry Mantilla was the beggar. The legend of San Martino says that he was riding to the city of Amiens, France, on a frigid evening in November when he came upon a poor, freezing beggar. In a generous and humble gesture, San Martino cut his military cloak in half and shared it with the man to give him warmth. Later that same evening, Jesus appeared to San Martino in a dream wearing the half-cloak and thanking him for his compassionate gesture. The tale further tells us that at the moment that the saint shared his cloak, the sun came out, and that is why for a short period in early November we have what is called Estate di San Martino (summer of San Martino), also known as Indian summer.

The winemakers were Dominic
Candelieri, Rudi Viscomi, Frank
Butera, John Ventresco, Andrew
gues



San Martino is Richard Leccese and the beggar is Gerry Montilo

Lynne, and Giulio D'Amore, who generously presented their first wines of the season for our guests to sample. White and red wines were tasted throughout the cocktail hour and guests voted for their favorite. The winemaker who received the most votes was Greg Montillo for both his white and red wines. The setup and voting of the winemakers was handled by Gerry Mantilla.

Two regions of Italy, Emilia Romagna and Sicily, were celebrated this evening with food and wine from both regions. The event was catered by Fasano Caterers of Braintree, which consisted of a delicious antipasto along with tortellini in a Bolognese sauce representing Emilia Romagna. Bottles of wine representing the region were also on the table during this course. Our next course was a delicious porchetta (pork) with stuffing and a Sicilian orange and fennel salad. Desert was a beautifully decorated and delicious Sicilian Cassata cake from Modern Bakery of the North End and wonderful Italian cookies from Fratelli Bakery of Weymouth. Sicilian wines accompanied this course. Robert Fasano (Executive Chef) of Fasano Catering gave an introduction to the food being served while Arlene Gatto presented the wines of these regions.

Dancing and music went on throughout the evening with guests purchasing raffle tickets and bidding on silent auction items. This event is held to raise money for our scholarship fund. Each year IACO gives a \$1000.00 scholarship to one or two worthy graduating seniors of Italian Heritage who will be attending an accredited college. To date IACO has awarded \$10,000.00 in scholarship money.

Our President, Richard Leccese, was introduced and gave a special thank you to Nick Abbatangelo, who was the evening's chairperson and worked tirelessly over the last several months with his committee to prepare for this successful evening. Then Richard introduced Sylvia Molloy, chairperson of the scholarship committee, who gave thanks and read an outstanding thank you letter from one of our scholarship recipients, Victoria Polio, stating her appreciation for receiving this scholarship and what it meant

Our president called all committee members forward and presented them with gifts of appreciation for all of their dedication to IACO. President Leccese recognized members who solicited gifts for the raffle and silent auction. Following was dancing, dessert, coffee and homemade cordials for the remainder of the evening.

IACO was founded by Dominic Candelieri in 2006 with the intention of spreading Italian Culture throughout the South Shore.



# **LETTERS POLICY**

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

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

Send letter to: Pamela Donnaruma, Editor, The Post-Gazette, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113



# **YLL THAT ZAZZ**

by Mary N. DiZazzo

# Food, Food, Glorious Food!



Ciao Bella,

I realize some of us are still feeling guilty for indulging on Thanksgiving. There may be a few foods listed here that were consumed. So guilt be gone! Here are some foods for Gorgeous Skin.

**Walnuts** — just a ¼ of a cup reduces inflammation (scaly skin/redness brought on by cold temperatures). Contains omega-3 fatty acid, a must-have for soft, supple skin.

**Cucumbers** — made up of 96 percent water. Eating one is like drinking a large glass of water, except with a satisfying crunch! Contains

silica, a nutrient that helps your body produce hyaluronic acid. Together with the water, this compound helps cells retain moisture so Skin appears fresh and plump.

**Dried Apricots** — nibbling on just a ¼ cup gives you a healthy dose of Vitamin A, which promotes the growth of healthy new skin cells. Important to eat in winter when your metabolism slows down, causing dead skin cells to accumulate resulting in a dull complexion.

**Turkey** — a 3-ounce serving contains over a quarter of your daily zinc requirement, a mineral that promotes healthy skin cells. Zinc may even help to reduce acne.

**Papaya** — this tropical wonder containing Vitamin C carries potent antioxidants protecting skin from damage that causes

**Salmon** — top source of niacin, a B vitamin keeping skin cells healthy. Also, selenium, which is an antioxidant protecting skin from sun damage.

**Sweet Potatoes** — rich in beta-carotene. Converts to vitamin A in your body, helping skin shed dead skin cells.

That's the food scoop my Glamazons ... so go out and eat some! Buona Giornata and God Bless the USA!

Mary N. DiZazzo-Trumbull

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

# Freeway SaysThank You

to All Who Contributed to His Pet Food Drive

I am so delighted by the outcome of my 7th annual Thanksgiving Pet Food Drive for all my pooch friends at the shelter. I was so thrilled! There were bags and bags of dog food, toys, treats, and of course, plenty of dry and wet cat food, plus cat toys and treats, too. My pooch and cat friends were so happy this Thanksgiving! I am only a four-legged pooch but I think my pooch and cat friends deserve the best.

Being in a shelter is very sad. Some pets come from broken homes, others have human companions that cannot take care of them anymore, and some are even abandoned. Sad, isn't it? These unwanted, loveable pets NEED A HOME — a place to feel safe, loved, warm, and taken care of. I'm lucky to have the pooch life that I do, and a human companion who is kind, caring, compassionate, and always there for me. (She's a good cook, too!)

Many individuals dropped off food, including my many friends in the North End and my human's friends.

One donation that over-

whelmed me once again was

from a kind, thoughtful, and considerate individual who never thinks of herself, but always of others. She has no animal of her own; she is just a generous soul. That donation bought most of the food for the shelter.



Freeway with some of the many items that were donated.



Kerrianne Durgin of the MSPCA-Angell Boston accepts the generous donation that was made on behalf of Freeway's Annual Pet Food Drive.

In addition, I need to thank Joan, my co-worker from the Post-Gazette, who suggested from day one that we do a Thanksgiving Pet Food Drive. At first I didn't think it would be a good idea, but today, believe me, I am so happy she came up with the idea because each year it gets better and better! And don't let me forget my driver, Louie Graffeo, who packed the car up and off we

"Thank you, Lou."

I THANK EVERYONE that shared in some way to make my shelter friends happy and I hope ALL of you had a Happy Thanksgiving!

Freeway







# **BRING YOUR LOVE** OF ITALY HOME!

DIRECTV PRESENTS MEDIASET ITALIA

PREMIUM ITALIAN ENTERTAINMENT

CALL NOW! **877.912.2702** 

MO + TAX

+PREFERRED CHOICE™ Package \$19.99/mo. Plus taxes. For 12 mos. w/ 24-mo. agmt.

\$52.99/mo. in months 13-24 (subject to change). Activation of a la carte WorldDirect® pkg. req'd.

Ends 1/20/18" ALL DIRECTY OFFERS REQUIRE 24-MO TV AGREEMENT, EARLY TERMINATION FEE OF \$20/MO, FOR EACH MONTH REMAINING ON AGMT., \$25 ACTIVATION, EQUIPMENT NON-RETURN & ADD'L FEES APPLY.

\$25.99 1-19 PREFERENCY GROCK PROCLE Ends 1/26/19. Workform DRECTV. There is a fee of \$2/100. for each receiver and/or Genie Mini/DRECTV Ready To/Device on your account. Exclusions: Price does not include taxes, \$55 exclusions fee, applicable use tax expense surcharge on retail value of installation, equipment approach, hidd-one, and certain other addit fees & dargs. Some offers may not be available through all channels and in select areas. Workflower?\* Internationals is carte package requires activation of a qualifying beer package. Fairhours available separately at an additional cost, New residential costsumer offers require equipment fease, overfix approved, and overfix and journels. A FRI, Pro-cratef ETF fee (put to \$400) and Equipment Non-Resistant areas. Non-Resistant areas in local processors and overfix and processors are processors. There is a fee of \$2(no.) processor of the property of their respective owners.



### HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE VIDEO SUGGESTIONS

### TELETUBBIES: SILLY FUN + TELETUBBIES: LET'S SING & DANCE! (DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Ent.

Take your little ones along with you to a place of imagination and discovery, where preschoolers and parents can have fun together in a playful, whimsical environment, with two Limited Edition Toy & DVD Gift sets featuring Teletubbies. Both sets include a plush toy and a DVD. Silly Fun features six episodes — "Silly Sausages," "Red," "Reflections," "Big Dance," "Train Ride," "Wait for It," — and a "Po" plush toy. Watch with your little ones as they learn: discovery and imaginative play, recognizing colors, and early social skills, plus sharing and patience. Let's Sing & Dance! has six episodes, including "Muddy Footprints," "Roundy Round," "Sing Song," "Conga," "Music," "Making Sounds," and a "Laa-Laa" plush toy. Encourage your youngsters to join Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa-Laa, and Po as they laugh, play, sing, dance, and share big hugs. Two Teletubbies' adventure explorations that your children will want to see over and over!

#### CSI: MIAMI: THE COMPLETE SERIES (65-DVD) CBS DVD + Paramount

Return to Miami ... again and again, with Horatio (David Caruso) and his cutting-edge forensics squad as they track down the deadliest criminals on South Beach. Underneath the blinding sunshine and hypnotically blue waters are the darkest of mysteries, all included on CSI: Miami — The Complete Series. This 65-disc set contains every dramatic episode and nearly 10 hours of special features from the Emmy and People's Choice Award-winning series, providing ultimate proof that Horatio and crew are one team that never gets burned.

### **CSI: CRIME SCENE** INVESTIGATION: THE **COMPLETE SERIES (93-DVD)** CBS DVD + Paramount

The iconic, investigative drama follows a team of forensic investigators trained to solve crimes by scouring the scene and collecting irrefutable evidence. As one of television's most popular shows, this groundbreaking series made DNA a household term to millions of fans during its 15-season run. The 93-disc set, starring William Peterson, Marg Helgenberger, Laurence Fishburne, Ted Danson, and Elizabeth Shue, comes loaded with over 19 hours of special features, including audio commentaries, behind-the-scene featurettes, character profiles, and a 2-hour blockbuster series finale.

### DIXIE CHICKS – DC MMXVI (2-CD/1 DVD) Columbia Records + Sony Music Ent.

13-time Grammy Award-winning global superstars Dixie Chicks have released their highly anticipated live CD/DVD DCX MMXVI. The Dixie Chicks delivered their spectacularly successful MMXVI world tour last year, playing to hundreds of thousands of fans, filming in multiple locations throughout the U.S. and Canada. The

acclaimed tour marked their first return to U.S. concert stages in 10 years. The Chicks have sold more than 30 million albums, and have earned universal recognition as the biggest selling U.S. female band of all time. his collection features classic hits "Wide Open Spaces," "Goodbye Earl," "Not Ready to Make Nice," "Long Time Gone," "Travelin' Soldier," and "Cowboy Take Me Away." The pair of CDs and the video each contain 25 songs, some done acoustically. A must-have collection for every Dixie Chicks fan!

# **DESPICABLE ME 3 (Blu-ray)**

Universal Pictures Home Ent. Illumination, the studio that brought you Despicable Me, Despicable Me 2 and the biggest animated hit of 2015, Minions, continues the story of Gru, Lucy, their adorable daughters Margo Edith and Agnes and the Minions in Despicable Me 3. After he is fired from the Anti-Villain League for failing to take down Balthazar Bratt, the latest bad guy to threaten humanity, Gru finds himself in the midst of a major identity crisis. But when a mysterious stranger shows up to inform Gru that he has a long-lost twin brother — a brother who desperately wishes to follow in his twin's despicable footsteps, one former super-villain will rediscover just how good it feels

### WHOSE STREETS (DVD) Magnolia Home Ent.

Told by the activists and leaders who live and breathe this movement for justice, an unflinching look at the Ferguson uprising. Unarmed teenager Michael Brown is killed by police and left lying in the street for hours, marking a breaking point for the residents of St. Louis, Missouri. Grief, long-standing racial tensions and renewed anger bring residents together to hold vigils and protest this latest tragedy, Empowered parents, artists, and teachers from around the country come together as freedom fighters. As the National Guard descends on Ferguson with military grade weaponry, these young community members become the torchbearers of a new resistance!

### AFTERIMAGE (DVD) Film Movement

Afterimage, legendary director Andrzej Wajda's final film, is a passionate portrait of renowned avant-garde painter Wladyslaw Strzeminski, who challenged Stalinist orthodoxy. Poland's controversial and visionary artist is followed as he wages war against Stalinism. Though he didn't start painting until after becoming a double amputee, the ever-compelling and charismatic Strzeminski eventually became a professor at the National School of Fine Arts in Lodz. His students treated him like the "messiah of modern painting," but university authorities and the Ministry of Culture had a different opinion. The rebellious artist is eventually expelled from the university and the artists' union. As the Communist authorities continue their efforts to ruin him, Strzeminski remains steadfast in his political and artistic convictions.

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

#### WHEN IS U.S. SEN. WARREN **GETTING INTERVIEWED** BY CHARLIE ROSS?

When I left for Texas, folks were talking about Elizabeth Warren's admission that she, too, had a #MeToo moment with a sexual harasser some 40 years earlier.

Since then, we have moved far beyond Harvey Weinstein and Judge Roy Moore to a long list of harassers, including several liberals. Latest name to join the ranks of the accused is Charlie Rose of CBS and PBS fame. This whole thing has gotten out of control. We have come full circle in the world of liberals. Back in the '90s, starting with Bill Clinton in the Oval Office, liberals went deaf, dumb and blind. Today, the liberals are getting all wrapped up in accusations and are looking like chickens with their heads cut off. It was pretty funny for liberals when it was Roy Moore getting beaten up, but quite another thing now that fellow liberals are on the firing line.

#### **HOW ABOUT TOLL EXPRESS LANES?**

Down in Austin, TX, they instituted toll express roads to get folks in and out of town quickly, especially during rush hour. Up here with the HOV lanes, use of this kind of express lane is geared to the number of occupants in a car. It would be better still to let anyone get into this lane by paying a toll. After all, the issue is moving traffic and not occupants. Down there in off peak hours, for example, the tolls are 35 cents or 65 cents, depending on how far one travels. During peak hours, the toll jumps to \$3.15 and \$6.10.

However, I am opposed to the idea of putting toll roads all over the place just to make money like Mayor Marty Walsh and U.S. Rep. Mike Capuano have been spouting. I can see politicians putting tolls on Routes 99, 60 or 16 just to name a few. If roads were built with bonds that need to be paid off, that's one thing; but if they are public roads maintained by public works, I say don't go that way of tolling. How stupid do our elected

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P6005EA

Estate of **JULIE ANN LUECK** Date of Death August 15, 2017 **INFORMAL PROBATE** 

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jeffrey J. Pokorak of Medford, MA.

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

Jeffrey J. Pokorak of Medford, MA has been informally appointed as the Persona 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: 12/1/17

politicians think we are? It is not about moving traffic more efficiently, it is about digging deeper into our pockets, wallets and bags — nothing more.

#### WHO SHOPS ONLINE AT THIS PLACE?

Just heard that shoppers can now go online to purchase stuff at the Dollar Tree Store! Who does that? Anyone out there want to chime in on this news?

#### SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL MUSIC **DEEP DOWN IN TEXAS**

Down in Texas, everywhere I drove, I listened to listenersupported Simply Beautiful 91.3 KNCT HD I. Great driving music, sort of like WJIB up here in Boston, only better. It can be heard all over Central Texas. I drove 135 miles from Austin to Waco and it came in loud and clear all the way.

#### DRUMMER BOY AT **BASIN STREET SOUTH**

My nephew is teaching his 7-year-old son how to play the drums. He also goes to a music teacher. Back in the day, I had a drum set and played in a band with my younger brother and a couple of other guys. We were called "The SilenSirs." Once we played at the Basin Street South over in Lower Roxbury on Washington Street as an opening band.

I remember we were good, but not exactly great. We did look good and that counted for something ... Getting back to the drums, I waited for everyone to leave the house and then I went upstairs and started drumming. I wanted to do it when no one could hear how badly I thought I might be. Found out once a

drummer, always a drummer, but not ready yet to take my act on the road.

#### HEY, AT LEAST BOSTON **ENGLISH SHOWED UP THIS** YEAR

Boston Latin beat Boston English again over at Harvard Stadium on Thanksgiving Day. This year, English actually showed up. They lost again, but this time it was 22-14, a pretty impressive score for the Blue on Blue. Since graduating in the Class of 1966, English has had only four — count 'em, four victories on Thanksgiving Day. English alumni up in the stands usually bet not on whether English beats Latin, but whether English actually gets any points on the scoreboard. Scoring 14 points is like winning the Super Bowl for these guys.

#### SKY PILOT ON STOOL NEXT TO ME

On the night of my return trip home from Austin, I went down to the Maverick Marketplace for a nice bowl of chili. As I talked with Tess behind the counter, I told her I had just got home that morning about 1:00 am on a JetBlue flight. The guy sitting next to me said he got home on the same plane. When I asked where he sat on the plane, he said he sat in the cockpit since he was the pilot. What are the chances of that happening? He asked me how his flying was and I told him a little bumpy. He said that wasn't his fault, it was a front coming in. As I got up to leave, I said to him "Thanks for the ride home." He laughed and thanked me. File this under Small World Department.

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5938EA Estate of

**INES S. TALMO** Date of Death February 4, 2014 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Paul T. Talmo of Framingham MA, requesting that the Court enter a forma Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Paul T. Talmo of Framingham, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court You have a right to object to this proceed ing. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of December 20, 2017.

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

#### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court. Date: November 22, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/2017

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5943EA

Estate of JOHN H. CENTER Date of Death October 30, 2017 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by William M. Center of Tyngsboro, MA, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that William M Center of Tyngsboro, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of December 20, 2017.

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

#### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON, EDWARD F, DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 22, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/2017

# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



I have a couple of book signings coming up in the near future. One will be at I AM Books, located in the North Square section of the North End. I will let you know the date and time frame as soon as we carve it in stone. Until then, the next book signing of my latest offering, True Short Stories, about my antics as a teen from East Boston attending English High School in the mid-1950s, will be at FLOWERS BY SAL, a florist shop located at 716 Cambridge Street in Cambridge. I plan to be there next Monday, December 4th, from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm. If the address sounds familiar, it is due to the fact that the last of the annual Italian feasts, the S.S. Cosmas and Damian Society Feast, takes place in front of Sal and Marie DiDomenico's flower shop every September. The parading of the statue of the twin saints ends at **Flowers by Sal**, where the festivities continue with music, great food, and lots of well-wishers. Anyway, if you would like to meet me, say "Hello," and purchase a signed copy of my book, plan to drop by Flowers by Sal on Monday, December 4th, between 2:00 and 6:00 pm. I will have snacks ready for you in case you are hungry when you arrive. The cost of the book is \$20.00. See you then.

Just the other day, someone sent me an email with pictures of some of the home front things people had to live with during WWII. Among them was a picture of a car windshield with a decal on the bottom corner of the passenger's side of the window. The decal had the letter "A" in the middle, and I remembered the same decal on the windshields of Dad's 1937 Plymouth and Uncle Nick's '37 Chevy. The only difference was that they were either letters "B" or "C." I think that Dad had a "B" and Uncle Nick, the "C." What I am trying to say is that, with the war raging, gasoline was rationed.

Letter A entitled you to four gallons of gas, B to eight gallons and C more than eight, depending on a particular profession which might necessitate driving more miles than what four or eight gallons could cover in a week. Dad played bass violin, worked in night clubs or local hotels, and had to drive to work six nights per week. Add to this possible private functions on weekends and you can see why he needed more gas than the average person. Uncle Nick was in the Navy and stationed at the Newport Rhode Island Naval Base; quite often, he had to commute back to Boston to play

naval events. He had made it to the reed section of the Andre Kostelanetz Navy Orchestra, playing tenor sax for military functions both in Rhode Island and in the Boston area. As a result, he needed a lot of gas. Add to this the impossibility of buying tires and you have an idea of what it was like to own a car in the early 1940s.

If Nanna, Babbononno, or Mom had to do something that necessitated transportation, there was the local trolley and the subway. About once a week, Uncle Nick's first wife, Aunt Ada, and my mother would head to Filene's or Jordan Marsh to shop. I was, more often than not, dressed like a little Boston gentleman and brought from East Boston to Downtown Crossing. I enjoyed the trips to those now gone department stores because a stop at Jordan Marsh's toy department was always included. Later in the day, Mom and Aunt Ada would get hungry and we would head for one of the restaurants that dotted both Washington Street and Tremont Street. Before heading to a restaurant, both my aunt and mother had to stop at the café in Jordan Marsh to buy blueberry muffins. They were famous back then, and if only a snack was in order, we would stay at the café and coffee and muffins for the ladies and milk and a muffin for me would hold us until dinner time.

At times, Dad didn't play on Sundays. If this was the case, Mom would talk Nanna into not cooking a Sunday dinner and Dad would check his gas supply and we would head to a restaurant. The favorites on the North Shore were the Town Line House, Carl's Duck Farm, and Chickland. But if gas was in short supply, we headed to downtown Boston to Jacob Wirth's or the Athens Olympia both on Stuart Street, La Cantina in the North End, or to the Cathay House in Chinatown. Nanna and Babbononno loved trying the foods at non-Italian restaurants. If we headed into the North End or stayed in East Boston to eat at an Italian restaurant, my grandparents would compare their dinners with the way Nanna might have cooked them. They were especially critical about the gravy that covered pasta dishes. To Babbononno, no one's gravy was as good as Nanna's.

Each time we returned home, Dad would check his sheet of gas coupons. These stamp-like sheets were issued to drivers, the amount depending on the letter category indicated by those decals on the car windshield. If you purchased gas, you had to give a certain amount of coupons to the station attendant along with the money for the gas. Gas was only about 19 cents a gallon in, let's say, 1942, but the war was raging and everyone concerned was strict about following orders about rationing.

Let's pick a year: In 1942, average prices were a bit different than today. A new car was \$1,100 (production of new cars ended in April of 1942 and didn't start again until 1946; if you bought a car in 1942, it might be a used one or a new one left over from 1941.) A new house was \$6,950, bread 9 cents a loaf, stamps 3 cents, minimum wage 30 cents an hour, and salaries around \$2,400 per year. The war had put an end to the Great Depression and everyone who wanted to work could find a job with no trouble at all.

I was only four years old at the time, but remember heading into town with Aunt Ada and Mom. There were lady drivers at the helm of the trolleys on Meridian Street in East Boston. As I got older, I became aware that many of the jobs held by men were now in the hands of women. As more and more young men headed into the military, more and more women entered the workforce and the tradition of men only in certain occupations came to an end. The funny part of it is that the ladies did as well or even better than the men that had preceded them and there was no turning back, even once the war was

Once the war was over, things gradually began to return to normal at home. Uncle Nick's marriage to Aunt Ada was one of the fatalities of WWII. They divorced and, in 1950, Uncle Nick married Aunt Dorothy and they would stay together until they passed away in their mid-nineties. Uncle Gino made it home from the Pacific in one piece and never wanted to look back. Dad continued working in the Boston schools for the next 30 years and played music several nights a week until he was 80. Our family was luckier than most, surviving the war years without any fatalities, and I thank God for that.

If you would like to order a copy of my book *TRUE SHORT*STORIES by mail, send a check for \$20.00 made out to **John**Christoforo and mail it to Beagsley Publishing Co. Box 342, Arlington, MA 02476.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

DIAMONDS **ROLEX** ESTATE JEWELRY

Bought & Sold
Jewelers Exch. Bldg.
Jim (617) 263-7766

Small Ads Get **Big** Results

For more information, call 617-227-8929.

# Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli

COPYRIGHT, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

# CANNALICCHI A Sicilian Christmas Fig Cookie

DOUGH:

1 egg

5 cups flour

3/4 cup water

3 tablespoons sugar

1/2 cup vegetable oil

FILLING:

1 pound dried figs

1 cup red wine

1 cup water

1/8 teaspoon black ground pepper

1/2 cup fine chopped walnuts (optional)

Sprinkle of salt

Preheat oven to 400°F.

**DAY 1:** Place dried figs in bowl with wine and water to soak overnight. Cover and refrigerate. (Less liquid may be required if you are not using dried figs.)

**DAY 2:** Chop figs or mince in food processor. Add black pepper, walnuts and mix in bowl.

**DOUGH PREPARATION:** Place flour, sugar and salt in a 12-inch bowl. Add slightly beaten egg and oil. Add water gradually until mixture holds together. Remove from bowl. Knead to smooth consistency. Cut into four portions. Roll individual portions into long rolls one-inch thick. Cut these rolls into three-inch portions. Place in bowl. Keep covered. With rolling pin, roll each three-inch portion into long strips approximately 1½ inches wide. Place filling in center of strip with teaspoon. Fold sides over. Turn so seam is on bottom. Press to flatten slightly. Cut pieces diagonally about 1½ inches long. Longer pieces can be shaped as S's or U's or round-like doughnuts. Slit sides with point of knife before baking. Place on greased cookie sheet and bake in 400°F oven for twenty to twenty-five minutes. Tops will not color much. Bottoms will brown. Cool before storing in a canister.

NOTE: During Christmas week, relatives gathered in one of the homes to make this traditional Christmas cookie. I particularly loved watching my grandmother and Aunt Marianna shape thin rounds of dough with the rolling pin. Then they placed the fig mixture in the center of each round of dough and proceeded to gently pinch pleat the dough around the fig filling. It created a small tart. Not having mastered that procedure, I continue to shape my Cannalicchi as mentioned in the recipe.

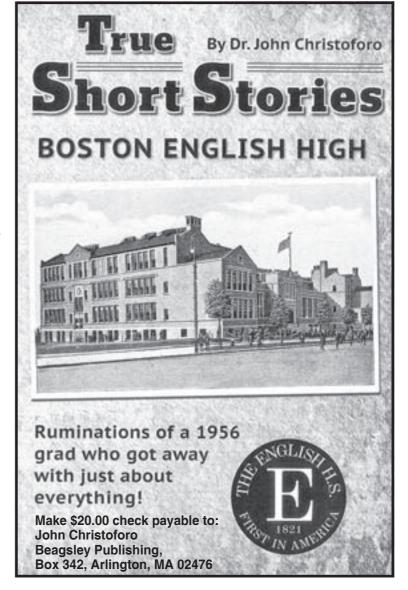


Fully Insured Lic #017936

Heating & Air Conditioning Sales, Service & Installation

Ken Shallow 617.593.6211

kenskjs@aol.com



THE

Johnny Christy

Orchestra

MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS

781-648-5678

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5821GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR **INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT** TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

> In the Matter of **LOIS PIERCE** of Framingham, MA RESPONDENT **Alleged Incapacitated Person**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mindy Wolrich of Framingham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Lois Pierce is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Mindy Wolrich of Framingham, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **December 14**, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 16, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/1/17

designated room, the bids will be opened and read publicly

**DECEMBER 14. 2017.** 

issue and a printed copy of the Proposal form.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS** 

Sealed General Bids for MPA Contract No. AP1812-C1. FY19 AUTHORITY WIDE TERM INTERIOR

BUILDING REPAIRS, BOSTON, BEDFORD, AND WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, will be

received by the Massachusetts Port Authority at the Capital Programs Department Office, Suite

209S, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128-2909

until 11:00 A.M. local time on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2017, immediately after which, in a

The work includes PROVISION OF ALL EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, LABOR, AND SUPERVISION

NECESSARY FOR GENERAL CARPENTRY TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES AS REMOVE

AND/OR INSTALL INTERIOR PARTITIONS, HUNG CEILINGS, AND CABINETS AT LOGAN

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WORCESTER REGIONAL AIRPORT, AND HANSCOM CIVIL

Bid Documents in electronic format may be obtained free of charge at the Authority's Capital

Programs Department Office, together with any addenda or amendments, which the Authority may

The estimated contract cost is ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS

Bidding procedures and award of the contract and sub-contracts shall be in accordance with

the provisions of Sections 44A through 44J inclusive, Chapter 149 of the General Laws of the

A proposal guaranty shall be submitted with each General Bid consisting of a bid deposit for five

(5) percent of the value of the bid; when sub-bids are required, each must be accompanied by a deposit equal to five (5) percent of the sub-bid amount, in the form of a bid bond, or cash, or a

certified check, or a treasurer's or a cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the Massachusetts Port Authority in the name of which the Contract for the work is to

be executed. The bid deposit shall be (a) in a form satisfactory to the Authority, (b) with a surety

company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth and satisfactory to the Authority, and (c)

conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the bid.

AIRFIELD ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS OVER A ONE (1) YEAR PERIOD.

Bid documents will be made available beginning WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017

PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CAPITAL PROGRAMS

DEPARTMENT (ABOVE ADDRESS) AT 10:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME ON THURSDAY,

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5811PM

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER **PURSUANT TO** 

G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405 In the matter of CAROLYN C. OSTAPOWER of Milford, MA

RESPONDENT

(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Stephen Ostapower of Watertown, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Carolyn C. Ostapower is in need of a Conservato or other protective order and requesting that Stephen Ostapower of Watertown, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **December 13, 2017**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have file to the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance vou or vour attorney must file a written affidavi stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court

Date: November 15, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/17

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

> Docket No. MI17P5618EA Estate of

ROGER E. CARLOCK Date of Death August 7, 2017 **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner David S. Carlock of Houston, TX, Petitioner Robert M. Carlock of New York, NY, Petitioner Christopher T. Carlson of Wellesley, MA a Will has been admitted to informal

David S. Carlock of Houston, TX, Robert M. Carlock of New York, NY, Christopher T. Carlson of Wellesley, MA have been informally appointed as the Personal Representatives 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 car 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: 12/1/17

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

It barely cleared the House and the Senate isn't going to be a cakewalk for the GOP. If the Republicans continue not to get things done, why should voters stick with them in the 2018 midterm elections? They have the House, Senate, and Oval Office, yet seem so divided and impotent.

Another defeat doesn't help Republicans and just makes Democrats smile.

As for the wall on the Mexican border, if they can't make it happen by the time the 2020 presidential sweepstakes returns, President Trump could be a one-termer like a certain peanut farmer many of us remember.

### Never a Good Idea to Send Out Naked Pics of Self

A Republican congressman in Texas is in lots of hot water. Seems years back, he sent a lady friend a naked photo of himself. Does anyone think it is ever a good idea for anyone to mail or email a naked photo of yourself? Apparently, this congressman never got that memo not to do it. Guys seem to like doing this, but why??? It can only come back to bite you and make you look like the idiot that you are.

### **End Quote**

"Money, a blessing that is of no advantage to us excepting when we part with it."

— Ambrose Bierce

# • Donne 2000 (Continued from Page 5)

were the only choices on the menu ... That's all you really need anyway!

One of the most memorable highlights was dressing in Mardi Gras costumes and having a parade in true New Orleans fashion on the way to a farewell dinner at the famous Tujagues Restaurant. Onlookers were cheering the group on as they walked along Decatur Street, for it is not unusual for a parade to

break out for various occasions. If y'all have not visited New Orleans, it is definitely a mustsee! It will prove to be an unforgettable experience.

Donne 2000 is a non-profit organization that keeps Italian traditions alive from generation to generation through ethnic and cultural events. For more info, visit www.Donne2000.com.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Middlesex Probate and Family Court** 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

Docket No. MI16P4404PM CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION

> In the Interests of **IRENE WRIGHT**

RESPONDENT

# Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

The petition asks the court to make a deter mination that the powers of the Guardian and or Conservator should be expanded, modified or limited since the time of the appointment The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this pro ceeding. If you wish to do so, you or you attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of December 15, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance you or your attorney must file a written affidavi stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/17

(617) 768-5800

TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A CONSERVATOR

of Waltham, MA

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Martha E. Howe of Lowell, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the cour Expand the powers of a Conservator.

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court.

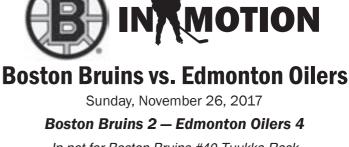
# Remember Your **Loved Ones**



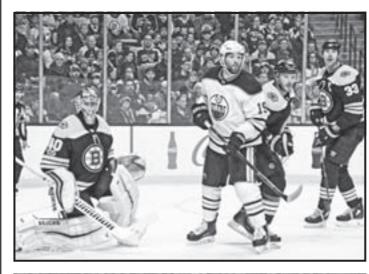
The Post-Gazette accepts memorials throughout the year.

Please call

617-227-8929



In net for Boston Bruins #40 Tuukka Rask In net for Edmonton Oilers #33 Cam Talbot







(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

#### The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a labor and materials Date: November 17, 2017 payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract price. The surety shall be a surety company or securities satisfactory to the Authority. Attention is called to the minimum rate of wages to be paid on the work as determined under the provisions of Chapter 149, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 26 to 27G, inclusive, as amended. The Contractor will be required to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedules listed in Division II, Special Provisions of the Specifications, which wage rates have been predetermined by the U. S. Secretary of Labor and /or the Commissioner of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts, whichever is greater.

The successful Bidder will be required to purchase and maintain Bodily Injury Liability Insurance and Property Damage Liability Insurance for a combined single limit of \$1,000,000.00. Said policy shall be on an occurrence basis and the Authority shall be included as an Additional Insured. See the insurance sections of Division I, General Requirements and Division II, Special Provisions for

No filed sub-bids will be required for this contract.

This Contract is also subject to Affirmative Action requirements of the Massachusetts Port Authority contained in the NonDiscrimination and Affirmative Action article of Division I, General Requirements and Covenants, and to the Secretary of Labor's Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Opportunity and the Standard Federal Equal Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications (Executive Order 11246).

The General Contractor is required to submit a Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities prior to award of the Contract, and to notify prospective sub-contractors of the requirement for such certification where the sub-contract exceeds \$10,000.

 $Complete\ information\ and\ authorization\ to\ view\ the\ site\ may\ be\ obtained\ from\ the\ Capital\ Programs$ Department Office at the Massachusetts Port Authority. The right is reserved to waive any informality in or reject any or all proposals.

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

Run date: 12/1/2017

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI16P4403GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

> In the Interests of **IRENE WRIGHT** of Waltham, MA

#### RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Martha E. Howe of Lowell, MA, in the above captioned matter requesting that the court Expand the powers of a Guardian.

The petition asks the court to make a deter mination that the powers of the Guardian and/ or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of December 15, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court

Date: November 22, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/1/17

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5878EA Estate of

JOHN J. CAMPBELL JR. Also Known As JOHN J. CAMPBELL Date of Death September 13, 2017 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Mary Ann LaRuffa of Arlington, MA, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Mary Ann LaRuffa of Arlington, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of December 18, 2017.

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION** UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court

Date: November 20, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/2017

# **EXTRA** Innings

by Sal Giarratani



#### Who is this Otani Kid?



The Rangers, Twins, and Yankees can pay the most for highly touted free agent pitcherslugger Shohei Otani, 23, who is the reigning Pacific League MVP with the Nippon Ham Fighters in Japan. Ortani can only agree to a minor league deal subject to a signing bonus deal. If added to a major league team, he would receive the minimum salary of \$545,000 for 2018 and not be eligible for salary arbitration until 2020.

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### **NOTICE OF SALE**

Notice is hereby given by Stephens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 539A, that on December 16, 2017 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 notice and sale:

1995 BMW 525i, BLACK Vin: WBAHE5320SGA64497

Ezra R. Forte 3 Fisher Way Westford, MA 01886

2004 HONDA CIVIC, BLACK

Vin: 1HGEM21534L040806 Andri Zoquier 88 Boston Street, Apt. 1 Dorchester, MA 02125 Run dates: 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 2017

#### He was 3-2 with a 3.20 ERA in 2017 and also batted .332 in 65 games with 16 doubles, 8 homers and 31 RBIs. At the moment, teams seeking his services must file a \$20-million posting fee. He will have 21 days to choose a team and must sign with a team by December 23rd at the latest. The six-footfour, 214-pound Ortani pitches right and hits left. With a

ing rotation. Otani is a career .286 hitter and is 42-15 with a 2.52 ERA as a pitcher. Most major league scouts believe he is far more valuable as an ace rather than slugger. However, he wants to

do both.

triple digit fastball and a 94

slider, he would be a number

one or two starter in any pitch-

It is not often that you see a pitcher who can actually hit, too. I remember back when Earl Wilson was a number two starter for the Red Sox and was always a threat at home plate as well. One year he whacked, I believe, six home runs, actually winning his own games at home plate.

From 2014-16, Ortani was 36-13 with a 2.25 ERA and batted .286 with 37 homers and 115 RBIs. He is right up there with Babe Ruth, who from 1915-18 was 78-40 with a 2.05 ERA and batted .301 with 20 homers and 111 RBIs.

If the Yankees get him, Tanaka stays healthy, and the Yankees keep CC Sabathia, they could go all the way next year.

#### Round Rock Express Expressing an Interest ...

The Round Rock Express might be getting closer to going back as an affiliate with the Houston Astros in 2019. Round Rock is now connected with the Texas Rangers, but that expires at the end of the 2018 Pacific Coast League season. Round Rock says no decision has been made as of yet.

Astros President Reid Ryan founded the Express in 2000. Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan is a special adviser. The Express were an Astros affiliate from 2000 to 2010, the first five years in Double A Texas League and the rest as a Triple A team in the Pacific Coast League. They switched to the Rangers in 2011. They have finished first or second in league home attendance for 11 straight years.

Most baseball people think the Express and Texas will most likely line up with the San Antonio Triple A team in 2019, which would set up an Interstate 35 Astros-Rangers rivalry.

Happy Birthday To ... Former Red Sox catcher Mike

Ryan, just turned 76 years old.

#### Beltran on Deck or Yankees?

Carlos Beltran was interviewed yesterday for the New York Yankees' managerial opening, making him the sixth candidate to be considered for the job. Beltran, 40, just retired from the World Champion Houston Astros after his 20-year career. He is also a former Yankee, playing for the Bronx Bombers from 2014-16.

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5443PM

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER

**PURSUANT TO** G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405 In the Matter of DOMENIC D'AMICO of Stoneham, MA

RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has beer filed by Maria Mahoney of Stoneham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Domenic D'Amico is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Maria Mahoney of Stoneham, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of December 14, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 16. 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/17 **LEGAL NOTICE** 

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

Docket No. MI17P5444GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

> In the Matter of DOMENIC D'AMICO of Stoneham, MA

RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Maria Mahoney of Stoneham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Domenic D'Amico is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Maria Mahonev of Stoneham, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian

to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of December 14, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness. HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 16, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/1/17

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5827EA

Estate of **BARBARA ANDREWS PAGE** Also Known As BARBARA A. PAGE, BARBARA PAGE Date of Death February 12, 2009 CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Diane P. Stone of Natick, MA, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition

The Petitioner requests that **Diane P. Stone** Natick, MA be appointed as Persona Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceed ing. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of December 14, 2017.

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

#### **UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION** UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court. Date: November 16, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/2017

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5754PM CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER

**PURSUANT TO** G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405 In the Matter of **HECTOR R. PEREZ** of Waltham, MA

RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all interested persons, a petition has been filed by Migdalia Perez of Waltham MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Hector R. Perez is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and request

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Surety on the

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of December 11, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance. you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR. First Justice of this Court. Date: November 13, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/1/17

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

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

Docket No. MI17P5752GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

> In the Matter of **HECTOR R. PEREZ** of Waltham, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Migdalia Perez of Waltham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Hector R. Perez is in need of a Guard ian and requesting that Migdalia Perez of Waltham, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Suretv

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of December 11, 2017. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

# IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.

First Justice of this Court. Date: November 13, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/1/17



# **Happy Birthday Henry Armstrong**

Held Three Titles in Three Divisions at a Time When There Were Only Eight Total

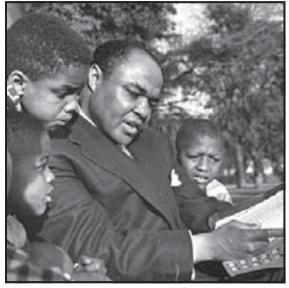


The multi division champ

Today, when there are so many different divisions in boxing that it is almost impossible to count them all, we often hear about multi-title holders. So-called experts like to point to these so-called champs and tell us how this is proof today's boxers are better than those from the past. On top of these sweeping statements being plain idiotic, they are also a slander on the great champions who once practiced the lost Art of Boxing.

If you want to know what a tri-division champion looks like, just check out the record of

Henry Armstrong. Hammerin' Hank, also known as Homicide Hank, was born on December 12, 1909, in Columbus, Mississippi. He began his professional boxing career in 1931. He got off to a rough start, losing his first fight by knockout. He would not lose another bout by stoppage until 1941, and those would be the only two times Henry ever lost other than by decision.



The Rev. Henry Armstrong



Lou Ambers vs. Henry

In 1937, Armstong stopped Petey Sarren in the 6th round to capture the World Featherweight Championship. A year later, he moved up to welterweight and wrested that title from the courageous Barney Ross. Three months later, he would take off weight and defeat Lou Ambers to pick up the World Lightweight Championship. He now held three out of eight possible world titles. This was a positively amazing feat considering the competition that was around at the time. There were no shopping form titles in order to pick the easiest fight. This was a time when the best fighters fought each other. Armstrong would also go on to try for the Middleweight Title, holding champion Ceferino Garcia to a draw. If he had won that fight, he would have been able to lay claim to having won championships in half of the divisions.

Henry Armstrong had a nonstop action style. He constantly moved forward while moving, bobbing and weaving. He never tired and would wears opponents down. He fought everyone and he fought often. He was a one-man perpetual motion machine.

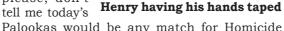
In 1941, Henry played a part in a movie star-

ring Light Heavyweight Champion Billy Conn. The movie was titled The Pittsburgh Kid and in it Armstrong and Conn have a scene where they are sparring. There had been talk at one time of matching these two greats up, but it never happened. Fortunately, you can see footage of the two of them from the movie if you go to Youtube. It is really

the ring in 1945. His career record is positively outstanding. Out of 181 fights, he only lost 21 times with another 9 result-

101 knockout wins and was only stopped twice. In 1937 alone, he had 27 fights, winning all of them, including 26 by knockout. So, please, don't

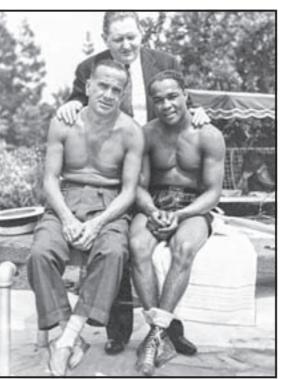
**Henry Armstrong** 



Palookas would be any match for Homicide

The former champ went on to become a Baptist minister and inspirational speaker. He passed away in 1988 at the age of 78.

If you want to see what a true champion looks like, take some time to watch the great Henry Armstrong in action.



Armstrong with his manager and Al Jolson

# HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB



by Richard Preiss

THE BRUINS AT THANKS-GIVING — It's long been known in the corridors of the TD Garden that the folks who run the Bruins hold up Thanksgiving as an important measuring stick for the team as does the NHL in general.

The thinking goes along these lines: The standings at Thanksgiving time are a pretty good indication of how the teams will line up for the playoffs following the conclusion of the regular season in April.

Bruins President Cam Neely holds to that line of thinking as did former head coach Claude Julien in the nine plus seasons he served as the bench boss of the Bruins. Current coach Bruce Cassidy made a passing reference to the standard a couple of weeks ago and, while not saying openly whether he buys into it, he at least acknowledged its existence in the current climate on Causeway Street.

As the season began, we noted that the 2017-2018 Bruins would probably once again be a playoff picture team. That is, as the regular season reaches its final countdown stages, the Bruins once again would be a team actively pursuing a playoff berth. They also would have considerable competition from several teams seeking the same outcome.

In essence, we said the Black and Gold would be in the playoff picture throughout the current regular season, but whether they would make it into the select group within the frame or be left standing slightly outside it would not be determined until the last moment.

Recall that the Bruins were eliminated from a playoff berth in both 2015 and 2016 on the final day of the regular season and were able to secure a spot in the 2017 postseason event based on tiebreakers. If the Bruins had lost one additional game across the six-month, 82-game regular season last year, they would have failed to gain a playoff berth for a third straight campaign.

That's how close the line of demarcation has been drawn for the Bruins in the recent past. So, how were things standing for the Bruins as they skated through Thanksgiving weekend at the Garden?

At the close of play on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, the Bruins were in fourth place in the Atlantic Division of the Eastern Conference, having amassed 24 points in 22 games played. The Bruins were one point behind third place Detroit (25 points) and also trailed second place Toronto (31) and conference leader Tampa Bay

However, the Bruins were only two points ahead of fifth place Ottawa (22) and three ahead of sixth place Montreal (21). Thus, the Bruins would not be in a position to claim one of the automatic playoff berths that are awarded to the top three teams in the division. Nor would they have been eligible for either of the two Eastern Conference wildcard berths, since Chicago,

Dallas and Minnesota all had 25 points in the Metropolitan Division.

Thus, if the season had ended on that Sunday, the Bruins would have been standing on the sidelines once again by the slimmest of margins. But that's just it. It's the slimmest of margins. A couple of more victories and the Bruins would have crossed the demarcation line for either an automatic berth or a wild card berth. A couple of more setbacks and they would be further down in the ranks.

So, yes, as Thanksgiving weekend came to a close, the Bruins were once again a playoff picture team, much like the last three years, with the nightly yo-yo effect of wins and losses bouncing them up a notch or two or pushing them down

There's a good chance this situation will continue throughout the regular season. Then, in April, it will stop and what side of the demarcation line the Bruins are on when it stops will determine whether or not the Bruins gain a berth in the 2018 playoffs. Until then, perhaps all members of Bruins Nation should be thankful that the team is performing as well as it is, given the significant number of injuries that the Bruins have had to deal with since the start of the season. To have a 10-8-4 record through the end of Thanksgiving weekend wasn't that bad, given the number of players who haven't been available.

"No one feels sorry for us," noted Cassidy. "It more about the guys who are in the lineup for us. We need more energy regardless of who we are playing against. I don't think there are any easy games in this league ever. It is on us to bring our energy regardless of the opponent." The lower energy level has translated into a reduced scoring production. If you score fewer goals, you are going to win fewer games. A lack of scoring has meant the difference in a number of games this season. "It would help him (goalie Tuukka Rask) a lot to get offense," stated Cassidy. "We're not a four- or five- or six-goal team on most nights. We're in that three area. If we get to that, we're usually okay."

Netminder Anton Khudobin filled in nicely when Rask was out with an injury and did play more for a stretch even when Rask was available. But Rask downplayed any so-called goalie controversy. "Dobby was getting the wins," said Rask. "And that's what matters. We need wins." Cassidy was careful to point out that although Rask did not play for a span of games, he was still active in practice. "He missed a little bit of time, but he was still on the ice. He's a world class goaltender. He's going to get his wins."

Going forward, the best thing the rest of the Bruins can do is improve their scoring, enough so that victory is achieved regardless of who is between the pipes.

