POST-GAZETTE

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 15, 2023

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51ST ANNUAL NORTH END CHRISTMAS PARADE



(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

"Grabbed & Shaken" MTG

U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R- GA accused U.S. Rep. Richard McCormick of getting "physically aggressive" with her in November during a meeting with Speaker Mike Johnson. Green complained to the House speaker two weeks ago that McCormick "grabbed her by the shoulders and shook her in November.

McCormick claims he was simply trying to "encourage" Greene after he opposed her censure resolution and the House advanced his, but that she didn't take it well and he immediately apologized.

"I understand why there would be a lot of raw emotions following the censure vote given that her censure was tabled and mine passed, McCormick said. My intention was to encourage Rep. Greene by making a friendly gesture ... I immediately apologized and have not spoken to her since."

McCormick's resolution passed 234-188, with four voting present.

High School Coach Said He Was Clueless

A Florida high school volleyball coach who was removed for allowing a transgender girl to play on the varsity female squad said he had "no clue" she had transitioned. Five high school staff members were suspended after someone tipped off school authorities that the high school was allowing a biological male to compete as a female in violation of state law.

The former coach said he had been unaware of the student's biological sex. The sophomore had been on the team for the past two years.

Cop's "Stunning" Laughter

A white police officer from Reform, Alabama has been placed on leave after she was caught on video

(Continued on Page 10)

Celebrating the 51st Annual Christmas Parade, the North End Athletic Association brought Santa to visit the North End. Santa arrived by helicopter on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 12:30 pm at the Christopher Columbus Park on Atlantic Avenue.

Hundreds joined Santa. Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Bargie, Wally and Tessie of the Boston Red Sox, Blades of the Boston Bruins, Elsa and Anna, Darth Vader and many other Christmas characters, along with Santa's Elves at the Parade.

Santa and all his friends joined the Annual Christmas Parade that made its way through the streets of the North

End. Spreading the Christmas cheer along the parade route was the Boston Fireman's Band, the Aleppo Shriners Units, the Italian American Band, Woburn High School Marching Band, Medford High School Marching Band, North Reading High School Band, The National Lancers and so much more.

(Additional Photos on Pages 6 & 7)

Honorable Michael D. Ricciuti Appointed Chief Justice of the Superior Court

frey A. Locke announced the appointment of Judge Michael D. Ricciuti as Chief Justice of the Superior Court for a five-year term in accordance with G.L. c.211B, §5, effective December 22, 2023.

"I am pleased to appoint Judge Ricciuti to lead the Superior Court for the next five years," said Chief Justice Locke. "He has the leadership and management skills needed to succeed in this role. Judge Ricciuti's legal acumen, judicial temperament, and interpersonal skills will successfully guide his leadership. He is highly respected and trusted by his colleagues who appreciate that he works collaboratively and leads by example and consensus. I believe that he will very ably meet the standard of excellence set by Chief Justice Brieger and continue her strong leadership of the Superior Court."

Trial Court Chief Justice Jef- Judge Ricciuti was appointed Judge Ricciuti began his legal by Governor Charlie Baker to the Superior Court in 2017. He has served in five counties and serves six-month rotations in the Business Litigation Session. He is the judge appointed to oversee the Massachusetts Asbestos Litigation docket and its hundreds of cases statewide. His current committee participation includes serving on the Superior Court Judicial Education Committee and the Supreme Judicial Court Advisory Committee on Massachusetts Evidence Law. He also serves as a judicial mentor.

"I am honored by Chief Justice Locke's confidence in me, and by the support of my colleagues," said Judge Ricciuti. "I look forward to working with incoming Trial Court Chief Justice Heidi Brieger and continuing her exemplary stewardship of the Superior Court."

career in 1987 as a law clerk for Honorable A. David Mazzone in the U.S. District Court. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College and a cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School. He has served on a wide variety of legal and community committees, currently serving on the Boston Bar Journal Board of Editors.

Judge Ricciuti and Court Administrator Thomas G. Ambrosino will reappoint Elaina M. Quinn as Deputy Court Administrator for the Superior Court.

The Superior Court Department serves 14 counties with 82 authorized judicial positions across the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Trial Court includes seven court departments with 393 judges who deliver justice in 94 courthouses across the state.

Stirpe Nostra

A weekly column highlighting some of the more interesting aspects of our

ancestry...our lineage...our roots.



THE ROOTS OF YOUR SALAMI

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

Destructive forces of nature usually include earthquakes, volcanoes, storms, floods, etc. It might seem strange for some of us to discover that these destructive forces often leave benefits for mankind, and that these benefits accrue and become obvious in strange ways. In order to get to the roots of your salami, we must go back to an earlier issue when I wrote that there was a time when Rome and its suburbs were covered with the quiet blue waters of the Tyrrhenian Sea. It all started when nature combined its forces in a series of volcanic eruptions which formed a cosmic spectacle, so long ago, that no human eye could have possibly seen it.

One of these eruptions formed the stony "tufa," a rock substance without which, many of those Roman walls, sewers, temples, and even the catacombs could not have been constructed. Another eruption left the "Pozzolana," an ingredient which enabled the Roman concrete to resist the destructive agencies of time and weather, better than much of the stone. Still another volcano left that indestructible granite which enabled them to make those Roman paving stones that have no equal anywhere else in the world. The volcanic eruption that is of most concern at this particular time is the one which caused hot ashes and debris to completely bury a growing forest like a giant coal bin, while at the same time shaping the Palatine Hill. In time, this buried forest was converted into a gigantic charcoal reservoir. Nature was kind of providing the fuel for those hundreds of thousands of braziers which provided the necessary heat



for warmth and cooking during later eras.

For hundreds of years during the growth of development of ancient Rome, her tenement houses had none of the simple conveniences of today; no lighting, no heating system, no sinks, toilets, or bathrooms as we know them. The use of the braziers added the risk of noxious fumes and were serious fire hazards. People often spoke of the good fortune of the homeless beggars who had nothing to fear from charcoal fumes or burning houses.

These early Romans were frugal people, the poorest classes subsisted on a basic diet of coarse bread, porridge made from millet or polenta meal, and their usual drink was water. The high fire risk and the lack of refrigeration kept cooking methods down to a primitive minimum and caused even the great middle-class to concentrate on low spoilage foods. Figs, cheese, olives, and dried foods were popular, but the greatest demand was for the salt preserved foods. This demand soon caused the production of a kind of salami and prosciutto ... that's the truth ... so help me! The only thing I don't know is the price per pound at that time.

NEXT WEEK:Fucus

VFW North End Post 144



Joe Blazo, from VFW North End Post 144, presents a generous donation to North End Against Drugs President John Pregmon.

Fundraising Efforts For East Boston Holiday Lighting Continues

by Sal Giarratani

Lisa Cappuccio has launched the East Boston Holiday Lighting Program in coordination with area residents, the Main Streets Program and the East Boston Chamber of Commerce. Said Cappuccio, "We're raising funds for holiday lighting for places like Maverick, Day Square, Orient Heights and Central Square." A small core group has been out there hustling up needed funding for the neighborhood's tradition of holiday lighting in the neighborhood. Business owners have joined in on this effort. Hopefully, the group seeking to brighten up the neighborhood will pledge to decorate their storefronts too.

State Rep. Adrian Madero said he recalled enjoying all the Christmas lights and decorations growing up here. I am thrilled residents are working to bring them back to spread cheer during the holiday season.

If you would like to help with this Holiday Lighting Program, contact *Lisa@bostonconcepts.net*





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Photos submitted for publication should have a minimum resolution of 150 dpi (or ppi), 300 dpi for best results. Photos taken with camera phones are typically only 72 dpi and will be too grainy to print. If taking photos for a submission, please use a digital camera. If supplying existing photos, please submit a high-quality print for scanning.





Friday, December 15, 2023 -2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Fact & Fantasy: Biographical Films of Edwardian-era Entertainers

Join Doreen Marshall, a dancer, costume designer, and aficionado of the films of the Golden Age of Hollywood, to view and discuss biographical films of Edwardianera entertainers.

This week we will view The Girl in the Red Velvet Swing (1955). Joan Collins plays Evelyn Nesbit, a young model and aspiring actress who is part of a fateful love triangle involving a much older man and a millionaire. The result is the 1907 murder trial which becomes one of the most captivating and sensational of the era.

Directed by Richard Fleischer and starring: Joan Collins, Farley Granger, and Ray Milland.

1 hr 49 min. Rated: no rating The North End Branch Library is located at 25 Parmenter Street, North End, Boston, MA 02113 Phone: 617-227-8135



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Friday, December 15, 2023

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.

In Loving Memory of

Louis J. "Fudgy" Capodilupo, Jr.

December 15, 2011 12th Anniversary

A Bridge Called Love



It takes us back to brighter years, to happier sunlit days and to precious moments that will be with us always. And these fond recollections are treasured in the heart to bring us always close to those from whom we had to part. There is a bridge of memories from earth to Heaven above ... it keeps our dear ones near us. It's the bridge that we call love.

Love,

Stephen and Carol and Murray

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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Canton High School Adds Italian Language to its World Languages Program

Canton High School has added Italian Language to their World Languages course offerings this year as a result of a coordinated effort between the Canton Public Schools and a large community of supporters organized by several Italian American organizations including the Italian American Alliance (IAA), The Pirandello Lyceum and the Cultural Italian American Organization (CIAO).

The effort was the brainchild of Paul Sergi, MD, a resident of Canton and a longtime advocate for expanding learning opportunities in Italian Language and culture, with technical support provided by Domenic Amara PhD, the former Academic Superintendent of Boston Public Schools and the Chairman of the Italian American Alliance and President of the Pirandello Lyceum.

The new program at Canton High School is the culmination of two years of collaboration with Canton Public School elected officials, school administrators, and teachers and local community leaders including local Massachusetts legislators and the office of the Consul General of Italy in Boston.

Dr. Sergi said that it was gratifying to see a community come together and that he was particularly thankful for the support of Representative Bob Consalvo, Consul General of Italy Dr. Arnaldo Minuti, and Education Specialist Ivana Marroncello PhD.

"Consul General Minuti was very supportive of this initiative," said Amara. "He recognizes the commitment of Italian Americans in the Boston area, building on the efforts of his predecessor Consul General Federica Serini who also encouraged initiatives by local Italian American organizations."

"This was certainly a collaborative effort," said Sergi, "and the Canton Public Schools should be proud of the team that helped pull this all together, namely: Heidi Ohlson (World Language Department Coordinator), Head Teacher Marisa Noe, Pirandello Lyceum Scholar Fran Burnes, Sarah Shannon(Assistant Superintendent), Jeffrey Sperling(Principal), Deborah Rooney (Director of Curriculum), School Committee Members Kristen Merenda and Kendaly O'Halloran and CIAO Board Member Paul Niosi.

According to Dr. Amara, the first cohort will move through four years of Italian Language study with emphasis being on Italian language fluency. This will be achieved, he said, by immersing students in active speaking as well as the more traditional methods. It will be supported, he said, with ancillary activities with a goal of a major "capstone" activity as students complete their studies.

"One can not understate the level of commitment the level of commitment for this effort by the Canton School Committee, administrators teachers and, of course, the students" said Sergi. There's a lot of talent here and that bodes well for the outcome."

Dr. Amara said that he hoped the program would serve as a model for other schools who wish to organize innovative Italian Language programs. He said that CIAO has already made overtures to area colleges to consider Italian Language Summer Total Immersion programs.



Consul General Minuti

According to Dr. Sergi CIAO would be a conduit for funding and ideas to support and promote the Italian Language projects. It has already begun, he said, collecting a library of Italian books and is planning a basic Italian Language program for adults.

A delegation of school officials, legislators, educators and local supporters recently visited the classes at the school. The students have elected to study Italian for during their four years at the school with a goal of becoming fluent in the language and knowledgeable about Italian culture.

"We've created a Foundation that cements our long term commitment to the Canton Public Schools", said Sergi. "We have a Board whose goal is to help provide the Canton Schools the tools for success."

Amara said he was grateful for the support of the Italian Committee that advocated for the project, particularly members of Centro Attivita Scholastiche Italiane: Chairman Alberto Mustone, President Adelaide Guarracino and Past President Maria Motta.

According to Dr. Sergi, the CIAO Foundation would be a conduit for funding and ideas to support and promote the Italian Language projects. It has already begun, he said, collecting a library of Italian books and is planning a basic Italian Language program for adults. "We have created a group that cements our long term commitment to the Canton Public Schools", said Sergi. "We have a Board whose goal is to help provide the Canton Schools the tools for success." The members of the CIAO Board are listed as: Paul Sergi -MD, Michael A Sergi - MD, Anthony DiSchiullo -MD; Paul Niosi - DDS; Domenic Amara - PhD; Robert Consalvo - PhD.



L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Hauling Out the Holly: The Symbols of Christmas

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

Lately, it seems as if the world around me can be defined in terms of light—or, sometimes, lack thereof. When I wake up in the morning, a sky as black as a stormy sea greets me, sending me scuttling towards the comfort of a warm breakfast. During the day, the sun is low in the sky, gracefully sending golden spangles of light through the bare trees. The upcoming winter solstice, after all, serves as the darkest day of the year, when night wraps its cloak around the feeble sunlight of a short day. However, the winter solstice also marks the return of the sun, as after this date the sun will stay for a longer time in the sky. No wonder that so many midwinter festivities, from Christmas to Hanukkah to Kwanzaa, emphasize the theme of light! In preparation for the winter solstice on December 21st, I decided to pay attention to the origins of the Christmas symbols and customs that surround us. I found a fascinating tale of history and metaphor, of the yearning for light and eternal life. Below are a number of Christmas customs and their beginnings, in the context of both our Italian heritage and universal human nature:

• Pre-Christmas Holidays: Historians have identified several ancient feasts that served as symbolic precursors to the secular celebrations of Christmas. Our ancestors in Italy gathered for a wild weeklong festival known as Saturnalia starting on December 17th. This holiday honored Saturn, the god of agriculture and time. During Saturnalia, slaves and masters exchanged places, a harbinger of the misrule that characterizes that Christmas, New Year and Epiphany traditions to this day. Ancient Romans also exchanged gifts on Saturnalia, a custom which has survived in the modern Christmas. Meanwhile, the people of Northern Europe celebrated a holiday known as Yule. They adorned their homes with greenery as an example of eternal life in the midst of the dark winter, and lit candles not only for warmth but to symbolize the return of the sun after the solstice. We still see greenery and candles in our contemporary Christmas decorations, and we still use the word Yule to describe the Christmas season!

• December 25th: In her comprehensive book Encyclopedia of Christmas and New Year's Celebrations, author Tanya Gulevich outlines the fascinating story of how Christmas became associated with the date of December 25th. The earliest Christians did not celebrate Christmas. In fact,



though Christmas gets more attention, Easter, which honors the Resurrection of Christ, remains the most important holiday in the Church calendar. Christians were observing Epiphany, the day that the Three Kings visited Baby Jesus, before they observed Christmas. The first mention of Christmas falling on December 25th occurs in a calendar from 336 A.D. In the year 350, the Pope officially declared December 25th as the date of the Nativity. Some scholars theorize that this date was chosen to bring a Christian perspective to winter solstice celebrations, as the birth of Jesus symbolically offered a return of light in the world.

• Christmas Trees: Mention the word "Christmas," and the first image that may pop into your mind is that of an illuminated, beautifully decorated evergreen. Pagans long venerated trees in the winter. Evergreens were considered symbols for eternal life, as they persisted through the cold, barren winter. Romans even adorned their homes with greenery for the solstice celebration of Saturnalia. The Christmas ornaments hanging from the trees, meanwhile, may derive from the medieval practice of paradise plays. Performed around Christmas, these folk dramas recreated the Biblical tale of Adam and Eve. A tree festooned with apples, symbolizing the Tree of Knowledge in the Garden of Eden, formed the centerpiece of these plays. Christmas trees didn't catch on in America until people caught wind of the fact that the fashionable Queen Victoria celebrated the holiday with a tree, a remnant of her German heritage. The Christmas tree has spread to Italy as well, where it stands as a well-known holiday decoration and is known as l'albero di

• Holly and Mistletoe: Like the Christmas tree, holly speaks to the potent allegory of eternal life around the winter solstice. An evergreen plant, holly was worshipped during the winter by European pagans. It acquired a Christian

perspective in the Middle Ages, when its leaves came to symbolize Jesus's thorny crown and the red berries His blood. Meanwhile, mistletoe, a plant sacred to the Celts, also became equated with rebirth due to its status as an evergreen. The custom of kissing under the mistletoe may derive from ancient Scandinavia, where mistletoe served as emblems of peace. According to tradition, enemies who passed each other under a mistletoe branch had to lay down their arms and call a truce. In Italy, holly is known as agrifoglio and decorates homes for Christmas and New Year's. Mistletoe, or vischio in Italian, holds a special place in the country's culture because it was the fabled "Golden Bough" the mythological figure Aeneas needed in order to placate the gods during his journey into the underworld.

• Yule Log: There is nothing like a warm, crackling log on the fire to conjure images of a cozy, joyous holiday. However, the yule log's origins are shrouded in mystery. Ostensibly it derives from the Germanic Yule celebrations, the feast celebrating the winter solstice in which greenery and fire were brought indoors to form a literal and symbolic barrier against the cold air. Yule log traditions vary across the world. The English hold a plethora of superstitions around the Yule log, such as one which states that bad luck will follow if the Yule log is extinguished before the night, or that log contains healing properties. The French eat buche de Noel, or a sponge cake shaped like a log, during their Christmas Eve dinner. In Italy, the Yule log is called il ceppo di Natale and is blessed with prayers and songs.

The Christmas traditions which surround us burst with rich symbolism and complex spiritual significance. They remind us of the comfort and joy which characterizes the holidays and link us to the universal hopes and desires of our ancestors. These customs tell us that though the nights around the solstice appear dark and gray, the love of family and of our shared humanity ignites the most brilliant light of all. This season, be sure to view the ubiquitous symbols of Christmas with new eyes, and spread the love of the holidays to all you encounter!

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



Anti-Semitism Seems to be Metastasizing We Need to Stand as One Against Hate

The fact that three university presidents, including the new president of Harvard University, are apparently afraid to speak truth to power speaking before a Congressional hearing on widespread campus anti-Semitism of late, tells us all we have to know about the hypocrisy of the political Left when it comes to call out student radicals spreading hateful rhetoric on campus and in anti-Jewish, pro-Hamas rallies and marches. It makes me both sad and angry how so many liberals excuse these hateful marches calling for the end of the State of Israel "from the river to the sea."

Recently, these acts of anti-Semitism entered into a Winthrop Town Council meeting. A Zoom-based participant at the meeting shouted an anti-Semitic slur and reportedly displayed a swastika on their screen during discussion regarding the town's protocol regarding the town's flag policy.

Instead of entering into a civic debate of the town's policy, this individual used the platform for hate speech and the displaying of hate symbols. More people must start speaking up loud and clear against acts of hate and condemning loud and clear. People everywhere must stand together in community with one another to condemn hatred and intolerance.

As Police Chief Terry Delehanty stated, "There is no place for hate in Winthrop. Not in person, not online, not anywhere." Too many hateful outbursts have occurred since the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7th. I find it reprehensible that acts of anti-Semitism have continued over two months now. Israel is now facing condemnation by politically ignorant protesters around the world and right here in our own backvards.

This wave of vile rhetoric being disseminated since October 7th is a sad reflection of how the definition of being an American has fallen in recent times. America stands for certain principles and today these principles are under

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Saint Lupus of Troyes

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Saint Lupus (in French known as Loup or Leu) was born around 383 at Toul, in what is today the Moselle region of northeastern France. He was the son of a wealthy nobleman, Epirocus of Toul. Having lost his parents when he was an infant, Lupus was brought up by his uncle Alistocus. Being learned and eloquent, Lupus was a lawyer for some years with a fine reputation. He married Pimeniola. After six years of marriage, he and his wife parted by mutual consent, both taking vows of perpetual

Lupus sold his estate and gave the money to the poor. He entered Lérins Abbey, a community led by Saint Honoratus, where he stayed about a year. In 427, Honoratus was named Bishop of Arles, and Lupus accompanied him to his new see. Lupus retired to Macon where he came to the attention of Germanus of Auxerre, who appointed Lupus the Bishop of Troyes. Lupus was reluctant to assume this office and at first declined, but eventually relented.

He continued the same practices of humility, mortification, and as much as possible even of poverty. He never wore any other garments



than a sackcloth and a single tunic. He often passed three days without taking any nourishment, and after so rigorous a fast allowed himself nothing but a little barley bread.

In the autumn of 429, the Council of Arles, at the request of the bishops in Britain, sent Lupus and Germanus of Auxerre to combat the Pelegian heresy. Agricola, a disciple of the heretics Pelagius, who was a Romano-British theologian and Celestius a Scot, had spread the

heresy in Britain. There they entirely banished the heresy by their prayers, preaching, and miracles. They returned to Gaul just after Easter in the spring of 430.

In 453, by constant prayer, he defended the city of Troyes from the furor of Attila and the Huns, who were devastating France. According to the accounts, after praying for many days, Lupus, dressed in full episcopal regalia, went to meet Attila at the head of a procession of the clergy. Attila was allegedly so impressed with Lupus that he spared the city. Attila went on to lose the Battle of Châlons. Lupus ran into trouble when Attila asked the bishop to accompany him and his army after Châlons; Attila believed that Lupus' presence would spare his army from extermination. However, Lupus was accused by the Romans of helping the Huns escape. Lupus was forced to leave Troyes, and he became a hermit in the

Lupus was bishop for fiftytwo years and died at Troyes in 479 at the age of 94. His remains were deposited in the Abbey of Saint-Loup de Troyes he founded during his lifetime.

The Feast Day of Saint Lupus of Troyes is July 29th.

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leri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

A Weekend of Music



On Saturday, December 9th, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Jim Whalberg was at Saint Francis Gift and Bookstore located in Saint Leonard's Peace Garden, signing his book, "The Big Hustle." He then went to Sacred Heart Church, just a block away to attend the Saint Leonard Parish annual Christmas concert, "Concerto di Natale." The sold out concert took place in Sacred Heart's lower church, the upper church where it has been held for the past fifteen years is currently being painted and will not be ready until later in December.

Father Michael Della Penna followed by Laurie Warnock opened the concert by thanking all in attendance for their continued support

The Saint Leonard Choir and Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Dan Drzymalski performed many of its traditional songs such as the beautiful "Breath of Heaven" and everyone's favorite "Tu Scendi dalle Stelle." The Saint John School Choir also performed at the concert to the delight of the full house in attendance.

At the conclusion of the Concert all were invited to Saint John School hall for coffee, cake, and cookies provided by local bakeries and parishioners, where Mr. Whalberg continued his book signing.

On Sunday, December 10,

at 4:00 p.m., a stirring performance by the Magdalen College of Warner, New Hampshire was hosted at Saint Leonard Church. The performance entitled, "What Sweeter Music" was performed by students of the College, under the direction of Concert Master and organist, Tristan Smith.

Beautiful music, artistically performed in a lovely setting to an audience of appreciative parishioners and friends is a lovely way to help usher in Christmas and share as a community the joy of the "Season of Light." We look forward to next year's Christmas concerts and the continuation of this lovely tradition.



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• North End Christmas Parade (Continued from Page 1)



Santa arrives by helicopter



Frosty with Alesia, Evie, and Nora Bennett of the North End



Color Guard for the Medford Marching Band



Frankie Boyd (FOCCP) and Mickey





Elvis, The King





Mrs. Claus, Darth Vader, and the Human Christmas Tree



Marching Band from North Reading



Medford Mustang Marching Band & Color Guard



(Photos by Gerri Palladino)













(Photos by Gerri Palladino)



Mayor Michelle Wu, Santa and friends with Miss Maine, Ted Tomasone, and Aaron Michlewitz



Santa gives a big "Teddy" bear hug







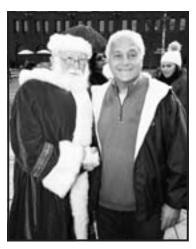
Santa with the Pallotta family



Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts - North End



Jimmy and Francine Gannon and family



Paul Cucinatti telling Santa what he wants for Christmas



 $(Photo\ by\ Rosario\ Scabin,\ Ross\ Photography)$



TITANIC -LIMITED EDITION COLLEC-TOR'S BOXED SET (4K Ultra HD)

Paramount Home Ent.

Revisit James Cameron's epic masterpiece *Titanic* on 4K Ultra HD Blu-ray Disc™ from Paramount Home Entertainment. Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet light up the screen in the timeless and unforgettable story of star-crossed lovers set against the backdrop of the legendary and ill-fated maiden voyage of the "unsinkable" Titanic. The beloved, worldwide phenomenon won 11 Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and continues to attract new fans 25 years after its original release. Viewers can experience all of the drama and spectacle in stunning 4K Ultra HD with Dolby Vision and a Dolby Atmos soundtrack** for the finest visual and audio presentation at home. Titanic will debut in a Limited-Edition Collector's Boxed Set that's a must-have for fans and perfect for gift giving. This spectacular set includes all of the above along with the following exclusive collectibles in an elegant slipcase: A hardcover coffee table book detailing the making of the film's most iconic scenes. A detailed schematic inspired by the actual ship blueprint, highlighting locations of key scenes. Movie prop reproductions of a boarding pass, launch viewing ticket, ship menus, and notes from Jack to Rose and Rose to Cal. Plus the sheet music for the multi-award-winning hit "My Heart Will Go On."

BABYLON 5: THE COMPLETE SERIES (Blu-ray) Warner Bros. Discovery Home Ent.

In celebration of its 30th anniversary, Warner Bros. Discovery Home Entertainment is releasing the groundbreaking original sci-fi TV series Babylon 5 on Blu-ray for the first time, just in time for holiday gift giving. Babylon 5: The Complete Series will include all 110 original episodes fully remastered in HD. Babylon 5 is an American space opera television series created by writer and producer J. Michael Straczynski that ran for five seasons from 1994-1998. The critically acclaimed franchise debuted in 1993 with the pilot film *The Gathering*. The series launched a year later and ran for five seasons. A futurehistory story covering the years 2257-2262, with each year corresponding to one season, Babylon 5 was the first series to introduce viewers to the concept of a five-year arc, with a defined beginning, middle, and end, paving the way for a number of such later series. 2258 CE: Five hostile federations dominate the outermost regions of space. Heroes, thieves, and rare and exotic beings find refuge in this time of uneasy peace and the constant threat of war on a lone space station — the last and best hope for peace between a hundred worlds, alien and human alike -Babylon 5. The award-winning series starred Bruce Boxleitner, Michael O'Hare, Claudia Christian, Jerry Doyle, Mira

Furlan, Andreas Katsulas, Peter Jurasik, Richard Biggs, Andrea Thompson, Stephen Furst, Bill Mumy, Tracy Scoggins, Jason Carter, Robert Rusler, Jeff Conaway, Patricia Tallman and Mary Kay Adams.

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM (4K Ultra HD + Blu-ray + Digital)

Paramount Home Ent.

Shell-ebrate with the wildly entertaining and actionpacked hit Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem, delivering a fresh and funfilled adventure that the whole family can enjoy together. After years of being sheltered from the human world, the Turtle brothers set out to win the hearts of New Yorkers and be accepted as normal teenagers through heroic acts. Their new friend April O'Neil helps them take on a mysterious crime syndicate, but they soon get in over their heads when an army of mutants is unleashed upon them. Fans can delve deeper into the making of the hilarious and original movie. Join the young new voice cast as they explore the "teen" in Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and then go behind-the-scenes with the all-star voice cast! Explore the film's unique animation style, plus learn to draw the leader of the Ninja Turtles, Leonardo. Bonus content includes: TEENage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Hear how all four boys recording together helped create the authentic camaraderie seen on screen. The Mutant Uprising: Get to know the Turtles' mutant antagonists, led by the wild and original character Superfly. New York, New York: The Visual World of MUTANT MAYHEM: Delve into the breakthrough visual style of the film's characters and environments and how they evolved over time. Learn to Draw Leo: Try your hand at drawing the Turtle leader with this fun tutorial!

PAW PATROL: THE MIGHTY MOVIE (Blu-ray) Paramount Home Ent.

The exciting and inspiring new adventure PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie arrives for families to enjoy together at home. When a magical meteor crash-lands in Adventure City, it gives the PAW Patrol pups superpowers, transforming them into The MIGHTY PUPS! They face their mightiest challenge yet when the pups' archrival Humdinger breaks out of jail and teams up with Victoria Vance, a mad scientist, to steal the superpowers for themselves. With the fate of Adventure City hanging in the balance, the Mighty Pups have to stop the super villains before it's too late. PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie follows the fanfavorite pups as they take on new adventures with all-new superpowers and prove that even the smallest pup can make the biggest difference. Funfilled bonus content includes a look at the team's amazing superpowers, all-new supersuits, and upgraded vehicles with Skye.

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

WHICH VERSION IS BETTER?

I used to enjoy going to all those James Bond movies. One day last week, I was listening to WERS Radio 88.9 FM. This spot on the dial plays some great rock music. The station was playing the Guns N' Roses version of "Live and Let Die" from that 1973 Bond movie where Roger Moore was the new James Bond.

Guns N' Roses covered this song in 1991 but the original was performed by Paul McCartney & Wings. Actually, did you know, the original version was written by Paul and his wife Linda McCartney.

Here's the question, who sang the best version of "Live and Let Die"? Was it McCartney or Guns N' Roses? Let me know at sal. giarratani@gmail.com. Oh, and tell me why you selected your version of this song.

QUOTE TO NOTE

"Life is tough, wear a helmet."

— Candace Owens

RED LOBSTER LOSES \$11 MILLION ON ENDLESS SHRIMP

In the hopes of attracting more customers, the Red Lobster chain made a menu dish a mainstay and customers loved it so much that the "Ultimate Endless Shrimp" item made it too popular. The company who owns this chain stated they suffered a roughly \$11 million operating loss during its third quarter. Red Lobster charges \$25 for this all-you-can-eat dish at its 700 nationwide locations. Red Lobster is expected to lose nearly \$20 million overall this year.

Red Lobster said they didn't expect that customers would love endless shrimp. Why wouldn't they? Back in 2003, this restaurant chain lost a bungle on their endless crab dish.

Any food item that is offered endlessly always brings out those big eaters and why shouldn't that be the case.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

Docket No. MI23P4825EA

Estate of DAVID J. MAFFE Also Known As DAVID MAFFE

Date of Death: March 20, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Dorothy Maffe of Wakefield, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Dorothy Maffe of Wakefield, MA has been

Dorothy Maffe of **Wakefield**, **MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/15/2023



Sherri Raftery showed up for the recent Orient Heights Christmas tree lighting. She brought along her grandson Desi and both met up with Santa Claus who did his annual sleigh stop in East Boston

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Jim Morrison from the Doors would have turned 80 years old on Friday, December 8th. Frank Sinatra would have turned 108 years old on Tuesday, December 12th, and former Speaker Thomas Tip O'Neill, Jr., would have turned 111 years old also on December 12th



The BK Men's Group still meets down at the Burger King. Here is a recent photo of Anthony Lamattina and Sal G. taking a break from their pancake breakfast

(Photo by Stephene Scapicchio)

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
MIDDLESEX, ss
Probate and Family Court

Docket No. MI23E0036PP

To: John Conroy of Dracut, MA and Tim Conroy of Dracut, MA and to all other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by John Conroy of Dracut, MA representing that they hold as tenants in common in an undivided part or share of certain land lying in Dracut, in the County of Middlesex, and briefly described as

146 Haverhill St., Dracut, MA 01826

The land in Dracut, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, in that part thereof called "Ellsmere," being Lot 369 on a plan entitled "Plan of Building Lots in Dracut, Mass. belonging to the Syndicate Land Company, Samuel B. Wyman and George H. Taylor, Trustees" dated 1897, Smith & Brooks, C.E.'s, recorded with Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans 13, Plan 1 and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning on the Southwesterly corner of the premises at land of Thomas Fay; thence Southeasterly along said Fay land 46.8 feet; thence at right angles with said last mentioned land southerly 24.5 feet to Lot 368; thence Easterly 205.4 feet to Haverhill Street; thence Northerly along said street 200 feet to a stone bound point; thence running Northerly along Essex Street 640.55 feet to a stone bound point; thence 6.26 feet to a strip of land 1. foot wide, being reserved by the Syndicated Land Co.; thence Westerly 117.11 feet to land of said Fay; thence Southerly 775.02 feet to the point of beginning; containing according to said plan 124.813 square feet of land; be said contents and any or all of said measurements more or less and however otherwise said premises may be measured, bounded or described.

Being all and the same premises conveyed to the Grantors by deed of Mark D. Rutherford, Trustee of JMD, II Realty Trust dated September 25, 1908 and recorded with the Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds at Book 9609, Page 290.

Setting forth that the petitioner desires that all said land may be ordered to be sold at private sale for not less than (\$450,000.00) FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end, that commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any portion of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided, either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute and pay over the net proceeds thereof in such a manner as to make the partition just and equal.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said Court at Lowell before ten o'clock, on the 15th day of January 2024 the return date of this citation. Witness, Honorable Terri Klug-Cafazzo, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this fourth day of December, 2023.

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run dates: 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2023



by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



When I was a kid, I belonged to the Trinity Neighborhood House, a settlement house located at 406 Meridian Street in the Eagle Hill Section of East Boston. The house was built in 1847 for a local businessman named Noah Sturtevant. In 1917, it became the Trinity House, a recreation facility and day nursery for locals established by the Trinity Church in Copley Square. In 1966, it merged with the East Boston Social Center and has now been rehabbed to provide elderly housing for neighborhood folks, but it is registered as a landmark, which means that changes to the outside of the building are prohibited.

The Trinity House was within walking distance of Eutaw Street where we lived and I joined the settlement house to learn model making (model planes, that is), how to play basketball, and the art of boxing. At one point, I even learned how to ballroom dance, but this was years later. They even had a Cub Scout group in operation at the center, I joined for a short time, but I quit when they told us that we would have to attend services at the Trinity Church in Copley Square, which was an affiliate. I wound up re- joining the Cub Scouts at the Sacred Heart Church which was our parish. Things were that restrictive in those days.

Well, it was 1949, and I was making model planes one evening a week and playing basketball and boxing on another. When I first started, a man named Mr. Dudley was the director. He was replaced by a local, J.J. Dana, and after a basketball game one night, he informed the teams that the Trinity House was having a children's Christmas party and we were invited to attend with our folks, if they could make it. I told my mother and grandparents about the party when I got home, but the date and time conflicted with everything Nanna and my mother would be preparing for the Christmas Eve and Christmas day dinners, and Dad would be playing with the band he was with, back then.

This left only Babbononno.

I asked my grandfather to bring me to the party and he accepted. When I gave him the date and time, he cancelled a trip to his Central Square social club on that night and we were set to go. On the night of the party, Babbononno dressed in a suit, shirt and tie. He always had to look the part which included a spit-shine on his shoes. He supervised my dressing capabilities and helped me tie a necktie, fearing that I couldn't make a four-in-hand knot. Once he was satisfied with the way I looked, we headed to Meridian Street and walked in a northerly direction to the Trinity House.

When we arrived, we were greeted by Ms. Orr, one of the directors and Edith DeAngelis, her assistant. (Years later, the late Dr. Edith DeAngelis would become an advocate for all things East Boston, but that's another story.) Once inside, there was entertainment and music for us kids, and later, soda and cake. After the treats were consumed, we all sat down and the Gospel According to St. Luke was read by Ms. Orr as she held a Bible in front of the guests. After, we might hear The Night Before Christmas, by Clement Clarke Moore, or Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus, by Francis P. Church. When the evening would come to an end, there was a little gift for each of us that was handed out by Ms .Orr as we exited the building. Babbononno had a sweet tooth and the cake and soda served us was to his liking. With him satisfied, I knew that there would be no complaints once we got home.

Around the same time, the Scout Master at the Sacred Heart Church would hold a Christmas party for the kids in the Cub Scouts. His name was Bill McGonagle, and his wife, Mary Jane, was our den mother. I would attend the general party at the church and on another afternoon, a party at the McGonagle house which was on Saratoga Street, a few blocks away from the Sacred Heart.

Back then, Christmas time was a busy period for the men in my family. Dad was leading a band at Santa's Village in the Jordan Marsh Department Store during the afternoons and playing several parties in the evenings up to December the 24th. Neither he nor my uncles worked on Christmas Eve. They all had morning jobs on Christmas morning. Uncle Nick played a Christmas party for the kids at the Fernald School in Waltham. They were all special needs, and to him, this was give back. I don't remember where Uncle Paul played but he had something every Christmas morning, as well. For years, Dad played a Christmas morning party aboard the U.S.S. Vulcan, an aircraft repair ship that was based in Boston. Much of the crew was composed of Bostonians and they and their families attended a Christmas party aboard the ship, with

good food, good entertainment and presents from Santa who arrived mid morning with his bag filled with toys.

I often attended the party with my father and loved the idea of being on a war ship with the kids of the sailors who manned the vessel.

Later in life, beginning when I was about 18 or 19, I followed suit. I was in college at the time and often attended class in a tuxedo, carrying my bass violin to class with me. I wasn't afraid of it being stolen if I left it in my car all morning, but was always worried about the wood cracking in the cold and the strings going out of tune due to the temperature outside the car.

When I began playing for the Ken Reeves Orchestra, we often had several afternoon parties to play, one after another. Most businesses would have parties in their offices for a couple of hours and this was in the day before DJs were invented. Everything was live music. On a given afternoon, I might play a party from 3:00 to 5:00 and rush to another location and play a second party from 5:30 to 7:30. I would then have a half hour to rush to where ever I was playing that night and entertain at another party or maybe two, if they could be squashed in together without overlapping.

If we had jobs to play on the 24th, Dad, my uncles and I would make sure that they ended before it was time to head to Nanna's and the Christmas Eve seven fish dinner that my mother and Nanna had prepared. If there were jobs that were booked for Christmas Eve, everyone in the family would have a backup musician who was Jewish to cover them. They had agreements with Jewish musicians and Dad and my uncles would cover for them on Jewish holidays when work interfered with their practices. Things worked out well, as back then as a good part of Boston's Musicians Union was a combination of Italian and Jewish musicians.

Those days are long gone, but the money I made helped to pay my college tuition and then some. Beyond this, I had fun. Looking back at the first part of the story, I had a great time at the Trinity House. I guess I've had fun all of my life ... no complaints thus far.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Notice is hereby given by Ramsay's Towing 152 Prospect Street, Waltham, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 23, 2023 beginning at 10:00 AM by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Ramsay's Towing.

2007 HYUNDAI SONATA VIN # 5NPET46C07H275600 **2012 NISSAN ROGUE**

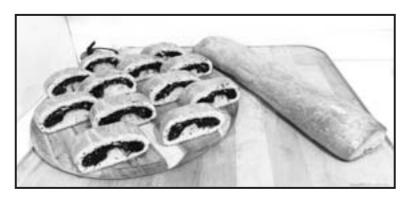
VIN # JN8AS5MVXCW375188 Signed, Justin Ramsay

Run dates: 12/08, 12/15, 12/22/2023



As the festive air fills Italian kitchens, the enchanting tradition of Christmas cookie baking continues with a delightful twist, similar to the renowned Sicilian Cuccidati, our focus turns to prune filled slices, or as my Nonna called them "Stuffed Cookies". Another creation that seamlessly weaves together the essence of the season. Envision the sweetness of dates and prunes, blended with the flavors of maraschino cherries, oranges and nuts, meticulously nestled inside of a golden sweet dough. The outcome is a symphony of textures and flavors that effortlessly transports you to the heart of a Nonna's kitchen during the holiday season. Every bite becomes a nostalgic journey, brimming with the warmth of family, the depth of tradition, and the sheer indulgence of the festive spirit. I hope you enjoy my "Nonna's Stuffed Cookies" as much as she always enjoyed baking them. Buon Natale!

NONNA'S STUFFED COOKIES (Prune Slices) Fette di prugna



1-pound prunes 8-ounces dates, chopped

4-ounce jar maraschino cherries, drained and chopped

½ cup granulated sugar ½ cup orange juice

1 cup walnuts, finely chopped

Dough

5 large eggs

1 cup sugar

1/4 cup whole milk

3/4 cup canola or vegetable oil 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

5 to 5 ½ cups all-purpose flour

3 teaspoons baking powder

1 egg beaten with 2 tablespoons water for egg wash

confectioners' sugar or glaze (if desired)

In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs and sugar together until fluffy. Add the milk, oil, and vanilla extract and continue beating. Sift in 4 cups of the flour and baking powder and mix. Add the remaining ½ to 1 cup flour until a stiff dough forms. Take dough and flatten into a rectangle shape. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.

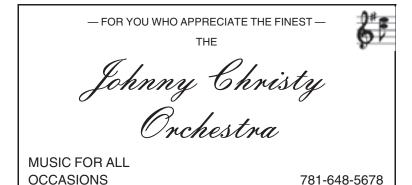
Preheat oven to 350°. Line two baking sheets with parchment

To make filling, place prunes in a medium saucepan, cover with water and simmer for 15 minutes. Strain well, and place back in saucepan, add dates, cherries, sugar, and orange juice. Over low heat, cook for about 3 to 5 minutes while stirring to incorporate all ingredients together. Let cool, add the walnuts, mix, and set aside.

Take the refrigerated dough and place it on a floured dough board. Cut the dough into thirds. Roll each into a 14 x 6-inch rectangle. Take 1/3 of the filling and place down the middle of the rectangle. Fold the dough over the filling and seal together. Place the log seam side down on the prepared baking sheet. Flatten and repeat with the remaining two pieces of dough and filling. Brush egg wash over the logs and bake for about 15 to 20 minutes until light golden brown. Cool and before slicing, either sift confectioners' sugar over logs or drizzle them with a confectionary sugar icing. Slice and enjoy!

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





THOUGHTS BY DAN **ABOUT** THIS & THAT



with Daniel A. DiCenso

Hvammsvik Hot Springs

If you travel to Iceland in the fall, when nature tests your endurance to the limits, it will likely be a scary drive to the Hvammsvik hot springs, especially if you travel by night when the roads are dark and the wind is crushing. But the rugged journey makes the arrival to the soothing warm watering of the gurgling pool all the more soothing.

Built around Hvalfjaroarlaug, which had delighted Icelanders for many years, Hvammsvik is Iceland's newest hot spring but it is a perfect marriage of the gifts of nature (the meeting of the two tectonic plates beneath Iceland and the waves of the Atlantic) and the ingenuity of the locals.

When I first arrived at Hvammsvik I was greeted by a modern wooden building housing, the interior of which resembled a hotel lobby. I often wonder how the employees of such remote places manage their commute. If the drive was fearful for me, I can't imagine them doing it almost every day. But in true Icelandic fashion I was greeted by a chipper team.

You are then sent to a changing room in which guests are required to shower before entering the hot springs. The surprise, however, lies just outside of the changing room.

Once you have showered an undressed your next step is a brief but shocking walk in the frigid arctic air. I could not get into the pool fast enough, but when I did the warmth and soothing salty waters more than compensated for the freezing jolt. The steamy waters caress your skin and calm your heart, while cleansing you almost down to your bones.

It is easy to spend at least a few hours in Hvammsvik hot springs, the waiters of the resort serving you drinks from the pa-

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 16, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices

> 2000 KAWASAKI ZX-6R VIN # JKAZX4J16YA001168

> 2003 HONDA CR-V VIN # JHLRD78853C026355

2004 HONDA ACCORD VIN # JHMCM56884C010953

2015 TOYOTA RAV4 VIN # 2T3RFREV4FW250733

2004 HONDA ELEMENT VIN # 5J6YH285X4L013246

2016 AUDI Q5 WA1C2AFP6GA148976

2008 AUDI A6 VIN # WAUKH94F98N005536

2012 HONDA ACCORD VIN # 1HGCP2F69CA011420

1990 SUZUKI GSX600F VIN # JS1GN72A1L2101680

2007 SUBARU FORESTER

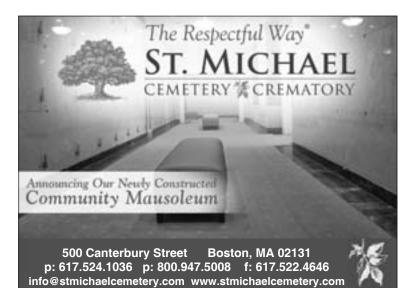
VIN # JF1SG63697H723659 2010 TOYOTA COROLLA

2007 MERCURY MARINER VIN # 4M2YU91117KJ19543

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

Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2023





The Post-Gazette

5 Prince Street, North End, Boston, MA

tio door while the water acts as strong a shield from the winds as any overcoat or blanket. Of course, when you do leave the pool the walk back to the changing room is felt all the more...

Hvammsvik is a tribute to Iceland's responsible and respectful use of the land to create something wonderful. True to the nation's spirit it gives a healthy marriage to its natural resources and human creativity. In a nation filled with natural wonders that awe the visitor, Hvammsvik is where nature takes us into her arms.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 23, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices

> 2007 YAMAHA FZ6 VIN # JYARJ13E97A001665

2016 HONDA CB300 VIN # MLHNC521XG5200345

2007 ACURA TL VIN # 19UUA66247A026679

2001 BMW 740 VIN # WBAGH834X1DP32258

2011 SUZUKI GSX-R750L VIN # JS1GR7MA2B2100909

2008 JEEP PATRIOT VIN # 1J8FF28W08D549207

2005 HONDA ACCORD

VIN # 1HGCM568X5A038818 2007 FORD ESCAPE

VIN # 1FMYU93127KA11575 2013 FORD FUSION

VIN # 3FA6P0LU2DR237184 2007 NISSAN SENTRA

VIN # 3N1AB61E97L666785 Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

> Signed Todisco Services, Inc. Run dates: 12/08, 12/15, 12/22/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

Docket No. MI23P3847EA

Estate of **ELIJAH DESMARAIS** Date of Death: May 09, 2023

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Asi Texeira, of Medford, 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 Asi Texeira, of Medford, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in 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 proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 09, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: December 12, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/15/2023 • News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

laughing while using a stun gun on a handcuffed black male during a traffic stop. The viral clip shows the officer leading the black male to her cruiser and pushing him against the hood during the December 2nd stop. She is seen holding a stun gun against the suspect's back as she goes through his pockets and tells him to "stay still." I ain't doing s--t. I got a gun right there," he says.

The cop laughs as she removes the firearm and says "Oh, yeah" — then proceeds to deploy her stun gun and shout at him to "shut (the) BLANK up," as he screams and cries, "Oh my God."

"Do you want it again? Shut your bitch *#^ up," and he replies "No, ma'am. The 45-second video ends at that point.

New Lock Up for Mass/Cass Arrestees A coalition of advocacy

organizations working with the homeless down by Mass and Cass are raising concerns that the new city arrangement to house arrestees from the intersection of Mass. Ave., and Melnea Cass Boulevard, which would transport them to the Nashua Street Jail, may cause

"devastating health and mental health outcomes."

Guard Killed at Philly Macy's

A Macy's security guard was recently killed and another wounded in a double stabbing by a man allegedly trying to steal multiple hats from the department store in Philadelphia. The guard was fatally stabbed about 15 minutes after unarmed security prevented the suspected killer from shoplifting. The suspect left but returned and "immediately" attacked two guards. According to the police, the killer directly ran to the security guard with a knife in hand and stabbed the guard. When the second guard came to the aid of the stabbed guard, he sustained several stab and slash wounds. The 30-year-old guard who was stabbed in the neck was pronounced dead.

The 23-year-old guard was recovering from his wounds.

The suspect fled the store but was later caught at a subway station.

End Quote

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

— Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts MIDDLESEX, SS. **Superior Court Department of the Trial Court** CIVIL ACTION NO. 2381CV03317

To: Christina Francis of Wayland, Middlesex County, Massachusetts;

AND TO ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICEMEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 2003:

Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, Inc., a Massachusetts non-profit corporation with a usual place of business in Worcester, Worcester County, Massachusetts; claiming to be the holder of a mortgage covering property situated on or near 97 Stonebridge Road, Wayland, Massachusetts;

given by Christina Francis to Habitat for Humanity; MetroWest - Greater Worcester, Inc. n/k/a Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, Inc., dated June 21, 2017 and

recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 69476, Page 21, has filed with said court a Complaint for author ity to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Sevicemembers' Civil Relief Act of 2003 and you object to such foreclosure, you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at Woburn in said County on or before the 15th day of JANUARY, 2024 or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said Act.

Witness, Heidi E. Brieger, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court this 6th day of DECEMBER, 2023

Clerk Michael A. Sullivan Run date: 12/15/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

Docket No. MI23P6284EA Estate of **EVELYN A. STAFFORD**

Also Known As **EVELYN ANN STAFFORD** Date of Death: September 05, 2023 **INFORMAL PROBATE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Evelyn C. Stafford of Ayer, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate

PUBLICATION NOTICE

Evelvn C. Stafford of Aver. MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Repre-

sentative 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: 12/15/2023

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

The **POST-GAZETTE**

newspaper is a paper of general circulation. We are qualified to accept legal notices from any court in each town that we serve.

LEGAL NOTICES

For information on placing a Legal Notice in the

POST-GAZETTE

please email postgazette@aol.com call (617) 227-8929, or mail notice to:

POST-GAZETTE

P.O. BOX 130135, BOSTON, MA 02113

Attn: Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

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

Docket No. MI20P2778EA

Estate of LOUIS KAMPF Also Known As LUDWIG KAMPF

Date of Death: May 30, 2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Arthur MacEwan of Cambridge, MA and Margery Davies of Cambridge, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of testacy and heirs at law, (Second and Final Account) and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 03, 2024.

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.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 06, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/15/2023

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 39A, that on January 03, 2024 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:

2011 CHEVROLET EXPRESS, WHITE VIN # 1GCZGTCG5B1126025

2001 HONDA ODYSSEY, GRAY VIN # 2HKRL18691H540741

2004 FORD EXPEDITION, BLACK VIN # 1FMRU13W64LB82448

2003 HONDA PILOT, GRAY VIN # 2HKYF185X3H602208

2006 PONTIAC G6, GRAY VIN # 1G2ZH158664169370

2007 FORD E250, WHITE

VIN # 1FTNE24L87DA53393 2016 HONDA CIVIC. BLACK

VIN # 19XFC2F51GE223407

2012 HONDA CIVIC, BLUE VIN # 2HGFB2F89CH531924

2008 HUMMER H3, BLACK VIN # 5GTEN13E488120572

2003 MAZDA TRIBUTE, SILVER

VIN # 4F2YZ94113KM50989 2010 FORD FOCUS. BLACK

VIN # 1FAHP3GN8AW175702 2012 NISSAN VERSA, BLACK

VIN # 3N1CN7AP7CL922567

2006 ACURA TSX, BLUE VIN # JH4CI 95926C035063

2014 HONDA ODYSSEY, WHITE VIN # 5FNRL5H67EB035972

2004 SUZUKI GSXR600, YELLOW VIN # JS1GN7CA142105910 2005 MERCEDES BENZ E500, BLACK

VIN # WDBUF83J85X170607

VIN # WDBUF83J85X170607

2000 TOYOTA COROLLA. BROWN

VIN # 2T1BR12E3YC354979 2004 TOYOTA PRIUS, BLACK

VIN # JTDKB20U940087663
2018 NISSAN SENTRA, BLACK

VIN # 3N1AB7AP7JY332417

2009 FORD EXPLORER, WHITE VIN # 1FMEU74E89UA05375

2009 MAZDA 6, SILVER VIN # 1YVHP81A895M04498

2006 MERCURY MARINER, GRAY

VIN # 4M2CU57146DJ08193 2003 HONDA CIVIC, WHITE

VIN # 2HGES16563H514297
2001 MERCURY SABLE, SILVER

VIN # 1MEFM53U51A629077 Run dates: 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way

10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI23P6425EA

Estate of ANN MARIETTA SULLIVAN Also Known As ANN M. SULLIVAN

Date of Death: September 27, 2023

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 Ann Liele Holt of Burlington, 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 Ann Liele Holt of Burlington, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 04, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: December 07, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/15/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

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

Docket No. MI23P6371EA

Estate of ANNIE LOW

Date of Death: June 21, 2023
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 Katherine E. Low, of Boston, 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 **Katherine E.**Low of **Boston**, **MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 04, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: December 07, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/15/2023

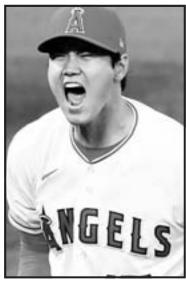


EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani



Ohtani Deferring \$680M Rodr Until End Of 10 Yr Deal \$91M



Shohei Ohtani's new \$700 million, 190-year deal is still a record deal but it comes with stunning deferred monies. The two-time MVP will be paid \$2 million a year during the contract's term, from 2024-2033, then \$68 million a year the following 10 years from 2034-2043. Smart move by him. Smart move by the team.

Let's Go Off Side To Football For A Moment

Last Thursday Night Football showed the Patriot's highpoint this season as Bailey Zappe looked pretty good. He was on fire and the whole team seemed to ignite a 21-18 win over the Steelers. Can Zappe Fever make us look good over the final four games of this dismal season? I know there are many fans who want us to go down hard over the rest of this season hoping for great draft picks. I can't root for losses.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Rigano's Towing Service, 1081 Fellsway, Malden, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicle on or after December 16, 2023 beginning at 10:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicle is being stored at Rigano's Towing Service.

2011 KIA OPTIMA

VIN # KNAGR4A68B5155882 Signed Basil Rigano

> Owner Run dates: 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court The Probate and Family Court Department Middlesex, SS. Division

Docket No. MI01P3248EP1

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
REMOVAL OF TRUSTEE AND
APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR

To all persons interested in the trust under the will of Patricia A. Kane dated 02/03/1988, of Woburn in the County of Middlesex, a petition has been presented by Michael M. Kane of Hanover, MA to said Court praying that Mary Power and Joseph Power of Woburn in the County of Middlesex be removed as a trustees of said trust and that Michael M. Kane of Hanover, MA be appointed as successor trustee without sureties on his/her bond.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Woburn before ten o'clock in the forenoon on **December 26th, 2023.**

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG-CAFAZZO, ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court, this 28th day of November 2023.

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/15/2023

Rodriguez Gets \$91M 5 Year Deal



Former Red Sox pitcher Eduardo Rodriguez would earn \$91 million over five seasons if a 2028 option is triggered in his contract with the D'Backs, an amount that could increase to \$92 million based on innings. He would earn \$100 million over five years if he pitches a specified number of innings, and if he finishes fourth in Cy Young Award voting in each of the first four years. If he finishes among the top three for the Cy Young in either 2024 or 2025 he will receive additional incentives. He's got so many options in his deal, his contract will far exceed \$91 million.

Rodriguez, 30, left-hander spent the past two seasons with the Tigers and went 13-9 with a 3.30 ERA in 2023. Overall. he is 82-53 in eight seasons with a 4.03 ERA.. He played for the Sox from 2015-2021 and won a World Series ring in 2018 with Boston.

In 2019, he went 19-6 with a 3.81 ERA.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

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

Docket No. MI23P6409EA

Estate of EVELYN A. FLAHERTY Date of Death: November 06, 2023

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 Robert R. Flaherty of Haverhill, 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 Robert R. Flaherty of Haverhill, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 04, 2024.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: December 07, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/15/2023

From My Email Inbox

Another email just came in for me. It was from one of my Extra Innings fans named Harry Johnston from Woburn, he writes, "I saw some cards at a baseball card show and thought you might like to have some 1960s era Red Sox cards." Harry sent me eight cards including Eddie Bressoud, Dick Radatz, Dennis Bennett, Arnold Earley, Billy Monbouquette, Frank Malzone, Chuck Schilling, and Bob Tillman."

Harry added, "Thanks for all your good baseball columnsyou are the best in Boston. Merry Christmas."

Ohtani Keeps His No.17 Jersey

Reliever Joe Kelly appears to be switching uniform numbers after finalizing his \$8 million, 1 year contract with the Dodgers this past Monday, opening Number 17 for Ohtani to continue wearing after leaving the Angels.

Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Steve Renko who just turned 79. The right hander was 134-146 with 3.99 ERA from 1969-83. This included going 20-18 with a 4.15 ERA with the Sox from 1979-80. Renko and Freddie Lynn were traded to the Angels before the start of the 1981 season.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 30, 2023 beginning at 9:00 AM by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2012 NISSAN MAXIMA VIN # 1N4AA5AP8CC805232 2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY

VIN # 2C4RC1BG4CR375723 Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed

by appointment only.

Signed
Todisco Services, Inc.

Bun dates: 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2023

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Middlesex Probate and Family Court

10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI23P6240EA

Estate of
CLAUDIA MURROW

Date of Death: October 07, 2023

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner

Alexander Murrow-Varelis of Peabody, MA.
Alexander Murrow-Varelis of Peabody, MA
has been informally appointed as the Personal
Representative of the estate to serve without
surety on the bond.

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

can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/15/2023



Piling Up the Points

Really? Boxing isn't Basketball



Ali "Piling Up Points" against Frazier

The other night I was watching, for about the 100th time, the first Ali/Frazier fight. I found the original closed circuit broadcast on YouTube, so I got to see and hear it just the way I first experienced it when it was shown live at the Music Hall Theatre in Boston. It's hard to believe almost 54 years have passed since that night.

When I rewatch any of the classic fights of the past, I tend to find things in them I hadn't noticed before. The great fights are like great works of art in that there is always something to discover each time you observe them.

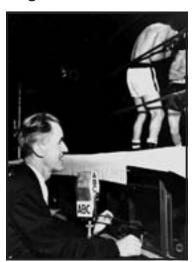
With this viewing of Ali/Frazier I did see some new things, but I will wait until the next anniversary of the bout to write about those observations. There was something else that stood out to me this time, and it wasn't what had happened in the ring.

The blow by blow for the fight was done by the great Don Dunphy. He was joined by Archie Moore and Burt Lancaster. Archie would have had the best insight into what was happening, but he was pretty much drowned out by Lancaster who, while a great actor with a tremendous speaking voice, knew very little about boxing.

Don Dunphy was always one of my favorites. While not extremely well versed in the technical aspects of the sport, he knew his boxing history. Dunphy also new everybody and anybody involved with the sport. This made for some great anecdotes being passed along during his broadcasts. Most importantly, Don knew how to make even the most boring fight sound exciting. I believe this came from his years of work covering fights on radio. His love of the game came through as well, and that enthusiasm was infectious.

The thing that stood out for me while watching the fight the other night was something that has bugged me for years. It has to do with the way not just Dunphy, but many commentators would describe the scoring of a fight while it was in progress. At times it seems as if they were talking about a basketball game in that they kept saying one fighter was piling up points.

Now what did they mean by this? Of course, one fighter could very well take a lead in a



Don Dunphy at Ringside

fight, but it is not like scoring a team sport where goals, runs, or baskets are kept track of on a scoreboard. With boxing, in some places judges would simply score a winner and a loser for each round. At the end of the fight, the boxer with the most winning rounds wins the fight.

That was the case in New York at the time of the Ali/Frazier fight. New York also had a supplemental points system. This was used in the event the fight was declared a draw using the rounds system.

With the points system the fighters are awarded points at the end of each round. In what was called the ten point must system, the winner of the round would receive ten points, while the loser would get nine or less points. Most rounds would go 10 points to nine points unless there was a knockdown in which case the loser would usually get eight points. That was pretty much the biggest difference in points awarded unless the losing fighter was floored multiple times. However, a ten/seven round was extremely rare. In the event the judges saw a round as even, each fighter would get ten points.

Many felt the points system was fairer as it rewarded a fighter who scored a knockdown more credit for having a big round, and even if he didn't win the most rounds, he could still win the fight by having a bigger edge in some of the stanzas.

But my issue isn't with what system was being used, it is with the way the ringside commentators, including Don Dunphy, would describe the way the fighters were gaining on the scorecards.

I have seen and heard this same thing time and time again by many different commentators over the years. I don't mean to single out Dunphy, but the fight I was watching the other night was a perfect example of this misinformation.

In describing the fight, Dunphy, when talking about Frazier, would often say that Joe was impressing the judges with his aggressiveness. That was true; the fighter forcing the action will often win rounds even if he didn't land the most punches. No argument there.

It was when he was talking about Ali. The times when Muhammad was landing multiple jabs, Dunphy would repeatedly say "Ali is piling up the points with those jabs". It conveyed an image of a scoreboard racking up point after point for each jab that was landed. In fact, in any round Ali won, whether he landed one jab or a thousand, he would still only receive ten points on the scorecards. And that's on the supplemental points system being used that night in conjunction with the round by round score. In fact, when Ali won a round, he just won that round, no piling up of points for the jab, or any other punches.

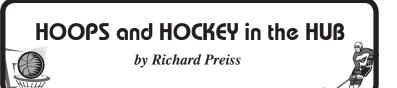
I've heard fight fans after events talk about how a fighter really piled up the points by landing so many punches. The fact is, he was adding up winning rounds with perhaps a wider margin in some due to the fact his opponent was awarded less points because of a knockdown or a foul. There were no, and never have been, individual points scored for each punch. It is not like scoring a basket in basketball or a touchdown in football or a run in baseball.

This is one of those things that was repeated for years in boxing blow by blow commentaries. Maybe it was because it made things sound more interesting. It always bothered me because it was misleading. I think it became even more confusing when they started using CompuBox to start counting punches.

Of course, with something like CompuBox, I suppose fights could start being scored by the number of punches landed, but then it would have to be determined if one type of punch is worth more points than another. Imagine if the first Ali/Chuvalo fight was scored solely on the number of blows landed the outcome may have been different as George Chuvalo landed a large number of body shots. But I digress.

I just want to go on the record as stating when you hear a ring-side reporter talk about points being piled up by jabs or any other punches; it just didn't work that way. It was always a judgment call by the official at ringside, and included many factors including aggressiveness, ring savvy, what type of punches, and the effectiveness of those punches among other things.

If you want to watch a sport that is about scoring points, go to a basketball game.



A NIGHT OF MASS EJECTIONS BRINGS BACK MANY MEMORIES — When all 10 skaters on the ice were given simultaneous penalties during a recent game between the Washington Capitals and the Ottawa Senators, it brought back memories because of its similarity to a game at the Garden some 25 years ago,

The two incidents were not exact. In the more recent example, the 10 skaters were each given 10-minute misconduct penalties. However, because there were only about seven minutes left in the game, they were in reality ejections. In addition, both goalies did not become involved and completed the game in their respective nets.

But travel back to the night of November 22, 1998 at the Garden and it was something to behold — not to be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

As the Washington Post reported: "The fight occurred with 11 minutes and 42 seconds gone in the first period, starting behind the Bruins' goal. The referee and linesmen tried to separate the players, but as they pulled one pair apart, another pair began fighting. For more than five minutes players grabbed, pulled, shoved and threw punches at one another."

But the most astonishing part was when the goalies got involved. "Once Bruins goalie Byron Dafoe joined the fray, Capitals goalie Olaf Kolzig skated from the other end and took on Dafoe." The irony was that Dafoe had been the best man at Kolzig's wedding while Kolzig had done the same at Dafoe's wedding.

So all 12 men on the ice were given game misconduct penalties (not 10-minute misconducts), meaning each team was down five players and one goalie with about two and a half periods remaining in the game.

Those thrown out on the Bruins side included Dafoe, Ken Baumgartner, Pete Ferraro, Grant Ledyard, Ken Belanger and Don Sweeney — now the General Manager of the B's.

In addition to Kolzig, Dale Hunter, Craig Berube, Mark Tinordi, Ken Klee and Dmitri Mironov were sent to the Washington locker room.

And yes, a hockey tradition was observed that night. Former Capitals player Jason Allison, then playing for the Bruins, scored in overtime to give Boston a 5-4 victory — the departed making a statement to his former team.

O CHRISTMAS TREE, O CHRISTMAS TREE, HOW MUCH MUST WE SPEND FOR THEE? — There is a certain location in New York City where real Christmas trees (not artificial ones) are for sale from a sidewalk location.

It would appear this is a scene repeated in many American cities in December. So what makes this location in Queens so special? Let's just say this not the place to shop if you are on a limited budget.

For example, some trees cost over \$1,000 apiece. When a reporter from the New York Post dropped by about two weeks before Christmas, he found that the highest priced tree had not been picked up yet. It was a 13 and a half-foot Fraser fir imported from Quebec and cost \$1,750. The tree was expected to grace the residence of "a socialite" in midtown Manhattan for the holidays.

A man described as a longtime customer by the proprietor arrived and discovered that he would get a significant discount. Because of his loyalty status, the owner only charged him \$1,200 for his 12-foot Fraser fir, shaving some \$400 off the going rate of \$1,600. It was noted that the same tree last year would have cost "only \$1,100 — with the hefty price increase being blamed on supply issues and inflation.

As the size of the trees decrease so too do the prices. A mere 10-foot specimen will only set you back \$550--some \$200 more than the same sized tree cost in 2022.

So when you are out shopping in the Boston area for your tree this season, just think how much you are saving by making your purchases within the borders of the Commonwealth. After all, there truly is something to be said for shopping local.

O MY HEAVEN, LARRY BIRD IS 67 — Yes, time does march on, even for the Boston Celtics' Mr. Everything (born on December 7, 1956). Throughout the 1980s and part of the 1990s he thrilled fans with his exceptional shooting, his precision passing, and fine rebounding skills. He competed at every moment such as diving for loose balls that others might let go out of bounds.

After his Indiana State team lost to Magic Johnson and Michigan State in the famous 1979 NCAA championship game, Bird reported to the Celtics for the 1979-1980 season and immediately made his mark.

He was named the NBA Rookie of the Year in 1980 and was selected to the NBA All-Rookie team that same year. He was named the NBA's Most Valuable Player three consecutive years (1984, 1985 and 1986), was on three NBA championship teams (1981, 1984 and 1986) and twice was named MVP of the NBA Finals (1984 and 1986). Bird retired on August 18, 1992 after 13 seasons with the Celtics.

In addition, he was selected as one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History in 1996 and was named to the NBA 75th Anniversary Team in 2021.

Perhaps the most unusual story associated with Larry Bird's name took place in an Oklahoma City courtroom in 2005. A plea agreement had been reached stipulating that a defendant accused of armed robbery and involvement in a shooting would serve a 30-year jail term.

But, according to the Associated Press, the man asked for three additional years so his sentence could match Bird's uniform number (33). "He said if he was going to go down, he wanted to go down in Larry Bird's jersey," stated the judge. "We accommodated his request and he was just as happy as he could be."

However, six years later in 2011, he told the Boston Globe that he regretted making the request. "I do (regret the request). I kind of wish I had 30 instead of 33. That three is a big deal. Three years matter."