

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 115 - NO. 50

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 16, 2011

\$.30 A COPY

First Night Boston 2012



FedEx Family Festival.

(Photo by Paul Marotta)

This year, First Night Boston celebrates the 36th edition of the country's oldest and largest New Year's Eve arts festival by announcing a line-up of world class events that offer something for everyone. On Saturday, December 31, 2011 from noon to midnight, First Night presents its annual day-long festival of art, music, dance, ice sculpture and more. First Night will showcase 1,000 artists in 200 exhibitions and performances in locations all over downtown Boston, from the Waterfront to the Fenway. First Night welcomes children, families and revelers of all ages to celebrate community through the arts. **First Night organizers strongly suggest visiting the interactive planner at www.firstnight.org to plan attendance.** The schedule is subject to change and updates can be found on the website.

All First Night outdoor events are free, though supported by sales of the First Night button, which is the ticket for

(Continued on Page 11)

News Briefs

by Sal Giaratani

There is No 99 Percent

If you listen to those occupodods down at Deweyville, the battle is between the 1 percent money-ed class and the rest of us. However, in reality, when 48 percent of the country's citizens are on EBT cards, food stamps and free health care, the 99 percent is actually only 52 percent. Many conservatives are afraid the country is moving toward socialism but in reality, socialism is already here. By the way, what happens when the 48 percent of free loaders reach 52 percent or 60 percent? A truly democratic republic is in trouble when more people are riding in the wagon than pulling it.

President Obama is not helping matters when he keeps pushing the unfairness of those on the top over those on the bottom. He keeps the class warfare alive because it feeds his appeal to the masses that think government is there solely to give them free stuff. Lately, Obama compared himself to President Teddy Roosevelt when he seems more like President Hugo Chavez.

We seem to have lost our American pride and we need to get it back.

They All Should be Ashamed of Themselves

Every time the City of Lawrence makes the news, it is seldom ever good news. First, it was

(Continued on Page 15)

NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 41ST ANNUAL NORTH END CHRISTMAS PARADE Here Comes Santa Claus!

by Sal Giaratani



While driving up from the south on Route 95, I heard Bruce Springsteen singing "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." This Christmas classic was playing on the radio as I was headed to town to see Santa for myself. Sunday, December 11 was an outstanding day. The sun was shining and if you stood in the sun, it even felt a tad warm too.

This year marked the 41st Annual North End Christmas Day Parade through the streets of the North End. Children and their families anxiously awaited the ar-

rival of Santa by helicopter at Puopolo Park.

The Christmas parade was sponsored by the North End Athletic Association in association with The Nazzaro Center, North End Against Drugs and the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events.

After the parade, we all headed up to the St. Agrippina Society on Hanover Street to see Santa again and have a photo taken with

jolly ole Santa. This year marked St. Agrippina's 17th Annual Christmas Program for the kids.

I'm sure many other children were thinking the same thing. Santa is a very busy guy this time of year. Often he must be in so many places so fast; it looks like he's in two places at the same time.

It isn't easy jumping off a helicopter for the parade and then rushing up to St. Agrippina's too. Somehow he does the impossible, just like magic.

A final note on the Santa parade and visit to St. Agrippina's: Santa Claus couldn't do any of these great things for the kids without the help of so many dedicated community folks and organizations. Their tireless actions year after year continue to make the North End the best community anyway. Here the children always come first.



Children and their families anxiously wait for Santa to arrive.

(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)



The Shriners joined the parade.

THE POST-GAZETTE SATELLITE OFFICE IS NOW OPEN AT 35 BENNINGTON STREET, EAST BOSTON

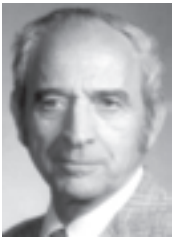
This office is open on **Tuesdays** from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and **Thursdays** from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, for the convenience of our East Boston and North Shore clients and contributors

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

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



AURELIUS THE EMPEROR

After he was adopted into the imperial household, Marcus' respect for his relatives, friends and finances remained unchanged. Hadrian died about six years later, leaving Antoninus Pius as heir to the throne. This is the time when Marcus worked very closely with the new emperor, did a tremendous amount of work for him, but still found time for his studies. Marcus soon married Faustina, the daughter of Antoninus Pius instead of Hadrian's granddaughter. In spite of Faustina's extravagance and recklessness, he highly praised her obedience, simplicity and affection. Pius ruled for 23 years and when he saw that his end was drawing near he called his chief magistrates and friends around him and formally named Marcus Aurelius as his successor in the empire. He ordered that the golden statue of Fortune, which he normally kept in his own chamber, be transferred to that of Marcus, uttered the famous "Aequanimitas" to the Tri-

bune of the night watch, and then expired. Marcus Aurelius was now forced by the Senate to assume the office of emperor. One of his first acts was to name an adopted brother as his colleague in the empire. He gave his colleague the name of Lucius Aurelius Verus Commodus, but also bestowed upon him the titles of Caesar and Augustus, however, history records him as just plain Lucius Verus. This was the first time in history when two adopted brothers sat in joint rule of the Roman Empire. Having taken care of all preliminary matters with the Senate, the two rulers set out for the Praetorian Camp where they promised 20,000 sesterces apiece (about \$1,000) to the common soldiers and a proportionately larger amount to the officers. The joint rulers acted in such democratic fashion that even the lenient manner of Pius was not missed. Marcus pursued his philosophical interests while at the same time he cultivated the goodwill of the people.

Mother nature always has been able to find some way to disrupt any form of national tranquility; the time of Marcus and Verus was no exception. A flood of the Tiber River, probably the most severe of their time, ruined houses, drowned animals, and caused widespread famine. The joint emperors helped to alleviate the pain and suffering by their own personal financial aid. A volatile situation in Parthia now erupted into a full scale war, hostilities threatened to break out in Britain, and forces of the Catti tribes invaded Germany. Agricola, an excellent general, was sent to Britain, General Victorinus repelled the Catti, but the Parthian war became the personal concern of brother Verus. Marcus kept watch over the administration of the empire while Verus was successful in the prosecution of the war. At the end of hostilities each emperor was voted the name "Parthicus" and later "Father of His Country."

NEXT WEEK:
Aurelian Yard Sale

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



Occupy Pre-School

I don't know how I missed this when the City of Boston issued it at the end of October, but even now, after the "Occupy Boston" group has vacated Dewey Square, it is still interesting, not to mention, hilarious, to read what the Boston Public Health Commission, Inspectional Services, Police and Fire Departments really thought about the "occupiers."

I quote directly from "Public Health & Safety Tips from the City of Boston" published October 26th and addressed to "those at Dewey Square":

"Cold weather has arrived and nighttime temperatures will soon be below freezing ... Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent. If clothing becomes wet, change into dry clothing as soon as possible. Wear mittens over gloves, layering works for your hands too. Wear a hat and cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs."

Now I love to hear *Button Up Your Overcoat* (1928; music by Ray Henderson; words by B.G. DeSylia and Lew Brown) put over by torch singer **Ruth Etting** or "boop-boop-a-doop girl" **Helen Kane**, but, as an adult, when someone suggests that I "get out of these wet clothes" I expect him to follow with "and into a dry martini." I don't expect, at least not after age nine, to need the grown-ups of the city to remind me to wear my hat

and mittens. The fact that some person or persons in authority thought it necessary to inform the occupiers that a Boston winter can be cold and damp reflects badly on the intelligence of the occupiers, or the city officials, or maybe both!

Or how about this official City of Boston admonition to Occupy Boston:

"Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing or sneezing."

Now that's good advice. It was when I was taught it in kindergarten and I still stand by it, as I stand by this advice from the City of Boston to the occupiers:

"Do not engage in negative behavior, such as fighting, throwing objects, or destroying property."

Shall we add, "biting," "running with scissors," "eating paste," and "stomping your feet and yelling 'Mine' until you get your way." Actually, strike that one as that is the very essence of the occupy movement.

It's good to see that the City of Boston recognized the "99%" for what they are: spoiled kids - in some cases superannuated kids-, and rather slow ones at that.

Support NEAA and Win a Bruins Stanley Cup Ring

The Boston Bruins 2011 Stanley Cup victory was a long awaited event for Boston fans, and an unforgettable moment in Bruins history. The Boston Bruins 2011 Stanley Cup championship ring represents the team's tremendous accomplishments to bring the Stanley Cup back to Boston. The Boston Bruins Foun-

dation is thrilled to be raffling an official Boston Bruins 2011 Stanley Cup Championship ring to one lucky fan. The ring symbolizes the team's 6th NHL Championship in 2011, yet connects to the great history and tradition of the Bruins franchise. The attention to detail and impressive

craftsmanship truly make this ring fit for champions. The crest of the ring features diamond set images of the iconic "B" logo and the Stanley Cup, fashioned in brilliant cut custom princess and round diamonds set against a background of 14 karat white gold. There are six larger round diamonds on the crest of the ring that represent the six Stanley Cups that the Bruins have won. The diamond-covered top of the ring is framed on the left side by STANLEY CUP and on the right side by CHAMPIONS.

The shoulder of the ring that is normally personalized with the player's last name will feature the raffle winner's last name. The opposite shoulder of each ring features a diamond-studded Stanley Cup framed on top by "2011". The years '72, '70, '41, '39 and '29 also frame the cup. This is an official Stanley Cup championship ring that is the same as those issued to members of the Bruins organization, and not part of the collectible series that was also created by Jostens for Bruins season ticket holders and fans.

Entry Deadline: December 23, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Drawing Date: December 23, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

To purchase your raffle tickets, please log on to www.bruinsraffles.org, under charity code enter **NEAA**, for each dollar in sales using the **charity code NEAA**, NEAA will receive 50% of your purchase.

DRIVERS:

START UP TO \$.41/MI.
Home Weekly or Bi-Weekly.
CDL-A 6 mos. OTR exp. req.
Equipment you'll be proud to drive!
(888) 247-4037

LAW OFFICES OF

FRANK J. CIANO

GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW

DIVORCE • WILLS • ESTATE PLANNING • TRUSTS
CRIMINAL • PERSONAL INJURY • WORKERS COMP.

617-354-9400

Si Parla Italiano

230 MSGR. O'BRIEN HIGHWAY • CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

Giovanni the Italian Teddy Bear

Press his furry paw, and in Italian he greets you, inviting you to respond. Join him when he counts to ten, and when he sings, "Giro, Giro, Tondo" and "La Bella Lavanderina." Listen while Giovanni teaches you "Good Night" and "Good Bye" with the promise of seeing you again.

Giovanni speaks only Italian and comes with a translation guide. Giovanni's sweater bears the Italian colors and on the bottom of his left foot, a miniature Italian flag. This cuddly 15' bear is a must for...

\$34.95 + S&H

Order Giovanni and other Italian children's products online at www.ItalianChildrensMarket.com
310-427-2700
call for a free catalog!



SELL YOUR GOLD FOR CHRISTMAS CASH

Now! \$1,900
Per Ounce! 24K

781-286-CASH

We Buy Diamonds, Gold and Silver Jewelry
We Buy Gold and Silver Coins

Jewelry Box 345 Broadway, Revere

Serving the Community for 33 Years
sellgoldmass.com
Hours 10-5:30 pm every day. Saturdays & Sundays until 3:30 pm from now until Christmas



Make Reservations NOW for New Year's Eve

LUCIA

RISTORANTE & BAR

Traditional Italian Cuisine

415 Hanover Street, Boston
617.367.2353

11 Mount Vernon Street, Winchester
781.729.0515

Private Function Rooms for any Occasion

Donato Frattaroli
donato@luciaboston.com
www.luciaristorante.com



POST-GAZETTE

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

e-mail: postgazette@aol.com

Website: www.BostonPostGazette.com

Subscriptions in the United States \$30.00 yearly

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

USPS 1538 – Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the
 POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

James V. Donnaruma 1896 to 1953 Caesar L. Donnaruma 1953 to 1971 Phyllis F. Donnaruma 1971 to 1990

Vol. 115 - No. 50

Friday, December 16, 2011

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.

GUEST EDITORIAL

THE WAR ON CHRISTIANITY IS REAL AND MUST BE DEFEATED

by Edward P. Shallow

That the war on Christianity is in full bloom is indisputable. The enemies of Christ know that to succeed in establishing a Socialistic form of government where they will have total power over the people, they must destroy the people's faith in God.

The attack on Christianity is real and, "If We the People" fails to render God paramount, the forces of evil will be victorious and we will lose the nation.

The president himself is taking the lead in the assault. Consider (from Fox Nation):

President Obama declared in an e-mail to CBN that "whatever we once were, we're no longer just a Christian nation." (Even though this nation was founded on Judeo/Christian teachings.)

This same administration invited Lady Gaga into the White House for anti-bullying conferences but banned Franklin Graham from the Pentagon's National Day of Prayer observances.

It was during the Obama administration that Christian school children were ordered to stop praying outside the Supreme Court building because they were violating the law. Instead, those American boys and girls were forced to pray for the elected officials while standing in a gutter.

The Obama administration opposed the commemoration of a prayer by Franklin Roosevelt at the site of the World War II Memorial on the Washington Mall, arguing that it would "dilute" the memorial's central message.

In addition, the Obama White House asked Georgetown University to cover up all religious signs and symbols prior to a presidential address.

In recent days, we have learned that the Navy adopted and later rescinded a policy that would have banned parents from giving their wounded soldier-children Bibles at Walter Reed National Military Center.

A Christian cross was removed from outside an Army chapel because it violated regulations. The Air Force Academy was forced to apologize for promoting Operation Christmas Child because it had ties to a Christian organization.

(Continued on Page 8)

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

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

Pat Barrasso Celebrates 97th Birthday



Pat Barrasso of the North End celebrated his 97th birthday with family: daughter Elaine O'Brien, Pat Barrasso, son-in-law John O'Brien, son-in-law Jim Hogan, brother Anthony Barrasso, great-granddaughter Sophia O'Brien, Gretchen O'Brien, grandson John O'Brien, granddaughter Tara O'Brien and daughter Patty Hogan.

*Happy Birthday
 Pat
 from your
 Friends at the Post-Gazette*

Pat cutting his birthday cake.

SHERIFF CABRAL SPEAKS ABOUT WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP, POLITICS

Sheriff Andrea J. Cabral recently lent her support to two events created with the intent to encourage increased participation by women in politics and roles of leadership.

Taking part in a panel assembled by the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus and titled, "Building the Pipeline: Women at All Levels of Government", Sheriff Cabral joined with Massachusetts State Auditor Suzanne Bump and State Representative Shaunna O'Connell to deliver on the day's message.

Presented as a quarterly breakfast series, Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus panels feature "outstanding elected officials, community leaders, or political activists who have made great advances in promoting the participation of women in the political process." The breakfast is also utilized as a networking event that brings together the organization's membership with inspiring speakers to engage in conversation about increasing political participation of women throughout the ranks of government.

Addressing the packed house, Sheriff Cabral spoke about her early experiences gained while leading the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department and the approach that has carried her to her current role as one



Sheriff Andrea J. Cabral

of the most prominent women in Massachusetts politics.

"Coming into office, I felt free to go in and change the place," said Sheriff Cabral. "I brought a different perspective and a new approach to problem solving."

Sheriff Cabral also went on to speak about some of the opportunities and challenges facing women in the present day political arena and offered encouragement to women seeking to become more civically engaged.

Appearing in early December as the keynote speaker for the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce's "Women's Network" breakfast series roundtable, Sheriff Cabral again shared with

attendees some of the leadership strategies that she employed in successfully reforming the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, elevating it to its present place as a model of the corrections community.

As it was with her empanelment by the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, Sheriff Cabral was selected by the Women's Network of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce as an exemplar of the core values of the organization.

The mission of the Women's Network of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce is to connect women of all career levels, strengthen their professional networks and engage them in the Greater Boston business community. The Women's Network has achieved this vision through the offering of prominent speaker programs, unique receptions and roundtables, and annual awards ceremonies that foster development, spotlight women leaders, and promote the positive impact women have made on the Greater Boston region.

To learn more about the Women's Network of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, please visit: www.bostonchamber.com, and to learn more about Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, visit: www.mwpc.org.

Financially Speaking

with Ben Doherty

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarattani

THE DODD-FRANK BILL

The Dodd-Frank bill could chill hiring in the private sector and fill the seats with thousands of bureaucrats. The bill was signed into law last year as the government was hiring thousands more bureaucrats and it resulted in the biggest rewrite of financial legislation since the New Deal. It was intended to reign in Wall Street excess, but the banking industry says red tape is hurting economic growth and an already sluggish job growth environment with 29 million less jobs being created. Dodd-Frank has resulted in 2,300 pages of proposed and final rules which would exceed the height of New York's Empire State Building five times over. One-fourth of the laws have gone into effect so far, yet have imposed 20 million hours of paperwork on U.S. businesses. It took an estimated 20 million man hours in con-

tracts to build every iPhone. In the boom to lawyers, fewer loans get made. Banks have laid off thousands of people to raise revenue to net higher capital reserves mandated by law. In the end it means fewer loans get made, it's a boon to lawyers and government workers and a cost to tax payers of \$1.3 billion. It will eventually cost American workers until they can navigate through this maze of regulations and a loss of hundreds of thousands of workers in the financial sector. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Sarkozy agreed to a Euro zone that requires members to ask permission rather than beg for forgiveness, but the proposal would take months to satisfy while the bond market can spike in hours or even minutes. That means the European Central Bank may have to start

large-scale bond purchases to keep the debt crisis under control before countries have formally committed to any changes. The "Merkozy" deal and Italy's new austerity plan pushed yields down on Spanish, French and Italian bonds. US stocks rallied on the news and put 15 euro nations on credit, including AAA Germany and AAA France. That suggests a 50% chance of a downgrade within 90 days. Dollar General notched a new closing high in huge volume as Dollar General is breaking out of a flat base. The retailer's earnings hit a new high in volume as it hoisted its full year outlook and breaking out of a flat base. Analysts expect flat earnings for the current quarter.

It's time to call your Financial Advisor or call me at 617-337-5712.

Saving Christmas One Tree at a Time

Every year we go through this stupidity where the politically correct crowd refuses to recognize the importance of the Christmas holiday in America. According to the latest Gallup Poll survey, as many as 95 percent of all Americans reportedly support the idea of acknowledging Christmas at Christmas time. It wasn't always that way in America. Back in the 17th century Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Puritans in power outlawed Christmas as a pagan holiday. You could get jailed for saying "Merry Christmas." These puritanical religious folk called Christmas celebrations a plot by the Pope in Rome. It was their way or the highway, which led many Catholic colonists to travel south to Maryland where Catholics had far more freedom of expression.

Today, our politically correct crowd is the new puritans. They don't burn witches at the stake or punish Catholics but they do seem to enjoy taking the joy out of life.

Down in Rhode Island, Gov. Lincoln Chafee says a Christmas Tree is just a holiday tree. He even brings up Rhode Island founder Roger Williams to support his cockeyed view of Rhode Island history. Williams left Massachusetts because he refused to kowtow to the intolerance of Puritanism. Good old Roger Williams probably didn't like Catholics either but if he were alive today, he probably would be setting up his own Christmas tree right now and in the public square to boot.

Another sign of multiculturalism amok is the experience newspaper columnist and radio talk show host Michael Graham had during a visit to Friendly's Ice Cream. He noticed a "Santa Claus" hopping table to table wishing all a "Happy Holiday" even when customers wished him a "Merry Christmas." Graham pushed "Santa" to wish him a "Merry Christmas" in return but Santa wouldn't budge. Political correctness in this case was pretty stupid since you can't have Santa without Christmas.

Even worse was the news out of Loudon County down in Virginia. This state may be for lovers but not apparently lovers of Christmas. The county courthouse officials allowed a group of atheists to set up its own anti-Christmas display for the holiday calling it "Skeleton Santa on a Cross." The photo of this display seemed horrifying, merging Santa with a crucifix. The courthouse folks saw nothing wrong with this sick holiday display which appears on its face to be a hate crime but in the world of political correctness, liberals don't do hate crimes. Only everybody else does.

I long for the days when you could set up a nativity scene on the Boston Common across from the Statehouse or one along the old Jordan Marsh building on Summer Street in Downtown Boston. Sucking the joy out of life seems to be job number one for our evolving multicultural world which is really becoming anything but multicultural.

St. Agrippina's 17th Annual Christmas Program

St. Agrippina's membership held its 17th annual Christmas Program for North End children on Sunday December 11th. The program, once again, was a huge success! Santa Claus arrived at St. Agrippina's Chapel via fire engine. There were many families anxiously waiting for his arrival, while holiday music played. Santa Claus took an individual picture with each child, gave him or her an age appropriate gift, a balloon and a gift bag filled with school supplies and candy treats for over 125 children. Santa's friend, Batman, made a special guest appearance. Furthermore, the



Celtic Dancers and North End families waiting for Santa.

Boston Celtics Cheerleaders made a special visit to the program and added plenty of smiles and good wishes to the families of the North End. A very merry good time was had by all that attended.

The Society would like to thank the following for their support of the program: Councilor LaMattina, State Rep. Michlewitz, Knights of Columbus, North End Against Drugs, Green

Cross Pharmacy, VFW Post 144 North End, Al Dente's, Benevento's, Mangia Mangia, Monica's, Rodman Insurance, Fisherman's Society, Bianco's Sausage company, Millinium Cleaners, Carmen's Union, Balloons over Boston, Mike's Pastry, Umberto's Pizzeria, North End Fire Station, Hillside Press, Marina Ortega of the Boston Celtics, Post-Gazette and Patty Papa of the Mayor's office of special events.

The members of St. Agrippina's Society are very proud of our Christmas Program for the North End children. Our members would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. We thank everyone for their participation and we look forward to seeing everyone at our 98th annual feast August 3, 4, and 5, 2012. Viva St. Agrippina!!!



Nicholas Larosa, Jr., sitting on Santa's lap.

Order a copy today for traditional Italian dishes.

RUNNING OUT OF GIFT IDEAS?
HOW ABOUT A COPY OF ...
Recipes My Nonna Taught Me
this Christmas for authentic Italian dishes?
A Tribute to Francena's Sicilian Heritage and Her Beloved Nonna.

Now expanded and enhanced in its 11th printing with 10,000 copies sold.

\$12.00 - HOLIDAY SPECIAL pay no shipping and postage.
FRANCENA - 125 Boyce Road, Centerville, OH 45458
937-433-7313 - fslyd@aol.com

RENZO

Join Us for our New Year's Eve Beach Party Bash...!

Casual Beach Attire
Prizes For Best Beach Dressed

All You Can Eat
Pasta/Pizza/Salad Buffet
Entertainment & Dancing
Bikini Beachwear "Fashion Show"
Cash Bar
Champagne Toast @ Midnight
\$35 Per Person
\$60.00 Per Couple
Tickets on Sale Now @ Renzo

Complimentary Valet Parking
381 Revere Beach Blvd.
781 284-5600



Freeway Says ...

You can email your questions to postgazette@aol.com to the attention of Freeway. Don't forget folks, Freeway is not a vet, so please keep the questions light-hearted! Thanks.

MAKE TIME FOR FRIENDS THIS CHRISTMAS

It's the Christmas season. What do we think about at this time of the year? A big tree, all the lights, the tradition of giving gifts to our loved ones, making our favorite cookies, and of course, the Christmas dinner that will fill the dining room table with many dishes to share with our family and friends to enjoy. How often do we think of sharing time with a friend that we haven't seen in a while? Or, sending a card to someone we've thought about but did not have the time to do so? Or, taking some time to visit a senior or homebound neighbor? Speaking of friends, do we ever take out the time to say, "Thank you" to someone who has taken out the time for us, or has been concerned about our well being? At this time of year especially, we should acknowledge the thoughtfulness or

the special attention they gave us by just being there when we needed a shoulder to lean on. We take life for granted at times, as we do friends. Caring, consideration, compassion and kindness — all are a gift that we so often take for granted. We never realize how important that friend was until they aren't here. Before that happens, take a minute and reflect on that friend, the one who made the time when you needed it. For this Christmas, "friends" are a gift you can't buy, especially if that friend is genuine. Telling that person, "Thank you for being my friend," is a perfect gift for Christmas. Helping a senior by offering to do an errand or brightening their day with a gift of cookies is another way to celebrate the season. To my genuine friends, a "Thank You" and a "Merry Christ-

mas" is all the gift they need. To all my pooch friends and their human companions a very Merry Christmas. To all of you that read my article in the *Post-Gazette* I wish you and your families a healthy, safe and happy holiday and one full of friends and good cheer. My co-workers at the *Post-Gazette* you have been very faithful taking care of me every day with TLC. I love you guys. Have the best Christmas ever and keep safe.

Quote: Christmas — What do people mean by sending you a dozen Christmas cards during the festive season; and not deigning to send you three lines by way of letter during the rest of the year!

That's all for now!
Remember to pick up after your pet!

East Boston Main Streets and the East Boston Chamber of Commerce 6th Annual Holiday Window Contest Winners



First Place Winner — La Hacienda

East Boston Main Streets and the East Boston Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all the businesses who participated this year. Lighting up the store windows in all the business districts gives a warm and welcoming atmosphere to the neighborhood. Special thanks to judges Melissa Tyler and Susan Van Tuyl who judged over 30 entries.

The Winners: #1: **La Hacienda**, 150 Meridian Street; #2: **Eddie C's**, 34 Maverick Square; #3: **Meridian Food Market**, 121 Meridian Street; #4: **Rino's**, 258 Saratoga Street; #5 **Danilchuk**, 73 Addison Street.

Honorable Mentions: Elder Service Plan, 225 Sumner Street; Elite Donut, 350

Bennington Street; Rossy Jewelry, 35 Maverick Square; East Boston Furniture, 8 Chelsea Street; Balloon City, 995 Bennington Street; Taco Mex, 65 Maverick Square; Muzzy's Florist, 373 Chelsea Street; A&L Bakery, 330 Sumner Street; La Chiva, 258 Bennington Street; Italian Express, 336 Sumner Street; Vigo/Doris Travel, 46 Maverick Square; Halal Meat Market, 50 Maverick Square; East Boston Diamond & Gold, 378 Chelsea Street.



Second Place Winner — Eddie C's

Located at the entrance to
Boston's Historic North End!

DePasquale's
Homemade Pasta Shoppe

Now Open

A Family Tradition

Cheese Ravioli Manicotti Gnocchi Fettuccine Spaghetti Penne Rigate
Ziti Fusilli Rigatoni Angel Hair Linguine Tortellini Lobster Ravioli

66A Cross Street Boston, MA 02113
617.248.9629 — www.homemade-pasta.com

Old Friends Meet



Pat Barrasso, 97, of the North End of Boston, recently met his former physician Dr. John Stoeckle. They talked about old times. Pat was a patient of Dr. Stoeckle for over 30 years. Dr. Stoeckle is an honorary physician, Massachusetts General Hospital Professor of Medicine, Emeritus and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Stoeckle has spent his entire professional life at MGH. He had various roles as teacher, consultant, board member, trustee and editorial. He is 89 years old and now working at The John D. Stoeckle Center for Primary Care Innovation.

Save Time, Trouble and Worry ...

Have Spinelli's Cater Your Holiday Parties

Spinelli's Ravioli & Pastry Shop
282 Bennington Street, East Boston



Call for Orders
Telephone 617-567-1992
Fax 617-567-5150
www.spinellis.com

Ring in the New Year at
SPINELLI'S FUNCTION FACILITY

Lynnfield

Call for reservations
781-592-6400

Happy Holidays



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
YOUR FRIENDS AT
ELITE BOSTON LANDMARK REALTY

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED A TOY FOR
ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR WITH THE
TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM!!





ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo



Ciao Bella,

Christmas shopping not all done gals? Well, the “buy one for you and buy one for me” urge is irresistible at LUSH! Check out their fabulous Holiday Collection! Sure to please all five senses! www.lush.com — find a store near you! Here is my annual Christmas spoof for all to enjoy! Buon Natale!

*'Twas The Week Before Christmas when all through the salon
The scissors were clicking; the mad rush was on.
The hairdressers were busy primping the coifs;
Perm odor, tinting, hair spray — what cough?
The nail-techs stayed sitting; painting their art,
And the patrons were in and out like a dart.
The receptionist was praying for the end of the day,
While just out the window she noticed a sleigh.
And in walked a lady all covered in flour;
She said she'd been baking for hours and hours.
“I've seen to the children, but what of myself?
“My husband's been busy and couldn't spare an elf.
“My nails are all broken; my hair feels like glue;
“I hope there is someone who can make me feel new.”
With that gleam in her eye it was hard to say “no” —
Mary volunteered for the job — ho, ho, ho!
Shampoo, shampoo, how do you do?
Rollers and gel — need the dryer too.
With a trick of her brush she was coiffed in a flash;
Manicured, painted, and dried in a dash.
Her nails were all shiny — painted “jungle-red.”
The smile on her face left nothing unsaid.
As she waved us good-bye, Merry Christmas to all,
Everyone stopped to see the great haul.
While out the window we all began to peer
At a giant sleigh and eight strong reindeer!
Our lady hopped right in and with a nod to go
Off went her chariot above all the snow.
Jingle, jingle, jingle you can hear the bells ring.
It was a sight to behold there were songs to sing.*

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

Merry Christmas

A & L Italian Bakery

Established 1979

**LET US DO YOUR BAKING
FOR ALL YOUR HOLIDAY PARTIES**

Italian Cookies \$6.00 per pound
Pies: Ricotta, Apple, Lemon and more
Cannoli & Sfogliatelle • Panettone & Candies
Fresh Baked Bread - Retail and Wholesale

330 Sumner St., East Boston, MA 02128
Open Seven Days a Week **617-569-7597**

Regina Pizzeria

Award Winning Since 1926



Gift Cards Make Great Gifts

**Purchase \$50 in Gift Cards
and Receive a \$10 Gift Card FREE**
Offer Valid until January 1, 2012

Catering | Functions | Parties

Call 617.783.2300 | Reginapizza.com
353 Cambridge Street • Allston
Open Daily 11AM • FREE Parking

Visit us at The Original Regina on Thacher Street in the North End

Saint John of the Cross

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

John de Yepes was born at Hontoveros, Old Castile, Spain on June 24, 1542. He was the youngest child of Gonzalo de Yepes and Catherine Alvarez. His father gave up wealth, status, and comfort when he married a weaver's daughter and was disowned by his noble family. After his father died, his mother kept the destitute family together as they wandered homeless in search of work.

John was sent to the school for the poor at Medina del Campo, where the family had gone to live, and he proved to be a good student. He worked for seven years in a hospital for the poor while attending a school established by the Jesuits. John was inspired in prayer to serve God in a religious order that he would reform. He joined the Carmelites and received the habit on February 24, 1563, taking the



name John of St. Matthias.

After profession he obtained permission from his superiors to follow to the letter the original Carmelite rule without the modifications that had accumulated through the years. He was sent to Salamanca for the studies, and was ordained a priest in 1567. Shortly after his ordination, he considered joining the

Carthusians, however, before taking any further action he made the acquaintance of St. Teresa, who had come to Medina to fund a convent of nuns, and who persuaded him to remain in the Carmelite Order and to assist her in the establishment of a monastery of Discalced Carmelite friars at Duruelo, Spain based on the ancient rule.

John of the Cross, as he now called himself, became the first master of novices. He filled various posts in different places until St. Teresa called him to Avila as director and confessor to the convent of the Incarnation, of which she had been appointed prioress. He remained there for over five years.

St. John was ordered by his provincial to return to the house of his profession

(Continued on Page 13)

Produced by Feld Entertainment

Disney ON ICE

TREASURE TROVE

A Live Celebration of Disney's Animated Gems!



Opening Night Tickets Start at \$15!*

*(Excludes Front Row, VIP Floor, and VIP seats. No double discounts.)

DEC. 26 - 29

TD GARDEN

Mon. DEC. 26	Tue. DEC. 27	Wed. DEC. 28	Thu. DEC. 29
11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM*	12:00 PM 4:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	1:00 PM 5:00 PM

Save \$5 when you purchase tickets at the Box Office by showing your or buy online at **Ticketmaster.com** using code **MBTA**

(Excludes Front Row, VIP Floor, and VIP seats. No double discounts.)

www.disneyonice.com

xfinity®

L'ATTESA È FINITA!
RAI ITALIA È ORA DISPONIBILE
IN QUESTE NUOVE ZONE !

Maine: Bath, Bowdoinham, Brunswick, Durham, Freeport, Harpswell, Topsham, West Bath, Woolwich
Massachusetts: Abington, Aquinnah, Carver, Chilmark, Duxbury, Edgartown, Halifax, Kingston, Marshfield, Oak Bluffs, Otis Air Force Base, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rockland, Vineyard Haven, West Tisbury



NUOVO!



• Rai Italia **\$9.95** al mese

(Prezzi in aggiunta all'abbonamento XFINITY TV)

Non perdere un minuto in più. Chiama ora!

1-800-XFINITY (1-800-934-6489)

Sono disponibili servizi di traduzione
www.comcast.com/internationaltv



Il tutto coperto dal
Rimborso Garantito
entro 30 giorni di Comcast.



Offerta limitata a Rai Italia e ad un singolo apparato ricevitore. Non disponibile in tutte le aree e per clienti XFINITY TV con morosità pendenti. La tariffa mensile è supplementare alla normale tariffa XFINITY TV per il servizio e gli apparati. Non tutti i servizi sono disponibili con i pacchetti XFINITY. I prezzi possono essere soggetti a modifiche. Sono esclusi i costi degli apparati e di installazione, tasse e costi di franchising. È necessario essere abbonati al Basic Service per ricevere offerte aggiuntive. Per ricevere i servizi è necessario disporre di un telecomando e di un ricevitore digitali. Non tutti i programmi sono disponibili in tutte le aree. La garanzia di rimborso si riferisce alle tariffe mensili e ai costi di installazione per un massimo di \$500. Telefona per conoscere tutti i dettagli e le restrizioni. Comcast © 2011. Tutti i diritti riservati. I marchi appartengono ai rispettivi proprietari.

Simple *T*IMES...

with Girard A. Plante



No Post Office? No Saturday mail delivery? No assurance of first-class mail reaching our mail boxes or getting checks or letters across town or to their destinations? Is this nation I awoke in early this morning still the United States of America?

What we're witnessing is the dangerous decimation of not a mere daily convenience. Rather, the United States Postal Service is still the lifeblood of millions of Americans of all walks of life. A recent factoid in *The Washington Post* shows that 40 percent of the world's mail is delivered by the USPS to 150 million homes and businesses.

No corner mail box for my 84-year-old next door neighbor and a trio of 90-something neighbors is time for panic. Their daily walk to the corner keeps them active and vibrant as that grand ritual keeps their bodies in motion. Gives them purpose and an outdoor occasion they look forward to. That block-long walk or 'round the corner trek is a regular happening they've lived by their entire lives. Greeting your familiar postal carrier is akin to seeing family. Mail delivery is simply a way of life.

Recent decisions by the officials in charge of daily operating the Postal Service are gloom and doom at best. No, the woes of the Postal Service didn't hit overnight,

or the past decade. These troubles were long in the making and easily correctable. At worst, our elective public servants in Congress sat silently as matters worsened.

That shameful inaction cannot be comprehended by millions of Americans who still daily depend on the service to conduct their affairs. Medications are delivered via the Postal Service. Many recipients of Social Security prefer to get their monthly checks in their mail boxes. And, yes, they still put postage stamps on envelopes to pay bills or send letters or Christmas cards. Those are a few essential reasons for keeping mail delivery to our homes and businesses that we know it's reliable and efficient despite the Internet age.

Villages and small towns will be hardest hit by the decision to close 3,700 post offices and slash 28,000 jobs by next spring. That decision alone is even more absurd than the closure of too many U.S. military bases around the nation in the 1990s.

Rural areas will suffer immeasurably as they struggle to receive and send mail. Hours of traveling to the nearest Post Office is disheartening to merely ponder. Importance of community will be lost. Urban neighborhoods will also lose a large part of their identity without a Post Office nearby.

In times of national emer-

gency the Postal Service must be available when planes are grounded. Communicating via the Internet or Twitter could be affected. So, the seeming outmoded method of communicating is still relevant within the latter possible scenarios. Add in the factor that many older folks lack the skills to operate a computer, don't own one, and care less to learn how to navigate cyberspace.

Saving the United States Postal Service is not only about jobs and pensions. After all, its \$8 billion dollar debt is the result of Congress demanding five years ago the Postal Service cover 75 years of its retiree fund within 10 years. Where does such suspect wisdom derive from? Stop playing politics with peoples' lives and get smart!

The Postal Service has thrived despite challenges in the past. For example, the advent of the telephone in the 19th century threatened its viability, invention of the Fax machine in the 1950s, and nowadays the Internet has spouted forth the sure-as-hell death knell to the USPS. Each time its resiliency prevailed.

Now it's all up to members of Congress to recognize their constitutional obligation to continue to safeguard the public trust. Do the right thing by building up, not tearing down, a worthy and worthwhile institution that Americans need and want.



SPEAK NOW WORLD TOUR LIVE (CD/DVD)

Big Machine Records

If your "Wish List" to Santa included a request to have Taylor Swift perform a concert in your home, then consider your wish granted. This super 2-disc package shines with a CD containing close to 80 minutes of music, with concert versions from *Speak Now*, along with interpretations of songs by other artists. The DVD portion is a two-hour music marathon of pleasure, and includes the complete list of 18 songs from the *Speak Now* concert, plus behind-the-scenes tour footage and home movie clips. Fans get access to Taylor's vision of bringing her songs to life, from performances and instrumentation to the staging, lighting, costumes and choreography. The total 34 songs on both discs include her *Speak Now*'s three consecutive #1 singles, and fans can enjoy the music, view her use of five guitars, banjo, ukulele and piano, and also her nine costume changes. So you see, this gift is not just about the songs, it's the chance to enjoy the ultimate "Taylor Swift Experience," from a front-row seat!

THE DESCENDANTS - MUSIC FROM THE MOTION PICTURE Sony Masterworks

The motion picture soundtrack of *The Descendants* includes a selection of the finest music from Hawaii performed by established masters of Hawaiian music. Gabby Pahinui serves up beauties as, "Ka Makani Ka'ili Aloha," "Hi'ilawe," "Leahi," "Kaua'I Beauty," "Wai O Ke Aniani," and joins with the Sons of Hawaii for "He'Eia." Keola Beamer and George Winston deliver "Kalena Kai" followed by a Beamer solo on "Imi Au la 'Oe." Duets have Makaha Sons with Dennis Pavao singing "Ka Loke," plus Ozzie Kotani and Daniel Ho on "Paka Ua." Solo efforts shine with Ray Kane's "Auwe," Jeff Peterson's "Hawaiian Skies," Sonny Chillingworth's version of "Hi'ilawe," the pretty "Hapuna Sunset" (Charles Michael Brotman), adding "Deep In An Ancient Hawaiian Forest" (Makana), Lena Machado's "Mom," and the final sounds of the islands has Sol Hoopii's Novelty Trio's "Ka Mele Oku'u Pu'Uwai." Aloha and Mahalo nui loa!

GYM CLASS HEROES - THE PAPER CUT CHRONICLES II Decaydance/ Fueled By Ramen

Riding the success of their trademark fusion of rock, pop, and alternative hip-hop, the Gym Class Heroes drop 11 ear-friendly tunes, enhanced by an outstanding lineup of special guests. GCH workouts have, "Martyrial Girls," the promising "Life Goes On" featuring Oh Land, the single "Stereo Hearts" with Adam Levine (Maroon 5) held #1 spot, plus the rhythmic "Solo

Discotheque" (Whiskey Business), and the pounding "Holy Horses**t" (Batman). Second half happenings sweat out beauties as, "Back Home" featuring Neon Hitch, the Heroes shine on "Nil-Nil-Draw" and "Lazarus, Ze Gitan," winding down via "The Fighter" featuring Ryan Tedder, "Kid Nothing and the Never-Ending Naked Nightmare." Strong lyrics with a message that suggests Parental Advisory Explicit Content. Powerful!

THE MUPPETS - ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK Walt Disney Records

The vocal strains of Kermit, Fozzie Bear and Miss Piggy will stir the hairs in your ears as they deliver the soundtrack to Disney's *The Muppets*. The 30-song collection features equal amounts of music and dialog tracks. The Muppets open with "The Muppet Show Theme," trailed by "Pictures in My Head" (Kermit/Muppets), Paul Simon singing his 1972 hit "Me and Julio Down by the Schoolyard," plus the Moopets version of "Rainbow Connection" (Muppets), followed by the Starship with their 1985 hit "We Built This City," along with "Me Party" (Amy Adams/Miss Piggy), and the persuasive "Let's Talk About Me" (Chris Cooper). Jason Segel and Walter begin the second half with "Man or Muppet," The Muppet Barbershop Quartet doo-wops "Smells Like Teen Spirit," Camilla & the Chickens cluck "Forget You," as Muppets return with "Rainbow Connection," followed by Andrew Bird's "The Whistling Caruso," as the entire cast joins in for "Life's a Happy Song Finale," and the fun finishes with the classic 1969 version of "Mah Na Mah Na." Fun movie and an even funnier soundtrack!

BRAZILIAN BEAT Putumayo World Music

Feel the need to get every body part moving? *Brazilian Beat* is the sure cure! Replete with bouncing berimbau, Afro-Brazilian rhythms, retro samba soul and velvety bossa nova vocals, it all meshes perfectly. Feel the beat through "Samba na Mao, Eu Tenho" (Tamy), diva Monica da Silva's "Feriado Pessoal," samba soul master Marcos Valle's smooth "Partido Alto," the Brazilian Groove Band keeps pace with "Bananeira," Michigan-born, Brazilian singer-songwriter Monica da Silva flows nicely through "Ai Entao" and Roman bossa band Bungalove's tasty "Minha Loucura." Maintain the mood with the diverse array of young musicians who form Fino Colectivo providing the pretty "A Coisa mais Linda do Mundo," along with "Samba Ti, Samba Eu" compliments of Brazuka Fina, the Rio-based Roge's clavinet-flecked samba "A Nega E O Malandra," trailed by rising star Tita Lima's labor of love titled "A Conta do Samba," putting the finishing touches on the masterpiece collection with "Anel de Saturno" to wrap up this global adventure!

• Editorial (Continued from Page 3)

Critics, including many lawmakers, believe the Obama administration is trying to curb Christianity from the military.

In my further research on this subject, I came upon an informative piece in National Review Online authored by Clifford May and I quote in part.

Imagine if Muslims in Europe were being arrested for nothing more than peacefully practicing their religion. Imagine if Muslims in South America were being sentenced to death for "insulting" Jesus. Imagine if mosques were being bombed and burned by terrorists in a growing list of Christian-majority countries.

Now here is what you do not need to imagine because it is all too real: In recent days, Christian churches have been bombed in Egypt, Iraq, Nigeria and the Philippines. In Indonesia a mob of 1,000 Muslims burned down two Christian churches because, according to one commentator, local Islamic authorities determined there were "too many faithful and too many prayers." In Iran, scores of Christians have been arrested. In Pakistan, a Christian woman received the death penalty for the "crime" of insulting Islam; the governor of Punjab promised to pardon her — and was then assassinated for the "crime" of blasphemy.

I could provide dozens more examples of the persecution and, in many cases, "cleansing" of Christians in what we have come to call the Muslim world. If the situation were reversed, if such a war were being waged against Muslims, it would be the top story in every newspaper, the most urgent item at the U. N., the highest priority of all the big-league human rights groups.

Mr. May's insightful article clearly exposes the obstacles America faces in this war on Christianity. We the people have to rise to the occasion as did our forefathers when called on to preserve our nation in its infancy.

Edward P. Shallow
www.eps8.wordpress.com

NOBILE INSURANCE

ALBANO F. PONTE, CEP

Financial and Estate Planning

Email afponte@msn.com

Phone 617-320-0022

MICHAEL F. NOBILE, CPCU

ARLINGTON

148A Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02474
(781) 646-1200
Fax (781) 646-1148

MEDFORD

39 Salem Street
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 395-4200
Fax (781) 391-8493

BOSTON

30 Prince Street
Boston, MA 02113
(617) 523-6766
Fax (617) 523-0078

Your Ad Could Go Here

For information
about advertising in
the Post-Gazette,
call 617-227-8929.

The Socially Set

by Hilda M. Morrill



American Ireland Fund Executive Director Steve Greeley, Gala Vice Chairman Peter Eastwood, honoree David McCullough and Gala Chairman James Boyle, left to right, at the AIF 30th Annual Boston Gala.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

More than 1,100 guests gathered on November 17, for The American Ireland Fund's 30th Annual Boston Gala at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel. More than \$2.3 million was raised for the American Ireland Fund's "Promising Ireland Campaign" to support nonprofit organizations across the island of Ireland.

Among those who attended the event were James R. Boyle, President, John Hancock Financial Services; Peter Eastwood, President & Chief Executive Officer, Chartis U.S.; Jack Sebastian, Managing Director, Goldman Sachs & Co.; Mike Sheehan,

Chief Executive Officer, Hill Holliday; Karen Kaplan, President, Hill Holliday; Robert Kraft, Chairman & CEO, The New England Patriots; and Massachusetts Lt. Governor Tim Murray, to name but a few.

The 2011 Gala honored David McCullough, a Boston resident with Irish roots, and two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award and recipient of Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award. McCullough addressed the capacity crowd and was feted with a resounding standing ovation.

The fundraiser, one of The

Worldwide Ireland Funds' 100-plus worldwide events, supports Irish philanthropic causes.

The 2011 Gala was chaired by James R. Boyle, President of John Hancock Financial Services; and Peter Eastwood, President and CEO of Chartis U.S., served as Vice Chairman.

"The Boston Gala historically has been among the city's most successful fundraising events each year; and this year, under the leadership of Jim Boyle, has been no different. In fact, it has been one of our best," said Steve Greeley, Executive Director of The American Ireland Fund. "The event was at capacity and we were pleased to welcome guests from around the world that came to celebrate with us. It is an honor for the Boston Irish-American community and its friends to be able to give back to Ireland at a time when our support is needed there now more than ever."

Added Gala Chair Jim Boyle, "The American Ireland Fund Boston Gala has long been one of most anticipated philanthropic events in the city. It has been an honor to be part of an evening that raises support and awareness of The American Ireland Fund's work across the island of Ireland. The needs in Ireland are great and the Irish-American community here has heard the call by generously enabling us to surpass our goals for this year's event."

The American Ireland Fund is a philanthropic network that supports worthy causes in Ireland and around the world. Their mission is to be the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development throughout the island of Ireland. Founded in 1976, The Worldwide Ireland Funds currently operate in 12 countries and have raised more than \$370 million for more than 1,200 outstanding organizations.

For more information, visit www.irlfunds.org.

..... On Wednesday, December 21 we are all invited to celebrate the winter solstice at "Winter Solstice Night at the Museum" during extended hours at the Harvard Museum of Natural



New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, left, is pictured with Jill and Robert Gallery at the AIF Gala.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)



Boston's Consul General of Ireland Michael Loneragan, left, and Raymond Keaveney, Director of the National Gallery of Ireland.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

History in Cambridge, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

In collaboration with The Christmas Revels, at 6 p.m. the Pinewoods Morris Men will perform the traditional "Abbots Bromley Horn Dance" in the museum's gallery currently featuring the exhibit titled "Headgear: The Natural History of Horns and Antlers."

The horn dance is the oldest known English ritual dance and features six human "deer" with antlers weaving in and out in a hypnotic pattern to the sound of a haunting melody.

Revels Artistic Director Patrick Swanson will introduce the performance and David Coffin, a versatile

musician and featured performer in his 32nd year with Revels, will demonstrate horn-based musical instruments such as the *gemshorns*, the *Pibcorn*, and his ivory *sopranino* recorder.

At approximately 6:30 p.m. everyone will be invited to join a processional to the nearby Sanders Theatre, led by the horn dancers (weather permitting).

All Christmas Revels ticket holders will be admitted free for "Winter Solstice Night at the Museum" in advance of the 7:30 p.m. curtain at Sanders Theatre just down Oxford Street. Regular museum admission prices apply for non-Revel ticket holders.

During the December 16-29 run of "The Christmas Revels," show your Revels ticket or ticket stub for half-price admission to the museum. "Headgear: The Natural History of Horns and Antlers" will remain on display through December 2011.

For more information, call 617-495-3045.

..... We are told that "Disney On Ice Presents Treasure Trove" sets the gold standard with a magical medley of Disney tales in one jam-packed ice show that commemorates the legacy of Disney animated films. This brand-new skat-

(Continued on Page 13)



Claudia Liberatore, Gwen Cook and Laura Zoll, left to right, smile for the camera.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

GALLO
&
Co.
Real Estate

Mattéo Gallo

Appraisals
Sales & Rentals

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

DIAMONDS
ROLEX
ESTATE JEWELRY
Bought & Sold
Jewelers Exch. Bldg.
Jim (617) 263-7766



JUSTINE YANDLE
PHOTOGRAPHY

781.589.7347

JUSTINE.YANDLE@GMAIL.COM

WWW.JUSTINEYANDLEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

*Italian is the language of lovers.
You will certainly love this deal.*



**Mediaset, Raitalia
and 4 Italian Channels
for only \$19.99/mo.**

Subscribe to Panorama Italiano and enjoy your favorite
Italian shows - Ballando, Rossella, Amici, Le Iene
and so many more - PLUS

RECEIVE A \$100 PREPAID CARD

When You provide your current cable bill.*

(Requires 24-month Agreement)



Call DISH Network Now: **1-888-316-9047** Reach Media: **1-888-458-1278** www.dishitaliantv.com



International programming requires additional \$10/mo International Basic package or any America's Top package.
*Reward Card offer valid for current cable customers who provide a cable bill dated within the previous 30 days and activate qualifying DISH Network service between 8/15/11 and 10/31/11. Methods for providing bill: fax to 303-723-1520, email to italiantv@dishnetwork.com, or mail to DISH Network, Italian Dept, 9601 S Meridian Blvd, Englewood, CO, 80112. DISH Network and DIRECTV customers are not eligible. Limit one Reward Card per DISH Network account activation. May not be combined with other special offers. Please include a valid email address if you wish to receive confirmation of eligibility. Allow 4 – 6 weeks from confirmation date for delivery of card. American Express® Reward Card: This Card is provided pursuant to a loyalty, reward or promotional program and can be used only at US merchants that accept American Express Cards except cruise lines, casinos, ATMs, and recurring billing. © 2011 AEPCMC under license from American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc.
Digital Home Advantage plan requires 24-month agreement and credit qualification. Cancellation fee of \$1750/month remaining applies if service is terminated before end of agreement. All equipment is leased and must be returned to DISH Network upon cancellation or unreturned equipment fees apply. Limit 6 leased tuners per account; upfront and monthly fees may apply based on type and number of receivers. Prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Offer available for new and qualified former customers, and subject to terms of applicable Promotional and Residential Customer agreements. Additional restrictions may apply. Offer ends 1/31/12. © 2011, DISH Network LLC. All rights reserved.

• **First Night Boston 2012** (Continued from Page 1)**Suzanne Vega**

admission to indoor events. In addition, some cultural partners offer a "Button Bonus" program, including free admission on December 31 and discounts before and after First Night. Button Bonus performances on December 31 are listed here, and all others can be viewed at www.firstnight.org. First Night buttons are available at dozens of locations, including Shaw's Supermarkets, Star Market, Tedeschi's and Au Bon Pain. Buttons are available now at a special web price only at www.firstnight.org through December 22. Children under four admitted free. For more information, call 617-542-1399 or visit the web site.

POPULAR & EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC

Suzanne Vega, NEC's Jordan Hall, 9 p.m.

The Cover-Up, CityPlace, 8-11 p.m.
Drew O'Doherty, Boston Public Library Rabb Hall, 7:30-8 p.m.

Cass McCombs, Boston Public Library Rabb Hall, 10:30-11:30 p.m.

Ida, Boston Public Library Rabb Hall, 8:15-9:15 p.m.

Intransitive Recordings, Hynes Convention Center, Room 313, 7:30-11 p.m. This year's lineup features **Ernst Karel** at 8 p.m., **Tim Feeney & Vic Rawlings** at 9 p.m., and **Jason Lescalleet** at 10 p.m.

Liz Longley, Modern Theatre at Suffolk University, 9-10 p.m.

Lori Diamond & Fred Abatelli, Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Terrace Room, 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Marissa Nadler, Boston Public Library Rabb Hall, 9:30-10:15 p.m.

Michael Tarbox, NEC's Jordan Hall, 8 p.m.

Tubby Love and Eric Robertson, Modern Theatre at Suffolk University, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Walter Sickert & the Army of Broken Toys, *The Wireforest: An Evening of Spectacular Spectacle*, Hynes Auditorium, 7:30-11 p.m. Their guests will include **Johnny Blazes and the Pretty Boys'** flamboyant, glitter-filled, big-band soul; **Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band** with their marvelously quirky display of circus sight and sound; as well as a host of others to be announced.

JAZZ, WORLD AND ROOTS MUSIC

Mavis Staples, Symphony Hall, 9 - 10:30 p.m.

Julian Lage Trio featuring Larry Grenadier and Eric Harland, Berklee Performance Center, 7:45 (live broadcast) and 9:30 p.m.

Boston Saxophone Quartet, CityPlace, 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Hot Like Fire, Hynes Convention Center, Room 302, 7:30-9 p.m.

Jazzreal, St. Paul's Cathedral, 7:30 and 8:45 p.m.

Juanito Pascual, Boston Park

**Mavis Staples**
(Photo by Chris Strong)

Plaza Hotel, Terrace Room, 10 and 11 p.m.

Mamadou, Hynes Convention Center, Room 302, 9:30-11 p.m.

Manami Morita, Berklee Performance Center, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

New England Conservatory Youth Jazz Orchestra, Boston Public Library, 4 p.m.

Parkington Sisters, Boston Symphony Hall, 8-8:45 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

American Guild of Organists, Arlington Street Church, 10-11 p.m.

Heinrich Christensen, King's Chapel, 9 p.m.

Ludovico Ensemble, New England Conservatory's Williams Hall, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Meet the King of Instruments, Old South Church, 3:30-4 p.m.

New England Conservatory Children's Chorus, **HOLIDAY LIGHTS**, Boston Public Library, 3 p.m.

New England Conservatory Students and Alumni, NEC's Brown Hall, 8 - 10 p.m.

Old South Brass, Organ & Percussion, Old South Church, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Opera Boston, Bastien und Bastienne, Emmanuel Church, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Project STEP Chamber Orchestra, Boston Public Library, 1 and 2 p.m.

DANCE

Origination/O'Shea Chaplin Dance, The First Night Beat, Hynes Convention Center, Ballroom, 7:30 and 8:45 p.m.

Sean Fielder and the Boston Tap Company, Hynes Convention Center, Ballroom, 9:30 p.m.

Tap Battle, Hynes Convention Center, Ballroom, 8:15 p.m.

BUTTON BONUS: Boston Ballet's The Nutcracker, 7:30 p.m.

Boston Ballet offers free admission to the first 100 button holders for *The Nutcracker*. Button Holders may line up at the Boston Opera House box office beginning at 11 a.m. After free tickets are gone, button holders can get a 30% discount on tickets for this performance only.

THEATER, COMEDY AND SPOKEN WORD

Mike Daisey: WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES, Boston University Theatre, 9:30 - 11 p.m.

Boston Interfaith Clergy Group, Interfaith Midnight Peace Service, St. Paul's Cathedral, 11:45 p.m. - 12:15 a.m.

Boston Poetry Slam, Hynes Convention Center, Room 208, 7:30, 8:15, 9, 9:45, 10:30 p.m.

Commonwealth Shakespeare: Bard Over Broadway, Emmanuel Church, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Improv Boston, Hynes Convention Center, Exhibit Hall C, 7:30, 8:45 and 10 p.m.

Jim Lauletta, Boston University Theatre, 8-9 p.m.

MassMouth Story Slam, Hynes Convention Center, Room 207, 8 and 9:30 p.m.

Tony V and Graig Murphy, Hynes Convention Center, Exhibit Hall D, 8-10 p.m.

BUTTON BONUS: The Snow Queen, American Repertory Theater, 10:30 a.m.

Free admission for the 10:30 a.m. performance of *The Snow Queen* to the first 100 button holders; tickets will be available that day at the Loeb Drama Center box office at 9:30 a.m.

BUTTON BONUS: Three Pianos, American Repertory Theater, 2 p.m.

Free admission for the 2 p.m. performance of *Three Pianos* to the first 100 button holders; tickets will be available that day at the Loeb Drama Center box office at noon.

BUTTON BONUS: Arabian Nights, Central Square Theater, 3 and 8 p.m.

Central Square Theater offers free admission to the first 50 button holders for *Arabian Nights*.

MULTIMEDIA

Patrick Chaney and Alex Brizicky, Hynes Convention Center, Room 200, 7:30-11 p.m.

Katarina Miljkovic, Hynes Convention Center Room 309, 7:30-11 p.m.

FILM

Festival of International Short Films, Museum of Fine Arts, 10:30, noon, 1:30 and 3 p.m.

New England Anime Society, Hynes Convention Center, Room 312, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Roxbury International Film Festival, Hynes Convention Center, Room 200, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

FEDEX FAMILY FESTIVAL

Alicia Quintano, Stories, Songs & More, Hynes Room 209, 1:45, 3, and 4:15 p.m.

A. Major Dance Company, Hynes Ballroom, 1:30 and 3 p.m.

Beehive Art Children's Art Studio and Gallery, Hynes Hall C, 1-6 p.m.

BJ Hickman, Hynes Room 313, 1:45, 3 and 4:15 p.m.

Boston Bhangra, Hynes Room 302, 3 and 4 p.m.

Boston Children's Theatre Show Choir, Hynes Hall C, 3 and 4:15 p.m.

Chu Ling Dance Academy, Hynes Ballroom, 1 and 2:30 p.m.

Dinoman!, Hynes Hall D, 2 and 3:45 P.M.

Drum Central with Grooversity and IntaAfrika, Hynes Hall C, 1-3 p.m.

Elizabeth Mitchell and You Are My Flower, Hynes Auditorium, 1 and 2:15 p.m.

Ellis Paul, Hynes Auditorium, 3:30 and 4:45 p.m.

Eva Dean Dance Company, Peter Pan & Poi, Hynes Room 302, 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Gerwick Puppets, Midwinter Magic, Hynes Room 210, 2, 3:15, and 4:30 p.m.

Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association Workshop, Hynes Hall C, 1-5 p.m.

Face Painting, Hynes Hall C, 1-6 p.m.

ImprovBoston, Hynes Auditorium, 3 and 4:15 p.m.

Jen Flores, Crazy Hat Gear for the New Year! Hynes Room 203, 1-4 p.m.

Little Groove, Babu Wiggle, Hynes Room 202, 2-5 p.m.

Little Groove with Sara Wheeler and Tommy Dempsey, Hynes Auditorium, 1:45-2:15 p.m.

Magic Lantern Picture Show, Hynes Room 200, 1-6 p.m.

Magpie Puppets, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Room 206, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45 p.m.

Maximum Velocity, Hynes Hall D, 1:15, 3 and 4:45 p.m.

Morgan White Jr. - The Man from T.R.I.V.I.A., Hynes Room 310, 1:30, 2:45 and 4 p.m.

New England Anime Society, Hynes Convention Center, Room 312, 1-6 p.m.

Puppet Showplace Theater, Clown Circus, Hynes Room 208, 1:30, 2:45, 4 p.m.

Rumba y Timbal, Hynes Ballroom, 2 and 5 p.m.

Sean Fielder and the Boston Tap Company, Hynes Ballroom, 3:30-5 p.m.

Simply Circus, Hynes Room 302, 1 and 2 p.m.

The Skyriders, Hynes Hall D, 1:45, 3:30 and 5:15

Tanglewood Marionettes, The Dragon King, Hynes Room 207, 1:45, 3 and 4:15 p.m.

OUTDOORS

Countdown to Midnight: Amos Blood, Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, 10:45 p.m. - midnight.

Countdown to Midnight: Keep

**Ice Sculptor by Eric Fontecchio and Alfred Georgs.**

(Photo by Paul Robicheau)

Your Resolution Dance Party, Copley Square, 10 p.m. - midnight.

Countdown to Midnight: Live on WBZ-TV, Copley Square, 10 p.m. - midnight.

ICE SCULPTURE: Donald Chapelle/Brilliant Ice, The Looking Glass, Boston Common Brewers Fountain, all day and night.

ICE SCULPTURE: Steve Rose, Puerto Rico, Boston Common Brewers Fountain, all day and night.

ICE SCULPTURE: Steve Rose/Ice Effects, TADpole Turns Ten, Boston Common TADpole Playground, all day and night.

ICE SCULPTURE: Eric Fontecchio/Brookline Ice, The Long Count, Copley Square, all day and night.

ICE SCULPTURE: Eric Fontecchio, Brookline Ice, Glass Icicles, Copley Square, all day and night.

Midnight Fireworks, Boston Harbor, midnight-12:10 a.m.

Panorama Magazine Grand Procession, Over the Horizon, starts in front of the Hynes Convention Center, 5:30 p.m.

Vanzetti, Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, 9:15-10:30 p.m.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND MUSEUMS

Boats of Boston Harbor, Boston Harbor Moakley Courthouse Dock, noon - 4 p.m.

BUTTON BONUS: Boston Children's Museum, 10 a.m. - noon
Boston Public Library Art & Architecture Tours, - Dartmouth Street Entrance, 1-4 p.m.

Bostonian Society/Old State House, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Mary Eddy Baker Library, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

BUTTON BONUS: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 10 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

BUTTON BONUS: Museum of Science, 2-5 p.m.

Old South Meeting House, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Otis House Museum, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

The Unorthodox Arts Foundation at King's Chapel, 7:30-9 p.m.

RESERVED SEATING

A reserved seating section has been set aside for Mavis Staples, Mike Daisey and Julian Luge, so people may purchase a guaranteed seat if they wish. These premium package tickets are \$35 and includes a First Night Boston 2012 button, which is the ticket for admission to all First Night indoor events. For more details, visit www.firstnight.org.

**Panorama Magazine Grand Procession.**
(Photo by Paul Marotta)

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

Mitt Romney's hairdresser is fed up, said Michael Barbaro and Ashley Parker in *The New York Times*. For years Boston-area barber Leon De Magistris has been trying to persuade the Republican presidential candidate to update his conservative coiffure. "I will tell him to mess it up a little bit," says De Magistris, 69, who has cut Romney's hair for the past two decades. I said to him, "Let it be more natural." But Romney refuses to alter his trademark style: short at the neck, neat on the sides and swept back off the forehead. "He wants a look that is very controlled. He is a very controlled man. The hair goes with the man." Romney is similarly strict about what he'll put in his meticulously coiffed mane. He won't use hair dye, says De Magistris. During long stints on the campaign trail, Romney sometimes trims his own hair. "It doesn't make me happy, says the Italian immigrant, but what can I do?" De Magistris wonders what will happen if Romney wins next year's presidential election. "I don't think he will call me from the White House and say, 'Come down and cut my hair,' but if he does, I will come."

Carlo Scostumato, says, "One guy who always goes to the top is a barber." The gracious Bridget Manganelli of East Boston, says, "People worry about their gray hair, but it's actually great to have gray hair. Ask any man who's bald."

The unofficial Mayor of Medford, Tom Analetto, claims "baldheaded people should remember that when God made heads he covered up the ones he didn't like." Amen!

Horsing around! The French, after Congress lifted a five-year ban on slaughtering horses for meat in the United States. A study found that live horses were simply being exported to slaughter houses abroad where horse meat is considered a delicacy.

It was a bad week for Nick Novak, the San Diego Chargers' kicker, after a TV camera caught him urinating on the sidelines while preparing to kick a critical field goal. Novak missed the field goal and his team lost.

Forbidden knowledge: Maine prohibits leaving an airplane during a flight, leaving your Christmas decorations up too long, or walking down the street with your shoelaces untied. The law in Missouri precludes the installation of bathtubs with four legs resembling animal paws in Kansas City, or the rescuing of women who are in their nightgowns by firemen in St. Louis.

Gross! An Ohio tattoo artist tattooed a pile of excrement on his girlfriend's back after he learned she had cheated on him. Ryan Fitzgerald had been asked by girlfriend Rosie Brovent to tattoo her back with a scene from the Narnia fantasy series. Instead, after first getting her to sign a document allowing him to use his "artist's discretion," Fitzgerald took his revenge with an image of steaming pooh circled by flies. "I was passed out for most of the time," says Brovent, who admits she was drunk, "and woke up to this horrible image on my back."

Heavy stuff! The average American male now reports weighing 196 pounds, up from 180 pounds in 1990. The average female says she weighs 160, up from 142. Yet just 39 percent say they're overweight, while 56 percent report that their weight is "about right."

Some people grow up and spread cheer. Others just grow up and spread. And take a lesson from the elephant: it lives to a ripe old age without ever worrying about its weight.

The astute Steven Sebestyen claims it isn't how much a woman weighs that's important — it's where she carries the weight. And his shapely, beautiful wife Theresa says, "Losing weight is no problem, the trick is to lose it so it doesn't find its way back."

After more than two decades, Governor Deval Patrick on November 22 signed a gaming bill that will permit up to three full-scale casinos in different regions of the state plus a single slot machine-only facility. Intended to bring jobs to the Bay State and provide new revenues for state and local government, the law starts a process to create a powerful new state agency that will be charged with licensing and overseeing new gaming operations. The signing of the law also marks the start

of a scramble by gaming companies to prepare plans and applications seeking one of the lucrative new licenses.

The three regions of the state where a full-scale casino could be located are the following: the five eastern counties (Suffolk, Middlesex, Essex, Norfolk and Worcester), western Massachusetts (Hampshire, Hampden, Franklin and Berkshire counties), and the southeastern part of the state (Bristol, Plymouth, Nantucket, Dukes and Barnstable counties). The law creates more than a dozen new special purpose funds to receive a portion of license fees and taxes on casino profits, including a number of funds to benefit cities and towns.

If gambling is a disease, as some contend, can you deduct your losses as a medical expense?

Bella Culo of Chestnut Hill, says, "Gamblers are like toilets — broke one day and flush the next."

The great Joe Albano of Revere, reminds us, never gamble in heavy traffic. The cars may be stacked against you.

Wow! On average, someone is murdered every seven and a half hours in Puerto Rico, and half of those murders are linked to drug gangs. Puerto Rico's per capita rate of drug homicides is now higher than Mexico's. So reported *The Washington Post*.

A recent CBS News poll revealed 33% of Americans say they will not have enough money to cover their holiday spending this year. 41% say they plan to spend less this year than last.

The downside of staying slim! Maintaining a lean physique may be best for your overall health, but it won't help you survive surgery. Patients with a body mass index that puts them in the normal to thin range "are at higher risk of death 30 days after surgery" compared with heavier people, George Stukenborg, a health professor at the University of Virginia, tells *Reuters.com*.

Moving news! Just 11.6 percent of Americans changed residences from 2010 to 2011, the lowest percentage since the Census began collecting such statistics, in 1948. The dismal job market and the inability to sell homes are the primary factors suppressing mobility. In addition, fewer boomers are moving because they can't afford to retire.

Be aware, a third of American homeless families live in Florida.

Stupid American history: On Christmas Day in 1868, President Andrew Johnson's last significant act was granting unconditional amnesty to all Confederate soldiers for their actions in the Civil War. Confederate President Jefferson Davis declined to accept it. Apparently more Catholics attended Mass during Prohibition than any time in American history — because the production of legal sacramental wine increased by hundreds of thousands of gallons during that time.

Now is the time to trade in your car for a new model, said Donna Roisato in *Money*. Used cars are in short supply because cash-conscious drivers are keeping cars longer. As a result, the value of 2 to 5 year old vehicles have climbed 10 percent over the past year, as opposed to an increase of just 2 percent for new models.

Time for some show biz reminiscing with the stately musicologist Albert Natale. Keeley Smith signed up as a band singer by Louis Prima in 1947, when she was only sixteen. Four-time Academy Award and 20 time Grammy and Gold Record winner Henry Mancini is remembered for his classic "Moon River" from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. He also created the scores for 80 other movies, including the Pink Panther series, *The Days of Wine and Roses* and *Victor-Victoria*. Born in 1924 in Ohio, he was a child prodigy who mastered the piccolo, flute, and piano by the time he was 12. His break came when he scored the theme music to *Peter Gunn*, a popular TV series of the early 1960s. Mancini died of pancreatic cancer in 1994. He was 70 years old. **AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME**



Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



COPYRIGHT, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

SICILIAN GREEN OLIVE SALAD

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 jar Sicilian green olives* | 2 tablespoons olive, canola, or vegetable oil |
| 2 stalks celery chopped | |
| 1 large onion chopped | 2 tablespoons cider vinegar |
| 1 large garlic clove minced | Salt |
| 1 tablespoon oregano | |

*Sicilian green olives are not usually found pitted. To pit olives, use a paring knife to cut olive meat from olive pit. Another method is to place each olive, one by one, on a cutting board. Using a wooden mallet, hit the olive so that the meat separates and exposes the olive pit. Place olive meat in a large bowl.

Add chopped celery, onion and minced garlic to the olives and mix. Sprinkle oregano, oil and cider vinegar over the mixture and mix thoroughly. Additional oregano, oil, vinegar or salt may be added. When kept in a clean covered jar or bowl this salad stores well for a lengthy time in refrigerator. This salad is ready for serving within thirty minutes of preparation.

NOTE: In my childhood, I remember my father buying a large wooden box of shiny light green olives from the produce market. The large quantity was to be shared with aunts who lived nearby. The women knew how much water and salt were needed to soak the olives and how long before they could be ready for this special Sicilian salad.

In 1931, when my parents took the family to Sicily to meet our paternal grandmother, my brother Peter and I had the privilege of going to the olive groves with our relatives to harvest olives. As a six-year-old, I thought of it as a picnic day under the beautiful but old craggy-looking olive trees. We ate lunch and stayed most of the day before returning in the horse-drawn carts. Another day, Papa and his brother-in-law, Uncle Nino, took us to a processing plant near their hometown. There we saw olives that had been crushed, processed and stored in huge containers. The scent of olive oil was so strong in that small, cold processing plant that it made my eyes tear. I wanted to rush out into the fresh air. My love for the green olives and the olive oil extracted from them grew from that experience.

Vita can be reached at voswriting@comcast.net

The Agency for all your Insurance Coverages

Richard Settiane
Insurance Services

**AUTO HOMEOWNERS TENANTS
COMMERCIAL**

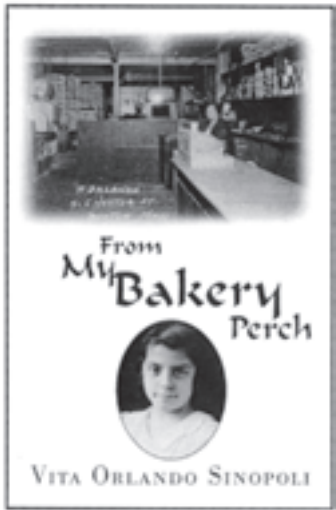
Experience makes the difference

SPECIALIST in RESTAURANT and BUSINESS POLICIES

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR QUOTE

617-523-3456 - Fax 617-723-9212

1 Longfellow - Place Suite 2322 - Boston, MA 02114
Conveniently located with Free Parking



1st Generation

Italian-American

Vita Orlando Sinopoli

Shares with us

a delightful recollection
of her memories as a child

growing up in

Boston's "Little Italy"

and a collection of

Italian family recipes

from the homeland.

Great as Gifts

FROM MY BAKERY PERCH available on AMAZON.COM
and in local bookstores — ask for
Hard cover #1-4010-9805-3 ISBN
Soft Cover #1-4010-9804-5 ISBN

WWW.BOSTONPOSTGAZETTE.COM

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



A young John Christoforo on a visit to see Santa. Circa 1944

Christmas is coming and I'm going to hold up on my story about a trip to Italy for the next couple of weeks. I have many fond memories about celebrating Christmas when I was a kid growing up in East Boston. Preparations for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day would begin long before the 24th and 25th of December would arrive. Most of the preparation was done by Nanna, Babbononno and my mother. The men in my family were musicians and Christmas time was their busiest season of the year. Back then, it was live music for every event. There were no such things as DJs playing records, tapes or CDs. My uncles were sax players and Dad played bass violin, and were among the best in Boston. As a result, they worked morning, noon and night playing Christmas parties at this time of year. For years, Dad played at Santa's Enchanted Village in Jordan Marsh, entertaining the kids who were there to see Santa Claus.

The preparations for Christmas Eve fell mainly on Babbononno. It is traditional that Italians celebrate Christmas Eve with a dinner that consists of seven fish courses. Babbononno used to say that seven was the minimum and that you could have any number of offerings as long as it was an odd number, seven, nine, eleven, etc... Nanna often bought the common types of fish at Faber's Fish Market on Brooks Street in East Boston, but Babbononno insisted that he could only get the specialty items at Giuffre's in the North End. Faber's didn't sell eels, snails, scungili, quahogs, razor clams and mussels, but Giuffre did. Walking in the front door, you had to pass several galvanized tubs filled with water. Some had bacala soaking in them and the others had eels swimming aimlessly in oval patterns around the inside of the tubs. Babbononno would buy his share of these specialty items, leave the bags with the salesperson that waited on us and we would head into the North End to visit his friends. When it was time to return home, we would make a detour into the midst of the pushcarts and he would buy a few more specialty items that, according to him, could only be purchased in the North End.

At about the same time, there had to be a visit to see Santa. Mom would take me into Boston and head for Jordan Marsh. There were Santa Clauses at other department stores, but Mom used to say that they were helpers for the real Santa. The Real Santa was only to be found at Jordan's. Of course, there would be the annual visit to the toy department. I think it was either the 4th or 5th floor of the main building on Washington and Summer Streets. Quite often, we were accompanied by her favorite cousin, Louise Pepe and her two sons, Anthony and Ralph. At other times, we would be accompanied by Grace Manfredonia and the first three of her four children, John, Fred and Adelaide.

Whichever the case, the first stop would be at the electric train display. I have not seen anything like it since. One whole section of the toy department would be

designed as a town somewhere in the U.S., with business buildings, schools, churches, snow covered hills, frozen ponds with skaters, and train stations with bill boards advertising the products of the day. Moving around the perimeter and through the middle of the display were several sets of electric trains, most of them Lionel, with a couple made by American Flyer. Many of the cars dumped coal, picked up milk cans, deposited lumber and displayed passengers through illuminated windows. All the while, the engines puffed white smoke which was supposed to resemble steam and they whistled as they passed several points in the display.

When we had had our fill of trains, it would be time to head to look at the model airplanes, most of them being World War II aircraft. I was a model maker and had wooden models that I made, most of them purchased at a local hobby store in East Boston. Jordan Marsh had models made by Strombecker. These were the Cadillacs of models, and I would tell Mom which ones I was going to ask Santa for.

Next, we would visit the Erector Set display or the Gilbert science displays and marvel at the things that could be made by kids by just owning their latest sets of materials necessary to construct or invent. Before heading to see Santa, I always wanted to look at the latest in baseball equipment. There would be uniforms identical to the ones worn by members of the Red Sox or the long-gone Boston Braves. One of the few foreign uniforms I remember was that of the Brooklyn Dodgers, but after a quick glance, it was time to check out the latest in bats and gloves.

When our mothers deemed it necessary to heard us into the Santa line, we would head for a group of kids standing in single file with snow suits hanging from their bodies. Unlike most kids, we were dressed with shirts, ties, coats, hats and gloves, all looking like miniature businessmen. The discussions with Santa would be abbreviated and right to the point. He would ask our names and then question us as to what we wanted him to bring us. Of course, we would ask for everything we saw in the store, and quite often, Santa's reply would be a bit nebulous, with him saying he would see what he could do.

The next part of the day found us heading to a restaurant for lunch. Mom knew the places on either Tremont or Boylston Street and while we ate, we kids would discuss what we had seen and what we had asked Santa for. Once we were back home, Mom and Nanna would continue to plan out the menus for both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

There were no supermarkets back then and a shopping trip to pick up the necessities for a holiday table meant visiting specialty stores, a butcher shop for meats, a fish store for sea food, a green grocer for fruits and vegetables, an Italian specialty store for cold cuts, cheeses and exotic Italian delicacies. Butter and eggs were purchased at Kennedy's on Bennington Street and bread at either LaCarcia's, Blundo's or Umana's bakeries.

No one drank bottled wine. Someone in the neighborhood made wines, both red and white, and most Italians had their favorite vintner from whom they bought wine. For Babbononno, it was his brother-in-law, Nanna's brother Zi'Antonio Ceruolo. According to my grandfather, he was the best winemaker in the world.

My uncles and father lived in their tuxedos during Christmas, playing several office parties during the day and early evenings and were seldom able to help in the purchasing or preparations necessary for the holidays. They just supplied the money.

We kids supplied the anticipation, and for me, there was the party held at the Trinity Neighborhood House, a settlement house I attended on Meridian Street. The people I remember from there were Miss Orr, J.J. Dana and Dr. Edith DeAngelis. I'm out of space and will continue next week as Christmas approaches.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

• The Socially Set (Continued from Page 9)



Linda Holliday, left, and Constance Hubbell enjoy the American Ireland Fund 30th Annual Boston Gala.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

ing spectacular visits TD Garden from Monday, December 26 through Thursday, December 29 for ten performances.

Get tangled up in Disney's 50th animated feature with Rapunzel and Flynn and enter the worlds of your other favorite Disney princesses Tiana, Cinderella, Jasmine, Ariel, Sleeping Beauty, Belle, Mulan and of

course, the one who started it all, Snow White.

Ahoy, Mateys! Set sail with Peter Pan, the always sassy Tinker Bell and the cantankerous Captain Hook and his pirate pals on an adventure beyond Never Land! Trek the wilds of Africa with Simba, Nala, Pumbaa and Timon as they discover the true meaning of the Circle of Life.

Tick-Tock! Tick-Tock! Don't be late to a very important date with Alice and the Mad Hatter as they march with the Queen of Hearts' Army of Cards. We are all invited to relive magical moments in this ultimate Disney animation celebration coming to Boston's TD Garden.

For tickets and more information, call 617-624-1815.

Enjoy!

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

• Saint John of the Cross (Continued from Page 6)

(Medina), and, on his refusing to do so, he was imprisoned on December 3, 1577 and taken to Toledo, where he was incarcerated for over 9 months. It was during his imprisonment that Saint John wrote some of his finest poetry. He made his escape in August of 1578. After the death of St. Teresa (Oct 4, 1582) John, for supporting the nuns in their adopting of the new constitutions, drew upon himself the displeasure of the superior, who deprived him of his offices and relegated him to one of the poorest monaster-

ies, where he fell seriously ill. As his illness increased he was removed to the monastery of Ubeda, where he passed away on December 14, 1591. Saint John's beatification took place on January 25, 1675; he was canonized on December 27, 1726. Saint John is a Doctor of the Church.

Saint John left us many books of practical advice on spiritual growth and prayer that are just as relevant today as they were when they were written. The most well-known of which is "The Dark Night of the Soul."

KJS

Mechanical

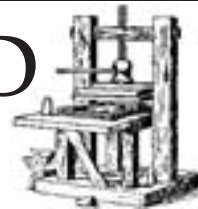
**Heating & Air Conditioning
Sales, Service & Installation**

Ken Shallow
617.593.6211

Fully Insured
Lic #017936

kenskjs@aol.com

NORTH END PRINTING



5 PRINCE STREET • NORTH END • BOSTON, MA 02113

Owned and operated by Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher, Post-Gazette

**Quality Printing
for all your
Commercial and Personal Needs**

Stationery • Business Cards • Menus • Flyers
Program Books • Wedding and Party Invitations
Announcements • Business Forms and Documents

— COMPETITIVE PRICES —

617-227-8929



News Briefs

(FROM ITALIAN
NEWSPAPERS AND
OTHER PUBLICATIONS)

Compiled by Orazio Z. Buttafuoco

THE FIAT-CHRYSLER CORPORATION PAYS ITS DEBT TO CANADA AND TO THE UNITED STATES. An important event took place recently in the USA when the new Italian-American multinational refunded both Canada and the United States \$7.5 billion to clear the debt it had with the two countries. The CEO of the Italian American combine, Sergio Marchionne, now also the president of the corporation, signed the checks to cancel the debts, in a ceremony taking place at the assembly plant of Sterling Heights, near Detroit. The US was represented by President Obama's personal envoy, Ron Bloom, while Canada was represented by Brian Deese, of the National Economic Council, Canada.

As FIAT has now taken control (51% of stocks) of Chrysler, Marchionne became the corporation's president, as it was expected. Eventually FIAT will control a much larger chunk of Chrysler.

A GOOD SLEEP AND SPORT CAN KEEP US SLIM AND HEALTHY. There was a time when people thought that, perhaps, obesity could affect the quality of our sleep. Now we begin to understand, for we know better. An Italian endocrinologist, Aldo Pinchera, has recently explained the significance of lowering, or at least preventing obesity. He suggests that it is essential to maintain the habit of a good sleep by actively practicing some sport, which helps to lose weight, but too often there is no loss of calories.

Instead sport activity awakens in the body the leptin, the hormone that limits hunger in the body. It may seem a paradox that sleeping can make us lose weight, but we know now that sleeping and sport activities have actually the role of re-establishing a balance in our metabolism.

ITALIAN PARLAMENTARIANS SELDOM ABIDE BY THE CONSTITUTION! The Italian Constitution states, in no uncertain terms, that there are fundamental criteria that supersede anything the Parliament, or the Government (the council of ministries) wants to do. The same goes for the President of the republic, or the Premier. The President of the Constitutional Court (one of the three supreme courts), Ugo De Siervo, stated recently that when the Constitutional Court finds a law unconstitutional, how is it that this Court, representing the popular sovereignty, has failed in its basic role by allowing a Bill approved by the Parliament, to become a law even though it is constitutionally illegitimate. The Parliament, therefore, continues to err, obviously under political pressure by certain leaders who demand the approval of a law, at any cost!

They seem to care less if the Constitution is the law of the land; but it finds to be relegated to an irrelevant role! Is this what democracy in Italy is all about?

Greater Boston's Affordable Private Cemetery

Traditional Burial Plot
(for 2) Starting at \$1500



500 Canterbury St.
Boston, MA 02131

617.524.1036
www.stmichaelcemetery.com


Serving the Italian community for over 100 years!

Boston Harborside Home

Joseph A. Langone

580 Commercial St. - Boston, MA 02109
617-536-4110
www.bostonharborsidehome.com

Augustave M. Sabia, Jr. Trevor Slauenwhite
Frederick J. Wobrock Dino C. Manca
Courtney A. Fitzgibbons



A Service Family Affiliate of ADFS/Service Corporation International
206 Winter St., Fall River, MA 02720 Telephone 508-676-2454

The Federal Trade Commission

works for the consumer to prevent
fraud and deception.

Call 1-877-FTC-HELP or WWW.FTC.GOV

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 Giaratani

**CAMILLE RENZULLI
STILL REMEMBERED**

I can't believe a year has passed since my cousin Camille Renzulli passed away. She will always be remembered by her children and grandchildren as well as the entire extended Assenza family of which I am proud to be a part of. I remember my cousins in the Assenza family growing up on Fleet Street in the North End. Both the Giaratani and Assenza families were related through my grandmother who was an Assenza. The older I seem to get, the more important family ties have become for me. It is the glue that holds us all together.

**HOW ABOUT CALLING IT
"EASTPORT"?**

It appears that Mayor Tom Menino is about to push big time for the redevelopment of the East Boston waterfront area. There is no reason why East Boston can't be as successful as the Seaport District along the South Boston Waterfront. I even have a cool moniker for this place. How about "the Eastport District?" I also think the mayor's idea for a transit link on Boston Harbor connecting South Boston, East Boston and Charlestown together makes great sense. Boston has a great harbor and needs to continue using our vast waterfront to better the economic condition of the city and the enjoyment of its citizens and tourists. Keep it up Mr. Mayor. Way to go. As an East Boston resident, I think the future is looking good for my neighborhood.

**FIRST DUNKIN' DONUTS
SHOP GOES BACK
TO THE FUTURE**

America's first Dunkin' Donuts shop is still located on Southern Artery in Quincy next to the Super Stop & Shop. It opened in 1950 on its way to a national chain. The place recently celebrated its anniversary

and re-opened with a new and old look. While it has the updated colors and furniture, it brought back the horse-shoe counter seating and the retro signature logo. Back in 1950, a cup of coffee was 10 cents and a donut only a nickel. Today, you pay \$2.44 for a coffee and donut.

**NEIL DIAMOND
IN CONCERT**

Neil Diamond is returning to the TD Garden on June 23, 2012. Tickets are on sale now. If you are a Diamond fan, it is sweet Carolina time for you.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO THE BLACK ROSE**

I remember when The Black Rose opened up in Quincy Market 35 years ago. The price of a Guinness in 1976 was \$2.75. According to manager Paul Wilson, the place has served a quarter-million bowls of beef stew, a half-million fish 'n chips plates and three million pint 0' stout. When I lived in Charlestown, I would walk over to The Black Rose for an Irish breakfast buffet on Sunday mornings. Happy birthday and many more from this Sicilian-Irish guy.

CHESS CHAMPS

Who's the best in East Boston? Inquiring minds down at Dunkin Donuts on Bennington Street want to know. Is it Larry Coots, Big Anthony, Cava, Steve or is it Richie Spartaro? Richie says it's him. Many folks are, however, awaiting that re-match between Richie and Larry; it will be like a remake of Muhammad Ali and Smokin' Joe Frazier. Stay tuned for more details.

**BUMPED INTO
JIMMY COLLINS
THE OTHER DAY**

Nowadays when people hear the name Jimmy Collins they think the proud father of Southie Rep. Nick Collins. However, we folks from Charlestown still remember Jimmy as the last Charlestown resident

ever elected as a state representative for the neighborhood.

MERRY CHRISTMAS ...
Merry Christmas greetings go out to Kathleen "Cookie" Giordano from "Charlestown Live" on BNN-TV.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
MAURA HENNIGAN**

Supporters of Clerk of the Criminal Court for Suffolk County and former City Councilor Maura Hennigan attended a grand birthday party put together by her supporters recently at the Corrib Pub and Restaurant in West Roxbury to honor her on turning the Big Six-0 (her birthday was December 15). Over 200 well-wishers from her past and present showed up for breakfast on Sunday, December 4. This year also marks her 30th anniversary of her first electoral win on the old nine-member citywide City Council back in 1981 too.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI11P5744EA

In the Estate of
CAROLYN CHERRY
Late of NEWTON, MA 02458
Date of Death November 28, 2011
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed and that KENNETH CHERRY of Somerville, MA be appointed executor/trix, named in the will to serve Without Surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT CAMBRIDGE ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON JANUARY 3, 2012.

In addition, you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 6, 2011
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/16/11

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI11P5764EA

In the Estate of
GERDA F. LANES a/k/a
GERDA FUCHS LANES
Late of NEWTON, MA 02459-1141
Date of Death October 29, 2011
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed and that STEPHAN LANES of Southbury, CT be appointed executor/trix, named in the will to serve Without Surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT CAMBRIDGE ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON JANUARY 4, 2012.

In addition, you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 7, 2011
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/16/11

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI11P5764EA

Estate of
GERDA F. LANES Also Known As
GERDA FUCHS LANES
Date of Death October 29, 2011
MUPC SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE

To all persons who may have an interest in the above-captioned estate, the Division of Medical Assistance and, if interested, to the Office of the Attorney General and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; Notice is being sent to you as you may have a legal interest in this case, in order to inform you of your rights.

Under the new Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code 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 the appointed Personal Representative.

Petitioner requests to be permitted to file a MUPC Bond.

Run date: 12/16/11

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI114795DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
ANI SARYAN
vs.
GHAZAROS SARYAN

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Donald J Bertrand Esq., Alford & Bertrand, LLC, 60 Arsenal Street, P.O. Box 322, Watertown, MA 02471 your answer, if any, on or before January 16, 2012. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. PETER C. DIGANGI,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 5, 2011
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/16/11

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

the school superintendent, then, it was the mayor and now, it is the entire public school system. All the elected folks in Lawrence ought to be so ashamed of themselves. Lawrence is so bad, it makes Chelsea look like Newton. I'm only joking of course; Chelsea doesn't look anything like Newton.

Who Can Win it All in 2012?

The Republican herd is pretty weak this time around with only Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich rising to the front of this long cattle drive. Personally, as bad as President Obama is there is a chance that he could sneak back into office for a second term where he could continue to make matters worse for all of us. I had placed so much hope in Rick Perry but his cowboy hat keeps shrinking as the campaign drags on. He has made so many stupid mistakes that he is almost as irrelevant as Cain. The smartest guy running who has no chance of winning is former US Senator Rick Santorum, (R-PA).

If the Democrats were smart, they would dump Vice President Joe Biden who only hurts the Democratic ticket and convince Hillary Clinton to run with Obama in '12. Best thing for the Democrats would be to convince Obama to go home to Chicago and let Hillary run for president herself.

A Romney-Clinton campaign battle would be a doozey, right?

Legislation Taking State Backward on Prison Reform?

According to Rev. George Walters-Sleyon, executive director of The Center for Church and Prison, legislation up on Beacon Hill, S-2054 would have a negative impact on prison reform. Among items not to his liking is that the bill does not reduce the school zone from 1,000 feet to 100 feet. He said reducing the zone to only 500 feet would not do enough to offset the 'urban penalty' paid by city residents and would only help the suburbs. He believes in order to move drug offenses away from protected areas, the zone needs to be really small. Excuse me, what the heck is he selling? A zone of 1,000 feet sounds a lot larger than it actually is. The bottom line is to keep drug pushers away from our school children, isn't it? Why feel sorry for urban drug pushers? Me thinks this minister has his priorities all mixed up, for heaven's sake.

Romney Seems Stuck in Neutral

Mitt Romney's presidential campaign seems to have been stuck in neutral for quite a while now.

He's been at about 25 percent in the polls since early summer or whenever it was he kicked off the campaign. Some of his critics say he's

been running since the half-way mark of his governor's term back around 2004. While many other candidates like Perry, Bachmann and Cain flew from bottom to top as the candidate du jour, Romney's electoral needle never moves. It is like he's skating along trying to stay under the radar. His strategy reminds me of Tom Brady playing out the clock for a close victory. A worse thought is he is campaigning like the Red Sox collapsed this past September. He could be snatching defeat from the hands of victory so to say.

Newt Gingrich has been gaining on him and according to the latest poll just out December 1st Newt has an 8 percent lead over Mitt who seems to be folding up the chair quickly. While Romney keeps focused on Obama, he seems to have forgotten the need to win the nomination big time first.

He lost his cool with the interviewer on Fox over a question on his alleged flip-flopping. If Romney can't stand the heat on a friendly network, what will happen when he makes it to MSNBC, CNN, CBS, NBC, ABC or anywhere else in the vast liberal conspiracy many conservatives see out there?

Latest news out of the Romney Camp only seems to solidify the flip-flop charge. Weeks ago, Romney was against ending the payroll tax cut and now he's for it. Maybe, tomorrow, he'll change his mind again. Highly likely if you ask me.

Meanwhile, the Cain Train has derailed and Gingrich is reaping that fallout. Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina are coming up quickly.

Meanwhile, Obama Sits and Waits

The problem with Republicans for '12 is that there are no first tier candidates running for president. Romney and Gingrich are now certified second tier candidates and the rest of the bunch are behind Door Number 3 as Monty Hall always yelled to contestants pressured to make a wise choice. Where are the first tier candidates? Hey, even Obama is only a second tier candidate. Democrats have the same problem too. Look at Joe Biden, a third tier candidate if ever I saw one just a heartbeat away from the Oval Office. This all scares me as the country remains in grave crisis without a leader with an oar to paddle.

Chevy Volts Catching Fire

General Motors said that the Chevrolet Volt would catch on fire with consumers but not with consumers inside them. Seems GM has a little problem with the electric motors going up in flames. Mom, apple pie, ice cream, Chevy and your local fire department, anyone? I wonder if fire engine red is the number one color for this baby.



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



Big Papi

Re-signs with Red Sox

David Ortiz is no longer a free agent, re-signing with the Boston Red Sox for a reported one year, \$14 million deal. It was the best thing for him and the team. At age 36, he wasn't worth a multi-year deal. Also, his perceived inability to be a team leader didn't add to his strength on this team, especially after the 7-20 September we had. Eventually, the Sox like most teams will go to a rotating D.H. At that time, all these aging sluggers will no longer be able to extend their careers like Orlando Cepeda did with the Sox in 1972 or as Hank Aaron did with the Brewers a little later when he left the Braves and returned to the City of Milwaukee.

Francona Replaces Valentine on ESPN

Next season Terry Francona and Bobby Valentine have swapped jobs. Francona will become the new analyst for ESPN's Sunday Night



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Santa Sal.

games and will be joining Dan Shulman and Orel Hershiser in the broadcast booth. We can only hope he is a better game analyst than he was a manager this past season.

Santo Enters Hall But El Tiante Still Outside

Nothing against Ron Santo, a great third baseman for the Chicago Cubs back when I was growing up and it was about time the Veter-

ans Committee voted him to Cooperstown recently. Others who failed entry into the Hall like Jim Kaat, Gil Hodges, Minnie Minoso and Luis Tiant also deserved to be voted in too. When I think of Luis Tiant, I think Hall of Famer.

Tiant, 71, will not be eligible again for three years. Tiant played for the Sox from 1971-78, winning 122 games. He was 229-172 overall with a 3.30 ERA over 19 seasons with 6 teams. It is a crying shame he isn't already in the Hall of Fame.

Happy Birthday ...

And a Merry Christmas to former Red Sox player Jose Tartabull. As a member of the Impossible Dream team, there is one throw from the outfield we baby boomers will never forget. By the way, Jose just celebrated his 73rd birthday earlier this month. Those Kardiak Kids just keep getting older but older is always better than not getting older.

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI11D4755DR**

**DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
JOCELYNE NOVEMBRE
vs.
MURAT NOVEMBRE**

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: **Tiana Pavlidis Esq., 28A Waverley Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472** your answer, if any, on or before **January 12, 2012**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. PETER C. DIGANGI, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 29, 2011

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/16/11

LEGAL NOTICE

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI11D4853DR**

**DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
DAVID ACHEAMPONG
vs.
DAPHNE ELAINE FLORENCE**

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: **David Acheampong, 26 Faulkner Street, #2, Malden, MA 02148** your answer, if any, on or before **January 5, 2012**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. PETER C. DIGANGI, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 30, 2011

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/16/11

LEGAL NOTICE

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed General Bids for **MPA Contract No. AP1213-C1, FY 12-14 OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIRS TERM CONTRACT, ALL MASSPORT PROPERTIES, BOSTON, BEDFORD AND WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS**, will be received by the Massachusetts Port Authority at the Capital Programs Department Office, Suite 209S, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128, until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012** immediately after which, in a designated room, the bids will be opened and read publicly.

NOTE: PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CAPITAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT (ABOVE ADDRESS) AT 10:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012.

The work includes: **PROVISIONS OF LABOR, INCIDENTAL MATERIALS, TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN OVERHEAD DOOR SYSTEMS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS OVER A TWO (2)-YEAR PERIOD AT ALL MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY AVIATION AND NON-AVIATION FACILITIES LOCATED AT BOSTON, BEDFORD and WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.**

Bid documents will be made available beginning **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011.**

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract General Bidders must submit with their bid a current Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and an Update Statement. The General Bidder must be certified in the category of **DOORS and WINDOWS**. The estimated contract cost is **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000).**

Bid Documents in electronic format may be obtained free of charge at the Authority's Capital Programs Department Office, together with any addenda or amendments, which the Authority may issue and a printed copy of the Proposal form.

A proposal guaranty shall be submitted with each General Bid consisting of a bid deposit for five (5) percent of the value of the bid; when sub-bids are required, each must be accompanied by a deposit equal to five (5) percent of the sub-bid amount, in the form of a bid bond, or cash, or a certified check, or a treasurer's or a cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the Massachusetts Port Authority in the name of which the Contract for the work is to be executed. The bid deposit shall be (a) in a form satisfactory to the Authority, (b) with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth and satisfactory to the Authority, and (c) conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the bid.

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

The successful Bidder will be required to purchase and maintain Bodily Injury Liability Insurance and Property Damage Liability Insurance for a combined single limit of **TEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$10,000,000.00)**. Said policy shall be on an occurrence basis and the Authority shall be included as an Additional Insured. See the insurance sections of Division I, General Requirements and Division II, Special Provisions for complete details.

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

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

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

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

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
DAVID S. MACKEY
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Run date: 12/16/11

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 call (617) 227-8929; or mail notice to: POST-GAZETTE, P.O. BOX 135, BOSTON, MA 02113 Attn: Legal Notices

VISIT

WWW.BOSTONPOSTGAZETTE.COM



CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.

Locals Honored in New York at the 25th Annual Ring 8 New York Holiday & Awards Ceremony
Have a **Merry Christmas** and some "Punch!" on **Boxing Day**
International Boxing Hall of Fame Inductions, Canastota, New York



New England Ringside cover with John Ruiz and his fight team. This was a good magazine. Publishers **Joe Bills** and **Rick Brutti**. Great pictures and area names.

Ring 8 New York, is having their 25th annual Ring 8 Holiday & Awards Ceremony December 18th from 12:30-5:30 pm at **Russo's on the Bay**, Howard Beach, New York. Ring 8, 2011 Honorees are: Fighter of the Decade (The 90's) Roy **Jones Jr.**, In the Fight of the year **Delvin Rodriguez vs. Pawel Wolak**, First Hispanic **Heavyweight Champion** of the World: **John Ruiz** of **Chelsea**; Outstanding Achievement Award: **Tomasz Adamek**; Trainer of the Decade: **Emanuel Stewart**; Ring 8 Promoter of the Year: **Ziggy Rozalski**; Uncrowned Champion: **Michael DeLaRue**,



Boxing great Jake Kilrain, who is buried in Quincy Massachusetts. "In loving memory of Jake Kilrain." A great Boxer who fought John L. Sullivan July 8, 1889. Died in Quincy, MA., December 22, 1937. Erected by Ring 4 V.B.A. Boston, MA.

Longevity Service to Amateur Boxing: **Frank Pena**, Humanitarian Award: **Jill Diamond**, Amateur Boxer of the Year: **Marcus Brown**, Ring 8 Member of the Year: **Keith Sullivan**, Official of the Year: **Ralph Petrillo**, Ring 8 Boxing Historian, **Henry Hascup**, Manager of the Year: **Phillip Pilevsky**. There's more. Others scheduled for attendance are: **World Champions Mark Breland**, **Juan LaPorte**, **Virgil "Quicksilver" Hill**, **Lonnie Bradley**, **Kathy "Wildcat" Collins**, **Iran "The Blade" Barkley**, **Junior "Poison" Jones**, and present IBF super featherweight

champion **Amanda "The Real Deal" Serrano**, and NABF Light-welterweight titlist **Gabriel "Tito" Bracero**, and "Contender Trainer" **Tommy Gallagher**.

Miguel Cotto won by TKO in "Ten!" over **Antonio Margarito**. **Miguel Cotto** was ahead 89-82 on all three judges' score cards, at the time of his victorious stoppage, in the ninth round.

I know. **Boxing Day** is not really **Boxing Day**. Boxing Day is a holiday observed in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. A bank or public holiday that occurs December 26th or the first or second weekday after Christmas, depending on national or regional laws. I'll leave it at that. So prepare yourself to have a **Merry Christmas**, and a **Happy Boxing Day**, with plenty of "Punch!!!"

Brian "The Beast" Minto 35-4, dukes it out with **Tony Grano** 18-2-1 in a NABF Heavyweight Title Eliminator Bout on January 28, 2012, in Verona, New York.

Prepare yourself for the **23rd Annual World Boxing Hall of Fame Inductions Ceremony**, the Weekend of June 7th - 10th, Canastota New York. Massachusetts will be well represented with inductees. **Freddie Roach**, One of the Best Boxing Trainers in the World. A product of **Dedham** Massachusetts. **Jake Kilrain** Quincy, Massachusetts, who fought **John L. Sullivan** on July 8, 1889 in Richmond, Mississippi. This was the last Bare Knuckles world Heavyweight title fight, that was won by **John L. Sullivan** in 75 rounds, and last but not least, Famed Great Boston Massachusetts Fight Promoter **Rip Valenti**. **Rip Valenti** along with inductees **Freddie Roach** and **Jake Kilrain** are known and admired around the world. Congratulations to you all and your great family. Here is the list of all inductees; **Thomas "Hitman" Hearns**, **Mark "Too Sharpe" Johnson**, Trainer **Freddie Roach**, Ring Announcer "Let's Get Ready To Rumble!" **Michael Buffer**, Broadcaster **Al Bernstein**, Boxing writer **Michael Katz**. Posthumous inductees; **Cocoa Kid**, **Jake Kilrain**, Newsboy **Brown**, **Leo Houck**, Promoters **Rip Valenti**, **Hugh D. McIntosh**, and **James Wharton**. Another All-star Class of Inductees.



Great World Champion Manny Pacquiao pictured with his Great Trainer Freddie Roach.

Holiday Gift Idea!

The Autobiography of Undisputed Welterweight Champ **Tony DeMarco**

"Nardo: Memoirs of a Boxing Champion tells the story of the great Tony DeMarco and not only his life in the ring, but his life in general. Tony was one of my favorite Champs as a fighter and as a man. Tony, I salute you!"

Jake LaMotta "The Raging Bull,"
former Middleweight Champion



"The Champ"
Tony DeMarco

Order your First Edition copy of
NARDO
MEMOIRS OF A BOXING CHAMPION
personally signed by Tony DeMarco
go to: www.tkoTony.com
or email: knockout@tkoTony.com

Signed copies also available at these North End locations:

Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., Boston, MA
Del Gaudio's, 17 North Square, Boston/Paul Revere House
Green Cross Pharmacy, 393 Hanover St., Boston, MA

Order at: www.tkoTony.com 978-346-9496 knockout@tkoTony.com

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



LENS CRAFTER — *Sports Illustrated* recently ran a fairly long piece on **Walter Iloos, Jr.**, one of the magazine's master photographers who has spent 50 years covering athletic events.

And, wouldn't you know it, for a person who has been all over the world, it was a current member of the Boston Celtics that drew one of the most positive assessments from the photog.

"As far as photography goes, (Michael) Jordan and Kevin Garnett are the best I've seen in front of a camera. They never change their posture or their faces. If I put a camera up to you, you're going to worry whether you're in the wrong position or whether you look bad. They understood the camera and they knew they looked good."

While Jordan has retired to the ranks of ownership and KG may well move to the sidelines in a couple of years, Iloos, whose first year at the magazine was in 1961 — not bad for a fellow who didn't take his first sports picture (a shot of a New York Giants football game from the cheap seats) in 1959. Now 68 years young, he says he has no plans to retire.

THE ROAD OFTEN TAKEN — It was the poet Robert Frost who penned the famous poem *The Road Not Taken*. It is a poem everyone should read. But for one who has journeyed a bit more in life we present one **Tomas Kaberle**, formerly of the Bruins, who has managed to play for (count them) a quarter of NHL teams during the 2011 calendar year.

Starting off the year with Toronto, he was traded to the Bruins back on February 18 for prospect **Joe Colbourne** and draft picks. To make room under the salary cap, the B's sent **Blake Wheeler** and **Mark Stuart** to Atlanta (now Winnipeg) for **Rich Peverley** and **Boris Valabik**. It was part of an attempt by the B's to reinvigorate the power play. Kaberle was less than outstanding while with the Bruins — but was with them at the right time as he experienced the full post-season ride to the Stanley Cup Championship.

He became the latest example of a rent-a-player as over the summer he was signed as a free agent to a three-year, \$12.75 million contract by the Carolina Hurricanes. But things didn't work out for the veteran defenseman as he had no goals and nine assists and was a minus 12 in 29 games with the Hurricanes. In early December the Canes unloaded him to Montreal for **Jaroslav Spacek**, who will be a free agent come summer. But you know what? In his first game with Montreal Kaberle came to life as he assisted on both goals in the Canadiens' 2-1 victory over New Jersey.

So, now that he's with the Habs, we'll be seeing a bit more of Tomas during the year — unless, of course, he is traded to a Western Conference team

before too long. Seems like with him, it pays to have a packed suitcase ready.

HOW THE B'S PULLED OUT OF THE DIVE — Early on, when the Bruins took to the ice for the first month of the season, they looked anything but the defending Stanley Cup Champions as they literally became a last place team.

But now they are one of the best teams in the NHL. What happened?

"I think we were a tired group and still not mentally ready to start the season," noted coach **Claude Julien**. "We had our backs against the wall there by the end of October and we had to do something. I think our focus came back, along with the urgency and commitment and then we started playing well again."

And, says the coach, once things got rolling, it was just like old times. "The guys got that good feeling that they had at the end of last year and they've just kept it going. The biggest thing I think is that you saw the urgency come into play. When you see your team in last place at the end of October after winning the Cup, I think that's certainly a wakeup call. But we had enough character, enough guys who had pride and wanted to do something about it."

ACCOUNTING FOR YEARS OF INFLATION — When **Brad Marchand** was fined \$2,500 by the league recently, coach **Julien** was asked what that amount of money would have meant to him during his playing days. "That would have been my yearly salary. I didn't even get a signing bonus," he replied.

ALMOST A DECADE — When the Bruins posted a 3-0 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on December 13, it was the first time the B's had shut out the West Coast team in nearly a decade. Of course, the Bruins and Kings don't play that often — no more than twice a year and sometimes less than that, depending on the schedule. Still, it was interesting to note that the last time the Bruins whitewashed the Kings was way back on January 10, 2002 when **Byron Dafeo** and **John Grahame** shared netminding duties during a 5-0 victory. This time it was all **Tuukka Rask** who stopped all 41 shots to pick up his first shutout of the season and the ninth of his career.

ALL ALONE — Through games of December 13, the Bruins were the only team in the NHL that had not allowed a shorthanded goal this season. In contrast, the New Jersey Devils led the league in shorthanded goals allowed with eight.

STREAK STOPPED — When Bruins goalie **Tim Thomas** had his 10-game win streak halted via a 2-0 loss to Florida back on December 8, it ended the longest win streak by a B's netminder since **Andy Moog** won 10 straight from February 27-March 25, 1993.