

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 116 - NO. 51

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 21, 2012

\$30 A COPY

*A Very Merry Christmas
to our Readers and Advertisers
from the staff of the Post-Gazette*



Another Successful North End Christmas Parade

by Cyn Donnelly



Where else but in the North End would City Councilor Sal LaMattina, Wally the Green Monster, Dora the Explorer, Frosty the Snowman, Mickey and Minnie Mouse and Santa Claus all show up for a parade?

Last Sunday, the 42nd annual North End Christmas Parade was held and was, as usual, a tremendous success. Hundreds showed up at Puopolo Park to see the Man in Red land, not in his sleigh but in a helicopter! Those who braved the cold were then treated to a wonderful parade that included Santa and all his friends as well as the Boston Fireman's Band, Saint Alfio's Band and the Aleppo Fire Brigade.

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 organized the entire event. This year the parade was dedicated to the late Jimmy Pallotta and many of his friends and family were there to honor his memory, with his family serving as marshals of the parade. Thank you to everyone who made Santa's visit and the parade such a memorable success!



(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

(Additional Photos on Page 3)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

GOP Needs to Woo Latinos to Win

If the Republican Party is to succeed as the party of prosperity, hope and liberty, it really does need to attract voters in the nation's fastest growing demographic group that went overwhelmingly for President Obama back on Election Day. This group could represent the re-birth of the Grand Old Party and turn it into the Grand New Party. Latinos are by culture more conservative on social issues that affect family life especially during difficult economic times. Republicans need to find inroads into these culturally Latino groups. There is no Latino vote. One size doesn't fit all and the same for the message. Republicans need to be attracting Latino candidates from various Latin backgrounds. All Latinos aren't the same. Mexican-Americans, for example, are not the same as Puerto Ricans. Republicans need to find a message that brings the diverse Latino base toward Republicans and away from Democrats.

Our U.S. immigration policy must first start by securing our borders as quickly as we can. Too many members of Spanish decent view Republicans in a negative light and until a new light is designed putting a positive spin on the GOP message, Democrats win by default. Conservatives need not change their core values but re-package the message for folks who in recent elections

(Continued on Page 14)

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.



AURUM

Gold, because of its workability and the manner that it is found lying in lumps in the ground, was one of the earliest metals used by man and it was one of the most primitive sources of civilization. It has been claimed that the ancients actually made the earliest age of the world's history an age of gold. Homer speaks of Menelaus, King of Sparta and husband of Helen of Troy, whose house was full of gold. Also, the decoration on the shield of Achilles contained much gold.

The forerunners of the Greek civilization known as the Mycenaeans date back to at least 1600 B.C. Great quantities of gold cups, jugs, death masks, ornaments of hammered gold and sword blade decorations have been excavated from their ancient grave sites. The graves of the Crimea have yielded corpses covered from head to foot with gold.

Aurum is the Latin word for gold. The early Romans obtained their main supply from Spain. The rivers of that country contained rich deposits of the precious metal, which yielded nuggets after the simplest system of washing. Gold is the most malleable of all metals. It can easily be hammered to a thinness of two hundred thousandths of an inch. A single ounce of gold can be formed into a wire sixty miles long or beaten into more than seven hundred

fifty sheets of gold leaf four inches square. It can be spun into thread and woven into fabric like wool. Gold is not affected by air, heat, moisture, or ordinary solvents and shows remarkable little wear with use. It loses no substance by the action of fire; even in conflagrations and on funeral pyres it receives no damage. Its quality is actually improved the more often it is fired.

There can be no question that to the smiths of early times, gold must have been the metal most suited for artistic expression. Its extreme softness and malleability enabled even workmen who had no more elaborate tools than a hammer and nails to work it into any given shape. All the vessels of Mycenae are hammered out and joined into shape by nails and the earliest statues of the gods were produced by the same method. In the preparation of gold, the ancients used only the simplest processes of melting and refining. When gold occurred mixed with silver they frequently did not sepa-

(Continued on Page 15)

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



Happy HOLY DAYS to All

On Sunday, December 16th, I passed by the crèche on the Boston Common, a public display acknowledging the majority Christian faith of the residents of the City of Boston. Had I been there a few days earlier, I would have seen the public menorah, which was lit from December 8th through 15th, a civic statement of the importance of Jews and of the Jewish faith in our fair city. This is as it should be. It was not always so.


In Puritan Boston, Christmas was not generally celebrated at all until the middle of the 19th century. In the mid-17th century, when Puritans held political power, the celebration of Christmas was banned. The Puritans, you see, did not subscribe to our secular doctrine of separation of church and state. They did not consider Christmas permissible in their sect and had no qualms about using the power of the state to deny the joys of Christmas to anyone else, be it Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran or even the non-believers who simply enjoyed a bit of merriment during the shortest days of the year.

Imagine what Puritan preacher Cotton Mather would have said from his pulpit in North Square if he knew that a menorah would be on Boston Common 300 years later! He would have probably condemned as witches any Jews he could find in the Bay Colony. A state-run church, especially one organized around very narrow beliefs, is not likely to deal gently with other faiths or persons of no faith.

Now we have freedom! Under our 1787 Federal Constitution the United States may not establish a state church. The Fourteenth Amendment, in 1868, extended that prohibition to the States. Recognition of the universal right of freedom to practice religion is part of the fundamental charter of our nation.

Sadly, some today are attempting to change that fundamental understanding of the place of religion in our secular republic. From some liberal politicians we are increasingly hearing the phrase "freedom of worship" in place of the traditional American doctrine of

(Continued on Page 13)



Warmest Wishes for a
Happy Holiday Season
and a Wonderful New Year!

CARLO BASILE


STATE REPRESENTATIVE
1ST SUFFOLK DISTRICT

Happy Holidays
from



AARON
MICHLEWITZ
STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 3

Happy
Holidays



**EAST BOSTON
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

72 Marginal Street,
East Boston, MA 02128
Phone: 617.569.5590
Fax: 617.569.4846


Season's Greetings

CITY COUNCILLOR

TONY
ZAMBUTO
REVERE CITY COUNCIL - AT LARGE



Season's Greetings
from



**Congressman
MIKE CAPUANO**

Happy Holidays

Rapino Memorial Home

9 Chelsea St., East Boston
617-567-1380




Kirby-Rapino Memorial Home
917 Bennington St.
East Boston
617-569-0305

Dino C. Manca
Funeral Director

A Family Service Affiliate of AFFS/Service Corp. Int'l
206 Winter St. • Fall River, MA 02720
508-676-2454

Happy Holidays

from
**Sheriff
Andrea J. Cabral**
and staff of
**The Suffolk County
Sheriff's Department**





Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year
from
**Sal
LaMattina
& Family**
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR
DISTRICT 1

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. 116 - No. 51

Friday, December 21, 2012

• **Christmas Parade** (Continued from Page 1)



(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)



Santarpio's Pizza

The Tradition Continues...East Boston - Peabody

EAST BOSTON LOCATION
111 Chelsea Street, East Boston
617 - 567-9871

PEABODY LOCATION
71 Newbury St (Route 1) Peabody
978-535-1811

www.santarpiospizza.com


Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

*Merry
Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*



from
Sal and Yvonne
Balsamo

*Merry
Christmas*




*Joe Griffiths
Manager*

329 Hanover Street
Boston, North End

P: 617.523.3005

soloptics07@gmail.com
www.x-wear.com

*Happy
Holidays*



EAST BOSTON SOCIAL CENTERS

JOHN F. KELLY,
Executive Director

68 Central Square
East Boston, MA 02128
617-569-3221

*May Peace, Joy and Happiness
Be Yours this Holiday Season*



*Yolanda & Dan
Cellucci
& Family*

*Happy Holidays
from the
Privitera Family*



L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Holiday Bounty of an Italian Kitchen

by Ally Di Censo

Though I have only been writing this column for three months, observant readers will notice a favorite theme to which I return over and over again. I've written about apple-picking, pumpkin bread for Halloween, gnocchi on St. Martin's Day, the joy of preparing a Thanksgiving dinner, eggnog cake for St. Nicholas's Day, Hanukkah latkes and baking sweet potato biscuits to honor St. Lucy's Day. Yes, my friends, I love to talk about food. I can't help it. Partly, my Italian blood deserves blame. I grew up in a family where food served the purpose of uniting all, especially during the most sacred days of the year, and where the *cucina* transformed itself from an everyday kitchen to a place full of mysterious enchantment. I always found it hard to believe that my mother's delicious potato croquettes and tiramisus started their lives as lumps of starchy vegetables or drops of cream. However, my mind has also been wandering back to food this time of year, when the kitchen beckons me most strongly. In order to understand the outpouring of holiday treats from an Italian kitchen, it is important to understand the allure of the winter solstice.

People may greet the winter solstice with annoyance and depression, even fear. There is something quite intimidating about the shortest day of the year, where even the daylight appears thin and gray and night quickly wraps its dark coat around the world. As I have mentioned before, many holidays that occur around the winter solstice, including Christmas, counteract this darkness by emphasizing light. Indeed, the beautiful candles and lanterns that decorate the streets during Christmas time offer a comforting sense of hope and a joy as radiant as the brightest bulb on a tree. However, I believe that the winter solstice and its ac-

companying dimness should not be ignored. The utter stillness of the solstice reminds us to act tranquilly and patiently. The dark night of the solstice, rather than frightening us, can actually push us into spending time in peaceful solitude, taking pleasure in the company of our own souls. It can also provide the opportunity to seek refuge with family and friends as their laughter and embraces illuminate the night. Precisely because rampant commercialism and an overwhelming sense of haste characterize the holiday season, these moments of respite enhance our overall experience of Christmas. Therefore, as the solstice descends, the kitchen calls me. With only the hush of a shadowy sky above me and the glimmer of stars decorating the velvet night, I flock to the honeyed glow of my kitchen and to the old ritual of mixing flour and water. The darkness allows me to concentrate on the food and my mother's company as we fill the home with delectable odors that announce the Christmas festivities.

Of course, what makes these cooking moments all the more spectacular is the fact that Italian tradition brims with amazing treats that sprout up around Christmas. My grandmother's *struffoli* take top honors. *Struffoli* are little deep-fried dough balls soaked in honey. Nonna, my grandmother, shapes them into a wreath and dusts them with a plethora of colorful sprinkles, so that the dish resembles a beehive designed by Santa's elves. I love the way the *struffoli* dough contains both a crunchy crispness offset by the sweet and velvety silk of the honey — in other words, this dessert tastes just as playful and festive as it looks. I also enjoy helping my mother prepare the pasta course for our Christmas Eve meal, known as the *Vigilia* in Italian — a meal that tradi-

tionally eschews meat products due to Christmas Eve being a fast day in olden times. We always experiment with a different pasta dish, as there are so many variations, that I always anticipate the surprise of deciding what to cook up next. In addition, Christmas wouldn't be the same without the delicacies that my father buys from the quaint little Italian specialty shops in the North End. *Panettone*, the Milanese sweetbread studded with dried fruits, forms an indispensable part of Christmas celebrations for many Italian families. I actually don't like the taste of *panettone* — it's too dry and fruitcake-y for me — but I appreciate the time-honored tradition that goes behind its making. The other treat my father breaks open around the Christmas holidays is *torrone*, or a nougat confection chockfull of nuts. Collectively, these foods weave their way into the intricate tapestry of Italian folklore and holidays, giving families a reason to unite and celebrate.

This winter, it is important to appreciate the darkness rather than let it overwhelm us. One way in which to do this is by using the winter solstice as time of contemplation and renewal, of serenity and reprieve from the chaos which characterizes the holiday season. I have found this peaceful center in the kitchen, baking a variety of Italian Christmas goods with my mother. When I am filled with the mystical glow that comes from diligently shaping ingredients, the darkness of winter adopts a cozy quality. The great thing about the holidays is that they remind us that the winter solstice is only a transitory period — after that day, the sun will slowly grow in the sky. The days will grow longer and the foods of Christmas will make way to the fried delicacies of Carnival, the pies of Easter, the barbecues of Independence Day, the spice cookies of All Souls' Day ... until we reach Christmas all over again. So here is my advice: make or buy your favorite holiday treat on the winter solstice and think of the day not as one of darkness, but rather a necessary part of the great Earth cycle we call the year.

Merry Christmas to all!
Buon Natale!

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

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



Driving through the Darkness Searching for Some Light

On a recent commute coming up I-95 north toward 93 and the Southeast Expressway, I traveled some 35 miles in darkness with my headlights on to see the road ahead. Bad enough it is so dark at this time of the year, add some dropping rain and your commute gets slowed down real quickly. I always await my father's birthday, December 22 because it is the shortest day of the year. From that point on the tide turns and the hours of light start multiplying. It will take a bit to see any significant change but the worst of the darkness has ended. Now, I understand quite well why the old Romans had a pagan celebration in December and why the Christian church placed Christmas in this same period of darkness. We all need hope that things can and will improve. Why not celebrate life with holidays like the Romans did. The Vatican saw the same need to welcome light by celebrating the birth of Christ, the light of the world, in December too.

I have worked in the mental health field for 40 years

and know for a fact that depression is a common malady in the darkness of the winter months. The term for it is seasonal dysfunction syndrome. You can see if you look hard, people racing all around going from store to store with a sadness on their faces. Or you can see in the faces of those who live in the shadows of life, the homeless, the elderly forgotten by their families and the sadness of time passing too quickly to contemplate.

Little children still believe in Santa Claus and getting presents. For them it is about getting not giving but they are children and that's how children think. Adults adrift in life with few family ties other than old faded memories don't expect anything and in return give nothing back except a regret or two.

Sometimes we need to listen to some good Christmas music to cheer us up or bring back memories from long-ago days of youth when we strived for the light more and cursed the darkness. Now too many of us without hope only curse the dark-

(Continued on Page 14)

"Your Oasis in the City"



30 Tremont Street, Boston

(Located in between Beacon and Cambridge Street)

617.367.2446



Caterina Ferullo, owner of Fascino Salon and Spa is proud to welcome Kristin Wheeler and Shaida Karimi formally of Salon 26, to our staff!

Holiday appointments are still available!
Call and get yours today!

NEED A GIFT?! ... WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!



GRAB YOUR
HOLIDAY SET
OR GIFT CARD
TODAY!



facebook.com/FascinoSalonAndSpa

Buon Natale



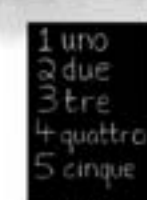
Dr. Dean J. Saluti

President
Renaissance Lodge, OSIA

& Majorie Cahn

P.O. Box 692027
Quincy, MA 02269

Buon Natale



casit.org

C.A.S.I.T., INC.
CENTRO ATTIVITA' SCOLASTICHE ITALIANE

LEARN ITALIAN

CASIT, Inc. (Centro Attività Scolastiche Italiane), the education committee under the auspices of the Italian Consulate of Boston and located in Wakefield Center, is pleased to invite those who wish to learn the Italian language, travelers, heritage speakers and all who want to celebrate the innumerable contributions of Italy to world civilization, to enroll in our new adult education program of Italian courses.



CASIT, Inc.
27 West Street - Unit 102B
Wakefield, MA 01880
Phone: (781) 224-0532
email: casit_jacques@casit.org

Buon Natale

NEW LOCATION

Richard Settipane
Insurance Agency

Since 1969

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS
AUTO • HOMEOWNERS • TENANTS
COMMERCIAL

Experience makes the difference

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

Free Parking Adjacent to Building

Happy Holidays

Broadway Brake Corp.

HEAVY DUTY TRUCK & BUS
PARTS & SERVICE

Philip D'Angelo, President

45 Broadway Somerville, MA 617-666-1000
1093 N. Mostello St. Brockton, MA 508-580-2213

Cushing Tree Lighting

by Cyn Donnelly

On Saturday, December 15th, the Friends of Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park held their 17th annual Christmas tree lighting celebration at the Cardinal Cushing Park in the West End. Hundreds gathered to enjoy the Christmas music provided by the Eastwood Productions Duo of Norman and Gil as well as the Holy Trinity German Singers from the South End and the St. John Children's School Choir from the North End.

Along with the tree lighting, there was an appearance by the one and only



Santa was in attendance too!

Saint Nicholas! The entire evening was dedicated to the victims of the Sandy Brook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut and in honor of them *God Bless America* was performed and sung by all in attendance.

Norman Herr should be thanked and commended for organizing the successful and fun event and Blessing Service which included two handouts to all who attended:

A booklet called *The King of Glory* which was full of Christmas carols, prayers and the story of Christmas and a program of the evening that included Christmas greetings from Norman, a poem and a prayer written by the late Cardinal Cushing and a poem *Merry Christmas from Heaven* written by John Mooney, Jr., which was also read at the service in honor of the victims of the Sandy Brook shooting.

We look forward to what Norman and the Friends of Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park have in store for the 18th annual celebration next year!



St. John Children's School Choir.



Norman Herr enjoying the evening with Cassandra and Ben who attended the tree lighting and blessing.

Happy Holidays

FIRST PRIORITY
CREDIT UNION

800-949-7628
www.firstprioritycu.com

100 Swift Street East Boston, MA 02128 25 Dorchester Avenue Boston, MA 02205

Meeting Members' Financial Needs for over 86 Years!

NCUA MSIC

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
from



Salon International

(617) 567-7386

85 Lubec Street
East Boston, MA 02128

Buon Natale
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 02111
617.248.9629 — www.homemade-pasta.com

Season's Greetings



Emanuel "Gus" Serra



The Pirandello Lyceum

Wishing all the joys of Christmas to the Post-Gazette.

Thank you for your wonderful support of the Italian community

Rosario Cascio, *President*
Frank Ciano, Esq., *First Vice-President*
Maria Capogreco, *Second Vice-President and Treasurer*
Dorothy Maio, *Corresponding Secretary*
Maria Luisa Saraceni, *Recording Secretary*
Lino Rullo, *Scholarship Fund Executive*
Vincent Fazzolari, *Scholarship Chairman*
Dr. Stephen F. Maio, *Chairman of the Board*

www.pirandello.com

Buon Natale

America in History Landing of Columbus
Designs created & implemented by Constantino Brumidi (1805-1880)
The Michelangelo of the United States Capitol

OCTOBER ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH COMMITTEE

Giuseppe Pastorelli,
Consul General of Italy, *Honorary Chairman*
Kevin A. Caira, *President*
Dr. John Christoforo, *Chairman of the Board*
Salvatore Bramante, *Vice-President Fiscal Affairs*
Marisa Di Pietro, *Secretary*
James DiStefano, *State President OSIA, Director*
Dr. Stephen F. Maio, *Director of Education*
Anna Quadri, *President, Federation of Italian Organizations of N.E., Director*
Maurizio Pasquale, *President of COMITES, Director*
Dr. Spencer DiScala, *Historian*
Comm. Lino Rullo, *President Emeritus*
Hon. Joseph V. Ferrino, Ret., *Chairman Emeritus*
Hon. Peter W. Agnes, Jr., *Chairman Emeritus*

www.ItalianHeritageMonth.com (617) 499-7955



Suzanne & Dom Wishes All a Merry Christmas

D & S
Video & Photo

SUZANNE MIKA
Video Editor Producer
37 Salutation Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
617-573-9870

dsvideophoto@gmail.com
www.dsvideophoto.com

DOM CAMPOCHIARO
Photographer
617-733-1703

domcampi@gmail.com
www.dsvideophoto.com

"Remember your memories for a lifetime" through video-photos and storybooks

P.S.
Philip's Salon Wishes You All
Buon Natale
Don't know what to give?
Salon Gift Certificates are available as well as professional flat irons and blow dryers



PHILIP'S SALON

437 hanover street boston, ma

617.523.8356

philipssalon.com



Concerto di Natale 2012

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



(Photo by Matt Conti)

The Annual Christmas Concert of Saint Leonard Parish took place this past Sunday, December 16th, at the Sacred Heart Church. The concert and party that follows is one of the most anticipated events happening in the parish. This year's concert, simply titled *Concerto di Natale*, was the eighth in the concert series and by all standards the finest.

Performing to a near capacity house were the choirs of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Saint John School Choir and Saint Leonard Choir. The concert began promptly at 4:00 pm with a brief introduction by Richard Molinari, one of the organizers of the event. The lights of the church were then lowered as the three choirs processed to

the sanctuary of the church opening the concert with a rousing rendition of *O Come O Come Emmanuel*.

Dan Dryzmaliski, serving as lead conductor, then introduced the Polish Choir of Our Lady of Czestochowa, under the direction of Marta Saletnik, which performed beautiful versions of Polish Christmas music, including *Niebiosa Rose*, sung in the vernacular but understood by all in attendance.

The Saint John School Choir, under the direction of Betsy Ustach, then took center stage enthusiastically performing *Adeste Fideles*, *Christmas Hanukkah Song* and *Silent Night*.

Saint Leonard Choir and conductor Dan Dryzmaliski contributed to the interna-

tional flavor of the concert performing the beautiful Italian hymns *Gesu Bambino* and *In Notre Placida* followed by the French *Noel Nouvelet* and English favorite *The First Nowell*.

The three choirs then joined to sing beautifully a seldom performed version of the *Ave Maria* by Franz Biebl which was dedicated to the victims of Newtown, Connecticut.

The concert concluded with a sing-along medley of *Tu Scendi Dalle Stelle*, *Joy to the World* and *Hallelujah Chorus*.

Fr. Antonio Nardoian, Pastor of Saint Leonard Parish, brought the musical portion of the evening to a conclusion thanking the choirs and their directors for their wonderful performances. He then thanked the concert goers for their continued interest and support and finally the Activities Committee for their efforts in helping to make the concert possible.

Following the performance, concert goers were invited to the parish Christmas party, just across the street at St John Hall School hall where they were treated to sandwiches, pizza and pastry donated by Bova Bakery and J. Pace and Son which was served by members of the Activities Committee.

Beautiful music, artistically performed in a majestic setting to an audience of

appreciative parishioners and friends is a lovely way to help usher in Christmas and share as a community the joy of the "Season of Light". We look forward to next year's Christmas concert and the continuation of this lovely tradition. Merry Christmas to all our readers.

"Sciatu Mio, you are the reason why I breathe."

By Frank J. Pennisi

A rich and multi-layered romantic novel. Historical events are interwoven with stories for control of the sulfur mines in Sicily, and the wars between the Irish and Italians for control of the N.Y. docks.

"Family Tale Captivates with Sicilian intrigue, romance, drama and history." - SUN NEWS

"A Riveting True Story...would make a Compelling movie." - CREATESPACE

"An Earnest, Vivid Portrait about a family that stands up to the Mafia." - KIRKUS BOOK REVIEW

And from Amazon.com Readers:

"Pulls you in, I Loved It, Passionate, Emotional, Heartwarming"

Available on Amazon.com, Kindle and Major Book Stores

Buon Natale

Sedurre

26 - 28 1/2 Prince Street - Boston's North End

617.720.4400

sedurreboston@gmail.com sedurreboston.com

Buon Natale

GALLO & CO. Real Estate

Mattéo Gallo

Appraisals
Sales & Rentals

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

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

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

 Dignity HomeCare

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

Buon Natale


 Affinity Realty & Property Management, LLC

Stephen DiNocco

857-239-8280 ext. 670 Phone • 857-239-8289 Fax
www.AffinityRealty.com
Email Address: Stephen@AffinityRealty.com

63 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Merry Christmas


 ALBERT A. DENAPOLI, ESQ.

Tarlow, Breed, Hart & Rodgers, P.C.

101 Huntington Avenue
Prudential Center • Boston, MA 02199
(617) 218-2024 Direct • (617) 218-2000 Main
(617) 261-7673 Fax

E-Mail: adenapoli@tbhr-law.com • Web Address: http://www.tbhr-law.com

The law firm of Tarlow, Breed, Hart & Rodgers, P.C. provides individuals, businesses and municipalities with sophisticated and cost-effective legal counsel in the areas of estate planning, taxation, real estate, corporate law, executive benefits, business litigation, environmental law, and insolvency law. The firm is unique in its ability to provide comprehensive and high quality legal services normally associated with significantly larger firms but in a more cost effective manner.



ICU


Industrial Credit Union

We wish all the
Post-Gazette Readers
Happy Holidays!

"Banking Done Better"

1 Liberty Square, Boston 02109
617-742-1616
www.icu.org

Holiday
Greetings
to All



Al
Natale
& The Classic
Swing Orchestra

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI12P5136EA

Estate of
MADELEINE M. DOHERTY
Date of Death AUGUST 13, 2012
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Charles J. Doherty, Jr., of Watertown, MA, Petitioner Richard J. Doherty, of Milton, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Charles J. Doherty, Jr., of Watertown, MA, Richard J. Doherty, of Milton, MA. has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/21/12

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE

Notice is hereby given by **TODISCO TOWING OF 94 CONDR STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c 255, Section 39A that they will sell the following vehicles by **private sale on December 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.** Vehicles are being sold to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and notices of sale:

2004 FORD TAURUS
VIN #1FAFP53294G163927

2003 DODGE G CARAVAN
VIN #1D4GP24373B249577

2001 NISSAN MAXIMA
VIN #JN1CA31D71T620943

1999 FORD EXPLORER
VIN #1FMZU34E5XZB29906

1993 TOYOTA COROLLA
VIN #1NXAE09EXPZ034238

2003 CHEVY IMPALA
VIN #2G1WF52E639362335

Run dates: 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

MICHAEL SORRENTINO (AGENT)
95 CRESCENT AVE., SUITE 107
REVERE, MA 02151
(617) 347-9104
(781) 286-8402 (fax)

TO OWNER OR OWNERS OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES, IF YOU COULD SHOW PROOF OF OWNERSHIP, PLEASE CONTACT THE ABOVE NUMBERS. VEHICLES NOT CLAIMED IN 21 DAYS WILL BE SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE.

2000 HONDA CIVIC
VIN #1HGEM1150YL123142

2007 RANGE ROVER
VIN #SALSK25467A118464

2004 MAZDA HATCH
VIN #1YVFP84D745N72123

SUBMITTED BY
MICHAEL SORRENTINO (AGENT)

Run dates: 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, 2012



Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

T'was the night before Christmas and a beautiful full moon, children all excited, Santa would be there soon! All of Eastie was aglow in anticipation of Santa's arrival in the snow. The night was calm, all was well, small snowflakes were falling and people were calling "Santa we're waiting for you"! ... Santa all packed and on his way with a sleigh full of toys for all the good girls and boys ... Santa's sleigh was decorated with garland and wreaths, the reindeer wore little red bells and Santa had a message from all the little elves ... As Santa makes his way through the clouds, Santa thinks it was a good idea the Mrs. made reservations to his favorite restaurants and says it out loud ... First, there will be breakfast at Elite Donut and a visit with Joe and Jane, then lunch at Spinelli's Pastry Shop with Rita, Louie and Anthony, and a special dinner at Ecco Restaurant compliments of Dave Modica. Santa knows he's in for a treat with Ecco's new menu he can't wait to eat ... Santa knew only too well enjoying a Kelley's Pub cocktail and dinner would be swell. He wrote the Mastrangelo family he was bringing a guest, John Jr. and Sr. said they would serve him their best! ... The sky was lit by the moon and

you could clearly see Santa's silhouette. There was the jolly old soul and his reindeer heading to reach their goal. Straight towards the airport, with bells ringing and carolers singing, Santa arrives without any coal! Santa's sleigh emitting a scent of fresh pine makes it safely onto Massport's runway in a straight line. Santa alit all happy and fine and shouts the attention is all mine! ... As jolly St Nick leaves his sleigh, he is greeted with a handshake and shown the way. The dynamic duo is Eastie's best, State Representative Carlo Basile and Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina are there to welcome their guest ... Mayor Menino on the mend sent Santa the keys to the City through a friend. An invite was given to Santa from Hiz Honor to make sure that Santa was in his corner! ... State Rep. Anthony Petrucelli and his family give Santa some tickets to sporting events and made

notes to Santa with other comments ... Representing Revere, City Councilor at-Large Tony Zambuto presents Santa with a humanitarian award and the keys to the city with a note "If you don't come it will be a pity." ... As Santa looked around he spotted Governor Deval Patrick with a grin from ear to ear, he confessed to Santa that this visit was his first year ... An attractive visitor named Rose was there and invited Santa on his first visit to Renzo's Pizza in Revere ... Santa was proud that so many people showed, that he was willing to bet, the Atheist movement hadn't taken over as yet ... The Lombardo family is on hand to greet. Vinnie and Paula offer Santa and the Mrs. first choice when their condo complex is built on Meridian Street ... Clark from East Boston Main Streets appears to give Santa a tour of Eastie Main Streets improvements

(Continued on Page 11)

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ADVERTISING/PUBLISHING



Buon Natale a Tutti
CAPPUCCIO
ENTERPRISES, LLC

(T) 781-289-2759
(F) 781-286-5839

Michela C. Cappuccio

Proprietor / Publisher
CappuccioEnterprises@comcast.net

Happy Holidays

J.M. MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC.

Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Fire Sprinklers • Backflow Preventers

COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL

24 - HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

(617) 561-4733

LICENSED & INSURED



Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo



Italia Unita, Inc.

"Promoting Italian culture and the preservation of Italian heritage."

35 Bennington Street
East Boston, MA 02128

Tel: (617) 561-3201 Fax: (617) 569-2898

Email: ItaliaUnita@verizon.net
www.italiaunita.org



*Buon
Natale*

SALON

D'Emilio

617.720.5489

141 Richmond Street
Boston, North End

*Happy
Holidays
from*



East Boston
Chamber of Commerce
Helping local business to do business!

175 McClellan Highway
East Boston, MA 02128

Tel. 617.569.5000

Fax 617.569.1945

E-mail:
EastBoston.Chamber@verizon.net

Website:
www.eastbostonchamber.com



Buon Natale
The Board of Directors
**DANTE ALIGHIERI
SOCIETY**

41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139

Spencer DiScala, *President*

Salvatore Bramante, *Vice President for Administration*

Luisa Marino, *Vice President of Cultural Affairs*

Archille Chiuccariello, *Vice President for Building & Grounds*

Jerry Bello, *Treasurer*

Ted Tedeschi, *Secretary*

Lino Rullo, *President Emeritus*

Hon. Peter W. Agnes Jr., *Chairman Emeritus*

Frank Ciano Esq., *Chairman Emeritus*

Hon. Joseph V. Ferrino, *Counsel Emeritus*

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



Buon Natale

All the glory that was Rome Pompei



Bistro • Beer • Wine

The shopping has begun, the parties have started and the holidays are here! This week I covered a little bit of everything leading right up to the end of it all, New Year's Eve. With all that's going on in the world today, it's so important now more than ever to put aside a little extra time for the ones you love. Hold them close and enjoy some holiday fun.

The Downtown Boston Holiday Market A special shopping event is in its fourth year and better than ever. Thousands are visiting daily to browse and buy with the artisan vendors found inside the white tent. If you still haven't finished your holiday shopping yet, not to worry the Holiday Market is open daily through Christmas Eve and closes at 2:00 pm on December 24th. You can find jewelers, glassblowers, bakers and soap makers. This tent has something for everybody. It will also remain open the week after Christmas, through Saturday, December 29th. There is even a bonus to keep the

kids happy, Santa appears daily from noon-2:00 pm and also on Saturdays and Sundays from 3:00-4:00 pm. Santa is joined daily by strolling holiday carolers and the holiday brass band. The hours of operation are Monday-Saturday, 11:00 am-7:00 pm, Sunday, 11:00 am-5:00 pm, through December 29th. The tent is located at Summer Street opposite Macy's. For further information on vendors email: info@bostonbid.org.

All I Want for Hanukkah is Christmas On Monday Dec 24th at 8:00pm at the Improv Asylum in Boston, enjoy Gary Gulman's special holiday stand-up show, *All I Want for Hanukkah is Christmas!* It will feature special guest Dan Crohn and his act, *Ah, Christmas Eve*. This is one of those performances to save you from the regular Christmas Eve of overcrowded malls and holiday-themed television marathons. You can bring your nearest and dearest and make the best of the enforced quality holiday time.

This year, eliminate that seasonal stress at Improv Asylum with Boston's own Gary Gulman.

Gulman is a local favorite. He had always loved late night television and had dreamed of being a guest one day. His dream became reality with appearances on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* and *The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn*, *Last Call with Carson Daly* and Comedy Central's *Premium Blend*. Comedy Central gave him a one hour special, *Gary Gulman: Boyish Man* and Gulman also appeared on *Showtime Presents Gary Gulman, Comics Unleashed* with Byron Allen, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, HBO's *Dane Cook's Tourgasm*, *Last Comic Standing* seasons 2 and 3 (where he was a runner up)



Socia

by A

and he was a guest star on *Last Comic Standing* Season 4. His resume is about as long as his Christmas list and reflects just what a one of a kind show he puts on. The Improv Asylum is located at 216 Hanover Street, Boston and can be reached at 617-263-6887 for more information.

Now That Those Christmas Plans are Set, New Year's Eve is Upon Us

Just as we recover from all the holiday travel, food and fun it's time to take one last look at the 2012 calendar and figure out just how we plan to end it. With two

weeks yet to spare I have listed a few options to consider for the family, adults and even a great way to spend New Year's Day.

Umbria Prime One of Boston's finest restaurants known for its earthy, rich pasta dishes and brick oven cooking technique has re-modeled and is now a classic steak house. This Frank DePasquale restaurant now offers a selection of a la carte, corn-fed, 21-day, dry-aged beef, as well as seafood and traditional steakhouse side dishes. In true Italian fashion, each steak will be finished in a 1200 degree brick



Buon Natale

MODERN PASTRY SHOP, INC.

ITALIAN & FRENCH PASTRY
Cakes ~ Confectionary ~ Candies

257 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02113
(617) 523-3783

20 Salem Street, Medford, MA 02155
(781) 396-3618

WWW.MODERNPASTRY.COM



Merry Christmas



Italian Specialties • Expert Catering

SAUGUS
Store and Corporate Office
190 Main Street, Saugus, MA
781-231-9599 • Fax 781-231-9699

BOSTON / NORTH END
42 Cross Street, North End, Boston, MA
617-227-9673 • Fax 617-778-0497

BOSTON / WEST END
75 Blossom Court, Boston, MA
617-227-6141 • Fax 617-227-6201

SOUTH BOSTON
1 Park Lane, Boston (Seaport District), MA
857-366-4640 • Fax 857-366-4648

Buon Natale



SWANK ITALIAN DINING

125 Salem Street - North End, Boston
(617) 723-7233

Proprietors - Rita & Lisa

Buon Natale

Amici

Italian Cuisine

111 North Washington Street
Boston, North End, Massachusetts
617.742.2998

Tracy Costa and Lynn Bova

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
amicisnorthend.com

Corner Cafe

Great Food and Spirits in the Historical North End

87 Prince Street - Boston, North End - 617.523.8997

Maryann and Richie Longo

Season's Greetings
from



FLORENTINE CAFE

Bar-Bistro



333 Hanover Street
Boston, Massachusetts
(617) 227-1777

Buon Natale
from

PICCOLO NIDO

Restaurant




617.742.4272
fax 617.227.5154
www.piccolonidol@aol.com

Pino Irano
Owner

257 North Street, Boston, MA 02113

Buon Natale

Terramia

Ristorante



98 Salem Street
North End
Boston, MA
617-523-3112

ANTICO FORNO

**CUCINA
A LEGNA**



93 Salem Street
North End
Boston, MA
617-723-6733



Al Dente

ristorante

Authentic Italian Cuisine

Lunch • Dinner • Catering

617-523-0990
FAX 617-227-4002

109 Salem Street
North End, Boston, MA 02113

aldente0990@aol.com
www.aldenteboston.com

BUON NATALE



ARTÚ

ROSTICCERIA & TRATTORIA

NORTH END
6 Prince St.
Boston, MA 02113
tel: 617.742.4336
fax 617.248.0808

BEACON HILL
89 Charles St.
Boston, MA 02114
tel: 617.227.9023
fax: 617.227.0499

www.artuboston.com

ally Scene

Angela Cornacchio

oven leaving the perfect char. Umbria Prime is located in Boston's Financial District. With an ambience mirroring that of an Italian Villa, the restaurant is surrounded by rustic brick walls, Italian marble and hardwood floors. What a way to bring in the new year with five floors of options and entertainment. Their "ALL INCLUSIVE" event will feature passed hors d'oeuvres, brick oven pizza, a pasta buffet and dessert buffet with Italian pastries. Also, there will be a champagne toast at midnight to bring in the New Year, hats, noisemakers and party

favors. Umbria Prime Ristorante is located at 295 Franklin St., Boston. For more details call 617-892-4254.

Boston Harbor Presents New Year's Eve Dinner Cruise On Monday, December 31st beginning at 8:00 pm and continuing through Tuesday, January 1st at 12:30 am, Boston Harbor Cruises is putting on a show. As in past years, the fireworks light up the Boston skyline at midnight and the harbor is the best place for a dazzling view. On the cruise, all are invited aboard to the comfort of the heated premier dinner boat.

Whether it's a cozy party of two or a group of your best friends and family, this will be a New Year's to remember. You will dine on a gourmet dinner buffet catered by Talk of the Town and also enjoy the fully stocked cash bar, dance the night away with a DJ and catch a glimpse of the fireworks display. Every year this event tends to sell out fast so don't think this one over, just book it. Call 617- 227-4321 for reservations and more information.

Start the Year off Right Wediko Children's Services Night is hosting an event, Tuesday, January 1, 2013 starting at 5:00 pm at the Flatbread Pizza Company in Somerville. Come help celebrate a new year of hope for children and families, eat pizza, bowl and support a great cause. Flatbread is donating a percentage of pizza sales to Wediko. There will also be a silent auction and raffle prizes. Established in 1939 and recently remodeled, yet with its original rock hard maple lanes and ball returns and its 1950s décor, the Flatbread Pizza Company makes bowling the way it was. You can also rack' em up on one of eight tables in the pool room. This event is not only for a good cause but a family-friendly event for all. 45 Day Street, Somerville. Contact Flatbread at 617-776-0552 for more details.



All I Want for Hanukkah is Christmas. Come and spend your Christmas Eve with Gary Gulman, a hilarious, local, stand up comedian. (Photo Courtesy of Improv Boston)



Buon Natale

If you've never dined in an Italian home, you've never dined at

La Summa's

Homemade Italian Specialties

30 Fleet Street
Boston's North End

Prop: Barbara Summa
Phone: (617) 523-9503

Buon Natale

L'Osteria

Fine Italian Cuisine

Carmine DiPietrantonio

104 Salem Street - North End - Boston, MA 02113

617-723-7847 - www.losteria.com

Buon Natale



KELLEY SQUARE PUB

84 Bennington Street
East Boston, MA 02128

617-567-4627 ♦ 617-567-3080

Fax: 617-567-0800

Function Room Available for Private Parties

Buon Natale

From America's Oldest Restaurant

In The Historic Quincy Market Area, Boston

Delicious fresh seafood prepared to your discerning taste. Boston's favorite restaurant since 1826.



UNION OYSTER HOUSE
est. 1826

Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Union Bar til Midnight

41 Union St. 617-227-2750

Functions • Most Major Credit Cards Honored
Valet Parking • Reservations Recommended

Buon Natale

GENNARO'S

North 5 Square

RISTORANTE

FINE ITALIAN DINING

5 NORTH SQUARE
BOSTON'S NORTH END

Tel: 617-720-1050

www.5northsquare.com

Under the new management of Gennaro who also brings you Caffé Vittoria and Florentine Cafe

Happy Holidays



The Original Italian Caffé

Cappuccino Espresso
Liquori Digestivi
Pasticcini Gelati

David Ricci • Giovanni Ricci

296 Hanover Street, Boston
523-8915 • 523-8857

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



387 Chelsea Street
East Boston, MA

617-567-9539
www.jeveli.com

Merry Christmas!



Nestled in the Heart of Boston's Historic North End

111 Salem St., North End, Boston, MA 02113

T 617.523.4111 - F 617.742.1113

joe@beneventosboston.com www.beneventosboston.com

Happy Holidays



Mike's Pastry

300 Hanover Street. Boston, MA

Mike Mercogliano, Owner

Buon Natale

VINOTECA di MONICA

restaurant • wine bar • lounge

143 Richmond St., Boston, MA 02109

Phone (617) 227-0311 Fax: (617) 227-3381

www.monicasboston.com

Est. 1995

MONICA'S MERCATO

gourmet food • imported cheese
cured meats • beer & wine

130 Salem St., Boston, MA 02113

Phone: (617) 742-4101 Fax: (617) 723-2089

www.monicasboston.com

Est. 1995

TRATTORIA DI MONICA

67 Prince St., Boston, MA 02113

Phone: (617) 720-5472 Fax: (617) 723-2089

www.monicasboston.com

Est. 1995



WIZ KHALIFA - o.n.i.f.c. Atlantic-Rostrum

Pittsburgh rapper Cameron Jibril Thomaz aka Wiz Khalifa, takes flight on the strength of 'o.n.i.f.c.' his highly acclaimed sophomore album. Included are hits as *Work Hard, Play Hard*, *Remember You* featuring Weeknd, and *It's Nothin'* featuring 2 Chainz. Additional notable collaborations are, *Let It Go* (Akon), *The Bluff* (Cam'ron), *Got Everything* (Courtney Noelle), *Rise Above* (Pharrell, Tuki Carter & Amber Rose), plus *Initiation* (Lola Monroe), *The Plan* (Juicy J), and *Medicated* (Chevy Woods & Juicy J). Weeded in between are, *Paperbond*, the illusion *Bluffin*, rocking the crib via *Fall Asleep*, getting higher with *Up In It*, and Wiz sums it up with *No Limit*. Khalifa's killer cuts say it all over 17 selections, all which he had a hand in writing!

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE - HERE'S TO THE GOOD TIMES Republic Nashville

Hot country/rock duo of Brian Kelley and Tyler Hubbard have hit the country music scene with explosive power, using their hit single *Cruise* to make their mark. Their debut album is, as the title implies, chock full of good time experiences. Roll with the boys on, *Round Here*, toasting the fun with *Get Your Shine On*, the partying title cut *Here's To The Good Times*, the hip-hop/rock flavored *It's Just What We Do* and the romantic *Stay*. Memories of teenage fun spawns *Hell Raisin' Heat Of The Summer*, for 'ladies choice' FGL offers up *Tell Me How You Like It*, the album's proverbial drinking song is *Tip It Back*, the mouth-dropping description of the 10+ babe, *Dayum*, *Baby* and finish it off with the fun-loving, anthem song *Party People*. Let the good times begin!

JOHN TRAVOLTA & OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN - THIS IS CHRISTMAS Universal Music Group

John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John get together for

the first time in 30 years, delivering an intimate collection of holiday songs. Working with a host of stellar artists, it is truly time to celebrate. Opening with *Baby It's Cold Outside*, followed by *Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree* (with Kenny G), the pretty *I'll Be Home For Christmas* (Barbra Streisand), the jazzy *This Christmas* (Chick Corea), Olivia soloing on *Silent Night* and John doing his thing on *The Christmas Waltz*, before hitting the halfway mark with Cliff Richard joining in on *Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas*. Tony Bennett & The Count Basie Orchestra set off the second half with a rousing version of *Winter Wonderland*, trailed by the duo delivering *White Christmas*, *I Think You Might Like It*, *The Christmas Song*, joined by James Taylor on *Deck The Halls* and top the musical tree with the medley of *Auld Lang Syne/Christmas Time Is Here*.

FRANCESCA BATTISTELLI - CHRISTMAS Fervent

Grammy nominee Francesca Battistelli is the artist with a Christmas album that is different, in the fact that she co-wrote some songs and helped to arrange other traditional tracks. With her first attempt at a Christmas album project, she did an excellent job. Check out cuts as the well known *The Christmas Song*, her creation *Heaven Everywhere* and *Christmas Is*, rearranging *What Child Is This?* (*First Noel Prelude*) the tasty Peter DeRose/Carl Sigman tune *Marshmallow World*, and puts her thoughts into the arrangement of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. Named the 2011 Dove Awards' "Artist of the Year," Battistelli does justice to her having won, with her performances on *Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas*, the spiritual beauty of *You're Here*, helping to arrange the glorious *Joy To The World*, plus her heavenly tune *Christmas Dreams* and her arrangement of *Go, Tell It On The Mountain* is the finale!

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT HANOVER ST. FIREHOUSE

This past Sunday, the guys from Engine 8 and Ladder 1 held their annual Family Christmas Party at the fire house. The place was filled to the brim as both apparatus were parked out in the street. Inside it was all Christmas all the time. Firefighters and their families came to celebrate with one another and Santa Claus even made an appearance for all the little firefighters. A fun time was had by all.

BLACKHAWK SANTA ARRIVED AT THE BALLFIELD

Right on schedule this past Sunday, Santa Claus arrived by helicopter at the Commercial Street playground. The copter made a few swoops around the North End first before landing. Captain Billy Lee got to see his very first Santa helicopter landing. Parents and kids had a great time watching Santa land. Then the NEAA-sponsored Christmas parade was on through the streets of the North End. It was very cold but nobody really seemed to mind because everyone was up. Up and up for Santa down on the ground riding through the North End atop a neat old fire truck.

FINALLY, FREE TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Freedoms Foundation Bay State Chapter held its annual Christmas Party on Sunday over at Spinelli's in East Boston. Frank Zarba and his band provided the entertainment and only hours after landing in the North End, Santa Claus arrived at Spinelli's too. A great crowd was there and my neighbor Marilyn got her photo taken with Santa Claus. The Ladies in Red were there at their own table. The East Boston Chamber of Commerce was there with Buddy Mangini and Sherri Raftery as well as Ed Coletta from Kiwanis.

HEROES AND VILLAINS

The Comic Book Art of Alex Ross is on view through February 24th at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA. For info, go to nrm.org or call 413-298-4100.

NOTRE DAME'S FIGHTING IRISH IS REAL

Notre Dame's Fighting Irish football team is having a great year and is looking at a national championship. If you need a reason to support this team, here's one. Head Coach Brian Kelly is a local guy with Irish roots, born in Everett and raised in Chelsea. His father Paul was a Chelsea alderman and his grandfather, Kenzel Kelly, was a Boston police officer.

STOP & SHOP SHUTTLES TO MEDFORD STORE

Now that Johnnie's Foodmaster has left the Bunker Hill Mall in Charlestown, there are now dueling shuttle buses for the elderly and others to get to nearby supermarkets. Whole Foods, which is replacing Foodmaster at the mall, has shuttle buses to its Cambridge Street store over near Government Center.

Now we hear that Super Stop & Shop, hoping to lure future customers their way, has sent up its own shopping shuttles to its Wellington Circle store in nearby Medford. Back in the day before Bunker Hill Mall back in the late Seventies, Charlestown had two First National Stores, one on Bunker Hill Street and the other, in Thompson Square. Today, for the moment, there is no supermarket in the town. Only a new Whole Foods is on the horizon as apparently the yuppies have been noticed and everyone else apparently has been forgotten or marginalized out of town.

JOSEPH EARLY, R.I.P.

Former U.S. Rep. Joseph Early, D-Worcester passed away recently at 79 years old. He served in the US House from 1975 to 1993. He began his political career back in 1962 with a one-vote victory for State Representative. He went on to serve six terms up on Beacon Hill from 1963 to 1974. Early was defeated in 1992 in his US House race to Republican Peter Blute. His son, Joseph Early Jr., is currently Worcester County District Attorney.

NAVY YARD HOUSING SAILING AHEAD

A Danvers developer is moving ahead at the Charles-

town Navy Yard with plans for apartments on an empty city-owned lot. Kavanagh Advisory Group took on Parcel 39A located at the corner of First Avenue and Ninth Street near the USS Constitution. The company recently won a bidding process by the B.R.A. The developer hopes to break ground in June on the 4-story building with 54 rental units. Mark Rosenshein from the Charlestown Neighborhood Council says, "It is not a huge project but it's an interesting little piece of the Navy Yard. It will finish the block and really make it look seamless."

The design must match nearby Civil War-era Navy Yard buildings and also win approval from the National Park Service.

CONGRATS GO OUT TO ...

Congrats go out to John F. Nucci of East Boston who was recently sworn in as a member of the Massachusetts Bar. His parents are Peggy Nucci, a teacher at the Mario Umana School, and John A. Nucci, Suffolk University Vice President and both a former Boston School Committee member and City Councilor. The young lawyer, John F. Nucci, is currently working out of the offices of Suffolk County District Attorney Dan Conley.



Happy
Holidays
Renzo
Brick Oven Pizzeria
11:30 am to 11:00 pm
7 Days a Week

381 Revere Beach Blvd., Revere, MA
781-284-5600

Buon Natale



ecco
Gather, Dine and Relax

"Take a look around, check out the colorful cocktails, the sleek furniture, the creative cuisine. So where are we? The Back Bay? Beacon Hill? Not even close. We're at Ecco in East Boston ... This neighborhood newcomer is wowing the crowds. - Phantom Gourmet Review"

107 Porter Street, East Boston, MA
for Reservations and Additional Information
Please Call 617-561-1112 or www.eccoboston.com
FREE PARKING

Merry Christmas M.P. & Co. TAX & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Established in 1938

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

- Financial Services • Professional Tax Consultant
- Personal & Business • Year Round Service

GRACE PREVITE MAGOON, EA

146 Maverick Street, East Boston, MA 02128
617-569-0175 e-mail: gmagoon@aol.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS and our best wishes in 2013

from David and Paul Gemelli
and the Gem Gravure family

GEM

GEM GRAVURE COMPANY, INC.

112 School Street, P.O. Box 1158, West Hanover, MA 02339
Tel: 781-878-0456, Email: custservice@gemgravure.com

Happy Holidays NOBILE INSURANCE

MICHAEL F. NOBILE, CPCU

ALBANO F. PONTE, CEP

Financial and Estate Planning

Email afponte@msn.com

Phone 617-320-0022

ROSE GIAMMARCO, AAI

Accredited Advisor in Insurance

BOSTON

30 Prince St., Boston, MA 02113

617-523-6766

FAX: 617-523-0078

MEDFORD

39 Salem St., Medford, MA 02155

781-395-4200

FAX: 781-391-8493

www.osiama.org

Run date: 12/21/12

Run date: 12/21/12

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

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

This just in! The estimated median household income for each state. The state with the highest household income is Alaska with a household income of \$67,825 followed by New Jersey with a household income of \$67,458. Massachusetts is right up there with \$62,859. Other states with high household incomes, Connecticut with \$65,753, Hawaii with \$61,821 and Washington, D.C., with \$63,124. And now you know where some of the well-off people live.

Huh? A worker at a New Orleans convenience store clamped a metal boot on the tire of an ambulance parked outside. The paramedics were inside treating a customer with chest pains, and had to wait for a new ambulance to go to the hospital.

School days! School days! Happy golden school days! Five states will begin a pilot program to test the impact of a longer school day next year. More than 20,000 students in 40 schools in Massachusetts, Colorado, Connecticut, New York and Tennessee will take part in the three-year program, funded by a combination of federal, state, local and private dollars. "When kids spend more time in school, they score better on standardized tests; they graduate at higher rates and are more likely to land internships or apprenticeships," said Luis Ubinas of the Ford Foundation, which is providing a \$3 million grant.

Since the advent of sex education, the old fellow who drives the local school bus can't tell whether the kids are talking dirty or discussing their lesson assignment!

Carlo Scostumato claims the school kids in some towns are getting so tough that teachers are playing hooky.

Decades ago, teachers use to whip a boy's hand with a bamboo stick called the Rat-tan-tan. Yes! We once received some whacks! My mother wondered why I could not hold a spoon in my hand. After she looked at my swelled hand she immediately contacted my godmother to accompany her to the Daniel Webster School to ask about why I was whipped so hard. Enough said.

Unusual! Consumption of wine in France has slumped to a record low, with the average French adult now consumes barely one glass a day, according to a large-scale study of alcohol consumption. The survey confirms a long-term trend away from wine. As recently as 1980, wine was drunk with half of all meals; today the proportion is just a quarter. The study's authors said the decline of wine drinking was a result of the sluggish economy and public-awareness campaigns over the dangers of *le binge drinking*.

The astute Steven Sebestyen, says, "There is nothing more stubborn than a drunkard trying to convince you he isn't."

Steven's brilliant and attractive wife, Theresa, says booze makes a man colorful: it gives him a red nose, a white liver, a yellow streak and a blue outlook.

Nosey news! An Atlanta woman claims she found a nose ring in her daughter's McDonald's breakfast burrito. Frances Rosario says she purchased two burritos at her local McDonald's, one for herself and one for her 4-year-old daughter. As her daughter was about to bite into her burrito, Rosario observed a "piece of jewelry" protruding from it. "I'm like, 'What the heck is this?'" Rosario said. It was a nose ring, apparently belonging to a food pre-parer. The fast-food chain hasn't yet responded to her complaint.

Nailing Britney Spears! Makeup artists for *The X Factor* are trying everything to stop

Britney Spears from biting her nails, says the *National Enquirer*.

Spears, 31, is a compulsive nail-biter and a source says she has been under so much stress both personally and professionally that "there's hardly anything left to even glue a fake nail onto." In desperation, the makeup artists have started applying a special, bitter-tasting nail polish, but acerbic co-host Simon Cowell has already predicted that Spears will soon "get used to the taste."

The popular gossip magazine, *The Globe's* December 17th issue contained a story about game show legend Pat Sajak's boozing binges. In brief, the 66-year-old TV host says he was drunk many times over the 30 years he's fronted *Wheel of Fortune*. Sajak also reveals he lured sexy sidekick Vanna White, now 55, to a Mexican eatery during long breaks between shooting episodes where they'd guzzle margaritas. "Vanna and I would have two, three or six then come back," he recalls. "They'd be so blitzed," he says, "they'd have trouble recognizing the alphabet."

Names! The number of parents naming their daughters "Apple" jumped 15 percent in 2012 over the previous year, while the popularity of the name "Mac" for boys rose 12 percent. The number of people naming their baby daughters "Suri" also rose 5 percent from last year.

Baby talk! A new study by the Pew Research Center found that the U.S. birthrate in 2011 was the lowest ever recorded, with only 63 births per 1,000 women of childbearing age — down from 71 in 1990 and 122 at the height of the postwar "baby boom." Obviously, the economic downturn has led many couples to have smaller families or postpone the next kid. But many are forgoing children because of a growing cultural "decadence," in which people live for their own pleasure, "while shrugging off the basic sacrifices that built our civilization in the first place."

Ah, laughter! There is hope for any man who can look in a mirror and laugh at what he sees. And remember, we don't stop laughing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop laughing.

Laughter is the cheapest luxury that man has. It stirs up the blood, expands the chest, electrifies the nerves, cleans away the cobwebs from the brain and gives the whole system a cleansing rehabilitation.

According to the astute Paul Waters, when you laugh at something that happens to somebody else, that's a sense of humor. If it happens to you, that's an outrage. And his great wife Robyn, says, "Laughter is the sweetest music that ever greeted the human ear." Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!

Show business reminiscing with the stately musicologist Albert Natale. Fernando Lamas claimed "Raquel Welch is silicone only from the neck down, or so I have heard. But she will only admit to a nose job. She says she corrected what she calls her 'Latin nose.' What the hell is a Latin nose? I am myself a Latin, and my nose is most decorative!" A reminder! The songs "Smile" and "Limelight" were written by comedian/actor/director Charlie Chaplin. Glenn Miller's "Chattanooga Choo Choo" was the first Gold Record. It sold a million, 250-thousand copies, a lot of records in those days. And right from his mouth, this is what Raoul Walsh had to say about Mae West: "I directed Mae West in a big censorship fiasco called *Klondike Annie*. She didn't play a dyke, she played a missionary and the moralists hated that. Hell, Mae West was the missionary of sex! ... I liked Miss West and her pictures, didn't much care for directing her. See, directing her in scenes wasn't that much more challenging than sitting and watching one of her pictures."



Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



COPYRIGHT, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

SHRIMP IN TOMATO SAUCE OVER LINGUINE

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 14 ounces of crushed tomatoes | 1 teaspoon of dried basil or |
| 1 medium chopped onion | two fresh basil leaves |
| 1 large garlic clove chopped | 1/2 pound fresh medium |
| (optional) | shrimp |
| 1/4 cup olive, canola or | 3 tablespoons white wine |
| vegetable oil | Grated cheese of choice |

Heat oil in skillet, add chopped onion, garlic (optional) and basil. Simmer until onion is opaque. Garlic should not brown. Add crushed tomatoes and stir thoroughly. Cover and allow the sauce to come to a slow boil. Lower heat and simmer for about twenty minutes. Stir occasionally to prevent sauce from sticking to the bottom of skillet. Add a half-cup of water if mixture appears to be too thick.

Remove outer skin from shrimp. Wash thoroughly and set cleaned shrimp aside in a bowl. When sauce has cooked about twenty minutes, add shrimp, stir and cover. Cook shrimp in sauce until they are pink. Do not overcook shrimp. Cover and remove skillet from heat.

Cook linguine, or pasta of your choice according to the directions on the package. While pasta is cooking, return shrimp-sauce mixture to burner to reheat **slowly**. After a minute, add three tablespoons of white wine to shrimp-sauce mixture. Stir and bring to a slow boil. Turn off burner and remove from heat. When pasta is cooked and strained, place in a serving platter and top with tomato sauce and shrimp.

OPTIONAL: Adding additional shrimp will give enough shrimp to serve with the pasta and some separately with a fresh green salad. Remaining sauce freezes well.

Serves two.

NOTE: When I was a child, Mama prepared this quick and easy meal often during the Lenten season. Because my husband and I enjoy shrimp, I serve this meal frequently throughout the year. In the summer, I use an older sturdy skillet and prepare this sauce with shrimp on my gas-charcoal grill.

Vita can be reached at voswriting@comcast.net



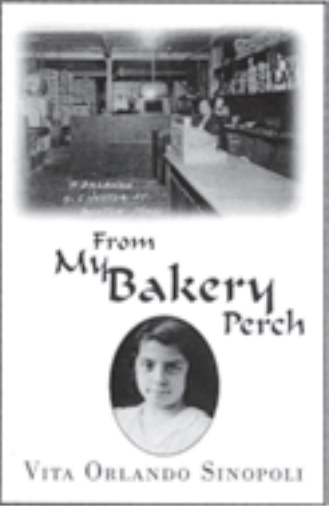
Buon Auguri per una
Santa Natale
E Felici Capo D'Anno
per Tutti
Vita Orlando Sinopoli

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



JUSTINE YANDLE
PHOTOGRAPHY

781.589.7347 JUSTINE.YANDLE@GMAIL.COM
WWW.JUSTINEYANDLEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



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

Buon Natale

THOMAS ZAZZARA

Certified Public Accountant

617.227.1109 • Fax 617.227.5398

188 NORTH STREET - P.O. BOX 130143
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02113

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL
ITALIAN NAME

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Four days to go and it's Christmas. As far back as I can remember we have celebrated Christmas American-style. Mom and Nanna would put out decorations, and at some point, we would head to Jordan Marsh and I would visit with Santa Claus. He would ask me if I had been a good little boy and when I assured him that I had he would ask what I would like for Christmas. I was easy, I usually asked for additions to my electric trains, Erector Set and new airplane models, especially fighters and bombers from WWII.

One day, after we returned home from visiting with Santa, Mom headed for the corner store leaving me with Nanna. As I watched her preparing dinner, I asked her what she used to ask from Santa Claus when she was a little girl. Her answer shocked me, "When I was a little girl in Avellino we didn't have Santa Claus; we had La Befana. Today, Italy has changed somewhat to follow the traditions of Germany, England and some of the northern countries. They have adopted Babbo Natale (Father Christmas) to bring presents to little boys and girls on Christmas Eve."

My next question was, "Who is La Befana?" Again, the answer shocked me as Nanna said that La Befana was a good witch. Now, to me, a witch was associated with Halloween and that holiday was on October 31st. Nanna went on to say that the good witch had heard about the birth of a savior named Jesus, and she wanted to visit him and bring him presents. From the day of his birth, December 25th, she began to scour the countryside looking for Baby Jesus. She found shepherds who had heard about the baby and would look for him. Not wanting to wait, she flew away on her broom and found three wise men who were heading to Bethlehem to visit the newborn. Not wanting to wait for them either, she flew off and decided to leave a gift for every boy and girl, hoping that one of them would be Baby Jesus. By this time, it was January the 6th and the shepherds and wise men arrived in Bethlehem to visit the Christ child and the day was called *The Celebration of the Epiphany*. Italian children had hung their stockings up on the night of January the 5th and La Befana visited every house, filling the stockings with gifts hoping one of

the children was the new baby Jesus. When Mom returned, she heard the rest of Nanna's story and told me that when she and her brothers were kids the Contini family celebrated both December 25th and January 6th, sort of a compromise between Italian and American cultures.

By the time I came along, we celebrated only Christmas. I remember one episode that almost broke my trust in Santa. Mom and Aunt Ada, my Godmother and Uncle Nick's first wife, brought me to Jordan Marsh to visit the Christmas display in their toy department and visit with Santa. When it was my turn, I asked him for a new engine and a larger transformer for my electric train set. I had a set of Lionel trains and on birthdays and Christmas I would increase the size and scope of the train set. Santa made me promise that I would be a good boy and told me to look for the new engine and transformer on Christmas morning.

Now if you remember, many of my columns have included the stories about my father and uncles being musicians. At Christmas time, they played parties night and day. Evidently, Dad couldn't make it to Eric Fuchs, the Beacon Street store dedicated to the hobby of electric trains. In his place that year was Uncle Nick. He picked up the new engine and transformer and brought them back to Nanna and Babbononno's apartment.

By this time, Babbononno had sold the big house on Eutaw Street in East Boston and he and Nanna were living in an apartment on Princeton Street, a ten minute walk away. Being separated from his estranged wife, Uncle Nick had moved in with his parents. He was so busy he didn't even have enough time to look for an apartment of his own. My gifts from Santa would stay at my grandparents' apartment as no one had the time to bring them to our apartment at 74 Eutaw Street. Well, as was the usual routine, I visited family members with Mom and Nanna during Christmas week and then, on Christmas Eve, left a note for Santa restating my request for a new engine and transformer for my train set. As a bribe, I left Santa a dish with two or three chocolate chip cookies (my favorite then and now) and a glass of Zi'Antonio's best homemade red wine. (Hey, anyone could

leave a glass of milk ... I was Italian.)

The next morning, I awoke and headed for the living room and the Christmas tree that had the presents displayed below. Gifts were there for Mom and Dad and a few for me from relatives, but not the engine and transformer I wanted. My first thought centered on the fact that we lived on the top floor of an East Boston three decker and there was no fireplace or chimney. How could Santa come into our apartment ... through a locked window? I headed into the kitchen sat down and sulked. Mom heard me and arose to begin making breakfast. With tears in my eyes, I explained my circumstance. She listened as I questioned the existence of Santa and if he was real, how could he get into our house. Just then, the phone rang. Mom answered and handed it to me saying, "It's Babbononno for you." Babbononno sounded excited and in his fractured English yelled, "Jenny, dareza bigga mistake. Santa Clauza bring you trainza tingza a my houza, no you houza." When I said, "What?" Babbononno repeated himself in Italian yelling that Santa Claus had made a mistake and left my presents at his house instead of coming to our house. He added that Santa was sorry but it was an honest mistake.

I had my coat, hat and gloves on and was out the door before Mom hung up the phone. I ran all the way to my grandparents' house, was shown a note that Santa left behind about the mistake and then, with the boxes that housed the new train engine and transformer under my arms, ran all the way back to Eutaw Street. Within fifteen minutes the new transformer was hooked up and the new engine was traveling on the train track, puffing smoke and whistling away loud enough to wake up my father. He wasn't upset, though, as he sort of pushed me out of the way and took over as the engineer of my railroad even before he had his first sip of morning coffee.

When Uncle Gino and Aunt Ninna showed up, they and Dad took over the trains completely and I was relegated to the position of either constructing something with last year's Erector Set or beginning the assembly of a new airplane model.

Well, it's many years later and I await the return of my sons who are coming home to celebrate Christmas with Loretta and me. Before I close, I want to wish Dean Saluti and his wife Margie Cahn happy birthday, as both were born during Christmas week.

And, to all of you that identify with the Italian traditions of Nanna and Babbononno, I wish a safe and happy BUON NATALE from the Christoforo family for 2012.

To Our Friends and Neighbors: Thank You

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to everyone who sent a card or said a kind word regarding the loss of our dear Frank. Thank you to all who attended the wake, gave us a hug, a kiss or a loving smile. Thank you to everyone who attended the Mass and prayed for Frank and all of the Toscano family. We would also like to give special thanks to the Madonna Della Cava Society for opening the chapel doors as we drove by.

The love, affection and respect that all have given us will be held in our hearts forever and we're sure Frank was looking down and smiling with much love.

The Toscano Family

Josephine, Frank, Aimee, Daniel and Lori

• Res Publica (Continued from Page 2)

"freedom of religion." "Freedom of worship" merely guarantees the right to gather in church, synagogue or other place of worship for the liturgies or services of our denominations. Freedom to practice one's religion goes beyond that to recognize the civic aspects of faith. That includes the public display of nativity scenes and menoroth (yes, that is the correct plural of menorah; my two years of Hebrew in college finally comes in handy).

Those public displays of faith are important reminders that not only do we have no state religion but that

the state itself is not our religion. It is also not our metaphysic nor our science. We pledge allegiance to the flag of our Republic, but we also, each of us, has other allegiances — to God, to humanistic philosophy, to the rules of physics and so forth.

On Christmas we celebrate the birth of the King of Kings. We do so in a secular state that, so far, has recognized the right of every person to practice, or not practice, religion, as their conscience dictates. Let us pray and work for an America where freedom of religion is never infringed.



Joseph & Pauline Russo
Joseph Russo Funeral Home

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

KJS
Mechanical

Fully Insured
Lic #017936

Heating & Air Conditioning
Sales, Service & Installation

Ken Shallow
617.593.6211

kenskjs@aol.com

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



58 Sprague Street
Hyde Park, Massachusetts 02136

Buon Natale

— FOR YOU WHO APPRECIATE THE FINEST —

THE
Johnny Christy
Orchestra

MUSIC FOR ALL
OCCASIONS

781-648-5678



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.

• **Thinking Out Loud** (Continued from Page 4)

ness but have no hope of seeing any light again.

As I drove that recent morning, cars zoomed by in darkness racing as if to get to the light faster. I made it all the way into Boston before the light started peeking through the dark sky. I knew there was light ahead because I've made this trip before. I had faith in the light unseen to my eyes.

Eventually, the light overcame the darkness and day began. Like every other day this time of the year, it was not going to be long enough before the darkness returned for my trip home. I often wonder how anyone could live in Alaska without going bonkers over nights lasting 6-months at a time.

Maybe this is why so many folks find religion and God at this time of the year. Heaven help us if this is all there is. Darkness makes us moody and darkness makes us think about our failures much more than our achievements. We all become like Peggy Lee wonder-

ing if all we have is all that's there for us. We expect so much more starting in youth. We want Santa Claus. We want to be happy. We want nothing bad to happen. Then, as we mature and experience life, we need anchors to keep us from drifting off into nothingness. We want. We want. We want. However, rarely satisfied, we wonder what happened to the light of our youth.

Christmas brings joy to many. These are the lucky people who see through the darkness. They look up to the heavens and see beyond the darkness, like I knew the light would be greeting me when I arrived in Boston after my long ride to work.

My father would have been 100 years old this December 22nd so I enjoy the memories of those birthdays shared inside my family. For me December 22nd was always a day to celebrate the start of the approaching light on Christmas morning and a view of spring in the distant horizon where everything springs eternal once again.

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

have viewed the GOP with distrust and voted more against Republicans rather than positively for Democratic candidates. With all the bad news the recent election had for the GOP, there were bright spots such as Ted Cruz winning the U.S. Senate in Texas. He now joins U.S. Senator Marco Rubio, R-Florida as a new breed of Republican conservative who can win elections against liberal Democrats.

If the Republican Party remains the party of old, rich white guys, it will keep on losing elections.

The Puerto Rican Statehood Question

For the first time in Puerto Rico's political history, a plurality of voters supported the idea of statehood. The Republican candidate for governor Luis Fortuno lost while supporting statehood. The Democrat Alejandro Garcia Padilla who supports statehood was much more fortunate at the polls. The

people have spoken. Time for the 51st state in the Union.

Los Angeles Thinking About ID Cards for Illegals?

Earlier this year, Los Angeles stopped impounding the vehicles of anyone caught without a license which started allowing many illegals to keep their cars after police stops. More recently, the city's police chief announced that the LAPD would stop handing over illegals charged with low level offenses to the feds for deportation. Now, the latest news is that the City of Angeles could soon become the largest US city to offer municipal ID cards to illegal immigrants, with the goal of allowing them to open bank accounts and other services. The plan is on its way for a City Council vote.

Five years ago, New Haven became the first city in America to issue ID cards to illegal immigrants. Other cities like Oakland and San Francisco followed suit. The LA ID cards, like those in other cities, also function like prepaid debit cards. City officials believe that more than 12 percent of the city's residents do not keep money in the bank and in many cases they cannot open a bank account without an ID card. Some supporters of the ID card idea, immigrant advocates, say ID cards will make life safer for illegals since many carry large sums of money and are targets for robbers.

How do we know who is being issued government ID cards? How do we know anyone's true identities? Creating even the possibility of false identities isn't something to be condoned. They'll be pouring over the border as quick as they can to get their free ID cards. Welcome to America. We don't care whether you are legal or not. Our casa is your casa!

Have a Lobster They're Good for You and Their Friends Too

Speaking of lobsters, patrons of upscale restaurants aren't the only ones who enjoy a good lobster dinner. Lobsters do too. Researchers found out that off the coast of Maine, some lobsters are actually cannibals. So don't feel guilty about cooking live lobsters. Mangia!

Dog is My Co-pilot

Over in New Zealand, an animal shelter says it spent weeks teaching three dogs how to drive. According to a spokesperson for the shelter, "They hop in, start the car, put it into gear and use the accelerator."

Also, did I mention the dogs also turned the steering wheel too! Like anyone is going to let a dog drive a car around town. Perhaps, this animal shelter should have been teaching them French or how to build a book case.

Volunteer Drivers Needed to Drive Veterans to Medical Appointments

The DAV Transportation Program is seeking volunteer drivers to shuttle veterans who need rides to an from VA medical appointments. As World War II, Korea and Vietnam veterans age and more and more Iraq and Afghanistan veterans return with disabilities, the number of drivers available decreases. As a result, more volunteer drivers are needed. Volunteers are needed for one or two days free each week. Volunteers drive DAV vans not their own cars. These vans are six or eight passenger vans and do not need a special license. Transportation is available to all veterans but the program is still looking for a wheel chair van. For more details, call 508-583-4500 ext. 62264.



Disney
ON ICE
PRODUCED BY FELD ENTERTAINMENT

100
YEARS OF MAGIC

All the Magical Disney Moments You'll Remember Forever

DEC. 27 - 30

TD GARDEN

Thurs. DEC 27 ★ 7:00 PM
OPENING DAY
TICKETS \$15!*

DEC. 27	DEC. 28	DEC. 29	DEC. 30
7:00 PM*	11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM	1:00 PM 5:00 PM

Buy tickets at www.disneyonice.com, **ticketmaster**® Retail Locations,
TD Garden Box Office or call 1-800-745-3000.

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

TICKET PRICES:
\$90 Front Row - \$55 VIP Floor - \$35 VIP - \$25 - \$20
Limited number of Front Row seats available. Call for details.
(Service charges, facility and handling fees may apply.)

Save \$5 when you purchase tickets at the Box Office
by showing your
or buy online at
Ticketmaster.com.
Use Code: RIDE

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

www.disneyonice.com

Buon Natale



**RUGGIERO
FAMILY
MEMORIAL HOME**

Joseph L. Ruggiero - Director & Proprietor

Ample Off Street Parking in Our 3 Parking Lots -
Complimentary Valet Parking - Nonsectarian

971 Saratoga St., Orient Heights, East Boston
617-569-0990 www.RuggieroMH.com

*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!*



ST. MICHAEL CEMETERY
COMMUNITY MAUSOLEUMS GARDEN COLUMBARIUMS

500 Canterbury Street
Boston, MA 02131
617.524.1036
www.stmichaelcemetery.com

Serving the Italian community for over 100 years!



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



Boston Signs Mike Napoli for Catcher and Over at First Base Too

The Boston Red Sox have been looking for a right-handed power hitter and someone who is a natural pull line drive hitter for the friendly confines of Fenway Park. The team had been looking at a few prospects but kept coming back to Mike Napoli from the Texas Rangers. They now have signed Napoli to a 3-year, \$39 million contract which is probably more than any other team was willing to offer him. Rumor had it that Napoli wanted four years. I personally thought two years was more than enough. In the end, everyone compromised which is more than our leaders in the Nation's Capitol can do and both sides agreed to three years. Last year wasn't his best year as he batted .227 with 24 homers and 56 RBIs. The Sox are hoping he can re-do the 2011 season when he hit 30 homers, 75 RBIs and batted .320. He's a lifetime .259 batter but at Fenway lifetime he bats .306. He won't win any Gold Gloves so for \$39 million we are buying Napoli's Fenway at-bats. Most believe the Sox now are

in the hunt for a right fielder and a starting pitcher to patch up holes that need filling. I hope we don't trade Jarrod Saltalamacchia because he is good with the pitchers, has a big bat and I just finally learned how to spell his name. Just kidding on that last feat of mine.

Nats Add Span from Minnesota

The Washington Nationals acquired Denard Span from the Twins for minor league pitcher Alex Meyer, giving the 2012 NL East champs a great centerfielder. A career .284 hitter with 90 steals and a .357 on-base percentage, Span will allow the team to move 20-year-old wonder Bryce Harper to most probably left field.

Span has two seasons left on a 5-year deal, \$16.5 million contract with a \$9 million club option in 2015.

Yanks Keep Mariano

Mariano Rivera and the NY Yankees have agreed on a one-year, \$10 million contract after Rivera missed most of 2012 with a knee injury. He accepted a cut in pay from his 2-year, \$30 million deal that just expired. Not bad for a reliever at 43 years old. Meanwhile, Andy Pettitte is returning

to the Yankees for one more season. He'll probably make somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2.5 million which isn't a bad neighborhood for someone who will be 41.

Red Sox Draw a New Drew for 2013

The Red Sox have signed up a new Drew, Stephen Drew, brother of ex-Sox outfielder J.D. Drew as a free agent and temporary solution at shortstop. He was given a one-year, \$9.5 million deal. He comes to us after a career with the Diamondbacks where he played since 2006 until this past August. His best season was 2008 when he hit 21 homers. There are two good future shortstop pros-

pects in the minors in Jose Iglesias and Xander Bogaerts but neither are ready for prime time yet and Drew appears to be a safe stop-gap addition.

The 29 year-old Drew was dealt from Arizona to Oakland late in 2012 and had marginal success batting .250 with 5 homers and 16 RBIs in 39 games.

Dickey Goes from Mets to the Blue Jays After Winning the Cy Young

Knuckleball pitcher R.A. Dickey has been traded to the Toronto Blue Jays and is saying good-bye to New York Mets fans. He was part of a seven player swap. He thanked Mets fans for making him feel wanted and he is "looking forward

to a new chapter with the Jays." Mets general manager Sandy Anderson stated, "It was an extraordinary privilege for us to be a part of his career. The final chapter has not been written." Dickey was already signed for 2013 for \$5.25 million. His new Jays contract adds two more seasons for \$25 million. There is also a club option of \$12 million with a \$1 million buyout for 2016. This past season with New York, Dickey was 20-6 with a 2.73 ERA winning him the Cy Young Award and he now joins the likes of Roger Clemens, Pedro Martinez and Dave Cone to be traded after winning the award before the start of the following season.

• Stirpe Nostra (Continued from Page 2)

rate the silver, but treated it as a combined metal.

Asia was also a source of gold from the days when Alexander and his captains seized the enormous hoards laid up during many generations by the Babylonian kings and their Persian successors. In the city of Persepolis alone, Alexander captured a treasure in gold and silver of 120,000 talents. The weight of a talent varied but was somewhere around sixty pounds making the captured treasure worth about fifty seven billion dollars at today's market price. Not bad for a day of labor including overtime. Croesus, the fabulously rich Lydian king, presented a gift to Delphi of more than one hundred solid bricks of gold. The richest source of all, in the opinion of the ancients, was in the country of the Arimaspi (a legendary race of one eyed men from

the Black Sea area called Scythia), where the gold was guarded by griffins (eagle headed winged lions). An interesting story is told or invented regarding the gold of ancient India - namely, that it was found in a country infested by huge ants from whose pursuit men could only escape when riding on swift camels. This story was effective for many years in keeping away those tourists and souvenir hunters.

The worst crime against man is said to have been committed when a person first put gold on his fingers. The early Roman name for a ring was "symbolum" meaning mark or token. It was the custom to bestow gold rings officially on men who were about to go as envoys to foreign nations in order that they might be recognized as highly honored foreigners. The gift of a ring

being a mark of high honor is said to be the reason that it was sent to a woman when betrothed. This was called "anulus pronubus" (the gift of a ring to the patroness of marriage) and was sent by the bridegroom.

The first gold coin in Rome was struck about 217 B.C. and was stamped with the head of an ox or sheep "pecus" which is probably the origin of the term pieces of gold or silver. Many people have done many things to or with the precious metal. King Phillip slept with a gold goblet under his pillow. A Prefect of Alexander the Great had his sandals soled with gold nails. We are told that gold was never so cheapened, defiled or debased as it was by the Roman Triumvir whose name was Antony. He used vessels of gold for his "daily dooties." "Che cafone!"

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO TRADE CONTRACTORS

REQUEST FOR TRADE CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from TRADE CONTRACTORS interested in performing work for MPA CONTRACT NO. L1129-C3-3, RENOVATIONS & IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINAL B FIRE PROTECTION TRADE PACKAGE, LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, EAST BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS. The Authority is seeking Qualification Statements from Trade Contractors who have a demonstrated experience in the construction and implementation of similar work in terms of scale and complexity.

The project includes fire protection systems in support of a new secure concourse between Terminal B, Pier A and Pier B. The new concourse consists of 8 new holdrooms, 24 ticket counter positions, a renovated security checkpoint with additional passenger queuing and 4 additional lanes, concessions space, toilet rooms, airline operations space and vertical circulation.

In accordance with Massachusetts Construction Manager at-Risk requirements, MGL Chapter 149 Section 44F, Qualification Statements are being requested from trade contractors capable of performing the following classes of work: (a) fire protection.

The estimated cost of the Contract is \$1,517,000 and the estimated construction duration is twelve (12) months. The estimated value of work to be performed by trade contractors is as follows:

- Fire Protection- \$1,517,000

The Authority is implementing this project in accordance with MGL Chapter 149A, Sections 1 thru 13. This selection of trade contractors conforms to MGL Chapter 149A, Section 8, subsections (b) to (k) inclusive. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be utilized to prequalify trade contractors capable and experienced in the renovation and construction of airline passenger terminals. The Authority shall utilize a two-step process including the prequalification of trade contractors based on an evaluation of the Statement of Qualifications received in response to this solicitation, followed by an Invitation to Bidders that will only be issued to the prequalified trade contractors. A Prequalification Committee consisting of four representatives, one each from the Designer and the CM at Risk and two Massport staff. This Prequalification Committee will be conducting a qualifications-based evaluation of submittals received from interested trade contractors in order to identify prequalified trade contractors who will be invited to respond to a written Invitation to Bidders. Please note that the Authority is not utilizing this process to prequalify subcontractors who are not trade contractors which shall be done separately in accordance with MGL C149A, Section 8, subsection (j).

Qualification Statements shall be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria: (1) Management Experience; (2) Project References including a Public Project Record and (3) Capacity to Complete including a demonstration that the contractor has the financial stability and long-term viability to successfully implement the Project. A Supplemental Information Package that discusses these Evaluation Criteria and the Prequalification Process in more detail as well as any other requirements for the Qualification Statements will be available to interested parties beginning Wednesday, January 2, 2013, by contacting Cindy Monahan at 617-568-5978 or via email at cmohan@massport.com

A Project Briefing will be held on Wednesday, January 2, 2013, at 11:00 AM in the Capital Programs Department, Logan Office Center, 2nd floor, 1 Harborside Drive, East Boston, MA. Attendance at the briefing is not mandatory, however, it is strongly encouraged in order to best familiarize your firm with the project details and the prequalification process.

The qualification statement document, as detailed in the supplemental information package shall be addressed to Mr. Houssam H. Sleiman, P.E., CCM, Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs, and received no later than 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at the Massachusetts Port Authority, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, Suite 209S, Logan International Airport, East Boston, MA 02128-2909.

Questions regarding this RFQ shall be directed to CPBidQuestions@Massport.com with the MPA project number referenced in the subject line.

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Run date: 12/21/12

What Happens When You Don't Advertise?

Nothing!

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

CENTRAL

FIAT

Central Fiat of Norwood and Maria Paola invite you to come in to Test Drive an all-new 2012 Fiat 500!

Maria Paola
mpaola@central.us

BIG FINISH 2012


FIAT SPRING PAST WINTER

Visit us on Route 1, Norwood, The Automile" Today!
888.710.0626 central.us

STILL STANDING — It's a record that's really stood the test of time. It involves the Bruins and was set before the United States entered World War II. And it involves shots — lots of them. For way back on March 4, 1941 the Bruins unleashed a virtual torrent of shots against the Chicago Blackhawks. How many you ask? Many more than anyone would expect — a total of 83.


But what perhaps is even more amazing than the 83 shots on goal by the Bruins was the performance by Chicago goaltender Sam LoPresti. He played the entire game and gave an outstanding example of a goalie who keeps his team in the game. The Bruins did win but only by a 3-2 count. That's right. LoPresti made 80 saves with the Bruins only managing to score three times. The B's shot fest that night is one of several league records that the NHL has selected as least likely to be broken. Who came the closest to breaking the mark set by those pre-war Bruins? Why, later editions of the Bruins, of course.

The Black and Gold got off 73 shots in a 3-3 tie with



HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



Quebec on March 21, 1991 and 72 against the expansion Buffalo Sabres back on December 10, 1970. No other team has broken the 70-shot threshold. The Bruins are the only NHL team to do it. The one team that has come closest to 70 shots in recent times is Toronto. The Maple Leafs sent 61 shots towards the net back on November 23, 2009 in a game against the Islanders.

A TIME TO REMEMBER — The Houston Rockets will wear a green and purple band on their game jerseys in remembrance of Alexandra “Sasha” McHale, the young adult daughter of head coach Kevin McHale, who passed away from complications of lupus on November 24th. She had just turned 23. In addition, the team will also wear a green and purple patch bearing her initials on their shooting shirts. The color green represents Sasha's

favorite color while purple signifies the color recognized in the national fight against lupus. The band on the jerseys will be worn through December 26th. In honor of her father, Sasha McHale wore his Boston Celtics number (32) throughout her Minnesota high school basketball career. She played varsity basketball for three years and was named honorable-mention all-state in 2008, the year her team won the class 3A state championship. She had been a college student at the University of Minnesota-Duluth prior to taking a leave of absence for health reasons. In addition to her parents, she leaves a sister and three brothers.

Kevin McHale, remembered in Boston as a member of the original Big Three (along with Larry Bird and Robert Parish), took a leave of absence from the Rockets on November 10th to be with his daughter in Minnesota during her final days. He returned to the team on December 8th. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the McHale family during this difficult time.

THE ICE IS DOWN — The NHL may not be playing

but the ice sheet was put down at the Garden in early December. The Bruins host a number of events that are tied into fundraising for their foundation over the holiday period. Plus, the ice show comes in the week between Christmas and New Year's. As for hockey, well, if the NHL remains in lockout mode that means that the first hockey game at the Garden this season will be the opening night of the Beanpot Tournament — slated for Monday, February 4th.

If the entire NHL season is lost there will only be 14 hockey games at the Garden this year. The two Beanpot doubleheader nights will account for four. Then there's the state high school championship games — seven in all (five boys divisions and two girls divisions) — all played on one weekend day in mid-March. Those will be followed by the Hockey East Tournament later in March — with a Friday night doubleheader followed by the championship game on Saturday night. Only five days on which hockey will be played at the Garden until next season — unless the two sides can come to an

agreement during negotiating sessions in New York. But unfortunately, a few think there may be an even longer interval.

DID SOMEONE SAY TWO? — We hate to say it but someone did. Early on in the lockout there was one person — we forget who it was — that predicted the lockout could last as long as two seasons. We didn't put much stock in that sort of thing and forgot about it. But then we picked up the December 16th edition of the Boston Globe and we saw a quote from the B's Shawn Thornton in which he mentions that his wife Erin might be thinking along those lines. Thornton said that his wife encouraged him to attend the negotiations so he could witness the process firsthand with the admonition “If this season is lost and the next one...” We don't know where Erin got that idea — hopefully not from Shawn. That's just too awful to contemplate. Two full seasons without the NHL. Who would care after something like that?

For the good of the game this situation has to be settled now. If the season is lost and the NHL doesn't resume until September 2013 that will be some 17 months since the Bruins last played. Even now, it seems like a distant memory since the B's lost to the Capitals in the playoffs back in April.

Buon Natale

Stanza dei Sigari

A Classic Cigar Parlor



Boston's largest private cigar lockers & museum
food offerings, cigar offerings, and top shelf liqueur
292 Hanover Street • Boston, Massachusetts • 617-227-0295

Merry Christmas

HEART & SOLE

chic and affordable

354 Hanover Street
Boston, MA

857.239.9426 www.heartandsoleboston@gmail.com

ELAINE DiGANGI

Happy Holidays from

Everett

CO-OPERATIVE Bank

419 Broadway
Everett, MA 02149
www.everettbank.com

Member FDIC

Happy Holidays

TODISCO

Towing

**BOSTON'S ONLY
FULL SERVICE TOWING COMPANY!!**

Toll Free 1-877-568-9800

Buon Natale



Court Square Styling Shop

*In the Shadow of
OLD CITY HALL*

Hair Stylists

Mr. Arthur
Mr. Jim

15 Court Square
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 523-7755

*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*



from

NEW HEALTH

North End Waterfront Health

332 Hanover Street
Boston, Massachusetts
Telephone (617) 643-8000

Buon Natale



2012

Green Cross Pharmacy

FARMACIA CROCE VERDE

J. Giangregorio, Reg. Ph. - F. Giangregorio, Reg. Ph.
393 Hanover Street, Boston, Mass. • Tel: 617-227-3728
Professional Dependability - Accuracy - Service



NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Serving the Community for Over 50 Years!

*Wishes You a
Very Merry Christmas!*



PEACE ON EARTH

Dom Campochiaro, President