

THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS

# POST-GAZETTE

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



## 2016 BOSTON FIRST NIGHT DAY

DECEMBER 31, 2015 - JANUARY 1, 2016

### HIGHLIGHTS



Alex Preston

#### ALEX PRESTON

Twenty-two-year-old singer-songwriter Alex Preston was second runner-up on the 13<sup>th</sup> season of *American Idol* in 2014. His talent has allowed him to work with artists such as Jason Mraz, Keith Urban, Fall Out Boy, Of Monsters and Men and many more.

#### AMANDA MCCARTHY

Award-winning, multi-genre singer/songwriter from the Greater Boston area. She was named *Limelight Magazine's* Singer/Songwriter of the Year, was a finalist on *Community Au-*

*ditions: Star of the Day*, and has opened for acts such as Jason Lancaster (of Mayday Parade), Hawthorne Heights and Alex Preston.

#### AURORA BOREALIS DANCE COMPANY

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Chu Ling

perience in wind performance. Members have performed with the Boston Pops and Boston Symphony Orchestra.

#### BRADLEY

#### BARTLETT-ROACHE

Thirteen-year-old solo pianist, tenor saxophonist, vocalist, and composer from Massachusetts, Bradley was voted Boston's Top Instrumentalist by the Young Performer's Club and 2015 Grand Prize Winner at the New England Talent Agency Showcase in Music and Acting.

#### CHU LING

Chu Ling Dance Academy will bring color and elegance to Boston's First Night with traditional and modern Chinese dance, serving its mission to showcase young Asian-Americans' posi-

(Continued on Pages 8 & 9)

## News Briefs

by Sal Giarattani

### If She Were Home Now, She'd Be Stoned

Recently, the Metro newspaper did a news story on the great divide in this country over the issue of abortion. It also ran a photo of a number of women supporting abortion, carrying pink placards that read "Protect Women's Health." One of the women appears to be a young Muslim woman, which might make progressives in this country happy in their diversity. However, if this young woman was back home in a Muslim country under Sharia Law, she would be in big trouble. Remember, abortion is barred in those nations as a crime against humanity. Liberals love defending the religion of peace, but never see how unliberal those nations are.

### Stuck in the Wrong Place?

Haven't we all felt at times that we were stuck in the wrong place in our lives? Things aren't going our way? Disappointments? Feeling down in the dumps? Hey, cheer up. You could have been a suspected burglar in Huron, CA. The guy died after getting stuck in a chimney. A homeowner called the cops when he heard screaming coming from up his chimney when he lit his fireplace. The homeowner tried putting out the fire as his house filled with smoke. Firefighters rushed to the scene using jackhammers to break the brick chimney, but when they reached the guy, his burglary

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Aurora Borealis Dance Academy

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# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



## Res Publica

by David Trumbull



CATHEDRAL

Delving into word origins can be quite fascinating, but combining those origins with historical fact can really open up new worlds of understanding. In the last two issues, we examined the word “basilica,” learned of its Greek origin, and followed it through the development of the Roman Catholic basilica as we know it today.

Our word for today is “cathedral,” and its loose definition is “a large imposing church.” More definitive would be, “the main church of a diocese and the seat of the bishop.” Delving into the word “bishop” we come up with its Greek root “episkopos,” meaning overseer, and we also find that in some historical sketches the overseers were not only called bishops, but presbyters as well. It follows then, that from the word bishop we went to overseer, episkopos (or Episcopal), and presbyter (or Presbyterian). Now, going full circle, we find that the seat of the bishop is properly called “cathedra.”

Any Latin-English dictionary tells us that cathedra is a chair, cushioned seat, litter, sedan, or professional chair. History tells us that the word cathedra



of seat was in common use during pre-Christian times. The back of the chair usually had a deep recession which curved around and sloped downward at the sides, forming a kind of arm support.

The ancients also used a “cathedra longa” which was a luxurious easy chair, and a “cathedra supine” which looked like our modern steamer or deck chair. These last two cathedras were mostly used by women or boys, and it was considered to be quite effeminate for men to stretch out on them. There are records of some cathedra being used at the dining tables, but the “triclinia” (dining couches) seemed to be preferred, as their use was considered to be a mark of greater distinction.

The seats of the cathedra were not padded, but comfortable cushions and back pads were often used. Another style of cathedra was what we know as a sedan chair (enclosed on all sides and provided with doors). This kind of conveyance was equipped with long poles for the porters.

**NEXT WEEK:**  
*The Early Christian Church*

As you passed through the towns and cities of the Commonwealth this December, I’m sure you noticed how many, in this secular land, found some place to display a crèche, a public display acknowledging the majority Christian faith of our people. Usually, nearby, stood the menorah, a civic statement of the importance of Jews and of the Jewish faith in our common life. 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 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the mid-17<sup>th</sup> 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 part of public displays 200 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, added 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 “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, and recognizes the civic aspects of faith. That includes the public display of nativity scenes and menorah (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

(Continued on Page 13)

Happy Holidays


STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Adrian MADARO



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from



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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Sal LaMattina & Family

BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR - DISTRICT 1



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from





AARON MICHLEWITZ

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 3

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CITY COUNCILLOR

TONY ZAMBUTO

REVERE CITY COUNCIL - AT LARGE




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and the staff of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department



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Emanuel “Gus” Serra

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Jessica A. Giannino

Revere City Councilor at Large



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Friday, December 25, 2015

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

Merry  
Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year



from  
Sal and Yvonne  
Balsamo

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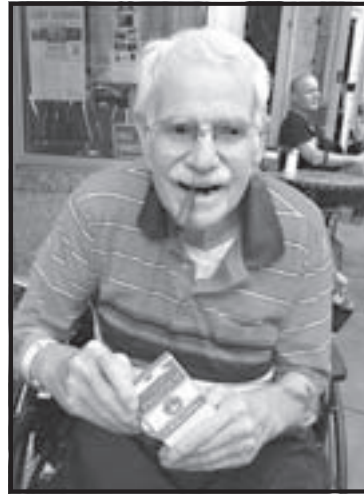


## Arthur J. "Artie" Puopolo

May He Rest in Peace

Arthur J. "Artie" Puopolo of Boston's North End passed away on December 20, 2015, in his 87th year. Beloved husband of the late Patricia (Flaherty) Puopolo. Dear brother of the late Rocco, Grace Pecci, Carmela "Minnie" Gaul, Frances Siravo, Rose "Lolly" Rodricks, Elizabeth "Lizabee" Voci, Susie Chiocca, Sadie Bell and Frank Puopolo. Also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and -nephews and a family of friends.

Artie lived in a beautiful brownstone on Hull Street in Boston's North End, behind the Old North Church and across the street from the famous Copp's Hill Burial Ground. He was a great cook and wine-maker. During the St. Anthony Feast in the North End, Artie and his wife Pat would host the neighbors and the St. Anthony procession with a buffet of homemade specialties. He also provided feasts for customers at his shop, Court Square Styling, in Boston. Artie treated his customers like part of his family. While getting the best haircut in town, you could dine on his homemade sausages and hot peppers, and drink homemade wine while listening to opera. His shop was once selected as Boston Magazine's "Best of Boston."



Artie was also one of the founding members of the Sons of Italy Renaissance Lodge. He joined the Sons of Italy in 1988, and was a source of happiness to all who knew him there. (We will never forget his disco dancing with Thelma Hawkins, Annette Luongo, and Marie D'Eramol!) He was honored by the First Corps of Cadets for his service in the U.S. Army in Korea.

The family will receive visitors in the Boston Harborside Home, 580 Commercial Street, Boston,

on Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-8:00 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am in St. Leonard's Church, corner of Hanover and Prince St., Boston. To join the procession to the church, please be at the funeral home by 8:00 am. Burial will be in the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, MA, at 12:30 pm. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Artie's memory to either: Saint Anthony's Society, 203 Endicott Street Boston, MA 02113 or The Italian Home for Children, 1125 Centre Street, Boston, MA 02130.

We know that he and his wife Pat are now together and will, as always, enjoy the seven fishes this Christmas Eve. We will miss you, our friend.

Happy  
Holidays



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# L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

## Ringing in the New Year

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Christmas does not end once the page marked “December 25<sup>th</sup>” flies off the calendar. True, radio stations stop playing carols like “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” and “Sleigh Ride” on permanent rotation. Yes, the presents under the tree have been unwrapped, revealing the delights hidden inside. However, the celebrations of Christmas continue for a while after the holiday proper has come to a close. According to old tradition and that famous song about five golden rings, there are actually twelve days of Christmas. These days begin on the 25<sup>th</sup> and do not end until January 6<sup>th</sup>, which is the feast of the Epiphany. In Italy, each of the Twelve Days is imbued with a special significance. December 26<sup>th</sup>, for example, is St. Stephen’s Day, *la Festa di San Stefano* in Italian. During this day, Italians visit family or go skiing in mountain resorts. Indeed, the Twelve Days of Christmas all contain a magical and mystical quality, a unique sense of being removed from the daily bustle and grind of the rest of the year. I spend the Twelve Days of Christmas in a jolly haze, taking advantage of my vacation from school. I catch up on grading, eat Christmas leftovers, shop in blissfully uncrowded stores, and see family members who are visiting from overseas. However, I also spend these days preparing for one of my favorite holidays and what I believe to be the most mysterious date of the Twelve Days of Christmas: New Year’s Eve. Filled with folklore and tradition, the twinned holidays of New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day ring in a fresh new beginning with luck and

good fortune.

New Year’s Eve *feels* different than all the other days of year, carrying with it a palpable aura of anticipation and hope. I see people going about their daily business — walking a dog, shopping at a supermarket, driving home for work — yet overlapping these scenes of everyday life is the electric buzz of nostalgia and optimism, the profound knowledge that the old year is giving way to a new and exciting start. I believe that even the twilight sky looks special on New Year’s Eve, glowing with a gem-toned dark blue shade indicative of the slowly lengthening days. The marked uniqueness of New Year’s Eve is what has led a number of luck-bringing folk traditions to surround this holiday. Since New Year’s Eve is laden with so much insecurity — will the new year be worse or better than the last? — a smattering of superstitions seek to increase people’s good fortune in the next twelve months. The most famous New Year’s Eve superstition involves creating a lot of noise at the stroke of midnight, reflected in the noisemakers and party horns of today. In ancient times, people believed that supernatural beings wandered the Earth during times of transition, and that loud noises were especially adept at chasing evil spirits away. Certain foods also bestow good fortune in the upcoming year. In Italy, the main lucky New Year’s food are lentils, which are thought to resemble coins, and as such bring prosperity. They are usually eaten with a spicy pork sausage known as *cotechino*. My grandmother fondly remembers a quirky luck ritual enacted in

Naples on *la Notte di San Silvestro* (“St. Sylvester’s Night” — this is the Italian term for New Year’s Eve, since December 31<sup>st</sup> is also the feast day of Saint Sylvester). As a boarding school student in this city during the 1940s, my grandmother had to exercise great caution walking down the street on New Year’s Eve, for people threw old or unused or broken items from their windows, all in the name of making a fresh start in the New Year!

While I do not throw things out my window, I do celebrate New Year’s Eve in a traditional and folksy manner with my family. We gather at my aunt’s house and enjoy a special meal that ends with my chocolate-and-vanilla marbled ring cake for dessert. Ring cakes are another lucky food for New Year’s Eve, since their shape symbolizes the cycle of the year. I love to listen to my grandmother’s stories of ancient New Year’s traditions in the small Italian town of her youth, such as the practice of sweeping out the door with a broom in order to chase the old year away. My family plays Bingo together, which is known as *tombola* in Italian. Games of chance are popular parts of New Year’s celebrations around the world, for they symbolize the unexpected thrill of good luck. We watch the televised New Year’s festivities in New York, and when the famed Times Square ball finally drops all the way down at midnight, we hug and kiss and wish each other a happy New Year. This is my favorite part, hands down, of New Year’s Eve, since the love of family and friends is what I most want to be surrounded by every year. New Year’s Day is more relaxing. Known as *Capodanno*, or “head of the year,” in Italian, this is traditionally a day spent recuperating from the festivities of the night before. Superstition decrees that the way you start the year is the way you will end it, so I like to spend New Year’s Day doing a little bit of the things that I love, such as writing, reading, baking and watching a movie. Last year, I woke up late on New Year’s Day and walked to the gym on the other side of my townhouse complex. As I walked down the quiet street, I noticed that the sun seemed brighter and that the snow twinkled like it was made of diamonds. Even the bird songs sounded happier! It was such a wonderful feeling,

(Continued on Page 14)

# THINKING OUT LOUD



by Sal Giarratani

## Take a Breather and Enjoy the Holidays

Once again, we have come up to the Christmas season and the arrival of yet another New Year’s. Looking back one year ago, the last twelve months have had their share of ups and downs. Nice things happened, like the news my daughter will be getting married in the late spring to a nice guy from a nice family. I also lost friends, which happens a lot once you start getting older. I also lost a great cousin a few months ago. She wasn’t just a relative, she was a great friend, too. I will miss her smile, and plan to stay in touch with her family, because in the end all we really have is our family. Everyone else comes and goes like ships in the night, but our family is a constant reminder of who we are and how we all fit into the big picture of life.

I had to laugh with all the *Star Wars* hype out there. I remember standing in a very long line at a movie theatre on Cambridge Street in what is left of the old West End to see the very first *Stars Wars*. That was some 37 years ago. OUCH!

You won’t see me talking politics too much as we close out the year. This is a time of reflection on our lives. It is kind of like a tune-up at the mechanic’s or a check-up at the doctor’s. We take a break and just reflect on the direction our life took and tune our inner being’s GPS to the road yet taken. I think of Christmas and the birth of Christ, I think of childhood memories of Santa Claus, and I also think of the poet Robert Frost, and those two roads in front of us. Which will we take, and will we really choose the right one for ourselves. I expect to continue to both laugh and cry some more. Some things rarely change. I do hope that laughing will be even more often, because without a good sense of humor, how much worse things could be. I also think of others who are less fortunate than most of us at this time of the year, and I try to help them. We are only here on this Earth for a short time in the scope of eternity.

Resolutions are made at this time of year. Lots of them. Most get quickly broken. My resolution is to become a better human being. To become kinder and more helpful to others. And to appreciate love and share it with others. Enjoy this period of rest and reflection. We all need it to get ready for the road that awaits us.

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# Simple *T*IMES . . .

by Girard A. Plante



With the New Year set to begin next Friday, I want to share a story about friends of my parents that reflects these difficult days of conflict abroad and how ensuing events are pulling America towards monetary, military, and human aid to a new generation of immigrants.

Horst was a young man attending the University of Munich in Germany when the call to duty arrived at his city dwelling. That one telephone call he feared more than any other changed his plans and his life as he left to serve in the German Luftwaffe in Nazi-occupied Europe in 1938.

At a spirited conversation in my childhood home during dinner on a warm Sunday in August of 1982, I needed to understand why he enlisted to go to a war he disdained. So I

asked 'Why did you go?' Horst leaned his large upper body forward, his thick German baritone accent dropping to an eerie whisper from another era: "Because Hitler needed soldiers, not lawyers."

Nearly 400,000 German soldiers stayed in Prisoner of War (POW) camps in several communities scattered across the rural reaches of America's heartland, South, Southwest, and Upstate New York. My understanding is that Horst stayed at a POW camp in Oswego, near the Pennsylvania border. Because of labor shortages created by the war, America desperately required laborers at farms, plants, and factories. Over 500 POW camps were built.

The POWs returned to Germany after the end of WWII, but many feared going back

because they faced death by unforgiving nationalist citizens. Horst returned to Germany to marry his wonderful wife Waltraud ("Wally" as she was affectionately called) in 1948.

They raised four children: Dieter, Hans, Barbara and Gisela. Both sons were born in Germany; their daughters were born in America after Horst and Wally settled into their new life. Dieter, the eldest child, answered his call to action in the Vietnam War in 1968. The Marine Corps Corporal died two years after the Fall of Saigon, in 1977, as a result of wounds suffered in action.

Horst's iron-clad rules kept his children from leaving the family property. He feared neighbors would learn his military past as a pilot in the Nazi Luftwaffe (air force). Wally was a secretary in a local hospital's billing office in my hometown. She had been a teacher in her Germany hometown prior to and during the war. For more than 30 years, Horst worked as a mechanic at a Ford Motor plant.

At that family dinner in 1982, I boasted that my dad flew 47 sorties over Germany. Horst paused from finishing his meal. "Your father flew forty-seven sorties. I flew four-hundred seventy," he shouted.

Horst's smile widened while

(Continued on Page 14)



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# Versi e Voce di Natale

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

The Eleventh annual Christmas Concert hosted by Sacred Heart Church took place this past Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. The Saint Leonard Choral Society in collaboration with The North End Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Music Director Dr. Dan Drzymalski presented *Versi e Voce di Natale*, a continuation of the concert series *Concerto di Italia*.

The concert was held in the grand setting of Sacred Heart's upper church located in the North End's historic North Square. Returning as special guests was Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish Choir under the direction of Mata Saletnik.

Concert goers were greeted by a warm welcome from Maestro Drzymalski followed by a blessing from Fr. Claude Scrima, Parochial Vicar of Saint Leonard Parish. Laurie Warnock, President of the Choral Society, who also performed and served as concert narrator, followed with a brief overview of the concert which was to celebrate Christmas in verse and voice, thus the title *Versi e Voci*. The concert opened with the Overture from *The Nutcracker* by P. Tchaikovsky beautifully performed by the expanded North End Chamber Orchestra.

Our Lady of Czestochowa Choir followed with a lovely selection of Polish hymns beautifully



sung in the vernacular, their message perfectly conveyed through the expressiveness of their performance.

The Saint Leonard Choral Society then took center stage performing a series of hymns interspersed with well-chosen readings from the writings of Ettore Brogno (read by Angelo Cattaneo) and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (read by Antonella Spinace-Casale). Soloists Antonio DiCiccio singing "Gesù Bambino" and Dr. Lori Jurgen singing "O Holy Night" added tremendously to the evening. The concert ended with a sing-a-long of traditional Christmas hymns that included the lovely "Tu Scendi Dalle Stelle," everyone's favorite. The highlight of the evening occurred when Dr. Drzymalski sang a love song in Polish to his new born son Damian and wife Dr. Agnieszka, who were in the audience.

Concert-goers were then invited to Saint John School Hall where light refreshments were served by parish volunteers who also baked many of the delicious cookies and cakes. We look forward to next year's concert which has become a wonderful addition to Christmas in the North End.

We would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo.

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Cataldo Interiors Home would like to wish you all a very happy holiday season and a blessed New Year.



Take a moment this year to look around at all you are blessed with. These thoughts will take you gracefully into the New Year. Remember, anything is possible!

Warmly,  
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**Freeway Says ...**



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

**New Year's Eve Tips for Your Dog**

When you think of New Year's Eve, you probably think of fun parties, noise, and libations. However, your dog's idea of a perfect New Year's Eve is probably snuggling with you on the couch and watching the ball fall in Times Square on the television. No matter how you decide to celebrate, it is a great time to make some resolutions for the year ahead with your dog.

**New Year's Resolution #1:** Get your pooch's weight where it belongs. In a recent study, thinner dogs lived an average of more than 2 years longer than slightly chubby ones. You want your dog with you for as many years as possible, so talk to his or her vet about a sensible weight loss plan.

**New Year's Resolution #2:** Get vigorous exercise at least five times a week. That's pretty easy to do with a dog, since it might mean just chasing his favorite toy around the house for 20 minutes at a time. Walking for most dogs is the ideal exercise.

**New Year's Resolution #3:** Get an annual physical check-up for your dog. Just one appointment a year with your vet can save your best friend's life.

**New Year's Resolution #4:** Give your dog some social time with other dogs. While a fraction

of dogs don't enjoy the company of other dogs, most love to play and just hang out with other dogs. Find a play group (or start one) of other nicely behaved dogs. Your dog will love you for it.

**New Year's Resolution #5:** Take as good care of yourself as you take care of your dog. Your furry friend needs for you to be healthy and long-lived, just like you want him or her to be. So, go get your own annual check-up! Check with your own doctor about a diet and exercise plan. Step one might be a long, lovely walk with your favorite dog on New Year's morning. And that may start a whole new season in your life with your dog.

**Stress Less.** Do you spell "holiday" S-T-R-E-S-S? The odds are you're spending half of December frantically shopping, wrapping presents, baking cookies, and maybe even still decorating the house. For lots of people, the holiday season is also a time when the job requires overtime hours. As the stress piles up, imagine what you seem like to your dog. The gentle, patient person who your animal loves has suddenly

morphed into a frazzled, edgy, worried jangle of nerves. Your dog will pick up on your stress, and he may be likely to bark more, turn a deaf ear to commands, and chew.

**Take a Break.** Deep in your heart, you know you can accomplish more if you relax. Just 15 or 20 minutes of happy time with your pet will make all of you feel better. A simple walk can help both you and your dog deal with holiday stress. During that walk, the two of you can renew your bond. You'll be on friendship time, not holiday time. When you come back into the house, your dog won't care if your house isn't picture perfect, and the break will remind you that sharing time with creatures you love is part of what makes a house a home. If you don't have 20 minutes at the moment, take one minute. Give your dog a (healthy) treat. Scratch him or her behind the ears. Take a mini-break, and it will do wonders for your stress levels.

*Wishing ALL my readers and pooch friends and of course, my friends at the Post-Gazette a Happy New Year.*

*That's all for now!*



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FROG POND SKATING SPECTACULAR

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GBCCA

The Greater Boston Chinese

Cultural Association (GBCCA) promotes public awareness of Chinese culture and heritage, to enhance the well-being and social standing of Chinese-Americans, and provide an environment for people to learn Chinese culture, language, and arts. The Percussion Team and Waist Drum Troupe will perform on stage in Copley Square while members of the GBCCA will lead arts and crafts in the Boston Public Library.

THE HOUSE ON THE CLIFF

A four-piece, '70s-inspired, high-energy rock band from Boston with a passion to bring rock 'n' roll back to the masses. Whether it be your first rock experience or hundredth, no matter your age, they want you to know rock 'n' roll is for everyone.

JOE DIAS

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into this Boston artist's original songs and electrifying live performances.

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O'SHEA DANCE ACADEMY

The O'Shea-Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance has been teaching modern and traditional Irish dancing to children and adults for over 60 years. The dancers have won regional, national, and international titles, and senior dancers have gone on to professional careers in *Riverdance* and *Lord of the Dance*.

# First Nig

ORIGINATION

Professional youth dance companies will perform a high energy hip hop piece. Dance styles include hip hop, African and contemporary. The dancers have toured in South Africa, Ghana, Senegal, England and France.

PAA SECK DIERY BAND

Paa Seck Diery was born into a griot family in Senegal, West Africa, and has carried his M'Balax musical talent to Cambridge. He'll kick off First Night's evening concert with deep, danceable grooves, sending a positive message with his lyrics and good energy.

PEOPLE'S PROCESSION TO BOSTON COMMON

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PHUNK PHENOMENON

A crew of professional dancers from the Boston area whose mission is to educate and entertain today's youth through a style called "EDUTAINMENT." They blend all styles of Urban Dance and started a Hip Hop for Hope to help raise awareness for the life-threatening disease Sanfilippo Syndrome.

PIPES AND POPS CONCERT

The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join Harry Huff, an organist with imagination and verve, in a supersonic program, playing electrifying arrangements of popular classics, as well as leading the audience in singing stirring favorites.

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"Cardboard Explosion" brings original stories to life using nothing but cardboard and the power of your imagination. With audience input, puppeteer Brad Shur transforms simple cardboard shapes into elaborate puppet characters, then brings them to life right before your eyes.

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# ht Boston

(Continued on Page 1)



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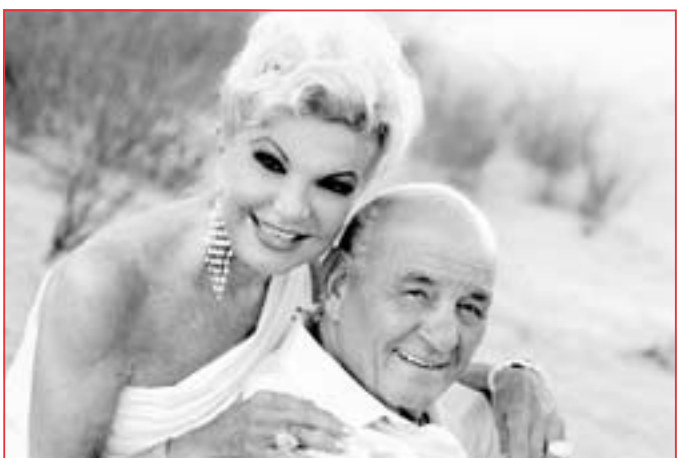
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## **AMY SCHUMER: LIVE AT THE APOLLO (DVD)**

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The time has come, the walrus said,

## **TO TALK OF MANY THINGS of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings**

by Sal Giarratani

## **BRIDGE BOSTON CHARTER SCHOOL MOVING TO ROXBURY**

Bridge Boston Charter School will be getting a new permanent home in Roxbury under a \$21.5 million project at a renovated former Roxbury Comprehensive Health Center. The charter school which currently leases two Dorchester sites plans to acquire the closed health center on Warren and Townsend Streets for \$3.5 million. The new site will mean that the

current 230 students in the pre-K to 8 school will eventually increase to 400 students.

## **BILL KELLY SHOW ON SATURDAYS**

I started listening to Bill Kelly's Saturday morning talk show on WRKO starting at 9:00 am. If you love the *Jeff Kuhner Show*, you will love Bill's show, too. Lots of great guests like Jeff Kuhner, Dr. Grace, and retired Col. and former Congressman Allen West.

## **UPHAMS CORNER INCREASES HOUSING SUPPLY**

One of the first development projects along the Fairmont Line in Dorchester is chugging full steam ahead. The Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corp. filed detailed plans with the City of Boston for a four-story building with

affordable housing and light industrial space. It will be located at the old Maxwell Box Factory at 65 East Cottage Street next to the Uphams Corner MBTA commuter rail station.

## **NEVER USE THE NAME "JOE" AT STARBUCKS**

I got tired of having to give my name at Starbucks for my coffee cup, so the other day I used the name "Joe." Normally, after I say I'm "Sal," no one ever talks to me again until I am handed my cup. After using a fake name, the counter folks just kept asking "Joe" all kinds of questions. "Hey Joe, what do you think about the Patriots?" "Have you signed up for your Starbucks card for those rewards, Joe?" This and that, that and this. They kept babbling to me until I wished I never said I was "Joe."

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## NOW PLAYING UPTOWN & DOWNTOWN



**UFC bantamweight champion TJ Dillashaw seeks to defend his crown for the third consecutive time when he meets former WEC® and UFC® bantamweight champion Dominick Cruz. See SPECIAL EVENTS for more details.**

## MUSIC

**SANDERS THEATRE  
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45 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA  
[ofa.fas.harvard.edu/BoxOffice](http://ofa.fas.harvard.edu/BoxOffice)

**THE FOUR SEASONS** Presented by *Boston Baroque* — December 31, 2015 and January 1, 2016. New Year's Eve (Thursday, December 31, 2015 at 8:00 pm) and New Year's Day, (Friday, January 1, 2016 at 3:00 pm) will once again soar — not only with champagne and chocolates — but this year with Antonio Vivaldi! *The Four Seasons*, Vivaldi's most popular work, will feature Boston Baroque's concertmaster Christina Day Martinson as she takes center stage in this mesmerizing and celebratory concerto. Martinson is featured in Boston Baroque's recording of this work. Many of the movements of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* have been used in movies like *Tin Cup*, *Spy Game*, *A View to Kill*, *What Lies Beneath*, *White Chicks*, *Saved!*, *Pacific Heights*, *The Other Sister* . . . the list keeps going. These two concerts will also include Vivaldi's Concerto for Sopranino Recorder, featuring Aldo Abreu on recorder. George Frideric Handel's Concerto Grosso in D, op. 6, no. 5 completes the festive program. There will be champagne and chocolates at intermission. Be sure to put this fabulous concert on your calendar!

**TD GARDEN**  
100 Legends Way, Boston, MA  
617-624-1050  
[www.TDGarden.com](http://www.TDGarden.com)

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN AND THE E STREET BAND** — February 4, 2016. Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band launch *The River Tour*, a nine-week North American trek, on January 16<sup>th</sup> in Pittsburgh. The announcement of the tour coincides with the release of *The Ties That Bind: The River Collection*, a comprehensive look at the era of the 1980 *The River* album that *Rolling Stone* calls "Springsteen's best archival release yet."

**CARRIE UNDERWOOD** — February 23, 2016. Seven-time Grammy winner and Pollstar's three-time top female country touring artist, Carrie Underwood, who just released her fifth studio album, *Storyteller*. "I can't wait to play new music from *Storyteller* for the fans," shares Underwood. "I am so blessed to have this career and get to do the things I do, but there is nothing like that moment when I get to step onto the stage to sing and all the fans are singing along with me." *The Storyteller Tour — Stories in the Round* will be Underwood's first tour "in the round." With the stage in the middle of the arena floor, the 360-degree setting will allow fans on all sides of the arena to get a very intimate and unique concert experience.

**JANET JACKSON** — February 26, 2016. Janet Jackson's tour is not only *Unbreakable*, it is now unstoppable thanks to her fans across North America. The recent BET Awards' Ultimate Icon honoree, multiple GRAMMY® Award-winner and multi-platinum selling artist announced a 2<sup>nd</sup> North American leg to her *Unbreakable World Tour*, with an additional 27 new cities added to what has become one of the most highly-anticipated international tours.

**THE WHO** — March 7, 2016. The Who announced the rescheduled dates for their *The Who Hits 50!* North American tour, which was postponed in September 2015 to allow lead singer Roger Daltrey time to recover from his recent bout with viral meningitis.

**ADELE** — September 14-15, 2016. Adele will return to North America for her first tour in five years. It's been a while since Adele said "Hello" to Boston, but the Grammy-winning singer is heading back to town next year! The English megastar released the North American dates for her "Adele Live 2016" tour last week, which will be her first extensive concert series on the continent in five years. The tour is set to kick off in St. Paul, Minnesota, on July 5 and will wrap up November 15 in Mexico City. Tickets went fast, so find a friend who got some and be very nice to them!

**ORPHEUM THEATRE**  
1 Hamilton Place, Boston, MA  
617-482-0106

[www.OrpheumTheatreBoston.com](http://www.OrpheumTheatreBoston.com)

**BONNIE RAITT** — March 29, 2016. Bonnie Lynn Raitt is an American blues singer, songwriter and slide guitar player. During the 1970s, Raitt released a series of roots-influenced albums which incorporated elements of blues, rock, folk and country. In 1989, after several years of critical acclaim but little commercial success, she had a major return to form with the release of her album *Nick of Time*. The following two albums *Luck of the Draw* (1991) and *Longing in Their Hearts* (1994) were also multi-million sellers generating several hit singles, including "Something to Talk About," "Love Sneakin' Up on You," and the ballad "I Can't Make You Love Me" (with Bruce Hornsby on piano). Raitt has received 10 Grammy Awards. She is listed as number 50 in *Rolling Stone* magazine's list of the 100 Greatest Singers of All Time and number 89 on their list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time.

## THEATER

**BOSTON OPERA HOUSE**  
539 Washington St., Boston, MA  
617-259-3400

[www.BostonOperaHouse.com](http://www.BostonOperaHouse.com)

**THE NUTCRACKER** — Now through December 31, 2015. Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker* captures your imagination and transports you to a magical world of brave toy soldiers and dancing candy canes. Follow Clara as she embarks on her journey filled with colorful characters, breathtaking costumes, and majestic scenery.

**PIPPIN** — February 2-14, 2016. A young prince sets out on a journey to find the ultimate meaning of life in the vaudevillian spectacular of *Pippin*, from Godspell creator Stephen Schwartz. Told by a roving cast of an anachronistic acting troupe, the musical first wowed audiences in 1972, seducing them with an astonishing musical fable set to a rousing 1970's rock score, including the hits "Magic to Do" and "I Guess I'll Miss the Man." With elements of surrealism and naughtiness, there is a moving core to this quest for fulfillment, told through a medieval fable that still connects with contemporary audiences.

Revived on Broadway by Director Diane Paulus (*Porgy and Bess* and *Hair*), this new incarnation of *Pippin* won four 2013 Tonys, and is now hitting the road for a bombastic and vivid tour of the USA!

**SHUBERT THEATRE**  
265 Tremont Street, Boston, MA  
866-348-9738

[www.CitiCenter.org](http://www.CitiCenter.org)

**LOVE LETTERS** — February 2-7, 2016. One of the most famous on-screen couples of all time is back together for the national tour of A. R. Gurney's *Love Letters*. Ryan O'Neil and Ali MacGraw first set hearts aflutter in 1970 when they starred in the iconic weepie *Love Story*. A massive commercial success, the movie was nominated for seven Academy Awards and its tagline alone — "Love means never having to say you're sorry" — is still enough to get millions reaching for a box of tissues. What is *Love Letters* About? Melissa and Andrew have been in love since second grade, yet circumstance and their own crushing insecurities have resulted in this inevitable romance never materialising. Opting instead for the safety of friendship, the pair keep up a constant correspondence through letters, cards, notes and invitations, a 50-year-old paper trail which details all of their victories, defeats and dreams as life pulls them ever further apart.

## COMEDY

**WILBUR THEATRE**  
246 Tremont St., Boston, MA  
617-248-9700

[www.TheWilburTheatre.com](http://www.TheWilburTheatre.com)

**TREVOR NOAH** — February 12-14, 2016. Trevor Noah has hosted numerous television shows in his native country, including South Africa's music, television and film awards, the South African Comedy Festival and two seasons of his own late night talk show. He had his U.S. television debut on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and has also appeared on *Late Show with David Letterman*, becoming the first South African stand-up comedian to appear on either late night show. He's slated to do the *Jimmy Kimmel Show* in January. His Showtime comedy special, *Trevor Noah: African American* premiered in 2013 and he took over for John Stewart on *The Daily Show* in September.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**THE BEEHIVE**  
541 Tremont Street, Boston, MA  
[www.BeehiveBoston.com](http://www.BeehiveBoston.com)  
617-423-0069

**THE BEEHIVE BALL NEW YEAR'S EVE 2016** — December 31, 2015-January 1, 2016. Break out the bubbly and make your resolutions! Celebrate 2016 in style at The Beehive's New Year's Eve Extravaganza. It's a night of bohemian decadence and eccentric fun. Spend the evening exploring your senses, imbibing and dancing to New York supergroup People's Champs. This all-star band combines the hottest dance rhythms from West Africa and South America with retro-futurist synth tones, crafting them into indie songs with Stevie Wonder-esque lyrics. Critics say they are "Well on their way to becoming NYC's de facto Funk and Afrobeat experience." Chef Gregory Torrech will feature a delectable buffet of hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Toast the evening with The Beehive's selection of Champagnes! Must be 21 or over. To purchase tickets, log on to [www.beehive2016.eventbrite.com](http://www.beehive2016.eventbrite.com).

**TD GARDEN**  
100 Legends Way, Boston, MA  
617-624-1050  
[www.TDGarden.com](http://www.TDGarden.com)

**UFC FIGHT NIGHT** — January 17, 2016. A world title will be on the line when the Octagon® touches down in Boston. UFC bantamweight champion TJ Dillashaw seeks to defend his crown for the third consecutive time when he meets former WEC® and UFC® bantamweight champion Dominick Cruz. The last time UFC was in Boston, Irish sensation Conor McGregor earned a title shot with a second round knockout of Dennis Siver in January 2015. Continuing with the tradition of bringing great events to Beantown, Dillashaw (13-2), looks to prove he is the undisputed champ of the 135-pound division. With three finishes in as many title bouts, Dillashaw has made his way to No. 5 spot on the pound-for-pound list and proves he's one of the best fighters in bantamweight history. Cruz (20-1), is considered by many to be the toughest competition to challenge for Dillashaw's belt. As a former titleholder, he's no stranger to championship rounds and is looking to regain the title.

*Buon Natale*

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# Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

*Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas!*  
Christmas is the time of the year when Santa Claus comes down the chimney, and your savings go down the drain.  
*Born on this day:* Humphrey Bogart, Cab Calloway, Tony Martin, Sissy Spacek, and also Anwar Sadat, Egyptian president. And on this day, W.C. Fields and Charlie Chaplin passed away. Amen.

Carlo Scostumato says, "It's always charming to see little children lined up waiting to talk to the department store Santa Claus — some with parents, some with lists, and some with chicken pox."

Last Christmas a stingy father told his little children that Santa Claus had been drafted into the Army.

During World War II, we were held up in a cellar in Belgium at the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. One of our guys mentioned it was Christmas. "Shut up! Shut up!" none of us wanted to be reminded it was Christmas.

Carol Suchman is a real life Santa Claus. The Manhattan business woman was walking near her downtown home, when she noticed that a neighborhood toy store had recently shut down. Suchman, who for years bought birthday gifts for children in the foster system, was sad to see so many unopened boxes sitting on the shelves, so she contacted the store's owner with an offer to buy them all. Now the store's thousands of stuffed animals, puzzles, and other toys are being distributed to children living in the city's homeless shelters. "I know everyone can use a gift around the holidays," Suchman said.

*Prayers in cinemas?* Britons are debating whether it's OK to hear the Lord's Prayer before a movie. The Church of England commissioned a 60-second ad spot consisting of the prayer being recited by different people around the country, but the ad was rejected by Digital Cinema Media, the company that controls nearly all ads in British cinemas. The company doesn't accept any political or religious ads. The news provoked outrage among newspaper columnists and politicians; Prime Minister David Cameron called it "ridiculous." The church said it wanted to get the ad into theaters for the release of the new *Star Wars* movie a week before Christmas.

Are Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell finally getting married after 30 years together? Read on! That's what inside sources told *The Express* (U.K.), which reported that the couple will have a Wild West-themed wedding sometime after the New

Year. Hawn, 70, and Russell, 64, have been a couple since starring together in the 1984 comedy *Swing Shift* and have one son together, former hockey player Wyatt Russell. Kurt also helped bring up Hawn's two children from her previous marriage, Kate and Oliver Hudson. "All their relatives are thrilled," said an insider, who said the nuptials are "going to be cowboy hats, horses and rock 'n' roll."

*Wow!* Kate Middleton wanted to take up boxing to stay fit, but Queen Elizabeth won't permit it, said the *National Enquirer*. The Duchess of Cambridge decided to sign up with a boxing coach after seeing how regular sparring sessions with a trainer had helped her sister, Pippa, get in terrific shape. But when Prince William, the second in line to the throne, told the Queen about his wife's desire to get in the ring, the monarch was indignant, proclaiming, "Mothers of future kings do not hit each other with boxing gloves."

Equal time, after NBC agreed to give 12 minutes of free air-time to Republican presidential candidates John Kasich, Mike Huckabee, Jim Gilmore, and Lindsay Graham, who had complained Donald Trump got an unfair boost by hosting *Saturday Night Live*.

*What?* A British study found that roughly 15 percent of young adults do not know that pork comes from pigs and lamb comes from sheep. Some 20 percent believed that "fish fingers" are made from the fingers of fish!

*Citrullo!* An Atlanta college student tried to explain why he missed an exam by forging official documents stating that he was in jail. When his ruse was discovered, Deonta Stephens was arrested and briefly jailed.

*Be aware,* there have been at least 351 mass shootings in the U.S. in the first 334 days of this year, defined as incidents in which four or more people, including the gunman, are killed or injured by gunfire.

*Something to talk about at your Christmas dinner.* The worst lake to pronounce is Lake Chaubunagungamaug located in Webster, Massachusetts. It's an Indian name that loosely translated means "Stay on your side when I'm done fishing on mine." Actually, the third "g" is silent.

A couple of days before Christmas 1888, Vincent van Gogh appeared at a brothel called the House of Tolerance with a gift for one of its employees, one Rachel. "Keep it and treasure it," he urged her. It turned out to be one of his ears.



*The worst resignation!* In 1978, a disgruntled worker walked into the office of Louis Polk, acting public health commissioner of Philadelphia, and tendered his resignation by chain sawing Polk's desk in half as the horrified Polk sat there.

*Huh?* On February 21, 1968, Mike Mealey, 33 an Irish bartender living in London, was buried in a coffin lined with foam rubber with two holes cut into the lid through which he received food, water, and air. The doughty barkeep remained eight feet underground for a record sixty-one days, emerging April 21<sup>st</sup>, The Queen of England's birthday. Apparently, Mealey developed an appetite for premature burial during his former days as a gravedigger in Ireland.

*Free-form insults,* after Harper Collins said it was publishing a "treasury of spoken poetry" based on three decades of various interviews, speeches, and tweets by Donald Trump. Will it become a best seller? Ugh.

We collaborated with the great musicologist Al Natale. In 1920, internationally acclaimed tenor Enrico Caruso made his last appearance at the Metropolitan Opera House. He died a year later at the age of 48. Ironically, that same year (1921) Mario Lanza, "The World's Greatest Tenor," was delivered by a physician named Dr. Caruso. Years later, the renowned Lanza made his third Hollywood movie, *The Great Caruso*.

And so, my dear friends, thank you for your Christmas cards. Well, we hope to be around next Christmas. Next time, send me some baccala and biscotti Grazie ...

*This just in!* Holiday shoppers bought a number of guns on Black Friday. The FBI processed 185,345 firearm background checks that day, which is up 5 percent from last year and the most ever on a single day.

Arrivederci!  
**AMERICA IS A  
BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME**

## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
THE PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
DEPARTMENT  
MIDDLESEX, SS DIVISION  
Docket No. MI15P5330PO  
NOTICE OF  
PETITION FOR RESIGNATION  
OF TRUSTEE AND APPOINTMENT  
OF SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE  
NOTICE

To all persons interested in the **Barbara A. King Revocable Trust**, of **Billerica**, in said **County of Middlesex**, a petition has been presented by **Lewis G. Demetroulakos** in the above-captioned matter praying that **Lewis G. Demetroulakos** of **Lowell** in the **County of Middlesex** be appointed successor trustee without sureties on his/her bond due to the declaration of proposed trustee, **Denis T. Teague**. If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said court at Cambridge before ten o'clock in the forenoon on **January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Cambridge, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of **December**, in the year of our Lord **Two Thousand and Fifteen**.

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

## Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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### SFINGI "sfeen-gee" Fried Dough Treats

3 yeast packets (1/4 oz. each) 2 tablespoons sugar  
2-1/2 cups lukewarm water 1 teaspoon salt  
(105 to 115°F) A sprinkle of cinnamon (optional)  
2/3 cup vegetable oil  
3-1/2 cups flour

#### FOR FRYING:

1 quart vegetable oil - 1 four-quart saucepan or deep fryer

In a ten-inch bowl, mix yeast with lukewarm water. Stir to dissolve yeast. Add oil. Gradually add flour, cinnamon (optional), and salt, blending all ingredients to form a *SOFT* dough. Cover and let rise to double its size.

Punch down and let rise again. Repeat two more times.

**FRYING:** Heat oil in small deep fryer or saucepan until hot. With teaspoon, drop portions of mixture into hot oil. They will fall to bottom and rise slowly. Remove with slotted spoon when golden brown all over. Place in large bowl. Sprinkle with granulated sugar. Serve hot or cooled.

*NOTE: I remember waiting to see Mama mix her dough at Christmas time. Zio Nino and Zia Marianna's (Papa's uncle and aunt) top-floor apartment became a gathering place for relatives and friends on many holidays. What I remember most was seeing Zia Marianna, Mama and other women help to fry the Sfingi. The odor of frying dough was evident in the apartment and throughout the corridors of 39 Charter Street. My cousins and I served the hot, fried, sugared dough to guests arriving for supper.*

*The youngsters who had not fallen asleep after supper were welcomed to joined our parents in the games of Lotto (Bingo) with the other guests. A display of fruit, nuts, Cannalicchi, Cassattedi, Sfingi, or Strufole remained available for all to enjoy until we departed for home.*

### Season's Greetings

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## LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
Docket No. MI15P6837PM  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF  
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
CONSERVATOR OR  
OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER  
PURSUANT TO  
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405  
In the matter of  
**DOROTHY E. DES LONGCHAMPS**  
of Natick, MA  
**RESPONDENT**  
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **George E. Levoy of Sudbury, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Dorothy E. DesLongchamps** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **George E. Levoy of Sudbury, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Corporate Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. **You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **January 12, 2016**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 15, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

### Buon Natale

**JOSEPH  
RUSSO**  
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Roslindale, MA  
617-325-7300

## LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
Docket No. MI15P6835GD  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION  
FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN  
FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON  
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304  
In the matter of  
**DOROTHY E. DES LONGCHAMPS**  
of Natick, MA  
**RESPONDENT**  
Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **George E. Levoy of Sudbury, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Dorothy E. DesLongchamps** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **George E. Levoy of Sudbury, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **January 12, 2016**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR., First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 15, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

### Buon Natale

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# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Christmas this year is a bit different than in years past. Since my kids were grade school age, my cousin Ralph Pepe and I had combined our families on holidays to resemble and honor the extended family we came from. On my end, it was the Christoforo and Contini side, and on his side, it was the Cerluolo and Pepe branches. His maternal grandfather and my Nanna were brother and sister. Plus, Zi'Antonio, his grandfather, and Babbononno were best friends.

This year things changed a bit. I noticed at last year's holiday get-togethers, that there were more people who were related to Ralph's children: parents of daughters-in-law, their siblings and their sibling's children. It was time to branch off. Son John and our daughter-in-law Beth now have a home of their own, and the decision was made that we would spend Christmas at their house. After this decision, we had to back it up a bit and consider Christmas Eve. The 24<sup>th</sup> of December is just as important to us as Christmas Day itself, and Loretta and I decided to host the evening in a traditional Italian celebration with a dinner party that centered around seven fish courses.

Son Michael couldn't make it home for the 24<sup>th</sup>, but arrived early Christmas morning. John and Beth came to our house as did Loretta's brother, Mike, and my sister-in-law, Lin. The rest of the guests were friends (none with Italian last names) who wanted to celebrate Italian style. The hit of the evening was my wife's fettuccine Alfredo with jumbo shrimp. Once everyone left, and Loretta was in bed, I watched midnight Mass from the Vatican and fell asleep on the couch in the den.

The next morning, after opening up presents and wishing each other Buon Natale, Loretta and I got things ready to bring to John and Beth's. We were joined by my brother-in-law, my sister-in-law, Beth's parents and a couple of John's friends who normally spend holidays with them. Oh yeah, we picked up son Michael en route. He left New York early in the morning.

A couple of generations ago, things were a bit different. There were three generations of us at the dinner table on the holidays, and we were all Italian. At the start of Christmas Eve, the family would come together. Uncles Paul and Nick, as well as my father, would have musician friends who were Jewish cover them on their respective jobs. They would reciprocate when Jewish holidays rolled around and their friends wanted to experience their traditions. As a result, the entire family sat around the table for Christmas Eve.

Nanna and Mom would have done the shopping for the two holidays earlier in the week and spent the better part of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> preparing for the night of the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>. Dad, Babbononno and my uncles would pick up the specialty items and the liquor.

The picking would begin not long after the kitchen table was

set up with antipasti ingredients. Sliced bread in a basket was the first thing to be picked up and placed on a saucer-sized plate. Next would be the cheeses, marinated mushrooms, artichoke hearts, olives, peppers and possibly fried smelts (no meat, remember?). An assortment of Italian homemade wines, each in different shaped bottles, were also on the table and would accompany what might be classified these days as finger food.

When all of the fish courses were ready, the family would sit at Nanna's table. Before dinner started, Babbononno always had a few words to say, none of them religious, but all of them sacred. And so it would be until midnight, when everyone would wish the rest of the family a Merry Christmas in both English and Italian.

The next day started early, especially when my cousins and I were young. Santa would have stopped by the night before and left presents for us under the tree. I didn't know how he got into our house. We lived on the third floor of an East Boston 3-decker, and there was no fire place. As I said, I didn't know how he got in, but I didn't question anything because the toys I wanted were always there and the cookies and glass of wine I left for him were always gone.

We would head to the Sacred Heart Church in East Boston for the family Christmas Mass, or at times, I would have attended the children's Mass in uniform with my Cub Scout friends. Seeing as we all received Communion and hadn't eaten since the night before, if it was the children's Mass, I would stop by Nanna and Babbononno's on the way home. Nanna would always have me sample her gravy by dunking a piece of bread in it and then sprinkling a bit of grated cheese on top. Then she would say, see if the meatballs are cooked. A split second later, one would wind up on my dish, next to the gravy covered bread. This was, more often than naught, my usual Sunday morning ritual. Babbononno would then give me 17 cents. This was Christmas Day and before I left, he gave me a dollar.

The entire family would show up at Nanna and Babbononno's around 1:00 pm, and within the hour, we would all be seated at the dinner table. Back in the day, Uncle Nick played for the kids at the Fernald School in Waltham on Christmas morning. Dad and his band played on the U.S.S. *Vulcan*, a Boston-based aircraft repair ship. As I said, it was somewhere between 1:00 and 2:00 pm and it was time to eat. Oh yeah, the kitchen table would have been set for antipasti, only this time with Italian cold cuts and the rest of the offerings left over from Christmas Eve.

When we finally sat down, again, Babbononno would have a few words to say, and my cousin Ellie would say a prayer. After that, the feasting would begin and not end for many hours. Escarole soup with tiny meatballs began the

feast, followed by homemade ravioli, followed by meatballs, sausages, gravy meats, stuffed mushrooms, stuffed artichokes, green beans cooked in garlic and olive oil, and ending with a garden salad. This was followed by Italian and American coffee with fruit and nuts placed in the center of the table. Desserts like pizza dolce or canoli would be served a couple of hours later after the men of the family woke up. They would have adjourned to the living room and fallen asleep with stomachs filled with good food and wine.

*Let me end by wishing you Buon Natale ... A Merry Christmas from the descendants of Mike and Jenny Contini, Nanna and Babbononno.*

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## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF SALE

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

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**TOWLOT.COM**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016**  
**at 8:00AM at towlot.com**

Run dates: 12/18, 12/25, 2015 - 1/1, 2016

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15P6918EA

**Estate of**  
**STEVE BORGES MACHADO**  
Date of Death January 2, 2015  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy has been filed by Sally O. Machado of San Antonio, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 15, 2016.

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

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 18, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

## • Res Publica (Continued from Page 2)

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 her or his conscience dictates. Let us pray and work for an America where freedom of religion is never infringed.

## Merry Christmas



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

Docket No. MI15P6720EA

**Estate of**  
**KATERINA KALAW**  
Date of Death July 15, 2015  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Phyllis Nocella of Marstons Mills, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Phyllis Nocella of Marstons Mills, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Surety on the bond in a supervised administration.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 5, 2016.

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

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 11, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15P6917EA

**Estate of**  
**MARY J. CUNNIFF**  
Date of Death November 14, 2015  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kathleen Marie Spivey of Mount Laurel, NJ requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Kathleen Marie Spivey of Mount Laurel, NJ be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 15, 2016.

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

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

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Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 18, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15







Dodgers Grab  
Roberts as Manager

The Los Angeles Dodgers have hired Dave Roberts as the team's new manager. Roberts, 43, is a former outfielder for the Dodgers, but is best known for his stolen base for the Red Sox in the 2004 American League Championship Series. Boston was three outs away from getting swept by the New York Yankees. The Sox beat the Yankees after that stolen base, and won the next three games, winning the A.L. Pennant after being down three games to none. Roberts also played for the Indians, Padres and retired as an active player in 2008 with the Giants.

Heyward Gets 8-Year  
\$184M Cubbies Deal

Free agent Jason Heyward agreed to an 8-year, \$184-million pact with the Chicago Cubs. He is a three-time Gold Glove Award winner. This past season, he hit .293 with 13 homers and 60 RBIs for the Cardinals. He spent his first five seasons with the Braves and has a .268 career batting average.

Yogi Berra Strikes Again

"I never blame myself when I'm not hitting. Just blame the

EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani

bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if you know it isn't your fault that I'm not hitting, how can I get mad at myself?"

— Yogi Berra

Irish Sports Page

Three retired NBA stars recently passed away. Former Cavs John "Hot Rod" Williams passed away recently at only 53 years old. He spent 13 seasons in the NBA, the first 9 with Cleveland where he was quite popular and a tough

defensive sixth man on the floor. He averaged 11 points and 6.8 rebounds for his career ... Dolph Schayes was a great NBA star with the old Syracuse Nationals. He was 87. He was always among the league's top scorers and was a top rebounder, too. He was a 12-time All-Star and never missed a game between February 1952 and December 1961. He was named NBA Coach of the Year in 1966 with the Philadelphia 76ers when the Syracuse franchise moved to Philly. Schayes was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1973 ... Finally, former Boston Celtics star, "Jungle" Jim Loscutoff, 85, has passed away. He played nine seasons with the Celtics and was part of seven NBA Championships. In 1977, his number was retired and raised to the rafters. Back in my college days, he was a successful basketball coach for the Boston State College Warriors.

Kelly in '16  
Starting Rotation

Now that the Red Sox have traded away Wade Miley, who I thought they should have kept, it looks like Joe Kelly will be in the starting rotation headed up by David Price. Kelley was 7-0 in his final 8 starts with a 2.35 ERA after a rough beginning.

Pete Rose Strikes Out Again

MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred announced on December 14<sup>th</sup> that Pete Rose's lifetime ban from baseball will remain in place. Explained Manfred, "Mr. Rose's public and private comments provide me with little confidence that he has a mature understanding of his wrongful conduct." Rose agreed to a lifetime ban in 1989 after an investigation ordered by Major League Baseball concluded that Rose placed bets on the Reds to win while managing the team from 1985-87. MLB also obtained evidence beyond the 1989 report findings of betting records in 1986 kept by Rose's associate Michael Bertolini. Manfred also stated on December 14<sup>th</sup> that, "In short, Mr. Rose has not presented

credible evidence of a reconfigured life, either by an honest acceptance by him of his wrongdoing, so clearly established [in the 1989 report], or by a rigorous, self-aware and sustained program of avoidance by him of all circumstances that led to his permanent ineligibility in 1989." There's an old saying worth noting here: "You should always be nice to the people you pass going up because you may meet them again on your way down."

Cueto Signs \$130M Deal  
with Giants

The San Francisco Giants' upgraded their starting rotation for 2016 by signing up Johnny Cueto, 29, for a 6-year, \$130-million deal. He now joins Madison Bumgarner and Jeff Samardzija who the Giants just signed days before Cueto for a 5-year, \$90-million deal.

Cueto went 11-13 with a 3.44 ERA in 32 starts for the Reds and Royals who signed him in a July 26<sup>th</sup> trade. He was 4-7 for the Royals in the regular season and 2-1 postseason.

Happy Birthday to ...

MLB pitcher Ferguson Jenkins, who was a great starting ace for the Chicago Cubs in the '60s and '70s and was a multi-season 20-game winner for the Cubs back when he played with guys like Ron Santo and Ernie Banks, recently blew out 73 candles on his birthday cake.

Greinke Goes to D'backs

Zack Greinke has said goodbye to the Dodgers and hello to the Arizona Diamondbacks with a 6-year, \$206.5 million deal. The 32-year-old led the majors with a 1.66 ERA, finishing with a 19-3 record, second in N.L. Cy Young voting. His \$34.4 million salary tops that of Red Sox newbie David Price (\$31M).

Lackey Chooses Cubs

Former Red Sox pitcher John Lackey, 37, has signed a 2-year, \$32 million contract and will be joining a starting rotation that includes NL CY Young winner Jake Arieta and former Sox teammate Jon Lester.

This past season, Lackey had a 2.77 ERA in 33 starts for the Cardinals and threw 218 innings.

End Quote

"Congratulations. I knew the record would stand until it was broken."

— Yogi Berra

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LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15P6732EA

Estate of  
HELEN R. DeLACEY  
Date of Death September 2, 2015  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

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

The Petitioner requests that Michael J. DeLacey of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 8, 2016.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM  
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 11, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15P6690EA

Estate of  
GERALDINE E. GALLAGHER  
Date of Death March 21, 2001  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

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

The Petitioner requests that Janine R. Miner of Pepperell, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 5, 2016.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM  
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 8, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15D4107DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
LISA D. CONTEE  
vs.  
SCOTT CONTEE

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Lisa D. Contee, 15 H Walking Ct., Medford, MA 02155 your answer, if any, on or before January 15, 2016. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

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

Date: December 4, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI15P6743EA

Estate of  
WILLIAM H. HIERONYMUS  
Also Known as  
WILLIAM HOWARD HIERONYMUS  
Date of Death November 21, 2015  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

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

The Petitioner requests that Antonia M. Hieronymus of Wayland, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 8, 2016.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM  
PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 11, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/25/15

HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
and our best wishes in 2016

from David and Paul Gemelli  
and the entire GEM Team



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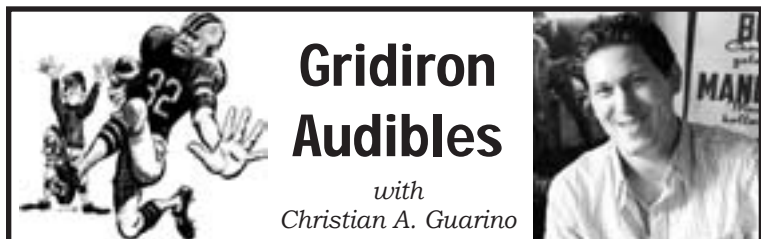
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## Gridiron Audibles

with  
Christian A. Guarino

Ok Patriots fans, this past Sunday is a prime example of why the rest of the NFL hates us. For some reason, that league memo on parity never arrived at One Patriot Place. 2015 will mark the 6<sup>th</sup> straight season that New England has clinched a first round playoff bye. You guessed it, the longest such streak in NFL history. The runners-up on the list are the 1990s San Francisco 49ers and Dallas Cowboys who accomplished the feat in four straight seasons from 1992-1995. Results we have come to expect: the Patriots doing things right, other teams not so much. Following a run of the mill 33-16 victory over the Tennessee Titans, Patriots fans tuned in to watch the inevitable implosion of the Denver Broncos in Pittsburgh. That result, of course, guaranteed that the Patriots would not be playing on wild card weekend. See you in the divisional round in Foxboro.

The more things change ... Belichick's friend and rock singer Jon Bon Jovi dedicated an entire song to it. And despite the mounting injuries, things just keep falling into place for the 2015 New England Patriots. The 3-10 Titans confirmed what we kind of knew going into the game. The Titans are what we thought they were, sub-par competition for the Patriots. If Tennessee had any chance in this game, it went by the wayside once rookie starting quarterback Marcus Mariota went down with a knee injury in the first half. And while his replacement Zack Mettenberger admirably led the Titans on two touchdown drives, he also came undone, throwing two interceptions. "I felt like I did a lot of good today," said Mettenberger. "But at the same time, I made too many mistakes for us to get back in the game." No need to explain Zack, we've heard this all before.

His counterpart, Tom Brady, 15-years his senior, also threw two touchdown passes. But unlike Mettenberger, he was successful in all facets of Sunday's game, completing 23-of-35 passes for 267-yards. With running back LeGarette Blount shelved until the 2016 season, head coach Bill Belichick made his GM alter-ego look brilliant yet again by bringing in little-known running back Joey Iosefa. In his first game with the team, Iosefa led all backs in yardage with 51 on 14 carries. Where does he find these guys? However, continuing an astonishing trend, the walking wounded continued to mount for the Patriots. Linebacker Dont'a Hightower and wide receiver Danny Amendola appeared to have re-injured their knees, while safety Patrick Chung went down with a hip injury. None of these are considered to be of the season-ending variety, but for Hightower and Amendola represent an on-going issue that may sideline them until January. With a bye wrapped up, the Patriots only need to win one of their final two games (at New York Jets, at Miami Dolphins) to clinch home-field throughout the AFC playoffs. Is it plausible that the Patriots fail to accomplish this? Absolutely. But don't bet on it.

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## HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



At this time of year, when almost everyone slows down and takes a break, let's take a look at a man who is always on the go for the great game of hockey — Hockey East Commissioner Joe Bertagna. Joe, who has been involved in the game just about all his life, is now in his 34<sup>th</sup> year as a college hockey administrator. Add to that the years he played in goal for Arlington High and then performed in the crease for Harvard, and you have someone who has spent the majority of his life around the game — from the colleges, to the amateurs, to the pros and even the Olympics.

Now 64, Joe refuses to retire — not only as an administrator, but from the on-ice game itself. You see, twice a week during the winter months, the commissioner once again dons pads and a mask and makes his way out to the crease for competition in an adult league.

How did all this happen? Joe made it happen by marrying two of his main talents — playing hockey and writing well. He has written throughout his life, including several books on goaltending as well as a pictorial history of Harvard University athletics. The latest — *The Hockey Coaching Bible* — has just been released. It features numerous instructional pieces and includes chapters by the Commissioner as well as several Hockey East coaches.

However, since Joe has been in hockey administration for so long, that's the role that most people identify him with. After working as the primary hockey administrator for the Eastern College Athletic Conference for 15 years, Joe became the fourth Commissioner for Hockey East on July 1, 1997.

Let's just say the ensuing years have been grand. The Conference has expanded numerous times and now includes 11 men's teams as well as nine women's teams.

His lifelong interest in media has meant unparalleled growth and exposure for Hockey East. In this area, Comcast delivers regional coverage of regular season and postseason games while partnerships with the American Sports Network and NBC Sports Network carry Hockey East action to homes

throughout the nation. The NBC deal includes national coverage of the Hockey East Championship Weekend in March.

Then, of course, there are the special events that everyone remembers — the games in unique settings.

Those would be the outdoor games played at fabled Fenway Park. In January, 2010, Hockey East staged a doubleheader at the famous field, an event that sold out the first day tickets went on sale in the fall of 2009. Another doubleheader followed in 2010 and was such a marketing success that a third game was added. Back for a third round in 2014, the conference presented two doubleheaders featuring eight of the conference's 11 men's teams, including Notre Dame. The two twin bills attracted 57,000 fans to Fenway for a night of fun.

Move on to annual tournaments, and Hockey East is a fixture there as well. Just last year Hockey East sent three teams to the NCAA Tournament, an almost regular occurrence since three HE squads have made the tournament field of 16 in 11 of the past 12 seasons.

Two of last year's teams, Boston University and Providence College, met in the national championship game at the Garden, with PC winning the title for the first time in school history.

One characteristic of Joe that some people are not aware of is the time he takes to encourage young people as they begin their careers. He instituted an internship program at Hockey East headquarters for those interested in pursuing a career in media relations. He has also taken time from his busy schedule to speak to a sports public relations class at Suffolk University on an annual basis. It is just one of his many activities that often go unheralded but are valuable for those who are able to meet the commissioner in a smaller setting.

Joe would tell you that in addition to being the Commission-

er of Hockey East, there are at least two additional experiences that were special to him. One is the time he spent as a member of the coaching staff of the Boston Bruins. Joe joined the staff in 1985 and remained with the team as goaltender coach until 1991. He later rejoined the team for the 1994-1995 season.

In addition, he was a member of the coaching staff for the U.S. Olympic Men's Hockey team at the 1994 Winter Olympics held in Lillehammer, Norway. That was the last Winter Olympics that featured amateur hockey teams.

Before that, Joe served as the men's junior varsity coach at Harvard during the 1976-1977 season. He also launched the women's hockey program at Harvard, serving as the team's head coach for two years in the late 1970s.

Under Joe's leadership, the women's game gained a big boost with the establishment of the Women's Hockey East Association. Now in its 14<sup>th</sup> season, the women's conference consists of nine teams from across New England. In recognition of his support for the women's game, the Bertagna Trophy is presented each year to the winner of the Hockey East Tournament.

And while his duties as an administrator have come to define him in the present day, Joe really never stopped being a goalie coach. Last year, he observed his 42<sup>nd</sup> season as a mentor of those who patrol the crease. He's operated his own goalie clinics that are open to all netminders, regardless of age. Over the decades his program boasts thousands of proud alumni.

Much like the saying of the former British Empire, the sun never sets on hockey season in Joe Bertagna's sphere of influence. It's an influence that's led to Hockey East being acknowledged as one of the top college hockey conferences in America — a lasting legacy to one of the best people in sports.

*Merry Christmas*



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