



Ring in 2020 on New Year’s Eve

with the Annual Fireworks Celebration Over Boston Harbor

by Matt Conti



Thanks to tremendous support from businesses and neighbors around the harbor, there will be *two fireworks barges* on the harbor to celebrate the New Year.

Three local nonprofits — Friends of Christopher Columbus Park, Boston Harbor Now, and the Wharf District Council — worked hard to assure that the harbor isn’t dark at midnight on December 31st. Thanks also to the City of Boston for its support and encouragement in this effort.

It’s not too late to support our grassroots effort. This dazzling display over Boston Harbor will be visible across Boston’s waterfront communities including the North End, Downtown, Seaport, East Boston, Fort Point and South Boston Waterfront. It is literally a “boom” for residents, businesses and visitors! Donations are tax-deductible and all contributions will go directly to the show!

The waterfront and the harbor belong to all of us and we should take pride in all of the communities and public resources that make up the harbor’s edge. Thank you on behalf of the *Illuminate the Harbor* Fireworks Fund Committee: Boston Harbor Now, Friends of Christopher Columbus Park, and Wharf District Council.

To Donate toward New Year’s Fireworks! Go to: <https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/FIREWORKS>

News Briefs

by Sal Giaratani

Democrats Selling Lots of Dumbness Nowadays

What a dumb photo on page one of the *NY Times* I viewed on a recent Sunday morning while having my first cup of coffee of the day. There, smack at the top of the fold, was a large and colored photo of House Democrats forming a prayer circle with heads bowed. They were praying to God, as if God was on their side in this battle royal with President Trump. I didn’t know God was a Democrat. The *NY Times* must have felt good mixing religion with their anti-Trump leanings. Perhaps they were praying for a cure for their insanity. You can’t prey on Trump and then pray to God as if you are doing His business.

Democrat Says No on Impeach

I give out a big thank you to U.S. Rep. Jeff Van Drew, D-NJ, who decided to vote against impeachment and reportedly is planning to switch parties over what the House Democrats have been pushing since Day 1. President Trump stated, “Thank you for your honesty Jeff. All of the Democrats know you are right but unlike you, they don’t have the guts to say so.”

Van Drew is one of two Democrats who voted in October not to begin an impeachment inquiry. He doesn’t think the House Democrats had real facts and evidence to approve those two articles of impeachment — abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. He is right. This is all about disenfranchising over 63 million folks who apparently voted for the wrong person in 2016. President Trump remains the duly elected

(Continued on Page 10)

First Night Schedule

Tuesday, December 31st

	COPLEY SQUARE	BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY (BPL) – JOHNSON BLDG.			BPL – McKIM BLDG.		COPLEY PLACE MALL	OLD SOUTH CHURCH
		Commonwealth Salon	Rabb Lecture Hall	Newsfeed Café	McKim Exhibition Hall	Guastavino Room		
Noon	Dempsey Sisters Musical Performance							
12:30 PM	Sweet Harmony Musical Performance	DB Studios Dance Classes	The Responders Musical Performance	The Stephen Bates Quartet Musical Performance		Boston Sax Quartet Musical Performance	Chu Ling Dance Academy Dance Performance	
1:00 PM	Elliot Wren Music							
1:30 PM	BAND, Inc. Musical Performance	Drumming About You	ImprovBoston Comedy	The Stephen Bates Quartet	Arts & Crafts and Cultural Performances —— Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association (GBCCA)	Boston Sax Quartet	Puppet Showplace	
2:00 PM	Amber Ais Music	Drumming About You					Puppet Showplace	
2:30 PM	Morningbird Musical Performance	Drumming About You		Neptune's Car Musical Performance			Puppet Showplace	
3:00 PM	Jonah Bencal Music	Drumming About You	ImprovBoston				Puppet Showplace	
3:30 PM	Paco Musical Performance	Drumming About You		Jesse McKellar Musical Performance			Puppet Showplace	The King of Instruments Musical Performance
4:00 PM	Sam Chetkin Music	Drumming About You	ImprovBoston					
4:30 PM	Sensation Musical Performance			Boston Youth Chamber Music				
5:00 PM	Sol y Canto Music							
5:30 PM	Vocal Revolution Musical Performance							
6:00 PM	Opening Ceremony and People's Procession				Frog Pond Skating Spectacular Presented by			
6:30 PM	Maddi Ryan Music	0.6 MILES – OPEN TO ALL! (Copley Square to Boston Common)			The Skating Club of Boston (Boston Common)			Pipes and Pops Concert Musical Performance
7:00 PM	City of Boston's Family Fireworks by The Mugar Foundation (Boston Common)							
7:30 PM	Alli Haber Musical Performance							
8:00 PM	Daniel Laurent Music							Pipes and Pops Concert
8:30 PM	GreenLight Jazz Orchestra Musical Performance							
9:00 PM	Liz Bills Music							
9:30 PM	Najee Janey Musical Performance							
10:00 PM	Savasha Music							
10:30 PM	Sons of Levin Musical Performance							
11:00 PM								
11:30 PM								
Midnight	Copley Countdown with Single By Sunday Midnight Pyrotechnics & Light Show	Midnight Fireworks Presented by Boston Harbor Now (Boston Inner Harbor)						

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

TRINITY CHURCH

1:00 – 2:00 PM
Handel and Haydn Society
Emancipation Proclamation
Concert Musical Performance

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

4:00 – 5:00 PM
First Night
Organ Concert
Musical Performance

SHERATON BOSTON HOTEL

4:00 – 7:30 PM
New Year's Eve
Concert with Vere Hill
Musical Performance

*Schedule subject to change

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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.



URANUS, God of the Heavens

According to Greek mythology, Uranus, the last of our Primeval Beings, became the personification of heaven and the husband of Gaea, Mother Earth. Uranus and Gaea then united to form three important groups as their offspring. The first group, the Titans, was originally thought to be the forces of nature. They will be discussed in the next issue. The second group was called the Cyclopes. They became a race of men, gigantic in size, and having only one eye which was located in the center of their foreheads. These Cyclopes became a rude and lawless people who dwelt separately, each in his own cave, on the tops of lofty mountains. They had no regard for their neighbors, and each giant governed his own family.

There are numerous references to these Cyclopes in mythology. One such reference is to the giant named “Polyphemos” who captured Ulysses along with twelve of



his companions and shut them up in a cave. After the giant devoured six of the companions, Ulysses seized an opportunity to get him drunk. Polyphemos, in this helpless condition, was then blinded and all of the remaining prisoners escaped. Another interesting mythological reference tells us that this race of lawless giants lived on land that was so fertile that they produced wines, barley, and wheat without planting.

According to Hesiod, however,

there were only three Cyclopes. These were the energies of the sky and were named Brontes (thunder), Steropes (lightning), and Arges (rapid). Thunder and lightning were their playthings and they occupied their time making thunderbolts for Zeus (Jupiter).

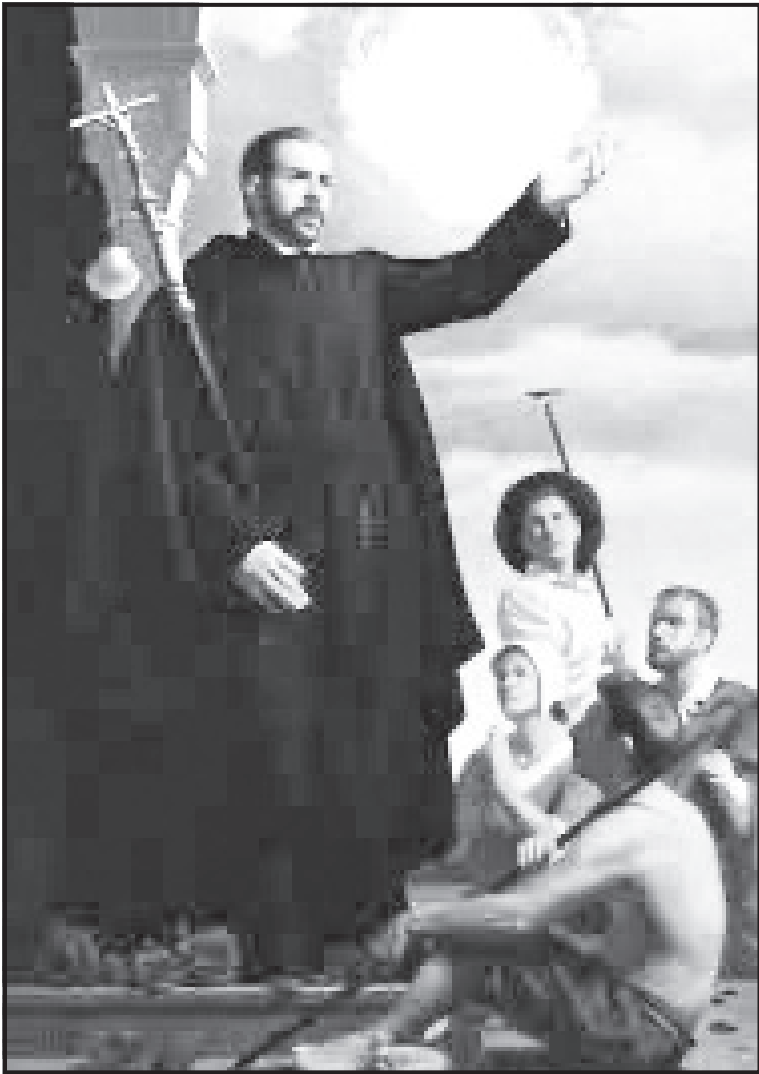
The third group, “Hecatoncheires” was sometimes called the three presumptuous children named Cottus, Briareus, and Gyes. They also became giants, but with this trio, each had 50 arms and 100 names. Their great strength made them almost invincible.

Uranus was not overjoyed about being the father of such monsters as the Cyclopes and Hecatoncheires. His fear of their great strength and hostile attitude caused him to confine them in a secret place in the lower world. Also, they were forbidden to return to the light of day. Mother Gaea, saddened at the imprisonment of her children, made a great sickle out of stone, which she gave to the Titan Cronus, to use against his father. Uranus was then ambushed, castrated, and dethroned, and from his blood which dripped to the ground sprang up the three avenging deities that became known as the Eumenidies. Their function was to pursue or hound anyone who was guilty of shedding a kinsman’s blood. At this point, it appears that Uranus was retired from any further active part in the gallery of mythical gods.

NEXT ISSUE:
The Titans of Mythology

Saint John Francis Régis

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



Jean-François Régis was born of a noble family on January 31, 1597, in Fontcouverte, Aude, in the Languedoc region of southern France. His father was Jean Régis, his mother, Marguerite de Cugunhan. He was educated at the Jesuit College of Béziers. On December 8, 1616, at the age of 19, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Toulouse and he took his vows two years later.

After finishing his course in rhetoric at Cahors, Régis was sent to teach grammar at several colleges: While he was teaching, he also pursued his studies in philosophy at the scholasticate at Tournon. Noted for an intense love of preaching and teaching the Faith, as well as the desire to save souls, Régis began his study of theology at Toulouse in 1628. Less than two years later, in 1630, he was ordained a priest at 31. The following year, having completed his studies, Régis made his tertianship, which is the final formal period of formation in the Jesuits.

Régis was now fully prepared for his lifework and entered upon his apostolic career in the summer of 1631. He was a tireless worker who spent most of his life serving the marginalized. As a newly ordained priest, he worked with bubonic plague victims in Toulouse. From May 1632 until September 1634, his headquarters was at the Jesuit College of Montpellier.

Régis is best known for his work with at-risk women and orphans. He established safe houses and found jobs for them. He established the *Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament*, which organized charitable collections of money and food from the wealthy.

Régis went to the Diocese of Viviers at the invitation of the local bishop, Monsignor Louis de la Baume de Suze, giving missions throughout the diocese. From 1633-40 he evangelized more than fifty districts in le Vivarais, le Forez, and le Velay. Régis labored diligently on behalf of both priests and laypersons. His preaching style was said to have been simple and direct. He appealed to the uneducated peasantry and numerous conversions resulted.

Régis’s labors reaped a harvest of conversions. Régis walked from town to town, in rough mountainous areas where travel was difficult, especially in the winter. He died of pneumonia at age forty-three on December 31, 1640, in France’s Dauphiné region. He was Canonized on April 5, 1737 by Pope Clement XII. The Feast Day of Saint John Francis Régis is September 10th.

We would like to wish our readers a joyous Christmas and the joy of Christmas throughout the New Year.



Mattéo Gallo

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Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher and Editor
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James V. Donnaruma Caesar L. Donnaruma Phyllis F. Donnaruma
1896 to 1953 1953 to 1971 1971 to 1990

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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.*

Having a Harvest on Vine Thanksgiving

by Sal Giarratani



Rep. Dan Ryan with Tommy MacDonald

Once again, Tommy MacDonald and all his Harvest on Vine volunteers showed up on Tuesday afternoon around 2:00 p.m. to join in this annual Thanksgiving tradition of feeding the needy who look forward to all that Tommy does for them. People lined up outside on Hayes Square making their way to the rear of this food pantry and sadly the lined seemed to be never ending. People were

very appreciative of what this event meant to them and their families. As for the volunteers, it made all of them appreciative of what they have and how they want to be there for others less fortunate.

I heard there were over 600 turkeys distributed that afternoon. The volunteers were many, young, old, newbie's and Townies. I really appreciated those who volunteered from TurnAround who helped so many get their items home either by helping to carry stuff or drive them home. Thank you very much to these young people who are not only turning their lives around but are helping others get through their hard times.

Kudos to Tommy MacDonald for making such a difference in the lives of so many from the Charlestown community.



Three young woman helping out with food distribution



L-R: Roger Morrison, Mary Beth Harrington, and Tricia Butler



Sal Giarratani and Liz O'Brien
(Photo by Denise Gagon)



Volunteers under the food tent
(Photos by Sal Giarratani)

Eagle Bank Donates to North End Christmas Fund Luncheon



Gizella diPaola Eagle Bank Senior Vice President Retail Banking presents Robert "Ted" Tomasone with a donation for the North End Christmas Fund Luncheon which benefits North End families and elderly. L-R: Sales and Service Supervisor of Eagle Bank Abdelkoder El Adlouri, Christmas Fund Luncheon Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone, Eagle Bank Senior Vice President Retail Banking Gizella diPaola, New Health CEO James Luisi, and Sales & Service Associate of Eagle Bank Mike Gekas.

Grand Union Flag Raising – First Flag Raising A Re-enactment of the Raising of America's First Flag

Every New Year's Day the City of Somerville commemorates an important moment of the American Revolution, **The First Flag Raising**. The event re-enacts the one that took place on Prospect Hill on January 1, 1776.

General Washington raised a new American flag on that day over the highest point in the land, Prospect Hill in Somerville. The event starts at Somerville City Hall and proceeds to Prospect Hill.

On January 1st, City officials, the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company with His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot under escort, The Charlestown Militia, Rhode Island Militia, and colonial-attired local citizens and re-enactors will participate in the ceremony and parade beginning at City Hall Concourse, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA beginning at 11:30 a.m. and ending at Prospect Hill Somerville, MA at approximately at 12:30 p.m.



First Flag Raising: Members of AHAC with Re-enactors

The "Girl's Annual Christmas Luncheon at Mamma Maria's Restaurant



(L-R) Seated: Marie Trovato, Frannie Gannon, Anna Caso, Joanne Cappola, and Ann Griffin; Standing: Jackie Mucci, John McGee owner of Mamma Maria's Restaurant in North Square, Joanne Brogna, Angela DeGregorio, Jackie Perez, Chickie Finnochiaro, and Mary Manzo

Over four decades ago, a group of North End ladies started getting together once a month for lunch. Each month, one of the women picks a restaurant and off they go! A tradition started by Anna Caso and many of her friends, it is one that has not faded with time. Although some

members have been lost over the many years, those remaining look forward to their monthly gatherings. They particularly enjoy the festive Christmas luncheon, generously sponsored by John McGee and Mamma Maria's. It clearly gets the season off to a delicious start!

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Saying Hello to the New Year

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Sometimes, it appears as if the bulk of our Christmas festivities end the moment we flip over the December 25th calendar page. Gone are “Jingle Bells” and “All I Want for Christmas is You” from the radio, replaced by the steady rotation of everyday hits and standards. Gone are the tantalizing unwrapped presents from beneath the tree, having now been revealed of the surprises within. However,

contrary to popular perception, the season of Christmas actually lasts for a much longer time. As the old carol about the three French hens can attest, Christmas continues for twelve days after the proper feast ends. The real close of the Christmas season occurs on January 6th, or the holiday of the Epiphany. Italians afford each of the Twelve Days of Christmas a special significance. December

26th, for example, is the feast day of St. Stephen, and Italians celebrate *la festa di San Stefano* by visiting family or going skiing in mountain resorts. For me, the Twelve Days of Christmas contain a magical and enchanted quality, laden with the sensation of being far removed from the bustle and grind of ordinary days. I spend the Twelve Days of Christmas in a haze, taking advantage of the vacation to catch up on grading, eat leftovers from the Christmas dinner, shop in blissfully uncrowded stores, and visit family members who have arrived from overseas. However, I also prepare for the most mysterious feasts of the Twelve Days of Christmas: the twinned holidays of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Bursting with folklore and tradition, these holidays seek to welcome a new beginning with hope and luck.

New Year's Eve carries a distinct and unique feeling from other days of the year, a strong atmosphere of anticipation and excitement. It is an aura that imbues the ordinary activities people undertake during the day on New Year's Eve — walking the dog, going to the grocery store, visiting the hair salon — with a captivating patina of both nostalgia and enthusiasm, propelled by the knowledge that old year will soon give way to a new and exciting chapter. Even the twilight sky seems different on New Year's Eve, glowing with a jewel-like blue tone indicative of the unhurriedly lengthening days. The tangible peculiarity of New Year's Eve gave birth to a plethora of luck-themed folk traditions related to the holiday. New Year's Eve is a time inherently rife with insecurity, as we ponder whether the upcoming year will be worse or better than the last, sundry superstitions seek to improve good fortune within the next twelve months. The practice of making a lot of noise at the stroke of midnight, reflected in the abundant party horns and noisemakers of today, derives from the ancient belief that supernatural creatures wandered the Earth during times of transition. Loud noises could effectively scare these evil spirits away. Certain foods also possess lucky qualities for the New Year. In Italy, lentils are considered an auspicious food for New Year's Eve, since they are thought to resemble small coins and as such attract prosperity. They are usually paired in a dish containing a spicy pork sausage known as *cotecchino*. My grandmother fondly remembers a more unusual luck ritual practiced in the olden days in Italy on *la Notte di San Silvestro* (“St. Sylvester's Night” — this is what Italians call New Year's Eve, since December 31st is also the feast day of the fourth century Pope Sylvester I). She had to exercise great caution walking through the streets of Naples, where she was a boarding school student in the 1940s, during this night, as people tossed old and broken items out the windows in order to ring in the New Year with a fresh start!

(Continued on Page 11)

THINKING
OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani

Who's Moving into All These New High Rise, High End Houses?

As I watch the Building Boom continue to grow endlessly everywhere; Boston, Quincy, Weymouth, etc. I just wonder how do developers and builders fill all these residential units whether condos or apartments? Where are folks coming from? The Building Boom has hit the City of Quincy, in downtown and at the North Quincy Red Line station.

They call it Smart Growth to build near public transportation. All around this station, you can see a mini-Manhattan going up near the Neponset Bridge to Boston.

Why would folks who work in Boston move across the bridge when there is so much getting built down near Haymarket and North Station in Boston? Are there that many folks coming to the Boston area that Quincy seems a reasonable place to live and a hop, skip, and a jump from Downtown Boston by rail?

Someone in real estate thinks the whole thing is akin to an illusion. It is really about keeping people employed. All those guys and gals wearing hardhats work to keep paying the bills, paying mortgages and rents, raising their families. If they weren't in construction, the government might actually have to start another war in the Middle East. Construction workers would then replace their hardhats for military helmets to keep paying their bills and raising their families.

The Feds manipulate the market in terms of how money flows from them. They can expand wealth or reduce it by a mere statement to the public about interest rates. Money gets lent to billionaires at near ZERO percent and then they lend it at near 2, 3, or 4 percent.

Boom, housing goes up as we Manhattanize our economy.

Our dollar is in trouble as the world tries to do an end-run around the dollar. Our currency is sitting on Popsicle sticks. China scares us with their wealth and its control on the stages of the world's economy.

Have you ever taken a good close look at a dollar bill? At the top of it is written FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE. Note! When I see that I think DEBT not WEALTH. Remember when those bills said SILVER CERTIFICATE. Those were the good old days.

Remember the Federal Reserve Bank is a private bank, a private national bank that controls what the dollar is worth on the open market. Up until 1973, when President Nixon took us off the gold standard, it was the beginning of our money being backed by anything other than our faith in using this currency.

I just saw that the United States is trying to pressure the Russians into deciding not to work with the Germans on building a new gas pipeline. I heard the pipeline is getting financed in a way that would weaken the U.S. dollar and we are thinking of enacting new sanctions to prevent the completion of this pipeline to carry Russian natural gas to Germany beneath the Baltic Sea.

When it comes to geopolitics, nothing is ever what it seems. What happens when the day comes when We The People lose faith in our national currency? I don't want to be around for that day.

Remember the U.S. Mint only prints coins, the Feds do the paper stuff.

The last thing Americans need is monopoly money, right?

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On the Aisle

THEATRE NOTES

BY BOBBY FRANKLIN

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* *Is a Dream at the Boch Center Wang Theater*



Lorna Luft



Cast of *White Christmas*

White Christmas now playing at the Boch Center Wang Theatre in Boston is based on the 1954 movie of the same name. The story of two WWII veterans and Army buddies, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis who form a musical act after the war and, at the urging of Phil, start pursuing love interests Betty and Judy Haynes is corny, formulaic, and great fun.

During the course of catching up with Betty and Judy, who are also performing as musical artists the Haynes Sisters, they end up at an Columbia Inn in Vermont run by their former Commanding Officer General Waverly. The inn is failing, and well, you can figure out the rest.

What is wonderful about musicals like this is they are a perfect showcase for the amazing music taken from the Great American Songbook, in this case the songs of Irving Berlin; tunes such as *Count* "Your Blessings Instead of Sheep," "I Love a Piano," "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy," and "Blue Skies". It is also, as the title reminds us, Christmas Season and Mr. Berlin wrote many of the Christmas songs that have become standards. Along with the title number, these include "Happy Holidays, Snow," and "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm."

The huge stage of the Wang Center can be overwhelming, and at first, I thought the players were going to be lost in their surroundings. However, their powerful performances and the beautiful scenery prove large enough to fill their surrounding and more. "Blue Skies" performed by David Elder as Bob Davis along with the chorus all dressed in white and set against a background of sky blue with wisps of clouds was food for the eyes while the singing and dancing were spectacular.

Kerry Conte and Kelly Sheehan as the Haynes Sisters are delightful while performing the number "Sisters," a song that is later reprised by Bob and Phil in a bit of twist. There is great chemistry



Kyla Carter, Conrad John Schuck, and Lorna Luft

among the four actors both when all together and when paired off separately.

Phil played by Jeremy Benton sings one of Berlin's best songs "I Love a Piano," while dancing atop a small grand piano. He is joined by Judy and the pair perform a tap dance routine while seated on the piano with their feet hitting the stage. It is innovative and received a well-deserved round of applause.

Bob and Betty bring tenderness to "Count Your Blessings," a song that is not only appropriate for the Christmas Season, but one that delivers a message we should all take to heart each and every day.

Judy performs "How Deep is the Ocean," set at the Regency Room in New York City. Here is where that large stage really works. Judy is joined by Phil as they sing and dance under a beautiful chandelier and are surrounded by gorgeous white draperies.

The set designs adapted by Kenneth Foy from the 2009 production sets designed by Anna Louizos are breathtaking. The colors vivid and warm are marvelous. The scenes at the inn capture what it feels like to be in New England at Christmastime. I don't want to give away the ending, but I can assure you that you'll be in awe at what you see.

Lorna Luft plays Martha Watson the manager of the Columbia Inn in Vermont. When she sings "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy" it is impossible not to think of her mother Judy Garland, but she is not performing an imitation of her famous mother. Ms Luft is a consummate stage professional who cannot only sing beautifully but also has tremendous stage presence and exquisite timing.

Conrad John Schuck as General Henry Waverly is a cross between George Patton and General George C. Marshall, proud, firm, and tender. In the performance I attended Kyla Carter played Susan, the granddaughter of General Waverly. (The role is alternated with Emma Grace Berardelli). Ms Carter was impressive when she reprised "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy." It must have been a bit intimidating to be performing the number in front of Lorna Luft just minutes after Ms Luft had sung it, but Ms Carter was poised and powerful.

The character of Ezekiel Foster has few words, but his "ayuhs," high-waisted pants, cigar, and facial expressions are subtle and very funny. Cliff Bemis originated the role and is on the stage here in Boston. It takes on even more meaning to native New Englanders. Is he good? Ayuh!

Director and choreographer Randy Skinner has put the large stage to good use, keeping it open and vast on numbers such as "Blue Skies," while using the scenery to shrink it a bit and frame scenes tastefully such as the ones at the inn.

This is a big production with a full orchestra and very large cast. Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* is just the thing to make you forget about your troubles and become filled with the joy and spirit of Christmas. Great music, great talent, and great scenery on a great big stage is just the ticket for a great night of theatre. This should be a part of any Christmas celebration in Boston.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*
Directed and Choreographed by Randy Skinner
The Boch Center Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont Street, Boston through December 29th.
For more info, visit bochcenter.org

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SAVE THE DATE 1/26/20



North End Against Drugs will host its Annual Super Bingo on Sunday, January 26th, at 1:00 p.m., at the Nazzaro Center. Doors will open at 12 Noon; games begin at 1:00 p.m. There will be 19 games, plus a coverall.

Cost is \$25 for 3 cards, get a 4th card free if you register and pay by January 21, 2020. See Patricia Romano at the Nazzaro Center or Call Olivia Scimeca at 617-605-6142.

Please note that this is the bye week in the NFL Playoffs prior to the Super Bowl.

Please call if you have any questions or would like to donate a gift certificate or a pair of Bruins, Celtics, or Red Sox tickets for use as one of the prizes.

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Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It



Let us Ring in the New Year with hopes of a better year that includes health, prosperity and (more people paying their fair share of taxes)! ... *Prediction:* Two thousand and twenty will see more illegal immigrants settling into East Boston. *Prediction:* Overwhelming traffic, crime, and more building construction will give politicians a headache as they try to resolve the every growing problem that over population will bring ... Word of the year “Global Warming.” What Al Gore making billions on and doesn’t want us to know “since the Ice Age we’ve been defrosting very, very, slowly” and according to scientists another Ice Age will begin within the next 100 years ... *Man of the Year!* Al Caldarelli was the recipient of the Buddy Mangini Award given to an individual for outstanding service who made a significant contribution to the economical prosperity of the community in 2019 ... Elite Donut closed after 30 years of business, and the Awning that symbolized Elite was taken down and a new business opened! ... New England Patriots won the Super Bowl against the Los Angeles Rams 13-3 ... President Donald Trump attempted to build the wall, while Nancy Pelosi and her gang of liberals held back the funding ... *Worst political party:* Washington Democratic! ... East Boston braced for marijuana shops ... Some papers named “East Boston the Gold Coast for Immigrants” ... *Predictions:* High rents will cause lots of vacancies, and a rise in homeless ... People line up for Section Eight Certificates, while tax payers begin to rebel ... East Boston’s underdeveloped waterfront will be completed ... Activists

will put an end to East Boston being a playground for developers who have flocked to East Boston to build in every nook and cranny ... East Boston, a gateway for new legal immigrants will receive money from the federal government ... Seniors fed up with the high cost of living, and taxes will demand the same treatment given to illegal’s who pay NO taxes ... The IRS will investigate heavily into people working under the table, not paying taxes ... Citizens want the East Boston Health Center to end offering special preferential health treatment to illegal immigrants and consider those born in this country, and East Boston! ... Mass D.O.T troubles continue to pile up ... *Prediction:* Marijuana legal sales will prove bad for the country causing mucho chaos for police and citizens ... More apartments built! A possibility that the empty lot from 301 to 323 on Border Street will be developed with apartments buildings, and, if we’re lucky, maybe a business or two ... State Representative Adrian Madaro is voted the Best of the Best ... Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards is a superstar achiever! ... Kelly’s Pub, a vintage restaurant and bar will continue many years of great service and food ... Liberty Mall will continue to be the Star Shopping Center in the city ... Cassy Matarano will plan one of the greatest trips for her seniors “Hawaii”??? ... Spinelli’s top-notch catering service will cater a White House event ... Ayanna Pressley will be laughed out of office, with her gang of liberals ... State Senator Joe Boncore will try to become a little more conservative ... Century 21’s Joe Mario will offer more jobs as they grow, grow, grow ... Revere City Councilor Tony Zambuto will receive the Mr. Congeniality Award ... Santarpio’s will invent a new pizza called the Boston Baked Bean that will be applauded ... Have a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year everyone ... Till next time

St. John School
Paints Peace Rocks for the
Charlestown Peace Park

(officially The Lowney/McGrath Park)

The students from grade 1A, Miss Ganey’s class and grade 3A, Mrs. Fitzgerald’s class wanted to do something special for the The Lowney/McGrath Park in Charlestown when they heard about the park being desecrated and the memorial rocks of loved ones were taken. This was a special place where people could remember those who had been lost to violence or addiction. The students painted peace rocks to help fill the space of the missing rocks in the park. Students pictured are Sara Frawley, Bela Bethlendy, Harrison Fisher, Darcy Serpa, Mila Pojani, Sienna Hackney, Michael Tinelli, and James Brennan



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48th Annual North End Christmas Parade



2019 North End Athletic Association 48th Annual Christmas Parade dedicated in the memory of James “Jimmy” Pallotta L-R: John Romano, Louis Cavagnaro, Paul Cucinatti, Santa Claus, Carla Pallotta, Chairman Robert “Ted” Tomasone, Christine Pallotta, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz. A Special Thank You to Donato Frattaroli, and Gizella diPaola of Eagle Bank for their generosity and support, Taste of the North End, The Nazzaro Center, North End Against Drugs, Mayor’s Office of Tourism, Sports, Entertainment, Parks and Recreation Department



Robert “Ted” Tomasone enjoying the festivities with his grandchildren



VIDEO
VIEWS... more than meets the eye

by Bob Morello

COLD CASE
HAMMARSKJOLD (DVD)
CBS Home Ent. + Magnolia
Home Ent.

U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold was killed in a plane crash on September 18, 1961, while headed to oversee cease-fire negotiations in the Congo. Now, 50-plus years later, Danish journalist, filmmaker and provocateur Mads Brugger leads us down an investigative rabbit hole to unearth the truth. Scores of false starts, dead ends and elusive interviews later, Brugger and his sidekick, begin to sniff out something more monumental than anything they'd initially imagined. Local residents reported sights of a second plane and a red flash with sounds of gunfire. The duo revisits the crash site and conduct interviews to find out whether the incident was a conspiracy to take down the U.N. Secretary General, and discover a crucial puzzle piece that could send shockwaves around the world.

SCARED OF REVOLUTION
(DVD) Film Movement

Umar Bin Hassan walks with difficulty and there is sadness and fatigue in his eyes. After a difficult early life, he became a major influence on the world of hip-hop through his work as a member of The Last Poets, who expressed the progressive spirit of the time, starting in the late 1960s. Based on Christine Otten's book, *The Last Poets*, it concentrates on Hassan's personal life, in which he still fights his demons. Growing up poor with a violent, unpredictable father, which in turn left him with an inferiority complex, plus he has had a string of bad relationships, left his children without a father figure, and in his darkest hour, battled a crack addiction. Taking control of his life again, Hassan breaks the destructive cycle and does his best to be the devoted father and grandfather that he was never fortunate enough to have.

CITY ON A HILL
SEASON ONE (4-DVD)
SHOWTIME, CBS Home Ent.
& Paramount Home Ent.

Set in 1990s Boston, *City on a Hill* is a cinematic new drama starring Golden Globe winner, Kevin Bacon and Aldis Hodge. Arriving in Boston, idealistic Assistant District Attorney Decourcy Ward (Hodge) discovers a place rife with criminals and corrupt, racist local law enforcement. He forms an unlikely alliance with Jackie Rohr (Bacon), a crooked FBI agent and local fixture who knows where (most of) the bodies are buried. Together they take on a family of armored car robbers from Charlestown in a case that grows to involve and ultimately subvert the city's entire criminal justice system. *City On a Hill* is executive produced by Academy Award-winner Matt Damon.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (DVD)
Kit Parker Films

Alastair Sim's tour-de-force performance as the ultimate miser, Ebenezer Scrooge, has almost single-handedly made this beloved version of Charles Dickens' story, *A Christmas Carol*, into one of the best-loved

Christmas films of all time. Some of Britain's best filmmakers united behind Sim, who was joined by a delightful cast of accomplished and acclaimed English actors, creating what many today believe to be the best and most faithful production of Dickens' immortal tale. Cranky and curmudgeonly Scrooge learns the error of his unkind ways and is taught the true meaning of the holidays when he is visited by the ghost of his late partner and the spirits of Christmas past, present and future.

THE LOUDEST VOICE
(3-DVD)
Showtime Networks +
CBS Home Ent. &
Paramount Home Ent.

Academy Award-winner, Russell Crowe gives a powerful performance as *Fox News* Founder Roger Ailes in this seven-part limited event series. The series chronicles Ailes' relentless, stop-at-nothing mission to start *Fox News* and build it into a force that changed the media landscape ... and the sexual indiscretions, manipulation and intimidation tactics that tainted his legacy. The series also touches on defining moments in Ailes' political life, where he arguably became the Republican Party's de facto leader, reshaped public opinion and set the stage for Donald Trump's presidency. In today's politically charged media landscape, no figure loomed larger than Roger Ailes, and this inside story of his rise and fall is one for the ages.

HOLLY NEAR:
SINGING FOR OUR LIVES
(DVD)
Omnibus Ent.

Singer, songwriter and social activist, Holly Near, has been performing for well over 50 years and in the process created what Gloria Steinem called, "the first soundtrack of the women's movement." From small-town Northern California to sold-out shows on some of the most iconic stages to million-person peace marches, *Holly Near: Singing For Our Lives* documents the story of the activist and her art. Soaring anthems that call for women's rights, gay rights, anti-war protests and all human rights, Near's music speaks directly to the world's young political activists of today. It also serves as an important testament to a time – a time of protest and coalition building, and the weaving of a multicultural consciousness, always rooted in contemporary activism.

SHADE (Blu-ray)
MVD Marquee Collection

The hand is quicker than the eye in L.A.'s underground gambling scene, hustlers get hustled and fortunes ride on every deal. Three small-time grifters devise a plan to beat the ultimate card mechanic – The Dean (Sylvester Stallone). But a seat at the Dean's table doesn't come cheap. Stallone, Melanie Griffith, Hal Holbrook, Gabriel Byrne, Jamie Foxx, Stuart Townsend and Thandie Newton, star in this stylish thriller where quick maneuvers and shady alliances keep you guessing until the last hand is revealed.

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 Giarattani



I was recently invited to the
Dorchester Board of Trade
at the Venezia Restaurant in
the Port Norfolk section of
Dorchester and met up with
Jim Cassetta, President and
CEO of Work Inc., and Jack
Torchetti (L-R).

MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM MELANIE



Merry Christmas from Melanie Franklin not to be confused with Ben Franklin from the Adams Village office East Boston Savings Bank.

GANA POR UN VOTO

I picked up a copy of *El Mundo* newspaper the other day and read the headline "Gana por un voto," and I didn't have to know Spanish to know it meant that a Boston City Council election was won by one single vote.

On the campaign trail, I met both Julia Mejia and Alejandra St. Guillen. I knew these two Latina candidates were vying for a spot on the City Council at Large ballot. I also knew both were pulling from the same voter base. I thought their votes would be close, but not THIS close. When the recount was finished Mejia was declared the winner over St. Guillen by a single vote, 22,492 to 22,491.

Hopefully, this election result showed everyone that every single vote counts. Our vote is necessary to ensure that our democratic republic works for



Here is Leigha at the counter
at the busy Everyday
Café on Bridge Street in
North Weymouth next to
the Christmas tree where
customers have been leaving
gifts for the shop's Season for
Seniors Campaign. Leave a
gift, and receive a free coffee.
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in need, huh?

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HOUSE PASSES RX BILL

Last week, up on Capitol Hill, the House passed sweeping legislation that would lower prescription drug prices by allowing the federal government to negotiate the costs of the most expensive meds, including insulin.

The Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act, a.k.a H.R. 3 would give the U.S. Department of Human Services which oversees Medicare, the power to negotiate the costs of up to 250 of the most expensive drugs.

U.S. Rep. Lori Trahan, D-MA, stated, "Twenty-four percent of Americans didn't fill a prescrip-

tion last year due to the price and one in three Americans report skipping doses due to cost."

However, the House faces an uphill battle in the U.S. Senate and the president has vowed to veto the legislation. Here I support Trahan.

LOU PASQUALE
HONORED IN DORCHESTER



Lou Pasquale with Sal
Giarattani

Lou Pasquale who has worked for Phillips Family Hospitality on Morrissey Blvd., for over 60 years was honored by Mayor Marty Walsh who named the corner of Freeport Street and Morrissey Blvd., "Lou Pasquale Square" for a great man who has helped thousands of folks and never looked for a pat on the back. He loves people and everyone loves Lou.

QUOTE TO NOTE

"Pope Paul VI once said, 'When I was young the days were short and the years were long. Now that I am old, the days are long and the years are short.'"

— Thomas F. Clasby, Jr.
Director, Quincy Council on Aging

(Photos by Sal Giarattani)



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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



New Year's Eve has traditionally been a night for merriment throughout the world. Most people celebrate in one way or another depending on the culture. We Americans head to parties, nightclubs, restaurants, or in the case in Boston ... to First Night. For those of us who played music, New Year's Eve meant something different. We didn't wear funny hats or revel the night away with noise makers and lots of dancing; we worked. That was the one night of the year when all musicians found work with one band or another. The pay was always at least 50% higher than a usual night's salary. Many of the best players received double, triple or multiples of a night's pay, depending on their instrument and talent. If you could sing ... you were worth your weight in gold.

The last time I celebrated New Year's Eve as a "civilian" was when I was sixteen years old. A few of the ushers that worked at the Seville Theater in East Boston headed for Chinatown and a party at one of the restaurants. Beginning the following year and continuing for the next 50 years or so, I worked on New Year's Eve. The concept was nothing new for me. As a child, I saw Dad, Uncle Nick and Uncle Paul ready themselves for that special night. They were among the best in Boston and would have booked in with one of the top bands months ahead of time. This was the legacy that was left to me and I followed the traditions to the hilt.

Things changed for me after my partner passed away. Marty Goldman and I worked as a duo for several years in the recent past and always expanded the group on New Year's Eve. I would send Loretta with Dean Saluti, his wife Margie Cahn and a group of close friends to a private club to celebrate and I would show up for "last call," playing my job and heading later to our own party. After Marty passed away, not being able to find a pianist that equaled him, I stopped playing out on New Year's Eve. Instead, I brought Loretta to the annual party I mentioned and entertained my friends along with the pianist wife of one of the members of our inner circle. This year, we have other plans for the entertainment at our annual bash, and that means for me, that if I don't touch my bass or bass guitar, it will be the first time since the mid 1950s that I am a civilian on Dec 31st.

I remember my first New Year's Eve playing with a band. My small trio or quartet played

every other Friday (sometimes once a month) at the Sons of Italy in East Boston. It was 1957, and we were told that the Sons was going to hire a big band for the 31st celebration and we were off the hook. That meant that we weren't working. Dad at that time was in partners with Ray Digg. Ray DiGiovanni had studied sax with Uncle Nick and now had a ballroom style big band that often played at the Ocean View Ballroom that was located at the beginning of Revere Beach (remember that place?) Ray had booked in the Sons of Italy for New Year's Eve as one of the many jobs his office had for that night. Dad was going to lead one of the jobs, Uncle Nick another and Uncle Paul a third. As a result, I was asked to play for Ray at the Sons of Italy instead of my father.

When I arrived at the lodge it was early. I lived around the corner from where it was located and walked to work. Ray was already there and as I looked around the stage, there were music stands for about a dozen musicians. As they arrived, I recognized all of them having met most at the union hall when I, as a kid, accompanying my father there on Mondays, which was the traditional meeting day for musicians. Many were surprised to see me, now in my late teens, dressed in a new tuxedo, and ready to substitute for my father.

Once we were all there, Ray Digg passed out the music, went over much of it and then told us to review the individual parts on our own. Most of the arrangements were songs made famous by the big bands during the '30s and during WWII, what today might be called the Great American Song Book. Well, after looking over my parts, I assured myself that I wouldn't have a problem playing them. The only problem was that I was subbing for my father, who was considered one of the best in Boston. Just before we started, Ray, who always treated me like his nephew, pulled me aside saying, "Christie Junior, don't let some of these old timers scare you. You are your father's son and you can handle the rhythm end of things with no problem." The pep talk helped but I did feel a little intimidated and hoped I could hold my own on bass.

When some of the guests arrived, they stared quizzically as they recognized me from the Friday night dances. When they asked Ray what the story was, he came up with answers that seemed to satisfy their curiosity. Well, around

8:30 p.m., we began to play. Ray operated on a three to four song medley. His arrangements were similar to the big bands of old. He had songs made popular by Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, Duke Ellington, the Dorsey Brothers and Count Basie, and they were all danceable.

Back then, basses weren't amplified and we used strings made of cat gut. Today, we use steel strings and we play amplified. The combination of the two makes it a lot easier on one's fingers. Let me include at this point, that one of the realities of playing bass was callused finger, and driving a big band without amplification meant that those calluses were going to be tested to the ultimate extreme. I had calluses on my finger tips, but the calluses of a novice, not someone with many years of experience. The volume I had to maintain with a big band meant that I had to play harder, which in turn meant, that by the time midnight rolled around some of those calluses were just the covers for blood blisters, and to top it all off, my fingers were sore. At the stroke of midnight, we played Auld Lang Syne and while the people were dancing and kissing in the New Year, Ray was approached by the president of the lodge and listened to what the man had to say and then nodded in the affirmative. When we finished the set, Ray announced that were going to play for another hour, we were going into overtime.

The musicians all nodded and smiled as the overtime rate on New Year's Eve was quite good. The only musician not smiling was the bass player, me. By this time, my fingers were bleeding and I was in pain. I did have a roll of adhesive tape and when we stopped to catch our breath, I taped my bleeding fingers. In spite of the tape, my fingers still hurt when I played. Just then, Dad came waltzing through the front door as the job he was playing didn't go into over-time. He climbed the stairs to the stage, said hello to everyone and then looked at my hands and took over my spot as the bass player. I was saved, or at least the future of my fingers was saved. I had passed my baptism of fire playing with the big dogs and was well on my way. From the Christoforo family, may you have a Prosperous and Happy New Year!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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

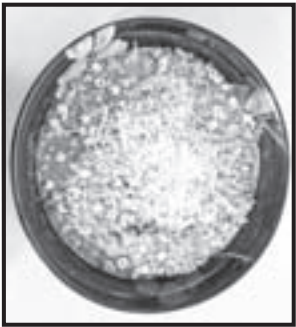


by
Marianna
Bisignano



New Year's Eve or La Festa di San Silvestro is not a public holiday in Italy. However, celebrations of the New Year include firework displays, concerts, and parties. Even customs, such as throwing your old things out of the window at midnight, representing "out with the old and in with the new," still exist in southern Italy. On New Years Day, traditional cotechino con lenticchie, a spicy pork sausage and lentil soup, is typically served. It is believed to bring good luck to all that consume it. The lentils represent good fortune, and the pork, prosperity and wealth.

In the hopes of a better year ahead, my family honored this tradition. Each New Year's Day, "Lentil Soup" and homemade Italian bread was served. The following recipe is my absolute favorite and while it doesn't include spicy pork sausage, feel free to add it, if you wish. Auguri di Buon Anno!



LENTIL SOUP
Zuppa di Lenticchie

- 1/4 cup olive oil

1 large onion, finely chopped

3 carrots, peeled and chopped

3 celery stalks, chopped

3 garlic cloves, finely chopped

1 (14 1/2-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 pound lentils, soaked and washed

12 cups chicken stock/broth

1 cup uncooked ditallini pasta

1 cup shredded Parmigiano reggiano cheese

Salt and pepper

In a large stockpot, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion, carrots, and celery. Sauté until tender, about 5 to 10 minutes. Add the garlic, salt and pepper; cook an additional 3 to 4 minutes. Add the entire can of tomatoes with juice. Simmer stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes. Add the lentils, mix well. Add the broth, stir and raise heat. Allow to come to a boil, lower heat, cover and simmer until lentils are cooked, about a half hour. Add pasta and simmer, until al dente. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Ladle the soup into bowls, sprinkle with grated cheese, and serve.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI19P6244EA
Estate of
THOMAS RAY DUNBAR
Also Known As
THOMAS R. DUNBAR
Date of Death: December 30, 2018
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 Elizabeth H. Nesti of Nashua, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that Elizabeth H. Nesti of Nashua, NH 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 13, 2020.
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. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 16, 2019
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/2019

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI19P3178EA
Estate of
MARY T. WRIGHT
Date of Death: April 12, 2019
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by James F. Wright, Jr. of Santa Clara, CA and Daniel R. Wright of Barclay, MD requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that James F. Wright, Jr. of Santa Clara, CA and Daniel R. Wright of Barclay, MD be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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, 2020.
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. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 11, 2019
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/2019


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Introducing a new book by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari, lifelong residents of the North End, entitled:

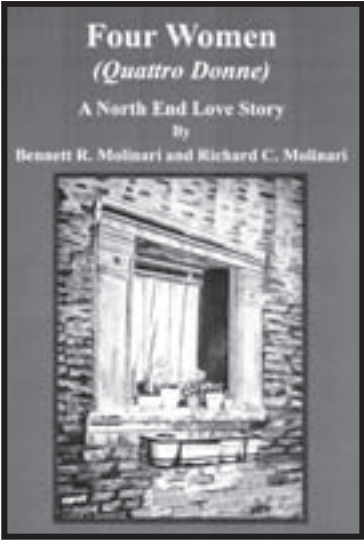
Four Women “Quattro Donne”

subtitle, A North End Love Story

In the next few weeks this column will feature excerpts from this book.

We, like most North Enders, tended to stay close to our regional neighborhood, straying into another section only when necessary. Garden Court Street, where Mom’s family lived and where Mom grew up, was part of the Neapolitan world. It announced itself as Neapolitan from a block away as you approached it. Family life seemed to spill out of the flats and onto the street. Nothing was so private it could not be shouted to the entire street. Births, deaths, infidelities, engagements, every occasion, every emotion was shared with the “street,” binding residents together more like family than neighbors. Grandpa Bernardo would sit on his stoop for hours on end, playing his mandolin, and serenading Grandma, his native Naples, and anyone who came along. Grandma didn’t appreciate Grandpa’s public show of affection, at least on the surface. During his frequent serenades, she would come to the window and gesture with her hands that he should stop singing. This was done more for the neighbors than for Grandpa. Privately, she was flattered and never said a word to discourage him. The Riccis were their neighbors and like so many Neapolitans, they were very proud of their once-illustrious city. A common Italian dialect created a natural bond between our families.

Neapolitans are a spontaneous group, inclined to do whatever comes into their heads. There was a little old lady by the name of Concetta, widowed for many years, who lived across the street from Grandpa and Grandma. She perched on her windowsill like a blackbird, watching the goings and comings of her neighbors and shouting insults in a thin, shrill voice to those who ignored her.



She had a large, black mole on her face that added to her witchlike appearance. The kids thought she was a witch, and she did little to discourage their thoughts. She seemed to have a grudge against street vendors, cackling out Italian curses while placing her order from the window. Tomaso was a little old man who sold vegetables from a rickety old wagon drawn by Pepe, a rickety old horse. One summer day, she grabbed Tomaso by the throat and accused him of cheating her. He gave her the vegetables for nothing, vowing never to sell to her again. As if in revenge for Concetta’s bad treatment of his master, Pepe would take a particularly long piss under her window, whenever they passed her way. Hot and steamy, the odor drifted into Concetta’s flat, setting off a torrent of curses which delighted Tomaso, as he danced a little jig, indicating his delight and further angering Concetta. It was a hot Wednesday in July when every window in the neighborhood was open. Concetta’s was no different. It was into the third week of the pissing and dancing when the old lady decided

she had enough. She waited for Tomaso at an open window, hidden from sight by a faded rose-colored curtain. Tomaso and Pepe slowly made their way down Garden Court, when as if on cue, Pepe stopped and began to relieve himself just under Concetta’s window. In an instant, Concetta appeared at the window with a bucket of cold water, dumping it over the back of the horse, startling him, and shutting off the piss as if she turned off a spigot with a monkey wrench. Pepe began to gallop down Garden Court Street with Tomaso running behind the cart screaming, “She tried to kill my horse!” As for Concetta, she stood at her open window, cackling and cursing, every bit “the witch” in her moment of triumph.

Stuff like that was happening all the time. Street vendors selling their produce, making their way slowly through the tangle of streets; statues of saints parading through the streets; old men making wine in their basements from age-old recipes; old women sitting on their stoops on hot summer evenings, talking and crocheting, reminiscing about Italy in broken English that slipped naturally into Italian. There were groups of kids buzzing through the narrow streets on homemade scooters made from a two by four found in the railroad yard, a discarded orange crate from Haymarket, and an old pair of skates; and always the church, the heartbeat of the neighborhood. Not apple pie but cannoli, not Coca Cola but Tamarindo. We hovered somewhere between the old and new world, never alighting on one or the other for very long, and never realizing how different and how lucky we were. We were not your typical American neighborhood.

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

president no matter how mad that makes the hardcore Left in this country.

Who Does Chuck Schumer Thinks He’s Fooling?

Before House Democrats even ramp through an impeachment vote, in which they decided that the other side’s witness had no value at the hearings chaired by Jerry Nadler, he was telling Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell he had to call witnesses before the U.S. Senate’s impeachment trial. Did he ask House Democrats to do the same thing? I think not. This is all just a game where there are two sets of rules, one for Democrats, and one for Republicans.

End Quote

“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant.”

— Robert Lewis Stevenson

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6342EA

Estate of
ELISSA K. MACARONIS
Date of Death: November 26, 2019

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 **Melissa Pearson of Riverside, RI** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Melissa Pearson of Riverside, RI** 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 17, 2020.

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. MAUREEN H. MONKS, First Justice of this Court.**
Date: December 20, 2019

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/2019

Four Women “Quattro Donne” is available at R. Del Gaudio Gift Shop, 17 North Square, North End, (617-227-5915), adjoining the Paul Revere House; Barbara’s Bestsellers, South Station (857-263-8737); Post-Gazette, 5 Prince Street, North End, (617-227-8929); lulu.com; molinaridesign.net; Amazon.com; and BarnesandNoble.com.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6274EA

Estate of
FRANCIS MARK CALIRI
Date of Death: October 22, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Brenda L. Caliri of Woburn, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Brenda L. Caliri of Woburn, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6204PO

Estate of
MICHAEL E. HAGER
Date of Death: July 4, 2017

CITATION ON GENERAL PROBATE PETITION

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **Kristen G. Hager of Breinigsville, PA** requesting that this honorable court issue an order allowing the personal representative of the estate access to IOLTA account with Bank of America as prayed for in said petition.

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 January 8, 2020.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, **HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS, First Justice of this Court.**
Date: December 11, 2019

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/2019

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P5837EA

Estate of
ELIZABETH ANNE SCHALLER BHUJU
Also Known As
ELIZABETH A. SCHALLER BHUJU
Date of Death: September 15, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Mary-Ellen Roca of East Providence, RI**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Mary-Ellen Roca of East Providence, RI has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.


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

Run date: 12/27/19

True Short Stories


By Dr. John Christoforo

BOSTON ENGLISH HIGH



Ruminations of a 1956 grad who got away with just about everything!

Make \$20.00 check payable to: John Christoforo Beagsley Publishing, Box 342, Arlington, MA 02476



• L'Anno Bello (Continued from Page 4)

I am not throwing anything out of my windows, but I do love to celebrate the New Year in a folksy and traditional manner with my family. We gather together and enjoy a special meal that ends with my chocolate-vanilla marbled ring cake for dessert. Ring cakes are yet another lucky food for this feast, since their shape symbolizes the cycle of the year. I enjoy hearing my grandmother tell stories about the quirky traditions that characterized New Year’s Eve in her small Italian hometown, such as sweeping out the door with a broom at midnight in order to chase away the old year. Sometimes my family plays Bingo together, known as *tombola* in Italian. Games of chance are popular components of New Year’s festivities around the world, for they mimic the unpredictable thrill of good fortune. We watch the televised New Year’s celebration in New York, and when the famed Times Square ball finally drops at midnight, we hug and kiss and wish each other a happy New Year. This is my favorite tradition, as it reminds me that being surrounded by the love of family and friends is the best wish I can ask for all year! New Year’s Day is far more low-key. Known as *Capodanno*, or “head of the year,” in Italian, this is a day devoted to recuperating from the previous night’s parties. Superstition advises that the way you start the New Year is the way you will end it, so I like to spend New Year’s Day doing a little bit of all the things I love, such as writing, reading, baking and watching a movie. New Year’s Day is also laden with a unique and pleasant feeling. The sky seems bluer,

the birds sing loudly, and snow sparkles like diamonds on the ground. I believe the whole world is starting anew!

The twinned holidays of New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day are purely magical, brimming with mystery and anticipation and the electrifying hope of good fortune. They are two feasts of the Christmas season that shine with unique lore and traditions. They inspire us to start a new cycle encircled by the love of family and with a hopeful optimism in our hearts. By greeting the New Year with joy and goodwill, as customs around the world dictate, we are actually creating our own good fortune. Whether we feast on lentils or shout loudly at the stroke of midnight, New Year’s traditions remind us that love and confidence are exactly what we need to equip our journey into the unknown. Yes, it can prove frightening to leave behind the familiar and the comfortable and start fresh, but New Year’s celebrations offer us the chance to improve our outlook on life. Without an ending, there can be no beginnings, or opportunities for journeys of self-discovery. This New Year’s, surround yourself with loved ones and promise to carry an attitude of cheer and wonder for the next twelve months to come!

Happy New Year to All! Buon Anno!

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

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6233EA

Estate of
MARIA A. MINGACE

Date of Death: November 13, 2019

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 **Tina M. Mingace of Sagamore, 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 **Tina M. Mingace of Sagamore, 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 10, 2020.
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. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 13, 2019
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/2019

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **D & G Towing and Auto Repair Services, Inc., 2 Emery Road, Allston, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **December 28, 2019 beginning at 10:00 am** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2007 TOYOTA COROLLA
VIN #2T1BR32E67C801413

2001 NISSAN MAXIMA
VIN #JN1CA31A31T313081

2014 SUBARU FORESTER
VIN #JF2SJACC8EG453073

2017 NISSAN ALTIMA
VIN #1N4AL3AP8HC153198

Vehicles are being stored at **D & G Towing and Auto Repair Services, Inc., and may be viewed by appointment only.**

Signed
Gabriela Estrada, Owner
Run dates: 12/13, 12/20, 12/27, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19C1096CA

In the Matter of
ALEN SINOJMERI

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A **Petition to Change Name of Minor** has been filed by **Alen Sinojmeri of Wilmington, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Alen Sinoimeri.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Middlesex Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 13, 2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court
Date: December 13, 2019
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19D4003DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING

MST R BEGUM
vs.
RASEL AHMED

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 **Mst R Begum, 424 Windsor St., #11, Cambridge, MA 02141** your answer, if any, on or before **January 17, 2020**. 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. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 6, 2019
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P5348EA

Estate of
KENNETH F. JOSSELYN
Also Known As
KENNETH JOSSELYN

Date of Death: August 26, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Mark Josselyn of Hopkinton, MA**.
Mark Josselyn of Hopkinton, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P4914EA

Estate of
MARYANN E. CORLETO
Also Known As
MARY ANNA CORLETO

Date of Death: December 5, 2018

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Derek Pelity of Medford, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Derek Pelity of Medford, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani

Two Future Greats
On the Playing Field

Two young and talented ball-players have arrived in Major League Baseball over the past two years. Braves outfielder Ronald Acuna Jr. and the Nationals outfielder Juan Soto. Acuna won Rookie of the Year in 2018 and had an even better 2019. Soto had a breakout year and a fantastic postseason helping the Nationals win their first World Series in franchise history.

They are two of only 10 players to hit at least 30 homers, drive in more than 100 RBIs with a slugging average of .500 or better before turning 22 years old. I remember two of the others right away, Alex Rodriguez in 1996 and Albert Pujols in 2001.

Happy Birthday To ...
Happy Birthday to the Hit Dog

Mo Vaughn who just turned 52 years old. He played here from 1991-1998, hitting 230 homers and 752 RBIs. He ended up elsewhere. There were the Mets years and then he retired after the 2004 season. Always a fan favorite.

Spygate 2.0?

It would seem the Pats were caught with their pants down. A video obtained by *Fox Sports* show a member of the Bengals security questioning a member of the Pats video crew over footage being shot of the Bengals sideline the week previous when Cincinnati was in Cleveland for the Browns game. And now we have Spygate 2.0. Head Coach Bill Belichick denied any involvement in this video scandal. New England could be fined and docked a draft pick, too. Stupid, stupid, stupid. The rest of the country loves it all.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6286EA

Estate of
MILDRED L. KLETJIAN

Date of Death: April 20, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Margaret E. Cronin of Arlington, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Margaret E. Cronin of Arlington, MA, Christine Halley of Arlington, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6282EA

Estate of
BARBARA M. CAIOLA
Also Known As
BARBARA ANN CAIOLA

Date of Death: October 23, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Diane Caiola of Waltham, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Diane Caiola of Waltham, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P6292EA

Estate of
JOSEPHINE L. CONDELLI

Date of Death: April 13, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Bernard J. Condelli of Belmont, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Bernard J. Condelli of Belmont, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI19P5778EA

Estate of
WILLIAM P. O'DONNELL
Also Known As
WILLIAM O'DONNELL

Date of Death: April 26, 2019

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **William P. Doyle III of Lynnfield, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
William P. Doyle III of Lynnfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/27/19

Boxing



Ringside

WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

Champions Take to the Sky



Jack Dempsey

Improvements in transportation revolutionized many things about modern society. The steam locomotive along with the creation of the Continental Railway was the first to make traveling long distances in a reasonable amount of time possible. It also made it possible for John L. Sullivan to become the first celebrity to be seen in person by huge numbers of people. It can be said he was the first superstar in what would become the cult of celebrity.



Max Schmeling on the Hindenburg

The next huge step was the invention of the airplane. The Wright Brothers made their first successful powered flight in December of 1907. While commercial air travel did not fully hit its stride until the 1930s, and didn't become affordable for large numbers of people until the 1950s, there were many who booked flights well before then. Gene Tunney flew from his training camp in Stroudsburg, PA to Philadelphia for his first fight with Jack Dempsey in 1926. It was hardly a luxury trip as Gene was the only passenger in a biplane. It was a daring move at the time and he did it to psyche out Dempsey. If it had any effect on Jack, or if he even knew, we'll never know. However, Gene did win the fight and the title that night.

Tunney's flight did not start an immediate rush of fighters taking airplanes to fights. Boxers from Europe still were traveling mainly by ship to the United States in the 1930s, though Max Schmeling did travel back to Germany aboard the German Airship Hindenburg after defeating Joe Louis in 1936, the zeppelin that would later become etched in history when it exploded while landing at Lakehurst, NJ in 1937. Schmeling had planned to be on that flight but canceled. While there was some use of airplane travel by boxers in the 1930s, it didn't become widely used until the 1940s and beyond.



Marcel Cerdan



Joe Louis

Two famous champions were involved in flights that ended in tragedy. On October 28, 1949, Marcel Cerdan boarded a Lockheed L-749 Constellation in France for a trip to New York. He was returning to the States for a return fight with Jake LaMotta who had won the Middleweight Title from him the previous year. Cerdan was actually booked to travel by ship, but changed plans when Edith Piaf, his mistress, who was in New York asked him to come over ahead of schedule so they could be together. The plane never arrived having crashed into Monte Redondo in the Azores killing all aboard.

On August 31, 1969, the eve of his 46th birthday, retired Heavyweight Champion Rocky Marciano boarded a single engine Cessna 172-H in Chicago for a trip to Des Moines, Iowa where he was sched-



Jess Willard

uled to make a personal appearance. He was then going to fly to his home in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for a birthday party with his family. Tragedy struck when the pilot of the plane was unable to find the runway and the plane crashed into a tree killing Rocky and the other passengers. His death shocked the boxing world as he had always been indestructible.

While both of these untimely deaths may make one think that travel by air is dangerous, it is a very rare event for a celebrity to die in an airplane crash, especially considering how often they fly.

I have included with this article a number of photos of champions and airplanes. None appear to be nervous flying. They appear to like the friendly skies.



Young Stribling

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



WHAT'S IN A NAME? — A change of venue, that's what. For example, the National Hockey League franchise now known as the Colorado Avalanche once played in Quebec City in Canada where the team was called Quebec Nordiques.

The Phoenix Coyotes, now playing in a warm weather environment in Arizona, also made the transition from Canada where they had competed as the Winnipeg Jets.

The current Winnipeg Jets franchise made a reverse relocation, going from the U.S. to Canada. They were formerly known as the Atlanta Thrashers.

Atlanta at one time also had another NHL franchise — the Atlanta Flames. Today, the Flames are still in action, playing in Canada as the Calgary Flames.

The Stars always were plural in name, even remaining that way when they relocated to Texas (the Lone Star State) and became known as the Dallas Stars. Previously, they had played much farther to the north where they had been called the Minnesota North Stars.

And the Colorado Avalanche mentioned up at the top of this piece are just the latest franchise in that location. Previously, the Kansas City Scouts — an NHL expansion team that played in Missouri in the mid-1970s — moved to Denver and became the Colorado Rockies. The Rockies later moved to the East Coast, where they became known as the New Jersey Devils.

The newest NHL team will be based in Seattle and will take the ice in 2021. It will be the 32nd NHL franchise and as such it will be an expansion team, rather than one relocated from another area. A name for the team has not been decided as yet but team executives have promised "fan involvement" in the process.

Weren't things a whole lot more simple when there was just the Original Six? Those six — Boston, Montreal, New York, Chicago, Detroit, and Toronto have remained in place over the decades — and thus have rich histories in their communities — plus pride of place among all fans who passionately follow the nightly action throughout the National Hockey League.

The last season the Original Six competed as the only franchises in the NHL was the 1966-1967 campaign, which concluded with Toronto defeating Montreal in May, 1967 for the Stanley Cup Championship.

A new era dawned the following year (1967-1968) with six additional teams being added. It was the start of a process that continues to unfold in contemporary times with Seattle next and perhaps to be followed by the addition of overseas franchises as the decades roll on.

As an interesting aside for those of you who are teachers or volunteer in schools, an excellent way of teaching geography to students is to introduce them to the various states and cities across the U.S. through "the doorway" of the various sports franchises spread over the NHL, the NBA, the NFL and Major League Baseball. This has been received well at schools that have used this method to develop student interest in geography — a timeless topic.

CONTINUING ON CHEEVERS — Last week we mentioned the fact that Gerry Cheevers was the only Bruins player not involved in the memorable "fight in the stands" that occurred two nights before Christmas in 1979 at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

It turns out that Cheevers leads the Boston franchise in a rather impressive category — he is the goaltender with the most playoff wins in the history of the B's. Cheevers completed his career on Causeway Street with 53 Stanley Cup Playoff victories to his credit. Current Bruins netminder Tuukka Rask has 50 (with more to come).

Rask presently is sandwiched in second between Cheevers and another B's backstopper from the past who is third on the list. That would be Andy Moog with 36. Moog came to the Bruins from Edmonton at the trading deadline of the 1987-1988 season. He had been on three Stanley Cup Championship teams with the Oilers (1984, 1985, and 1987).

In the six years he was with the Bruins, they made the playoffs every spring, twice moving on to the conference finals by eliminating the arch-rival Montreal Canadiens in the second round. Following his time with the B's, he played for the Dallas Stars before finishing his career with — yes — a single season in Montreal (what goes around comes around). Currently he serves as a TV analyst for *Fox Sports Southwest* during the broadcasts of Dallas Stars games.

In a sign that time indeed does march on, Moog will turn 60 in less than two months — on February 18, 2020.

RUSSELL'S FIRST GAME — It was December 22, 1956, that Bill Russell played his first game for the Celtics, scoring six points and collecting 16 rebounds in a 95-93 victory over the St. Louis Hawks at the Garden.

Russell had joined the Celtics after the start of the season because he had been competing in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia where Team USA captured the gold medal by defeating the Soviet Union in the final game.

Once back in the U.S., Russell played in 48 games during the 1956-57 season for the Celtics, averaging 14.7 points per game to go with 19.6 rebounds per contest. The C's finished the regular season with a 44-28 record, their second best finish since the league began with the 1946-1947 campaign.

The 1956-1957 campaign ended as it began for Russell, with the Celtics facing St. Louis in the NBA Finals. The series went all the way to a seventh and deciding game before the Celtics claimed their first NBA Championship, downing the Hawks 125-123 for the title in double overtime at the Garden on April 13th — just about the time that the regular season ends today.

It was the first NBA Championship for the Celtics. Starting in 1959, there would be eight in a row, creating the famed Boston Celtics dynasty run. Then, as the decades went on, there would be eight more, the most recent coming in 2008 (Banner 17).

A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL!