# POST-GAZETTE

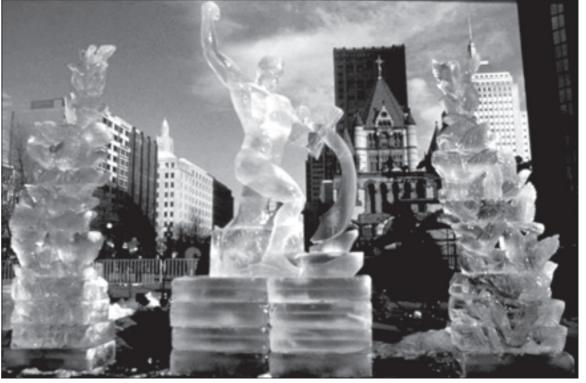
(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 28, 2012** 

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Ice sculptures by Don Chapelle are one of the highlights of First Night. (Photo by Paul Robicheau)

With One Holiday Down .... and the grand finale to

go, I can't think of a better way to end "Socially Scene" 2012 than to highlight the celebration Boston hosts for New Year's Eve. This year, First Night Boston celebrates the 37<sup>th</sup> edition of the country's oldest and largest New Year's Eve arts festival. On Monday, December 31, 2012 from noon to midnight, First Night presents its annual day-long extravaganza of art, music, dance, (See more events on Page 8)

ice sculptures and more. First Night will showcase 1000 artists in 200 exhibitions and performances in locations all over downtown Boston. First Night organiz-

# **News Briefs**

by Sal Giarratani

#### Please Turn in All Your Guns Today

Recently, U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson, D-Texas addressing the U.S. House, directly appealed to all Americans to support a new assault gun ban by turning in all their personal guns that they are licensed to carry.

There are many Democrat liberals out there who apparently believe in the abolition of the Second Amendment. It is one thing to support a ban on assault and assault-like weapons from the hands of the general public but quite another to disarm all Americans thus making America less safe.

#### The Ed Show is a Sitcom, Isn't It?

From time to time I watch Ed Schultz on his MSNBC weeknight show. I can see why it is called The Ed Show because when I hear "Schultz" I think "Sgt. Schultz" from Stalag 13. On The Ed Show, the host, like that poor sergeant on Hogan's Heroes, often knows "nothing" too! Like Rep. Jackson from Texas, he doesn't like the second amendment either. I think Ed's show should have a laughtrack because it really is amazingly quite funny.

#### South Carolina Gets a New Senator

The next U.S. Senator from South Carolina will be the South's first black Republican since Reconstruction which clearly shows the evolution of both the state and the nation. U.S. Rep. Tim Scott was picked by Governor Nikki Haley to take over the seat being vacated by U.S. Senator Jim DeMint. The governor stated, "It is important to

(Continued on Page 15)

# **Inspection Ordinance Brings Sweeping Change** to Rental Housing Standards in Boston

Inspection Ordinance, revised to enhance current standards for the health and safety of rental housing in Boston, was approved by the Boston City Council in a 9-4 vote.

The Ordinance will cover about 140,000, or more than 85 percent of Boston's approximately 167,800 rental units and require that Boston landlords can be easily identified and held accountable when they fail to provide safe and decent housing for tenants. Over the next five years, every unit covered under the Ordinance will receive an approved inspection or be covered by an Inspectional Services-approved alternative compliance plan. The City will tackle inspections of units owned by landlords with a history of non-compliance in the first year.

"Landlords must be held responsible when it comes to providing safe and healthy housing for their tenants," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said. "This ordi-

The City of Boston's Rental nance creates a proactive rental inspection process that allows the City to work with property owners to improve quality of life for residents.

> The revised ordinance will preventative encourage maintenance and create a fair and predictable five-year inspection cycle that prioritizes "problem properties" and provides an alternative compliance method for owners with a good history of rental housing ownership. Small property owners with inspection exemptions will be regularly provided educational and self-help tools to ensure code compliance.

"Boston can now be held up as a national leader in rental inspection requirements," Chief of Environment and Energy Brian Swett said. "Tenants shouldn't have to complain to the City in order to ensure that their units meet minimum health and safety standards. This revised ordinance allows us to proactively manage issues before they become hazardous to occupants."

The Ordinance will:

- Require annual registration of all rental units.
- Require owners in nonowner/occupied buildings to visibly post contact information.
- Require an inspection once every five years by: an Inspectional Services Housing Inspector, a Section 8 Inspector or an Inspectional Services Department (ISD) trained and approved private inspector.
- Establish a publicly avail able "Chronic Offender Registry" for landlords who regularly fail to correct problems. Those on the Chronic Offender Registry are subject to fines of \$300 and other applicable enforcement measures.
- Prioritize problem properties by placing them first on the list for inspection. "Problem properties" include those with poor inspection records, significant court records and complaints, or placement on the City of Boston's "Problem Property Task Force" list.

(Continued on Page 13)

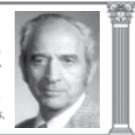
#### THE POST-GAZETTE SATELLITE OFFICE IS NOW OPEN AT 35 BENNINGTON STREET, EAST BOSTON

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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.



#### **MESOS POTAMOS, AN OVERVIEW**

given to the earliest civilization of Western Asia. It was an area of fertile plains between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. The name Mesopotamia is derived from "mesos" meaning middle and "potamos" meaning river, the Greek name for middle river or the area between two rivers. History marks this as the location of the Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, the great walled city of Babylon with its Hanging Gardens and the Tower of Babel. It is the area which is now occupied by the country of Iraq. Many of the bricks of Babylon were used in the buildings of Baghdad.

The area between the two rivers, being originally of rich alluvial soil, was capable of supporting lush vegetation. The destruction of their

Mesopotamia is the name irrigation system by Mongol invaders was the major factor in transforming Mesopotamia to a barren area of thick mud and clay. There were no convenient hills to furnish building stone, nor were there any convenient forests to furnish lumber. The only mineral wealth was clay and mud. This was also a region of floods, swamps, and abundant rainfall. Modern day temperatures during July and August run as high as 120 degrees in the shade.

> The religion of the ancient Mesopotamians was based upon superstition and symbolism, which prevailed everywhere. Palaces and public places were protected from evil spirits by beneficent genie set in pairs to guard the entrances. These

genies were usually in the form of man-headed bulls.

The Mesopotamian culture developed the art of cuneiform writing (using wedge shaped characters). Their writing was normally done on clay tablets or cylinders, which were more permanent than the Egyptian records on papyrus. The history of this West Asiatic culture tells of a code of laws as far back as 2250 B.C., the family idea prevailed, women were free and were respected and cities had rights and charters. Their code gives evidence of an elaborate legal system, complete commercial life, property owner's responsibilities and city dues. They even had a police system and a postal service.

NEXT ISSUE: The Bible Lands

#### News Commentary

Barack Obama has nomi-

nated U.S. Senator John F.

Kerry as his next Secretary

of State when Hillary Clinton

resigns her cabinet position.

Kerry was first elected to

the United States Senate

following U.S. Senator Paul

S. Tsongas who served

one term. The 68-year-old,

5-term U.S. Senator won the

2004 presidential nomina-

tion but lost to incumbent

President George W. Bush.

Once Kerry is sworn into the

cabinet post, the Governor

will be able to fill the va-

cancy with a short-term ap-

pointment within a specific

period of time, it could be in

April depending on how

quickly the nomination pro-

# President Obama Nominates Kerry for State Post

by Sal Giarratani

As expected, President vote. There will be a special election held sometime in the spring.

Many Republicans presume that outgoing U.S. Senator Scott Brown will run in that special election. Possibilities like the return of former Governor Bill Weld are also being thrown into this political mix. Over on the Democrat side, names such as U.S. Representatives Stephen Lynch and Mike Capuano have been mentioned. Somerville Demo-crat Capuano ran for the U.S. Senate seat in that January 19, 2010 special election but lost to Attorney General Martha Coakley in the Primary. Lynch is a very popular blue-collar Democrat cess sails through a Senate from South Boston and con-

sidered far less liberal than other potential candidates being mentioned. Longtime U.S. Rep. Ed Markey's name has also been thrown out as a possible candidate.

In 2014, the seat will be on the ballot again for a full 6-year term. Many believe Brown will attempt a comeback after his defeat to Elizabeth Warren this past November. Many expect him to take his time rather than rushing into any return bid for the U.S. Senate. Meanwhile, Democrats expect a bruising battle for this Senate seat. Many believe if U.S. Rep. Stephen Lynch seeks this seat, he will be the Democrat candidate to beat. The primary battle could be a classic one between two wings of the Democrat Party. Capuano is the favorite of liberals and labor unions, and Lynch a moderate Democrat who can attract Reagan Democrats in any election. Lynch also as a former ironworker in Local 7 has great support amongst trade unionists. A Lynch-Capuano battle also could help any Republican running for this seat.

If Lynch runs and wins the US Senate primary, I see him going up against Brown creating a doozy of a race. It could be a nail-biter and right down the wire. I am a fan of both Brown and Lynch. I go back with the South Boston Democrat to his first campaign for state representative in the early '90s and have been with him every step of the way.

At this point I like both Brown and Lynch as our next US Senator from Massachusetts. I will be keeping my options close to the vest. Either way, our next U.S. Senator probably won't be a

(Continued on Page 12)

# Res Publica

by David Trumbull



#### What's Your Favorite Christmas Movie?

Democrats' favorite Christmas movie is "Miracle on 34th Street."

Republicans' favorite Christmas movie is "It's a Wonderful Life."

I first heard that aphorism at a holiday party about a decade ago. It's been around longer than that and I haven't been able to determine who first said it and when.

On the face of it, the saying makes sense. After all, what better movie for adults who still believe in Santa Claus than Miracle on 34th Street? Besides (watch out for plot spoiler) the picture's crisis is resolved when a huge federal government agency — the Post Office comes to the rescue. And with a divorced mother rearing a child alone, Miracle features a non-traditional family, surely a plus in the eyes of liberals.

It's a Wonderful Life, on the other hand, celebrates the infinite worth of an individual human being, a worth that far exceeds even the biggest financial fortune. In Wonderful Life the hero's crisis is resolved (another plot spoiler) by the spontaneous voluntary action of family, friends and local community; emphatically *not* by the government. The film also shows people in fervent prayer, not to some generic higher power but to the God of the Bible as worshipped by the Protestant and Catholic believers shown in the picture. That alone must drive some liberals nuts when the film is broadcast over the public airwayes.

But the game can be played the other way. Wonderful Life presents negative stereotypes of bankers, so much so that when it was released some Hollywood observers (but not, as is erroneously asserted on some liberal websites, the Federal Bureau of Investigations) charged that it was a vehicle for communist propaganda. The charge is easy to ridicule today, but in the 1940s communist infiltration of the motion picture industry was a real and serious threat to American values. Now look at the favorable treatment — not to mention free advertising which Miracle gives to two large department stores! Main Street Republicans surely must find that refreshing compared to the negative views of business that Hollywood gives us

The lesson? It's just a movie! Enjoy them both, or whichever ones you choose to watch this holiday season. Santa's list does not include your political affiliation, but he does have a lump of coal for those who would strip our public life of all sense of wonder at the love of God and thankfulness for all miracles big and small.

[Res Publica is taking a break between Christmas and New Year's. This column originally ran for Christmas 2008.]

# **Nine Boston Public Schools Win Funding for Fitness Equipment**

As part of Mayor Thomas M. Menino's Boston Moves for Health program, nine Boston Public Schools have won a total of \$4,500 for new physical education equipment after boosting their daily physical activity. The awards were made possible with support from Partners HealthCare.

In October, the Boston Public Health Commission joined Partners HealthCare and Shaw's and Star Market to announce three new and innovative ways that city schools would incorporate more physical activity into their students' daily routines. As a part of this initiative, schools participated in a Physical Education Challenge from October 15th to November 9th, competing for the most steps taken by students during physical education class.

"Finding ways to work more physical activity into your daily routine is important for all age groups, so I'm proud of these students for their progress," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, executive director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "This partnership between Boston Moves for Health, Partners HealthCare and Boston Public Schools is helping students to learn good habits about physical activity early in life."

Forty-six schools participated in the Physical Education Challenge. They were broken into three categories based on age and moved a total of 9,628 miles.

First Place - \$750 each — Samuel Adams Elementary School, East Boston; Harbor Middle School, Dorchester; Burke High School, Dorchester

Second Place - \$500 each — Michael J. Perkins Elementary School, South Boston; Eliot K-8 School, Boston; Excel High School, South Boston

**Third Place - \$250 each** — Condon Elementary School, South Boston; Richard J. Murphy K-8 School, Dorchester; The English High School, Jamaica Plain

Next month, the Physical Activity Challenge, from January 15 to February 15, 2013, will engage students in a challenge for the most minutes of physical activity during the school day.

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1953 to 1971

James V. Donnaruma Caesar L. Donnaruma Phyllis F. Donnaruma

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Friday, December 28, 2012

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

#### **GUEST EDITORIAL**

#### PROTECTING KIDS vs. PRIVACY RIGHTS FOR PERVERTS

by Sal Giarratani

The allegations made recently against a registered Level 1 sex offender in Wakefield show how the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry is little more than false security for parents worried about child molesters living unknowingly among us. Everyone is quite concerned about registered Level 3 sex offenders and information on them is usually available for the looking. It is a little harder for Level 2s and now we all know that Level 1s are completely under the radar.

The case against this latest sex offender who was reportedly hired by his wife to work inside an unlicensed day care facility is as horrible as anyone could imagine. He has been charged with multiple counts of sex crimes against children at his wife's business. We don't need loopholes for registered molesters to hide from the public as this case has proved. We need strong legal protections from these characters who endanger children.

The sex offender laws obviously needs to be tweaked in order to ensure something like this hopefully never happens again. In this case, the offender's wife was also charged with both reckless endangerment of children and also operating an unlicensed day care facility.

Hopefully this is also a wake-up call for parents who place their children's care in the hands of folks running so-called affordable, unlicensed day care businesses. Parents need to do better due diligence. However, when parents put their kids in unlicensed businesses, how do they know anything about the folks working there with their children? Due diligence isn't hoping everyone working there is not a sex offender.

Putting children in unlicensed facilities may save a few bucks but the price paid by the children is far too costly when they end up abused. Government is not the Baby Sitter in Chief. We can make stronger laws about who gets registered as well as what and where the relevant information can be accessed by parents. However, parents need to be aware of who's watching the kids more than how much the place charges parents to watch their

The laws we have should be protecting children first and not the legal rights of registered sex offenders.

#### LETTERS POLICY

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

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# Christmas at the Nazzaro Center

by Sal Giarratani









The annual Santa Claus visit to the Nazzaro Community Center took place on Wednesday, December 19th for the young people of the North End in the Center's afterschool program. Santa arrived a little before 3:00 pm and handed out gifts and took photos with over 65 kids. Some of the kids noticed Santa was a bit thinner this year but he credited his weight loss to a new diet he started recently.

The party was partially funded through recent donations from St. Lucy Society, St. Anthony Society, North End Athletic Association, North End Against Drugs and the Regional Review.

> (Photos by Carl Ameno, Nazzaro Center Director)

# Andrew Toti — A Life Saver

by James DiPrima

1936 the United States War Department paid Andrew Toti \$1600 for the exclusive rights to the vest.

At first experimenting with a floating device, he used duck feathers which proved to be too bulky and so he tried air and this did the trick. The vest could be inflated by blowing air into a tube or pulling a cord on each side of the vest that released from a cylinder carhon dioxide

George H.W. Bush, who was shot down in the Pacific while he was piloting a torpedo bomber, sent Mr. Toti a message in 2004 upon the opening of the Toti museum in Modesta, California, saving "from a grateful Navy man." To this day, Mae West vests are used extensively for commercial and military use.

Andrew Toti held over 500 patents. One was for defeathering chickens. This he invented when his father and mother purchased a delicatessen and chicken This invention farm. changed and, one could say, industry. Other inventions December 11, 1928.



Soda can with Pull Tab

included a grape harvester for Ernest and Julio Gallo in 1972; a light weight construction beam: a pull tab for soda cans and he was a codesigner of the EndoFlex endotracheal tube, a device used in aiding breathing during surgery.

Mr. Andrew Toti was born in Visalia, California in 1920 and his family moved to Modesto, California in 1929. Unfortunately Mr. Toti did not apply for a patent to his vest. As a result, a patent was issued to inventor Peter Markus on July 15, 1927 also called a Mae West. revolutionized the poultry His patented was granted on



A Life Vest

He was 14 years old and his mother would worry about him possibly drowning while he was motoring around in his souped-up motor boat because he was not able to swim. So to put her mind at ease, he invented an inflatable vest that became known as Mae West. When he was 16 years old in

## L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Magic and Mystery of New Year

by Ally Di Censo

Lots of people think that tells me that when she was Christmas is over on the morning of the 26th, once the crumpled balls of wrapping paper are swept into a big trash bag and radio stations stop playing "Sleigh Ride" and "Jingle Bell Rock" on repeat. However, tradition dictates that there are actually twelve days of Christmas hence that song about partridges in a pear tree — and that the holiday season actually stretches until the  $6^{\text{th}}$ of January, which is the Epiphany. This longer period of festivities makes perfect sense to me, as I have always believed that the days between Christmas and Epiphany brimmed with a special mystique, a sense of distinctiveness from regular calendar days. Since I work in a public school, I usually have these days off, and I spend them with strange and quirky rituals involving eating leftover Christmas food, shopping in blessedly empty stores and visiting with family members who come from overseas to spend the holidays with us. Italian folklore even assigns each of the twelve days a special meaning — December 26th, for example, is St. Stephen's Day, when many contemporary Italians go skiing or calling on family. For me, however, no days better emphasize the aura of mystery and anticipation that this time period holds than the twinned holidays of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

New Year's Eve is, quite literally, one of the most magical days of the year. It is laden with a juxtaposition of both fear and hope. Perhaps the next year will be worse than the previous, people wonder, or perhaps it will be much better. As a result, age-old traditions bestow supernatural properties on this night and afford every action someone undertakes during this night with consequences for the upcoming year. Kissing loved ones when the clock strikes midnight ensures another year of being surrounded by friends and family, keeping cabinets and pantries

attending boarding school in Naples in the 1940s, she had to exercise great caution if she walked through the streets on New Year's Eve people would throw old or unused items out the windows, all for the sake of making a fresh start in the New Year! In addition, folk customs around the world warn that evil spirits wander the Earth on the days poised between one year and another, and so people must make as much noise as possible once the New Year begins in order to scare these malevolent beings away. Not surprisingly, many cultures prescribe good luck meals to eat on New Year's Eve. In Italy, where New Year's Eve is known as La Notte di San Silvestro (literally, the Night of Saint Sylvester, as he is the saint of the day on December 31st), the main good luck meal consists of lentils and cotecchino sausage. Lentils are said to resemble coins, and thus bring prosperity in the year to come. Elsewhere, ring cakes are fortunate because they symbolize the cycle of the year.

No matter what I do on New Year's Eve, I can feel this magic all around me. The day seems heavy with symbolism, fraught with excitement, fear, and anticipation for the unknown. These mixed emotions are written all over the faces of everyone I see bustling around and making their plans for the evening, hoping to start the New Year as best as they possibly can. Even the sky looks different, filled with a beautiful dark blue hue indicative of the slowly lengthening days. I always have celebrated New Year's Eve with a cozy and homey family party, made all the more special because usually my relatives from South America, whom I don't get to see very often, are in attendance. We prepare a big meal and I make a ringshaped cake to bring good luck. Everyone wears at least one new article of clothing to symbolize a fresh start to the year, a tradition brought over from Italy. stocked with food will guar- When the clock chimes antee a year free from want. twelve and the apple drops in Many people scurry to pay New York City's Times their debts by the last day of Square, we all shout and hug the year to avoid incurring and kiss and offer our felicimore during the next twelve tations in three different months. My grandmother languages, English, Spanish

and Italian: "Happy New Year!" "Feliz Año Nuevo!" "Buon Anno!" The next day, New Year's Day, feels like a blank slate to me, a day separate from all others that sets the tone for the next year. Known as Capodanno in Italy, which translates to "head (or start) of the year," lore dictates that all actions done during this day will be repeated throughout the year. As such, I like to spend this day in a relaxing and entertaining manner, surrounded by family and friends and, of course, great

I believe that all of these folk traditions and beliefs speak to the universal fears and hopes that all people experience when they are about to start something new. Beginnings can be very scary and sometimes we just want to cling to what is old and familiar. However, beginnings also give us a chance to improve ourselves and to concentrate on our own wishes and desires. That's why New Year's resolutions can be so great. Rather than making a rigid, easy-to-break resolution, it is better to focus on overall goals like "become a better person in as many ways possible" or "spend more time on the things that I love.' Traditions like good luck food and shouting at midnight give our joys and anxieties a concrete manifestation and bring us comfort as the year changes. Before I go cut into my ring cake, therefore, I would like to wish everyone a very happy New Year, filled with peace, joy and abundant love.

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



# Remember Your **Loved Ones**



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#### Thinking About that Horrible Shooting in Connecticut

worked in the mental health field for over 40 years and as someone who also has been a substitute teacher in public schools for a number of years, I can only pretend to know what it must have been like during the recent rampage inside that Connecticut elementary school after a monstrous attacker entered the hallways of that building shooting to kill. We may never know the motive behind it all and like those that survived inside that none of us will ever feel the same again. The killing of innocents during this season of peace makes it all the more worse.

It is hard to comprehend how all these horrible and senseless mass killings keep happening. Just when you think you have seen the worst, something far worse comes along. When that theater shooting took place in Aurora, Colorado, I could not understand how someone could enter during a movie and start taking out folks simply watching a movie. I thought that was going to be the worst thing ever possible. However, I was wrong and now in the wake of that most recent carnage down at that school in Newtown I am not so sure something worse could still ever happen. These killings made no sense. Why take out innocent little children? What has happened in our society that some very disturbed people could even consider committing such slaughter?

St. Thomas Aquinas once called evil the absence of good. There have been others who think that evil is more than an affect but rather a living entity that roams the world looking for trouble. I have come to believe that evil is more than just the absence of good. I believe evil actually exists. Call it what you may but I

As someone who has think it is a real force in our human lives. You know the old saying "The devil made me do it" might be right to the point. I have known people who lack any goodness. They are called sociopaths. Everything revolves around them. Good is what they can get away with. Bad is only getting caught. For them there is no such thing as good or evil but only evil.

I keep waiting for the next sick sociopathic individual to come along and grab a military-like assault weapon to satisfy some inner violent need. How do we stop this ongoing slaughter? Many liberals think it is through gun bans but someone sick enough to do what happened at Aurora or Newtown will find a way to kill again even if all guns are banned. Evil is very resourceful and will find its way. Personally, I believe we have a crisis in accessible mental health care. The mentally ill too often roam our streets untreated waiting for their personal day of doom to hit. Privacy rights have now trumped public safety putting all of us at risk. Too often, if folks make it to an emergency room for help, there aren't enough psych beds in the community to help pick up the pieces of someone's shattered life. They get sent back into society many times with voices dooming them from inside.

I am all for the banning of military-like semi-automatic and automatic weapons from getting into the hands of the general public but I am not for outlawing the private ownership of handguns or the gutting of the Second Amendment. Keep guns out of the wrong hands but first deal with the mental health stigma that lurks in society which prevents those who need help

(Continued on Page 12)

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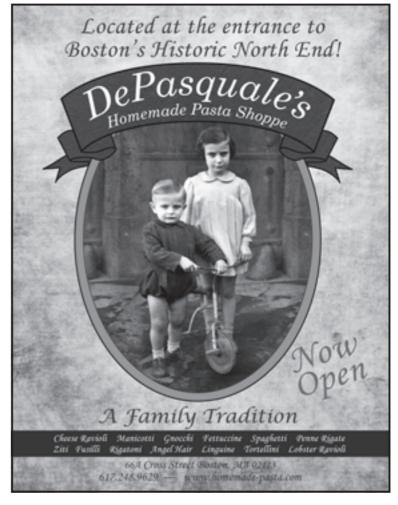
# Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

Year! ... Predictions and Promises for 2013 made to be bro-

ken by the word of Mrs. Murphy! **Prediction:** East Boston will become a firstclass city with the new water development, new Central Square Park, proposed Lombardo Housing Complex and Bremen Street on the upswing. East Boston real estate will rise! ... **Prediction:** President Barack Obama will fail miserably. He will be used as a pawn between the Democrat and Republican parties ... Prediction: Former President George Bush will be vindicated! ... **Prediction:** New gun laws will be enacted to keep school children safe and the public! ... Prediction: In troubling health and after serving Boston honorably for over 20 years, Boston's first Italian Mayor Tom Menino will retire and live to smell the roses! ... Prediction: Former State Rep. Emanuel "Gus" Serra may consider another run for public service ... Prediction: East Boston Chamber of Commerce will enhance their agenda to entice new membership ... Prediction: With breakfast business growing Elite Donut in Day Square may be consider expanding ... **Prediction:** With East Boston on the rise, homeowners and tenants alike will take more pride in the upkeep of their property and surroundings by sweeping the street in front of their homes on a regular basis ... Prediction: President Obama will add more social programs and more free loaders to the taxpayer burden. He will also bankrupt the country within the next couple of years! ... Pre**diction:** The one hundred million figure for people collecting disability checks will be cut in half! ... **Prediction:** Rino's Place on Saratoga Street will open another restaurant by popular demand! Prediction: Cafe Italia may be mulling over opening another restaurant in East Boston. **Prediction:** Donations will pour in to fund a much missed Italia Unita weekend Feast this year! ... Prediction: The Hispanic community will become more involved in enhancing East Boston by becoming community activists and joining the Chamber of Commerce ... Promises made to be broken: ... Promise: Carmella's Market formerly Gloria Cold Cuts will offer the lowest grocery prices and best quality items in town! ... Promise: Eastie Meter Maids will cut some slack with parking violators! ... Prediction: Word will spread about the great customer service and rates Everett Co-op Savings Bank in Everett offers! ... Prediction: First Priority Credit Union in East Boston will be noticed for offering excellent customer service ... Promises: Citizens Bank on Broadway in Revere promises to send their tellers back to school to learn more about customer service ... **Prediction:** State Rep. Carlo Basile will be among the most sought after officials to run for higher office ... Prediction: John Kelly, Executive Director of the Social Centers, will be presented a "Humanitarian Award" for his devotion in helping people ... **Promise:** The East Boston Neighborhood Health Center will start servicing the citizens of East Boston first! ... Prediction: Framingham's Phil Giffee, Executive Director of NOAH will retire if His Honor the Mayor steps down! **Prediction:** YMCA's membership will exceed those of other communities! ... Promise: The Embassy Suites Hotel will offer Eastie residents great stay over rates ... Prediction: Suffolk Downs will get the go ahead for a casino complex this year ... Eastie Awards: The Columbus Day Committee will be honorably mentioned for its contribution towards making the Columbus Day Parade a success ... Prediction: Revere will take pride in pro-

initiated by Mayor Dan Rizzo ... Making a Difference Award in Eastie: Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina, devoted, pleasant and charming ... Most Helpful and admired community activist "Buddy Mangini" ... Businesses of the Year: The Lombardo Companies ... Volunteer of the Year: Joe Ruggiero, Ruggeiro Funeral Home ... Most Popular Family Restaurant Kelley's Pub ... Best Chef: Tony DiCenso, Rino's Place .... Vintage Restaurant: Jeveli's ... Classiest and Upscale Restaurant Ecco on Porter Street ... Coziest Coffee Shop Where Everyone Knows Your Name: Elite Donut ... Best Pizza in Town: Santarpio's on Chelsea Street ... Best Media Gal: Michelle McPhee of East Boston .. Best Neighborhood Store: Carmella's Market ... Prettiest Female: Katie Ruggiero ... **Most** Suave Personality: David Modica, Ecco .... Best Dressed Man: Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina ... Best Dressed Lady: Attorney Ann DiMaria ... Legendary Legal Counsel: Bob Indresano ... Most Distinguished Gentleman: Frank Santarpio ... Landmark Gift and Jewelry Shop: Pericola's ... Most Missed Community Activist: Joe Keohane ... Best Pastry: Spinelli's Pastry and Ravioli ... Organization of the Year: Italia Unita ... Eastie's Sweetheart Couple: Debra and Benny Tauro ... Most Missed former East Bostonians: Patti and Chuck Braid ... Word of the Year: Socialist/Fascist ... Prediction: More politicians will be indicated for fraud and misused funds! ... Promise: Watchdog groups will bring the hammer down on those who abuse their power ... Prediction: Governor Patrick will be overlooked for an appointment in government by his friend Barack! ... Prediction: The Massachusetts Justice Department will get tougher in fighting government corruption! ... Prediction: Construction for a new park in Central Square will begin! ... **Prediction:** Unions will become a word of the past





# Thank You

#### FROM NEAA & THE NAZZARO CENTER

Ted Tomasone, Louis Cavagnaro and the entire North End Athletic Association would like to extend their thanks to everyone who made the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual North End Christmas Parade Celebration such a tremendous success. Along with all of the wonderful people who braved the wintery weather to attend the day, we'd like to thank North End Against Drugs and the Nazzaro Center for their continued support and we send a special 'thank you' to the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events. Lastly, but certainly not least, we want to give our heartfelt thanks to Donato Frattaroli of Lucia Ristorante for his constant support and his generous donation to the NEAA Christmas Parade. We look forward to doing it all again in 2013!



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# ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo



No New Year's Resolutions Today

Ciao Bella,

Here goes another Happy New Year in all its glory! The countdown reminds us of a new beginning to start off a new slate! Just imagine all the possibilities. Life

needs to be more simplified to create an internal glow. Enjoy the New Year by discovering the true beauty of living our life in a pleasant pace. So many of us seem to jam it all together. I am going to take in a quieter pace this New Year myself.

You know the "stop and smell the roses" kind of thing! We all need to assess our priorities. What better time than now? Hobbies are a truly worthwhile pastime. They are accomplishments that make you feel good about yourself. So pick up that hobby you've wanted to finish or start. Little steps conquer a world!

Clean out closet! Donate. Donate! Buy yourself a whole new outfit or better yet a new wardrobe. Step into some bright colors. Winter can be so dull. Kick

it up with scented body lotion. Feel soft and smell dreamy with a fragrance you love! Indulge into a world of cosmetic color! Aqua eyeliner is popular now. How about becoming a redhead, a blonde or a brunette? Highlights and lowlights can bring on a new confidence. How about a twirl of eye shadow?

Live life up this year! Treat yourself like a queen and not just for one day! You deserve it!

Buona giornata and God bless the United States of America!

- Mary DiZazzo-Trumbull

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

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## The Renaissance Lodge, Sons of Italy, at Boston's Famous Algonquin Club for a

# "Night with Jacques Pepin"



Renaissance Lodge at the Jacques Pepin Event: (Standing, L-R) Mary DeMaina, Jacques Pepin, Marie D'Eramo, Bob DiCenso, Annette Luongo and Gail Carrigan. (Seated, L-R) Kathy Cammarata, Carmine Cardillo, Marie Cardillo.

Recently, Boston's Renaissance Lodge of the Sons of Italy helped to run yet another fabulous event at Boston's Algonquin Club. This year the Algonquin Club, a private club on Commonwealth Avenue, has been featuring cultural events that are of interest to Boston's Italian community. These events are the result of the hard work of the Algonquin Club's Vice President, Richard DeVito, Events Committee Chair, Vita Paladino and Dr. Dean Saluti from the House Committee. The recent "Night with Jacques Pepin" was attended by many members of the Renaissance

Prior to the event, cocktails

and hors d'oeuvres were served and Jacques Pepin signed copies of his new cookbook New Complete Techniques. Along with his best recipes, the cookbook has more than 1,000 photographs. Many of us had the opportunity to take a photo with this famous chef, author, TV celebrity and "foodie icon" and most of us remembered him from his TV shows with Julia Child.

Then the event moved to the Algonquin Club's elaborate Main Dining Room for the French meal. The meal consisted of five courses and several wines. Each course came from a Jacques Pepin recipe. The first course was a lobster bisque, abundant a memorable and enjoyable with lobster meat. A delicate event.

seared breast of squab with mixed greens along with applewood smoked bacon followed and then we were treated to a rack of lamb with a rosemary jus rissole potato. Before the formal dessert a full plate of various French cheeses was served. For dessert there was a fantastic chocolate cake with homemade whipped cream. Those of us fortunate enough to attend the event were treated to an entertaining and unique dining experience.

Many thanks to the Algonquin Club and the Renaissance Lodge of the Sons of Italy for making this "Night with Jacques Pepin"

# The Financial Corner

by Joseph S. Vita

There have been a number of advertisements on television and in print lately for what are called "living benefits". Most of these advertisements do not describe what these living benefits are and some make it sound like these benefits are new, when in reality they have been offered for a number of years with a handful of companies. I will provide some detail here so you can see the history and what these really are.

To start, living benefits are a type of rider that can be added to certain life insurance products, so the starting point of our review will be to look at the nuts and bolts of life insurance, or what I will call death insurance, itself. The basic idea is simple; an individual pays a premium to an insurance company in return for a lump sum of money to be paid out upon their death. Most often the recipient of the lump sum of money is the deceased person's heirs but that is not always the case. The beneficiary could also be a charity and in some cases it can be used to protect business partners and their families.

Protecting family members using life insurance is not a new idea; in fact, Benjamin Franklin helped to start an insurance company back in the 1700's. Through most of history, the death of the insured is what triggers the payment of the death benefit. However, it was in the late 1980's that a few creative individuals starting thinking about ways to structure insurance so the death benefit could be accessed prior to death if a qualifying health event occurred to the insured. This idea was the seed that is now changing the landscape of life insurance as we see it today.

The first living benefit created is now called Terminal Illness. The definition states that if the insured is terminally ill they could qualify to receive some portion of their death benefit while still alive. How much of the death benefit the insured could have access to or what the time frame of terminal illness is varies by company. Companies with robust payouts might provide 90% of the death benefit as long as the insured's doctor believes they will pass within

two years. Companies with less favorable payouts might only give 10% of the death benefit and require the insured to have a life expectancy of only 6 months.

The second living benefit is sometimes called Chronic Illness but the name depends on the insurance company. The definition will often state a portion of the death benefit can be payable to the insured if they become chronically ill. According to the widely used standard, a Chronic Illness has occurred when the insured needs assistance with 2 of the 6 activities of daily living or has become cognitively impaired. This is a very similar definition that is used for many Long Term Care policies. Again, the amount of the death benefit accelerated to the insured can vary by insurance company but it can be as much as 90%.

The last living benefit I will outline is Critical Illness. This is an interesting benefit because the definition will often state that the insured can access their death benefit for quite a

(Continued on Page 13)

# Saint John Apostle and Evangelist

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Saint John, the son of Zebedee and the brother of Saint James the Great, both of whom received from Christ the title "sons of thunder", was called to be an Apostle by Our Lord in the first year of His public ministry. John and James were fishermen and fished with their father in the Lake of Genesareth.

He became the "beloved disciple" and the only one of the Twelve who did not forsake Christ in the hour of His Passion. He stood faithfully at the cross when the Savior made him the guardian of His Mother. His later life was spent chiefly in Jerusalem and at Ephesus. He founded many churches in Asia Minor and wrote the fourth Gospel, and three Epistles. The Book of Revelation is also attributed to him.

The Christian writers of the second and third centuries testify to us that the Apostle and Evangelist John



lived in Asia Minor in the last decades of the first century and from Ephesus had guided the Churches of that province. St. Irenæus speaks in very many places of the Apostle John and his residence in Asia and expressly declares that he wrote his Gospel at Ephesus

St. John is called the Apostle of Charity, a virtue he had learned from his Divine Master. Saint John

lived to an extreme old age surviving all his fellow Apostles and died at Ephesus about the year 100. A stately church was erected over his tomb. Tradition reports many beautiful traits of the last years of his life: his touching anxiety about a youth who had become a robber (Saint Jerome writes that John constantly repeated words of exhortation at the end of his life, "Little children, love one another.")

Early Christian art usually represents St. John with an eagle, symbolizing the heights to which he rises in the first chapter of his Gospel. The symbol of the chalice is also associated with St. John. The most natural explanation of the chalice symbolism is to be found in the words of Christ to John and James "My chalindeed you shall drink" (Matthew 20:23). Saint John's Feast Day is celebrated on December 27th.



# Freeway Says ...

Due to his increasing popularity and several suggestions from readers (and after much negotiating on our part with his huge salary demands), our friend Freeway has consented to try to answer readers' questions concerning him or any of our little four-legged friends. You can email your questions to postgazette@aol.com to the attention of Freeway. Don't forget folks, Freeway is not a vet, so please keep the questions lighthearted! Thanks.

Freeway says keep your new baby safe from dog bites. If you're about to bring a baby into a house with dogs, it's crucial to protect the baby from the possibility of aggressive behavior and dog bites. Amy Bimbo of Florida and her husband wanted a puppy and they thought their American Staffordshire terrier was the cutest dog they ever saw. They had no idea, however, that they had just brought home a pit bull. They soon recovered from their deception and named their purchase Turner. A month later, Amy become pregnant and she and her husband became anxious. Could they have a baby and a pit bull at the same time? "Every night on the news, while I was pregnant, we were watching stories about pit bulls attacking children," Amy said. My mother was worried sick and begged me to get rid of the dog. But Amy and her husband become attached to Turner and decided to give their dog a chance. Initially, they kept baby Sam and Turner apart because they were so nervous about mixing the two, but after a couple of days, they relented and allowed Turner to sniff and lick Sam. Sam's first kiss was with Turner and they have been best friends ever since. Neighbors are amazed at how well the two get along together.

Where does that first bite anxiety come from? While Amy's story had a happy ending, there are instances when dogs bite children and it's important for new parents to be aware of the warning signs. A pediatric nurse, who is part of the Moms-On-Call network to help parents of babies across the country, said, "As a pediatric nurse, companied by a frantic, yet remorseful parent saying, This dog has never done this before."

What makes otherwise docile dogs turn on the ones they loved or turn on a stranger smaller than them?

#### HERE ARE SOME **GUIDELINES**

Supervision with baby and dog is essential.

Don't get between a dog and its food. Anytime a child gets between a dog and its food, there is a likelihood of a dog bite.

If a dog is growling or barking feverishly, remove the child from this situation immediately and address the dog when the child is out of harm's way.

Animals do not like to be cornered. If a child is chasing a dog into an enclosed room or corner, the dog may become defensive and bite.

Babies should never be allowed to sit on, climb on, crawl on or startle the dog.

Never sneak up on a pet or dog that is eating or sleeping. Animals may bite when startled or frightened.

Never pet a dog that is playing with a toy. Dogs are protective of toys and may think a child is trying to take it.

#### TEACH DOGS WHAT IS **ACCEPTABLE**

According to the Humane Society, every year more than four million people in the United States suffer from a dog bite. It is up to the owner to teach their puppy or dog what is acceptable and what is not.

Most dogs and puppies are generally loving and affectionate 99 percent of the time. Only one percent of the time does something specific happen that makes the dog bite.

#### **BITE-PREVENTION EXERCISES**

If you have concerns that your pet will not do well with your baby, seek the assistance of a professional trainer or your veterinarian. Some professional trainers and veterinarians offer classes to prepare dogs and cats for living with your children.

The classes can provide you with information, such as where is the best place to feed your pet, how to read your pet's body language and tips on how to avoid stress for your furry best friend. If I've seen many children with baby's arrival is imminent, severe facial injuries from now is the time to brush up dog bites. Everyone is ac- on some basic training like "sit," "down" and "stay."

Your dog could accidentally hurt your baby just by jumping up to say hi. Having a solid "sit" cue can help ensure that the dog won't be jumping anymore. Taking just five minutes twice a day to work with your dog on the basics should be all you need to see a lot of change while you prepare.

All dogs need training. Even Turner benefited from the local Pet Smart Doggie 101 class, and along with tender loving care and respect to the successful bonding between Turner and Sam.

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



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E I

• First Night (Continued from Page 1)



Fireworks with flare. With Boston being the largest New Year's Eve celebration in the country, the display at midnight is a great way to close the show.

(Photo Courtesy of First Night Productions)

ers strongly suggest visiting the interactive planner at www.firstnight.org to plan attendance as many of the events have limited space. The schedule is subject to change and updates can be found on the website. All First Night outdoor events are free and are supported by sales of the First Night button, which is the ticket for admission to indoor events. Children under the age of four are admitted tastic fun.

free and the buttons are available for purchase at dozens of locations, including Shaw's Supermarkets, Tedeschi's, Au Bon Pain and J.P. Licks. As it is the nation's largest New Year's Eve celebration I could not list everything, but I included plenty to see. You can reference the website for a full schedule. The following events have been broken down into categories of fan-

ROCK, JAZZ, R&B AND **EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC** 

Boston Saxophone Quartet, Hynes Convention Center, Room 206, 9 - 9:45 p.m. is a unique blend of musicians combining a tremendous range of repertoire and individual experience in wind performance. Members of the BSQ have performed with the Boston Pops and Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Cass McCombs, Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, 10:30-11:45 p.m. Cass McCombs is something of an indie-rock heartthrob. The crooner first received notice early on in the new century, releasing critically acclaimed records and touring.

Daylong Celebration on Boylston Plaza at The Shops at Prudential Center, 1 p.m. - midnight, Stand at the geographic core of the First Night festival on December 31st and enjoy the exciting festival. Artists include John Powell, Qaor, Main Fader, Cortexelation, Solid State Entity, LRAD and Whoarfrost, Of the Sun, Andrew Goldman, Patrick Chaney, Julie Dion, Sam Perry, Tanya Fedan and more.

DJ Jesse Kaminsky. Hynes Convention Center, Room 302, 7:30 - 8:15 p.m. Artist/musician/radio producer Jesse Kaminsky, former host of WMBR's The Intercontinental and current host of WFMU's Kaminsky Kamoutsky spins favorites.

Emily Elbert, Modern Theatre at Suffolk University, 10 - 11 p.m. Full of love, soul and wanderlust, the 23-year-old Elbert has performed all over the U.S. and in 13 countries and is a recent graduate from the prestigious Berklee College of Music.

Jenny Dee & the Deelinquents, NEC's Jordan Hall, 8 - 8:45 p.m. This perfor-

# Socia



Tanya Donelly is a Grammynominated singer and songwriter who will be gracing Boston's Symphony Hall with her presence for the event.

(Photo courtesy of First Night Productions)

mance is the return of a retro rock and soul stylings of Jenny Dee & the Deelinquents. Combining the girl group groove of the '60s with the soul sound of the '70s.

Lee Fields & the Expressions, NEC's Jordan Hall, 9 **- 10:15 p.m.** There aren't too many artists making soul music today who had a release in 1969 yet Lee Fields is one such performer.

Magnetic Fields, Symphony Hall, 9 - 10:30 p.m. In their two decade career which began in Boston and then relocated to New York City, the band has released ten albums. Magnetic Fields will end their 2012 touring with a First Night debut.

Major Stars, Hynes Convention Center, Room 302, 10-11 p.m. The closing live performance will be by Major Stars. This band is one of Boston's most legendary rock behemoths and Important Records recording artists.

New England Conservatory Youth Jazz Orchestra, Hvnes Convention Center **Ballroom**, **5 p.m**. The Youth Jazz Orchestra is a new ensemble that debuted in September 2008 at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. The Orchestra is directed by celebrated jazz artist Ken Schaphorst, who chairs NEC's college jazz studies department and directs the college-level jazz orchestra. Some of New England's most talented and committed high school musicians will light up First Night with their big band sound!

Tanya Donelly, Boston Symphony Hall, 8-8:45 p.m. Donelly is a Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter, and co-founder of the bands Throwing Muses, the Breeders and Belly, and has also released four solo albums.

CLASSICAL MUSIC New England Conserva-

HOLIDAY LIGHTS, Hynes Convention Center Ballroom, 3 - 4 p.m. Hear a rousing collection of holiday songs from around the world. Bring the family and sing-along to holiday favorites.

Old South Brass, Organ & Percussion, Old South Church, 6:30 and 8 p.m. The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join an organist with imagination and verve in a supersonic program of Pipes and Pops, playing electrifying arrangements of popular classics, as well as leading the audience in singing stirring favorites.

Project STEP Chamber Orchestra, Hynes Convention Center Ballroom, 1 p.m. Led by Project STEP alum Mariana Green-Hill, this year's program will feature the Honors String Quartet and two other chamber groups.

Sean Fielder and the Boston Tap Company, Hynes Convention Center, Ballroom, 9:30 p.m. The mission of the Boston Tap Company is to educate and entertain through art as a way of life. Spectacular hoofers from all over Greater Boston will tap the night away.

#### THEATER, COMEDY AND SPOKEN WORD

Boston Poetry Slam, Hynes Convention Center, Room 208, 7:30, 8:15, 9, **9:45, 10:30 p.m.** Poetry slam is a fast-paced competition where poets have a limited amount of time to impress judges randomly selected from the audience. Storytelling, lyricism and stand-up comedy all come together in what's evolved to a modern oral tradition.

Commonwealth Shakespeare: Winter, Hynes Convention Center Ballroom, 7:30 and 9 p.m. This 50-minute, multi-media adaptation is a journey through loss, recovery and finally, rebirth in Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale. Winter creates a world of image, song and text that speaks directly to the modern experience.

Improv Boston, Hynes Convention Center, Exhibit Hall C, 7:30, 8:45 and **10 p.m.** ImprovBoston takes suggestions from the audience to weave their input, challenges, scenes, and songs into a wonderful performance for all ages, performing familiar 'games' as seen on TV as well as their own unique, hilarious brand of comedy.

BUTTON BONUS: Pippin, American Repertory Theater, and 7:30 p.m. A.R.T offers free admission to the tory Children's Chorus, first 50 button holders for



# ally Scene

y Angela Cornacchio



Chu Ling Dance Academy (Photo courtesy of First Night Productions)

Pippin. Tickets will be available on a first come firstserved basis at the Loeb Drama Center Box Office beginning at noon.

#### FILM/MULTIMEDIA

Festival of International Short Films, Museum of Fine Arts, noon, 1:15, 2:30 and 3:45 p.m. A First Night classic! A collection of recent short films from all over the world, curated by the MFA Film Department. For schedule and titles visit www.firstnight.org.

Out of the Blue Gallery, Hynes Convention Center, Room 310, 7:30 - 11 p.m. Live DJ and body painting by Adam "Canvas" Giangregorio and Patrick "the Candyman" Campbell. Watch and dance as Patrick & Adam transform the human body.

Sam Perry: Interactive Kinetic Puppets, Hynes Convention Center, Room **308, 7:30 - 11 p.m.** An installation of various hanging mobiles. Audiences are encouraged to interact with shapes. These shapes can then be puppeted by touch or manipulation of the strings. Sam Perry is a professional fire performer specializing in puppetry and the animation.

FEDEX FAMILY FESTIVAL BJ Hickman, Hynes Room 203, 1:15, 2:30 and 4 p.m. Family Festival favorite, magician B.J. Hickman, brings his latest comedy audience participation show to Boston, along with his magic bunny and lots of silly surprises.

Boston Children's Theatre Show Choir, Hynes Hall C, 3:30 and 4:45 p.m. To celebrate the spirit of the season, they will perform holiday favorites along with some exciting surprises. Led by Musical Director Daniel Blake, BCT's Show Choir features the talents of over 20 teens from more than 20 Greater Boston communities.

Chu Ling Dance Academy, **Hynes Convention Center** Room 302, 1 and 2:30 p.m. Ling's Chinatown-based company delivers a fusion of traditional Chinese dance with the drama of martial

Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association Workshop, Hynes Hall C, 1-5 p.m. Make dynamic dragons, create your own lanterns, decorative firecrackers, dough figurines and more.

Face Painting, Hynes Hall C, 1-6 p.m. Imaginations run wild as face painters transform little faces into works of art!

Jen Flores, Crazy Hat Gear for the New Year! Hynes Room 204, 1-4 p.m. Come join the fun and thrills of an artsy afternoon for the entire family! With glittery fabric, glitzy papers and ribbons make the most unusual New Year's hats!

Landmarks Orchestra Brass Ensemble - "The History of Brass" - Hynes Convention Center Ballroom, 2 p.m. Brass instruments have been around for the art, linking pieces of a long time. The Romans the mobiles together to and Greeks used them but form human and animal during the Renaissance they became to look and sound more like we know them today. This performance tells the whole story, from the beginning to now, and is a great introduction



Ring in the New Year with the tradition of the Grand Procession and all the entertainment it brings. (Photo Courtsey of First Night Productions)

for young people to these wonderful instruments.

Simply Circus, Hynes Convention Center Auditorium, 1 and 2:15 p.m. Watch and learn all about circus arts including gym wheels, tight wire and aerial lyra. Try it yourself! Simply Circus members are expert teachers for kids as young as three all the way up to adults.

The Skyriders, Hynes Hall D, 1:45, 3:30 and 5:15 This professional acrobatic trampoline team has won international and Olympic titles performing sky-high single, double and even triple twisting somersaults! They bounce with snow skis, snowboards, wakeboards and hula-hoops.

#### VISUAL ART AND **EXHIBITIONS**

**Boston Public Library Art** & Architecture Tours BPL offers free guided tours of its historic McKim Building, highlighting the architecture and works of famed sculptors and painters. The 30-minute tours run on the half-hour from 1-4:30 p.m. Meet in the lobby of the McKim Building (Dartmouth Street entrance).

Fenway Studios offers free tours of its historic landmark building from noon-3 p.m. Visit the creative work spaces of artists working in a variety of styles from abstract expressionism to postmodern realism as well as print-making, decorative art and portraiture.

#### **OUTDOORS**

Karmaloop Countdown to Midnight with DJ Die Young, Copley Square, 8:30 p.m. - midnight Boston's hottest DJs anchors a multimedia celebration on the steps of the Boston Public Library. Join DJ Die Young, Baltimoroder, Coralcola, Nate Bluhm and Big Digits for this countdown extravaganza with dancers,

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Something for everyone ... Facepainting for the kids will take place at Hynes Hall from 1-6pm.

(Photo courtsey of First Night Productions)

images projected on the beautiful library façade and a spectacular light show.

Countdown to Midnight: Live on WBZ-TV, Copley Square, 11 p.m. - midnight Join WBZ-TV Anchors Lisa Hughes and Jonathan Elias as they welcome in the New Year in historic Copley Square. The event will be televised live on WBZ-TV beginning at 11 p.m.

Ice Sculptures: Donald Chapelle/Brilliant Ice Sculptures will be near the Boylston Plaza and Shops at the Prudential Center all day and night with a sequel to fan favorite, Here Fishy

LogMeIn Midnight Fireworks, Boston Harbor, midnight-12:10 a.m. The skies above Boston Harbor will be illuminated into a brilliant masterpiece of color, light and sound when the clocks strike twelve. A complete sensory experience unlike anything else, this spectacular display is especially created for First Night Boston by Zambelli Fireworks.

Panorama Magazine Grand Procession, The Nature of Boston, starts in front of the Hynes Convention you in 2013.

Center at 5:30 p.m. The Grand Procession has been the heart of the First Night celebration since 1976. The Nature of Boston, First Night's 37th anniversary Grand Procession, will be led by different pieces from the Back Alley Puppet Theatre and Puppeteers Cooperative, whose founders have participated in all the Boston First Nights.

**CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS** AND MUSEUM PARTNERS

Boston By Foot, 2:30 p.m. A free 90-minute walking tour of the Boston Common and Public Garden for button holders. Learn about the history of these iconic spaces and discover sculptures, ponds and ornamental plantings in their winter beauty. Meet at the corner of Park and Tremont Streets outside Park Street Station.

BUTTON BONUS: Boston Children's Museum, 10 a.m. - noon Free admission to button holders.

Bostonian Society/Old State House, 10 a.m. -**5 p.m.** Free admission. Tours and talks will be offered about the history of the Old State House, the Boston Massacre and other topics on Boston's revolutionary history. Special amily programming will be offered throughout the day.

BUTTON BONUS: Museum of Science, 2-5 p.m. Free admission to the first 500 First Night Button holders.

That's all folks. All I could cram into my column anyway. As expected New Year's is a busy time so whichever event you choose please be safe and have fun. I look forward to "Socially Seeing"





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# more than meets the eye

#### MEN IN BLACK 3 (DVD) Sony Pictures Home Ent.

In 'Men in Black 3,' Agents J (Will Smith) and K (Tommy Lee Jones) are back ... in time. J has seen some inexplicable things in his 15 years with the Men in Black, but nothing, not even aliens, perplexes him as much as his wry, reticent partner. But when K's life and the fate of the planet are put at stake, Agent J will have to travel back in time to put things right. J discovers that there are secrets to the universe that K never told him — secrets that will reveal themselves as he teams up with the young Agent K (Josh Brolin) to save his partner, the agency and the future of humankind!

#### 41 (DVD) HBO Home Ent.

The first documentary to tell George Herbert Walker Bush's story in his own words, the exclusive HBO presentation '41' is a rare, intimate glimpse at the life and times of the 41st President of the United States. Featuring unprecedented access to Bush as he reflects on the highs and lows of his life from a beloved summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine to the presidential library in Texas. One of the most experienced politicians ever to achieve the presidency, George H.W. Bush shares anecdotes from his childhood, his family, service in World War II and his political career. A great American leader, President, leader and a very interesting man!

#### **HOPE SPRINGS** (DVD)

Sony Pictures Home Ent.

Kay (Meryl Streep) and Arnold (Tommy Lee Jones) are a devoted couple, but decades of marriage have left Kay wanting to spice things up and reconnect with her husband. When she hears of a renowned couples specialist (Steve Carell) in the small town of Great Hope Springs, she attempts to persuade her skeptical husband, a steadfast man of routine to get on a plane for a week of marriage therapy. Just convincing the stubborn Arnold ter Shannon and wife Linda to go on the retreat is hard enough - the real challenge for both of them comes as they try to re-ignite the spark that caused them to fall for each other in the first place. Won't make you understand women any better, but fun!

#### FIRE WITH FIRE (Blu-ray) Lionsgate

After witnessing the brutal murders of a convenience store owner and his son, firefighter Jeremy Coleman (Josh Duhamel) barely escapes with his life. As he is forced to testify against the crime lord, Hagan (Vincent D'Onofrio), he is placed in the Witness Protection Program under the watch of the U.S. Marshals. As his new identity becomes compro-

mised, Jeremy is forced to take an unexpected course of action in order to get his life back and save the lives of those he loves. Also starring Rosario Dawson and Bruce Willis. As it becomes obvious that revenge has its own set of rules!

#### IKE & TINA -ON THE ROAD: 1971-72 (DVD) MVDvisual

'Ike & Tina' is a look inside a hard-working band as well as an iconic couple. Awesome renditions of Ike & Tina classics along with a look at the group working in the recording studio and practicing their dance routines. A lot has been written about the pair's relationship over the years, but the bottom line is they were able to coexist together in the public eye and in the process, create some of the most exciting soul/rock music ever recorded. Check out hits as — "River Deep, Mountain High," "Proud Mary" and many more!

#### THE JOY LUCK CLUB (Blu-ray)

Hollywood Pictures Ent. From 1993 comes 'The Joy Luck Club,' back for the first time in stunning Blu-ray. Viewers get to revisit the inspirational story of four remarkable friends whose extraordinary lives are filled with joy and heartbreak. Their friendship reveals a mosaic of startling events that have shaped their lives and affects the hope they hold for their families. Based on the powerful best-selling novel of the same name!

#### I AM BRUCE LEE (Blu-ray) Shout! Factory

The amazing story of one of the greatest icons ever to enter the public consciousness and the first film to truly tell Bruce Lee's story in his own words and actions, as well as through the eyes of many international stars of film, television, music and sports. Hear interviews with NBA star Kobe Bryant, boxing champion Manny Pacquiao, actor Mickey Rourke, The Black Eyed Peas' Taboo, and conversations with Lee's daugh-Lee Cadwell. This story of a man whose legacy will endure forever!

#### **FUNNY OR DIE** PRESENTS: SECOND SEASON (DVD) HBO Home Ent.

Comedy masterminds Will Ferrell, Adam McKay and Chris Henchy are at it again with a brand new season of HBO's hit comedy series, 'Funny or Die.' Featuring today's hottest comedians, actors and writers in an outrageous 30-minute comedy smorgasbord, with scripted pieces, animated vignettes, music videos, faux commercials and more. Hosted by your white-haired, selfassured, and foul-mouthed host, Ed Halligan. Season two takes comedy to a whole new level!

# 2012 North End Christmas Fund Luncheon Attended by Hundreds of Supporters



2012 North End Christmas Fund Luncheon Committee.



City Councilor Sal LaMattina (left) being presented the Fred Carangelo Humanitarian Award by Robert "Ted" Tomasone and Kathy Carangelo.

The annual North End Christmas Fund Luncheon was held on Thursday afternoon December 13th at Filippo's Ristorante and was a huge success with hundreds in attendance. This annual charity event raised thousands of dollars. Committee Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone said that over 200 checks were sent out during this Christmas season to North End seniors and families in need.

The honorees for the 2012 North End Christmas Fund Luncheon were City Councilor Sal LaMattina, receiving the Uncle Fred Carangelo Humanitarian Award and SPC Richard "Ricky" Scimeca, receiving the Ernest Natale Award for his military and community service.

The Christmas Fund Committee is led by Robert "Ted" Tomasone and James Luisi of North End Waterfront Health. The committee includes members from local non-profit agencies: North End Athletic Association, North End Against Drugs, Nazzaro Community Center, North End Waterfront Health, North End Seniors, ABCD Head Start Program and North End/West End ABCD Service Center.



SPC Richard "Ricky" Scimeca (right) is presented the Community Service Award by Ted Tomasone (left) and Al Natale in memory of Private Ernest J. Natale in recognition of his military service and devotion to the North End community.



Mary Wright from NEW Health is recog-

(Photos by Michele Morgan)

#### East Boston Main Streets Proudly Presents the

# 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Eastie

East Boston Main Streets will host the 17th Annual Taste of Eastie at the Hilton Boston Logan Airport on Thursday evening January 17, 2013. Entertainment will be provided by Ray Cavicchio. Food and fun highlight this wonderful evening including raffles and auctions. Twenty eight local food merchants will showcase their delicious cuisine from South and Central American favorites to Mediterranean, Chinese, Middle Eastern, Italian and Australian. Tickets can be purchased at MP&CO or the Main Streets

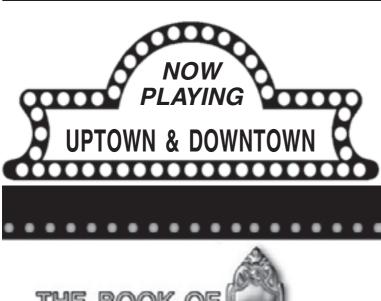
office at 146 Maverick Street, at Carmella's Market at 86 Cottage Street, online at www.ebmainstreets.com or by calling 617-561-1044.

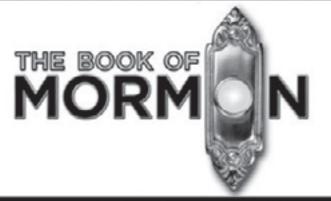
#### ABOUT EAST BOSTON MAIN STREETS

EBMS is a non-profit corporation. Our mission is to create vibrant business districts by initiating private and public improvements, promoting commerce and supporting efforts that improve the quality of life for all who live, work and do business in East



WWW.BOSTONPOSTGAZETTE.COM





Tickets are on sale now for Broadway's hottest ticket, The Book of Mormon, the Tony-award winning musical from the creators of South Park. Coming in April to the Boston Operat House. See THEATER SECTION for more details.

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## **MUSIC**

TD GARDEN 100 Legends Way, Boston, MA 617-624-1050

www.TDGarden.com

MUMFORD & SONS — Tuesday. February 5, 2013. English folk rockers Mumford & Sons have announced a small run of dates on the East Coast this winter. The tour includes a stop at the TD Garden on February 5, 2013. Mumford & Sons consists of Marcus Mumford (vocals, guitar, drums, mandolin), Ben Lovett (vocals, keyboards, accordion, drums), "Country" Winston Marshall (vocals, banjo, guitar, resonator guitar) and Ted Dwane (vocals, string bass, drums, guitar). Mumford & Sons formed in December 2007, emerging out of what some in the media labeled the "West London folk scene" with other artists such as Laura Marling, Johnny Flynn and Noah and the Whale.

Mumford & Sons recorded an EP, Love Your Ground, and performed in small to moderate venues in the UK and US to expose audiences to their music and build support for an eventual album. Their debut album, Sigh No More, was released in the UK and Ireland in October 2009 and February 2010 in the United States. The album reached number one in Ireland, Australia and New Zealand and eventually peaked at number two on the UK Album Chart and the Billboard 200 in the US. The band's second studio album Babel was released in September 2012. The album debuted at number one in the UK and US, becoming the fastest selling album of 2012 in the UK and the biggest selling debut in 2012 in the US.

The band gained popularity throughout 2010, performing for larger audiences and making their first network television appearances in the US. On December 1, 2010, the band received two Grammy Award nominations, one for Best New Artist and the other for Best Rock Song (Little Lion *Man*). The ensuing live performance

at the Grammy ceremony in February with society, the return and attempt led to increased airplay and popularity. to build a new, calm kind of family The band won the ARIA Music Award happiness. Passionless, dry and, at for Most Popular International Artist in times, cynical, Masha rips away the 2010 and the Brit Award in 2011 for cover of time to reveal the sweet hap-Best British Album. In 2011 they re- piness of young love that can never ceived a European Border Breakers be recaptured. Family Happiness pre-Award for their international success. miered at the Theatre-Atelier Piotr In December of 2012 the band was Fomenko in 2000 to rave reviews and nominated for six Grammys including went on to win multiple awards and "Album of the Year", "Best Rock Song" prizes for the cast and director. It is and "Best Long Form Music Video". For more information on their 2013 tour heavily featured on the festival ciryou can visit their website at cuits in Russia and Europe. Piotr www.mumfordandsons.com.

### **THEATER**

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

www.BostonOperaHouse.com

THE BOOK OF MORMON — April 9 - 28, 2013. Winner of 9 Tony Awards including Best Musical. From Trev Parker and Matt Stone, four-time Emmy Award-winning creators of South Park and Tony Award-winner Robert Lopez, co-creator of the Tony Awardwinning Best Musical Avenue Q. comes The Book of Mormon, a new Broadway musical that Jon Stewart of The Dailu Show describes as, "a crowning achievement, so good it makes me angry" and by Entertainment Weekly as "the funniest musical of all time." Featuring choreography by Tony Award-winner Casey Nicholaw, The Book of Mormon is directed by Nicholaw and Parker. Don't miss your chance to see what Ben Brantley of The New York Times calls "the best musical of this century." Contains explicit lan-

CITI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER WANG 270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA (617) 482-9393

www.Citicenter.org JERSEY BOYS: THE STORY OF

FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR **SEASONS** — January 30, 2013 -March 3, 2013. More than 117,000

theatergoers cheered when JERSEY BOYS made its sell-out premiere at the Citi Performing Arts Center Shubert Theatre and 84,000 more during its triumphant Winter 2010 return to the Citi Emerson Colonial Theatre! Worldwide, more than 13 million people have seen JERSEY BOYS. And now, the show that makes critics and audiences cheer is "Working Its Way Back" to Boston. JERSEY BOYS, is the Tony®, Grammy® and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers The Four Seasons: Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito, and Nick Massi. This is the story of how four blue-collar kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. JERSEY BOYS features their hit songs Sherry, Big Girls Don't Cry, Rag Doll, Oh What a Night and Can't Take My Eyes Off You.

#### CUTLER MAJESTIC THEATRE 219 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 617-824-8400

www.ArtsEmerson.org

**FAMILY HAPPINESS** — January 26th and 27th 2013. After sensational multiple appearances at the Lincoln Center Festival in New York, the acclaimed international theatre group "Theatre-Atelier Piotr Fomenko" is debuting in Boston with Family Happiness, a story about the evolution of love, based on the eponymous novel by Leo Tolstoy and adapted for the stage by Piotr Fomenko. Told from the viewpoint of the main heroine, Masha, the play abandons the novel's straightforward storytelling to recall the quiet affair between Masha and her father's friend, Sergey, the first months of happiness, her thirst for social status and the disappointment part of the theatre's repertoire and is Fomenko, one of Russia's most renowned master acting teachers/directors, follows in the rich Russian theatrical tradition of master teachers who lead their own actors' studios. In 1993, Fomenko formed his own studio, Theatre-Atelier Piotr Fomenko, which has since become one of the most sought-after theatre troupes in Russia. The troupe made its North American debut at the Lincoln Center Festival in 2004 with War and Peace, based on Tolstoy's great novel and Egyptian Nights, taken from unfinished works of Pushkin. Both works were adapted for the stage and directed by Fomenko.

REAGLE MUSIC THEATRE 617 Lexington St., Waltham, MA 781-891-5600

www.reaglemusictheatre.org VICKI LAWRENCE AND MAMA: A TWO WOMAN SHOW — Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 2pm. Vicki Lawrence returns with the role that took her to stardom. The Emmy award winning performer gained esteem for her role as Thelma Harper (also known as Mama) from the Carol Burnett Show and the celebrated show Mama's Family. She is bringing back the character that made her famous in Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A Two Woman Show. Instead of revisiting the now legendary skits, this performance will feature brand new pieces that mix comedy, music and Vicki's views on the real world. This is the perfect show for audiences looking for laughs and satire. Prepare to laugh your

#### COMEDY

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

www.TheWilburTheatre.com CEDRIC THE ENTERTAINER -

Sunday December 30, 2012. Two shows at 7 pm and 9:45 pm. Cedric the Entertainer is best known for his crowd-pleasing roles in the hit films Barbershop, Madagascar, Johnson Family Vacation and The Original Kings of Comedy. He has many career successes including receiving the Richard Prvor Comic of the Year Award, winning the Aftra Award of Excellence in Television Programming for his tv series Cedric The Entertainer Presents..., and being awarded four

consecutive NAACP Image Awards

for "Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series" The Steve Harvey Show. His first comedy book, Grown-Ass Man, was released in January of 2002 and sold out across the

**COMIX COMEDY CLUB** FOXWOODS RESORT CASINO 350 Trolley Line Boulevard Mashantucket, CT www.comixatfoxwoods.com

ERIC DITTELMAN MIND READ-

ING — December 30, 2012. COMIX brings Eric Dittelman straight from NBC's hit show America's Got Talent. Dittleman is a mind reader who predicts peoples' actions and figures out what they are thinking. Drawing on his background in improv and comedy, Eric incorporates a unique blend of humor and surprise into his mindreading act. This show offers a bit of everything and is guaranteed to keep the audience on the edge of the seats the entire show. Don't miss the fun and laughs before the New Year at

# Special Events

BOSTON SWING CENTRAL AT THE CROSBY WHISTLE STOP 24 Roland St Charlestown, MA www.BostonSwingCentral.org

GREAT GATSBY NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA — December 31, 2012. Looking for something fun to do this New Year's Eve? Boston Swing Central is hosting their 3rd Annual, New Year's Eve Gala in the style of the famous Great Gatsby. For those of you fretting over New Years plans, worry no more! What is Boston Swing Central's New Year's Eve Great Gatsby Gala?...a swing dance party harking back to the roaring 20s! Vintage black tie dress-up encouraged (but not required). You can count on a fun packed night of dancing which includes: The Recessionals Jazz Band from Brooklyn, New York, Paper Moon Photo Booth and Props, Midnight Sparkling Cider Toast and more...New Year's tends to be one the most expensive nights of the year due to the difficulty in booking musicians, but Soston Swing Central has put a night together that is fun, affordable and includes a really fun and energetic band. Get your tickets today by visiting www.bostonswingcentral.org or email info@bostonswingcentral.org for more information.

TD GARDEN 100 Legends Way, Boston, MA 617-624-1050 www.TDGarden.com

DISNEY ON ICE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF MAGIC! — December 27-30, 2012. Join the celebration as 65 of Disney's unforgettable characters from 18 beloved stories come to life in Disney On Ice celebrates 100 Years of Magic! You'll be captivated by the one and only Mickey Mouse, the irresistible Minnie Mouse, Goofy, Donald Duck, Jiminy Cricket, Pinocchio and many Disney Princesses. Be thrilled by exciting moments from The Lion King, Mulan and Disney/Pixar's Finding Nemo, The Incredibles and Toy Story films, in a skating spectacular filled with magical Disney moments you'll remember forever as Disney On Ice celebrates 100 Years of Magic!

ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS 311 Arsenal Street, Watertown, MA 617-923-0100 www.ArsenalArts.org

SMALL WORKS 2012 - Now through January 10, 2013. ArsenalARTS presents Small Works 2012, their annual group show of artworks no larger than 12" x 12" in size, each priced at \$300 and under. The timing of this exhibit allows holiday shoppers to purchase unique gifts at affordable prices.

**EDAVILLE USA** 5 Pine Street, Carver, MA 508-866-8190 www.edaville.com

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF **LIGHTS** — Now through January 6, 2013. During the Christmas season, Edaville is transformed into a winter wonderland of holiday delights! Passengers can relax comfortably in warm and dry coaches while riding through a spectacular holiday setting featuring an explosion of lights. Kids of all ages will enjoy an array of vintage amusement rides and a visit with Santa in one of the indoor play areas. Stay for a delicious full meal or enjoy seasonal treats while roaming the

beautifully decorated grounds. The last train leaves at 8:00 pm.

#### **MUSEUMS**

NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM 9 Route 183 Stockbridge, MA 413-298-4100 www.NRM.org

NORMAN ROCKWELL: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS - Now through January 21, 2013. During the holiday season, Norman Rockwell's anxiously awaited illustrations brought good cheer to millions of Americans who encountered his images on the historic covers and pages of their most favorite magazines and on holiday cards that brought the spirit of the holidays home. His memorable, enduring images, which reflected the best in us, are on view in this special holiday installation of original artworks and objects. Original drawings for Hallmark cards, paintings inspired by Charles Dickens' classic story, A Christmas Carol, a point-of-purchase Coca-Cola Santa and costumes and props featured in Rockwell's artwork will be on view.

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY 46 Joy Street, Beacon Hill Boston, MA 617-725-0022 www.AfroAmMuseum.org

PORTRAITS OF PURPOSE: A TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP - BOS-**TON 1980-2012** — Now through April 15, 2013. During the 18th and 19th centuries. Boston was a leader among Northern communities of color. Black Bostonians traveled and interacted with leaders nationally and internationally. They were entrepreneurs, educators, artists, authors, activists, elected officials and patriots. This tradition continues. Leaders and citizens in Boston's communities of color have continued to lead and form institutions that have proved critical to the fabric of this city. Their activism, community involvement and commitment have led to a better Boston and a better world. A selection of these dedicated citizens is represented in Don West's Portraits of Purpose, a collection of life-sized photographs. Portraits of Purpose gives us an understanding of the many people of Boston and beyond who have acted their conscience and made a difference. Their history will not be forgotten. Don West, noted Boston photographer, has been photographically recording the events and the people in Boston for over 35years. He began his career as a freelance and news photographer, making a conscious choice to capture affirmative images of people of color in all facets of community life. In the 1980s he worked for United Press International and Boston's black weekly paper, the Bay State Banner. West has since gone on a host of assignments with major newspapers and magazines such as the Boston Globe, New York Times. Christian Science Monitor, Ebony, People and Black

# FREE EVENTS

Steriti Memorial Rink 561 Commercial Street North End (Boston), MA 617-523-9327

Enterprise.

FREE PUBLIC SKATING - Now through March 10, 2013. Take the family ice skating in the North End for free all week long. Enjoy skating in an indoor rink! Don't have skates? You can always rent a pair! Skating hours are limited, so call ahead to make sure that the rink will be open.

**Boston Common Frog Pond** 84 Beacon St., Boston, MA (617) 635-2120 www. Boston Frog Pond. com

FIRST NIGHT SKATING SPEC-TACULAR -Monday, December 31, 2012 at 6:00 pm. The Skating Club of Boston celebrates the New Year at The Boston Common Frog Pond with their annual Skating Spectacular! Delight in watching spins, jumps, lifts and fancy footwork from their community of talented skaters. Students from The Skating Club of Boston Skating Academy show off their new tricks; seasoned competitors and champions from the local and national scene entertain you. This Frog Pond event is free to the public and scheduled weather permitting.

# **ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS**

#### ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

"The Sicilian Corner" 10:00 am to 12 Noon every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and "The Italian Show" with Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Go to www.1110wccmam.com.

"Italia Oggi" Sundays 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM www.1460WXBR.com "Dolce Vita Radio" DJ Rocco Mesiti 11:00 am-1:00 pm Sundays 90.7 FM

or online www.djrocco.com. "The Nick Franciosa Show" Sundays from 12 Noon to 3:00 pm on WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM.

"Guido Oliva Italian Hour" 8:00 am-9:00 am Sundays on WSRO 650 AM and online at www.wsro.com.

"Radio Italia Unita" - Thursdays 2:00 pm-3:00 pm on www.zumix.org/ radio or itunes, college radio click on Zumix. For more information, log onto www.italiaunita.org.

"Tony's Place" on MusicAmerica WPLM FM 99.1 - Sundays 9:00 pm-10:00 pm on MusicAmerica. Host Ron Della Chiesa presents Tony's Place. Visit www.MusicNotNoise.com

# Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

A newly erected Ten Commandments monument at the Oklahoma state capitol contains several typos. The ACLU complains that the 2,000-pound monument is an improper state endorsement of the Christian religion, but English pedants are also upset as the word "Sabbath" is spelled "Sabbeth" on the monument and "maidservant" is rendered "maidseruent."

Wow! Graham Hughes, a British adventurer, became the first person to visit all 201 nations in the world without flying. Hughes used boats, buses, taxis and his own two feet to travel 160,000 miles in 1,426 days. "I wanted to show that the world is not some big, scary place," Hughes said.

Dummy! A Kentucky high school teacher wrote on the blackboard of her psychology class, "You can't be a Democrat and go to heaven." School officials later apologized.

Ah, politics! Politics is like milking a cow. You can accomplish a lot if you have a little

Scornata! Police ordered a Louisiana woman to take down Christmas lights she arranged in the shape of a hand "flipping the bird." Sarah Henderson admits the lights were designed to send a message to her neighbors, which the police deemed obscene. The ACLU objected, saying that in our Constitution, "even things like the raised middle finger are protected speech.

Omar Sharif is in the news! Omar can thank bad English cooking for his career, said Stuart Heritage in The Guardian (U.K.). As the only son of a wealthy family in Alexandria, Egypt, Sharif enjoyed a life of indulgence. He gorged on candy and cakes and by age 10 was so obese that his socialite mother decided to take radical action. She said, "The only thing is to put him in an English boarding school. The food will be so horrible that he'll lose weight." The plan worked — Sharif shed pounds and discovered a love of acting after being cast in school plays. "So I became thin, learned to become an actor and learned English. All because my mother didn't like looking at her fat son." Sharif's chiseled good looks won him a leading role in 1962's Lawrence of Arabia, which transformed the actor into an international sex symbol. In 1970, a gunwielding woman burst into his Dallas hotel room demanding he make love to her. Sharif politely demurred, explaining that the pistol had taken the edge off his desire, "as it would with anyone from Errol Flynn to Tarzan actor Johnny Weissmuller." For the record, Omar Sharif's true name is Michel Shalhouz.

Speaking of true names, Susan Sarandon's true name is Susan Tomaling. Frankie Valli's true name is Frank Castelluccio. Ramon Novarro's true name is Jose Ramon Samaniegos. Marilyn Monroe's true name is Norma Jean Mortenson (later Baker). Carmen Miranda's true name is Maria do Carmo Miranda da Cunha. Al Pacino's true name is Alfredo Pacino. Bernadette Peters' true name is Bernadette Lazzaro. Joan Rivers' true name is Joan Sandra Molinsky. Barbara Stanwyck's true name is Ruby Stevens. And Mae West's true name is Mae it and pray you won't be punished." One more Cohen. Mae West passed away in 1980 at the age of 88 from complications following a stroke. Mae West is buried at Cypress Hills Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. "Come up and see me sometime."

Born on this date, December 28, 1856, President Woodrow Wilson, who stated in his address to Congress: "The world must be made safe for democracy." And on this date, December 28th, in 1908, an earthquake killed over 75,000 in Messina, Italy.

Heavy weights! American men are weighing in at an average of 196 pounds, 16 pounds more than in 1990, a new Gallup survey has found. The average weight for women jumped 14 pounds — to 156 pounds — over the same period. Gallup estimates 62 percent of Americans are either overweight or obese.

Giuseppina, cosce storte, says, "Few women believe what their mirrors and bathroom scales tell them."

Be aware, as many as 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. New research suggests that there are roughly 10,000 identity theft rings in the U.S., with AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME

crooks most highly concentrated in Alabama, the Carolinas, Delaware,

Georgia, Mississippi and Texas.

Moving around! Americans are moving overseas to find work. Some 6.3 million U.S. citizens are now studying or working abroad, the highest number ever recorded. Gee, we wonder if some Americans go to Italy to study how to make pizza and pasta fagioli.

Teens' bodybuilding obsession! The quest for big, well-defined muscles is causing a surprising number of teenage boys and girls to adopt extreme diets and take possibly harmful supplements. A new study of middle and high school students shows that roughly one in 20 boys and slightly fewer girls have tried steroids. "We were very alarmed by the high numbers of youths using muscle enhancers," University of Minnesota professor Dianne Neumark-Sztainer tells Time.com. She says teens are trying to emulate the chiseled and muscular athletes and stars they see in the media. Steroids can stunt growth, increase blood pressure and cause acne and depression. Other supplements can undermine a balanced diet, which is particularly important in the teen years. "We need to move away from the idea of an "ideal body shape" toward an acceptance of diverse body shapes and sizes," Neumark-Sztainer says.

Speaking of bodybuilding, during my boyhood years, we had a pear-shaped body! Yes! We enjoyed my mother's cooking!

Happy New Year! Joe Albano of Revere says, "Many people look forward to the New Year for a new start on old habits." Christina Quinlan of Windham, New Hampshire says, "The New Year is like a new baby — many changes will be necessary, some of which may be neglected." Barbara D'Amico of Nahant claims a New Year's resolution is "something that goes in one year and out the other." Carlo Scostumato and Lucille Monuteaux of Revere say, "May your troubles in the coming New Year be as short-lived as your resolutions." Robyn Waters of Swampscott says, "A New Year's resolution is a promise to stop doing everything you enjoy most."

Bright idea! Jersey City is erecting a threestory "eye in the sky" surveillance tower to monitor a high-crime area. The tower, equipped with video cameras, is a response to police budget cuts. "It's another step we have to take as we embrace technology," said Police Chief Tom Comey.

Show business reminiscing with the stately musicologist Albert Natale. At the age of six, actress June Haver played piano with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. She later sang with the Dick Jurgens, Freddy Martin, Ted Fio Rito and Tommy Dorsey Orchestras. Lest we forget, it was Duke Ellington who was quoted as saying "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing." A quote from songwriter Sammy Cahn, "My first lesson in life, do something for the joy of doing time! The original title of Irving Berlin's Easter Parade was Smile and Show Your Dimple. Composer Jimmy Van Heusen and comedian Phil Silvers collaborated to write the song Nancy With The Laughing Face for Frank Sinatra's daughter. In 1914, Dominic "Nick" La Rocca, a cornetist, and Anthony Sbarbaro, a drummer, formed the first jazz band, The Original Dixieland Jazz Band. In 1917, the quintet made their first jazz record, Downtown Strutters Ball which sold a million copies. La Rocca wrote the classic Tiger Rag now known as Hold That Tiger, the official song of Louisiana State University. Born in 1889 in New Orleans, he died in 1961 at age 72. Yes! La Rocca and Sbarbaro are Italian Americans!

For nearly half a century, from 1929 to 1977, Guy Lombardo led his Royal Canadians band, which became an institution on New Year's Eve when millions of people crowded into Manhattan's Times Square while Lombardo's band played Auld Lang Syne. Happy New Year!

# Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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#### NONNA MARY'S FRITTEDI

1-1/4 pounds ground beef 2 eggs 3 tablespoons grated

Romano cheese 1 large chopped garlic ½ cup flavored bread crumbs 2 tablespoons olive, canola or vegetable oil

Combine ground beef, grated cheese, chopped garlic and bread crumbs in a bowl. Add slightly beaten eggs and mix thoroughly. To shape Frittedi, take about two tablespoons of prepared ground beef in your hands, roll and then flatten it to the shape and size of a hamburger. Continue shaping portions and set aside on a platter. This should make about eight Frittedi.

Heat oil in a skillet. Then carefully place Frittedi in the skillet to fry until thoroughly cooked and browned on both sides. To drain excess oil, place the cooked Frittedi on a paper plate for a few minutes. Then move them to the serving platter. The Frittedi can be cooked over charcoal or gas grill in place of a skillet.

Serve with your choice of vegetable or salad.

The remaining Frittedi can be added to a tomato sauce or stored in the refrigerator.

NOTE: My children called their paternal grandmother "Nonna Mary." This is one of her recipes the family enjoyed. She called them "Frittedi" because "fritta means fried" in Italian. She always fried them until they were well browned on each side.

I became familiar with them soon after my husband and I married in 1949. I recall her telling me that when her four boys were young and she had leftover Frittedi, she served each of them one between two slices of Italian bread for their noontime lunch. Some liked a slice of pickle with it while others added some mayonnaise. Though they are similar to meatballs, the garlic and extra grated cheese gives them added flavor when fried.

#### • Thinking Out Oud (Continued from Page 4)

from getting it. If you want available for those suffering this lack of care for the mentally ill fits the bill. Meanwhile, pray like hell that a Newtown won't happen again but always know there are no guarantees it can't happen again.

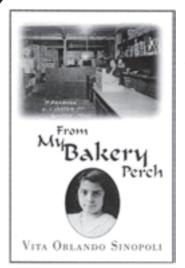
We as a society need to look deep into our cultural norms. There are too many guns in the wrong hands out there but there is also not enough support services

one definition of evil, I think with twisted minds and murderous thoughts at times. Finally, the first step we must take as a community of people is to support one another, help one another, be there for one another and try understanding how we can become much more peaceful and loving in our families, neighborhoods, cities and towns and nation. As John Lennon once sang, "Give peace a chance!"

#### • **Obama Nominates Kerry** (Continued from Page 2)

far left liberal ideologue and which can only produce a positive outcome for all of us over-taxed Bay State voters.

The real question without an answer is who will Patrick appoint until the special election is held. Will it be a coat-holder like Paul Kirk in 2010 or will the governor appoint a candidate who will also run in the special election as a shortterm incumbent but still an incumbent. All eyes are on the State House at the moment. The next few months are going to be very interesting politically to say the least. Stay tuned for further developments.



1st Generation

Italian-American

#### Vita Orlando Sinopoli

Shares with us a delightful recollection of her memories as a child growing up in Boston's "Little Italy" and a collection of Italian family recipes from the homeland.

#### Great as Gifts

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

# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo





riment throughout the world. December 31st. Most people celebrate in one was the one night of the year worth your weight in gold.

New Year's Eve as a "civilian" one of the jobs, Uncle Nick was when I was sixteen years another and Uncle Paul a me include at this point that old. A few of the ushers that third. As a result, I was asked worked at the Seville The- to play for Ray at the Sons of ater in East Boston headed Italy instead of my father. for Chinatown and a party at one of the restaurants. Be- hall it was early. I lived ginning the following year around the corner from and continuing for the next where it was located and 50 years or so, I worked on walked to work. Ray was New Year's Eve. The concept already there and as I looked was nothing new for me. As around the stage, there were a child, I saw Dad, Uncle Nick music stands for about a and Uncle Paul ready them- dozen musicians. As they selves for that special night. arrived, I recognized all of They were among the best in them having met most at the harder, which in turn meant, Boston and would have union hall when I, as a kid, booked in with one of the top accompanied my father bands months ahead of time. there on Mondays, which was This was the legacy that was the traditional meeting day left to me and I followed the for musicians. Many were tradition to the hilt.

ter my partner passed away. Marty Goldman and I worked as a duo for several years in Loretta with Dean Saluti, vate club to celebrate and I would show up for "last call,"

tionally been a night for mer- 1950s that I am a civilian on

I remember my first New I could hold my own. way or another depending on Year's Eve playing with a the culture. We Americans band. My small trio or quarhead to parties, nightclubs, tet played every other Friday restaurants or, in the case (sometimes once a month) in Boston to First Night. For at the Sons of Italy in East those of us who played mu- Boston. It was 1957 and we sic, New Year's Eve meant were told that the Sons were something different. We going to hire a big band for didn't wear funny hats or the 31st celebration and we revel the night away with were off the hook. That noisemakers and lots of meant that we weren't workdancing; we worked. That ing. Dad at that time was in partners with Ray Digg. Ray when all musicians found DiGiovanni had studied sax work with one band or an- with Uncle Nick and now had other. The pay was always at a ballroom style big band that least 50% higher than a often played at the Ocean Duke Ellington, the Dorsey usual night's salary. Many of View Ballroom that was the best players received located at the beginning of double, triple or multiples of Revere Beach (remember a night's pay, depending on that place???). Ray had booked their instrument and talent. in the Sons of Italy for New If you could sing you were Year's Eve as one of the many jobs his office had for that The last time I celebrated night. Dad was going to lead

When I arrived at the lodge surprised to see me, now in Things changed for me af- my late teens, dressed in a night, we played Auld Lang new tuxedo and ready to substitute for my father.

Once we were all there, the recent past and always Ray Digg passed out the muexpanded the group on New sic, went over much of it and the lodge and listened to what Year's Eve. I would send then told us to review the the man had to say and then individual parts on our own. his wife Margie Cahn and a Most of the arrangements group of close friends to a pri- were songs made famous by the big bands during the '30s and during WWII, what today playing my job and heading might be called the Great overtime. later to our own party. After American Songbook. Well, Marty passed away, not be- after looking over my parts, I and smiled as the overtime ing able to find a pianist that assured myself that I wouldn't rate on New Year's Eve was equaled him, I stopped play- have a problem playing ing out on New Year's Eve. them. The only problem was Instead, I brought Loretta to that I was subbing for my fathe annual party I mentioned ther, who was considered one and entertained my friends of the best in Boston. Just along with the pianist wife of before we started, Ray, who one of the members of our always treated me like a inner circle. This year we Dutch uncle, pulled me aside have other plans for the en- saying, "Christie Junior, tertainment at our annual don't let some of these old bash and that means for me, timers scare you. You are that if I don't touch my bass your father's son and you can or bass guitar, it will be the handle the rhythm end of

New Year's Eve has tradi- first time since the mid things with no problem. The pep talk helped but I did feel a little intimidated but hoped

> 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 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, 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 one of the realities of playing bass was callused fingers 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 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 mid-Syne and while the people were dancing and kissing in the New Year, Ray was approached by the president of nodded in the affirmative. When we finished the set, Ray announced that were going to play for another hour, we were going into

> The musicians all nodded 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, they still hurt when I played. Just then, Dad came waltzing through the front door as the job he was playing didn't go into overtime. 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 Financial Corner (Continued from Page 6)

number of heath events. These can encompass a heart attack, cancer, stroke, Lou Gehrig's disease, blindness, organ transplant and kidney failure to name a few. This particular benefit has special meaning to me because a colleague of mine qualified due to a cancer diagnosis and so I personally have seen this work. Again, the amount of the payment to the insured can vary by insurance company, but the more robust ones will pay as much as 90% of the death benefit value.

When used properly, these benefits within life insurance can be a big cost saver over time. The reason for this is that the need for purchasing expensive stand alone critical care and long term care insurance policies may not be necessary anymore. The other nice feature of this design is that these multiple use policies have a much higher likely hood that the owner will benefit. This is due to the fact that it pays for so many common ailments and not just death.

For more information on these benefits or to see if you can add these to your current policy contact Joe Vita at Trilogy Financial. 781-933-6533.

#### • Inspection Ordinance (Continued from Page 1)

Property owners who demonstrate that their units exceed standards, provide an acceptable management plan and have a good history of compliance will be granted the ability to request an alternative compliance plan. Additionally, owners of newly-acquired housing units will be able to request a grace period for compliance, provided they submit an acceptable compliance plan.

The previous Rental Inspection Ordinance relied on property owners reporting turnovers to the city and requesting inspections within 45 days of turnover of a nonexempt unit. The ordinance lacked a proactive trigger to ensure that long-term tenants have safe and healthy housing. As a result, 98 percent of the more than 20,000 annual ISD housing inspections are currently in response to complaints. The revised ordinance will allow the ISD to work with property owners to meet code requirements and ensure safe, healthy rental units for Boston's residents.

Under the Ordinance, inspection fees remain the same and filing fees have been reduced for large and small rental property owners.

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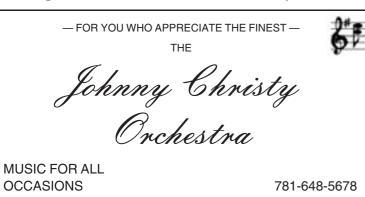
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#### LO SAPEVATE CHE ...

Il nuovo Governo di Mario Monti ha introdotto una regola mai esistita: la "trasparenza finanziaria" delle agenzie pubbliche, ma anche e soprattutto dei partiti politici. "Piu che in ogni altro Paese democratico, il governo italiano rimborsava in passato tutti i partiti politici riconosciuti, tutte le spese elettorali sostenute. Ogni partito riportava la spesa sostenuta, ma un governo generoso, specie quello ai tempi di Berlusconi, rimborsava una somma piu" alta di quella sostenuta. Ecco, in breve, quanto veniva corrisposto ai partiti politici: Il partito "Popolo della Liberta," con a capo Berlusconi, riportava una spesa di 53.7 milioni di euro ma invece riceveva dal governo la soma di 206.5 milioni di euro. L'altro partito della vecchia maggioranza, la "Lega Nord," riportava una spesa di 2.9 milioni di euro, ma riceveva dal governo la somma di 41.4 milioni di euro. Il Partito "Unione Democratica di Centro," di Casini, riportava una spesa di 15.7 milioni di euro, ma ne riceveva "solo" 25.7 milioni (di euro). Il "Partito Democratico" riportava una spesa di 18.5 milioni di euro ma ne riceveva 180.2 milioni. Il partito "L'Italia dei Valori" riportava una spesa di 3.4 milioni di euro ma ne riceveva 21.6 milioni.

La "Corte deo Conti" ha istaurato un supercontrollo, per poi pubblicare i risultati. Monti e andato anche oltre. Tutti i partiti che non spendono entro un anno i soldi ricevuti, sono obblicati a rimborsarli allo Stato. Solo cosi si possono evitare gli abusi (del passato) ed assicurare che non avvengano (futuri) casi di corruzione.

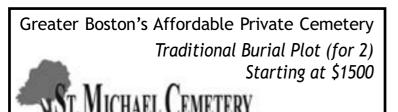
#### DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

Mario Monti's new government has come up with a new rule: "financial transparency" for all public agencies, but above all, for the political parties. More than in any other democratic country, the Italian Government used to refund, in the past, the political parties their election expenditures. Each party relayed the expenses incurred during the political campaign and a generous Government, particularly the one headed by the Premier Berlusconi, refunded an amount that was far above the one submitted.

In short, here are a few cases that indicate the amount given back to the political parties.

The party "Popolo della Liberta," (People's Freedom), led by Berlusconi, submitted a 53.7 million euro expense, but received back 206.5 million euro (@ \$270 million). The other party ally of the majority, the "Lega Nord" (the northern league) submitted a total expenditure of 2.9 million euro, but got 41.4 million euro from the Government. The "Unione Democratica di Centro" (Democratic Union of the Center), led by Casini, reported expenses amounting to 15.7 million euro, but received "only" 25.7 million! The "Partito Democratico" reported 18.5 million euro in expenditures, but got back 180.2 million. The "Partito dei Valori" (the Party with Values) submitted a 3.4 million euro in expenses, but received 21.6 million euro back.

La "Coprte dei Conti" the third supreme Court of Accounting has instituted a "super-scrutiny" policy of controls and later will publish the results. Monti has even moved further. All the parties that fail to spend the money, received back (within a year) are mandated to send it back to the State. By doing so, it is possible to stop the abuse of the system (as in the past) and make sure that no future cases of corruption occur.



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The time has come, the walrus said,

#### TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

#### EAST BOSTON KIWANIS/ **EB-ARC HOLIDAY PARTY**

On December 18th, East Boston Kiwanis held its Christmas Party in support of East Boston ARC program at Spinelli's Function Room in Day Square. Members of the Revere Rotary Club were also present. I met Ashlev Melnik, the Revere City Clerk who is a Rotarian at the party. When she was appointed three years ago in Revere she was the first female City Clerk in Revere's history.

#### **DePAULO ELECTED TO** INSURANCE ASSOCIATION **BOARD**

Tom C. DePaulo, CIC, of Meridian Insurance, LLC in East Boston, has been elected to the Board of the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents at the association's annual convention recently held at the Marriot Hotel at Copley Place in Boston. DePaulo, from Sacred Heart Parish in the Eagle Hill neighborhood in East Boston, has two decades of experience in the insurance industry. He is a Northeastern University graduate and active in the community with the Kiwanis Club and as a past president of the East Boston Chamber of Commerce. He recently rejoined the Chamber after an absence of a few years while his children were growing up. He currently also serves as a corporator of the East Boston Savings Bank. DePaulo, his wife Sheila and their two children, as I have said, make their home East Boston.

#### THE OLD "BROWN JUG" AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE

Back in my younger adult days, I lived in Charlestown and I was introduced to the Brown Jug on Adams Street in Chelsea by a good Townie friend of mine by the name of Bobby Wallace. He was a longshoreman in his younger days. He told me that the Brown Jug was the closest thing to an old Charlestown barroom. It wasn't the Morning Glory, Donovan's (my Irish grandhole) or even Doherty's under the bridge but it was just fine for him and lots of other Townies back in the '70s

I haven't been there in years. I knew it moved across Route 16 some years ago but not exactly where it went. Recently, while attending a Multi-Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party at the new Roundtree in Chelsea, I met up with Mike and Cheryl Matrinko, the owners of the 'new" Brown Jug for the last 24 years. The new place is now on the Revere Beach Parkway, still in Chelsea but now in the Home Depot Mall. Cheryl's family roots come from the North End and her parents were Alfred and Irene Visconti. Her father once lived on Hanover Street above Mike's Pastry

above Mike's.

The new Brown Jug (617-884-9579) can still be a Charlestown bar if you want it to be but it is also now a great restaurant where they make great North End-style pizzas and lots of other stuff. Check it out and tell Mike and Cheryl I sent you

#### **NOAH HOLDS** 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER

NOAH, the Neighborhood of Affordable Housing, held its 25th annual dinner at Spinelli's in Day Square on December 13th. Phil Giffee, the NOAH executive director welcomed everyone attending the dinner and thanked all for helping in the effort to provide affordable housing in East Boston and surrounding environs. As Giffee told those in attendance, "Thank you for joining us as we celebrate NOAH's 25th year of success in creating and preserving affordable housing opportunities and building strong, sustainable neighborhoods. Together we will continue to stitch together the fabric of community so that individuals and families can reach their potential, enjoy life and prosper. Thank you for your continued support."

#### FREEDOMS FOUNDATION PARTY AT SPINNELI'S TOO

I have been at Spinelli's so often lately that the staff there thought I should be wearing their company uniform. The luncheon party on Sunday, December 16th had some great music too as Frank Zarba and his band provided all the musical entertainment for the large crowd that day.

#### LOOKS LIKE WTKK IS **GOING TALKLESS**

Boston radio listeners already lost Talk 1200 Boston a few months back and now it appears that WTKK 96.9 is also readying itself for a new music format. Conservative talk radio isn't what it used to be in the all important ratings. What will happen to Michael Graham and the Jim and father's favorite watering Margery Show? With the demise of Talk 1200, Boston lost Sean Hannity. The closest station carrying him is AM 920 down in Providence RI but the signal is only strong on the other side of Patriot Place.

Thank God that WRKO is still going strong. I would hate to see Howie Carr go off the air. I can catch his show going south on AM 830 out of Rhode Island. I usually switch stations over in Wrentham or Plainville.

#### SANTA VISITS NAZZARO **CENTER**

On December 19th, Santa

when there were three floors Claus showed up to visit the kids at the Nazzaro Community Center's afterschool programs. The little kids up to the teens all enjoyed their presents from Santa. The teens kept asking Santa who he was and he kept telling them he was Santa but they kept on asking to no avail. Kudos to Carl Ameno and the entire staff down at the Nazzaro year round who provide the best afterschool programs in the city.

#### **UPCOMING ITALIA UNITA EVENTS TO ENJOY**

Italia Unita is alive and well and hopes everyone had a great Christmas and New Year's too. There are many upcoming events on the horizon. Don't forget the annual Meet the Members/ LaBefana/Italian Karaoke Night at Jeveli's in Day Square. This group's recent Toy and Clothing Drive for the Italian Home for Children was a great success. "Italia Unita," said Lisa Capogreco-Cappuccio, president of the group, "has supported this worthy organization for many years and the Home is so appreciative of our efforts. I personally want to thank all of our members who take part every year to help make a child's Christmas memorable."

#### WYNN TAKES STEP TOWARD EVERETT **CASINO POSSIBILITY**

After failing to win the support of Foxboro, Las Vegas casino player Wynn Resorts signed an option on December 20th to buy land on the Mystic River in Everett, known as the former Monsanto Chemical Company site, where developer Steve Wynn seems interested in building an urban gaming resort on the shores of Everett. He is now placing himself in direct competition with Suffolk Downs less than five miles away at the horse track with Caesars Entertainment.

#### TOWNIE SANTA **ONCE AGAIN**

"Townie Santa" again visited many of The Town's elderly and shut-ins on Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Santa may have been any one of several dozen neighbors who devoted that morning to sharing the spirit of Christmas. The deliveries began at noon time at the James W. Conway Bunker Hill Post 26.

#### 2013 CHARLESTOWN **CALENDARS**

This year's Charlestown Library Calendars feature the "Parks of Charlestown." Copies can be purchased at the public library on Green Street or down the street at Joy of Old on Warren Street.

"CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR AND ANOTHER CHANCE FOR US TO GET IT RIGHT."

– Oprah Winfrey

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

that Congressman Scott earned this seat, he earned this seat for the person he is, for the results he has shown."

On January 3rd Scott will be sworn in to replace DeMint who is leaving Congress to head up the conservative think tank Heritage Foundation. Scott has risen quickly in South Carolina politics. In 2007, he was chairman of the Charleston County Council, in 2008, he was elected to the state legislature and in 2010 he won his current U.S. House seat and in January will become United States Senator.

For a state which once elected a former governor and U.S. Senator named Ben Tillman who advocated the lynching of African Americans who tried to vote and who also elected for nearly half a century another guy by the name of Strom Thurmond who was called by many the leading opponent of the Civil Rights Act, the gubernatorial appointment of Scott to the United States Senate is a really big deal.

#### Remember Cagney & Lacey???

Actresses Tyne Daly and Sharon Gless made history with Cagney & Lacey back on that old cop show in the 1980s. The two actresses depicted two female detectives tackling gritty street crimes and made the show a big hit season after season. All 126 episodes are now available on a new DVD set. Sometimes you can relive the past. Check it out if you liked the drama of Detectives Cagney and Lacey.

#### Same Old War on Christmas Again

Did you hear about that public school down in, I think, Arkansas that cancelled a school showing of A Charlie Brown Christmas? I guess school officials thought it was a bit too religious. This gets sillier each year. The more the institutions of this country move away from religion, the more violent this country seems to become. Our founding fathers may not have been church-going

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Middlesex Probate and Family Court 208 Cambridge Street East Cambridge, MA 02141 (617) 768-5800 Docket No. MI12P5398EA

Estate of MUNEEF EL-MUNEEF a/k/a MUNEEF Y. EL-MUNEEF Date of Death October 12, 2012 **INFORMAL PROBATE** PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Nisrein J. Eshtaiwi of Somerville, MA.

Nisrein J. Eshtaiwi of Somerville, 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 Represen tative 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 infor mal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Run date: 12/28/12

me as a minority female Christians but most of them believed in a God who guided human life. These founding fathers understood that religion was a foundation block for an orderly society. Without religion, civilization could crumble where the strong survive and the weak fall and where absolutes like right and wrong or good and bad could not exist for long.

I remember as a kid in the '50s and '60s, the Christmas controversy was over the use of the term "Xmas." Today even that word would be deemed too religious for many among us who it would appear would like to ban Christmas altogether like the Puritans once did in the 17th century right here in good ole Colonial Boston.

#### The Republicans Need to be More than the Anti-party

During Campaign 2012, the Republican Party too often came across as the Party of No when it needed to be the real Party of Yes, We Can! The Democrats came across like everyone's nice uncle. Lovable and non-judgmental and also not worrying about passing around money to the little nieces and nephews waiting for a handout. Who wouldn't like a nice uncle like that? The Democrats were talking about extending unemployment benefits while the GOP was talking about ending those benefits and giving folks real jobs.

Republicans practically gave the Latino vote to the Democrats by appearing so negative toward this growing voting bloc. Political parties don't grow by subtraction, they need to focus on addition for a change. The GOP doesn't have to sell its soul or brand-name for votes. It needs to offer something positive to all voters including those the Democrats think they own. Republican principles like strong families building a strong economy or lower taxes and increased personal liberty are principles most Americans would wish for, especially now with the economy still so sick. The Democrats continue to offer yesterday when most Americans are looking to the future.

Great leadership isn't just smiles and promises, it is offering the hard truth of where we are, why we got here and how to make things right for us once again.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Department** MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI12D-4994AN SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION ROBERT A. CHIAMPI, PLAINTIFF

SOPHIA CHIAMPI, DEFENDANT

To the above named Defendant: A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, seeking an Annulment of Marriage.

You are required to serve upon Robert A. Chiampi - plaintiff - whose address is 21 Lila Avenue, Medford, Massachusetts 02155 your answer on or before January 25, 2013. 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 in the office of the Register of this Court at

WITNESS, Hon. Peter C. DiGangi, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Cambridge, this 14th day of December 2012. Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 12/28/12



# **EXTRA** Innings

by Sal Giarratani



#### Youk Wearing Pinstripes Now

Former Boston Red Sox player Kevin Youkilis has now signed up to play for the Evil Empire. The dreaded NY Yankees agreed to a oneyear, \$12 million deal. On Opening Day, he will be in the lineup at third base as Alex Rodriguez is expected to sit out the first half of the 2013 following hip surgery. Terry Francona's Indians were giving him a good look over and an expected \$18 million, two year deal until the Tribe signed Mark Reynolds. Playing for Bobby Valentine last season, Youk was hitting only .233 before getting traded to the White Sox where he hit 15 home runs. He had been an 8th round pick by the Cincinnati Reds back in 2001. He was on three All-Star teams and won a Gold Glove with the Sox at first base in 2007.

#### DiSarcina New Paw Sox Manager

The Red Sox have named Billerica native and ex-Angels shortstop Gary DiSarcina as their manager at Triple A Pawtucket. From 2007-2009, he served as manager of another Boston minor league affiliate, the Lowell Spinners. After a short tenure back in California with the Angels' front office, he is now the PawSox manager in 2013. DiSarcina was a 6th round draft of the Angels out of UMass back in 1988. He had a 12year career in the majors as a defensive shortstop and made the All-Star game back in 1995.

#### Pedro Still Longs' for Boston

Former Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez, according to a Boston Globe report, would like to rejoin the Sox upstairs in the front office. Said Pedro, "That's what I want to do, I want to be there ... and see if I like the office or if I like it more on the field." He says he doesn't wish to coach fulltime but likes the idea of being a special assistant to the general manager like Jason Varitek is now with Ben Cherington. Boston fans remember Pedro quite well as a three-time Cy Young winner with a 2.93 ERA over

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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2000 HONDA CIVIC VIN #1HGEM1150YL123142

2007 RANGE ROVER VIN #SALSK25467A118464 2004 MAZDA HATCH

VIN #1YVFP84D745N72123 SUBMITTED BY MICHAEL SORRENTINO (AGENT)

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

18 seasons and 3,154 strikeouts. During his time with the Sox, he was 117-37 with a 2.52 ERA in those great seven years Boston.

Pedro is hoping that he can help the Sox bounce back quickly from its current bad times. Let's hope this all comes to pass for the Sox and Pedro too.

#### Angels Deal Morales

The Los Angeles Angels picked up some needed pitching depth and the Seattle Mariners picked up some power. These two AL West foes found a way to help one another. The Angels traded switch-hitting slugger Kendrys Morales to the Mariners for left-handed pitcher Jason Vargas.

#### Suzuki Signs Up Again

The NY Yankees and Ichiro Suzuki now have a new \$13 million, two-year deal that keeps 10-time All-Star in New York. The 39-year-old will make \$6.5 million for the next two seasons. He was obtained from the Mariners this past July 23rd. His batting average jumped from .261 in Seattle to .322 with the Yankees with 5 homers, 27 RBIs and 14 stolen bases. He is a 10-time Gold Glove outfielder and now has 2,606 hits in his 12 big league seasons.

#### The Dodgers, Mucho Money and Greinke

When the LA Dodgers picked up Zack Greinke, 29, with a \$147 million, 6-year deal, it represented about \$24.5 million per season, the highest annual salary ever for a pitcher on a multiyear deal, surpassing C.C. Sabathia's annual salary with the NY Yankees. Greinke was the AL Cy Young winner for the K.C. Royals back in 2009. Since then, he has pitched for both Brewers and the LA Angels. He won 16 games with the Brewers in 2011 helping them win their first division title in 29 years. Last season, he was 15-5 with a 3.48 ERA between Milwaukee and Los Angeles. Last year the Dodgers emerged from bankruptcy and are now a member of the top three spenders in baseball. Their opening day payroll in 2012 was \$105 million. Right now, their payroll is about \$200 million.

Did you know that the top three payrolls are all out west with the LA Dodgers, LA Angels and San Francisco Giants all leading the way in all of baseball?

#### A-Rod Wants to Return to the Bronx

Alex Rodriguez, 37, had surgery on his right hip in 2009, missed the first month of the season and still finished with 30 homers and 100 RBIs. However, now he needs surgery on his left hip which will take place next month. This operation is said to be more complex. A-Rod will now be making his sixth trip to the D.L. in six seasons and could be sidebreak. He tells reporters he turn 36 in May.

is fully committed to a very hard road back.

He would like to forget last season. In the post-season, he batted .120 with no RBIs. He finished the 2012 season batting .272 with 18 homers and 57 RBIs. Back over the last month of the season and into the playoffs, he stunk big time to the point of getting too many "Bronx Salutes" from NY Yankees

#### Hanrahan Could be Coming Soon to Sox Bullpen

The Red Sox are looking to shore up their bullpen and are looking at Pirates closer Joel Hanrahan because the Boston Red Sox brass seems to like him. The right-hander's 2012 season wasn't as good as 2011 but not really that bad. In 2011 he earned 40 saves with a 1.83 ERA. This past season, he had 36 saves and a 2.72 ERA. Closer material in my book. Right now the Sox and Dodgers seem to be in the hunt for his services. Pittsburgh is looking for a good starting pitcher and the Sox reportedly seem interested in giving up either Frankie Morales or Alfredo Aceves. If the Pirates want Felix Doubront it could be a deal-breaker for us and Hanra-han could end up wearing Dodger blue.

#### Cubs Get Jackson and Meanwhile ...

The Chicago Cubs have agreed to a 4-year, \$52 million deal with right-handed pitcher Edwin Jackson. The 29 year old went 10-11 with a 4.03 ERA with the Washington Nationals last season. Meanwhile, the Texas Rangers have come to terms with catcher A.J. Pierzynski on a one-year contract. He hit .278 with 27 home runs and 77 RBIs for the White Sox this past season and the Philadelphia Phillies seemed to have gotten Jonathan Papelbon a new set-up guy in Mike Adams who just signed a 2-year, \$12 million deal. The 34-year-old was 5-3 with 3.27 ERA last year for the

#### Dempster Added to Sox Starting Rotation as Possible Number 3 Guy

The Red Sox recently signed up the free agent right hander to a 2-year deal worth \$26.5 million according to a Fox Sports report. He is a 15 year major league pitcher and is considered a workhorse, having topped 200 innings and at least 31 starts in four of the last five seasons. During that time, he has a combined 3.74 ERA which is almost the same as Jon Lester's 3.63 ERA. Dempster has spent his entire career minus the last two months of last year in the National League. During the tail-end of last season in Texas, he posted a 5.09 ERA in 12 starts. His best season in his career was back in 2008 when he went 17-6 with a 2.96 ERA. As recent as 2010, he was 15-12 with lined until the 2013 All-Star a 3.85 ERA. Dempster will



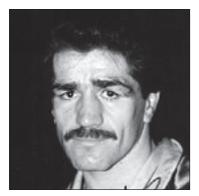
# CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.

Hope You Had "A Merry Christmas!" with "Punch!" and a "Happy New Year!"

World Champion Vito Antuofermo Inducted into Chicago National Italian American Hall Sports of Fame

Freddie Roach Inducted into Nevada Boxing Hall of Fame



World Middleweight Chamption Vito Antuofermo

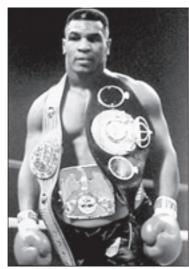
World Middleweight Champion Vito Antuofermo was recently inducted into the Chicago National Italian American Sports Hall of **Fame** along with New Jersey Devils President and General Manager Lou Lamoriello, Los Angeles Dodgers GM Ned Colletti, NHL player Mark Recchi, Major League pitcher John Smoltz, Olympic gymnast Alicia Sacramone, pool player Stefano Pelinga, Comcast Sports Net Chicago President Jim Corno and members of the Venturini auto racing family.

Mike Piazza was the master of ceremonies for the  $35^{th}$ induction held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center.

Among those in the Italian American Sports Hall of Fame are: Yogi Berra, Rocky Marciano, Joe and Dom DiMaggio, Joe Torre, Phil and Tony Esposito, Eddie Arcaro, Mario and Michael Andretti, Ken Venturi, Lou Duva, Phil Rizzuto, Vince Lombardi, Billy Martin, Roy Campanella, Rocky Graziano, Tommy Lasorda, Eddie Giacomin, Mike Piazza and Andy Robustelli.

Rich Marotta, Founder and

CEO of newly-established Jennifer Cobis, Carlos Nevada Boxing Hall of Fame announced the 2013 Inductees: Mike Tyson, Mike McCallum, Diego Gorrales,



Heavyweight Champion Mike Tyson was recently inducted in to the Nevada Boxing Hall of Fame.

Julio Cesar Chavez, Larry Holmes, Oscar De La Hoya, Sugar Ray Leonard, Eddie Futch, Freddie Roach, Mills Lane, Joe Cortez, Al Bernstein, Royce Feour, Bob Arum, Don King, Marc Ratner, James Nave, Sig Rogich and Kirk Kerkerian.

Looking over some of the many great names of Fight Family Members who have contributed via attendance, direction, great comments, action and their many other great contribution of time to the Fight World: Vito Antuofermo, Jimbo Amato, Shirley Adams, Demetrius Andrade, Joe Angelo, Marc Adams, Roc Anthony, Johnny Bos. Edward Bernard, Bobby Bower, Edward Bishop, Jimmy Connors, Rich Cappiello, Mike "Little Rock" Cappiello,

Cruz, Charles Cox, Sean Creegan, Dan Cuoco, Ed Connolly, Tony DeMarco, Ron Drinkwater, Joey DeGrandis, Jay Delaney, Joe DeNucci, Charles Dwyer, Mickey Finn, Joey A. Francis, Dick Flaherty, Missy Fiorentino, Jimmy Farrell, Bobby Franklin, Ken Flora, Jerry Forte, Donald Green, Mike Galavotti, Peter Galavotti, Matt Godfrey, Henry Hascup, Emily Harney, Huston, Mike Joyce, Richard Johnson, Austin Killeen, Richie LaMontagne, Pat Long, Congressman Stephen Lynch, Christine Lewis, Hamid Lahrizi, Jim McNally, Bob McCarthy, Mugsy Mullen, Dennis Marrese, Tom Martini. Michael Marley, Peter Manfredo, Vincent Marino, Tom Marino, Bill Nixon, Danny O'Connor, Dan O'Malley, Sucra Ray Oliveira, Scott Ploof, Mark D. Petti, Michael Parente, Ed Quigley, John The Quietman Ruiz, Freddie Roach, Mike Ryan, Chris Sarno, Ted Sares, John The Boxer Sculley, Danye Thomas, Hank Tuohy, Charlie Tartaglia, Matt Troiani, Rosey Tavares, Rich Torsney, Al Valente, John Vena, Shirley Wood. A Special thanks and praise to these and the many other great individuals who have contributed in keeping this the great sport it is. **UPCOMING JANUARY** 

## **EVENTS**

19th Vladine Biosse fights at the Mohegan Sun.

25<sup>th</sup> on Showtime from Huntington New York, Demetrius Andrade battles Freddy Hernandez.



by Richard Preiss

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

He grew up in Wrentham, went to college in Maine, had a 12-year career in the NHL and is now the general manager of the New York Islanders.

Actually, make that the soon-to-be Brooklyn based Islanders after the team moves into the Barclays Center starting in the fall of 2015 — although the original name — New York Islanders — will be retained.

He is Garth Snow and it seems here in New England that we have been hearing about him for ages.

He was with Maine for some of the super years in the early 1990s, an era when the Black Bears dominated the Hockey East Conference — when Maine was loaded and a kid from Wrentham struggled to make the team.

But that test of will would cause him to shift directions slightly, to give more weight to the academic side, which ironically better prepared him for the front office position he holds today.

"When I was at the University of Maine, and I was the third goalie for the first two years," Snow told NHL.com in an interview. "The degree was very important to have to fall back on if hockey didn't work out. At that point in time when I was going through that adversity, I had the mindset that if hockey didn't materialize I would pursue coaching or management, being an athletic director, something to stay in the game of hockey."

So, way back when he was in college, Snow was thinking ahead. He realized that for most players, their on-ice careers are short. One has to prepare for the long haul. And prepare he did. So well that he graduated early. But this has no effect on his time with the Black Bears since graduate students are still eligible under certain conditions. And things did work out. He posted a fine 20-1-0 record his last season to go with a fine 2.08 goals against

"I signed with the Nor-(Ontario), the AHL affiliate. I knew I didn't want to spend a career in the AHL. I had always taken summer courses just to stay ahead academically. I graduated early but went back after I signed my contract to finish my Master's degree," said Snow, who went on to a 12-year career in the NHL with the Nordiques, Flyers, Canucks and Islanders.

That last stop encompassed his final four years in the league. And when he finally retired on July 18, 2006, a metamorphosis took place as owner Charles Wang named him the club's general manager just 10 days shy of his 37<sup>th</sup> birthday.

And now Snow readies the Islanders for a new era and perhaps a more spirited rivalry — with that team that plays its games on Causeway Street.

So you see, all those nights in the library up in Orono added up. Now he has his dream job, made even better since the uncertainty over where the Islanders would play in the future has been cleared up. They're only moving 25 miles away to the Barclay's Center where they will become the second pro sports tenant — the former New Jersey Nets of the NBA are already there.

For Garth Snow it was a combination of athletics and academics that got him where he is today. It's a lesson that all those young people participating in athletics should be taught.

 ${\tt MISSING-During\ this}$ Christmas-New Year's period, it's common to look back. And yes, we miss the NHL, we really do. We miss meeting old friends (and making new ones) during the media dining period before the games. We miss the rivalry between the Bruins and the Canadiens. We miss the ninth floor at the TD Garden, which serves as the center of media activity during a game. We miss the skilled shots, the great saves and just the sheer color and excitement of it all.

We miss the players, their emotions and the interviews with them. Hockey players are the most down-to-earth professional athletes one will ever meet. We miss the coaches. We miss the Bruins media relations staff - Matt, Eric, Heidi and Bish — and hope this special season finds them well.

We miss all the people around the Bruins — the game nights stats crew, the goal judges, the people who pass out the stats between periods. We miss Rene Rancourt and his rendition of the National Anthem. We miss the Bull Gang clearing the ice after hat tricks.

We miss the postgame the exhilaration of a big win with everyone all smiles and the frustration of a close defeat — when words diques. I played in Cornwall are few and scowls more plentiful.

We miss the fans with their colorful signs and antics as they informally compete to be named "fan of the game" on the Jumbotron.

We miss the entire experience — all the sights and sounds — and most of all the people — that comprise a Bruins night at the Garden. We wish those times would return soon. But it looks more and more as if that will not happen this season. We'll most likely know one way or the other before the first month of 2013 plays itself out.

The New Year may well begin in darkness for those who love the NHL. But remember — darkness always comes before the light. So let's hope for a brighter year as 2012 fades away and 2013 comes to the forefront.

# **BOSTON CELTICS** Bring Holiday Cheer



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus with Boston Celtics Guard Leandro Barbosa.

(Photo by Boston Celtics Steve Babineau)

Top of the Hub's Skywalk Observatory recently hosted players from the Boston Celtics as they brought a touch of holiday cheer to young patients from the Pediatric

Hematology Program at the Boston Medical Center. Guard Leandro Barbosa joined Mr. & Mrs. Claus along with teammates Kevin Garnett, Rajon Rondo, Jason Collins, Jared Sullinger and Avery Bradley, plus Celtics Head Coach Doc Rivers and assistant coaches Kevin Eastman and Tyronn Lue. The kids were transported to the Skywalk Observatory on the 50th floor of the Prudential Tower in grand style, courtesy of Santa's helpers at Old Town Trolley Tours of Boston. Face painting was handled by big-hearted volunteer artists from WHERE Magazine, with entertainment by the comical folks from both the Shriner's Clowns and the Hearts & Noses Hospital Clown Troupe. Kevin Garnett commented, "Every holiday season

I look forward to spending time with my teammates playing games and helping bring some holiday cheer to these great patients. This is a wonderful time of year to give back."