

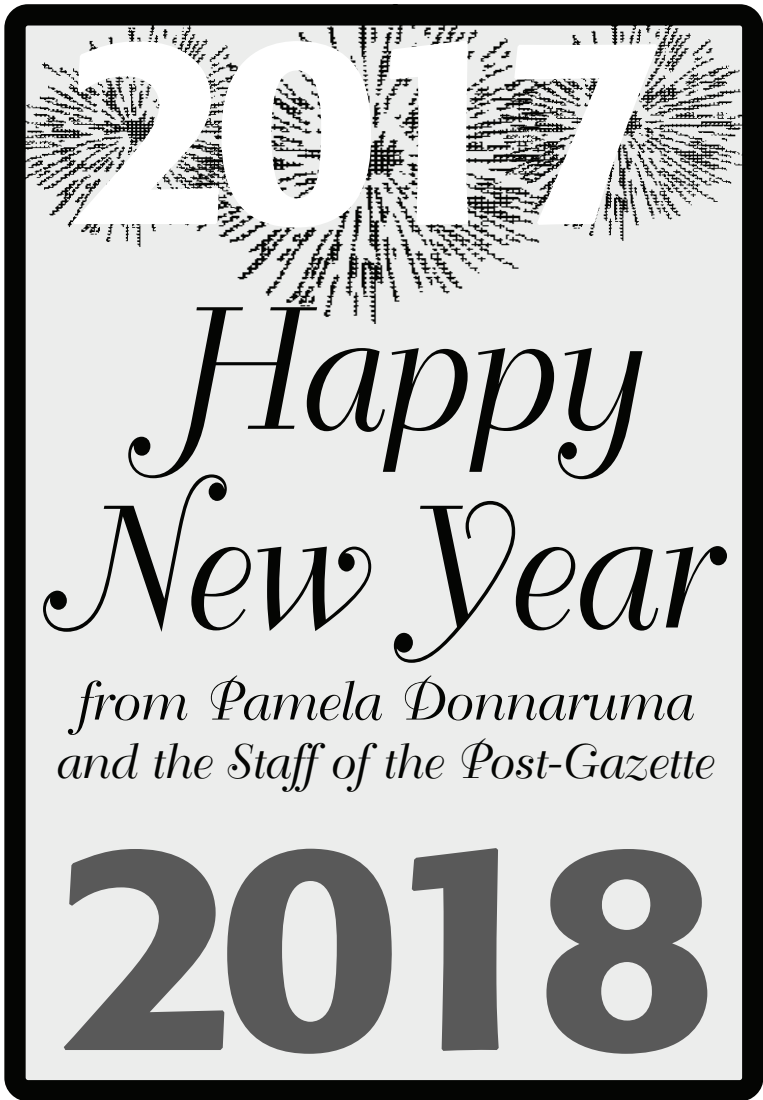
POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 29, 2017

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2017

*Happy
New Year*

*from Pamela Donnaruma
and the Staff of the Post-Gazette*

2018

2018 BOSTON FIRST NIGHT DAY

The annual First Night First Day celebration of free New Year's Eve family fun, in partnership with the City of Boston, announces its full entertainment lineup, featuring a robust list of local musicians and artists **starting at noon on December 31, 2017, through January 1, 2018. All festivities (except for Boston Harbor Fireworks) will be located in Copley Square and the Back Bay area**, providing attendees one central location to enjoy performances and activities.

"First Night in Boston is a celebration that brings thousands of residents and visitors to our city to ring in the New Year, something we always look forward to," said Mayor Walsh. "Not only do these festivities bring residents from all across

the city and region together, it gives us a unique opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate this past year side by side while looking forward to a great 2018."

Live entertainment will fill various indoor and outdoor locations around Copley Square, including Boston Public Library, and will feature performances by: Unitas Ensemble, Katrina Kincade, PK & the Mighty 7, Dutch ReBelle, Carissa Johnson, Rachel Sumner, Girls Night Out, Boston Opera Guy, DD Martin & Code 51, Lance Martin Band, ImprovBoston, Boston Sax Quartet, Puppet Showplace Theater, Downtown Brass, Handel & Hadyn Society, The King of Instruments, GBCCA Chinese Musical Ensemble, Ulrich Johnson Steel Band, and

several instrumental concerts. **This year's headlining musical act, Eli "Paperboy" Reed, a popular local soul-inspired singer and songwriter, will take the stage at 11:00 pm in Copley Square.** Full details about locations and times can be found at firstnightboston.org/schedule.

Again this year, *NBC Boston* will televise First Night festivities live on December 31st from 6:00 – 7:00 pm (returning to live coverage after Sunday Night Football), *NECN* from 6:00 pm to 12:30 am, and on *Telemundo Boston* from 11:00 pm to 12:30 am. *NBC Boston*, *NECN*, and *Telemundo Boston* are First Night's exclusive television partners for the second consecutive year,

(Continued on Page 6)

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Obamacare Mandate Ended by Tax Bill Signing

President Trump signed the Tax Reform Bill just passed up on Capitol Hill on Friday, December 22nd. Inside this legislation was a section that repealed the ObamaCare Individual Mandate to buy insurance in 2019. As President Trump stated, "When the individual mandate is being repealed that means ObamaCare is being repealed, because they get their money from the individual mandate."

Up until very recently, Democrats and the "Fake News" Media have been talking about the millions who would be thrown off their insurance if the mandate was abolished. The truth is that most of the millions being "thrown off" the insurance rolls were folks who simply did not want to be forced to buy insurance in the first place. They weren't going to be thrown off anything, they were literally seeking the right to jump off that moving train they were forced to ride since ObamaCare began.

Kudos to UN Ambassador Nikki Haley

It seemed like a long time coming, but the dressing down by our UN Ambassador Nikki Haley was long overdue. Her blasting of the 128-9 Security Council vote against the United States now puts the U.N. on notice. Her remarks reminded me of the likes of

(Continued on Page 11)



*New Year's Eve Fireworks
Midnight • Boston Harbor*

*A 40-Year Tradition Returns to
the Harbor on Dec. 31, 2017!*

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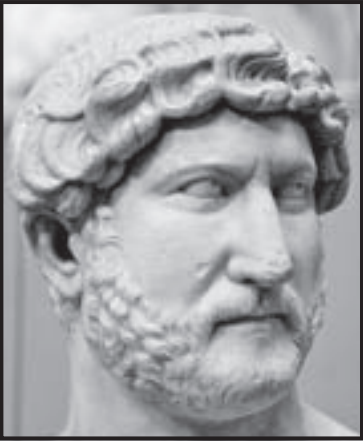
by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



HADRIAN, HIS MILITARY LIFE

Hadrian was a connoisseur of arms and possessed a thorough knowledge of the art of warfare. Although he desired peace more than war, he kept his soldiers in training at all times and inspired them by his personal examples of strength and endurance. Whenever visiting their camps, he cheerfully ate outdoors and always selected the normal camp menu. He inspired them by his own soldierly spirit, walked as much as twenty miles while fully armed, and wore the commonest of clothing. He visited the sick, appointed only mature and experienced men to positions of authority, did away with excessive luxuries, and improved their equipment; he made it a point to be acquainted with his soldiers and to be accurately informed of their needs.



Bust of Emperor Hadrian. Roman 117–138 CE. Probably from Rome, Italy. Formerly in the Townley Collection. Now housed in the British Museum, London

Hadrian maintained the high degree of military morale that was established under Trajan

and instituted a few of his own reforms. He then set out for Britain, where he corrected many abuses and, while there, he caused the construction of a wall which was intended to separate the Romans from the northern barbarians. It was about eighty miles in length, extending from the River Tyne to the Firth of Solway, and contained two lines of embankment, a moat, and a stone wall.

After satisfying himself as to the condition of his fighting forces and equipment, he returned to Rome, where he became active in judicial reforms. He sat in judgment during a great number of lawsuits in the city and in the provinces and consulted with the leading judges and senators

(Continued on Page 15)

STERITI RINK PUBLIC SKATING SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm	12:00 pm to 2:30 pm	12:00 pm to 2:30 pm	10:00 am to 12:00 pm <i>Public Stick Time</i> 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm <i>Public Skating</i>	12:00 pm to 2:30 pm	12:00 pm to 4:00 pm 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm	4:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Holiday Schedules: New Years Eve, December 31, 2017: public skating at all rinks 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm. All rinks close at 3:00 pm except Steriti, which will be open for public skating from noon to 10:00 pm (*First Night Celebration*). New Year’s Day, January 1, 2018: all rinks are closed except Kelly, Steriti & Murphy. Regular hours at Kelly. Steriti and Murphy will be open for public skating 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Martin Luther King Day, January 15, 2018: early public skating offered at all rinks 10:00 am - 2:30 pm. February Public School Vacation week February 19– 23, 2018: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Steriti Rink is located at 581 Commercial Street in the North End
For more information, call 617-523-9327



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Res Publica

by David Trumbull



Tax Cuts for Christmas

Congress has passed the first overhaul of the U.S. tax code in more than 30 years. The Tax Cuts Act is a powerful symbol of what Republicans can accomplish when they unite behind a positive governing agenda for the country.

But this legislation isn't about Republicans vs. Democrats. Rather, it's an early centerpiece of the vision President Trump laid out on the campaign trail. Americans of all backgrounds want a government that's more accountable, more democratic, and less eager to line its pockets with cash from taxpayers and small businesses.

Returning money from Washington to the people is the clearest sign our leaders can give that they take this responsibility seriously.

The Tax Cuts Act means less money taken out of Americans' paychecks.

It provides \$5.5 trillion in tax cuts by nearly doubling the standard deduction, doubling the child tax credit, protecting tax savings for higher education and retirement, and lowering rates across the board.

It also repeals Obamacare's individual mandate tax, 80 percent of which hit households earning less than \$50,000 a year in 2016. Unfortunately, Bay State taxpayers who cannot afford health insurance will continue to pay an additional tax just because they are poor — that's part of Romney care, and the federal government cannot help us with that.

Talk is cheap, of course — the proof will come when Americans begin seeing more money in their paychecks as early as February.

The act will also eliminate dozens of special interest tax breaks and loopholes. The Tax Cuts Act will raise \$4 trillion in revenue to help offset tax cuts by closing the door on dozens of corporate accounting tricks. The bill eliminates a loophole used to deduct compensation for executives earning more than \$1 million a year. Washington isn't spared, either: members of Congress will no longer be able to deduct their living expenses.

"This is going to mean companies are going to be coming back," President Donald J. Trump said before members of Congress on the White House's South Lawn. "You know, I campaigned on the fact that we're not going to lose our companies anymore."

With the U.S. stock market breaking record highs no fewer than 70 times in 2017, that project of American renewal is off to a great start.

North Enders Enjoy Library Holiday Party

by Patricia Sabbey

The Friends of the North End Library delivered holiday sparkle to the neighborhood at the recent celebration at the library. Musical entertainment was provided by the The Joneses, a local duo who perform at various functions in the North End and around the state. In addition to the music, a complimentary luncheon of favorite Italian dishes, including lasagna, meatballs, ravioli and pizza, was served to the very appreciative attendees.

The Friends set up a membership table to process Friends' membership renewals and to welcome any new members. A festive Giving Tree with a range of items from the librarians' (Jennifer's and Alyson's) wish list gave people the opportunity to give back to the Library by "purchasing" items that will enhance the library experience.

If anyone would like to drop by the library to donate, the Giving Tree will remain in the library until the end of December.

A special thank you goes out to Jean Casale, the event Chairperson, and to the Friends' volunteers for a successful event. Deep appreciation is also extended to Il Panino, Quattro, Golden Goose Market, Modern Pastry Shop, and Maria's Pastry Shop for their support of this Friends of the North End Library event.

If you have not yet done so, please consider joining the Friends of the North End Library. For more information, or if you have any questions, please send an email to info@friendsnelibrary.org, or go to www.friendsnelibrary.org and click on "Memberships — Donate" for information on how to join the Friends.

Photo Submission Guidelines

Photos submitted for publication should have a minimum resolution of 150 dpi (or ppi), 300 dpi for best results. Photos taken with camera phones are typically only 72 dpi and will be too grainy to print. If taking photos for a submission, please use a digital camera. If supplying existing photos, please submit a high-quality print for scanning.



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

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Friday, December 29, 2017

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.*

Union Oyster House Gets in the Christmas Spirit



Shell we wish you a Fishy Christmas? Anton Chisten, shucker at the Union Oyster House for nineteen years, created this rather unique Christmas “tree” made of oyster shells for the holiday!

LETTERS POLICY

The Post-Gazette invites its readers to submit Letters to the Editor.

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

Send letter to: Pamela Donnaruma, Editor,
 The Post-Gazette, P.O. Box 135, Boston, MA 02113

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

Joseph Pace, Sr.

May He Rest in Peace



Joseph Pace, Sr., of Saugus, formerly of Stoneham, passed away peacefully on December 24th. Beloved husband of Angela (Cappello). Father of Joseph, Jr., and his wife Christine and Cara Costa Pace. Son of the late Nicolo and Rosaria (DiPompo). Brother of Maria Pace Barker. Survived by four grandchildren, Joseph III, Nicolas, Gianna, and Nicollette. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Joe started from humble beginnings, working beside his father Nicolo at their North End grocery store. Through the years, he turned his family business into one of the most respected and successful food corporations in the Boston area. Joe was a well-known entrepreneur and philanthropist. His Italian specialty stores

28th, at 10 am. Burial was private. Donations in Joseph's memory may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Dr. Kwiatkowski's Research Fund, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284.

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Presents

Fra Angelico: Heaven on Earth

On View: February 22 to May 20, 2018

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum will be the sole venue for *Fra Angelico: Heaven on Earth*, running Feb. 22 through May 20, 2018. The exhibition will explore renowned Renaissance painter Fra Angelico's talent for storytelling. For the first time ever, the four newly restored reliquaries — containers for holy relics that were painted for the church of Santa Maria Novella in Florence between 1424 and 1434 — will be reunited at the Gardner. Together they picture the life of the Virgin Mary and offer the opportunity to explore his talent for sacred tales.

Fra Angelico (about 1400-1455) was celebrated in his own time as the most famous painter in Italy. With remarkable ingenuity and rare technical expertise, he reconceived popular compositions and infused familiar Christian stories with new meaning. His iconic altarpieces and frescoes — painted for two Popes, members of the Medici family of Florence, and the city's merchant elite — transformed Western art. They secured his place in history and forged the future of painting in Italy.

Born near Florence, Fra Angelico trained in the workshop of the highly accomplished painter Lorenzo Monaco, collaborating with him on small narrative panels and manuscripts. Angelico's admission to the Dominican Order, a religious group devoted to Saint Dominic, transformed his career. Success at their Florentine headquarters of Santa Maria Novella and the church of San Marco led to prestigious commissions outside of Florence, including employment at the Vatican Palace in Rome under Pope Nicholas V. Anointed “angelic” by the Dominican Order after he died in 1455, the title gave Angelico stature akin to Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Heaven on Earth brings together choice examples of his narrative art, inviting visitors to experience the wonder of his breathtaking stories up close and in a new light. Two monumental altarpieces, an intricate series of panels from his Silver Chest (*Armadio degli Argenti*), a precious triptych for private devotion, and nine *predella* scenes join the four reliquaries in a dramatic installation



evocative of their Renaissance context. Many of these works are visiting the United States for the first time from their home collections in Italy.

Unprecedented loans for this exhibition include the three extraordinary reliquaries (Museo di San Marco, Florence) a magnificent altarpiece of *Paradise* (Gallerie degli Uffizi, Florence) and the jewel-like *Corsini Triptych* (Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Antica in Palazzo Corsini, Rome). Also restored for this exhibition is the altarpiece of *The Entombment of Christ* (National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.), which will be on display to the public for the first time in over 40 years at the Gardner Museum.

In 1899, Isabella Stewart Gardner acquired one of the four reliquaries: the mesmerizing *Dormition and Assumption of the Virgin*. It was the first painting by Fra Angelico to come to America. The other three reliquaries — *The Annunciation and Adoration of the Magi*, *The Coronation of the Virgin*, and *The Madonna della Stella* — reside in Florence. Newly restored to their Renaissance splendor thanks to a special collaboration with the Museo di San Marco, the reliquaries reveal Angelico's mastery of materials and genius for narrative composition.

“Although separated for over 200 years, these four precious painted reliquaries showcase Fra Angelico's peerless creativity and unparalleled technical accomplishments,” said Dr. Nathaniel Silver, the Gardner Museum's Associate Curator of

are noted for their high quality, diverse products and have gained nation-wide popularity. Joe's generosity is also well-known at various senior-citizen centers as well as in community organizations and charities. His family business, with “La Famiglia” working together side by side, exemplified the American dream and the essence of Italian culture. Most importantly, his proudest achievement was his family, whom he treasured so very much.

A Funeral Mass was held in the St. Patrick Church, Stoneham, on Thursday, December

the Collection. “The reliquaries, carefully selected altarpieces, furniture panels, and a triptych illuminate the relationship between form and function, revealing how the artist shaped each story for its intended purpose.”

“We are thrilled to present the work of this extraordinary Renaissance artist and storyteller,” said Peggy Fogelman, the Norma Jean Calderwood Director of the Museum. “Gardner was the first collector in the United States to acquire a Fra Angelico, when she had already begun plans for her boldly conceived museum. It is only fitting that these works be reunited here in Boston for the public to enjoy.”

The accompanying exhibition catalogue is edited by Dr. Silver. Nine essays challenge the prevailing view of Angelico as the tradition-bound painter of pious Madonnas, reposition him on the cutting edge of Renaissance artistic developments, and reveal the Dominican networks crucial to his success. Extended catalogue entries offer fresh insights and provide up-to-date bibliography for each work. Contributing authors include William Hood (Institute of Fine Arts), Jeremy Howard (University of Buckingham), Anne Leader (Independent Scholar), Laura Llewellyn (J. Paul Getty Museum), Chiara Pidotella (Tufts University), Gianfranco Pocobene (Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum), Carl Brandon Strehlke (Philadelphia Museum of Art), Marilena Tamassia (Museo di San Marco), and Beth Williamson (University of Bristol).

Opening in parallel with this exhibition is *Isabella's Relics*, a presentation in the Vatchino gallery of the historic palace. Organized by consulting curator Casey Riley, it features little-known objects, archival material, and ephemera collected by Isabella Stewart Gardner, revealing her own fascination with relics both sacred and secular.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum • 25 Evans Way Boston MA 02215 • Hours: Open Daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 9 p.m. Admission: Adults \$15; Seniors \$12; Students \$5; Free for members, children under 18, everyone on his/her birthday, and all named “Isabella.”

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Magical, Mysterious New Year

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Sometimes, it appears as if the bulk of our Christmas festivities end the moment we flip over the December 25th calendar page. Gone are “Jingle Bells” and “All I Want for Christmas is You” from the radio, replaced by the steady rotation of everyday hits and standards. Gone are the tantalizing unwrapped presents from beneath the tree, having now been revealed of the surprises within. However, contrary to popular perception, the season of Christmas actually lasts for a much longer time. As the old carol about the three French hens can attest, Christmas continues for twelve days after the proper feast ends. The real close of the Christmas season occurs on January 6th, or the holiday of the Epiphany. Italians afford each of the Twelve Days of Christmas a special significance. December 26th, for example, is the feast day of St. Stephen, and Italians celebrate *la festa di San Stefano* by visiting family or going skiing in mountain resorts. For me, the Twelve Days of Christmas contain a magical and enchanted quality, laden with the sensation of being far removed from the bustle and grind of ordinary days. I spend the Twelve Days of Christmas in a haze, taking advantage of the vacation to catch up on grading, eat leftovers from the Christmas dinner, shop in blissfully uncrowded stores, and visit family members who have arrived from overseas. However, I also prepare for the most mysterious feasts of the Twelve Days of Christmas: the twinned holidays of New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. Bursting with folklore and tradition, these holidays seek to welcome a new beginning with hope and luck.

New Year’s Eve carries a distinct and unique feeling from other days of the year, a strong atmosphere of anticipation and excitement. It is an aura that imbues the ordinary activities people undertake during the day on New Year’s Eve — walking the dog, going to the grocery store, visiting the hair salon

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

I am not throwing anything out of my windows, but I do love to celebrate the New Year in a folksy and traditional manner with my family. We gather together and enjoy a special

meal that ends with my chocolate-vanilla marbled ring cake for dessert. Ring cakes are yet another lucky food for this feast, since their shape symbolizes the cycle of the year. I enjoy hearing my grandmother tell stories about the quirky traditions that characterized New Year’s Eve in her small Italian hometown, such as sweeping out the door with a broom at midnight in order to chase away the old year. Sometimes my family plays Bingo together, known as *tombola* in Italian. Games of chance are popular components of New Year’s festivities around the world, for they mimic the unpredictable thrill of good fortune. We watch the televised New Year’s celebration in New York, and when the famed Times Square ball finally drops at midnight, we hug and kiss and wish each other a Happy New Year. This is my favorite tradition, as it reminds me that being surrounded by the love of family and friends is the best wish I can ask for all year! New Year’s Day is far more low-key. Known as *Capodanno*, or “head of the year,” in Italian, this is a day devoted to recuperating from the previous night’s parties. Superstition advises that the way you start the New Year is the way you will end it, so I like to spend New Year’s Day doing a little bit of all the things I love, such as writing, reading, baking and watching a movie. New Year’s Day is also laden with a unique and pleasant feeling. The sky seems bluer, the birds sing more loudly, and snow sparkles like diamonds on the ground. I believe the whole world is starting anew!

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

Happy New Year to All! *Buon Anno!*

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

THINKING OUT LOUD



by Sal Giarratani

Nothing Looney Tunes About Plastic Bag Ban

Don’t know if it’s just me, but I don’t see all the controversy over a plastic bag ban coming to a business near you. Why the Retailers Association of Massachusetts is opposed to it is beyond me. The prohibition applies to those single-use plastic shopping bags we see at all our supermarkets. This trade group apparently doesn’t like the idea of forcing retailers to charge at least five cents each for the reusable bags covered by the new city ordinance.

I can tell you from firsthand knowledge while visiting Austin, Texas, for the past several years that a plastic bag ordinance like Boston’s hardly scratches the surface of any draconian measures taken by supermarkets.

Whenever shopping down in Austin supermarkets, I always carry my own bags or buy a great sturdy reusable bag for 25 cents. These bags can last up to five or six months. It is good for the environment and

actually good for supermarkets and their customers.

Kudos to the Boston City Council for passing this ban unanimously and quickly! Mayor Walsh’s concern over this five-cent bag fee is not necessary. Down in Austin, the same outcry was heard before implementation. Then, once in force, everyone saw no great change or hardship. The worse thing is forgetting to bring your own shopping bags. Spending 25 cents for a great reusable shopping bag is no big deal. If you forget to bring your own bags, you spend another quarter.

After a while, people don’t even think about the ban as they get used to the new status quo. They never go to retailers without a bag of their own.

Politicians opposed to this plastic bag ban need to stop scaring folks and encourage them to see it as something positive. No one is going to starve because they have no shopping bag.

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A Few Days In The Life Of Santa Claus

by Sal Giarratani

You may think that Christmas time is a very busy period for UPS drivers, but they have nothing over Santa Claus. While all the elves are finishing all the packaging up in the North Pole, Santa has to show up at a few places before heading back up north to his packed sleigh.

I was granted permission by Santa himself to shadow him over the last few days before Christmas arrived. His sleigh goes into the shop for a tune-up. He can't afford any breakdown happening on his big trip of the year. Meanwhile, he drove a non-descript Mini Cooper and I tailed him in my car.

First place we stopped by was the Nazzaro Community Center, where he handed out gifts to the little boys and girls from both the Eliot and St. John's School. Then it was the Callahan Tunnel to the East Boston Soup Kitchen for more gift giving. He did a few more stops during the week. He ended up at Floramo's in Chelsea to surprise Ashley Flores, who is Santa's favorite waitress.

The following day it was on to Woburn for a wonderful surprise visit to hand out gifts at an annual Christmas Eve party that Santa never misses; he took photos with everyone. He was offered some fine liquor, which

he passed up since he was driving and reminded everyone never to drink and drive.

Finally, he wound up Christmas Eve over in Orient Heights where he ended tasting all seven fishes he could find. Of course, he stopped and took photos with all the kiddos present. Oh, by the way, he does love fish, but eels do make him queasy. But Santa never misses celebrating Christmas Eve, consuming up all that fish — even a tiny piece of eel.

Santa left East Boston for the North Pole, where he got home just in time to do his annual trip around the world, bringing presents to all those good little children. He loves eating those cookies and drinking milk. He'll gladly wait until the day after Christmas to enjoy a nice cognac with the missus.



Santa hands out toys at the Nazzaro Center, North End.



Santa stops by Floramo's looking for Ashley.



Santa catches up with Tali Giarratani of Dedham up at that Woburn party.



Santa ends things with all seven fishes surrounding himself with lots of little kids, too. L-R: Christian Cappuccio, Pat Capogreco, Francesco, Santa, Leo, and Matteo Schirripa.

A Belated Merry Christmas

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

We are writing this column to wish our readers a belated Merry Christmas and, of course, a Happy New Year! Our schedule was such this year that we did not have the time to convey the thoughts we wanted to express, but now that things have eased, please allow us these few simple lines.

As you move along in life, the tendency is to look back to an earlier time and inevitably it is with glowing, warm memories. The place where we grew up has enormous impact on our thoughts and the life we lived in those early years. Growing up in the North End was an experience that will never come again, for we grew up in a neighborhood in transition, where immigrants from Italy passed from the familiar that was Italy to the unfamiliar of their newly adopted home in America. We were caught between the old world and the new world, between the familiar and the unfamiliar. We lived with both great expectations for the future and a sense of loss

and nostalgia for the traditions of our ancestral home and those who were left behind.

There are so many thoughts we would like to convey in this column that usually is about the life of a saint. To boil it all down to just the few remaining words, Christmas was easily the most special time of year in the North End. These are words that most of us would probably say when thinking of our upbringing, no matter where you grew up. But as we wrote earlier, ours was a neighborhood in transition — was it *Buon Natale* or Merry Christmas? Was *La Befana*, the Christmas witch, going to bring our gifts or Santa Claus? It was the only world we knew, so we accepted both and integrated it all into an acceptance for the new and unfamiliar that would accompany us through life.

Our two most indelible memories of our childhood Christmas are those of Church and dinner at Grandma's. It was Christmas Mass that we most anticipated.

As children, we were captivated by the poinsettias that adorned the altar and the large crèche that stood to the right of the altar that was at once both warm and familiar as well as reverential.

If Mass fed the Christmas spirit, it was Christmas food and dinner at Grandma's that fed the body. It was the one day of the year that the entire family would get together at her tiny flat on Garden Court Street for her annual food fest that she had been working on days in advance. The intricate dishes that were prepared only for Christmas were served with both love and nostalgia, a mixture of emotions in scenes being repeated over and over again in the tiny flats that filled the one square mile called the North End with so much life, providing memories of a time that will never come again.

Wishing you a belated Merry Christmas from our thoroughly lived in very special part of Boston!

A Frank DePasquale Venture

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2018 BOSTON

FIRST NIGHT DAY

SEE PAGE 12 FOR CALENDAR LISTING



(Photo courtesy of 617images)



(Photo courtesy of First Night Boston)

joined by *iHeartRadio*, which will serve as exclusive radio partner for the first time. Families may also enjoy activities including a figure skating ice show on The Boston Common Frog Pond, WGBH broadcast, and an exciting new First Night Boston Scavenger Hunt mobile app.

In an effort to deliver families a fun and immersive experience, **First Night First Day Boston introduces a Scavenger Hunt via the GooseChase mobile app.** The mobile app will encourage attendees to discover all that the event has to offer, and to explore local businesses, starting December 26th. Participants will be guided through the Copley/Back Bay area, allowing them to experience all of the ongoing activities, while also playing a game, receiving points, and getting entered into a sweepstakes. Additional details can be found at firstnightboston.org/scavengerhunt.



This year’s headlining musical act, Eli “Paperboy” Reed, a popular local soul-inspired singer and songwriter, will take the stage at 11:00 pm in Copley Square.



Downtown Brass



(Photo courtesy of First Night Boston)



(Photo courtesy of First Night Boston)

Event classics will also include an array of family entertainment, **the People’s Procession at 6:00 pm and Boston’s Family Fireworks courtesy of The Mugar Foundation at 7:00 pm on the Boston Common.** The magical evening culminates with the highly anticipated Copley Countdown, a multi-sensory display of live music, dazzling light show, and pyrotechnics in Copley Square.

The First Night First Day Boston festivities would not be possible without the support of 2018 sponsors, partners and donors, including: The Highland Street Foundation, Mabel Louise Riley Foundation, Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, The Mugar Foundation, Plumbers Union Local #12, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc., JetBlue, Gourmet Catering, The Lynch Foundation, Xfinity, Boston Bruins Foundation, Dunkin’ Donuts, our host hotels and host restaurants, and media partners *NBC Boston* and *iHeartRadio*. For a

complete list of sponsors, please visit firstnightboston.org/sponsors.

For more information on First Night First Day Boston 2018, please visit firstnightboston.org or follow on Facebook, *@FirstNight* on Twitter, *@firstnightboston* on Instagram, or follow the conversation using *#FirstNightBoston*.



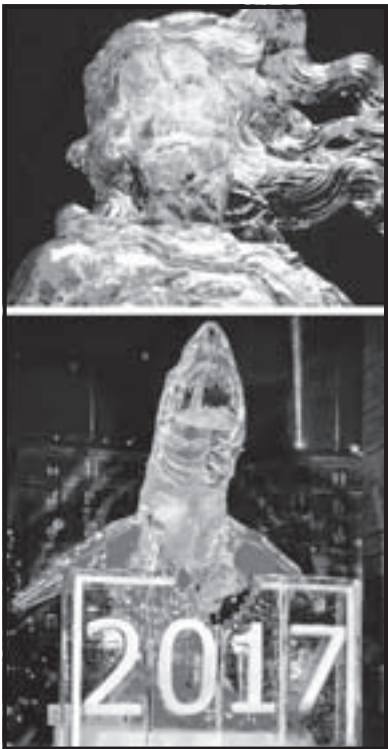
The Boston Opera Guy

Ice Sculptures

Come one, come all, to see the magic First Night will bring this year through its signature ice sculpture theme: **ENCHANTED FOREST.**

We all have that favorite childhood storybook that transported us into the world of magic and enchantment. From unicorns and dragons, to enchanted castles, fairy princesses, and more. Our Enchanted Forest theme will come alive through our fantastic light display and signature ice sculptures right in the heart of the Back Bay, Copley Square. Join us on an fascinating, multi-sensory journey into a mythical forest where our favorite forest creatures come to life in ice!

We have also partnered with many local Back Bay businesses to feature sculptures in our Third Annual Ice Gallery. Come visit our signature sculptures in Copley, then take a stroll through the Back Bay to see more! The Highland Street Foundation will also have a signature sculpture on the Boston Common Frog Pond.





Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

May the Bells of the New Year Ring with a happy song in 2018 and beyond. ... Predictions and Promises that were made to be broken! Awards and Rewards! ... East Boston residents will demand the Mayor stop new housing developments and begin to preserve any green space left ... **Prediction:** State and cities will crack down on welfare fraud ... **Predication:** Fed-up taxpayers will rally for tax relief and an end to the stampede of illegal foreigners and frauds using and abusing the system ... The government will realize that new diseases, crime, and poverty are due to an overcrowded population ... Something will be done to ease Bennington Street traffic! ... Starbucks will lower their coffee prices ... **Prediction:** Some Eastie residents will get jobs and get off welfare and Section 8 ... State Representative Adrian Madaro will be voted Mr. Congeniality ... Councilor Lydia Edwards will be known as Wonder Woman to her constituents ... Kelly's Pub will be hosting the biggest New Year's Party ever ... Liberty Mall merchants will ring in the New Year with record sales ... Cassy and her crew will become known as Easties' Beloved Rat Pack ... Spinelli's will bake a ten-foot wedding cake for Prince Harry and his bride ... President Donald Trump will promise to stop tweeting ... **Prediction:** Taxpayers will become irate after realizing what the 2018 tax reform is all about ... The Federal Government will put an end to pregnant women sneaking into this country to have their babies ... **Prediction:** Drug companies will be exposed and the Opium Epidemic will slow down ... **Predication:** Marijuana sales will soar, causing more problems ... **Promises:** The Government will finally realize charity begins at home and put American needs first! ... **Prediction:** The silly politically correct craze will end! ... Senator Joe Boncore will go on a goodwill tour to the Middle East ... Former State Rep. Gus Serra will consider running for office again ... East Boston Savings Bank will be recognized as one of the most successful banks in New England ... The East Boston Jets will be undefeated in 2018

... As the world spins, so will the Stock Market ... Santarpio's Pizza will create a solid gold-plated pizza that can only be delivered by Brinks! ... Gina and Jack Scalcione promise to keep up the good work of protecting their neighborhood against greedy developers ... Revere councilors will promise to put an end to the overcrowding of neighborhoods by stopping any further housing developing ... **Promise:** Communities will vote out politicians who voted for the massive housing development in their cities ... Professional football players will stop disrespecting the American flag and national anthem or sit out the game ... Century 21 Mario R.E. will hire more agents to serve his ever growing number of satisfied clients ... **Prediction:** Realty sales will plummet under Trump's new tax plan ... Revere City Councilor Dan Rizzo will become Mayor of Revere once again ... **Prediction:** Overcrowding brought on by new housing development will prove to be disastrous for urban cities, causing overcrowded classrooms, increased trash, and littered streets! ... **Promises:** Stricter laws for welfare, Section 8 certificates, food stamps, and free healthcare will be in force ... **Promises:** Taxpayers will promise to report people living high off the system, driving big expensive cars, owning expensive computers, smartphones, and big TV screens. Enough already! ... **2017 Awards!** **Buddy Mangini**, most loved community activist. Best Writer, **Sal Giarratani**. Best Football Team, **E.B. Jets**; Vintage businesses: **Kelley's Pub, Elite, Jevelli's** and **Santarpio's**; East Boston Family Businesses that contributed mucho to Easties' economy and development, **Lombardo Companies** (Liberty Plaza), Commercial Property, and **Spinelli's** (Function Facilities, Catering and Bakery). Mr. Congeniality Award: **Adrian Madaro**; Smartest elected official, **Lydia Edwards**; Striving to achieve a better East Boston, the **Chamber of Commerce** ... **Best Italian Food Award, Limoncello's Restaurant** in the North End on North Street! ... *Happy New Year and may it be a healthy, happy and prosperous one for everyone! Until next time ...*



On the Aisle

THEATRE NOTES

BY BOBBY FRANKLIN

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

Opens at The SpeakEasy January 12th

From January 12 to February 10, 2018, SpeakEasy Stage Company will proudly present the New England premiere of the hit London comedy *SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE*.

Based on the Academy Award-winning film, *SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE* tells the story of young Will Shakespeare, who is suffering a severe case of writer's block as the deadline fast approaches to deliver his new play, *Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter*. Enter Viola, a headstrong noblewoman and admirer of Will's, who disguises herself as a boy so she can skirt the law and appear (as a girl) in his play. But when the playwright and his muse fall in love, the plot undergoes some surprising rewrites. Mistaken identities, courtly intrigue, and backstage bickering are all part of the fun in this raucous romantic comedy of errors that reminds us that all the world's



George Olesky and Jennifer Ellis

(Photo by Nile Hawver/
Nile Scott Shots)

a stage and love is unrehearsed.

Norton & IRNE Award-winner Scott Edmiston will direct the SpeakEasy Stage production of *SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE*. Mr. Edmiston's previous SpeakEasy credits include *Casa Valentina* (2016 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Direc-

tor), *The History Boys*, *The Light in the Piazza*, and *Five by Tenn*.

Newton native George Olesky and Norton Award-winner Jennifer Ellis headline a truly all-star Boston cast for the production, which includes Remo Airaldi, Ken Baltin, Nancy E. Carroll, Jesse Hinson, Omar Robinson, Carolyn Saxon, Eddie Shields, and Lewis D. Wheeler. Also in the cast are Paul Alperin, Steve Auger, Cameron Beaty Gosselin, Jade Guerra, Jeff Marcus, Zaven Ovia, Edward Rubenacker, and Damon Singletary.

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE will run for five weeks, from January 12 through February 10, 2018, in the Virginia Wimberly Theatre in the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont Street in Boston's South End. For more information, call 617-933-8600 or visit www.SpeakEasyStage.com.

MALA

Written and Performed by Melinda Lopez

Opens at the Huntington Theatre on January 6th

The Huntington Theatre Company presents the ArtsEmerson production of *Mala*. This moving drama is written and performed by Huntington Playwright-in-Residence Melinda Lopez (*Sonia Flew, Becoming Cuba*) and directed by David Dower (*Mala* and *Mr. Joy, Breath & Imagination* at ArtsEmerson). Performances run from January 6 through January 28, 2018, at the Calderwood Pavilion in the South End.

Set during the epic winter of 2015, *Mala* is inspired by text messages frantically typed on an iPhone by Lopez while she cared for her increasingly frail and consistently fierce mother. These short missives ultimately create a moving and generous portrait of the way taking care of family tests, deepens, and changes our bonds to the ones we love. Lopez, a regular on Boston stages, also performs the play.

Mala won the 2016 Elliot Norton Award for Best New Script, and it was named one of the best plays of 2016 by *The Boston Globe*, *WBUR's ARTery*, and *DigBoston*. This return engagement of *Mala*, back by popular demand, is funny, brutally honest, and ultimately cathartic. *Mala* puts a sharp focus on what it means to put our loved ones first, right to the very end, and what happens when we strive to be good but don't always succeed.

"When I saw the sold-out performances of *Mala* at ArtsEmerson last year, I knew we had to bring this homegrown hit to the Huntington," says



Melinda Lopez

Artistic Director Peter DuBois. "Melinda Lopez has a frank and funny approach to writing about life and family that is a gift to audiences. In *Mala*, she's captured something so honest about what it is to be a daughter. This is a show to share with someone you love."

"I am thrilled to bring *Mala* back to Boston," says Melinda Lopez. "The Huntington has provided me the time and space to continue to create new work as their playwright-in-residence, and I am grateful to them for remounting the original production, as this play is extremely close to my heart."

"It was a true joy collaborating with Melinda on the premiere of her play *Mala*," director David Dower says. "The humor, intelligence, and courage that Melinda brought to her writing immediately resonated and provided a great foundation to tell her important story, universal to so many."

For more information, call 617-266-7900 or visit www.huntingtontheatre.org.

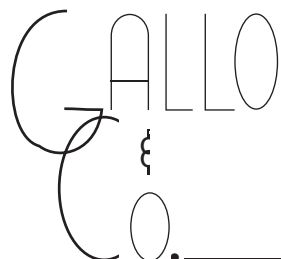


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THE HITMAN’S BODYGUARD (Blu-ray)
Lionsgate Home Ent.

The world’s top protection agent (Ryan Reynolds) is called upon to guard the life of his mortal enemy, one of the world’s most notorious hit men (Samuel L. Jackson). The relentless bodyguard and manipulative assassin have been on the opposite end of the bullet for years and are thrown together for a wildly outrageous 24 hours. During their raucous and hilarious adventure from England to the Hague, they encounter high-speed car chases, outlandish boat escapades, and a merciless Eastern European dictator (Gary Oldman) who is out for blood. Hayek joins the mayhem as Jackson’s equally notorious wife.

FARGO: YEAR 3 (4-DVD)
Twentieth Century Fox Home Ent.

The third season of *Fargo* is darkly humorous and utterly riveting as Ewan McGregor gives an outstanding performance in dual roles as the “Parking Lot King of Minnesota,” Emmet Stussy, and his younger brother, Ray, a potbellied parole officer with a big chip on his shoulder. The only bright spot in Ray’s life is Nikki, a not-so-good woman with brains, beauty and a passion for competitive bridge. When she decides to help, Ray turns his fortunes around; things quickly get out of hand and petty theft leads to mayhem and murder.

GAME OF THRONES: THE COMPLETE SEVENTH SEASON (4-Blu-ray)
HBO Home Ent.

Throughout seven thrilling episodes, the penultimate Season 7 focuses on a convergence of armies and attitudes that have been brewing for years. As the season begins, Deanerys Targaryen — accompanied by her Unsullied army of allies, emboldened by Dothraki/Ironborn, and her lethal trio of dragons — has finally set sail for Westeros with Tyrion Lannister, her newly appointed Hand. Jon Snow has apparently consolidated power in the North after his spectacular conquest of Ramsay Bolton and the return of Winterfell to Stark control. In King’s Landing, Cersei Lannister, bereft of any surviving heirs, has successfully seized the Iron Throne. But as these and other factions drive towards new alliances or (more likely) violent conflicts, the cold specter of another, apocalyptic threat — in the form of an army of undead White Walkers — threatens to undermine the status quo and obliterate the outcome of these smaller, all-too-human rivalries. Also contains a 45-minute bonus disc, *Conquest & Rebellion: An Animated History of the Seven Kingdoms*.

HOME AGAIN (Blu-ray)
Universal Pictures Home Ent.

Alice (Reese Witherspoon), a recently separated mother of two, finds her life upended when three young, charismatic filmmakers move into her guesthouse. But her unlikely new family and a budding romance come to a crashing halt when her ex-husband shows up, suitcase in hand. A story of love, friendship, and the families we create, *Home Again* is a modern romantic comedy with one very big life lesson: starting over is not for beginners.

ZOO: SEASON THREE (4-DVD)
CBS DVD + Paramount

In season three, the year is 2027, and the world has reached a tipping point. As the human population continues to dwindle due to the sterility problem, an equally devastating threat rises in the form of the “hybrids,” an army of unstoppable lab-made creatures, hell-bent on destroying mankind. Although the team has become estranged over the past decade, Jackson (James Wolk), Jamie (Kristen Connolly), Abraham (Nonso Anozie), Dariela (Alyssa Diaz), and Logan (Josh Salatin) are forced to overcome their differences and reunite when they learn that Mitch is alive. As the planet’s future hangs in the balance, the team must race to stop the hybrids and their creator — a shadowy figure with a startling connection to the team’s past.

SALVATION: SEASON ONE (4-DVD)
CBS DVD + Paramount

The countdown to the apocalypse begins! Earth is in the cross-hairs when, within six months, an enormous asteroid hurtling through space will collide with our planet. To avert worldwide panic, an ingenious MIT grad student joins forces with an innovative tech billionaire to work with the U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary to prevent Earth’s annihilation. While the President has ordered the Pentagon’s press secretary to prevent news of the asteroid from leaking, a visionary sci-fi writer is brought on board to join the attempt to save the planet in this gripping, 13-episode first season set packed with heart-pounding suspense and powerful performances.

STRONGER (Blu-ray)
Lionsgate Home Ent.

Inspired by the true story, *Stronger* stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Jeff Bauman, a working-class Bostonian who was at the 2013 Boston Marathon when the bomb blast occurred and tragically lost both of his legs. After regaining consciousness, Jeff was able to help law enforcement identify one of the bombers, but his own battle had just begun. Jeff’s deeply personal journey tests a family’s bond and defines a community’s pride as he overcomes adversity to become the living embodiment of “Boston Strong.”

SHATTERED (DVD)
VMI Worldwide

Shattered is a drama inspired by a true story about betrayal, cruelty, and a destructive secret that swirls around the wealthy, powerful Burnett family. Kate marries the son of the morally corrupt politician Forrest Burnett. But Kate’s seemingly envied lifestyle crumbles as she journeys to uncover the truth about their adopted son. The mysterious dark past threatens to destroy the entire Burnett legacy. As Kate investigates, she begins to unmask the nightmare behind an unimaginable cover up. This puts her in unforeseen danger as secrets become exposed for all to see.

The time has come, the walrus said,
TO TALK OF MANY THINGS
of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giaratani

ARETHA COMING TO BOCH CENTER

Singing legend Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul, is coming to Boston on June 2nd at the Boch Center Wang Theatre. For more information, call 1-800-982-2787.

**BALDWIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SALUTES VETERANS**



My great niece Helen Giaratani attends the fourth grade at the Baldwin Elementary School in Meridian in South Texas and, on Veterans Day, the students honored veterans for the upcoming Veterans Day holiday. I got to be among the veterans honored, a nice surprise for me. My niece Helen was among the fourth graders who proudly sang patriotic songs at this event.

I thanked everyone for a great morning in the school auditorium. All the kids were great and I told school Principal Jennifer Murray what a great job all the kids did. She told me if I ever relocate to Meridian, there’s a substitute teacher job waiting for me.

HOWIE CARR ON CHAPPAQUIDDICK

Anyone of a certain age has no trouble spelling the word “Chappaquiddick,” do they? Howie Carr did a recent *Boston Herald* column on the upcoming movie about Chappaquiddick, a bridge, a Buick, and a drowning that forever tainted the public career of U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

I have no idea why Hollywood is wasting time and money making this movie. I won’t be seeing it. Who can forget the story if you were alive back in 1969? We all know how the story ended for 28-year-old Mary Jo Kopechne.

EAST BOSTON EYES HEIGHTS SITE

A Boston-based real estate firm is seeking to develop a small-sized site into a 4-story apartment building with 38 apartments above a 25-car garage at 11-19 Walley Street in East Boston. A garage, storage site, and auto repair shop are now on the site and very close to the Suffolk Downs T Station.

MAURA HEALEY AT IT AGAIN

There is a public service campaign warning of the consequences of doing drugs and becoming addicts. Does anyone see anything wrong with posters on MBTA trains, buses, and streetcars showing tombstones for overdose victims? Does anyone see anything wrong with showing little babies in the ICU hooked up to tubes because the baby’s mother did drugs during the pregnancy? I don’t, but Attorney General Maura Healey seems to think it is stigmatizing and shaming addicts and won’t work. She reportedly is suing the U.S. Attorney’s Office and the Trump Administration to stop stigmatizing addicts.

Wonder why liberals like Healey never get concerned about those anti-cigarette smoking ads stigmatizing smokers or all those “Don’t Drive

Drunk” ads stigmatizing drunken drivers? Why is it politically incorrect to point out the deadly dangers of doing drugs?

The other morning while listening to my music video cable station, I heard Jimmy Ruffin singing “What Becomes of The Brokenhearted,” which was a big 1966 hit of his. Hearing it, I remembered one line in the lyrics about having “an unhappy ending,” which he had when he overdosed on drugs far too young one night several years after this song was a big hit.

TEXAS STREET MEAT ANYONE?



Waiting to serve you are Isiciero Chavez and Jordan Alexander, who happens to be a big Boston Celtics fan.

There’s a great food truck in Downtown Austin on Congress Avenue. I ate there last year and of course did it again this year. The business is called “Kebabalicious.” What a mouthful, but everything they sell is really delicious.

ARE WESTERNS COMING BACK?

When I was growing up, Westerns were all over the place on TV and at the movies. But, over time, they disappeared for the most part. Well, on December 28th, a western just opened up at movie theaters in both Los Angeles and New York City and will be out in movie theaters across the country in early January.

I love watching westerns and will certainly check out this movie. It is called *Hostiles* and stars Christian Bale. It is being compared to *Unforgiven*.

“BURIED UP TO HERE IN WORK”

While down in South Austin, TX, on my vacation around Halloween, I loved the way folks decorated their lawns. One in particular showed a skeleton buried under dirt next to tree and the first thing I thought of was how so many of us bury ourselves in work and never really get to enjoy life.



(Photos by Sal Giaratani)

BEWARE of IRS SCAMS

IRS-IMPERSONATION TELEPHONE SCAM

Con artists can sound convincing when they call. They use fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers. They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling. Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation, or suspension of a business or driver’s license. Or, victims may be told they have a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information.

NOTE THAT THE IRS WILL NEVER:

- 1) **call to demand immediate payment**, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill; 2) **demand that you pay taxes** without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe; 3) **require you to use a specific payment method** for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card; 4) **ask for credit or debit card numbers** over the phone; or 5) **threaten to bring in local police** or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

Seaglass Performing Arts
Brings Joyful Music and Dance
to Christmas Prelude Week

Seaglass Chorale
A Joyous Celtic Celebration

December 2nd, South Congregational Church, Kennebunkport, Maine
December 3rd, Holy Family Church, Sanford, Maine

Reviewed by Bobby Franklin



Seaglass Chorale



Stillson School Irish Step Dancers

It was a lovely two days of Celtic music and dance in Kennebunkport and Sanford, Maine as the Seaglass Chorale welcomed the Christmas season with a beautiful program of music and dance.

Led by Artistic Director Jean Strazdes, the group has shown they are able to continue raising

the bar with the passing of each year. This past summer, the chorale visited Ireland, where they performed and apparently brought some Celtic magic back with them.

The lovely voices were accompanied by Kim Karchenes on piano, Mary Carol Kennedy on flute, Dianne Smallidge and

Stephanie Sanders on percussion, and Robert Daigle on bass.

The program, which opened with “Riversong: A Celtic Celebration,” was lively and touching and continued with a number of beautiful Celtic songs. These included “Gartan Mother’s Lullaby,” sung a cappella, a tune that touches on fairies in Irish mythology, “Oikan Ayns Bethlehem” from the Isle of Man, and the lively and fun “The Little Beggarman” about Johnny Dhu, who worked hard at not working at all.

The first part of the program also had the beautiful “In the Bleak Midwinter” with words by Christina Rossetti. This has always been one of my favorites and I was not disappointed by this performance.

Alex Pratt recited the Kenneth Patchen poem “The Snow is Deep on the Ground.” Written during WWII, it is a moving peace that reminds us to have hope at all times. Mr. Pratt’s rich voice made this recitation simply wonderful to hear.

After intermission, there was a special surprise. The Seaglass Chorale was joined by step dancers from the Stillson School of Irish Dance. The Stillson School is the only accredited Irish Dance school in the state of Maine. This was truly a treat and the young ladies who performed were simply outstanding. Under the direction of Carlene Moran Stillson, these world-class dancers, who have won numerous competitions, thrilled the audience. Having them join with the chorale was a lovely touch.

The program closed out with the ancient Celtic carol “Stars of Glory,” followed by “Shule Aroon,” and Ola Gjeilo’s “The Ground.” Beautiful music made much lovelier by the voices of Seaglass.

Of course, what would a Seaglass Christmas concert be without a sing-along? Ms. Strazdes finished the evening by turning to and directing the audience in medley of Christmas carols. It was the perfect finish to a wonderful evening.

If you have not yet attended a Seaglass Performing Arts concert, I would strongly urge you to do so. A Joyous Celtic Celebration certainly left all who experienced it with enough Christmas spirit to last them until next year. Simply wonderful!

Parla Come Mangi!
(Speak as You Eat!)

by Alessandra Sambiase



Benvenuti! Let us start our journey to Northern Italy exploring *Lombardia*, one of the peninsula’s richest regions. Its cosmopolitan capital city, *Milano*, once house of the mighty Sforza dynasty, is an international center of business and home of the Italian stock exchange market as well as the world-renowned *Teatro alla Scala*, the prestigious opera house. *Milano* is also capital of the fashion industry and the *Milano da bere* (“Milano to drink”) center of the jet set and social scene, where, since 1867, the famous red Bitter Campari drink (whose ingredients remain to this day a secret) is served. *Lombardia*, known for its stunning lakes and alpine villages, is the birthplace of excellent cheeses like *Gorgonzola*, *Taleggio*, *Crescenza*, and *Grana Padano*. Rice is widely consumed in the region, as *Lombardia* is the second largest rice producer in Italy due to the fertile territory surrounding the Po valley. The sparkling wines from the *Franciacorta* region are proudly considered the Italian alternative to champagne. *Ossobuco alla Milanese* (“Milanese-style veal shank”) is a traditional *secondo piatto* (“second course”) from *Milano*. Literally, *ossobuco* means “bone with a hole” because the cut of meat traditionally used to prepare this dish is the veal shank, whose soft marrowbone reduces to a very soft and tasty “hole” when cooked. *Ossobuco alla Milanese* is often garnished with *gremolata* (a chopped herb condiment) and traditionally served with *risotto alla Milanese* (Milanese-style risotto).

Ossobuco alla Milanese (serves four)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil | 1-½ cups homemade or store |
| 3-1/2 Tbsp unsalted butter | bought (low-sodium) beef |
| ½-Cup flour | stock |
| 4 veal shanks (or beef shanks) | 1 (14-oz) can crushed tomatoes |
| Salt and black pepper to taste | 1 glass of dry red wine |
| 1 chopped medium onion | (such as Pinot Noir) |
| 1 chopped carrot | 1 Tbsp chopped parsley |
| 1 chopped rib of celery | Grated zest of 1 lemon |
| | 1 clove of garlic |

Preparation: In a shallow saucepan or Dutch oven, heat up oil and butter together until hot. Season the veal shanks with salt and pepper, lightly flour them on both sides, shaking off any excess, and place them into the saucepan or Dutch oven to sizzle and cook until brown on both sides. Remove and set aside. Add onion, carrot and celery to the saucepan or Dutch oven and cook, stirring occasionally, until soft and lightly browned, and then add the veal shanks. As soon as they start sizzling, add the wine and let it evaporate. Add the tomatoes and the stock. Cover and simmer for two hours, turning the shanks every half hour. The meat should now be tender to the point that it falls off the bone. Turn the heat off. In the meantime, make the *gremolata* by finely chopping the clove of garlic and mixing it together with the parsley and the lemon zest. Add the mixture to the veal shanks, season to taste, and serve hot. *Buon appetito!*

Ossobuco alla milanese (serve quattro)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 2 cucchiaini di olio extravergine di oliva | 400 ml di brodo di carne |
| 50 g di burro | 1 lattina da 14 oz (400 g) |
| 100 g di farina | di polpa di pomodoro a pezzetti |
| 4 ossibuchi di vitello (oppure di manzo) | 1 bicchiera di vino rosso |
| Sale e pepe nero q.b. | (tipo Pinot Nero) |
| 1 cipolla media tritata | 1 cucchiaio di prezzemolo tritato |
| 1 carota tritata | La buccia grattugiata di un limone |
| 1 costa di sedano tritata | 1 spicchio d’aglio |

Preparazione: In una casseruola bassa o in un tegame di ghisa scalda bene l’olio ed il burro. Aggiusta di sale e pepe gli ossibuchi, infarinali leggermente su entrambi i lati eliminando l’eccesso di farina e fai rosolare da entrambe le parti nel tegame. Togli dal fuoco e tieni da parte. Nel tegame metti cipolla, carota e sedano, e cuoci mescolando fino a renderli soffici e dorati, quindi aggiungi gli ossibuchi, fai insaporire, versa il vino e fai evaporare. Aggiungi i pomodori ed il brodo. Copri e fai sobollire per 2 ore girando gli ossibuchi ogni ½ ora. Quando e’ cotta la carne sara’ tenera al punto tale che si stacchera’ facilmente dall’osso. Spegni il fuoco. Nel frattempo prepara la gremolata tritando finemente l’aglio che aggiungerai al prezzemolo e alla buccia grattugiata del limone incorporando bene. Versa la gremolata nel tegame con gli ossibuchi, mescola bene e aggiusta di sale e pepe. Servi caldo. *Buon appetito!*

• Stirpe Nostra (Continued from Page 2)

of the day before making his decisions. Examples of some of his findings were: prohibiting the demolition of buildings for the sole purpose of transporting these materials to another city, awarding possession of treasure to an owner if he found it on his own property (however, if the property belonged to another, then they split the treasure.) Masters were forbidden to kill their slaves and, if deserved, their death had to be ordered by the Senate. Noone was permitted to sell a slave or maid-

servant to a procurer or trainer of gladiators without first setting forth a reason for doing so. Any legally responsible person who wasted his property or resources was flogged in the amphitheater. Also, houses of hard labor were abolished, separate public baths were provided for the sexes, and slaves could not be examined as witnesses to a crime unless they were reasonably close enough to have observed it.


NEXT WEEK:

Hadrian’s Villa at Tivoli

True By Dr. John Christoforo


Short Stories

BOSTON ENGLISH HIGH



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

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



Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



New Year's Eve had always been a bit different in the Contini and Christoforo households back in the day. Babbononno, two of my uncles, Nick and Paul, and my father were musicians. When I became of age, I joined the family business and became the 3rd generation to play an instrument or two in my family. Babbononno played guitar in Italian dance bands and timpani in marching and concert bands, like the Roma Band. My uncles played sax, clarinet and flute, and Dad played bass violin, Sousaphone and tuba (bass with the dance bands), and later, bass guitar. I started out playing bass violin and added the bass guitar in the 1960s. New Year's Eve for us was not a time to celebrate, but a time to entertain.

A saxophone student of Uncle Paul's, named Ray DiGiovanni, put a dance band together that became rather popular in the years after WWII, especially due to their constant appearance at the Oceanview Ballroom, which was located at the beginning of Revere Beach. Of course, my uncles were in the sax section and Dad was the bass player and, behind the scenes, Ray's partner. The band was called Ray Digg and his Orchestra and, as I said, they were quite popular back in the day.

You may ask why there was a name change. Years ago, people with ethnic-sounding names found it easier to "make it in America" with more Anglo-sounding names. Raymond DiGiovanni became Ray Digg; a bandleader Uncle Nick and I worked for, George Swartz, became George Graham; my uncles shortened Contini to Conti and Dad became Johnny Christie. As I said, it was easier back then with a more American-sounding name. When I came into my own, I became Johnny Christy, Jr., changing Christie to Christy.

It was the tail end of 1958. I had just become a professional musician and Ray Digg had several jobs on that forthcoming New Year's Eve. Uncle Nick was to lead one of them, and Dad another. As a result, I was to take Dad's place playing bass with Ray's first band. Ray was booked to play at the East Boston Sons of Italy, which was located on Trenton Street, near the corner of Marion in the Eagle Hill Section of East Boston. This was just around the corner from where we lived on Eutaw Street, so not yet having my own car wasn't a problem. I could walk to work with my bass violin tucked under my arm and be there within five minutes.

Babbononno supervised when I dressed for work. By this point in his life, he was retired from both music and his daytime job, but knew what nuances were necessary for a properly attired musician. He made sure my tux pants were properly creased, my

jacket was without a wrinkle, my formal shirt starched with each pleat falling in place without a problem, my bow tie tied correctly, and my formal shoes reflecting upward. After passing inspection, I headed out to play my first New Year's Eve dance.

We were to start at 8:30 pm and I arrived at 8:00 pm to set up and look over the music. Ray Digg had a great library of music and I wanted to make sure I could handle the bass parts. All the other musicians arrived at around 8:00 pm and we conversed while setting up as I had known most of them since I was a child. I actually grew up in the business, accompanying Dad to the union every Monday, which was the day most of the active musicians congregated to meet with the contractors and bandleaders to secure future work.

Ray gave the downbeat at exactly 8:30 pm. There were a few people there and they kept coming in as time went on. This was a dinner dance and we were booked until 12:30 am. We played various types of music, starting with fox trots, and then heading to the jitterbugs popularized by the big bands during the war. After that, it was waltz time and then Latin music time and a couple of rumbas and a new craze, the cha cha cha. At some point, we would get a request for Italian music and Ray was prepared with a medley of favorites that were mostly Italian-American.

This was back in the day, before bass players were amplified and I had to slam away at the gut strings on my bass to set the heartbeat for a ten-piece band. A few years later, I switched to steel strings (which have a better sound than cat gut) and bought an amplifier to aid in the volume I needed. It made things easier on my fingers, but this was back before all of this was available and, as I said, I had to slam away to get the volume I wanted.

Even though I was the kid in the band, I held my own. The only problem was that I wasn't used to working with such a large band and maintaining the necessary volume was taking its toll on my fingertips. I started to develop blisters. Of course, anticipating this problem, I was ready with Band-Aids and a roll of adhesive tape. I began using both by 11:30. Well, midnight rolled around and we played the traditional songs to welcome in the new year. Just before 12:30, Ray announced last call for the bar and told the partygoers that we were going to play our last set.

Someone walked to the stage and spoke to Ray, who nodded to the man. As we finished our last tune, we were told that we were going a half hour overtime. The man who hired the band and Ray had just agreed on a price for us to continue. The musicians were happy about

this except a young bass player. I looked under my bandaged fingers and saw only blood blisters and then realized how much my fingers hurt. I continued playing even though blood began running down a couple of strings due to a blister or two breaking. I had no alternative; I just smiled in pain and played. At 1:00 am, Ray told us we were going to play another half hour overtime. And so, we played on. About 1:15, I thought I had had it, but couldn't give in. If I did, it would be an admission of defeat and proof I wasn't ready to play at that level yet.

Just then, the cavalry arrived to save the day — Dad walked in the door. His job had ended on time and, when he saw my fingers all bandaged, he walked on the stage without saying a word. He just winked at me and, without skipping a beat, took over to finish the half hour playing bass. I was saved. All this happened 59 years ago and that entire generation of musicians is long gone. The music has changed over the years, but to me, that great American Songbook (which is what we call the type of dance music from the past) is still the best. The songs of Cole Porter, Gershwin, Ellington, etc. ... will never be surpassed by anything that's out there today. Maybe it's just me, but a lot of people agree with me. Maybe we're just the old-timers, but time will be the judge.

Before I close, I hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas holidays ... the seven fishes on Christmas Eve and a traditional Italian dinner on the 25th surrounded by loved ones. And lastly, from my family to yours, my wife Loretta, sons John and Michael, daughter-in-law Beth, and of course, our new granddaughter, Lina, a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR ... 2018.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI17P5956EA

Estate of
AUDREY MARIE HAYES
Also Known As
AUDREY M. HAYES

Date of Death December 13, 2014

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Jean A.R. Childs of Byfield, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Jean A.R. Childs of Byfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/29/17

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI17P6503EA

Estate of
RICHARD J. FINNERTY

Date of Death: November 29, 2017

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Michelle L. Hettinger of Weston, MA**, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Michelle L. Hettinger of Weston, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 19, 2018.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 22, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/29/2017

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI17P6372EA

Estate of
RALPH E. WEGENER

Date of Death October 16, 2017

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Elaine B. Wegener of Wayland, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 12, 2018.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 15, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/29/2017

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **TODISCO TOWING OF 94 CONDOR STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A that they will sell the following vehicles.

Vehicles are being sold to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and notices of sale:

2007 NISSAN ALTIMA
V.I.N. #1N4AL21E17N494292

1997 TOYOTA CAMRY
V.I.N. #4T1BG22K4VU034145

1998 HONDA PRELUDE
V.I.N. #JHMBB6149WC003329

2006 FORD FREESTYLE
V.I.N. #1FMDK04156GA42979

2000 HONDA ODYSSEY
V.I.N. #2HKRL1869YH591666

2006 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN
V.I.N. #1D4GP24RX6B754232

2012 TOYOTA CAMRY
V.I.N. #4T1BF1FK9CU580623

2006 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS
V.I.N. #KMHDN46D86U219662

The above vehicles will be sold at public auction at **TODISCO TOWING**
94 Condor Street, E. Boston
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2018
at **9:00 AM**

Run dates: 12/29/17, 1/5, 1/12, 2018

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

The POST-GAZETTE newspaper is a paper of general circulation.

We are qualified to accept legal notices from any court in each town that we serve.

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BOSTON, MA 02113
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• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

Jeanne Kirkpatrick and Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

As Haley stated, “When a nation is singled out for attack in this organization, that nation is disrespected. What’s more, that nation is asked to pay for the ‘privilege’ of being disrespected.”

For what they did to us with this recent vote, we shouldn’t be paying them 22 cents. Why are we financing their abuse thrown at us?

Medicare For All Is Nothing More Than Socialism

Funny how all the Democrats and the “Fake News” Media keep talking about how the recently signed into law will be too costly and raise the national debt. How do these critics think about financing Medicare for All. Talk about the growing national debt and talk about higher taxes when it comes to Obamacare and worse, like Bernie Sanders’

ideas, and there is not debt crisis, I guess. Can America afford medical socialism and its price tag?

Speaking About The New Tax Reform

Democrats and the liberal media talk about how all the tax cuts for the middle class will only last eight years. In Washington, DC, eight years is an eternity.

Will middle class voters in 2018 and 2020 be happy? Because that’s the reality facing the opposing herd of Democrats out to demonize this latest proposal signed into law last week.

Free Diapers For New Yorkers?

Help may soon be on the way for parents struggling to cover diapers. Brooklyn City Councilor Mark Tregyer has a bill that would force the city to provide free diapers at child care centers, shelters, and other public facilities. He said only parents eligible for diapers would get them. I’ll believe that when I see it. Perhaps, we could have them next to all the free school meals and free suntan lotion. Everything free in aisle H for helpless and needy.

ST. JUDE AND ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Anthony, most loving protector and wonder worker, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day and, by the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. My prayers have been answered. Favor received. D.A.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI17P6304EA
Estate of
CHARLES ALBION ANDERSON
Also Known As
CHARLES A. ANDERSON
Date of Death November 23, 2017
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Richard A. Hughes of North Reading, MA and Marilyn Brodeur of Woburn, MA, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Richard A. Hughes of North Reading, MA and Marilyn Brodeur of Woburn, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 9, 2018.

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

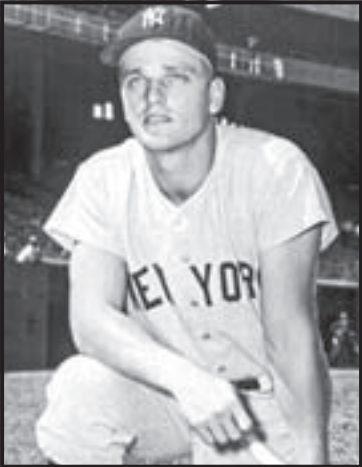
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 12, 2017

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/29/2017

EXTRA Innings
by Sal Giaratani



ROGER MARIS



TRACEY STALLARD
OCTOBER 1, 1961



JIM BUNNING

The above headline says it all. Boston Red Sox pitcher Tracey Stallard will forever be remembered for what he did in the fourth inning of a game played in Yankee Stadium on October 1, 1961, when Roger Maris stepped to the plate. Maris had never hit a homer off Stallard. Final game of the regular season and Maris had already tied Babe Ruth’s record of 60 home runs in a season. First two pitches were balls and the crowd started booing. The third pitch was a fastball and Maris hit it into the right field stands for his 61st home run.

Tracey Stallard died on December 6th at the age of 80. Shortly after giving up that historic homer that long-ago day, Stallard told sports reporters in the clubhouse that he didn’t feel bad about giving up the homer. “Why should I?” he said, “The guy hit 60 home runs off a bunch of other pitchers ... before he got to me.” It wasn’t like he pitched a bad game, either! The Yankees won it, 1-0.

He played with the Sox in 1961 and 1962 before getting traded to the NY Mets. He went 10-20 with the hapless Mets in 1964, but during that season, he had two shutouts and eleven complete games. Always a great third pitcher in a starting rotation. On Father’s Day in 1964, he got real close to

another historic baseball day — he was the losing pitcher when Jim Bunning pitched a perfect game for the Phillies. Stallard played his final two years with the Cardinals and, in 1965, he posted a career best record of 11-8.

When asked many times about that fastball he threw Maris, he said, “I gave him all I got. The fastball was probably all I had.”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...

Birthday greetings go out to former Red Sox first baseman Mo Vaughn, who just celebrated his Big Five-0.

DECEMBER

BASEBALL MOMENTS

December 26, 1919, the day the Yankees and Red Sox reached agreement on handing over Babe Ruth to the Bronx Bombers. December 7, 1937, the day the Red Sox acquired the contract of 19-year-old Ted Williams. December 15, 1953, the day the Brooklyn Dodgers signed pitcher Sandy Koufax. Finally, December 29, 1969, the day the NY Times reported Curt Flood would sue baseball and challenge the reserve clause, which eventually forever changed the game of baseball.

TAMPA BAY LONGORIA TO GIANTS

The San Francisco Giants have found the offense-producing third baseman they’ve been looking for lately, acquiring Evan Longoria and cash from the Tampa Bay Rays for outfielder Denard Span, infielder Christian Arroyo, and two minor league pitchers.

The 32-year-old Longoria was the longest-tenured player in Ray’s history after spending close to ten years there. He

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI17P6026EA

Estate of
EDWARD JOHN BARTER, JR.
Also Known As
EDWARD J. BARTER, JR.;
EDDIE BARTER

Date of Death October 3, 2015
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Joshua E. Barter of Reading, MA.

Joshua E. Barter of Reading, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/29/17

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by Stephens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 539A, that on December 30, 2017 at 10AM, at said address, the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper’s lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of notice and sale:

2007 CADILLAC CTS, BLACK
Vin: 1G6DP577X70107941
Trisha Johnson
P.O. Box 990566
Boston, MA 02199

2014 MAZDA 3, GRAY
Vin: JM1BM1V36E1113250
Matthew Alioto
2440 Mass Ave., Apt 31
Cambridge, MA 02140

2007 HONDA ACCORD, SILVER
Vin: JHMCN36457C003431
Moses Laurent
351 Medford St.
Malden, MA 02148

Run dates: 12/15, 12/22, 12/29, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE

EXPORT TOWING NOTICE TO OWNERS

The following abandoned and/or junked motor vehicles will be disposed of or sold. Any questions regarding this matter, please contact EXPORT TOWING Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tel: 781-395-0808

1999 TOYOTA SIENNA
Vin# 4T3ZF13C7XU155667

2005 FORD ESCAPE
Vin# 1FMYU93155KB22845

2007 CHEVY MALIBU
Vin# 1G1ZT68N67F143729

2007 MADZA MAZDA3
Vin# JM1BK123071703666

2003 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin# KMHWF25S43A815777

2003 HYUNDAI SONATA
Vin# KMHWF25S43A826052

12/22, 12/29, 2017 & 1/5/2018

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by TODISCO TOWING OF 94 CONDOR STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A that they will sell the following vehicles.

Vehicles are being sold to satisfy their garage keeper’s lien for towing, storage and notices of sale:

2005 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY

V.I.N. #1C4GP45R85B312507
2000 INFINITI I30

V.I.N. #JNKA31A0YT112924
2002 DODGE DURANGO

V.I.N. #1B4HS48N72F112764
2002 JEEP LIBERTY

V.I.N. #1J8GL58KX2W299966
2003 HONDA ACCORD

V.I.N. #1HGCM56373A077786
2002 HONDA CIVIC

V.I.N. #1HGEN22632L106887
2015 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE

V.I.N. #ML32A3HJ8FH003052
2008 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN

V.I.N. #2D8HN54P28R135928
2002 HONDA CIVIC

V.I.N. #2HGES26772H556807
2006 FORD ESCAPE

V.I.N. #1FMYU92Z06KC27138
2005 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY


V.I.N. #1C4GP45R85B312507
2015 TOYOTA RAV4

V.I.N. #2T3RFREV9FV351539
The above vehicles will be sold at public auction at

TODISCO TOWING
94 Condor Street, E. Boston


SATURDAY DECEMBER 30, 2017
at 9:00 AM
Run dates: 12/15, 12/22 12/29, 2017

First Night First Day 2018 Calendar Listing		
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 ST		
11:50 am	Boston Chinese Waist Drum Troupe	Copley Square
12:00 pm	Sweet Harmony	Copley Square
1:00 pm	Code 51	Copley Square
	GBCCA Arts & Crafts	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), McKim Exhibition Hall
1:15 pm	Puppet Showplace Theater	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), Guastavino Room
	Boston Sax Quartet	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Commonwealth Salon
	ImprovBoston	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Rabb Lecture Hall
1:30 pm	Unitas Ensemble	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Newsfeed Cafe/WGBH
2:00 pm	Puppet Showplace Theater	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), Guastavino Room
	GBCCA Performance	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), McKim Exhibition Hall
	Downtown Brass	Copley Square
	Handel & Hadyn Society Jubilee Day Concert	Trinity Church
	Organ Concert	First Church of Christ, Scientist
2:15 pm	Boston Sax Quartet	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Commonwealth Salon
	ImprovBoston	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Rabb Lecture Hall
2:30 pm	Katrina Kincade	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Newsfeed Cafe/WGBH
2:45 pm	Puppet Showplace Theater	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), Guastavino Room
3:00 pm	WGBH Broadcast	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Newsfeed Cafe/WGBH
	The King of Instruments	Old South Church
3:30 pm	Puppet Showplace Theater	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), Guastavino Room
	Dancin’ Diamonds	Copley Square
	ImprovBoston	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Rabb Lecture Hall
	Unitas Ensemble	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Commonwealth Salon
4:00 pm	Katrina Kincade	Boston Public Library – Johnson Building (Boylston Street), Newsfeed Cafe/WGBH
4:15 pm	Puppet Showplace Theater	Boston Public Library – McKim Building (Dartmouth Street), Guastavino Room
	Girls Nite Out	Copley Square
5:00 pm	TEMPO International Rhythm Section	Copley Square
6:00 pm	Opening Ceremony with Mayor Martin J. Walsh & Jessie Chris	Copley Square
	Frog Pond Skating Spectacular	Boston Common
	People’s Procession to Boston Common	Copley Square
6:30 pm	Pipes and Pops Concert	Old South Church
7:00 pm	Boston’s Family Fireworks Produced by The Mugar Foundation & The City of Boston	Boston Common
7:30 pm	PK & The Mighty 7	Copley Square
8:00 pm	Pipes and Pops Concert	Old South Church
8:15 pm	Dutch ReBelle	Copley Square
9:00 pm	Carissa Johnson	Copley Square
11:00 pm	Eli Paperboy Reed	Copley Square
11:30 pm	Copley Countdown with Eli Paperboy Reed, NBC Boston & iHeartRadio	Copley Square
12:00 am	Midnight Fireworks on the Harbor Friends of Christophers Columbus Park, Boston Harbor Now and Wharf District Council	Boston Harbor
	First Night Copley Countdown – Midnight Pyrotechnics & Light Show	Copley Square
MONDAY, JANUARY 1 ST		
11:00 am	Rachel Sumner	Copley Square
12:00 pm	Boston Opera Guy	Copley Square
	Science on the Street	Copley Square
1:00 pm	DD Martin & Code 51	Copley Square
2:00 pm	Lance Martin Band	Copley Square



HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



Here we are at New Year’s and there’s already a date to remember.

It’s February 11th and it’s of historical significance. It’s a one-time event so, if you miss it, you’ll have to view it online like millions of others. That’s the consequence when you host an occasion that can’t be duplicated. Especially if it takes place in an arena that has a capacity of only 18,624.

This significant moment in time is the Paul Pierce Jersey Retirement Ceremony, slated to take place on the parquet the same day the current edition of the Celtics takes on the Cleveland Cavaliers in a showdown game between the two best teams in the Eastern Conference.

The game itself would be worthy of circling the date. It has the potential to be one of the best home games of the regular season all by itself. Add to that the Celtics official salute to Pierce, coupled with the retirement of his no. 34 jersey, and you have an event that just may be the toughest ticket to obtain in the New England region during 2018.

It’s hard to believe, but at least nine other NBA teams passed on Paul Pierce in the 1998 NBA Draft. That’s why he was available when the Celtics selected him 10th overall — perhaps the major highlight of the Rick Pitino era in Boston.

Pierce would go on to have a spectacular 15-year career with the Celtics, a longevity only exceeded by John Havlicek, who was with the Green and White for 16 campaigns.

Plus, Pierce is one of three Celtics players — along with Havlicek and Larry Bird — to score more than 20,000 points in their careers with the Cs. When you factor in the points he also scored for Brooklyn, Washington, and the L.A. Clippers, the grand total for Pierce tops out at 26,397. When he stopped playing at the end of the 2016-2017 season, he was the only active player in the 30-team NBA with career totals of over 25,000 points, 7,000 rebounds, and 4,500 assists.

Over the course of his 15-year Celtics career (1998-1999 to 2012-2013), Pierce averaged 21.8 points per game to go with 6.0 rebounds and 1.44 steals in 1,102 games while wearing a Celtics uniform.

And he was on the court quite a bit during those games, averaging 36.6 minutes per contest. Now that’s being in shape!

And that’s just for the regular season. In ten of his fifteen seasons on Causeway Street, the Celtics went into overtime, i.e., they made the NBA play-offs. During his years here, he played in 136 postseason games, averaging 20.9 points, and 39.8 minutes per game in the playoffs.

For the first few years he was with the team, he was the solo star on the squad. But then Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen arrived during the summer of 2007. Together they formed the new “Big Three” and an era of excellence ensued.

Right out of the gate, they were a success, winning 42 more games than the previous season and capturing the 2008 NBA Championship — Banner 17 — with the culminating conquest coming in Game Six of the NBA Finals on June 17th via a convincing victory over the archrival Los Angeles Lakers at the Garden.

If there was royalty in pro basketball, then the Celtics were reigning over all the realm, thanks in no small part to Pierce, who had scored 22 points in a Game 1 victory, had tallied 28 more in a Game 2 triumph, and found the range for 38 more in Game 5. For his effort, Pierce was named the MVP of the 2008 Finals.

Another successful season followed in 2009-2010, when the Celtics also advanced to the 2010 Finals and met the Lakers once again. The Green came up a bit short this time, however, relinquishing the lead midway through the fourth quarter of Game 7, never gaining it back, and seeing a potential second title fade away into a California night.

Nevertheless, it was quite a career for the Inglewood, CA, native who was cut not once, but twice, from his high school basketball team. He never gave up, though, and returned to gain a starting role as a junior and became a high school All-American during his senior year.

He went on to play three years at the University of Kansas and then declared for the 1998 NBA Draft. Those nine teams that passed on him have their regrets. But the Celtics, surprised that Pierce was still available when their turn came at no. 10, chose wisely.

He gave them fifteen superb seasons on Causeway Street and was a major factor in bringing the first pro championship to the new Garden. It was Shaquille O’Neal who gave Pierce his nickname “The Truth.” Following a stellar 42-point performance by Pierce in a 112-107 loss to the L.A. Lakers on March 13, 2001, O’Neal told *Boston Herald* writer Steve Bulpett: “I knew he could play but I didn’t know he could play like this. Paul Pierce is ‘The Truth.’”

Pierce averaged 25.3 ppg that year, one of five seasons he was over 25 points a game.

As for the future, there has always been speculation that Pierce could someday have a position within the Celtics organization. This past summer, when signing a ceremonial one-day contract that will enable him to retire as a Celtic on February 11th, Pierce stated that: “This organization and city took me in and made me one of their own. I couldn’t imagine ending my career any other way. I am a Celtic for life.”

So, on February 11th, it will be a host of Garden legends and NBA luminaries plus King James and his Cavaliers that will pay tribute to this future Hall of Famer. It should be quite a day for Paul Pierce — a Prince of the Parquet in every way.