

THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 125 - NO. 53

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 31, 2021

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FIRST NIGHT® Boston 2022

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

Boston Public Library Copley (Outdoors)
- McKim Building
(Dartmouth Street)
230 Dartmouth St, Boston
12:00 p.m.
BOSTON SAXOPHONE QUARTET



The Boston Saxophone Quartet is a unique blend of musicians combining a tremendous range of repertoire and individual experience in wind performance. Members of the BSQ have performed with the Boston Pops and Boston Symphony Orchestra and leading Broadway theaters throughout New England. The BSQ performs a



variety of functions that can run the gamut from corporate sponsors, formal concerts, to wedding receptions. BSQ offers a wide repertoire including swing, ragtime, jazz, The Beatles and more!

1:00 p.m.
MADDI RYAN — Boston-based singer and songwriter Maddi Ryan, draws inspiration from modern and classic pop-country music. Ryan's

performances have taken her through Nashville and New England playing emotion-driven originals with a hint of southern swagger. Watch Maddi perform at an outdoor space outside the Boston Public Library in Copley.

2:00 p.m.
LAQUANDRA SEYMORE — Singer and songwriter LaQuandra Seymore is a young

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News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Smash and Grabs Targeted by Task Force

Connecticut has formed a task force charged with combating the growing issue of organized robberies at retail stores, Gov. Ned Lamont and Attorney General William Tong announced last week. The national issue involves smash and grab thefts in which large quantities of goods are stolen and resold online.

Tong stated this is more than shoplifting and involves high-level criminal bosses sending crews out robbing stores.

No More Law Exam Blues for Poor Kim Baby

Kim Kardashian is closer to becoming an attorney after passing the so-called "Baby Bar" exam out in California. "OMFGGGG I PASSED THE BABY BAR EXAM!!!" The 41-year-old reality star couldn't wait to blast out that Instagram message in a post that also featured photos of herself hitting the law books. I had a good laugh though. The photo taken poolside had her in a swimsuit that was barely larger than her law book sitting on her lap.

Frank Talk from Netflix

It appears the life and times of Frank Sinatra will soon be landing on Netflix. It is being produced by his daughter Tina Sinatra, along with Bill Condon and Lionsgate. Condon will write and direct the pilot.

Biden and His Useless Car Chargers

Joe Lancaster from *Reason Magazine* recently opined, "As part of its recently passed infrastructure bill, the Biden Administration plans to spend \$7.7 billion building 500,000 chargers for electric cars, which have two big unresolved issues, price and range. There are very few electric vehicles that have

(Continued on Page 10)

The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park Ring in the New Year



FOCCP Brings New Year's Eve Midnight Fireworks to Boston Harbor!

The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park led the effort to bring back the nearly 40-year tradition of Midnight New Year's Eve fireworks to the Boston Harbor, which is possible because of the generous support from local businesses, waterfront organizations, and the City of Boston. Public viewing is free and available along the Harborwalk at Fan Pier, Christopher Columbus Park, and the East Boston waterfront.

"We're elated to bring New Year's Eve Midnight Fireworks back to the harbor and thank Boston Harbor Now for its support," said Joanne Hayes-Rines, FOCCP President. "The fireworks positively impact businesses in the neighborhood and beyond, bringing community and celebration to the area."

This year's fireworks show was made possible by the generous support of Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau; an Anonymous Friend; Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor; Fan Pier; Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and

Entertainment; Boston Harbor Hotel; Boston Harbor City Cruises; Boston Marriott Long Wharf; Yacht Haven; Reel House; Rep. Aaron Micheltz; Seaport Master TRS LLC.; Boston City Walks; and Leverett Wing.

Snow Ball Fight is ON!



As part of the First Night celebration, don't miss the New Year's Eve Waterfront Ice Sculpture Stroll along the Harborwalk in East Boston, Charlestown, Downtown, and the Seaport. Thanks to Boston Harbor Now more than two dozen ice sculptures, hosted by waterfront businesses and cultural sites, will dot the Harborwalk — the largest Waterfront Ice Sculpture Stroll EVER! Check out the interactive map with the location of all the ice sculptures at www.bostonharbornow.org/NYE/.


A lineup of more than a dozen unique ice sculptures will be on display from 1:00 p.m. — dusk on December 31, 2021. Our whimsical "Snow Ball Fight" will be on the Harborwalk along Columbus Park. Thank you to all our supporters who make it possible for us to bring this fun ice sculpture to the park.

POST-GAZETTE SATELLITE OFFICE
343 CHELSEA ST., DAY SQ., EAST BOSTON
Tues. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM; Thurs. 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Call **617-227-8929** for more information

Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



THE ROMAN TOMBS



Mausoleum of Augustus

The pre-Christian Romans practiced two forms of death rites: cremation and interment. Sarcophagi (stone coffins) for the interred body and urns for the cremated remains were sometimes found side-by-side in the same tomb.

During the latter part of the Roman Empire, the body of nearly every emperor was burned on a magnificent funeral pyre while at the same time an eagle was released to symbolize his escaping soul. Many of the wealthy deceased citizens, however, were embalmed and placed in huge, costly sarcophagi.

These early Romans also developed a custom of internment outside of the walled city. Later, the laws made it compulsory that no body (I have the strongest compulsion at this time to add “dead or otherwise”) could be buried within the walls of Rome.

Dead slaves and the lowest grade of Romans were placed either in common burial places or just put into the ground anywhere outside of the walls. Beautiful family mausoleums were built by those who could afford the cost. The custom at the time was to build the tomb at the side of the various roads leading away from the city. The tombs were conspicuous by their owner’s desire for this location, as it made them easily accessible and reasonably secure. The older tombs were located nearest to the city gates and, as the roadside spaces became filled, the line of tombs extended for more than ten miles.

Tomb lots with frontage directly on the roadside were highly priced while those lots located back in the fields were less expensive. A major clearing project extending for five or six miles along the Appian

Way was undertaken by Pope Pius IX (1846-1878). This effort returned to the world about 30,000 mausoleums, which had been obscured, by grass and brush for centuries.

Gravestone or tomb inscriptions seemed to be quite common. History records the inscription on the tomb of Eurysaces, a wealthy baker, which translates into “Atistia was my wife; she was the best woman alive; of whose body the remains which are left are in this bread basket.” Another inscription reads “To Adeodata, Meritorious Virgin, Who Rests Here in Peace, Her Christ Having Willed It So.”

Up to the time of Augustus, the Romans seemed to be mostly concerned about the tombs of their ancestors, altars for ancestor worship, and the safekeeping of the family relics. After visiting the great tombs of Egypt, Augustus, then about 35 years old, set about the task of building a beautiful mausoleum for himself. As an afterthought, he provided some extra space for the other members of his family, which were to follow. The tomb was completed and remained empty for about five years. The fickle finger of fate then pointed to young Marcellus, who became the tomb’s first tenant. He was the one whose death was least expected and greatly lamented. Eleven years later, Marcus Agrippa became the second occupant. Octavia, the sister of Augustus was next, and then came Lucius, the young son of Agrippa.

Caius, another young son of Agrippa, soon followed and Augustus himself, who died an old and lonely man, became the tomb’s last tenant.

Gabriela Coletta

Announces Candidacy for District One Boston City Council Seat in Upcoming Special Election

Gabriela “Gigi” Coletta announced her candidacy for Boston City Council to represent the District One neighborhoods of Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End. A special election will be held in the coming months following the expected election of current Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards to the Massachusetts Senate. Coletta served as Councilor Lydia Edwards Chief of Staff for three and a half years and prior to that led her successful campaign in 2017 as her campaign manager. She is currently the External Relations Manager at the New England Aquarium where she leads efforts to ensure the downtown waterfront remains resilient, inclusive, and accessible for all Bostonians.

“District One faces unique challenges and this moment requires an experienced leader to tackle our most urgent issues. We are dealing with a housing affordability and displacement crisis, inequities in our public education system, and a significant threat to our waterfront communities due to sea-level rise and climate change,” said Coletta. “I’m running because I will be the bold and effective advocate this district deserves. I will fight for the community’s best interest and protect the vitality of our neighborhoods from day one. I will hit the ground running to best represent a broad coalition of residents and utilize my experience to push for bold policy solutions while prioritizing constituent services to improve the quality of life for all residents.” Coletta intends to utilize her lived experience as a public servant, lifelong East Bostonian, and renter as anchors for her campaign.

“Over the last decade, I’ve seen my neighborhood become developed with units that many individuals in this district can’t afford. The real estate market is increasingly out of reach for many who would like to plant their roots and grow in this district and is displacing many of our neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet.

Homeownership feels so far away to me and so many people in all three communities and across Boston. Whether your family has lived here for four generations like mine, or you just arrived four days ago, you should have access to affordable options for both homeownership and rental opportunities.”

Additional topics she intends to focus on in her campaign include creating and maintaining equitable access to an excellent education for all children across the district, prioritizing excellent city services by reforming Boston’s 311 for better transparency and accountability, and pushing the City of Boston for greater investments in coastline resiliency to protect the district from the dangers of flooding due to climate change.

Coletta has already garnered enthusiastic and broad support from Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End.

“When she was Chief of Staff, I worked directly with Gabriela on a number of issues



including the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment,” said former Department of Public Works Commissioner and Charlestown resident Joanne Massaro. “She was always responsive, understanding the issues and their complexity while helping guide the community to a fair resolution. Gabriela knows how to get it done and she’s shown she’s ready to take this role on. I’m proud to support Gabriela for District One City Councilor.”

“Gabriela has been an effective advocate on issues related to Boston’s waterfront both in City Hall and at the New England Aquarium,” said North End Waterfront resident Cheryl Delgreco. “She understands the urgent need for Boston to develop a comprehensive plan to invest resources into coastline resiliency to protect us from sea-level rise due to climate change.” “While in her previous capacity in City Hall, Gabriela has shown an understanding of the importance of immigrant families not just in Boston but in the nation,” said Ana Alonzo, East Boston resident, and National Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Alliance organizer. “She has supported immigrant families in their fight for justice and has helped uplift the stories of immigrants that have made Boston and enriched its communities.”

“Gabriela understands that basic city services add up to make a big impact in the quality of life for residents of the North End,” said lifelong resident Marco Imbergamo. “I’m confident she will continue to prioritize responsive constituent services if elected as our City Councilor.” “I worked with Gabriela on a number of issues related to BPS and she was always incredibly responsive and thoughtful to our suggestions and concerns,” said BPS parent and Charlestown resident Janelle Bruno. “It’s clear she understands the complexities of BPS and can jump right in to support families as they navigate the system which is a huge plus for the residents in our community.”

(Continued on Page 10)



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NEXT ISSUE:
The Tomb of Cecelia Metela

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
Docket No. SU21P2246EA
Estate of
MICHAEL LANZI
Date of Death: March 02, 2021
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Eugene Lanzi of Malden, MA**.
Eugene Lanzi of Malden, 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: 12/31/2021

Happy New Year

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5 Prince Street, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113
617-227-8929 617-227-8928 FAX 617-227-5307

e-mail: postgazette@aol.com

Website: www.BostonPostGazette.com

Subscriptions in the United States \$35.00 yearly

Published weekly by
Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., P.O. Box 130135,
Boston, MA 02113

USPS 1538 – Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the
POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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

Vol. 125 - No. 53

Friday, December 31, 2021

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.

In Loving Memory of



Linda Cole Petrosian

4th Year Anniversary

May 26, 1960 - January 2, 2018

We miss you everyday
We think of you everyday and
miss your wonderful smile & laugh.
Always caring and how you touched so many lives.
Now with the
"Our Girl Linda Foundation"
we are able to keep your memory alive
In helping so many.
A bright & beautiful light still
shines bright thinking of you.
Love your husband Seuh, Dimitri & Kristen, Alec,
Mom, Sandra, Milan & Sam,
the entire Petrosian and Cellucci family

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.

Eleanor A. (Spinale) Venezia

May She Rest In Peace

Eleanor A. (Spinale) Venezia, 89, of Quincy died peacefully on December 26, 2021 after a year-long illness.

Eleanor was born in the West End of Boston, during the Great Depression and daughter of a fisherman and homemaker who immigrated more than a century ago from Augusta, Italy.

After raising her children, decades after receiving her high school diploma, Eleanor returned to school and graduated from Quincy Junior College with an Associate's Degree.

Eleanor devoted her life to her family, her community and her faith, volunteering as a Girl Scout Leader, as an art docent for several years in the Quincy Public Schools and a docent with the Museum of Science for more than 25 years. Eleanor also served as a Eucharistic Minister in Sacred Heart Church – Divine Mercy Parish in Quincy for many years and was a lifelong avid reader and a devoted member of her neighborhood book club.

She was the beloved wife of Salvatore R. Venezia for more than 68 years. Honored and cherished mother of Steven of Boston, Marianne Venezia-



Looney (J. Timothy) of Saugus, Angela of Somerville, and Christine Vella (Chad) of Westwood. Eleanor is survived by four exceptional and beloved grandchildren: Olivia, Sophia, Victoria, and Michael Vella, all of Westwood. Eleanor was the youngest child of the late Sebastiano and Sebastiana (Passanisi) Spinale and devoted sister of the late Concetta, Salvatore, Rose (Staver), Domenic, Mary (Venezia), Connie (Gazzano), Josephine (Mele), and Angela (Pinto) all of

whom have predeceased her. Eleanor is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the visiting hours on Sunday, January 2, 2022 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at Keohane Funeral Home, 785 Hancock Street, Quincy.

There will be a Funeral Mass celebrating Eleanor's life at Sacred Heart Church, 386 Hancock Street, North Quincy on January 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Burial will follow at Mt. Wollaston Cemetery, 20 Sea Street in Quincy.

Start Seeds Outdoors with Winter Sowing

by Melinda Myers

Save money and indoor space used for starting seeds indoors with winter sowing. This easy technique allows you to start transplants from seeds outdoors without a greenhouse or cold frame.

Growing your own transplants from seeds can save you money and is often the only option for new, unique, and other hard to find plants. Not everyone has the time, equipment, and dedication to watering that's needed to start plants indoors.

All you need are flower and vegetable seeds, milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles, duct tape and a quality potting mix. Check the seed packet for information on planting details and timing. Winter sowing dates vary with the growing climate, individual gardener, and seed variety you are planting.

Try starting hardy perennials and self-seeding annuals sometime winter through early spring. Other flowers and vegetables seeds are typically winter sown about the same time you would plant them indoors or a month or two before the transplants get moved into the garden. Keep a record of your planting dates and results to help you fine tune your planting schedule and increase future success.

Drill four to 12 small holes in the bottom of the jug for drainage. One winter sower fills the container with water and pops it into the freezer or outside in below freezing temperatures. Once frozen solid, he drills the holes into the container. The ice prevents the plastic container from collapsing during the process.

Next, partially cut the jug to create a hinged lid. Make your



Winter sowing allows gardeners to start transplants from seeds outdoors by repurposing milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles. (Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com)

cut about three to four inches above the bottom, leaving the area by the handle attached so it forms a hinge. The bottom of the milk jug handle is usually a good guide.

Fill the bottom with moist potting mix. Plant seeds according to the package directions. Gently water until the excess runs out the bottom of the container.

Fellow gardener, Patricia, uses rolled newspaper or the cardboard tubes from toilet paper to help space and eventually transplant her winter sown seedlings. She makes newspaper pots by wrapping 22½" x 5" strips of newspaper around a 2½" diameter x 4" tall jar. She folds the end to create the bottom for a 3½" tall pot. Secured with staples, she sets the pots or toilet paper rolls in the milk

jug, fills with potting mix, tops them off with about half an inch of seed starting mix and then plants her seeds.

Label the inside and outside of the jug with a permanent marker. Close the lid and seal it shut with duct tape. Remove the cap before setting your milk jugs in a sunny location outdoors where rain and snow can reach it. Keep them handy to prevent waterlogged soil during extremely wet weather.

Water your outdoor seed starting chambers during snow-free and dry weather. This will be much less often than those seedlings growing indoors under artificial lights.

Your plants will be ready to move into the garden at the normal planting time. Just open the lids harden off the plants and move them into the garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses How to Grow Anything DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moments TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her web site is: www.melindamyers.com.

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

Welcome, New Year!

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



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

New Year’s Eve carries a distinct and unique feeling from other days of the year, a strong atmosphere of anticipation and excitement. It is an aura that imbues the ordinary activities people undertake during the

day on New Year’s Eve — walking the dog, going to the grocery store, visiting the hair salon— with a captivating patina of both nostalgia and enthusiasm, propelled by the knowledge that old year will soon give way to a new and exciting chapter. Even the twilight sky seems different on New Year’s Eve, glowing with a jewel-like blue tone indicative of the unhurriedly lengthening days. The tangible peculiarity of New Year’s Eve gave birth to a plethora of luck-themed folk traditions related to the holiday. New Year’s Eve is a time inherently rife with insecurity, as we ponder whether the upcoming year will be worse or better than the last, sundry superstitions seek to improve good fortune within the next twelve months. The practice of making a lot of noise at the stroke of midnight, reflected in the abundant party horns and noisemakers of today, derives from the ancient belief that supernatural creatures wandered the Earth during times of transition. Loud noises could effectively scare these evil spirits away. Certain foods also possess lucky qualities for the New Year. In Italy, lentils are considered an auspicious food for New Year’s Eve, since they are thought to resemble small coins and as such attract prosperity. They are usually paired in a dish containing a spicy pork sausage known as *cotecchino*. My grandmother fondly remembered 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 marble ring cake for dessert. Ring cakes are yet another lucky food for this feast, since their shape symbolizes the cycle of the year. I enjoy hearing my grandmother tell stories about the quirky traditions that characterized New Year’s Eve in her small Italian hometown, such as sweeping out the door with a broom at midnight in order to chase away the old year. Sometimes my family plays Bingo together, known as *tombola* in Italian. Games of chance are popular components of New Year’s festivities around the world, for they mimic the unpredictable thrill of good fortune. We watch the televised New Year’s celebration in New York, and when the famed Times Square ball finally drops at midnight, we hug and kiss and wish each other a happy New Year. This is my favorite tradition, as it reminds me that being surrounded by the love of family and friends is the best wish I can ask for all year! New Year’s Day is far more low-key. Known as *Capodanno*, or “head of the year,” in Italian, this is a day devoted to recuperating from the previous night’s parties. Superstition advises that the way you start the New Year is the way you will end it, so I like to spend New Year’s Day doing a little bit of all the things I love, such as writing, reading, baking and watching a movie. New Year’s Day is also laden with a unique and pleasant feeling. The sky seems bluer, the birds sing loudly, and snow sparkles like diamonds on the ground. I believe the whole world is starting anew!

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

Happy New Year to All! *Buon Anno!*

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

THINKING OUT LOUD



by Sal Giaratani

We Are Coming Up to Year Three of COVID and I’m Not Happy

For me, COVID changed life as we knew it in early 2020, Friday, March 13th to be specific when schools closed for the weekend and never reopened that school year. We just celebrated our second not so Happy Christmas. I look back now and it reminds me of an old R.E.M. song, “It’s the End of the World as We Know It,” back in 1987.

Most of us have done quite well during this ordeal, but I swear many have totally lost it. I still see folks driving cars with their masks on and I wonder what must be going through their minds. Many today are believing that our government may be lying to us or at least misleading us. Everyone talks like an “expert,” but how much even now do we really know about the virus and this latest Omicron variant. In all transparency, I tested positive for the virus following my family’s traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Thirteen of us, all vaxxed, and some even boosted and yet nine of us ended up testing positive for COVID. How did that happen, huh? Calling dr. Fauci, calling Dr. Fauci!

Right now, we have Biden, the Democrats, and the news media all stirring the pot endlessly trying to scare all of us into compliance. All the so-called science experts led by Dr. Tony “I am the science” Fauci keep telling us we’re still in trouble. No optimism coming from any of them. All I hear is fear mongering. We keep hearing the message, we must get vaxxed and boosted not just for our own good but for the nation as a whole. It’s all looking like so much crap to me.

Do we wear masks forever, and do we end up getting a fourth, fifth, or sixth jab, or perhaps jabs forever? Yet vaxxed people keep getting the virus and its variants. Right now after having had the infection, am I now immune to the virus since I have antibodies inside me. Isn’t this really much better than a booster in the arm?

I will not let fear control

my life. President Franklin Roosevelt was so right when he said, “We have nothing to fear but fear itself.” I believe the intent of our elections in the Nation’s Capital, state houses, and city and town halls is to use FEAR to attain as much power and control as they can possibly attain.

I would hope that our elected leaders at all levels of government would put their maximum efforts into developing actual treatments to the virus. This drive to get everyone vaccinated and the fear of panic being used to get to that goal. What about natural immunities, antibodies, herd immunity. The Spanish flu was never eradicated. It’s still in the air around us, but it is no longer a medical issue since we have developed herd immunity to its effects. COVID and its variants are probably never going away. So, we will most likely have some unlucky folks who might get it going into the future.

Finally, demonizing those opposed to both mask and vax mandates is a useless tactical approach to take. Creating a dual society of the vaxxed and unvaxxed is, I believe, unconstitutional. I hope this issue of such mandates is resolved by our U.S. Supreme Court and is corrected sooner rather than later.

I still believe what Ben Franklin cautioned long ago, “Those who would give up their liberty for their security, deserve neither.”

My resolution for 2022 is to walk free and without fear of the boogeyman called COVID. Government has no authority to supersede the Bill of Rights, because it isn’t a list of rights they gave us, it is a written list of rights that the government cannot take away from us.

Remember, the government is our business. Either we run it or it will run us. Here in America the people rule and our government will only be as good as we make it or as bad as we allow.

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Saint Giuseppe Maria Tomasi

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Tomasi was born at Licata, in the Kingdom of Sicily, to Giulio Tomasi, the first Prince of Lampedusa and his wife, Rosalia Traina. Tomasi from his earliest years showed signs of a life oriented toward God. He secretly cultivated his desire to enter religious life until he obtained the consent of his father.

After having renounced the principality, which belonged to him by birth, in favor of his younger brother, as well as his very large inheritance, Tomasi was admitted into the Theatines, a religious Order founded by St. Cajetan of Tiene in 1524. They were noted for the simplicity of life followed by its members. He joined the Order on March 24, 1665, and made his religious profession in the Theatine house of St. Joseph, at Palermo, on March 25th, one year later.

Tomasi then studied philosophy, first at Messina, and later, owing to poor health, at Ferrara and Modena, and theology in Rome and Palermo. He was ordained a priest on Christmas Day 1673. He had



a wide knowledge of Greek, and many of the mid-Eastern languages including, Aramaic and Hebrew. He devoted himself to the study of Scripture and the Fathers of the Church. Searching the chief libraries, archives, and monuments, he retraced the ancient ecclesiastical discipline and liturgy. Tomasi considered that a good part of his own religious perfection lay in dedicating himself, with the spirit of faith, to the publication of rare liturgical books and of the ancient texts of sacred Liturgy, and so bringing to light many ancient sacred

scriptures which until then had been hidden in libraries.

Tomasi's efforts at reform were directed not to the introduction of the new, but to the restoration and maintenance of the old. He held high office in the Church under Pope Innocent XII Pope Clement XI, for whom he served as confessor, appointed him consultor of the Theatine Order, theologian of the Sacred Congregation for Consultations about Regulars and other offices of the Holy See. Tomasi was made Cardinal Priest and taught catechism to the children of the poor in his titular church, also introducing its congregants to the use Gregorian Chant, He passed away in 1713, mourned by all, especially by Pope Clement, who so admired his sanctity that he had consulted him before accepting the papacy. He was buried in his titular church.

Tomasi was Canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 12, 1986.

The Feast Day of Saint Giuseppe Maria Tomasi is January 1st.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year

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

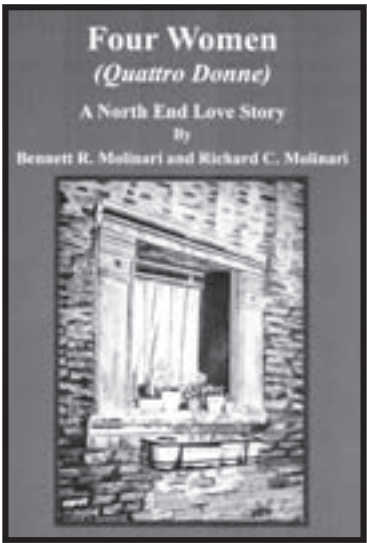
Four Women “Quattro Donne”

subtitle, A North End Love Story

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

Before Father Francesco could say another word, Carla blurted out, “You are sending me back to prison!” “My home is a prison to you!” Egidio shouted angrily. “Yes, Papa. Now that I know Pietro’s love, anyplace without him would be a prison.” Pietro was about to embrace Carla who was now crying, but Father Francesco once again began speaking. He called Pietro by name, interrupting the embrace that surely would have meant trouble. “Pietro, you must listen to me. Allow me to complete my thoughts. Enter the seminary, as I suggested, and complete your first year of studies. Carla, return to your father’s house and the life lived before you met Pietro.” “Impossible Father,” Carla interjected. “It’s impossible to return to my life, a life without Pietro.” “Enough of this,” Egidio demanded. “You will listen to Father Francesco and come home with us.” “One moment, Egidio. You didn’t let me finish my thoughts,” insisted Father Francesco. “Carla should return to your home for one year and the life she lived before Pietro. Pietro should spend one year in the seminary. Both should regard this as a time of trial, a time when their love will be tested. If, at the end of the year, their love remains strong, they should be allowed to marry.” Father Francesco’s last words struck a nerve; Egidio stood bolt straight. “Your plan is insane Father Francesco. Carla, you are coming home with me,” he insisted.

Finally, Grandma spoke. “Who are you Egidio that you should act this way? Your words are those of a tyrant.” “I will hear no more of this Lucia!” Egidio shouted, silencing her with a threatening wave of his



hand, bringing the three sisters to their feet. Auntie Angie spoke first. “You are a tyrant, Egidio. You cannot treat this affair in such a manner.” Egidio was about to respond but was cut short by Auntie Stella. “No, Angie, he’s not a tyrant but a *cafone*.” Mom was just about ready to put her two cents in, when Father Francesco slammed his fist on the coffee table, silencing them. “Enough of this! Everyone back in your seats. You came for my advice, and you must hear me out!”

Egidio could barely contain himself his anger was so great. Grabbing Carla by one hand, he pulled her to her feet, as if to rip her away from Pietro. This brought Pietro to his feet. Egidio’s treatment of Carla was too much for him to bear. “Leave her alone, Signor Ricci. Stop treating Carla in this manner!” Pietro blurted out, his anguish apparent in his voice. Frank then made his move. “You’re the cause of all of this, Pietro Petruzelli. You have torn our family apart. We have taken enough from you and now I’m going to do something about

it.” Mom, sensing something was about to happen, advanced toward Pietro. Frank, at the same time, pushed his father aside and lunged toward Pietro, but not before Mom put herself between them, absorbing the full force of Frank’s charge. Auntie Stella instinctively rushed toward Frank but was deflected by a quick wave of his hand. Auntie Angie turned to Father Francesco, but he needed no words. Furious with what was happening in front of him, he shouted, “You are in the presence of a priest, a servant of God! I demand that you stop! I demand your respect, if not for me but for whom I represent!”

Four Women “Quattro Donne” A North End Love Story, is available at R. Del Gaudio Gift Shop, 17 North Square North End (617-227-5915), adjoining Paul Revere House; Post-Gazette; Saint Francis Book Store and Gift Shop at Saint Leonard Peace Garden; lulu.com; molinaridesign.net; Amazon.com; and Barnes and Noble.com. Bookshop.org; Barbara’s Bestsellers, South Station (857-263-8737); Greetings from Boston, Faneuil Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **January 8, 2022 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

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Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

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 **bpda**

Virtual Public Meeting

Government Center Urban Renewal Community Meeting

Wednesday, January 12
6:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3F6srEJ
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 160 467 0002

Project Description:
The Boston Planning and Development Agency is inviting the surrounding neighbors of the Government Center Urban Renewal Plan Area to a community meeting to gain feedback on a request to extend the terms of the plan. Translation/ Interpretation will be available upon request with 7 day advance notice.

mail to: **Christopher Breen**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4202
email: chris.breen@boston.gov

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



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• **First Night Boston** (Continued from Page 1)

songstress who started singing publicly at a young age. Her songs are her diary of her musical journey, taking inspiration from her own experiences - which listeners across all ages can relate to. In her early career, Seymore has opened for artists including Avant, Ke Ke Wyatt, Dru Hill, 112, Tony Toni Tone, amongst many great artists. Seymore shows versatility and range through her voice and has been compared to strong female artists such as Jennifer Hudson and Beyoncé, with a twist of Patti LaBelle. Listen to her songs including “Can’t Stay Away” and “Here for Your Love” across all platforms.

3:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.
BOSTON YOUTH CHAMBER



Boston Youth Chamber, also known as BYC, consists of a group of classically trained youth musicians. Based in Boston, these young, prominent, and motivated musicians serve the community by performing throughout the city and neighboring towns.

BYC provides a variety of ensembles, from piano quartets to violin trios. The musicians will learn new repertoire to meet any client’s wishes. Whether it be a volunteering opportunity or a paid gig, BYC’s musicians are always happy to spread their love of classical music.

Copley Place Mall (Outdoors)
100 Huntington Ave., Boston
12:00 p.m. & 12:45 p.m.
CHU LING DANCE ACADEMY

Chu Ling has worked as a performer and advocate in the arts for over 40 plus years in many capacities: dancer, choreographer, producer, arts administrator, fundraiser, and teacher. She founded Chu Ling Dance Academy in 1998, an organization of multi-age performance groups whose primary focus was the creation and performance of dance.

Ms. Chu, since 2000, has been teaching Chinese dance at the Boston Ballet School and the first to do so. She also frequently has workshops at Wellesley College, Boston University and Harvard University.

Chu Ling continues to be the premier choreographer of dance in the Boston Area. Her choreography has been presented on stage and in numerous festivals. She is the recipient of numerous awards in China, Japan and the United States. In 2002, Ms. Chu received an “Artist/ Humanist Fellowship” from the Boston Cultural Council.

1:30 p.m., 2:15 p.m., 3:00 p.m., & 3:45 p.m.

PUPPET SHOWPLACE THEATER — Puppet Showplace Theater is New England’s center for puppetry arts. Each year, they present over 300 performances by professional puppet companies to audiences of all ages at the intimate Brookline Village theater. Their touring productions reach thousands more at schools, libraries, theaters, and cultural centers

throughout the Northeast region and beyond.

The Puppet Showplace offers workshops, classes, summer programs, and training opportunities to both children and adults, and partners with local and emerging artists to develop new and innovative puppetry productions. After decades in operation, their theater has become a treasured cultural institution.

4:30 p.m.
DAVEY THE CLOWN



Davey the Clown is a comedian, juggler, unicyclist and accordionist. Davey’s show is big and funny - the perfect family entertainment for events, large and small!

The show contains silly juggling, amazing magic, incredible unicycle tricks, wacky antics, beautiful and rousing accordion music, balloon sculpture, tons of audience participation, and a rubber chicken!

Copley Square
560 Boylston Street, Boston
12:00 p.m.

SWEET HARMONY — Sweet Harmony is one of Riverside Theatre Works’ premier vocal performance troupes. Their repertoire features music spanning many periods and styles - from pop to Broadway, jazz to rock, classical to swing. They can be found entertaining crowds in Boston and throughout New England, bringing joy to all through their music.

1:00 p.m.
PACO’S BAND — To suggest that Paco has thus far led an interesting and colorful life is an understatement. After a 37-year Real Estate Career as a CEO, at age 64 he changed direction completely, to pursue a lifelong dream of singing, acting and entertaining. In sharing his dreams with others, his goal is to simply help them find more joy, peace and meaning in their own lives through music and the visual arts. Paco has trained and studied professionally to refine his voice, dance, acting and modeling talents. He has appeared in TV and films in addition to commercial ads and in voice-overs.

To date, Paco has recorded well over 175 songs and released eight full-length Albums, including his newest CD “Paco’s Oldies, Americana & Faith Volume II”, which focuses primarily on 1950s and 60s Oldies. The Album’s lead song “Sea Of Love” was also made into a chart topping music video filmed in LA and was released to rave reviews on his Facebook: Paco Music, and also on YouTube under “Sea of Love by Paco.” Seven of his Albums can be listened to on Spotify under “Paco’s Captivated.”

While they have a repertoire including Holiday songs, faith-based music, Broadway and pop/rock, the band’s primary focus is on 50s, 60s & 70s Oldies.

2:00 p.m.
SEBA — Seba Molnar is a saxophonist, composer, and educator, based out of Boston, Massachusetts. Originally from Canton, New York, Seba began performing at the age of 12. Seba moved to Boston in 2012 to attend the Berklee College of Music. While at Berklee, Seba had the opportunity to study with world-renowned saxophonists George Garzone, Bill Pierce, and Tia Fuller.

Seba has made a name for himself as an in-demand saxophonist both as a side man and leading his own groups. Seba has played and recorded with Grammy nominated artist Debo Ray, jazz legend George Garzone, as well as Mighty Mystic, Java Jukebox, Kat Wright, The Collective and many more. Seba frequently plays in Boston and around the greater New England area. Seba has also played a number of festivals like BAM’S Fest, Newton Festival of the Arts, Burlington Discover Jazz Fest and in August 2021 headlined and helped organize the first annual Charles River Jazz Festival in Boston, MA.

In March 2020, Seba released his debut album *Level Up*, featuring mentor George Garzone, with Jens Sweeting, Soso Gelovani, and Clemens Grassman.

3:00 p.m.
AYLA BROWN



From parachuting with the Army Golden Knights jump team, lighting up the scoreboard for Boston College Basketball, or acting as a main correspondent for national news programs, Ayla Brown is no stranger to the spotlight. Most recently, she has been named as the *Morning Show* co-host at Country 102.5 in Boston. “Jonathan Wier and Ayla Brown” can be heard weekdays from 5:30 to 9:00 a.m. on WKLB-FM. Musically, Ayla has released two full length albums, *Heroes & Hometowns* and *Let Love In*, both to critical acclaim and her new single, “Label,” is available on all digital platforms, and a duo project with musician Rob Bellamy called Make it Mean Something. Some of her national performances include the Orange Bowl, the Boston Pops 4th of July spectacular, *Fox & Friends*, ESPN’s *Monday Night Football*, and *The Huckabee Show*. She was also a finalist on nationally renowned television program *American Idol*, and she continues to utilize her vast repertoire of talents while advancing her already successful and illustrious career.

4:00 p.m.
GBCCA: CULTURAL DANCE AND MUSIC PERFORMANCE — The Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association (GBCCA) is a registered non-political, non-profit organization to promote public awareness of Chinese culture and heritage, to enhance the well-being and

social standing of Chinese Americans; and to provide an environment for people to learn Chinese culture, language, and arts. With nearly 60 years of history, GBCCA has innumerable accomplishments and memories from over the years.

5:00 p.m.
MADDI RYAN — Maddi Ryan has always been, and still is today, an artist with a lot to say. Ryan’s passion for singing and performing began when she was just a little girl, standing on top of her coffee table and singing for anyone in her family that would listen. From there, her passion grew as she went from performing solo all over New England to performing with a band, making her professional debut at BigShotz in Nashville, TN during CMAFest 2015 with her former band, Moonlight Valley. Since then, Ryan has continued to perform all over New England, which garnered her a New England Country Music Award nomination for “Country Act of the Year” in 2019. Ryan also has had the opportunity to open for many national acts such as The Cadillac Three, Morgan Myles, and The Moonshine Bandits, to name a few. “The tenderness that radiates from Boston’s Maddi Ryan’s music comes from the singer’s clear ability to engage her most honest emotions, and deliver them cordially through her vocals, full of grace,” says *The Deli Magazine* of her music, in which she always strives to deliver genuine emotion and relatable, truthful realism.

5:50 p.m.
OPENING CEREMONY AND CELEBRATE BOSTON PROCESSION — Giant puppets, motor vehicles, woodwind instruments. Join us again this year for the Celebrate Boston Procession featuring colorful and celebratory groups that will parade from Copley Square to Boston Common!

CELEBRATE BOSTON PROCESSION FROM COPLEY SQUARE TO BOSTON COMMON AND OPEN TO ALL

We’re thrilled to welcome back our Celebrate Boston Procession, the people’s parade that will take colorful and celebratory groups from Copley Square to Boston Common at 6:00 PM. Once the performers pass by, the public is invited to walk along to the Boston Common, where fireworks will begin at 7:01 p.m..

Parade Participants: Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association (GBCCA), New Magnolia Jazz Band, The Boston Cup, Hot Tamales Brass Band, The Puppeteers Cooperative, The Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, Boston’s Trend N Motion, Branches Pangroove Steel Orchestra, New Liberty Jazz Band, Open Air Circus, Boston Windjammers, and American Red Cross, JP Honk Band

6:30 p.m.
BOSTON MUSIC PROJECT — Boston Music Project is a creative youth development program committed to ensuring the long-term social-emotional and musical success of Boston youth. Through before, in-school, after school programs, students unleash their musical creativity, developing their

instrumental skills on string, brass, and wind instruments, gaining new skills in music composition, improvisation, and active listening, and developing social emotional skills to find success in music, school, and life.

7:30 p.m.
VOCAL REVOLUTION — Vocal Revolution (VR) is the men’s performing chorus of The Greater Boston Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). VR is one of New England’s premier a cappella performing groups and have won multiple adjudicated contests. Since chartering in 1970 as Sounds of Concord, their chorus has constantly remained dedicated to its mission of Moving Audiences and Enriching Lives Through Musical Excellence. Members come from all over the Greater Boston area and beyond.

Most years, VR performs at Large Public Events, Senior Centers, Fundraisers, and Small Venues, and are proud that they are able to fund their work through their earnings. They have sung at Symphony Hall, the Newport Mansions, Sturbridge Village, and at the Homecoming Parade in Plymouth.

8:30 p.m.
ALLI HABER



Boston’s pop and R&B singer-songwriter Alli Haber is currently studying at the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music. Her recent single “Youth On Fire” has exponentially expanded her fan base that began with poppy singles such as “Too Young,” “Alive” and “Melatonin.” Haber has toured nationally on the Boys of Summer Tour, Piper Rockelle Live, Cash & Maverick’s Whatever It Takes Tour, and New England’s All You Got Tour. She performed at First Night Boston in 2018 and 2019 and “Countdown to Christmas” in Celebration, Florida. Alli has released original music with producers Frankie Jonas, Jason Strong, and most recently Bruce Wiegner and was nominated as “New Artist of the Year” for the 2019 New England Music Awards. Alli can’t wait to kick off the New Year at Boston First Night 2022!

9:00 p.m.
NANCIA — Nancia is one of Boston’s best R&B singers. Nancia is a three time Boston Music Awards R&B vocalist nominee and continues to win various accolades for her musical accomplishments which includes best R&B album of the year, Community Auditions Stars, and R&B 97.7 woman of the week.

Nancia performed for celebrity artists like the legendary Lil Kim, Keyshia Cole, Keke Wyatt, Cardi B, among many great artists. She has performed at the Boston City Hall, Summer Jam, Boston’s House

• First Night Boston (Continued from Page 6)

of Blues, Cambridge Sonia and the Sinclair, and many more. She has sung the National Anthem for the Boston Red Sox and San Francisco Giants!

Nancia is a strong believer in community service and has participated in various non-profit initiatives. Mass General Hospital & United Way chose Nancia to be their Star for the My Giving Helps campaign, which helped raise over \$500,000. She is also a huge advocate for the LGBT community and performs every year at Pride to provide support and encouragement while celebrating an amazing time of the year. She has also partnered with Queenality as an advocate to empower women and inspire young girls.

9:40 p.m.

THE SULTANS — The Sultans, formerly known as The Sultans of Swing, are the evolution of a lifetime of music that started when the band's founder Jerry Bennett was only four years old.

Over the company's 20-year history, the Sultans have assembled the finest talents of band instrumentalist and vocalist in the country, including finalist from the television program American Idol, The Voice and the X Factor. Whether it be performing at weddings, inaugural balls, or family parties, The Sultans prides themselves in playing a wide variety of music repertoire, including any genre, style and occasion. Understanding that different occasion calls for a different style of music, the band would tailor their playlist to the guest's unique event. The Sultans strive to always surpass expectations as the very best premier private party band in the country and the world.

10:40 p.m.

SONS OF LEVIN



This band of brothers was founded by Connecticut natives Connor and Dylan Levinson. Inspired by classic rock bands such as Phish and Grateful Dead, Sons of Levin offers their sound as an homage to previous great rock and roll acts while delivering their own take on the jam/rock scene.

11:30 p.m.

SILVER ARROW BAND —

Silver Arrow Band are live music experts, wedding enthusiasts, and party starters. They are a premium, customizable 3 to 14 piece band specializing in high-energy music for festivals, weddings, corporate events, and private functions — at a sensible price. They infuse every event with energy and fun and pride themselves on filling dance floors.

As students of music, studio regulars, and touring sound engineers for high profile bands, we started performing together in 2012. Since then, the Silver Arrow Band has been setting the industry standard for event music ever since. Their musicians are passionate about



Silver Arrow Band.

creating memorable events. Their talent and experience guarantees that every Silver Arrows event is seamless, so clients can focus on life rather than stressing over the details.

They perfected their event planning, expanded their repertoire, added members to the band—and the rest is history!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1ST

12:00 a.m.

FIRST NIGHT COPLEY COUNTDOWN — Celebrate the New Year with the highly anticipated Pyrotechnics & Light Show at midnight, with live music at the Copley stage and a multi-sensory display above the Fairmont Copley hotel.

BOSTON COMMON

139 Tremont Street, Boston

6:00 p.m.



FROG POND SKATING SPECTACULAR — Experience a spectacular figure skating show produced by The Skating Club of Boston. The outdoor show offer the public a chance to see national and international competitive figure skaters, soloists, groups, wee skaters, Team Excel Synchronized Skating and Theater On Ice of Boston teams in the center of the historic and iconic Boston Common Frog Pond.

7:01 p.m.

CITY OF BOSTON'S FAMILY FIREWORKS PRODUCED BY THE MUGAR FOUNDATION & THE CITY OF BOSTON — Enjoy a spectacular Fireworks display over the Boston Common, brought to you by The Mugar Foundation and The City of Boston.

FIRST CHURCH IN BOSTON

66 Marlborough St., Boston

8:00 p.m.

JACQUELINE SCHWAB — Jacqueline Schwab's evocative playing infuses the oft-aired soundtracks of Ken Burns' films, including his Grammy-winning *Civil War*, *Baseball*, *Lewis and Clark*, *Mark Twain*, *The War and The National Parks*, as well as the PBS documentary *The Irish in America* and others. She has performed at the White House for President Clinton, and she has accompanied Scottish singer Jean Redpath on public radio's *A Prairie Home Companion* and on CBS' *Late Show with David Letterman*.

In concert, Jacqueline enjoys sharing her wide repertoire

of familiar old tunes, what Mark Twain would have called "remembrancers," and speaking about the power of music to transport us into our own past and on to new horizons.

ONLINE FROM OLD SOUTH CHURCH

www.oldsouth.org

6:30 p.m.

PIPES AND POPS CONCERT

— The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join Old South Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford in a super-sonic program, presenting fun and engaging arrangements of popular classics, as well as a seasonal sing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Note: this is an online concert.

TRINITY CHURCH

206 Clarendon St., Boston

1:00 P.M.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION CONCERT — Boston's Handel and Haydn Society performs Baroque and Classical music with a freshness, a vitality, and a creativity that inspires all ages. H+H has been captivating audiences for 205 consecutive seasons (the most of any performing arts organization in the United States) speaking to its singular success at converting new audiences to this extraordinary music, generation after generation.

BOSTON HARBOR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1ST

12:00 a.m.

BOSTON HARBOR FIREWORKS PRODUCED BY THE FRIENDS OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK — Welcome the New Year with a breathtaking Fireworks display over the Boston Harbor at midnight, brought to you by The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park.

ICE SCULPTURES

Ice sculptures make their dazzling return to First Night Boston! This year's sculptures, themed "Wonders of the Frozen Ocean" will bring the animals of the icy poles to Copley Square. Sculptures will be located in the Copley Square fountain on New Year's Eve, and available for public viewing from 12:00 noon to 12:30 a.m. Additional sculptures will be displayed around Boston Public Library.

Ice sculpture completion time is always weather-dependent, so don't be surprised if you see our ice carvers making some final touches in the first part of the day.

VISITOR BASICS

First Night Boston begins in Copley Square at 12:00 noon on Friday, December 31, 2021, and continues with programming throughout the day and night. The last musical performance in Copley Square ends at 12:30 AM on January 1, 2022.

First Night Boston is centrally located in Boston's **Copley Square**, with additional programming happening at **Boston Common, Boston Public Library, Copley Place Mall**, and several churches and hotels in Boston's Back Bay neighborhood.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Masks on Indoors!

First Night Boston will adhere to all current city and state safety precautions as it relates to COVID-19, including mandatory mask wearing at indoor venues. If city and state recommendations are adjusted as the New Year draws closer, First Night Boston will similarly adjust its guidelines to comply with those set by governing bodies.

Masks must completely and tightly cover the wearer's nose and mouth. Neck gaiters, bandanas, masks with valves or vents, and any covering with only a single layer of cloth are not permitted. Guests failing to adhere to this policy will be asked to leave the event immediately.

We encourage all guests to wear masks outdoors in crowded areas.

Stay Home if You're Sick!

Please do not attend First Night Boston if you are feeling unwell, or have been experiencing COVID-19 symptoms such as a fever, sore throat, chills, shortness of breath, congestion, nausea, or vomiting.

Please do not attend First Night Boston if you have been in close contact with an individual diagnosed or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms within the past 14 days.

Please do not attend First Night Boston if you have been directed to self-isolate or quarantine by a health care provider or public health official, or if you are awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test.

First Night Boston will be available in its entirety on nbcoboston.com, and we encourage you to join the fun from afar while you recover.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

Thanks to our amazing supporters, all First Night activities are free! No buttons are required to attend First Night's programming.

ICE SCULPTURES

The ice sculptures will be centrally located in the Copley Square Fountain, and around the Boston Public Library. Ranging in size and style, the sculptures will be in place by the afternoon of December 31 (exact timing will vary depending on the weather) and illuminated at night. Additionally, nearby businesses in the Back Bay will also have displays for all to enjoy.



Visit www.firstnightboston.org/ice-sculptures for more information.

FIREWORKS

There are several displays of fireworks through the day.

• The City of Boston's Family Fireworks presented by The Mugar Foundation will begin at 7:00 p.m. above Boston Common.

• The Copley Countdown and Midnight Pyrotechnics Show will occur in Copley Square at midnight from the roof of the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel.

• Midnight Fireworks presented by the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park will occur over Boston Harbor at the stroke of midnight.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

We recommend using the MBTA to travel to and from First Night Boston. Boston's Back Bay is serviced by several public transportation stations, including stops on the MBTA Commuter Rail, Green Line, Orange Line, and several bus lines. **All MBTA services will be free after 8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 31st.**

Visit mbta.com/holidays for schedule information.

PARKING

First Night does not have specified event garages, however the following are close by: Clarendon Garage at 100 Clarendon St., Copley Place, Prudential Center, and Boston Common Garage. Street parking is available on some streets, but extremely limited. If parking on area streets, please obey area signs as several parking bans and restrictions will be in place.

We recommend booking convenient and affordable parking in advance through SpotHero, the nation's leading parking reservations app.

To reserve your parking spot, visit the *First Night Boston SpotHero Parking Page* and book a spot with rates up to 50% off drive-up.

TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

• **Dartmouth Street** in Boston's Back Bay will close to vehicular traffic between St. James Ave. and Boylston Street from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, December 31, 2021 until 1:00 a.m., on Saturday, January 1, 2022.

• **Boylston Street** between Ring Road (near Dartmouth Street) and Charles Street will close to vehicular traffic on Friday, December 31, 2021 from approximately 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

• **Charles Street** between Boylston Street and Beacon Street will be closed to traffic on Friday, December 31, 2021 from approximately 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m..



Past First Night Ice Sculptures



**KISS -
DESTROYER:
45th Anniversary Edition /
(LP Vinyl) / UMe**

Celebrating its 45 anniversary, *Destroyer* was originally released in 1976 and is considered to be one of the quintessential KISS albums. It was the band's first album to sell one million copies in its first year and holds the title of being their all-time best selling studio album. Packed with concert staples and KISS Army favorites including "Detroit Rock City," "Shout It Out Loud," "God of Thunder" and "Beth," UME will release *KISS – Destroyer 45* in the form of a Super Deluxe 4-CD + Blu-ray Audio box set as well as on standard double black vinyl and limited edition yellow and red double colored vinyl, 2-CD set, and digital. For the recording of *Destroyer*, Bob Ezrin was brought in as KISS's new producer, helping the band reach new levels, both sonically and creatively. The album also showed the band's growth as musicians and songwriters, experimenting with new sounds which came in the form of the softer side of songs like "Do You Love Me?," and songs heavy with orchestral arrangements including "Great Expectations" and their Billboard No. 7 hit single "Beth." Following the breakthrough success of 1975's No. 9 Billboard charting *Alive!*, *Destroyer* was the KISS album that brought them to the forefront of the mainstream and transformed them into global rock icons. For its anniversary, UME celebrates this seminal album's legacy with a staggering amount of bonus material. KISS is America's #1 Gold Record Award winning group of all time in every category and has sold over 100 million records worldwide. Peerless as a live act, the band's illustrious legacy is marked by record-breaking global tours. Now, after an astonishing 48-year career, KISS - Paul Stanley, Gene Simmons, Eric Singer and Tommy Thayer — are currently in the midst of their *End of Road* world tour. Track list includes: LP One — *Destroyer*: Original Album Remastered: "Detroit Rock City," "King of The Night Time World," "God of Thunder," "Great Expectations," "Flaming Youth," "Sweet Pain," "Shout It Out Loud," "Beth," and "Do You Love Me?" LP Two — Paul Stanley Demos: "God Of Thunder And Rock And Roll," "Detroit Rock City,"* and "Love Is Alright."* Gene Simmons Demos: "I Don't Want No Romance,"* "Rock N' Rolls Royce,"* and "Star."* Side Four — Rarities: "Beth (Acoustic Mix),"* "Shout It Out Loud (Mono Single Edit)," "King of the Night Time World (Live Rehearsal Instrumental),"* "Detroit Rock City (Instrumental),"* "Flaming Youth (Early Version),"* and "Shout It Out Loud (Alternate Mix)." *Indicates Previously Unreleased

U2 - ACHTUNG BABY
(30th Anniversary Edition /
(2LP Vinyl)
Island/Interscope/UMe

Island Records, Interscope, and UMe announce the 30th Anniversary Edition release of

U2's seminal album *Achtung Baby*, with a special Standard and Deluxe vinyl. Thirty years ago *The Joshua Tree*, the album won a Grammy Award for Best Rock Performance and became one of the most significant records of the nineties and of U2's career. Recorded over six months at Hansa Studio in Berlin and Windmill Lane in Dublin, *Achtung Baby* is U2's seventh studio album. Produced by long-time U2 collaborators Daniel Lanois and Brian Eno with Steve Lillywhite. Released on November 18, 1991, it was led by "The Fly," four other singles followed: "Mysterious Ways," "One," "Even Better than the Real Thing," and "Who's Gonna Ride Your Wild Horses." Additional track listings include: "Zoo Station," "Until the End of the World," "So Cruel," "Tryin' to Throw Your Arms Around the World," "Ultra Violet," "Acrobat" and "Love is Blindness." In celebration of *Achtung Baby's* anniversary, the band collaborated with Berlin-based French artist Thierry Noir (the first artist to paint on the Berlin Wall) for a special one-off installation at the legendary Hansa Studios in Kreuzberg that took place November 19-26, 2021. Thirty years ago, the band commissioned Noir to paint a series of now iconic Trabant cars, which featured on the album artwork, as well 1991s Zoo TV Tour. Noir returned with a newly painted Trabant for 2021, as well as an exclusive mural painted on a section of the Berlin wall. *Achtung Baby (30th Anniversary Edition)* is available on Standard black vinyl and Deluxe color vinyl.

**THE VELVET UNDERGROUND:
A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY
TODD HAYNES -
MUSIC FROM THE MOTION
PICTURE SOUNDTRACK /
(CD) / UMe**

The Velvet Underground: A Documentary Film by Todd Haynes — *Music from the Motion Picture Soundtrack*, features both well-known and rare Velvet Underground tracks. The album is the official soundtrack for the critically acclaimed Apple Original documentary. Featuring some of The Velvet Underground's most well-known tracks, rarities and songs that influenced them, serves as the perfect introduction to the band and companion piece to the film. The soundtrack features Velvet Underground favorites as "Sunday Morning," "All Tomorrow's Parties," "Pale Blue Eyes," "I'm Waiting for The Man" and "Sweet Jane," as well as the mono version of "Heroin" and the rare cut "Foggy Notion." Plus, live versions of "After Hours" and "Sister Ray," Nico's "Chelsea Girls," and the tongue-in-cheek novelty song "The Ostrich" by The Primitives. Also tracks by artists who influenced The Velvet Underground including a live version of "Road Runner" by Bo Diddley; "The Wind," a doo-wop classic by The Diablos featuring Nolan Strong; and the previously unpublished La Monte Young composition, "17 XII 63 NYC The Fire is a Mirror (excerpt)," performed by The Theatre of Eternal Music.

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

ILHAN OMAR SLAMS MANCHIN, BUT AT LEAST HE ...

U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minnesota, Squad member, recently slammed U.S. Senator Joe Manchin for standing up against the White House's pressure to pass that crazy \$2 billion spending bill, calling him a "bull-pooper" and liar. He's also never married one of his siblings either, did he Omar?

FREDDIE MERCURY'S HEAVENLY BIRTHDAY

This past November 24th would have been Queen's Freddie Mercury's 75th birthday. He passed away at only 45 years old. He was a great singer with a four octave vocal range. When I hear "We are the Champions" or "Someone to Love," we know what great music is and how it stands the test of time.

LET THEM EAT BUGS?

OMG! I saw a report on TV that there is a growing movement of folks pushing the idea we should start eating insects in dealing with food insecurity issues. Jesse Watters had a guest on his show who suggested bugs really don't taste that good. Something that really didn't shock me at all. The guest did say you might have to use good seasoning and cook them well. I assume you also might have to have the right side dishes, too. I think if I had a choice of eating bugs or cake, I'd always go with the cake.

“WHEN WE GO HOME AGAIN”

I listen a lot to WMEX 1510AM, especially Benny Rabi, who is a big fan of older rocker Sal Baglio, East Boston born and bred. I used to see him back in the day with the Stompers. He is still out there now with the Amplifiers, but he's still stomping away quite well.

Every Friday before signing off for the week, Benny plays a new Baglio tune about missing the old days and past memories. Their song is “When We Go Home Again,” and is both depressing and uplifting at once. Sal and I actually talked on air during one of Benny’s shows and had a great time.

LATEST FROM TEAM PELOSI

There are “over 400 voter suppression bills to steal our vote ... Stop Republicans from seizing power and make their schemes BACKFIRE.”

Who believes this stuff, but Democrats like Pelosi or the Squad? We do need to reform our election laws to ensure election integrity. Only registered voters have a right to vote.

SHOULD THERE BE A CUSTOMER ORDER LIMIT?

Recently, I read online that a Starbucks barista took an order online for 9,000 venti caramel Frappuccino's. Total cost was \$52,000. This begs the question, should there be a limit on how many drinks a customer can order at once?

I am also guessing there was no tip included with the online order.

A GOLDEN OLDIE NOW

Back in my younger days, I loved listening to and dancing to the Stylistics, especially “You’re a Big Girl Now,” which turned 50 this year. I was still a junior at Boston State College when this tune soared upward quickly on the music charts.

NO THAT WASN'T ACTOR
SAM ELLIOT YOU SAW
WALKING DOWN HANOVER
STREET LAST WEEK



Many folks swore they saw Hollywood actor Sam Elliot walking through the streets of the North End last week but it turned out to be none other than *Post-Gazette* columnist Sal Giarratani sporting his new post-Covid facial hair. All Sal had to do was wear his Austin bought cowboy hat.

Year in Review

ACROSS

1. Coalition of countries
5. King trump-er, sometimes
8. Cuckoo bird
11. ____ weevil
12. Smelting waste
13. Kitchen-wear
15. Coke or Pepsi
16. Check-in via text, email, etc.
17. Settler transport
18. *2021 Super Bowl winner, two words
20. Before long, to Shakespeare
21. Jeopardy
22. Auction action
23. Puts down
26. Coroner's performance
30. Band booking
31. Snicket of "A Series of Unfortunate Events"
34. Stravinsky's "The ____ of Spring"
35. Mine passages
37. *Build Back Better ____
38. Eucharist plate
39. Table hill
40. Good review
42. "Tit for ____"
43. Buck feature, pl.
45. *First female VP
47. Evergreen creeper
48. It goes with gin, according to Snoop Dogg
50. Mongolian desert
52. *COVID-19, e.g.
55. Poison ivy or Poison oak
56. International Civil Aviation Org.
57. Distinctive smell
59. House coat
60. Asian cuisine food thickener
61. Pelvic parts
62. Gallery display
63. Self-proclaimed greatest boxer
64. Count on

DOWN

1. "Monty Python" broadcaster
2. Rioter's take
3. Cantina pot
4. Fasteners or holders
5. Cover story
6. *Suez ____, too tight for Ever Given
7. Like custard
8. Mythological ship
9. "High" time
10. Wayside stop
12. Thinly spread
13. Look forward to
14. * ____ Papers, leaked offshore account information
19. Banana refuse, pl.
22. Exchange for money




- © StatePoint Media
- | | |
|---|---|
| 23. Old World lizard | 41. Snowmobile brand |
| 24. *January 20 th honoree | 44. Give the boot |
| 25. Anti-elderly one | 46. “Stronger” by Cindy McCain, e.g. |
| 26. Those not in favor | 48. Southwestern hut |
| 27. Pita, alt. sp. | 49. Sushi restaurant staple |
| 28. Take without asking | 50. ____ gum, food additive |
| 29. Gossiper, Yiddish | 51. Leave out |
| 32. *Perseverance landing spot | 52. Home to the Leaning Tower |
| 33. Edible tuber | 53. Not in use |
| 36. *Kabul’s organization in power | 54. One in mattress |
| 38. *The Nobel ____ Prize was awarded to
Ressa and Muratov | 55. Spot for a facial |
| 40. Snoop around | 58. *Actor Liotta, star in “The Many Saints of
Newark” |

(Solution on Page 9)

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 drums in marching and concert bands, like the North End’s Roma Band. My two uncles played sax, clarinet and flute. 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 (and make money).

Around 1947, a saxophone student of Uncle Paul’s, named Ray DiGiovanni, put a dance band together which became rather popular in the years after WWII, especially due to its constant appearance at the Oceanview Ballroom, which was located at the beginning of Revere Beach. (It was originally called the Coral Gables) Of course, my uncles were in the sax section and Dad was the bass player and behind the scenes, Ray DiGiovanni’s business 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. Another example ... a bandleader Uncle Nick and I worked for, George Swartz, became George Graham. My uncles shortened Contini to Conti (Paul Conti and Nick Conti. Dad became Johnny Christie. As I said, it was easier back then with a more American sounding name. When I became professional, I became Johnny Christy Jr., changing Christie to Christy.

It was the tail end of 1958. I had just become a union musician and Ray Digg had several jobs on that forth-coming 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 in to play for the East Boston Sons of Italy Lodge, which, back then, 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, and 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 as 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 professional 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 (no clip-ons or ready-made bows) and my formal shoes spit-shined reflecting upward. After passing inspection, I headed out to play my first ever, New Year’s Eve dance.

We were to start at 8:30 and I arrived at 8:00 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 also arrived at around 8:00 pm to setup and we conversed while getting ready. I had known most of the band members since I was a child. I actually grew up in the business accompanying Dad to the union every Monday. Monday was the day most of the active musicians congregated at the union hall to meet with the band leaders to book in future work.

Ray gave the downbeat at exactly 8:30. 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. We played various types of music, starting with fox trots, and then heading to the jitterbugs popularized by the big bands during WWII. After that, it was waltz time and then Latin music time with a couple of rumbas and a new dance craze, the cha cha cha. At some point, we would get a request for Italian music and Ray was prepared with 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 1958, 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. To maintain 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 Aides 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, spoke to Ray who nodded to the man and as we finished our last tune, were told by Ray 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 by 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 prove I wasn’t ready to play at their professional level.

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, without saying anything, walked on the stage, threw off his coat, winked at me and without skipping a beat, took the bass and finished the half hour. I was saved. All this happened 63 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 that type of dance music from the past is still the best. The songs of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, etc. ... will never be surpassed by anything that’s out there today. Maybe it’s just me, but a lot of people do agree with me. Maybe I’m just an old timer, but time itself will be the judge. Rod Stewart and some of the early rock and rollers are now singing and playing music from the Great American Song Book. The list also includes Johnny Mathis, Lady Gaga, John Pizzarelli, Harry Connick Jr., and many more. Tony Bennett sang those old favorites until he retired in his mid-nineties.

Next week, I’ll tell you how we spent this New Year’s Eve, but until then, from each member of the Christoforo family, a **VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR (Felice Anno Nuovo [Feliz Ano Nuevo]), and may GOD BLESS AMERICA**



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

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

LENTIL SOUP *Zuppa di Lenticchie*



- 1/4 cup olive oil

1 large onion, finely chopped

3 carrots, peeled and chopped

3 celery stalks, chopped

3 garlic cloves, finely chopped

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

12 cups chicken stock/broth

1 cup uncooked ditallini pasta

1 cup shredded parmigiano reggiano cheese

Salt and pepper

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

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



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THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso



Christmas After All

At a time to appreciate any of the simple joys or reunions that come our way, I can sit back and say that Christmas happened and happened in a good way. By that, I mean that what matters about the holiday I was able to do and that means spending it with my family.

The Christmas Eve dinner is one of my family’s most cherished traditions and this year was no exception. We were all there, faces new and old celebrating what was lost to us last year by a global tragedy.

I saw less of my extended family in the last two years than I thought I ever could and yet we have been fortunate thus far. No one has gotten sick and no one has lost their job (for long) or worse.

But this is about Christmas, the time when even the most terrible of things seems to be temporarily disempowered by what marks the holiday; a chance to be with the people you can’t live without.

Everything I missed was there, the music, the laughter as anecdotes of the past are recalled, the Christmas tree that is still adorned by ornaments dating back to my infancy, the home cooking (and, I must say, my mother outdid herself with her seafood lasagna this year) and, above all, the unity.

I was never one to give much thought to new year resolutions. But this year is different, it seems too particular a combination of circumstances to let it pass on. For one, in just under two weeks it will be my birthday and my last year in my 30s will begin. In a year, I want to enter 40 somewhat of a changed man and the pandemic years, for all the pain they’ve brought, have given me insight into that. The resolution is simple, it’s just to let go. Let go of the senseless preoccupations with inconsequential matters, letting go of my grudges and my regrets.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI21D1908DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
LIDIA S. LUCERO LOPEZ
vs.
MARLOS V. LOPEZ CARIAS

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B.
The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Lidia S. Lucero Lopez, 17 Mt. Pleasant St., #1, Waltham, MA 02452 your answer, if any, on or before **January 24, 2022**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 13, 2021

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

This Christmas was a reminder of how much we all have to live for.

What sounds like a sad realization actually brought positive inspiration. The truth is that, at forty, my life is, more or less, half over, at least the portion of my life in which I can accomplish many of the things I still want to do. My resolution then will not be limited to this year but rather, to make the second half of my life the better one.

I have a pretty good idea how to start and part of that involves recognizing that there will be unforeseen challenges, but my generation has seen its fair share. And yet, like our parents and grandparents, we will collectively live to tell the tale.

But it is just important to remember that there will be much to celebrate, much to admire and many traditions to hold onto as the years go on.

To many more wonderful Christmases ahead with the people that matter most.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI20D1397DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY
PUBLICATION AND MAILING
LISA LaVOIE-GAY
vs.
DONALD GAY

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B.
The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Lisa LaVoie-Gay, c/o Tara DeCristofaro, Register, Middlesex Probate Court, 10-U Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01801 your answer, if any, on or before **January 21, 2022**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 10, 2021

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Todisco Services, Inc., of 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **January 15, 2022 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale.

2007 HONDA ACCORD
VIN # 1HGCM66577A076831

2004 CHEVROLET EXPRESS
VIN # 1GCHG35U941139958

2008 NISSAN ALTIMA
VIN # 1N4BL24E48C149643

2017 HYUNDAI SONATA
VIN # 5NPE34AF0HH456831

2003 LEXUS RX
VIN # JTJHF10U030311875

Vehicles are being stored at multiple Todisco Services, Inc. locations, and may be viewed by appointment only.

Signed
Todisco Services, Inc.
Run dates: 12/31, 2021, 01/07, 01/14/2022

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

a range more than 350 miles per charge and none of them sell for less than \$47,000.”

Most likely, the Bidenites will purchase slow-working Level 2 charges. Spending billions on charges that take an afternoon to charge ain’t going to fly or ride or anything else.

Sam Waterston Returning as Jack McCoy

Actor Sam Waterston, who played Executive DA Jack McCoy on TV’s *Law & Order*, apparently will be returning to that role in a reboot of that cop show sometime in February. He played McCoy for 16 seasons beginning in the fifth season in 1994, and stayed until the end of the series in 2010. Apparently, there still must be milk left in this old cow. When the show left the air, it was at that time the longest cop show on TV (1990-2010).

In September 2019, *Law & Order SVU* celebrated its 20th anniversary on the air. Today, it is still on the air and apparently still going kinda strong. It has surpassed *Law & Order* as the longest cop show on TV. When you think about it, between *Law & Order* and *SVU* together, *L&O* is going toward its 32nd season.

What role Waterston will play on the show’s reboot seems uncertain. He just turned 81 years old, and by the way, lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

End Quotes

“Love, Love first, love always, love forever.” — Anne Rice

“All you need is love but a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.” — Anonymous

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI21P6521PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO
G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

In the matter of
FREDERICK KIRSINGER
of Framingham, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Oak Knoll Healthcare Center of Framingham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Frederick Kirsinger** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Karen Lavoie of Sharon, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **January 20, 2022**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 23, 2021

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

• **Gabriela Coletta** (Continued from Page 2)

Coletta intends to run a robust; grassroots campaign focused on listening to residents, having inclusive discussions about the issues, and will bring her vision for the district directly to voters.

To learn more visit *about gabrielacoletta.com*, Facebook at *@GigiForDistrictOne*, and Twitter *@Gigi4District1*.

Fighting on behalf of her community is the only thing Gabriela “Gigi” Coletta has ever known. Raised by community activists in East Boston, Gabriela grew up attending civic association meetings, neighborhood events, and even multiple protests against airport runway expansion with her mom, Nina. Gabriela has dedicated her entire life working in service to others and giving back to the beautiful, diverse neighborhood that has given her so much.

Gabriela brought her passion for public service in her role as Chief of Staff to Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards. She centered and amplified the lived experiences of those systemically overlooked in every policy discussion, constituent case, and civic engagement initiative. She spent the entirety of her tenure in the neighborhoods of Charlestown, East Boston and the North End understanding constituents’ concerns to build bridges between differing populations. This enabled her to help ensure resources were available and policies were appropriately crafted to solve some of the hardest, long-term problems residents faced. She exemplified collaborative leadership when tackling some of our district’s biggest challenges like housing affordability and development, inequities in our public education system, and the impacts of climate change on our coastlines.

Most recently, Gabriela has been leading the New England Aquarium’s efforts around achieving a resilient, accessible, and inclusive downtown waterfront for all as their External Relations Manager. She’s worked diligently to ensure the waterfront remains welcoming for all Bostonians by expanding access to the Aquarium and its home on Central Wharf for BIPOC and non-English speaking individuals and families.

Gabriela has worked to advance and empower women by building pipelines to leadership across the Commonwealth. As Associate Director of the Massachusetts Women’s Political

Caucus (MWPC), she furthered MWPC’s mission to recruit, elect, and train women to run for office across Massachusetts while creating strategies to elect endorsed candidates for its Political Action Committee. Gabriela is also a frequent guest trainer for Emerge Massachusetts, where she advises women seeking to run for office or manage campaigns for female candidates.

As Campaign Manager for Councilor Edwards successful 2017 campaign, Gabriela activated and mobilized a grassroots campaign consisting of a broad coalition of residents, unions, volunteers, and advocacy groups numbering over 500 people — all of whom felt disenfranchised by the political establishment — to elect the first African-American woman to represent us on the Boston City Council. Gabriela was State Representative Adrian Madaro’s (D-East Boston) Community Liaison where she sat shoulder-to-shoulder with community members for years listening and learning about their priorities. Prior to that, she was his field director during his successful and contentious 2015 special election campaign. She was elected as the Democratic State Committeewoman for the 1st Suffolk and Middlesex district in 2016 and to the Ward 1 Democratic Committee in 2020.

Gabriela is a proud product of five Boston Public Schools and graduated from Boston Latin Academy. She received a degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts at Boston as well as a minor in Human Rights. She currently lives in East Boston and in her spare time loves to cook dishes that honor her Italian and Mexican heritage.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU19P0523EA
Estate of
ANTHONY T. MENDEZ
Date of Death: April 10, 2015
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by **Esta-Lee Fisher of Wareham, 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 **Esta-Lee Fisher of Boston, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in 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 25, 2022.

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. BRIAN J. DUNN,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 14, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI21P6283EA

Estate of
DOROTHY MARGARET GALLANT
Also Known As
DOROTHY M. GALLANT
Date of Death: September 23, 2015

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Dawn M. Gallant-George of North Reading, 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 **Dawn M. Gallant-George of North Reading, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **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 20, 2022.

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

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

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 23, 2021
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI21P6500EA

Estate of
DONNA E. THOLANDER
Date of Death: August 08, 2019

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Eric N. Tholander of Natick, 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 **Eric N. Tholander of Natick, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **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, 2022.

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

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

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 22, 2021
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI21D3615DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
WAYSTER FERNANDES CHAVES vs.
SHAKIRA M. ASKEW

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Wayster Fernandes Chaves, 66 Devir St., Apt. 310, Malden, MA 02148** your answer, if any, on or before **January 24, 2022**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 13, 2021
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
Lowell Justice Center
370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 656-7700

Docket No. MI21P4378EA

Estate of
JEAN E. MYETTE-TRACY
Date of Death: February 02, 2021

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **James Tracy of Billerica, MA**, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

James Tracy of Billerica, 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: 12/31/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI17P6457EA

Estate of
VERONICA MARY STARINSKAS
Date of Death: October 05, 2017

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Thomas J. Starinskaskas of Belmont, MA**.

Thomas J. Starinskaskas of Belmont, MA, Rita S. Navickas of Newton, 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: 12/31/2021



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani

“Mudcat” Played Great Baseball And Sang Out Against Racism on the Field Too

This past Sunday morning, I was reading a copy of the *New York Times* with a nice cup of hot chocolate and came across the *NY Times Magazine*, which ran a big story on a number of famous folks who died this past year. One of those folks was Jim “Mudcat” Grant who was one of my favorite big league pitchers. He was built like a brick house and he pitched every game to win and, if he could, complete the game, too

I grew up during the ’50s and ’60s when there was much social unrest in the nation. I grew up in an area of Boston that was as diverse as a place could be back in my childhood. Where the City of Boston had many different ethnic neighborhoods, my place growing up had everyone. I grew up with white kids, black kids, Asian kids, and Latinos. No segment of the neighborhood ruled the roost. It was a shared neighborhood



unlike most of Boston at that time.

I knew as a baseball fan that the Red Sox under Tom Yawkey lagged behind most teams when it came to opening up the game to black prospects. I was 10 years old when the Sox broke the color barrier bringing up Pumpsie Green to play second base. What pressure must have been on him, now looking back! Later, in summer of 1959, the Sox also brought up Earl Wilson, another bruising big guy as a pitcher who was in the mode of Grant. Wilson also was a great hitter starting off in the minors as a catcher. He too would become a 20-game winner down the line for the Tigers.

Now getting back to Mudcat. The piece in the *Times Magazine* by Rowan Ricardo Phillips really did a good job on telling readers who Grant was and what he meant to both baseball and America.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI20P4472EA

Estate of
MAUREEN FRANCES BARBER
Also Known As
MAUREEN F. BARBER
Date of Death: August 26, 2020

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **Allison B. Pasternak of Highlands Ranch, CO** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that **Some Suitable Person** be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on January 13, 2022.

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

The estate is being administered under formal 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 recipients 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.

Witness, HON. MAUREEN H. MONKS,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 16, 2021
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 12/31/2021

Grant wrote his own book in 2006, *The Black Aces: Baseball’s Only African-American Twenty-Game Winners*. He was not only one of them, he was the first. He was a 20-game winner for the Twins in 1965, when he went 21-7. Over his career, he won 145 games in 14 Major League seasons. At the same time, he also formed a band, “Mudcat and the Kittens,” and often sang out against racism in baseball.

In the book, he wrote, “you always had to watch where you were, what you were going to do, because something was going to happen to you every day. You knew of the lynchings. You would hear it in the night, and if you didn’t, word came through the next town.”

Grant grew up in an area of Florida where the Klan was still a terrorizing force and he never forgot how his mother would hide him and his siblings when the Klan came through.

The life of Jim “Mudcat” Grant before, during, and after his career ended was full of challenges. Today’s African American pitchers owe so much to pioneers like Grant and Earl Wilson. Their courage to withstand the ire of so many actually made them stronger. The American dream belongs to everyone. Today, I believe, are much better due to past fights resisting racism. Sometimes change can come through major events and sometimes by just everyday living and the courage to stand up for yourself.

Grant, however, showed a good sense of humor, too. He never made much money playing baseball in his day and once said, “I made more money in music than I did in baseball.”

He lived a good 85 years of life, saw lots of ugliness and lots of joy. I am sure that his joy was seeing America become a better country than the one he was born in. Personally, I have seen lots of life too and I like to think the only thing that really matters is the present moment because we only have that and hope for tomorrow to come.

Jim “Mudcat” Grant, RIP

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Notice is hereby given by **D & G Towing and Auto Repair Services, Inc., 2 Emery Road, Allston, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after **January 08, 2022 beginning at 10:00 AM** by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

2004 DODGE RAM
VIN # 1D7HU18N84S541407
2002 FORD EXPLORER
VIN # 1FMZU77E42UB40288
2008 SATURN ASTRA
VIN # W08AT671785139868
2007 CHEVROLET IMPALA
VIN # 2G1WT58NX79392797
2000 TOYOTA CAMRY
VIN # JT2BG22K0Y0440156
2019 DODGE CHARGER
VIN # 2C3CDXHGXKH578766

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

Signed
D & G Towing
Run dates: 12/24, 12/31, 2021, 01/07/2022

Boxing*Ringside*

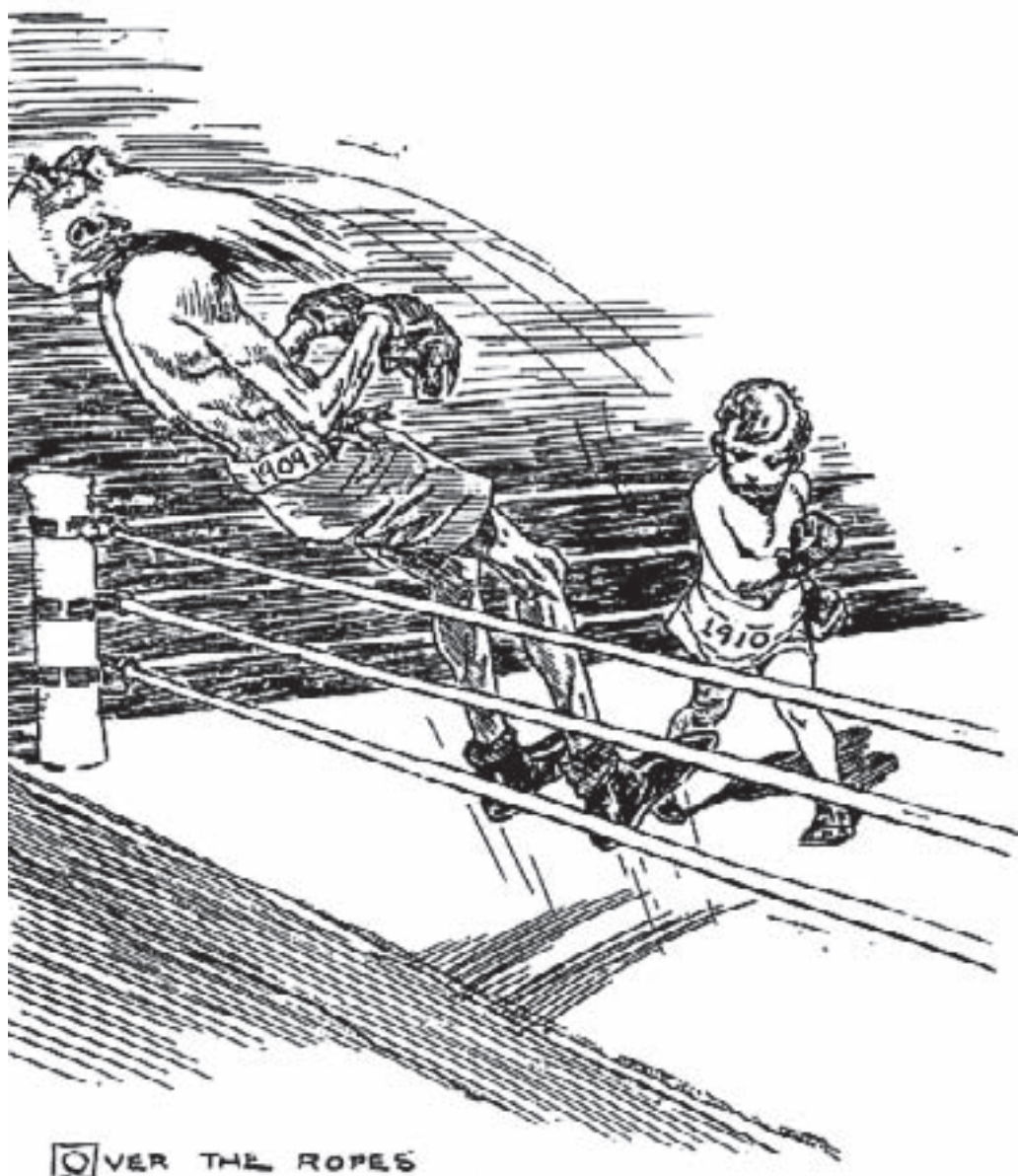
WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



Happy New Year Everyone!



*Let's Make 2022 the Year
We Knock Out This Virus
And Get Our Lives
Back To Normal*

*Health and Joy to
All of My Readers
Good Things Await!*



HE WAS THE MOST — Yes, he was, the longtime radio play-by-play broadcaster Johnny Most who was so popular calling Boston Celtics games that some fans turned down the sound on their televisions so they could hear his verbal description of the action.

And what a call it was as he was on hand for 16 of the 17 Boston Celtics NBA Championship seasons during a 37-year career with the storied franchise. He first took up the microphone for the Celtics in 1953 and didn't put it down until 1990, book-ending a career that saw him call Bob Cousy, Bill Russell, Tom Heinsohn, and John Havlicek followed later by the heyday of the original Big Three of Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, and Robert Parish.

Those who heard him will never forget his voice or his animated delivery. He had names for many players from opposing teams and did not hesitate to use them during his broadcast.

But the moment that gained him broadcasting immortality was his call of John Havlicek stealing the ball on an inbounds play with five seconds to go in game 7 of the 1965 Eastern Division Finals against Philadelphia. Havlicek's action preserved a 110-109 Celtics victory and enabled the Green and White to continue down the path towards capturing their seventh consecutive NBA Championship later that spring.

Most's description of that play has been called "the most famous radio call in basketball history" by the NBA. Be sure to check it out on the internet where one can find a video of the play accompanied by Most's famous radio call as the decisive moment unfolds.

Like many adults from his era, Johnny was a member of the Greatest Generation that served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. Born and raised in New York City, he flew 28 combat missions with the 15th Air Force, earning seven medals.

Returning home after the war, he began his broadcasting career in NYC while working with Marty Glickman, the 1930s track star turned New York Knicks and New York Giants football announcer. He took the Celtics job with the dual blessings of team owner Walter Brown and coach Red Auerbach.

And, although he is mostly closely identified with the Celtics, he also worked in a number of other settings in the region. For example, he called Greyhound races at a track in Connecticut and was the announcer at Norwood Speedway (a NASCAR sanctioned racing site) for three

years during the 1960s. He also had a television show following Red Sox games and once — just once — served as the analyst for a Bruins game. It happened in 1965 when regular play-by-play man Fred Cusick was out sick and Bob Wilson took over Fred's duties with Johnny filling in as the commentator. Oh, how we would love to hear Johnny offering his thoughts on the hockey action as the game actually took place in front of him.

And talk about a varied career in media: Johnny actually has a published book of poetry to his credit.

His famous voice was silenced forever on January 3, 1993 — some 29 years ago — when he suffered a fatal heart attack at age 69. A heavy smoker most of his adult life, Johnny began having health problems in the early 1980s, problems that took their toll as time went on.

Johnny announced his retirement on October 10, 1990. Two months later, on December 3, 1990, his microphone was installed on the exterior facade of a broadcast booth "high above courtside," near the location where many of his broadcasts originated. The ceremony featured team president Red Auerbach plus Larry Bird, Tom "Satch" Sanders, KC Jones, and broadcaster Tom Gorman all paying tribute to Johnny and his loquacious ways.

In a way, the Celtics honored Johnny as if he had actually been a member of the team. And in a very real way, he was. Since he was not a player, his number could not be retired. By "retiring" his microphone and displaying it within the Garden, the Celtics were, in a sense, including him within that pantheon of legends whose uniform numbers adorn the rafters.

Just 25 months to the day after that noteworthy ceremony, Johnny Most died in Hyannis. He may have been gone but he certainly was not forgotten. Shortly after his passing the trustees of the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield honored him with the Curt Gowdy Media Award for his on-air contributions to basketball.

In Johnny's case, the award carried a dual significance. Way back in 1953, he was the man who replaced Curt Gowdy as the radio voice of the Celtics. Gowdy would go on to call Red Sox games on radio and television for 15 years before embarking on a national sports broadcasting career that saw him call 13 World Series, 14 Rose Bowl games, 24 NCAA Final Four basketball events plus eight Olympics and nine Super Bowls.

In contrast, for all of his 37-year career with the Celtics, Johnny Most was ours, as New Englanders would say. That was especially true during those 16 Celtics championship seasons that Johnny covered, since the extended postseasons often lasted a number of weeks into spring. Fans certainly got the most from Johnny Most who gave his all for the team. He was absolutely an original. There will never be another broadcaster like him.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL