

# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 115 - NO. 49

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 9, 2011

\$30 A COPY

## Boston Common Tree Lighting



Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Santa Claus lead the countdown to the 70<sup>th</sup> annual lighting of the Christmas tree on Boston Common with the help of Channel 5's JC Monahan and Nova Scotia's Deputy Premier Frank Corbett. The lighting capped a night of entertainment including Joey McIntyre, *American Idol*'s Siobhan Magnus, Rockapella, The Radio City Rockettes, Boston Ballet, Grace Kelly (renowned saxaphoist), Boston Children's Chorus, hosted by Mayor Menino, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, title sponsor the Province of Nova Scotia, supporting sponsors the Boston Pops, Distrigas/GDF SUEZ, and JetBlue, and media sponsors WCVB-TV Channel 5, MAGIC 106.7 FM, the *Boston Globe*, and the *Boston Herald*.

(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

## Annual Christmas Concert 2011

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



(Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

The older we become, the more tradition becomes a part of our lives. In the most imperceptible way, events slip into our lives that repeat

themselves, often on an annual basis; they help establish continuity and the rhythm of our lives establishing a sense of comfort

and well-being. We come to look forward to annual gatherings, ceremonies and

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*Buon Natale*

**NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

presents the

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
2011 NORTH END  
CHRISTMAS PARADE**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011 - 1:00 P.M.**



*Merry Christmas*

**SEE SANTA CLAUS ARRIVE AT NORTH END PARK  
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*In case of bad weather, Parade will be held the next Sunday, December 18th*

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

The Nazzaro Center • North End Against Drugs  
Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events

*Merry Christmas*

## News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

### Next Year Could Be a Good One for Bay State GOP

Just after listening to Joe Malone and the *Boston Herald's* Holly Robichaud filling in for the vacationing Jeff Katz on Talk 1200 Boston, I got to thinking about how good both Malone and Robichaud were on this radio show about next year's congressional races here in Massachusetts. I think Massachusetts Republicans have a good chance of being competitive and actually winning several House seats hereabouts. With a new 9<sup>th</sup> district along the southern coast and the Cape, Joe Malone might consider taking on US Rep. Bill Keatings who will be moving into the new House district to run for re-election down there. Meanwhile, former state Senator Richard Teisi, (R)-Wakefield is running against US Rep. John Tierney up on the North Shore. Then, there's the news that US Rep. Barney Frank is getting a geography change and losing liberal areas for more conservative southeast cities and towns down in and around the Attleboro area once represented by US Speaker of the House Joe Martin. A strong Republican candidate down there might have a good chance might fare surprisingly well.

### Barney Frank Calls It Quits

News that US Rep. Barney Frank is calling it quits after 32 years is good news to most of us. He saw what happened in 2010 when an unknown Republican opponent made him work extra hard to get his 54 percent to the other guy's 43

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

This office is open on **Tuesdays** from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and **Thursdays** from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, for the convenience of our East Boston and North Shore clients and contributors

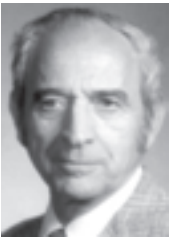
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# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



## MARCUS AURELIUS

History tells us that there were at least eight illustrious Romans named Marcus Antonius. One of them was the famous Roman that we all know as Marc Antony, however, none of them should be confused with the sixteenth emperor of the Roman Empire who finally took the name of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. This Marcus was born in Rome on April 26, 121 A.D. into an old Roman family that traced its origin back to Numa Pompilius, one of the legendary kings of early Rome. At birth this emperor was named Marcus Catilus Severus. Emperor Hadrian called him Annius Verissimus during his early youth, and later when he assumed (the "toga virilis" the white toga, a symbol of manhood) he was called Annius Verus. His elementary education was entrusted to instructors who possessed advance philosophical sensitivity, however, he was also well-schooled in Greek and Latin literature, drama, geometry, and oratory. During his early youth, philosophy became his major interest and he pursued these studies with great enthusiasm. In his pre-teen years, Marcus copied the coarse dress of the Greek philosophers, and when he became a teenager he adopted their habit of sleeping on the ground. His

mother's intervention at this time caused him to consent to sleeping on a couch as long as it was covered with animal skins.

Marcus received instruction from some of the most popular proponents and fore-runners of the Stoic system. This is the philosophy that taught the principles of stern or rigid moral conduct in accordance with the laws of nature, but all controlled by virtue. His emotion for this school of philosophy was so intense that he continued with his instruction even after he was adopted into the imperial family. Later, as emperor, he conferred great honors on his teachers, had gold statues of them prepared for his chapel, and even made personal visits and offerings at their tombs. Marcus also became interested in the study of rhetoric and of law; devoting so much time to his legal studies that he impaired his health.

During his early years, Marcus remained under the protective eye of Hadrian, and at the age of six, was honored with enrollment in the equestrian order. At the age of fifteen, and at Hadrian's wish, he was betrothed to the emperor's granddaughter. Shortly after that time, he was appointed to the office of prefect (chief magistrate) for the City of

Rome. We are told that he enjoyed brilliant success in this position.

Marcus was not one to be concerned about amassing a great fortune. He was, however, the heir to great sums of money from both his grandfather and his father. An interesting comment on his compassion for others tells of his mother requesting that he give a part of the inheritance from his father's estate to his sister. He replied that he was content with the fortune from his grandfather, and then gave all of his father's fortune to his sister. He also suggested that his mother leave all of her own estate to the sister so that she would not have less money than her husband.

Shortly after the death of Aelius Verus Caesar, Hadrian's first heir, that emperor started looking around for a successor to the throne. Marcus was not considered suitable because of his youth (eighteen years of age), therefore Antoninus Pius was chosen, but with the stipulation that Pius adopt Marcus, and that Marcus in turn adopt Lucius Commodus. When told of his adoption, Marcus was shocked, and explained to those who questioned him that sovereignty walked hand-in-hand with wickedness. However, since Marcus Catilus Severus was now adopted into the Aurelian family he became known as Marcus Aurelius.

NEXT WEEK:  
Aurelius the Emperor

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on*

**WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 14, 2011**

There will be two services  
at 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM

Please RSVP and indicate which  
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*Limited attendance for  
each service*

Refreshments will be served

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## Res Publica

by David Trumbull



### *Reserved to the States Respectively, or to the People*

December 15<sup>th</sup> is **Bill of Rights Day** in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, set aside to memorialize the entering into force, following adoption by three-fourths of the states on December 15, 1791, of the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, commonly called the Bill of Rights. Incidentally, Massachusetts was not one of the ratifying states and only passed the amendments in a symbolic gesture in 1939 at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

At the time it was proposed, the concept of a Bill of Rights — not to mention the specifics of what would be in it — was controversial.

Some argued against the Constitution itself as defective due to lack of an enumeration of the rights of the People. Even as English colonists subject to the Crown they had enjoyed, or at least claimed, the traditional rights of Englishmen, including those set forth in the 1689 English Bill of Rights and earlier documents going back to *Magna Carta* of 1215. Surely as the free citizens of a republic they ought to enjoy such an enumeration of rights.

Others argued that the Constitution was intended to provide only for the

arrangement of the national or central government of the States within the Union and that an enumeration of citizens' rights was unnecessary as it was the People making the Constitution and therefore the People retained all rights and powers not specifically granted the national government. Alexander Hamilton made this argument in *Federalist* No. 84.

The compromise, which was finally enacted, satisfied both by setting forth eight sets of specific rights of the people that the national government (and later, by incorporation under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, the States) is bound to respect. Those amendments are followed by the Ninth clarifying that every American citizen has all the traditional rights of a free person whether or not specifically listed in amendments one through eight. Then the Tenth Amendment makes clear (although somehow not so clear to some of the Democrats and liberals in Washington today) that the national government has only those powers specifically granted by the People through the Constitution, with all other powers reserved to the States or to the People.



*'Tis The Season! Ho! Ho! Ho!*

**Merry Christmas**

*St. Agrippina DiMineo Benefit Society*

*17<sup>th</sup> Annual*

**Christmas Program for  
North End Children Only**

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING WITH GIFTS  
FOR ALL THE NICE BOYS & GIRLS.

On Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 2:00 pm  
at St. Agrippina's Chapel at 459 Hanover Street

- ★ All who wish to attend, please call **617-363-2678** between November 22<sup>nd</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>. To confirm you must supply your child's name, age, gender, *address* and phone number so that we can report to Santa's elves.
- ★ Please, you must confirm no later than **December 5<sup>th</sup>**. **All children 10 and under** will receive a picture with Santa and a gift. Children must be present & **accompanied by an adult**. Also: Face Painting, Balloons, Characters, Gift Bags. Please bring a Camera!
- ★ Saint Agrippina's Christmas Program is for **North End Residents Only**.



*Don't miss seeing "Santa Claus"*  
**"VIVA ST. AGRIPPINA"**

*Just a Merry Good Time*  
*God Bless America*

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**Vol. 115 - No. 49**

**Friday, December 9, 2011**

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

## GUEST EDITORIAL

### SOCIALISTIC MAYORS AND HARVARD PROFESSORS SUPPORT OCCUPY WALL STREET

by Edward P. Shallow

Let me preface this editorial by informing the useful idiots of the Communist Party of America that only private business can create jobs and Democratic Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren has no problem being linked to the Occupy Wall Street movement and stands by her statement that she "created much of the intellectual foundation for what they do."

I am sure the American people, those that treasure our system of capitalism are outraged at the signs they display promoting, "Socialism now and forever," I would be remiss if I failed to indicate that socialism has failed the world over.

Warren continued, "I've been fighting Wall Street for a very long time, and I am glad to see people push on this issue."

Warren's comments were made the same day American Crossroads, an independent group associated with political operative Karl Rove, debuted a new ad linking Warren to violent video from the Occupy Wall Street movement," ABC's WCVB TV Boston November 13.

"Fourteen million people out of work, but instead of focusing on jobs, Elizabeth Warren sides with extreme left protests," the 30 second ad states, "As Occupy Wall Street protesters attack police, do drugs and trash public parks. They support radical redistribution of wealth and violence."

However, Warren boasts, "I created much of the intellectual foundation for what they do."

For the edification of readers, I read the list of proposals the Occupy Wall Street is intent on imposing on an unsuspecting American populace which if adopted would devastate an economy still comatose with employment expected to remain stagnant for the rest of the Obama administration.

As a result, we are still in a state of uncertainty and business will not invest further.

Obama is the most anti-business president in American history. In addition, his dedication to Union Leaders is crippling business. During George W. Bush's eight

(Continued on Page 14)

## 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 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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## • Annual Christmas Concert (Continued from Page 1)



remembrances eventually they form into traditions and are incorporated into the very fabric of our lives.

Some of our loveliest and heartwarming traditions are those that accompany Christmas, Mass on Christmas Eve, decorating the Christmas tree, making certain that special ornament always are placed prominently on the tree, a certain necktie or brooch that is worn only on Christmas day, we all establish traditions and look forward to their occurrence as we do to the welcome of an old friend.

Among the many traditions of life in the North End has emerged in recent years the Annual Saint Leonard Parish Christmas Concert, now in its seventh year. This year's concert, took place, on Sunday December 4, as tradition would dictate, in Sacred Heart Church, featured

the Boston Children's Chorus under the direction of Anthony Tracek-King. The concert began promptly at 5:00 pm with a brief introduction by Richard Molinari, this year's concert, sponsored by Gerald and Linda Riccio included a wonderful selection of traditional and not so traditional Christmas and seasonal music from around the world.

The Boston Children's Chorus has grown rapidly since its inception ten years ago; starting as a pilot program meant to unite Boston's diverse communities through the joy of making music, the Chorus has grown from initially 20 children to 450 in the current season, representing 50 Boston's urban and suburban neighborhoods participating in eleven different choirs in four Boston locations.

Father Claude Scrima,

Parochial Vicar of Saint Leonard Parish, brought the concert to a close by expressing a heartfelt thank you to the Children's Chorus, Mr. Tracek — King and the staff of the Chorus, Gerald and Linda Riccio for their sponsorship of the concert, and the organizing and decorating committees for helping to make the evening a successful and memorable event.

Following the performance, concert goers were invited to the Parish Christmas party, just across the street, at St. John's School Hall where they were treated to sandwiches, pizza and pastry donated by Bova's Bakery, Galleria Umberto, Café Vittoria and Jim and Francine Gannon and cake served and prepared by parishioners and committee members. Looking forward to the continuation of this lovely tradition in 2012.

## Thomas M. Malvarosa, Sr.

Thomas M. Malvarosa, Sr., of Dorchester, passed on November 2, 2011. Beloved husband of Linda D. (Waldron). Loving father of Thomas M. Malvarosa, Jr., of Dracut, Nancy A. and her husband John Hodge of NH, Anthony J. Malvarosa of Dracut, and Raymond M. and his wife Jessica Dunner of Dorchester. Brother of Nancy Crisostamo of NH, Stanley Malvarosa of Woburn, Anthony Malvarosa of the North End of Boston, and Tomasina Esposito of Medford. Devoted grandfather of Tiffany Malvarosa, J.T., Elizabeth, and Anthony Hodge, and Thomas



Malvarosa. Son-in-law of Mary F. Waldron of Dorchester. Survived by several nieces and nephews.

Late employee of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department for over 13 years.

Visiting hours where held at the Murphy Funeral Home, 1020 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester. Funeral Service was at the Gilman Chapel at Cedar Grove Cemetery, 920 Adams Street, Dorchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory may be made to the Active Amputee Support Group, 26 Utility Road, Scituate, MA 02066.

## Aram "Al" Vega-Vagramian

*Boston Jazz Pianist*

Al Vega, 90, of Everett, a longtime Boston musician who played with some of the finest jazz talents through a career that spanned 70 years, passed away on Friday, December 2 at Mass General Hospital. Al died peacefully in his sleep only hours after saying his goodbyes to family and close friends.

Al leaves Martha, his wife and companion of 40 years, his children Al and Diane, grandchildren Robin and Stacey and great-grandchild Grace, daughter-in-law Elida and his sister Violet Vagramian.

Vega, a World War II veteran, was also a longtime Little League and Babe Ruth baseball coach in Everett, Massachusetts, where a square was dedicated in his honor in October.

Al celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with a concert at Scullers Jazz Club in June, something that had become a much-anticipated sold-out event over the past five



years. Al impacted so many lives. Al treasured every moment playing for you and would want to thank you for your support.

Vega teamed up with many jazz greats including: Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Count Basie and Duke Ellington and played many of the city's legendary jazz clubs. He later led his own trio and became a fixture at Lucky's Lounge, where he played Frank Sinatra tunes on Sunday nights.

There will also be a tribute concert to Al, featuring the Al Vega All-Star Band and special guest singers on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 8:00 PM, at Scullers Jazz Club in Boston.

Funeral services were held at the Salvatore Rocco and Sons Funeral Home, 331 Main Street, Everett, on Wednesday, December 7. "A musical celebration of Al's life" was held at Anthony's Restaurant, Malden, on Thursday, December 8. Burial was private.



FinanciallySpeaking

with Ben Doherty

THINKING  
OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



THE POSITIVE OUTWEIGHTS THE NEGATIVE

Central banks around the world bought a little time for the Euro zone with a coordinated dollar swap last week, but didn't buy any sovereign debt at the heart of Europe's crisis. The Federal Reserve, European Central Bank and their counterparts in the UK, Canada, Japan and Switzerland will make it cheaper for European banks to obtain dollars, which have been in shorter supply since US money market funds began limiting their European zone exposure. The move akin to efforts for a brewing liquidity crunch for banks rather than limiting their euro zone exposure. The move will help head off a liquidity crunch for banks rather than attack the long festering government solvency issue. It's a prudent move but won't fix Europe, said Robert Dye, chief economist at Comerica. The S&P 500 surged 4.3% on the news as well as bond yields on the news as well as bond yields for Italy, Spain, Germany and

France fell. Unconfirmed buzz continues that the International Monetary Fund might step up. Fitch estimated that US money funds now put 35% of their investable funds in Europe, down from the 50% that was typically invested. But the costs of doing business will be lower as the collateral will be less; A political accord will have to come first as the ECB would have cover to buy bonds on a massive scale. Bank and German officials have been opposed to such purchases for fear of stroking inflation and of indebted nations backsliding on fiscal and structural reforms. The good news is that more people were hired last month, the bad news is that even more people left the workforce. The jobless rate was 718,000 of people who dropped out of the workforce, but September and October employment was revived up by 72,000. 278,000 more jobs were available as the economy comes out of a slow

patch said John Canally, investment advisor, as people get too old to work or run out of unemployment benefits. Unemployment was 13.2%, but that's still high. The unemployment was 15.5% but they still represent paychecks that will be spent leading to more revenue. The positives outweigh the negatives. The share of Americans in the workforce fell to 6.4% in November. Unemployment is still high as unemployment fell to a two year low of 15.6%, still high. US Airways lifted fares on many of its U.S. routes to match the higher prices of JetBlue. Chinese house prices fell. The Central Bank cut reserves for the first time in three years and could set off a chain reaction that goes beyond three years. The profits dived 16.77% in China and Japan following a 7.8% drop in Q2. Manufacturing profits fell 18.7% following the tsunami. HUD Secretary Sean Donovan told lawmakers the FHA will need to raise its insurance premiums for a fourth time since 2010.

It's time to call your Financial Advisor or call me at 617-337-5712.

THE LAST  
BEST HOPE

by Sal Giarratani

Recently, my favorite national newspaper *Investors' Business Daily* published a terrific editorial on November 22 about just what America is and ought to remain. The final three paragraphs are worth repeating here for people who love this country and all that it has stood for since its founding. Here it is:

America is not flawless. It's populated by humans, who are imperfect. The high standard has not been met as often as it should have been. But no other nation in history has been as committed to freeing men, delivering justice and, as the capital of capitalism, advancing prosperity and social mobility as the U.S. has been. None has ever been so humane, so charitable, so inclusive, so overflowing with optimism. It shouldn't be up to the political class to set the tone of the culture. But in our current environment, a change at the top would help restore the faith we've lost in ourselves.

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Is Urban Violence a Public Health Issue?

Is the chronic appearance of urban crime in particular Boston neighborhoods a public health crisis? United States Attorney Carmen M. Ortiz believes curbing violence should be viewed as a public health issue, with a focus on programs to prevent at-risk youth from joining gangs, using guns and killing people. Another question, is exposure to violence a public health ailment?

Boston recently received some \$10 million in federal grants to bolster programs targeting violence among the high-risk youth population. This federal money is the largest allocation of federal funds in recent years for programs for this so-called vulnerable youth population.

Mayor Menino has said, "Exposure to violence seriously affects the communities, our schools, our homes, our children's capacity to thrive." These words were stated at the Holland Community School in Dorchester in the middle of one of the most violent neighborhoods in the city.

I wholeheartedly agree with the mayor when he calls unacceptable the knowledge that nearly half of all high school students know someone shot or killed. I also agree with Police Commis-

sioner Ed Davis that law enforcement and these outreach programs work in partnership for the goal of a safer city for all.

In order to cut down on the violence a pro-active response is needed. Law enforcement is often reacting to the violence, but ways have to be found to prevent violence in the first place. I say now and have repeatedly said in the past, the root cause of this violence is the existence of dysfunctional families unable to be the building block needed for good communities to thrive. Everything starts in the home. Everything good and, sadly, everything bad. Parents must take control of the home again. The churches must preach more on the ending of violence. Community people must link arms and join together in finding the solutions necessary to end this pathological presence in too many communities.

Federal grants are a good investment but all the money in the world can't stop kids from shooting and killing each other. We need to get the word out through our actions. We must demand a change from ourselves and all those who share our neighborhoods with us.

Giovanni the Italian Teddy Bear

Press his furry paw, and in Italian he greets you, inviting you to respond. Join him when he counts to ten, and when he sings, "Giro, Giro, Tondo" and "La Bella Lavanderina." Listen while Giovanni teaches you "Good Night" and "Good Bye" with the promise of seeing you again.



Giovanni speaks only Italian and comes with a translation guide. Giovanni's sweater bears the Italian colors and on the bottom of his left foot, a miniature Italian flag.

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Christmas  
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Luncheon

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# Dr. Antonietta Mauri

*Joins Mount Auburn Healthcare  
at Medford's Internal Medicine Department*

Mount Auburn Hospital is pleased to announce that Antonietta Mauri, MD has joined the internal medicine department at Mount Auburn Healthcare in Medford, MA. Fluent in Italian and English, Dr. Mauri is excited to be practicing within Medford's vibrant Italian community.

Originally from Naples, Italy, Dr. Mauri graduated from the University of Naples Medical School and completed her first residency at the University of Verona prior to moving to pursue a career in the U.S. healthcare system. She comes to Mount



Auburn from the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center in Worcester, MA, where she completed

her second residency in Internal Medicine.

Mount Auburn Healthcare at Medford is located at 101 Main Street, Suite 110. Dr. Mauri is currently accepting new patients. Please call 781-391-2705 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Mount Auburn Hospital was founded in 1886. A teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, its mission is to deliver healthcare services in a personable, convenient and compassionate manner, with respect for the dignity of patients and their families.

## BPL's North End Branch Holiday Party

On Saturday, December 3, 2011, from 12-3pm The Friends of the North End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 25 Parmenter Street, Boston, MA hosted their annual holiday party. Al Natalie and guests provided the music.

Produced by Feld Entertainment

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# HELP SAVE “Italia Chiama Italia”

by Nicola Orichuia



One of the most vital threads that keeps Italians and Italian Americans connected to their country and family roots is about to disappear. Due to budget shortfalls and wasteful spending, RAI International — Italy's public broadcast company airing abroad — is quickly moving to cut almost all of its television programs, which are followed by so many viewers all over the world.

Among these is “Italia Chiama Italia,” one of the last programs dedicated to covering Italians abroad. It is one of the most active programs highlighting the accomplishments, dreams and issues of immigrants of yesterday and today. For over a decade this program has given a voice to so many extraordinary individuals who would have otherwise gone unnoticed. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of journalists such as Stefano Salimbeni in New England, RAI viewers have had a chance to witness remarkable stories of success through hardship and an insight about living and developing Italian communities. Furthermore, the program has been able to create a sense of community, which would be lost if the cuts will be enforced as scheduled, on January 1, 2012.

Although RAI is in a hard financial situation, it should not take the easy way out, cutting programs indiscriminately. Being a public service company, it must always prefer the public in-

terest to corporate gain. Unfortunately, RAI has made poor decisions over the past decade, putting aside cultural programming for more commercial shows, looking for a quick profit. Over time, this strategy has proven to be a failure, given the tough competition brought forth by privately owned television stations. Although less lucrative, RAI should follow the PBS model in the United States and the BBC model in the United Kingdom. Both offer programming that is exclusive, educational and informative. By wanting to cut programs like “Italia Chiama Italia,” though, RAI seems to be headed in the opposite direction, alienating those followers around the world who have relied on such a program to keep in touch with communities they feel close to. It would be a mistake, strategically and politically, to burn bridges with the Italian communities abroad.

Italian and Italian American viewers do not deserve to be treated with such disrespect from RAI. They have been faithfully supporting the television station and have relied on its programming to keep their connection with their heritage alive. If you are a RAI subscriber or believe Italians and Italian Americans deserve to still have a vital program like “Italia Chiama Italia,” please send an e-mail to [italiachiamaitalia@rai.it](mailto:italiachiamaitalia@rai.it) to express your concern and your support for the program.

## Sapori Nostri-A Taste of Tradition

Donne 2000, has collected the best ethnic recipes from its group members and compiled them into an attractive keepsake cookbook, entitled, *Sapori Nostri – A Taste of Tradition*. The cookbook contains 150 well-loved Italian recipes including appetizers, main dishes, desserts and many other recipes that have been handed down from generation to generation. The cookbook is an attractive three-ring binder with a convenient easel bookstand. It is a must have for anyone who appreciates Italian food and culture. It will also make a memorable Christmas gift!

Proceeds will go to the Donne 2000 scholarship fund and other charitable events. For more information or to purchase a cookbook please contact Doreen Giammarco at 617-742-0226 or email at [doreeng869@aol.com](mailto:doreeng869@aol.com).

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## Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

Will East Boston be left in the dark this Holiday season??? The City of Boston, airport, tunnels and Eastie businesses are yet to step up to the plate with funding to light up and decorate East Boston main areas. The Gateway a/k/a the neighborhood that welcomes visitors into Boston via Logan Airport is being forgotten this season as far as I am told! How disappointing! ... One of the first to kick-off the spirit of Christmas is the *Elite Donut* in Day Square. The establishment not only decorated their window, but also has a lit Christmas tree in front of the shop that is very attractive at night! ... Christians across the State of Massachusetts reading Mayor Tom Menino's ad for the lighting held in Boston on December 1 were mad! Tree Lighting??? What's that supposed to mean??? Does it mean a tree in Boston; any old tree is being lit, or is it a **CHRISTMAS TREE!** There I wrote it (Christmas)! ... Speaking of the Mayor, after sending a 200 page report to the courts of the unhealthy conditions spewing from Obamaville hippies at "Occupy Boston," he said he still wants to wait before evicting. I know, he's waiting for the cold weather

and snow to set in and he thinks they'll leave! I think he's wrong, these airheads appear to be there to stay! ... Black Friday started off with a bang, and if that day was any indication people will be spending money over the holiday. It was a good sign ... Some people think he's dead, but he's very much alive and enjoying the good life. I'm talking about the infamous Cardinal Bernard Law that was sent to Rome after Massachusetts authorities refused to prosecute him for the horrendous cover-ups of pedophile priests across the country. Recently members of the Vatican threw Bernie an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday bash at Rome's most expensive chichi restaurant. Being a bad boy for the Vatican earned him a seat in the Pope's mansion, but what about his seat in the next life??? ... Congressman Barney Frank gave us an early Christmas present when he announced his retirement. The ultra-liberal Frank knew once the redistricting took place, he no longer would be King of the Hill. Frank may have fooled his Newtonite liberal constituents, but he knew he couldn't pull the wool over the eyes of the new district voters, so he decided to call it quits. Barney boy will al-

ways be remembered for his role in bringing down the housing market via Fannie and Freddie, plus all the shenanigans he got away with! Bye-bye Barney! ... Revere City Councilors have been talking about foot patrolmen at several City Hall meetings. Crime is rising in Revere along Broadway and the Shirley Avenue area. So it's about time they acted! On Thanksgiving afternoon at the corner of Pleasant and Broadway, a woman walking to a friend's was assaulted in broad daylight. According to eye witnesses she was pushed to the ground by another woman who snatched her pocketbook. The victim was transported to the hospital by ambulance and is being treated for multiple broken bones ... Occupy Boston a/k/a Obamaville hippies are ruining the holiday business everywhere. Donald Trump had harsh words for President Obama whose fundraiser was held two blocks from the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree lighting that people wait all year for! Trump said "Obama could care less that the route he travels to his 100<sup>th</sup> plus FUNDRAISER will be blocked off leading to the Christmas Tree Lighting festivities." It's what Obama is all about. HIMSELF! ... *Till next time!*

### SICILIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

The Sicilian Association of Greater Boston will be hosting their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 10, 2011

beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 440, 295 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts. For tickets and further de-

tails, please call Josephine Guccione at 781-762-6273 or 617-773-1634 or e-mail Susan Scichilone Presti at [IoFurbo1@aol.com](mailto:IoFurbo1@aol.com).



Thanks to all who helped make the 13th Annual Community Awards Banquet Special

**The 2011 HONOREES** - Robert Decristoforo President's Award: Matt Conti, Barbara Decristoforo Senior Award: Lillian Ferullo & Mary Anne Tordiglione, Emily Pugliano Public Service Award: Nicole Leo, John Dexter Award Unsung Hero Award: Rebecca Griffin, Uncle Fred Carangelo Organization Award: Friends of the North End Library, N.E.A.D. Alumnus Award: John Pagliuca, Andy Puopolo Youth Award: Alexis Scalia, Walter Salvi NSTAR Business Award: Dayco Services, and Anthony Morella Good Guy Award: Michael D'Elia, Warren Watson, Mike Barone.

**PROGRAM BOOKLET SPONSORS** - Knights of Columbus Ausonia Council #1513, Industrial Credit union, H.R. Hatch Insurance Agency, Virgilio Laundromat, Hillside Press, Senator Anthony Petrucci, Representative Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor Salvatore LaMattina, Century Bank, Golden Goose Market, The Musto Family, North End Waterfront .com, Sons of Italy Lodge # 208, Saint John School, St. Lucy Society, Christopher Columbus High School Class of 1986 - Danny Ryan, Debbie & Joseph DeCristoforo, LaCapella Suites, The Puopolo Family, Catherine Keegan, Camdele Construction Company, Rose Lorusso, Friends of the North End, Italian/American War Veteran's Post #8, Green Cross Pharmacy, Hanover Wine & Spirits, Paula Lyons.

**Raffle and Auction Donors** - Pizzeria Regina/Polcari's, Gennaro's, Stanza Dei Sigari, Florentine Cafe, Cafe Vittoria, The Living Room, Prezza, LaFamiglia Giorgio's, Sesso's Italian Kitchen (Somerville), Mary Romano (Afghan), Boston Harbor Hotel, Jim Carey, Sports Images and The New England Aquarium.

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## West End Christmas Tree Lighting

Join us on Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 6:00 pm for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony celebrating, and in remembrance of Kip Tiernan and Richard Cardinal Cushing, 150<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebration of St. Joseph's Parish, West End at Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park, located at One Bowdoin Square, Cambridge Street, Boston's West End. Free parking will be available at Charles River Plaza Lower Deck. Reception and refreshments will be indoors. Santa, too!

Featuring St. John School Children's Choir, North End; The Eastwood Production Duo; Holy Trinity German Singer, South End and the U.S. Coast Guard Honor Guard B.S.U.

Norman R.E. Herr, West End Neighborhood Association and The friends of Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park, Inc., will be hosting the evening. Rev. Daniel C. O'Connell of St. Joseph's Church will be blessing the Christmas tree.

Call Norman Herr at lighting for parking pass card (617) 869-7001 (cell) or (617) 720-5326 (house).

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# The Socially Set

by Hilda M. Morrill



Pictured with Dr. Paul S. Russell, center, at the Bicentennial Gala are Russell Museum director Peter Johnson, left, and Webster Bull, co-author of the new MGH history, "Something in the Ether."

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

To mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding, the Massachusetts General Hospital hosted its Bicentennial Gala at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center earlier this social season.

Hosted by MGH President Peter L. Slavin, MD, the evening featured musical



MGH President and gala host Peter Slavin, left, with the Hon. Henry Kissinger.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

performances by the Tanglewood Festival Chorus; Steinway concert pianist Conrad, MD, PhD; and the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Reflections from former US Secretary of State and MGH patient, The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger, were a highlight of the event.

Among the more than 1200 guests were U.S. Senator John F. Kerry, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Senate President Therese Murray, and Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives Robert A. DeLeo.

As a highlight to the MGH bicentennial year, the hospital opened the Paul S. Russell Museum of Medical History and Innovation, named in honor of longtime MGH physician Paul S. Russell, MD, a pioneer in the field of transplant surgery and chair of the MGH History Committee.

.....This past Sunday, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts celebrated this year's recipients of the 2011 Kennedy Center Honors at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual national celebration of the arts. Honored were: singer Barbara Cook, singer and songwriter Neil Diamond, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, saxophonist and composer Sonny Rollins, and actress Meryl Streep.

"This year, the Kennedy Center celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by selecting five extraordinary individuals whose collective artistry has contributed significantly to the cultural life of our nation and the world," said Kennedy Center Chairman David M.



Enjoying the Mass General Hospital Bicentennial Gala at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center are, left to right, Remy Stressenger, Alyson Lindsey and Catherine MacDonald.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

Rubenstein.

The Honors Gala was recorded for broadcast on the CBS Network for the 34<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as a two-hour primetime special to be aired on Tuesday, December 27 at 9:00 p.m., when we will all be able to watch, re-live and enjoy.

The annual Honors Gala has become the highlight of the Washington cultural year, and its broadcast is a high point of the television season. In a star-studded celebration on the Kennedy Center Opera House stage, produced by George Stevens Jr. and Michael Stevens, the 2011 Honorees were saluted by great performers from New York, Hollywood, and the arts capitals of the world. Seated with the President of the United States and Mrs. Obama, the Honorees accepted the thanks of their peers and fans through performances and heartfelt tributes.

The President and Mrs. Obama received the Honorees and members of the Artists Committee who nominated them, along with the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees at the White House prior to the gala performance. The 2011 Kennedy Center Honors Gala concluded with a supper dance in the Grand Foyer.

Past Honors recipients, as well as members of the Kennedy Center's national artists committee, had made recommendations for the 2011 Honorees. Artists making recommendations included: Christine Baranski, Harolyn Blackwell, Glenn Close, Denyce Graves, Paloma Herrera, Bill Irwin, Evgeny Kissin, Patti LuPone, Sarah Jessica Parker, and James Taylor.

Previous Kennedy Center Honorees, including Julie

Andrews, Dave Brubeck, Carol Burnett, Plácido Domingo, Steve Martin, Jack Nicholson, Jessye Norman, Stephen Sondheim, Steven Spielberg, and Stevie Wonder, also made nominations.

Kennedy Center President Michael M. Kaiser expressed the national cultural center's continued gratitude to the many individuals involved in the success of the Honors program. "In addition to recognizing some of the world's most treasured artists, the Kennedy Center Honors supports a wide variety of artistic programming, as well as the Center's educational and national outreach efforts."

Congratulations and Best Wishes to all!

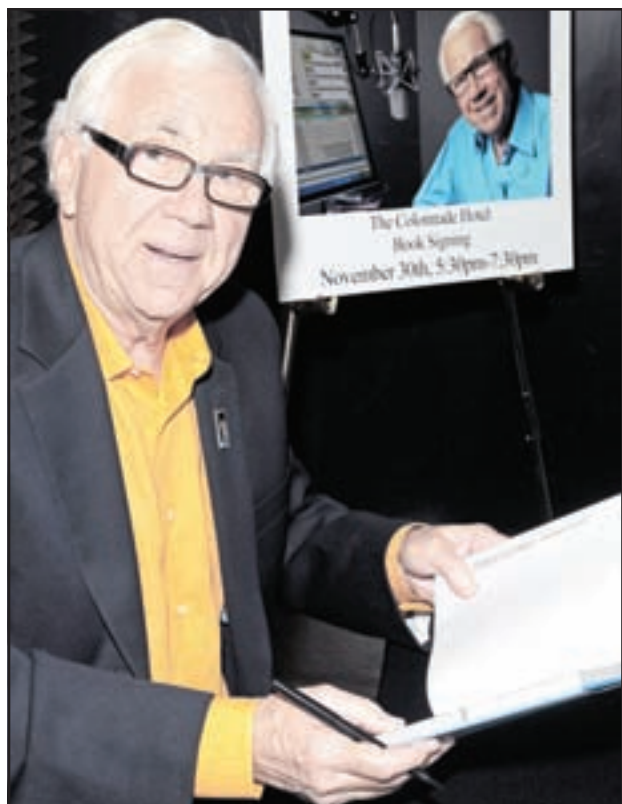
.....The Nora Theatre Company and the Underground Railway Theater presentation of the first co-production of the two resident companies at Central Square Theater, "Arabian Nights," continues through New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31. "Arabian Nights" is directed by The Nora's Associate Director, Daniel Gidron.

First presented at the Young Vic in 1998 as part of their holiday series, Dominic Cooke's adaptation has had successful national and international tours, including a run in New York City. For Arabian Nights, Cooke was honored with a 2000 Theater Management Association Award for Best Theatre for Children and Young People.

Casting for Arabian Nights has been crucial to the process of producing the play. The stories originated in Persia, the Middle East and South Asia, traveled to

(Continued on Page 13)

## Ron Della Chiesa's Radio My Way Book Signing



Ron Della Chiesa book signing of his memoir *Radio My Way* at Brasserie Jo, The Colonnade Hotel, Boston.

(Photo by Northstar Photography)

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**Sandy Russo, owner of Lulu's Sweet Shoppe and Megan Ball.**



**LIT Boutique's Kristina Zolnierowicz, Lisa Shah and Victoria Pappas.**

## Fifth Annual North End Holiday Stroll

Over 20 establishments in Boston's North End participated in the Fifth Annual Holiday Stroll on Friday, December 2, 2011. Be sure to visit all the North End establishments for your holiday needs.



**Melissa Cooper, Merilee Wolfson and Darlene Dehler of High Gear Jewelry.**



**Left to Right: Matt Mollo, Ryan Millian and Guillaume Bouscave of The Wine Bottega.**



**Left to Right: Flynn Feeney, Robyn Cailter, Alisan Barnard and Kalia Pimentel of Twilight.**



**Stephanie Savas and Christine Savas of Savas Studios.**



**Left to Right: Sana Finigan, Gina Palo, Tina Milani and Jocelyn Mastroianni from Injeanious.**

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**the LEGAL Interest**

David J. Saliba  
Attorney at Law

**What is Self Defense?**

**COMMONWEALTH vs. CHRISTOPHER ROBERT KING**  
**SJC-10808**  
**SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**460 Mass. 80; 949 N.E.2d 426;**  
**April 7, 2011, Argued • June 21, 2011, Decided**

The victim was an employee of Kings, a bowling alley, bar and restaurant in Boston. The restaurant and lounge are separated from the bowling alleys by a doorway. Every Monday night, Kings hosted "Industry Night" where employees of the hospitality industry of Boston gathered to socialize and to bowl for free. Kings had a bowling team; the victim was a member.

One week before the incident, the victim went into the lounge area of the restaurant and, on seeing a woman paying for the defendant's drinks, said to the defendant, "Don't make your bitch pay for your drinks." Words were exchanged, but the victim removed [him] self from the situation. The victim did not threaten the defendant; he walked away because he did not want to endanger his job.

One week later the victim was bowling. He did not know that the defendant was there. After he finished bowling, the victim walked through the doorway into the lounge area. He denied having a glass in his hand at the time. Without warning, the defendant punched the victim in the face above his left eye. The victim stated that he did not know whether the defendant had anything in his hand when he punched him. Before the victim was taken to an ambulance, he apparently spoke to a responding police officer and said that he did not know what had happened. However, he testified that, after the punch; he remembered nothing until he woke up in an ambulance. He suffered injuries to his head and face, including fractures to his eye socket and face that required surgery. The extent

of the injuries was introduced solely through the victim's testimony.

The defendant's case. The defendant presented a different version of events. The defendant and several of his coworkers were at Kings for the Monday Industry Night when the victim made his statement about paying for drinks to the defendant. During that earlier incident, the defendant and his coworkers told the victim to "get lost." The victim challenged the defendant to a fight, even removing his jacket, but they did not fight.

On the evening of the incident, the defendant saw the victim and made eye contact. According to the defendant, as he entered through the door to the lounge, the victim was inside the lounge about four feet away. The victim's "eyes lit up" when he saw the defendant, but the defendant did not recall whether there were words between them. The victim turned around to place a glass on a table, and came back "with his fist cocked," punching the defendant in the face. The defendant immediately punched back and the victim "stumbled on" and fell "off" a table and "fell on his head pretty hard." On cross-examination, the defendant denied that he told the police officer that he had been attacked by the victim and several of his friends. He did say that he told the officer that the victim had hit him first.

One coworker, Craig Hart, was in the lounge. His testimony corroborated the defendant's; he added that he saw the victim and the defendant engaged in a heated discussion.

Another coworker, Sean Griffin, testified that double

swinging doors led into the lounge and that he was right behind the defendant as he was entering the lounge through one of the doors. He stated that the victim was standing in front of the doorway to the lounge, "block[ing] in" the defendant. Griffin testified that, after the victim put down a glass he had in his hand, the victim came at the defendant with a clenched fist. He did not state that the victim hit the defendant.

The Supreme Court said:

Where nondeadly force is used, a defendant is entitled to a self-defense instruction if the evidence, viewed in the light most favorable to the defendant without regard to credibility, supports a reasonable doubt that (1) the defendant had reasonable concern for his personal safety; (2) he used all reasonable means to avoid physical combat; and (3) "The degree of force used was reasonable in the circumstances, with proportionality being the touchstone for assessing reasonableness."

Even considering the evidence presented only in the defendant's case, there was sufficient evidence for the jury to conclude that the defendant used unreasonable force in the circumstances. Despite being punched by the victim, the defendant had no mark on his face and remained upright and was unimpaired enough to punch back immediately. However, the force the defendant employed was strong enough to cause the victim to fall onto a table before hitting his head "hard" on the floor and break a glass he was holding.

This Case says:

It is not self defense if you do not have reasonable concern for your safety and you do not try to avoid physical combat and you don't use force greater than necessary.

by bob morello  
**Facts ON wax**  
reviewing the best . . . forgetting the rest

**THE CANADIAN TENORS**  
**COME BEARING GIFTS**



Christmas came early for the soldout audience at the Wilbur Theatre on Monday night, not that Santa was there, but because The Canadian Tenors were "in the house." The talented quartet delivered an exciting blend of classical and contemporary pop, wrapped nicely with a sprinkling of Christmas songs. Add to this their storytelling humor, and it made the audience feel like they were with "family" — and enjoying the show right in their own homes.

It was a night in which the Tenors managed to pull out all the stops, showering the audience with love via their incredibly powerful voices and their charm, taking each person on a special magical tour. The fantastic foursome includes Clifton Murray, Victor Micallef, Remigio Pereira and Fraser Walters, all true Canadians, with only Pereira boasting about his Boston ties.

The festivities began immediately, as they opened with the beautiful "Because We Believe," the audience warming up instantly. The laid back style of the Canadian Tenors went over wonderfully, as they continued with the Prayer of St. Francis "Instrument of Peace," on to Pereira's tender Latin-lyrics of "Panis Angelicus," along with the title track from their Christmas album "The Perfect Gift," a song written by Canadian Stephan Moccio.

Each Tenor got their chance to do a solo, allowing the audience to identify the individual vocal contribution each member made to the group. Next up was Murray who took Bob Dylan's "Forever Young" and made it his own, trailed by a moving version of "Ave Maria," and another gem from their Christmas album, "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." Ending the pre-intermission was an outstanding version of David Foster's "The Prayer" — which earned one of the many standing ovations of the night.

There was little doubt that

their U.S. fans, elaborating the fact with "We're happy to be back in Boston again this year" — and the audience reaction reflected that they were happy also! Much of the Tenors' humor was aimed at the Boston Bruins' Stanley Cup victory over their Canadian team, the Vancouver Canucks. Elaborating a bit more regarding the Bruins' mastery over their Toronto Maple Leafs.

Following a short intermission, The Tenors opened with "What Child Is This" (Carol of the Bells), before introducing Justin Hines, a young man from Newmarket Ontario, as their special guest. Hines who suffers from Larsen's Syndrome, a rare genetic joint condition, and performs in a wheelchair, moved the audience with a pair of songs, especially with "Say What You Will" performed with The Canadian Tenors.

Walters used his opportunity to solo by sitting at the piano and doing a great job on Sarah McLachlan's "Wintersong." Micallef projected his voice with authority on "The Lord's Prayer," followed by the foursome's outstanding work on Leonard Cohen's classic "Hallelujah." The night ended with still more holiday efforts, including "O Holy Night," and their encore performance of "Silent Night."

Two additional examples of the warmth The Canadian Tenors bring to their audience, was displayed following their performance, as they sang "Happy Birthday" to two pretty women backstage (one being my wife Sue), and their willingness to stay after the show to pose for pictures and autograph CDs for their fans. They left Boston fans with the perfect finish — wanting more AND looking forward to their return. It was a night where each gift deserved a "bow" and a "bow"! Grand show et bonne chance Canadian Tenors!

(The Wilbur Theatre, December 5<sup>th</sup>)

North End Columbus Day Committee  
Presents the 4th Annual

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## THEATER

### NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE

**62 Dunham Road, Beverly, MA**  
**A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Now through December 23. With dazzling special effects that have grown even more exciting over time, traditional and original songs, and colorful costumes, **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** has become a holiday favorite throughout New England. Based on the Charles Dickens classic, **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** tells the tale of curmudgeonly miser Ebenezer Scrooge, who is visited by the ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Future hoping to change his destiny and save his soul. This brilliant musical, an original adaptation written by former NSMT Artistic Director, Jon Kimbell, follows Scrooge through a series of strange and magical journeys, where he ultimately discovers the true spirit of the holiday season. For further information, visit [www.nsmmt.org](http://www.nsmmt.org), or the Box Office at 978-232-7200 or visit in person at 62 Dunham Road, Beverly.

### LOEB DRAMA CENTER

**64 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA**  
**AS YOU LIKE IT** - Now through January 8, 2012. "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players," in Shakespeare's beloved pastoral comedy *As You Like It*. This classic tale follows Rosalind and her friend Celia's escape from a deadly conspiracy into nature's wild, liberating arms. What follows is an unconventional romance with everything from wrestling matches to cross-dressing shepherds culminating in a joyful finale. For further information call 617-547-8300 or log on to [www.americanrepertorytheater.org](http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org).

### BOSTON OPERA HOUSE

**539 Washington St., Boston, MA**  
Don't miss the final season of the current Boston Ballet's **THE NUTCRACKER** - Now through December 31, 2011. Experience the magic of this beloved production one last time. For tickets: Colonial Theatre Box Office, 106 Boylston Street, online at [www.broadwayacrossamerica.com/Boston](http://www.broadwayacrossamerica.com/Boston), Ticketmaster.com or Ticketmaster 800-982-2787.

### REAGLE MUSIC THEATRE

**617 Lexington St., Waltham, MA**  
**IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME** - Now through December 11, 2011. The one Boston Christmas spectacle guaranteed to warm any heart! Children of all ages are enchanted by Santa's Workshop, Teddy Bears', Nutcracker,

Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, Victorian Christmas, precision dancers and The Living Nativity. Our cast of 200 comes gift wrapped in fabulous holiday sets and costumes — all backed by a full live orchestra. For further details visit [www.regalplayers.com](http://www.regalplayers.com)

### SHUBERT THEATRE

**270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA**  
**THE ADDAMS FAMILY** - February 7-19, 2012. They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky — c'mon, you know that tune! A dream cast takes on the quirky characters in a new and original Addams Family tale. As the musical begins, there are storm clouds gathering over the Addams Family home. Wednesday is falling in love, young Pugsley, jealous of his sister's attention, begs her to keep torturing him severely, while mother Morticia fears being upstaged and discarded by her daughter's lurch into womanhood ... like yesterday's roadkill. But when outsiders come to dinner, the events of one night will change forever this famously macabre family — a family so very different from your own — or maybe not. Tickets can be purchased at the Wang Theatre Box Office or by phone at 866-348-9738.

## MUSIC

### OLD SOUTH CHURCH

**645 Boylston Street, Copley Sq., Boston, MA**  
**LAUDA PER LA NATIVITÀ DEL SIGNORE** - December 16, 2011. Chorus pro Musica proudly presents its annual Holiday Celebration. The Chorus' Holiday Celebration will feature Ottorino Respighi's *Lauda per la Natività del Signore* (Laud to the Nativity), a beautiful pastoral cantata that depicts the birth of Jesus as the shepherds might have seen it. For further information or to purchase tickets visit [www.choruspromusica.org](http://www.choruspromusica.org) or by phone at 1-800-658-4276.

### DCU CENTER

**50 Foster Street, Worcester, MA**  
**BOSTON POPS HOLIDAY CONCERT** - December 11, 2011. The Boston Pops Holiday Concert presented by TD Bank is back by popular demand! Kick off your holiday season with Keith Lockhart, the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and vocal powerhouse Rockapella! For the first time ever, "America's Orchestra" joins America's leading a cappella group for an unforgettable holiday show. Enjoy unique takes on classic favorites and brand new originals, plus a special visit from Jolly Ole' St. Nick and a time-honored

audience sing along. Treat yourself and your loved ones to a holiday tradition that millions cherish! Tickets available at the DCU Center Box Office, Ticketmaster locations, by phone at 800-745-3000 and online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

### SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB

**Double Tree Hotel**  
**400 Soldiers Road, Boston, MA**  
**DAVID SANBORN** - February 10, 2012. Renowned and revered the world over as one of the greatest saxophone players of all-time, David Sanborn is an artist whose music has inspired countless other musicians while creating a body of work that spans the genres of rock 'n' roll, R&B, pop and jazz. A naturally gifted performer, David has helped defined the saxophone's modern sound while influencing a generation. For tickets or further information call 617-562-4111 or log on to [www.scullersjazz.com](http://www.scullersjazz.com)

### ORPHEUM THEATER

**1 Hamilton Place, Boston, MA**  
**THE IMAGINATION MOVERS** - April, 28 2012. The Movers' own story provides a good example of the power of imagination. In 2003, four New Orleans friends — Rich Collins, Scott Durbin, Dave Poche and Scott "Smitty" Smith — started gathering after their kids' bedtimes to write songs and brainstorm ideas about a children's television show. Two years later, they had become the latest sensation of their musical city, attracting parents and children alike with an eclectic pop sensibility and lyrical turns about healthy snacks and playing catch and conquering childhood fears of bedtime. For tickets and upcoming events log on to [www.orpheum-theater.com](http://www.orpheum-theater.com).

### CHEVALIER THEATRE

**30 Forest Street, Medford, MA**  
**A JAZZY SNAZZY CHRISTMAS** - December 10, 2011. Swing into the holidays with a unique musical extravaganza! A 24-piece Big Band, sensational vocalists, dynamic dancers and a heartwarming children's chorus perform seasonal favorites that will have you snappin' your fingers, tappin' your feet and singin' and dancin' in your seat. For tickets and more details call Ticket Force toll free 877-840-0457, Adagio Concert Line 978-251-7804 or online at [www.ticketforce.com](http://www.ticketforce.com).

## Special Events

### DCU CENTER

**50 Foster Street, Worcester, MA**  
**CIRQUE DU SOLEIL - QUIDAM**  
December 14-18 - Young Zoé is bored; her parents, distant and apathetic, ignore her. Her life has lost all meaning. Seeking to fill the void of her existence, she slides into an imaginary world — the world of Quidam — where she meets characters who encourage her to free her soul. Quidam: a nameless passerby, a solitary figure lingering on a street corner, a person rushing past and swallowed by the crowd. It could be anyone, anybody. Someone coming or going at the heart of our anonymous society. A member of the crowd, one of the silent majority. The one who cries out, sings and dreams within us all. This is the "quidam" whom this show allows to speak. This is the place that beckons — a place for dreaming and genuine relations where all quidams, by proclaiming their individuality, can finally emerge from anonymity. Tickets available at the DCU Center Box Office, Ticketmaster locations, at 800-745-3000 and online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

**BOSTON SCAVENGER HUNT** - See Boston with new eyes on a scavenger hunt! On teams of up to six people, you'll tackle tricky, humorous questions about the cool things and amazing places you discover. Along the way, you'll uncover surprising secrets. Our acclaimed hunts are like walking tours spiked with caffeine. Don't have a team? We'll help you find kindred spirits at the start of the hunt. No knowledge of any hunt location is required — you just need a sharp mind and a good pair of shoes. Advance purchase is required for all hunts. For more info log on to [watsonadventures.com](http://watsonadventures.com) or by phone at OvationTix at 866-811-4111.

### TD GARDEN

**Causeway Street, Boston**  
**DISNEY ON ICE PRESENTS TREASURE TROVE** - December 26 through December 29, 2011. Discover endless riches when Disney On Ice presents Treasure Trove comes to the TD Garden! Disney On Ice sets the

gold standard with its newest skating spectacular. Get tangled up in Disney's 50<sup>th</sup> animated feature with Rapunzel and Flynn and enter the worlds of your other favorite Disney princesses — Tiana, Cinderella, Jasmine, Ariel, Sleeping Beauty, Belle, Mulan and of course, the one who started it all, Snow White. Ahoy, Mateys! Set sail with Peter Pan, Tinker Bell and the cantankerous Captain Hook and his pirate pals on an adventure beyond Never Land! Trek the wilds of Africa with Simba, Nala, Pumbaa and Timon as they discover the true meaning of the 'Circle of Life.' Tick-Track! Tick-Track! Don't be late to a very important date with Alice and the Mad Hatter as they march with the Queen of Hearts' Army of Cards. Be sure to see this show full of memories guaranteed to last a lifetime.

### WILBUR THEATRE

**246 Tremont Street, Boston, MA**  
**JOHN PINETTE** - Saturday, December 31, 2011. John Pinette has been entertaining audiences around the world in a variety of ways for over 20 years, but it is making people laugh that John enjoys most of all. When asked to describe his stand-up, John Pinette says, "I talk about my life, it is the funniest thing I can think of. For some reason, people enjoy seeing me lose by cherub like demeanor." John was named Stand-Up Comedian of the Year by the American Comedy Awards in 1999 and received a Gemini Award nomination for his superb televised performance at The Montreal Comedy Festival in 2000. His hit Comedy Central Special and DVD entitled "I'm Starvin'" was released in January of 2007 as a follow up to his enormously successful CD "Show Me The Buffet." Born just outside of Boston, John has always had a gift for making people laugh. John got his big break when he was asked to tour with Frank Sinatra. Since then he has made multiple guest stand-up comedy appearances on television shows such as *The Tonight Show*, *The Dr. Phil Show* and *The View*. For ticket information, please call 1-800-745-3000 or visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

## ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

### ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

**"The Sicilian Corner"** 11:00 am to 1:00 pm every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and **"The Italian Show"** with Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Go to [www.1110wccmam.com](http://www.1110wccmam.com). **"Italia Oggi"** Sundays 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM [www.1460WXBR.com](http://www.1460WXBR.com). **"Dolce Vita Radio"** DJ Rocco Mesiti 11:00 am-1:00 pm Sundays 90.7 FM or online [www.djrocco.com](http://www.djrocco.com). **"The Nick Franciosa Show"** Sundays from 12 Noon to 3:00 pm on WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM. **"Guido Oliva Italian Hour"** 8:00 am-9:00 am Sundays on WSRO 650 AM and online at [www.wsro.com](http://www.wsro.com). **"Radio Italia Unita"** - Thursdays 2:00 pm-3:00 pm on [www.zumix.org/](http://www.zumix.org/) radio or iTunes, college radio click on Zumix. For more information, log onto [www.italiaunita.org](http://www.italiaunita.org).

### MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

**465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**  
**DEGAS AND THE NUDE** - Now through February 5, 2012. The first museum exhibition devoted exclusively to the extraordinary range of nudes by Edgar Degas — tracing their evolution from the artist's early years, through the private and public images of brothels and bathers in the 1870s and 1880s, to the post-impressionist nudes of the end of his career will be presented. For more information, visit [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org) or call 617-267-9300.

### JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

**Columbia Point, Boston, MA**  
**IN HER VOICE: JACQUELINE KENNEDY, THE WHITE HOUSE YEARS.** In the spring of 1964, a few months after President Kennedy's death, Jacqueline Kennedy recorded a series of interviews with historian and family friend Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. At the age of thirty-four, with the White House years behind her, she was speaking for the historical record — to preserve and shape her husband's legacy. The interviews, held on deposit here at the Kennedy Library, were sealed for 47 years. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis died in 1994. In 2011, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Kennedy Presidency, her daughter, Caroline Kennedy, decided it was the right time to share these conversations with the public. Call the JFK Library at 866-JFK-1960 or online at [www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org) for more details.

### MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

**1 Science Park, Boston**  
**A DAY IN POMPEII** - Now through February 12, 2012. Tickets now on sale. The Roman city of Pompeii was destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD, vanishing beneath layers of volcanic ash. Now you can discover one of the greatest archaeological treasures ever unearthed at *A Day in Pompeii*. For further information on this exhibit or upcoming exhibits, log on to [mos.org](http://mos.org).

**"Tony's Place" on MusicAmerica WPLM FM 99.1** - Every Sunday 9:00 pm-10:00 pm on MusicAmerica. Host Ron Della Chiesa presents Tony's Place. Visit [www.MusicNotNoise.com](http://www.MusicNotNoise.com).

**THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY 41 Hampshire Street, Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA**  
**AN ITALIAN RENAISSANCE CHRISTMAS** - Sunday, December 18, 2011 at 5:00 PM. The Coro-Dante with Period Instrument Orchestra *Dialogo Pastorale\** - *The Shepherds' Christmas* & Traditional Italian Christmas Carols. \*Giovanni Francesco Anerio (1567-1630). Free admission ... Donations gratefully accepted. This program has been made possible by a generous grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Cambridge Arts Council. For further details call 617-876-5160 or visit [www.dantealighieri.net/cambridge](http://www.dantealighieri.net/cambridge).

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# Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

By a 79% to 9% margin, Americans say Penn State football coach Joe Paterno should've gone to the police when he learned of sexual assault allegations against his former assistant coach in 2002. So it goes.

Why do fast-food restaurants sell so many gargantuan burgers, fries, sodas and other supersize portions? Ordering a giant meal is an easy way for people with low social status to feel temporarily powerful and important, a new study suggests. Throughout history, the researchers note, people with the most wealth and status have had the biggest houses and the most food.

Read carefully! Sitting still for long stretches of time — at work, in the car or at home — increases your cancer risk, even if you exercise regularly, *WebMD.com* reports. New research shows that as many as 49,000 cases of breast cancer and 43,000 cases of colon cancer could be prevented in the U.S. each year if people simply stood up more often. "It seems highly likely that the longer you sit, the higher your risk," says Neville Owen, a researcher at Australia's Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, but "even breaks as short as one minute" can lower it. The research supports a previous 14-year study that found that six hours of sitting a day increased a woman's odds of dying in that period by 37 percent, and a man's by 18 percent, compared with people who sat for half that time. Adults today are immobile for more than nine hours a day on average. Even if you hit the gym, the American Institute of Cancer Research now says, it's crucial that you get up and move at least once an hour — by pacing during phone calls, visiting the water cooler or going to talk to a colleague in person instead of sending an email.

Carlo Scostumato, says, "Get off your butt and get moving!"

The astute Rosalie Cunio of Waltham, claims, about the only part of your body that is over-exercised is the lower jaw.

Mother Superior Frances Fitzgerald, says, "If you must exercise, why not exercise kindness?"

Wow! The new highly praised Jeep Wrangler is yours for \$27,970! To think, during World War II, my Jeep got from Normandy to Germany! It was reliable!

Strictly for the dogs! To give your dog a haircut, buy the right tool. Dog hair is tougher than human hair, so "never use 'people' clippers." Comb through before beginning. Again, you'll need a dog-specific tool — which can be found at any pet store. Secure your pooch. Leash your dog to a sturdy object and keep treats nearby in case he or she becomes restless. Buzz away. Starting at the neck, run the trimmer toward your dog's tail, then move on to the stomach and down the legs, always "moving with the hair's grain." Use scissors for facial hair and leave the fur a little longer on the face and tail.

Another reason why a dog is man's best friend is because he's not always calling for explanations.

Thanksgiving dinner was expensive! A turkey dinner for 10 with all the fixings cost 13 percent more this year than in 2010, according to an annual supermarket survey. To blame: rising commodities prices.

Good news! Job openings in the United States are at their highest level since before the fall of Lehman Brothers. There were 3.35 million positions waiting to be filled in September according to Labor Department data, the most since August 2008.

Signing off after his 1,097<sup>th</sup> essay in October, Andy Rooney took the chance to put his reputation as a curmudgeon into perspective, "Of all the things I've complained about," he said, "I can't complain about my life."

One of the most popular car dealers is Tom O'Brien of Tom O'Brien Hyundai, easy-to-reach, 479 Washington St., Quincy. So what makes Tom O'Brien so great? O'Brien is Gaelic and Garlic! Yes, his mother is Italian and his father is an Irishman. Well,

for a new or like-new used car be sure to see your paesano. Be sure to mention you read it here and you may be gifted with some pasta fagioli or a slice of pizza.

Leave it to the *Globe*, the popular news and scandal weekly to learn James Garner, 83, is a secret pot head! In brief, the legendary star admits he has been smoking dope for 50 years. The Maverick and Rockford Files star admits that his long laundry list of serious medical aches and pains are alleviated when he sparks up a joint. "Grass is smooth," he writes. "I smoked marijuana for 50 years. I don't know where I'd be without it. It opened my mind to a lot of things, and now its active ingredient, THC, relaxes me and eases my arthritis pain." In brief, born James Scott Bumgarner in 1928, and raised in Norman, Oklahoma, the little boy never knew his mother, who died when he was 4 years old. The actor admits he now has a hair-trigger temper. Hollywood's most lovable star says during six years of doing Rockford, he had seven knee operations. He finally had both joints replaced. Sources say he's also battling dementia and has become a recluse in his Brentwood, California, home where he is tended by his loving wife, Lois, with visits from his daughter, Gigi and longtime friend actor/singer Ma Davis. Still, Garner confesses that if he had to do it all over again, he wouldn't change a thing. "For a country boy, I've been to a lot of places and done a lot of things. I have a wonderful family and great friends. I don't regret not having done this or that. I've had a good time!"

In response to an on-line petition signed by more than 12,000 people, the White House has formally denied any knowledge of extraterrestrial life. The petitioners asked that the government admit that it's had contact with aliens, but the Obama administration responded that the government has "no credible evidence" UFOs have visited Earth or that "life exists outside our planet."

In the course of the 2010-11 school year, 48 percent of students in grades seven through 12 experienced some form of sexual harassment in person or through texting and social media, according to a new survey.

Exclusive! An Italian steal! You can spend an off-season week in Sicily for \$1,138 per couple, including car rental and seven nights at the beach-front Hotel Sporting Baia. Breakfasts and dinners are included in the offer, which is good through March 23. Contact: *centralholidays.com*

A wee bit of show biz reminiscing with the stately musicologist Albert Natale. Composers Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen wrote two Oscar winning songs for Frank Sinatra: "All the Way" (1957) and "High Hopes" (1959). One more time! Connie Francis is said to have been the best selling female recording artist of the late 1950s to early 60s. Her first single was called "Freddie" quickly followed by her first big hit, "Who's Sorry Now." Connie's true name is Concetta Maria Rosa Franconero. Yes, she is an Italian American! Before Dean Martin made a big hit of "Everybody Loves Somebody," it had also been recorded, unsuccessfully, by Frank Sinatra, Dinah Washington, and Peggy Lee. Al Alberts and the Four Aces actually paid for their first record out of pocket. The song was called "It's No Sin," and eventually became a million seller in 1951! And during Frank Sinatra's first films "Las Vegas Nights" and "Ship Ahoy," his appearances were confined to playing his real life role as the band vocalist with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra.

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

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME



## Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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### SFINGI "sfeen-gee"

#### Fried Dough Christmas Treats

3 yeast packets (¼ oz. each)	3 ½ cups flour
2 ½ cups lukewarm water	2 tablespoons sugar
(105 to 115°F)	1 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup vegetable oil	A sprinkle of cinnamon (optional)

#### FOR FRYING:

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

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

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

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

*NOTE: Though this delightful treat was also served in many homes for Easter, I remember especially waiting to see Mama mix her dough at Christmas time. Zio Nino and Zia Marianna's (Papa's uncle and aunt) top-floor apartment became a gathering place for relatives and friends on many holidays. What I remember most was seeing Zia Marianna, Mama and other women help to fry the Sfingi. The odor of frying dough was evident in the apartment and throughout the corridors of 39 Charter Street. My cousins and I served the hot, fried, sugared dough to guests arriving for supper. It became a special time after supper. The youngsters who had not fallen asleep after supper were welcomed to the round kitchen table again. "We joined our parents in the games of Lotto (Bingo) with the other guests. A display of fruit, nuts, Cannalicchi, Cassattedi, Sfingi, or Strufoli remained available for all to enjoy until we departed for home.*

Vita can be reached at [voswriting@comcast.net](mailto:voswriting@comcast.net)

#### • Hoops & Hockey (Continued from Page 16)

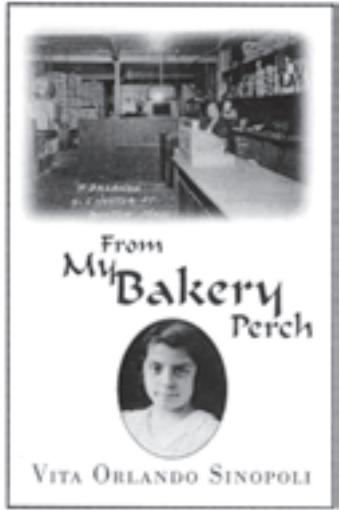
they take on Washington. The best of the home attractions? Probably on March 4 when the C's meet the Knicks in a battle of the only two original NBA teams still playing in their original franchise cities.

April — the final month of the regular season — brings LeBron James and the Miami Heat to the Garden twice — right off the bat on April 1 to open the month and later on April 24 in the next-to-last game of the season. The C's close out the regular season two nights later against Milwau-

kee on April 26 before starting the playoffs.

If they go all the way they will play into late June. The last possible date for Game Seven of the NBA Finals is June 26 — just a week before the July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend.

So, just like one of those wild rides at the amusement park, strap yourself in. It's going to be a high speed trip over the next four months with the potential to rocket to the top as spring becomes summer with the Big Three going for what may well be their final Grab for Glory.



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# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Last week, I left off talking about my ventures in the land of our ancestors. Sal Meli and I had traveled through Sicily and were now joined by my friends Jose and Franny in Naples. We would stay there for a few days visiting the historic sites of the city, the islands of Ischia, and Capri, Mt. Vesuvius, Pompeii and Herculaneum.

To begin with, the Neapolitan dialect is quite similar to what Nanna spoke (Avelinese). As a result, I could communicate better than I did in Sicily. Using Naples as a home base, we took our first trip of the week on a hydrofoil to the islands. They were fun, but during the summer, both Ischia and Capri are tourist destinations and quite crowded. I did have a problem when we ventured out to Capri. We boarded a hydrofoil in Naples, and when we arrived in Capri, docked off shore. A motor launch picked us up, and for those of us who wanted to see the Blue Grotto, deposited us where a group of row boats were stationed, and then went on to the main dock at Capri's harbor. We wanted to see and maybe swim in the Blue Grotto, a group of caves with phosphorescent water that illuminated everything a pale sky blue.

As we left the hydrofoil, several of the crew had their hands out. As we exited the motor launch, the driver had his hand out. When we climbed into the row boat, we instructed the oarsman that we wanted to swim in the Blue Grotto. He told us that it was against the law and that we didn't have enough time anyway. When we entered the Grotto, the passengers in all the other row boats were jumping into the warm pale blue water and becoming illuminated. It was eerie and fascinating. We questioned our man behind the oars and he pretended he couldn't understand our dialects of Italian. Using a couple of expletives in English, I excused myself and jumped overboard. When the oarsman tried to continue on his way, Sal and Jose stopped him. I swam around for a minute then climbed back in the boat. Grumbling, the oarsman continued through the caves and then back to where the motor launches would pick us up to head to the hydrofoil. When we exited the rowboat, the oarsman yelled, "Hey, where is my tip," in perfect American English.

I was going to kill him, but instead, let a barrage of expressions go forth that I learned from Babbononno when he would be quite upset and especially after he had a couple of drinks under his belt. Hearing me swear in Italian, the oarsman backed off and I climbed into the motor launch with the rest of my friends.

The motor launch brought us and about ten people from other row boats back to the hydrofoil. As we climbed from one boat to the other, the pilot of the launch had his hand out accepting tips from all those exiting. Let's see, the crew of the hydrofoil had their hands out when we exited the boat, the man in the motor launch had his hand out when we exited his boat and the man in the rowboat had his hand out when we exited his boat. I think we had landed in tourist territory, bar none. Ischia wasn't much better in terms of catering to the tourists. Everything for sale was tourist junk or concerned with a day at the beach. Beyond this, both islands were wall to wall people. We couldn't wait to get back to Naples.

That night, we sat outside a family style trattoria and had our dinners while watching the people parade by. The food was good and the sights warming. Families strolling all together after dinner. In some cases, three generations, grandparents, parents and kids. It reminded me of the stories Nanna and Babbononno used to tell when I was a kid.

The next day we toured the ancient sites and museums of Naples. As the day came to a close, everyone was hungry with Sal adding, "Boy, could I go for some American food."

I asked, "Where could we find an American restaurant in Naples?" The strange thing about Italy in general back then was the lack of foreign restaurants. In many European countries, especially the capitals, you find an abundance of foreign restaurants, not Italy. In Italy, you find Italian restaurants with very few exceptions. Seeing we were in one of the major cities in Italy, I asked at the hotel if there was an American restaurant in the vicinity. I was told that there was, and it was within walking distance. The name was the California Restaurant, and I was told that it was where Lucky Luciano used to hang

out.

We followed the directions given to us, and soon we saw a neon sign that vertically read the name of the place with a secondary sign illuminating the words, "We serve Maxwell House Coffee." I said, "This must be the place," and we entered. The menu was centered around beef, several types of steaks, and a couple of roast beef offerings. We ordered and observed a beautiful young couple occupying the table next to us. They looked like movie stars, he was handsome and she was beautiful. It looked like he was trying to impress her by taking her to an American restaurant. When their dishes were brought to them, it was evident that they both had ordered roast beef and mashed potatoes. We could hardly hear what was being said and didn't eaves drop, but the next thing I know, the two beautiful people are yelling at each other and swearing in a Neapolitan dialect.

The young lady, after listening to her companion for several seconds, decided to get physical. She scooped up most of her mashed potatoes in her right hand and deposited them on the face of her friend, and then she mashed the mound in. With that, she got up from the table, with her fork picked up the uneaten portion of her roast beef and deposited it on the head of her former friend. She then exited the restaurant. We had to hide our faces in our napkins to prevent the companion with roast beef on his head and mashed potatoes on his face from seeing us as an audience. Cleaning himself off, he deposited some money on the table and ran after his angered lady friend. As he exited the restaurant, Sal yelled, "That's why I'm still single." We couldn't have found better entertainment if we had tried, but this was Naples.

The next day, we planned out a trip to Pompeii. Back then, you could climb the sides of the volcano and actually enter the mouth of it and explore the steam vents. Pompeii had not erupted since WWII, and seemed pretty safe for tourists and explorers to check it out. I had seen pictures of the volcano, both still and motion. I had seen it featured in several movies about the last days of Pompeii, but until I was in the mouth of it, I never realized how big the volcano was. It was gigantic, not big. I understand that now-a-days, they don't let tourists climb inside the mouth of the crater. I guess it's not safe.

We headed back to Naples and dinner but before it got too late, I decided to call home and tell Babbononno what Naples looked like eighty years after he had seen the city.

.....TO BE CONTINUED

GOD BLESS AMERICA

## • The Socially Set (Continued from Page 8)



Left to right: Dr. Alasdair Conn, his wife Dr. Suzanne Wedel, and Trustee Medal winner Dr. Francisco Cigarroa at the Mass General Hospital Bicentennial Gala.

(Photo by Roger Farrington)

Europe, and then returned to the East before circling the globe. The story-tellers from each of these journeys left their imprints on the tales. It is true to the heart of the play that the cast reflect a multiplicity of voices and cultures.

Additionally, at their root, Arabian Nights is about the power of imagination as expressed in storytelling. The stories will be told through acting, dance and puppetry; English, Arabic and American Sign Language; and music and visual art. The floor of the stage, for instance, is a huge painting inspired by Persian miniatures and tapestries.

Central Square Theater is a four-year old nonprofit

organization, created through a groundbreaking partnership between The Nora Theatre Company (The Nora) and Underground Railway Theater. All productions are performed at Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square, Cambridge.

For further information call 617-576-9278 or visit [www.CentralSquareTheater.org](http://www.CentralSquareTheater.org).

Enjoy!  
(Be sure to visit Hilda Morrill's gardening Web site, [www.bostongardens.com](http://www.bostongardens.com). In addition to events covered and reported by the columnist, "The Socially Set" is compiled from various other sources such as news and press releases, PRNewswire services, etc.)



From the left: Ali Baba (Ibrahim Miari), Shahrazad (Evelyn Howe) Es-Sindibad (puppet), and Ali Baba's Wife (Debra Wise) in a scene from The Nora Theatre Company and Underground Railway Theater's production of "Arabian Nights" running through December 31 at Central Square Theater, Cambridge. For tickets and information, call 866-811-4111 or visit [www.CentralSquareTheater.org](http://www.CentralSquareTheater.org).

(Photo by A.R. Sinclair Photography)

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# News Briefs

(FROM ITALIAN  
NEWSPAPERS AND  
OTHER PUBLICATIONS)

Compiled by Orazio Z. Buttafuoco

**NOW DOGS CAN VISIT THEIR MASTERS IN THE HOSPITAL!** Of course, but not by themselves! It's however quite a step forward in the "old continent," you guessed, in the "Bel Paese," Italy. The region Toscana has started something recently, highly appreciated by all animal lovers indeed, which allows people visiting their loved ones in the hospital to bring along their dogs, but only if they are on a leash. Toscana's initiative has been followed by other regions and cities. There are however, some requirements issued by the doctors and hospital administration, on a case by case basis, mainly requiring that the dog must have been previously vaccinated in order to prevent any clinical problems. The City of Torino adopted an ordinance before Christmas 2010, to allow domestic animals to visit their masters in nursing homes. However, no birds are permitted! It's also highly desirable that the animals, although restrained, are not a source of danger or disruption to other patients or to the facility's personnel. The only facility in a hospital closed to an animal visit is the ICU.

So, if you plan to bring along your "four-legged" family friend to visit a loved one who has been hospitalized for at least ten days, it is suggested to check first with the hospital's management. Good luck!

• Editorial (Continued from Page 3)

years in office, the overall average monthly unemployment rate was 5.3 %. At this writing, Obama owns a 9% rate.

The anti-business verbiage from the Obama administration indicates exactly why the business community is reluctant to add new hires due to the restrictions that will flow from the 25,000 regulations and the uncertainty regarding the costs of Obamacare.

For America to regain its status as the world's most proficient industrial nation, it is my contention we need a pro-growth tax reform and a commitment to free market enterprise.

It also requires a serious regulatory roll back and to limit the size and scope of government.

Consider, for the two years the Democrats controlled the Senate and House of Representatives and the Presidency, Obama did absolutely nothing to enhance job growth, preferring instead devoting everything to promoting Obamacare.

Here are a few samplings of the demands the Wall Street forces hope to impose on American industry, and if ever successful will completely annihilate manufacturing in America: (1) Repeal the Taft-Hartley Act. Unionize all workers. (2) Raise the minimum wage to \$18/hr. (3) Create a maximum wage of \$90/hr to eliminate inequity. (4) Institute a six-hour workday, and six weeks vacation. (5) Open the borders to all immigrants legal or illegal. Offer unconditional amnesty to all undocumented residents of the U.S. (6) Ban the private ownership of land... (7) Make home schooling illegal, religious fanatics use it to feed their children propaganda.

The goal is to foment enough public discontent, moral confusion and outright chaos to spark the social upheaval that Marx, Engels and Lenin predicted, a revolution whose foot soldiers view the status quo as fatally flawed and unworthy of salvation.

Today, the leader of Occupy Wall Street group, Brian Phillips made clear, "My political goal is to overthrow the United States government."

The mayors by their inaction to remove the violators are proof they are in support of Socialism.

A recent comment from an observer of the Occupy Oakland concluded, "I am not represented by the Occupy movement." Marxism, Communism and Socialism have all failed. I agree our system needs reform, but it would simply be to restore honest capitalism, not eliminate it, which is what occupiers demand."

In what should be a powerful alert for the American people, Spanish voters dealt a blow to Socialists over the economy; Spaniards struggling with high unemployment and a credit squeeze delivered a punishing verdict on almost eight years of Socialist government at the ballot box on Sunday, turning to the conservative Popular Party in the hopes of alleviating the pain of the last eight years.

If America is to be restored to its former greatness, "We The People" will have to deliver the same message as did the people of Spain by defeating the Marxist leaning president Obama and provide our new leader with a solid majority in both houses of Congress.

Edward P. Shallow  
[www.eps8.wordpress.com](http://www.eps8.wordpress.com)

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

by Sal Giaratani

**BEAWOLFE ON A SOUTHERN TOUR**

East Boston's classic rock band Beawolfe will be heading down the Southeast Expressway for a gig at the Beachcomer on Friday night, December 9. This will be their first time playing at this well-known club on the South Shore. If you are looking for a good time that night, take a ride over to the Beachcomer on Wollaston Beach in Quincy. Take Exit 12, cross the Neponset Bridge, head to Quincy Shore Drive and leave the rest, as guitarist Dominic Petrosino says to Beawolfe.

**BUNKER HILL FLORIST MARKS 30 YEARS**

Bunker Hill Florist recently celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> year in Charlestown business. Owners Joe Shadrout and Larry Bowling have the best assortment of flowers I have ever seen anywhere. I buy all my flowers from Larry and Joe. Check out the place. It is all decked out for Christmas in grand style as usual. Bunker Hill Florist has become a landmark florist in the old bank building at One Thompson Square in Charlestown. No one sells better flowers at such a great price.

**TOWNIE SANTA IS BACK**

"Townie Santa" will once again be visiting shut-ins for Christmas over in Charlestown. This year the deliveries take place on Sunday, December 18. The Townie Santa Committee is looking for elves to help in the deliveries of gifts and a great turkey dinner. If you can help, call Debbie Lang at 617-242-3878 or e-mail [townie\\_santa@gmail.com](mailto:townie_santa@gmail.com).

**JUDY EVERS HONORED ON SUNDAY, NOV. 27**

Hundreds turned out to support The Charlestown Recovery House at the Grasshopper Cafe. The star of the day was Judy Evers from City Councilor Sal LaMattina's office who received the first Peter Looney Service Award in recognition of her tireless work for the community.

**NOAH'S ANNUAL DINNER**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner for NOAH will be held on Thursday, December 15 at Spinelli's in Day Square, East Boston. This year's Key-note Speaker will be House Speaker Bob DeLeo of Winthrop. For more information on this dinner or membership in NOAH, contact Phil Giffie at 617-418-8240 or [philipgiffie@noahcdc.org](mailto:philipgiffie@noahcdc.org).

**I WANNA WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

"Feliz Navidad" wishes go out to Julie Valdez, the terrific business manager for the Boston City Council.

**LUCY FERULLO, RIP**

East Boston lost a great fighter for the neighborhood recently as longtime community activist Lucy Ferullo passed away at home following a long illness. Born and raised in Eastie, she raised three children over on Haynes Street and began a lifelong fight for her beloved

neighborhood. She held many roles in East Boston and once served as Mayor Flynn's neighborhood liaison and became the eyes and ears of her neighborhood. However, whether in a public role or as a private citizen, she was always the eyes and ears of her East Boston.

As a good friend of mine recently said of Lucy's passing, "It is difficult to imagine that Lucy and her smile will not be with us anymore. Ever since I have known her, I have always appreciated her honesty, integrity and forthright contributions to our issues. She was always dependable and available, despite her long battle with illness that became more evident recently. Lucy will always be caring for us and looking after us, just from another place."

**THANKSGIVING DINNER AT SACRED HEART**

Once again a big thank you goes out to Rep. Carlo Basile and family for another great community meal on Thanksgiving Day over at the lower hall of the Sacred Heart Church. Thanksgiving is a day of giving and sharing with others and a day for a community to come together as family. I heard even Santa Claus showed up for the kids.

The effort made annually by Carlo is not forgotten by the East Boston community.

**CHRISTMAS MEAL FOR MT. CARMEL SURVIVORS**

The community of Catho-

lics who celebrate their faith together every Sunday morning at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will be coming together for the holiday and to commemorate the beginning of their 8<sup>th</sup> year in vigil. Benny Tauro and all the folks at Mt. Carmel wish all a blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

**125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ENGLISH-LATIN RIVALRY**

Thanks to Boston City Council President Steve Murphy (BLS, '75) and City Councilor Matt O'Malley (BLS, '97), November 24<sup>th</sup> will forever be "Boston Latin-Boston English Day" in recognition of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the longest consecutive high school football game rivalry in America. As a graduate of Boston English, Class of '66, I think proper English should have been followed. The day should have been commemorated as "Boston English-Boston Latin Day."

For those in attendance it was truly a historical day for both schools. Attending and receiving plaques were presented to two legendary coaches, Paul Costello (Latin) and Keith Parker (English). Back in my day it was Costello and Bill Steward who squared off against each other from the sidelines.

By the way, the coin used in this year's toss was the same one used in the hundredth anniversary game, and players from 1961 and 1987 also joined in pregame ceremonies.



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## • News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

percent. This time around in next year's election, he would have lost much of his stronghold and added areas in the district's southern portion that would have made it far more difficult to go out a winner. In fact, the new 4<sup>th</sup> district could actually elect a Republican to Congress. The liberal news media has been calling him a working class hero but most of us know this "champion of the little guy" actually helped cause the mortgage disaster that kept the country in financial meltdown. Frankly, Frank isn't special. He is just the 17<sup>th</sup> Democrat to announce he isn't running for re-election in 2012. These liberals all apparently see the writing on the wall. Frank's legacy is arrogant failure, nothing more but nothing less.

### **Most Americans Have had it with Iraq and Surely Afghanistan too**

According to recent polls, nearly three quarters of the American people support the plan to pull out all U.S. troops by year-end from Iraq. Nearly, 60 percent think the eight-year war wasn't worth it at all. I am sure a poll about Afghanistan would probably end with similar results.

### **Democrats Adopting "Occupy" Rhetoric?**

According to a recent news story in the *Boston Globe* on November 23, the Occupy Movement has fueled Capitol Hill lawmakers into action and occupy terminology. Proof of this was recent rhetoric by US Rep. Eddie Markey, who probably could not locate Malden with a GPS, recently sprouted, "These companies aren't just the 1 percent of America, they are the 1 percent plus, making billions off the backs of Americans" and added, "Ninety-nine percent of the people are 100 percent fed up." Which came first the chicken or the egg? I believe the Occupy Movement is adopting the rhetoric of President Obama, Congressional Democrats and union leaders pushing class warfare to take the heat off themselves. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has attacked millionaires and billionaires for getting rich and added, that the rich, "This one percent now makes more than the other 99 percent." If you listen to labor leaders, they are constantly talking class warfare between the haves and have-nots. Who's feeding who the rhetoric is highly questionable. Liberals are calling the Occupy campsites a groundswell grassroots movement of people and many conservatives like Glen Beck think the whole Occupy thing is being coordinated by specific people with a specific agenda. The usual name mentioned is always liberal billionaire George Soros. I personally find it difficult to believe that all these Occupy sites happened by accident one city to the next but that's just me.

### **The Arab Spring is Turning into a Frigid Winter**

When President Mubarak was forced from office in

Egypt, it was supposed to herald democracy in the land of the pharaohs but democracy is seemingly about to get swept up into the Red Sea. It's a massive bloodshed, and is Islamic rule Egypt's future? President Obama's policy of apparent destabilization, is it pushing the Arab Spring into a nightmare winter? As many conservative foreign policy experts agree, ordered liberty isn't easy for cultures that have never known democracy. The Muslim Brotherhood is gearing up for elections and seemingly will use the democratic process to achieve its ends. We saw in Tunisia, once a secular country, where Islamists won at the ballot box and have set a goal to make Tunisia a Muslim nation. Obama thinks he's spreading democracy in the Middle East but he's helping to create just the opposite.

### **Cuomo in 2016?**

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has recently returned to the Big Apple where he drank from a \$\$ vine at a December 2 posh fundraiser out in Hollywood. This was obviously a fundraiser for the dreaded 1 percent since the price tag said it all. Cocktails with Andy, a mere \$1,000, and a sit down dinner, only \$12,500.

### **Meanwhile, Michael Moore**

The more Michael Moore, a Hollywood legend in his own mind, keeps talking about being with the 99 percent, the more of a hypocrite he looks. He is such an a-@@\$. He of the corporate jet, limousine and mansion set has a nerve pretending to be what he obviously is not. I'm sure he is working on another expose on the Wall Street 1 Percenters, huh?

### **Lots of Zuccotti Left Over**

Occupy Wall Street had prepared over 5,000 Thanksgiving Day dinners for the masses but it appeared most of the tent folk decided to Occupy the Dinner Table with family at home. Only about 1,500 assorted homeless street people and other misfits showed up for the meal. As the *NY Post* stated, "It was an epic gravy train but only a handful of the 99 percent showed up for the ride."

### **This Sounds Like Another Episode of "Law & Order"**

It appears down in Manhattan, the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force and the NYPD Intelligence Division are at odds with each other going after terrorists in the Big Apple. When the FBI and the US Attorney down in Manhattan decided against taking a suspected terrorist to federal court, the NYPD working with the district attorney's office decided to go the state court route. I think this very episode was on "Law & Order" a few seasons back. Since 9/11, the NYPD has built a huge anti-terrorism unit with more than 1,000 officers, which is unprecedented in a U.S. city and has pitted the city against the growingly angrier feds. I wouldn't be surprised to see this plot real soon on the TV cop and lawyer show. Where's Stabler when you need him?



## EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



### **No More Beer and Fried Chicken for the Guys**

There will be no more beer and fried chicken in the clubhouse with the news that Red Sox management did the right thing by hiring former Mets and Rangers manager Bobby Valentine. I have been pushing for Bobby V from the get-go. I thought he was the best choice out there. For a time, it looked like management seemed opposed to my choice but in the end, they did the smart thing. After the 7-20 September collapse, the hometown team needed an anti-Francona at the helm. Many folks are now calling Terry Francona the team's best manager in history but don't bunch me in with those folks. He will probably make it into the Hall of Fame too. However, if I had a Coopers-town vote, it would be anybody but Terry or Tito or whatever he wants to call himself. He came in young but aged quickly over his 8 seasons of yessing management. In the end, when he seemingly let the players make the rules, he looked totally ineffective. He tried out for manager of the St. Louis Cardinals but failed to get hired. The stench of September 2011 will live on for a long time. Also good news to hear, it seems many Sox players are reportedly upset with the Valentine hire. Apparently, they know the "party until it's 1999" has now faded into history. As far as the assumption that Francona is definitely Hall of Fame material? Not in my book. The best manager in my mind in my lifetime has to be Dick Williams (1967-69). He was the architect of the new Boston Red Sox and Red Sox Nation. He took a loser team and turned things around. Even in getting fired by Tom Yawkey mid-season 1969, he proved his greatness. Williams was no yes-man and reportedly stood up to Yawkey. There were certain Red Sox players back then that had Yawkey's ear and those players got an earful from Williams. He got fired I believe because he wouldn't jump and say "yes" to Yawkey. Bring on Bobby Valentine and let the right kind of good times roll again. No more 7-20 September's. No more beer, no more fried chicken and no more pot-bellied pitchers.

### **Verlander Wins AL MVP**

Justin Verlander, this year's Cy Young winner, is now the AL MVP as well. Verlander, the 2006 AL Rookie of the Year joins the Brooklyn Dodgers' Don Newcombe as the only player to win all three major awards in their careers. Runner-up for MVP was the Red Sox own Jacoby Ellsbury who had a great season despite the Red Sox crash and burn ending. He became only the fourth player to notch 100 runs, 100 RBIs, 200 hits, 30 home runs and 35 steals. Ellsbury batted .321, led the league in stolen bases and hit 32 home runs. In any other

year, he would have been the league's MVP but Verlander's impressive stats made him the shoo-in. Ellsbury will surely be named the 2011 Red Sox MVP.

### **Braun Wins NL MVP Honors**

Ryan Braun was named the NL MVP after helping get the Milwaukee Brewers into post-season after nearly 30 years. The 28-year-old batted .332 with 33 homers, 111 RBIs and 33 stolen bases. Runner-up this year was Matt Kemp from the LA Dodgers who almost won the Triple Crown with 39 homers, 126 RBIs and a .324 batting average. Kemp was hurt by the fact that the Dodgers had only 82 wins and finished 11.5 games back in the NL West. Had Kemp won the batting title and Triple Crown that might have got him the award but finishing in second place for batting, the award went to Braun.

### **Another Great Fact from Our Red Sox**

The first televised Boston Red Sox game took place on WBZ-TV, Channel 4 on Wednesday, May 12, 1948, a mere 8 days after I was born over at Boston City Hospital.

### **Cards Pick New Manager**

The St. Louis Cardinals have replaced Tony La Russa with Mike Matheny, 40, a former catcher for the team as the new manager. The former catcher played for St. Louis from 2000-2004 and won three of his four Golden Gloves in St. Louis. His career blossomed after signing up with the Cardinals with a one year free agent deal to be the team's backup catcher.

### **Madden, Gibson are Top Managers**

Kirk Gibson and Joe Madden have won Manager of the Year Awards. Gibson from the Diamondbacks was an easy choice in the National League in his first full season as a manager. Madden won the American League honor for the second time and was also an easy pick. Madden helped the Rays

overcome a nine-game deficit against our Sox to win the Wild Card race.

Meanwhile, Gibson a great catcher in his playing days for the Tigers and a former MVP took a team that finished 65-97 in 2010 to come-back as a 94-68 team this past season. Gibson was always a hard-nosed competitor and always played to win.

Congrats to two great skippers.

### **A Little Extra Football Latin Destroys English, 50-0**

When I graduated from English back in 1966, the two teams were mostly even-steven in career victories on Turkey Day games. Since that Thanksgiving Day and since my graduation, Latin has won all of the three Thanksgiving Day games against my black and blue alma mater. The bad string of Thanksgiving Days for English began in 1967 when Latin beat English 19-0. I read all about it down in Texas serving in the US Air Force at Lackland, AFB.

I've missed the last two English-Latin games. Two years ago, I went with my niece Danikka and her husband George. They are Latin grads. At the game they sat on one side and me on the other. They were cheering over there, while English rooters were betting whether or not English would even score. We did score but Latin still won as usual. I can remember sitting on that cold concrete rooting for the blue team but only felt blue doing it along with an old friend from way back then, Arthur Williams (EHS, '67) who was sitting alongside me remembering when English actually had powerhouse teams but that was long ago. Over the decades, the English Bulldogs have had too many "Dog Day Afternoons" on the holiday. I keep hearing Al Pacino from inside that bank yelling, "Attica, Attica."

Yeah, it is once again time to wait until next year! Rah, rah, rah.

## LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
Docket No. MI11D3406DR  
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
YONG PU FENG  
vs.  
KELLY CHEN

To the Defendant:  
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown of the marriage. 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: Elizabeth Emma Cusick Esq., Law office of Wm Soohoo, 1146 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118 your answer, if any, on or before December 30, 2011. 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. PETER C. DiGANGI, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: November 17, 2011

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/9/11

## LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
Docket No. MI11D4736DR  
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
NEUZA SILVA DUARTE  
vs.  
WALDEMIR DUARTE DA SILVA

To the Defendant:  
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Desertion. 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: George Maroun Jr., Esq., Maroun & Cabelus, L.L.C., 5 Pleasant Street, Methuen, MA 01844 your answer, if any, on or before January 12, 2012. 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. PETER C. DiGANGI, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: November 29, 2011

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/9/11





## CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.

### Fight Family Member Undefeated Joe Devlin Passes

December 13<sup>th</sup> Pugs' Luncheon  
**"Memories" of Our Fight Family**  
 Happy Birthdays to All  
**"The Fame and Fury of Fleet Street!"**



At the November 8<sup>th</sup> Ring 4 Pugs' Luncheon are: Jimmy Connors, Tom Martini, Eddie Fitzgerald, R.I.P. Joe Devlin and Dan Couco.

Fight Family condolences to Fight Family members and family of **Joe Devlin**. Joe Devlin was at the Pug's Luncheon at the Florian Hall in Dorchester on November 8<sup>th</sup>. He looked great and brought smiles to the many Pugs in attendance upon his arrival. He's a highly-respected and accomplished fighter from Jamaica Plain. An undefeated fighter with a 15-0, 8 KO record. He fought a tough list of fighters in his career: Toby Silvia, Dick McCarthy, Tony Veranis, Armand Savoie, Mike DeFeo, Hank Giorgio amongst other noteworthy fighters and remained undefeated against this tough opposition. Our Fight Family prayers are with you. God bless you and Rest In Peace.

Come and dine with the "Pugs" on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Florian Hall in Dorchester. There isn't a classier group of individuals. Tom Martini Pug Ring Leader, always provides an exquisite time for all members of the Fight Family. Come on down and have a glass of "punch!" with the Pugs. I'll see you there. I'm now speaking with **Bob Matson**, who called me and asked me to mention the names of Middleweight **Joe Rindone** of Roxbury 36-14-4, 15 KO's, and middleweight **Al "Red" Priest** of Cambridge 43-13-2, 17 KO's. They both attained high status in the

world of boxing. Al "Red" Priest fought top fighters: Gene Hairston, Kid Gavilan, Charley Fusari, Ralph Zannelli, Coley Welch, Fritz Zivic, Oscar Suggs, Mickey Doyle to name a few. **Joe Rindone** fought: Sugar Ray Robinson, Bobo Olsen, John DeJohn, Pierre Langlois, Paul Pender, Ralph Zannelli, to name a few. It seems like the fighters of yester year are still on the minds and in the thoughts of those of now. So please remember fighters of now. Always do the best you can. Your legacy starts now and will be praised and looked upon for eternity. **"Keep up your great work always!"** In Fall River I met up with Keith **Pires**. We spoke of his family member **Jason Pires**, a good fighter out of New Bedford. We also spoke of Jason's father RIP **Allan Pires**, a real good guy who boxed himself and was a good technician in the ring. I spoke with Jim Tuberosa. We spoke of Mark **Mainero** of East Boston. I remember Mark wanting to spar with Sugar Ray Leonard when he came into the New Garden Gym, North End Boston. Mark fought some tough wars with some good fighters. He was a tough gutsy fighter who I believe would have fought anyone and gave them a tough fight.

Facebook is pretty good. Matt **Godfrey**, Sucra Ray

**Oliveira**, John the Boxer **Sculley**, Natalia **Mayo**, Rick **Glaser**, Edward **Bishop** and John **Vena**!

Read **Nardo: Memoirs of a Boxing Champion**. This is a superbly well-written book. I recommend it for all boxing aficionados. Tony DeMarco is one of our own. He's one of the greats in boxing history. His **Fury** in the ring, established his **Fame** in boxing history. Co-fighter, in the fight of the **20<sup>th</sup> Century**. Rising to the top and becoming champion of the good planet **Earth**.



World Heavyweight Champion John "The Quietman" Ruiz, who speaks loudly with his fist.

Happy Fight Family Birthdays on **DECEMBER** 3<sup>rd</sup> Kevin **Rooney**, 10<sup>th</sup> Richard **Hand Jr.**, and Paul **Doyle**, 11<sup>th</sup>. Johnny **Cesario**, 13<sup>th</sup> Dan **Couco**, 16<sup>th</sup> World Champion Vinny **Paz**, 20<sup>th</sup> Richie **LaMontagne**, John **Biancheria**, 22<sup>nd</sup> Ed **Fitzgerald**, 26<sup>th</sup> Chris **Sarno**, 24<sup>th</sup> Jimmy **Connors**, 28<sup>th</sup> Roland **Milton**, 29<sup>th</sup> Greg **Vartanian**. **JANUARY** 1<sup>st</sup> Paul **Osborne** and Jennifer **Cobis**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Doug **Pendarvis**, 4<sup>th</sup> John **Ruiz**, 7<sup>th</sup> Frank **Calabro** and Danny **Long**, 11<sup>th</sup> Jerry **Huston Sr.**, Ryan **Long** and John **O'Brien**, 14<sup>th</sup> World Champion Tony **DeMarco** and Ed **Imondi**, 15<sup>th</sup> Michael **George**, and Honey **Melody**, 16<sup>th</sup> Juan **Botta** and Wayne **Lopes**, 19<sup>th</sup> Missy **Fiorentino**, 22<sup>nd</sup> Peter **Santoro**, 27<sup>th</sup> Bobby **Franklin** and Bob **Hanna**. **FEBRUARY** 2<sup>nd</sup> Rich **Cappiello**, 9<sup>th</sup> Jake **Kilrain**, 10<sup>th</sup> Bob **Treiger**, 11<sup>th</sup> Jerry **Colton**, 12<sup>th</sup> Mark **DeLuca Jr.**, and Sam **Langford**, 13<sup>th</sup> Ray **DeLicio**, 19<sup>th</sup> Mike Mugsy **Mullen**, 20<sup>th</sup> Charlie **Tartaglia**, 21<sup>st</sup> Bobby **Gould** and Tom **McNeeley**, 22<sup>nd</sup> Jared **Charney**, 23<sup>rd</sup> Michael **Halstead**, 26<sup>th</sup> Ronnie **Gerstel Jr.**, and Dennis **Marrese**, 28<sup>th</sup> Rick **Marinick**, 29<sup>th</sup> Matt **Godfrey**. Happy Birthday to you all. **"Ding!"**

## HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



Boston Bruins vs. Toronto Maple Leafs on December 3, 2011 at TD Garden.

(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

CREATING A CONFERENCE — The announcement was made from a community synonymous with golf on the West Coast — Pebble Beach — but it resonated in the East where all the franchises that will comprise it are located.

It is the as yet unnamed Conference C — one of four generically titled configurations in the NHL that going forward will determine the lineup for the Stanley Cup playoffs for at least the remainder of this second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and quite possibly beyond.

And lo and behold they did get something right — placing three Original Six teams within its parameters, the most of the O-Sixers that any of the new configurations hold.

Within its embrace stand the Bruins, Montreal and Toronto — a good chunk of the Original Half Dozen — with Buffalo, Ottawa, Florida and Tampa Bay rounding out this conference of seven. As one can see, it also harbors three Canadian teams, providing a good representation from our neighbor to the North.

Not bad, not bad at all. And it has the added feature of having one less team competing for a playoff spot. Four teams from each of the newly created conferences will make the playoffs and two of those conferences contain eight teams. So, the B's will have one less team to nudge out for a playoff berth.

Conference A is comprised of eight western teams while Conference B is another eight teamer with a middle of North America flavor. You've got Original Six teams Chicago and Detroit in that one but only one from Canada — Winnipeg — better known as the Atlanta Thrashers Northern Edition. Conference D is All-American — not a Canadian squad in the bunch — but it does contain the New York Rangers (an O-Six team) and Philadelphia among the group of seven.

Another feature is that every team in the NHL will once again play in the Garden every year. Under the current unbalanced schedule that does not happen. There have been years when the B's have not played some teams at all or only on the road. We vividly recall one season a few

years back when the B's did not play the Blackhawks — a crime in hockey heaven.

Sure, it could have been better. We'd have liked to see the Rangers in Conference C with the B's; replacing one of the non-originals six teams. But what's that old saying? Half a loaf is better than none. We'll take it.

ON SCHEDULE — It's a sprint to spring, that's what it is. It's a four-month, 66-game schedule that looks like it was devised to run several NBA teams ragged. And the Celtics, with a veteran starting contingent, better be in shape. Why? How about this? For seven weeks staggered throughout the abbreviated schedule they are penciled in for games on four nights during each of those seven day intervals.

Think that's not enough. Let's throw in a couple of more weeks. How about a week in March and one in April that each feature five contests in seven nights with the April one listing all five on the road? There will be no real rest for the weary since all the remaining weeks except the final one have three games apiece.

The lone respite? The All-Star break in late February that will provide the opportunity for a five-day breather for those Men in Green that aren't selected for the annual showcase — to be held in Dallas on February 26.

The Celtics regular season home opener is against Detroit on December 30 at 7:30 p.m. The month of January features 11 home contests with the best matchup of the bunch coming on January 11 when the C's host the 2011 NBA Champion Dallas Mavericks on the Causeway Street parquet.

The game that everyone circles on the calendar will be played on February 9 when the C's host their archrivals — the Los Angeles Lakers — in this season's renewal of the annual bi-coastal battle.

March could well be the make or break month for the Celtics since there are eleven games on the road compared to only six at home with eight of those eleven games packaged into an extensive two-week road trip. Once the Celtics leave the Garden on March 9, they won't reappear on the parquet until March 25 when

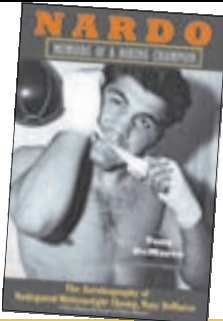
(Continued on Page 12)

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"Nardo: Memoirs of a Boxing Champion tells the story of the great Tony DeMarco and not only his life in the ring, but his life in general. Tony was one of my favorite Champs as a fighter and as a man. Tony, I salute you!"

Jake LaMotta "The Raging Bull," former Middleweight Champion



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