

POST-GAZETTE

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BUONA PASQUA HAPPY EASTER

Pamela Donnaruma

Publisher and Editor

and the Staff
of the

Post Gazette

Wish a Happy Easter

to All Our

Advertisers and Readers



News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

What is so Racist about Voter ID Laws?

Every time someone proposes that voters present a photo identification before getting a voting ballot on Election Day, all the usually left-wing suspects come out of the woodwork. Only racist bigots push Voter ID Laws because they are trying to suppress racial minorities from voting. It is Jim Crow all over again.

I had to laugh when I read that about 7 million Afghans turned out to vote in their recent presidential election brandishing their photo IDs in order to vote, the same photo IDs that Eric Holder and our Justice Department claims is a symbol of voter intimidation.

Quote to Note

"In the end, we will not remember the words of our enemies but the silence of our friends."

— Rev. Martin L. King, Jr.

So Let's Go for Scott Brown

It is time for N.H. conservatives to stop whining that Scott Brown isn't conservative enough for them. They got one choice. They can vote to re-elect U.S. Senator Jean Shaheen who takes her marching orders from Harry Reid or they can vote for Brown who won't be taking any orders from Reid. Remember, Shaheen voted for Obamacare and Brown did not.

If any N.H. voters think that former U.S. Senator Bob Smith can beat Shaheen this year, they have rocks for brains. Not a bad guy, but he is so yesterday. Brown isn't perfect but he's the best we got.

Not So Rev. Al Sharpton

It is always nice to hear when someone in the public you just can't stand gets caught in his

(Continued on Page 15)

What's the Media to Do?

by Sal Giarratani

Once again, we see how easily our broadcast media especially reacts to anniversaries of horrible tragedies such as last year's Boston Marathon Bombings which occurred on April 15.

The Boston Marathon always happens on the Patriots Day holiday and last year in the aftermath of the bombings down by the finish line, we saw some incredible rescue work take place right before our eyes. I remember watching the scenes on TV showing police and EMTs running toward the sound of the exploding bombs. That scene shall forever be remembered showing all to see that we are not an isolated islands of humanity but rather one.

I knew the media would be back this year to endlessly go over every single gory detail. The media once again acts as an observer to horror pretending we need to see and hear over and over again what transpired one year ago.

As I watched one street reporter interview an author of a book on the bombings, I had to laugh when she asked why it might be so difficult for some of the families of the dead and wounded from last year's carnage might not be able to take part in any first anniversary gatherings. Why is she asking him? Only those affected by last year's horror should be asked that question. By their absence in large numbers, I think we have no need for the question ever being asked.

I still remember last Marathon Day. The scattered body parts on Boylston Street and the ensuing chaos. I remember many first responders and civilians rushing to help victims. I also remember members of the media with microphone in hand and cameramen besides them running into the fire to apparently report on what the scene looked like but not to assist victims. They had their jobs to do. That and seemingly no more.

The media this year gets two bites of the apple as far as interviewing the same people and making the same statements. Lots of words but little substance.

I still remember watching the 1993 Boston



The Dear Boston exhibition is open through May 11th at the Boston Public Library's Copley Square Branch. It is part of a larger array of programs offered in honor and commemoration of the 2013 Boston Marathon.

(Photo courtesy of Boston Public Library)

Marathon also on Patriots Day that year and sensing the aghast of the news media trying to cover a road race while there was a tragic and deadly siege taking place in Waco, Texas at the David Korish Compound. The media hated seeing two news stories happening at one time. How inconvenient for them, huh?

Too bad the media too often appears to be milking tragedy for apparent ratings and too bad for all those politicians who can't seem to stay away from this day and let Boston heal together without any of them trying to comfort us with tired words from speechwriters.

On this Marathon Day, I remembered all those lives altered forever. I remember the dead and injured. I remembered those who rushed to help. I will not remember the media corps or babbling politicians.

We are Boston Strong because we just didn't stand there, we rushed in to help.

Public Meetings on MBTA Fare Proposals

The MBTA will hold public workshops on the proposed fare changes so that comments and suggestions can be shared with MBTA officials. The public hearing will be an opportunity to offer recorded comments. Comments at all meetings will be considered by the MBTA and the MassDOT board of directors.

All meeting locations are accessible to people with disabilities. American Sign Language services and assistive-listening devices are available at all public workshops and hearings. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations free of charge upon request. To request an accommodation or for language assistance, please contact Trish Foley at trish.foley@state.ma.us or (857) 368-8907. CART, language translation, or interpretation requests should be made at least 10 business days before the meeting.

Written comments will also be accepted

through Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

Mail comments to: MBTA, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116 Attention: Fare Proposal Committee.

Submit comments electronically to: MBTA website: mbta.com, email: fareproposal@mbta.com, Phone: 617-222-3200, TTY 617-222-5146.

Please visit mbta.com for a complete list of public meetings and workshops.

For more information, please call 617-222-3200, TTY (617) 222-5146 or visit mbta.com.

In 2009, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) was created to unify the state's various transportation agencies. MassDOT now includes the Highway Division, the MBTA and Rail Transit Division, the Aeronautics Division, and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. MassDOT is committed to providing a safe and reliable transportation system.

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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.



VERGIL

During the past few weeks we have been discussing Roman scholars who were prominent during the Ciceronian portion of the Golden Age. These greats were Lucretius, Cicero, Sallust, Julius Caesar, and Varro. This week we pass into the second half of the Golden Age or Augustan Period. This is the age which boasts of the famous poets Vergil, Horace, and Ovid, the popular historian Titus Livy, and of course, Vitruvius, the author of a volume called "The Ten Books of Architecture."

Our scholarly Roman for today is Publius Vergilius Maro, the great national poet, and also the most famous of all Roman poets. He was born in 70 BC in a village in Cisalpine Gaul. There is no doubt about the spelling of his name since inscriptions clearly spell out Vergilius and never Virgilius. He was educated at Cremona, Mediolanum (Milan), and Neapolis (Naples), and from



Virgil reading the Aeneid to Octavian, 19th-century steel engraving.

his writings there is no doubt that he received an excellent education. His health was always quite delicate and consequently he never sought to increase his popularity through a military career.

Some of his early unimportant work included short poems about past national heroes, instructional poems, and a poem called "Catalepton," which provided facts about his life that were not otherwise available. Sometime around 37 BC Vergil completed his first work of major importance. These were ten pastoral poems called "Eclogues" which carried on a dialogue between two shepherds.

The fourth of his ten Eclogues tells of the birth of a child and an ensuing period of peace and prosperity. This was regarded, of course, as a prophecy of the coming of Christ. He also wrote "The Georgics" or "Georgica." An agricultural poem in four books, on the life and occupation of farmers. It also glorified country life and told of the beauties of Italy. The Georgica is said to have exhibited a high artistic perfection in Latin poetry and is claimed to be the literary work which confirmed his position as the foremost poet of that era.

The last great work of Vergil was of course his "Aeneid," an epic poem in 12 books which were composed between 29 and 19 BC. Being mythological in nature it was modeled after the Homeric poems, and told of the adventures of the hero "Aeneas" after the fall of Troy. The theme of the Aeneid is founded upon an old Roman tradition that Aeneas and his Trojan warriors settled in Italy and founded Rome. This poem became the great national epic of the Roman people. Its objective was to praise the glories of Rome, and to instill a patriotic feeling along with a religious sentiment for the gods and heroes of their ancestors.

The work of Vergil, the great national poet of ancient Rome, is said to have influenced Dante Alighieri, Chaucer, Spenser, Milton and Tennyson, to name a few.

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



*"Listen, my children and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five."*

New England's original "On the Road" man looms large in these parts — life-sized, in fact, in bronze, in Boston's North End. There, as well, you'll find his house preserved, just as his ride is preserved in the Longfellow poem.

*"You know the rest. In the books you have read,
How the British Regulars fired and fled —"*



And that morning of April 19th officially marks the beginning of the American War of Independence. We celebrate it as Patriots' Day, and, like Revere, take to the road — a renowned 26 miles of road from Hopkinton to Boston.

At the original Marathon, 26 miles from Athens, Greece, free, Democratic, Western civilization faced and defeated the forces of absolutism. It is a battle that has been fought many times. It will be fought many more times. Freedom must always be prepared to fight just to be free.

On September 11, 2001, after the unprovoked terrorist's attacks on thousands of innocent, unsuspecting civilians, President George W. Bush spoke of why we were attacked, and why we shall prevail: "America was targeted for attack because we're the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining."

Our free and open society was again attacked last Patriots' Day. This Patriots' Day celebrations will be colored with the dark hues of mourning for those killed or injured by the diabolical actions of two wicked men.

Our patriot forefathers (and every America is a Son of Liberty, regardless of when your people came here) knew that freedom is worth fighting for. This Patriots' Day let's reflect on the cause of freedom, and thank the brave American men and women who, in every war from the Revolution to our current military engagements in the Middle East, have made it possible for us to enjoy this April 21st as a free people.




Happy Easter!

from

**Sal LaMattina
& Family**

Boston City Councilor - District 1




Happy Easter

from


**AARON
MICHLEWITZ**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 3



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from



Congressman

MIKE CAPUANO

NEXT ISSUE: Horace

Happy Easter

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REVERE CITY COUNCIL - AT LARGE





Happy Easter

**Emanuel "Gus"
Serra**

POST-GAZETTE

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Friday, April 18, 2014

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.

Alfonso "Al" Longo

Alfonso C. Longo, 94, passed away on April 13, 2014. Long prominent as a publicist in Boston, Al was born in the West End to Peter and Teresa (Lavina) Longo on June 18, 1919. The fourth of six siblings, he graduated from Dorchester High School for Boys and attended Boston University. Serving in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, he was stationed in Washington, D.C., San Diego, and Honolulu, and worked on the staff of *The Leatherneck Magazine*.



Returning to Boston, Al began a long career in public relations at Loew's Theatres, where he met his future business partner, Sandy Giampapa. They founded Publicity, Inc., in 1946, and together they served a roster of clients spanning sports, entertainment, and corporations for more than 50 years. Al also had ownership interest in Pleasure Island, an amusement park in Wakefield, during the 1960's, and quietly supported a number of charitable causes.

In 1947, Al married Helen (LaRosa) Longo. They raised their two children, Patrice Longo Dworkin and Peter C. Longo in Winchester, where they also enjoyed golf, tennis, and curling. In 1985, Helen and Al moved to Danvers, where they delighted in living and golfing at Ferncroft. Helen passed away in 2004.

Al is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Patrice and Steven Dworkin of Pacific Palisades, CA, his son and daughter-in-law Peter and Sharyn Longo of Danvers, sister Anne Mondeau of Arvada, CO, grandchildren Adam and Chloe Dworkin and Travis and Nikolas Longo, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be private. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Al Longo's name to the Alzheimer's Foundation and the E. N. Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford.

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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ROAD TO SAINTHOOD and LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Please join the **St. Joseph Society** on Holy Saturday, April 19th at **10:30 am** for the **Road to Sainthood** in the St. Joseph's Meeting Hall, 467 Hanover Street, in Boston's North End.

Francesco (Chip) Piatti is Professor of History, Theory, Collage and Design Studies at the Boston Architectural College. He also serves as Senior thesis Advisor and Portfolio Reviewer. Besides his schedule of architectural talks and tours, Mr. Piatti consults regularly with pastors and parish administrators on matters of liturgical and architectural detail.

The talk for the group is called *Signs of Christ: Visible manifestations of the Savior's Presence, in art and architecture*. It traces the appearance of signs and other wonders indicating the presence of Jesus in the world, throughout history, as depicted in Biblical and secular art.

The St. Joseph Society **Communal Lenten Penance Service** will commence at **11:00 am**.

This will be both a wonderful way to prepare for Easter, and an opportunity to reconcile with God, the Church and one another.

There will be readings from the New Testament; and participants will join in spirit with Pope Francis as together we acknowledge ourselves as ordinary sinful people in need of God's forgiveness and grace. After listening to God's word, praying quietly, and reciting the Act of Contrition and the Lord's Prayer together, we will receive a communal penance for our sins, absolution and a blessing.

Fr. Jack Izzo, S.J. will preside over the service; and will be available for individual private confessions and reconciliations for those who so desire.

Please avail yourself of this wonderful opportunity to cleanse your heart and soul of guilt, regrets and painful memories.

Tony "Taro" Ciaramitaro Receives Award from NEAA



RED SOX LEGEND POSES WITH CIARAMITARO FAMILY — Boston Red Sox legenday Infielder, and Hall of Famer Rico Petrocelli (center) stops to pose with members of the Ciaramitaro family at the North End Athletic Association's Annual Awards Dinner. L to R: Tony (Taro) Ciaramitaro, grandsons Drew and Mark, and son Daniel. Taro and Petrocelli were cited for their Community Service.



NEAA Official, Hon. Robert "Ted" Tomasone (left) presents the North End Athletic Association's Annual Community Service Award to Tony Taro (center) in recognition of his 40 years of portraying "Santa Claus" in the Annual Christmas Parade. (Photo by Drew Ciaramitaro)

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L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Joys of an Italian Easter

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

Easter is one of my favorite holidays because it positively smells of spring. All of its symbols, from delicate bunnies to colorful flowers, remind us that spring has come, spreading her warm cloak of rebirth around the world. Easter represents the joy and happiness of watching nature blossom once more, of seeing the Earth burst alive once again with bright hues and the promise of mornings filled with sunshine. My family's Easter celebrations have always honored the Italian traditions that pay homage to this sense of rebirth. For Easter in Italy is no slight affair — it is considered the most important holiday of the year, a day of both profound religious significance and quaint customs that honor the Earth's reawakening. The family gatherings, special dishes, and natural elements all combine to make an Italian Easter, or *Pasqua*, a supreme feast of spring, revelry of new life and warm days.

My father, who grew up in the Abruzzi town of Sulmona, remembers a specific ritual that remains synonymous with Easter in his mind. The

people of Abruzzi celebrate a custom known as *La Madonna Che Scappa in Piazza*, or "the Madonna who runs in the square." On Easter Sunday, a procession carries a statue of the Virgin Mary clad in black. At some point in the parade, the Virgin recognizes that Jesus has risen from the tomb, and so the people carrying her shed off her black cloak and run with her towards the church. Bells ring, and people cheer and clap with unbridled joy. This ritual exemplifies Easter in Italy — an unabashed festival of delight following the austere Lenten season. Another surprising ritual takes place in Florence, known as *il Scoppio del Carro*, or explosion of the cart, in which a decorated wagon laden with fireworks bursts in a colorful display in the city center. While less explosive, the traditions my family observes also pay heed to the sense of giddy elation that accompanies Easter. We set out beautifully dyed eggs, as bright as a spring sunburst. We wear new clothes, as Italian superstition decrees that this is a must for Easter, and this feels so natural among the

themes of new life and rebirth that characterize Easter. Easter is also when we break open the hollow *uovo di Pasqua*, or Easter egg, and reveal the surprises hidden inside (usually candy!). All of these customs establish Easter as one of the most joyous times of the year in my mind.

Of course, Easter in Italy is also characterized by several foods crafted especially for the holiday. My father likes the *colomba pasquale*, or Easter dove, which is a sweet bread shaped like a dove and sometimes decorated with multicolored sprinkles. Some versions of the *colomba pasquale* have Easter eggs tucked in at the top, the egg being an easily recognizable symbol of new life, whether referring to Jesus's Resurrection or the rebirth of nature during the spring. My grandmother, on the other hand, fondly remembers the *pastiera*, or Easter pie. Different versions of *pastiera* exist according to the region; some are savory, while sweet ones may be made with ricotta, rice or wheat berries. My *pastiera* is a ricotta pie with orange peel and chunks of chocolate, and I am already craving its delicate yet tangy taste as I write this sentence. Lamb is also an important Easter staple in Italy, being both symbolic of spring animals and Jesus's title as Lamb of God. Since I am a vegetarian, I stick with admiring the intricate pieces of butter molded and decorated to look like lambs that adorn Italian shop windows. Finally, Italians do not stop their feasting once Easter Sunday ends. The following day, Easter Monday, is known as *La Pasquetta*, or "Little Easter." Italians celebrate this day with picnics in the countryside or beach, enjoying the beautiful spring weather and the company of loved ones.

(Continued on Page 14)



Fort Hood Wasn't Terrorism This Time But ...

Unlike November 5, 2009, when Maj. Nidal Hasan, a self-proclaimed "Soldier of Allah" shouted "Allahu Akhbar" and then went on a deadly rampage, killing 13 and wounded 32 in what the White House continues to call "workplace violence," the recent Fort Hood shootings does look like a real case of workplace violence.

This time a soldier, SPC Ivan Lopez, killed 3 and wounded 16 others. It must have looked like a nightmare getting repeated, as once again a gunman opened fire at this Army base, home to the 1st Cavalry Division in Killeen, Texas.

The president assured the nation that this was not a terrorist attack. As if this makes it any easier to digest. This time the shooter was identified as a soldier who has been treated for mental health issues who served in Iraq in 2011.

The Army has admitted that the shooter had been undergoing evaluation for post traumatic stress disorder and treatment for depression and anxiety but the post commander Lt. General Mark A. Milley stated late last week that his "underlying medical conditions" were not a direct factor in the shootings. He added, "We believe that the immediate precipitating factor was more likely an escalating argument in his unit area."

However, on his Facebook page, the shooter expressed outrage over Adam Lanza's shootings at the elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut.

His father down in Puerto Rico believes his son must have been mentally ill and not "in his right mind."

After 40 years with the State Department of Mental Health, 27 years as a police officer, I would tend to believe the father is correct. It would seem with hindsight that this young soldier was quite troubled for some time and the help he needed wasn't apparently getting to him quick enough.

The mental health system nationwide needs to get much better and quickly or these kinds of shootings will continue to happen. In many ways terrorism is at work, but it is the unseen terrorism of a troubled mind.

How many out there around us are harboring dark thoughts? How many are taking antidepressants to deal with a growing dark hole which can create hallucinations, delusions and euphoria.

This country when dealing with mental health issues seems just crazy at times. How can a lieutenant general actually say that the underlying psychiatric issues were not a direct factor in the shootings?

With the shooter dead, we may never know why he did as he did at Fort Hood. Did the previous 2009 rampage play a role? What of the deaths recently of his mother and grandfather? What about his time in combat in Iraq.

Trouble is, trying to deal with mental illness in this country is hard to do. One because of the cost of effective treatments and two, the massive denial by most over the way we treat victims of mental illness in our society. Effective treatment of mental illness may be quite costly but look at the cost to society of our current reactive approach to tortured minds around us.

We can and should do much better to prevent the next Ivan Lopez from making more gruesome news.

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Saint Elphege

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Saint Elphege was born in the year 954 of a noble Saxon family. At an early age, he entered the monastery of Deerhurst (Gloucestershire). After some years he lived as a hermit near Bath, where he founded a community under the rule of Saint Benedict and became abbot. At the age of 30, he became Bishop of Winchester, recommended by Saint Dunsten. Elphege became Archbishop of Canterbury 22 years later.

During this period England was much harassed by incursions of the Vikings who sacked and pillaged the country that was then governed by the weak King Ethelred. Towards the end of September, 1011,



having sacked and burned Canterbury, the invaders made Elphege a prisoner and

demanded a large ransom for his release. Elphege, who was imprisoned at Greenwich for seven months where he was tortured, refused to use the goods of his church and its people for his release. On April 19, 1012, at Greenwich, his captors, drunk with wine, and enraged over the fact that Elphege refused to be ransomed, beat Elphege with the blunt sides of their weapons and stoned him. Finally, a man named Thurm whom the Saint had baptized shortly before put an end to his sufferings by the blow of an axe to Elphege's head. He died on Easter Saturday, April 19, 1012, his last words being a prayer for his murderers. His feast day is April 19th, the day of his martyrdom.

Buona Pasqua

Carmen and Anthony

Our thoughts and prayers are with you

during this Easter Season

Spagnuolo Family

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THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

Re-awakening the Heart of Boston

That big ugly thing Bostonians have come to call "the hole" is still there, always blocked and often with a crane in the middle. It's still the eyesore of Downtown Crossing, made more painful to the eye by the remains of the building that was once the symbol of Downtown's elegance and liveliness. Filene's shut down in 2006 after a merger with Macy's. The wrecking crew arrived the following year, taking down two of the structures and the plaza to its side, once a summertime hotspot and a haven for cart vendors. Gone too are the mini coffee and smoothie shops that operated beneath the iconic building.

All that is left of the old Filene's Department Store now is the neoclassic white shell and the lonely clocks with the word "Filene's" still scrawled across, ghosts of its former life. And, of course, there are always the memories, something we Bostonians never had a shortage of.

What happened to Filene's happened to many of the other icons on the once vibrant Washington Street. Barnes & Noble folded almost a decade ago and has remained an empty building since. Borders followed when the company as a whole went belly up in 2011. FYE, a five-story music and video store, bailed out after that. Even Wendy's didn't last.

Today Downtown Crossing is in a depressing state, an embarrassment to the spot it used to be. The once hopping streets are eerily quiet these days. Most of the stores (even the five & dimes) that gave the place character have been replaced by generic chains that could be at home in any city. And I'm not talking about exclusive stores either. Woolworth, the store where shoppers could find just about anything at

a discount and then have the option of visiting an old-fashioned soda fountain, is now just a memory. When Woolworth went out of business, its former Downtown site became a Marshall's, a store indistinguishable from the neighboring T.J. Maxx and H&M.

Worse, most of the buildings have remained vacant, few companies daring to take a gamble in this economy. What was once the home of Jordan Marsh, Borders, and the Enchanted Village every Christmas is now more or less a ghost town. It's sad to see, especially for those old enough to remember it as the shopping hub of New England. To be sure, the decline was a long time coming. It began with the post-war suburban sprawl and the emergence of the shopping mall, a bigger blow. It was already showing clear signs of being a neighbor of the Combat Zone by the time I was a child. But, I am old enough to have seen the work of its two deadliest foes, the rise of online shopping and the economic collapse of the mid-21st century.

But, not all is lost. Last year it seems that my fellow Bostonians joined me in saying enough is enough regarding the state of our city's Downtown. It's not only the heart of our city but our pride as well. Sure enough, work is being done. This fall saw the completion of the Kensington Complex which opened up this fall as did various hotels around the Paramount Theater. Walgreens opened its third flagship store at the former site of Borders Bookstore. Not long before it opened there *Globe* writer Paul McMorrow wrote an editorial in which he stated that opening a Walgreens was a sign of low ambition and, yes, Walgreens is no Borders. But arguing about low ambition in an

area that has been spiraling downward for over a decade misses the point. Walgreens, especially an all-purpose store like the flagship (selling food, wine, cheese, medicine, vitamins, and the typical merchandise) is exactly the kind of store Downtown needs to attract customers in the post-Woolworth days. But the real promise is the completion of the Millennium Towers expected to be finished this fall where Filene's once stood. It will be a large building, consisting of residential apartments, retail, and offices. That will be the real booster shot for the revival of Downtown Crossing.

Time will tell how well Downtown Crossing will take to its new lease on life, but it means too much to us Bostonians to just let it go. We have invested too much of our collective identity and memories to the heart of the Hub. We will be here through its renovation and revival, never abandoning the pride of our city.

The Downtown Crossing we remember may be gone for good, but its story ain't over yet.

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ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo

**Madam C. J. Walker was the first
female American millionaire as an
entrepreneur in making facial and hair care products
for African-American women in the 1920s**



Ciao Bella,

Madam C. J. Walker was an amazing woman. She was born Sarah Breedlove on a Louisiana Plantation after the Emancipation from parents who were former slaves. In 1905 she married a St. Louis newspaperman and changed her name to Madam C. J. Walker.

She became interested in hair care in her late 30s when due to damaging hair products and stress caused her hair loss. In order to treat her condition she developed her own formula at home selling it to friends and family and selling it door to door. She built an empire. As quoted by Walker "I am not merely satisfied in making money for myself, for I am endeavoring to provide employment for the women of my race." Her daughter A'Lelia inherited her mother's beauty and hair care empire. And to this day she admires her mother's self taught business skills



in order to achieve such great success catering to the needs of African-American women to this day.

Recently on an Antiques Road Show one of Madam C.J. Walker's Beauty Text Books on Beauty Culture was appraised. Being a First Edition the book was appraised at \$10,000! Wow!

So if you have an extra \$10,000 you can make history too!

BuonaPasqua to all!

— Mary DiZazzo-Trumbull

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

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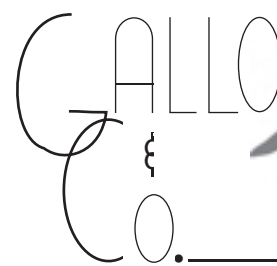
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North End Against Drugs SENIOR LUNCHEON

Registration Required

Thanks to a grant from the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, North End Against Drugs will be holding a Senior Luncheon for North End seniors age 60 and over. The event will be held on Monday, May 5th at Limoncello Restaurant in North Square. The event is free of charge, BUT is only for North End residents. In order to attend you must register in advance. There is limited seating. To register, please call John Romano at 617-880-9901. You must give your name, address and phone number for a call back. You may only register for yourself. The deadline to register is Friday, April 25th or when it is full, whichever comes first.

The event starts at 12 Noon. There will be entertainment and delicious food.

Forum with Councilor Michelle Wu in East Boston Postponed



Due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict, the Forum with Councilor Michelle Wu, originally scheduled for April 28th at the East Boston Public Library, will have to be postponed. No new date has been scheduled as of yet. East Boston Main Streets is working with the councilor's office to reschedule a new date very soon. "We are sorry to have to reschedule the councilor," says Max Gruner, Executive Director of East Boston Main Streets, "but we are absolutely committed to getting Councilor Wu to East Boston very soon to have an opportunity to talk to our small and micro business community."

For more details or questions, please call Max Gruner, Executive Director of East Boston Main Streets at 617-561-1044.



Freeway Says ...

Buona Pasqua, Happy Easter to All!!!

Keep my pooch friends safe by avoiding the **seven deadly sins of Easter**. Easter is just around the bend and while it typically means tons of fun for the kids: Easter egg hunts, colorful Easter baskets stuffed to the brim with chocolate bunnies, marshmallow chicks and jelly beans galore, it could mean real trouble for some of our other family members: our animals. So while the rest of the family members are celebrating this joyous holiday, make sure your dogs and cats stay happy and healthy with a few tips on the potential pet perils of Easter.

Easter Lilies: Easter Lilies are beautiful and symbolic of many of the virtues of the holiday; however, they and all lily flowers are deadly poison to cats if any part of the plant is ingested. Families with house cats simply should not risk the lethal danger posed to their pets by having lilies anywhere near their cats. All portions of the plant are poisonous to a cat's kidneys when eaten and even with prompt veterinary care, treatment is not always successful. Lilies are beautiful, but they are life threatening to cats and the two should be kept far apart.

Chocolate: While chocolate might taste good to kids and parents, it can be quite dangerous for dogs and cats. Chocolate contains caffeine and a compound called theobromine, which stimulates the nervous system and can be toxic to animals. If enough is ingested, your pet can suffer from vomiting, diarrhea, abnormal heart rhythms, tremors, seizures, and worst case scenario, death. While all forms of chocolate can be toxic to cats and dogs, white chocolate has the least amount of stimulants. Dark and baking chocolate have the highest.

Plastic Easter Basket Grass: Easter grass may serve as a nice cushy nest for all the eggs and candy gathered during an Easter egg hunt, but your dog or cat can find it too tantalizing to pass up, it could cause some real problems. The plastic compo-

nent of Easter grass is non-digestible and can get tangled in your animal's intestines. This can lead to a blockage and potential perforation. If ingested, the grass can cause choking or become lodged inside the stomach or intestines, creating an obstruction. Signs of obstruction are loss of appetite and vomiting. Animals showing these symptoms should be taken to the veterinarian for an abdominal x-ray. This problem is treated with surgical removal of the foreign material and is considered a true emergency.

Other Candy: Chocolate is not the only candy finding its way into Easter baskets that often sit at eye-level to your dog or cat. There are jelly beans, puffy marshmallow chicks, candied eggs and more, all of which can cause gastrointestinal disturbance in animals. Most threatening though are products containing Xylitol, an artificial sweetener. Xylitol can be so toxic to pets that within 30 minutes of consuming a small amount of Xylitol sweetened product, a dog can experience a dramatic drop in blood sugar, begin vomiting, become lethargic and have difficulty standing or walking. Some may have seizures, develop internal hemorrhaging, lesions and suffer liver failure.

Rotten Easter Eggs: Easter egg hunts are tradition for most families, an event children always look forward to. So may your dogs, which is why it's important to keep track of where all the hard-boiled eggs are hidden when planning your backyard Easter egg hunt. Many animals have become sick after sniffing out and consuming a rotten Easter egg that was likely forgotten from a previous hunt. If possible, use plastic eggs instead of real eggs. However, if you do use plastic

eggs, make sure your dog can't get inside them and eat the contents or worse yet, try to swallow the plastic egg and choke on it, or get it lodged in their intestine.

Candy Wrappers: Aluminum or plastic candy wrappers can also be a potential pet hazard during Easter. Many pets (especially cats and dogs) are naturally drawn to the texture, bright colors and crinkly sound wrappers make and often unintentionally consume them while playing. Consumption of these items can cause intestinal disturbances and even an intestinal obstruction in your animal.

A Live Easter Bunny: What's more tempting on Easter than to bring home the "real thing" a live Easter bunny? If this is something you're thinking about, think again. Rabbits are not toys, nor are they low maintenance pets. They require the same level of care as a dog or cat and need plenty of room to play and hop. While they can be cuddly and affectionate, they can also become easily frightened when held or confronted by other animals. Unfortunately, most rabbits purchased as Easter gifts end up either abandoned on the streets, which is a sure death sentence, or in shelters.

Enjoy this Easter whatever you're going to do and protect your cat or dog from harm. I know I am going to sit on the grass and watch all the excitement of the day. To all my READERS and my FRIENDS at the Post-Gazette enjoy your holiday and keep safe.

That's all for now!!!
Remember **Boston Strong** and please keep the family of our fallen heroes Michael R. Kennedy and Lt. Edward J. Walsh, Jr., in your prayers during this Easter holiday as they will be sorely missed.



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The 2014 Beauties of Massachusetts have been crowned. L-R: Miss Teen Nina Murray, Miss Renata De Carvahlo, unknown and Ms. Alicia Watkins.
(Photo by Angela Cornacchio)

Socially Scene Reviewed

... Recently Boston was host to one of the most elegant events honored with rich tradition, the Miss Massachusetts United States Pageant.

The Revere Hotel welcomed some of the North East's finest in the fashion and entertainment industry to say good bye to Julianna Smith, the 2013 queen, and see who was to take on the title.

The competition was co-hosted by Chris Timoney, a former ABC News member now a Sporting News Radio

and Match.com event coordinator. Standing next to him through the night was the breathtaking and current Miss United States Candice Dillard.

The night began in the Revere Hotel Theatre lobby with cocktails and shopping as many of the designers and artists in the show set up shop to display their fantastic editions to the evening. Designer Colleen Ferry and owner of onsite Chantilly Place glamorized not only Miss United States but many of the contestants with her



Social

by A

authentic gowns. They were one-of-a-kind meant for a queen dresses and well worth checking out her store or visiting her website at www.chantillyplace.com.

When you enter the theatre it is an amazing and modern space. The first five rows are beautiful tables with leather benches and were perfect placement to see the sold out show. The event started off with an inspirational and warming welcome to Boston with a highlight video of our amazing city and just how strong we stand.

After the celebrity panel of judges were introduced: Traci Bingham, our local *Baywatch* babe; Amber Lu, a designer of luxury leathers for iPhone and iPads along with an extensive runway resume from walking in shows from Milan, Paris to Hong Kong; Rocky Graziano, the 1994 Mr. Pre-Teen pageant winner who will only move up to national titles, TV appearances and currently on the Board of Directors for the Miss Boston Scholarship Organization, Reaz Hoque CEO of The SYNERGY and the fashionista herself Rosanna Sinel Ortiz Founder and President of StyleWeek a red carpet event that is going to be responsible how fashion will be perceived in the North East moving forward.

The competition started off

with the swimsuit followed by evening wear to on stage interviews where a little humor crept in. The saying "pain is beauty" was put to truth. When each of these flawless ladies was asked, "How are you" the common response was, "Hungry, I just want a slice of pizza." The word "competition" is used often in pageants and that it is. Just like an athlete in a sporting event these women put in countless inspiring hours of training and perfecting that takes dedication. Just before the crowning of the 2014 queen then current Miss Massachusetts Julianna Smith took stage to give her heartwarming farewell speech.

The time had come for seven ladies to stop holding their breath and just embrace in holding each other's hands for the finalists to be announced. All of the women were unique, stunning role models yet it was Renta De Carvalho who walked away with the 2014 Miss Massachusetts title. It was an emotional moment for the freshly crowned queen and her large cheering section of family and friends. The closing of the evening was a performance

by Push4171 who are rising up high on the pop charts.

The night was an elegant event that took many months of prepping and hard work from Assistant Director Monique Taylor, Co-Director Jeff Butterworth, Program Development Raquel Rohlfing, Operations Tony Hyppolit, Moderator Dacey Zouzas also the star of the show and one amazing women for all she gives to the organization Director Jena Tang. Since 1937, the Miss United States Organization provides an avenue of achievement for women and girls ages 8-40. At the local, state, and national level, the program promotes each titleholder's platform for community service while acting as a national partner with Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. The pageant process provides a positive and memorable environment, with focus on encouragement and community. The national Miss United States competition includes the divisions of Miss, Ms., Teen, Junior Teen, Pre-Teen and Little Miss, taking place in Washington, D.C. during Independence Day activities. If you would like to see

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FREE PARKING

ally Scene

by Angela Cornacchio



The legendary Paula Poundstone will be at the North Shore Music Theater for a one night only performance on April 19th.

(Photo by stltoday.com)

a schedule for the upcoming appearances for Miss Massachusetts United States or more information visit www.missunitedstates.com.

Looking For a Laugh ... The North Shore Music Theatre will have the one and only Paula Poundstone on April 19th.

Twenty-five years ago Paula Poundstone climbed on a Greyhound bus and traveled across the country stopping in at open mic nights at comedy clubs as she went. A high school drop-out, she went on to become one of the great humorists of our time. You can hear her through your laughter as a regular panelist on NPR's popular rascal of a weekly news quiz show, *Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me*. She tours regularly, performing standup comedy across the country.

While there is no doubt that Poundstone is funny, the thing that probably separates her from the pack of

comedians working today and that has made her a legend among comics and audiences alike is her ability to be spontaneous with a crowd. Poundstone says: "No two shows I do are the same. It's not that I don't repeat material. I do. My shows, when they're good, and I like to think they often are, are like a cocktail party. When you first get there, you talk about how badly you got lost and how hard it was to find parking. Then you tell a story about your kids or what you just saw on the news. You meet some new people and ask them about themselves. Then, someone says, 'Tell that story you used to tell,' and then someone on the other side of the room spills a drink, and you mock them. No one ever applauds me when I leave a party, though. I think they high five."

Once every decade a comedian comes along like Paula Poundstone and on April 19th you can catch her act at The North Shore Music Theatre. Show time is 7:30 pm and the theatre is located at 62 Dunham Road, Beverly, MA. If you would like more information on the show or to purchase tickets visit www.nsmst.org.

Boston it's Time to Riot Again ... Wine Riot is back in again April 18th-19th at the Park Plaza Castle in the South End. Get up to speed on wines from throughout the world with Wine 101, Crash Course Seminars, and the Bubbly Bar, not to mention fun additions like the photo booth and a kickin' DJ.

The rapidly growing Wine Riots are an upbeat take on a wine expo. Their wine booths come from all over

the world and represent almost every style of wine, every size winery, and regions that you probably had no idea produced great wines. It's the job of the experts pouring to share with you the story behind each wine, so that you can learn exactly what it is you are tasting.

They have compiled this list of the executive booths that bring just a little bit more to Wine Riot. These guys will have the big booths at the center of it all and go the extra mile to provide educational features and tasting opportunities. You will have the opportunity to; sample sake, get your grub on with Brooklyn Oyster Party, Roxy's Grilled Cheese and more. Also you can hit up the Bubbly Bar and Wine 101 to taste six sparkling wines of every style from France, Italy, and the U.S. at the Bubbly Bar. Lock down the difference between Oaked and Unoaked, Mature and Young, Dry and Sweet, and Old World vs. New World at Wine 101. Get fluent in the basics!

The Wine Riots are back in Boston and a reason to celebrate! The one of a kind



Not your average expo is on its way back to Boston! The Wine Riots will return April 18th-19th at the Park Plaza Castle.

(Photo by lynnfredwheeling.wordpress.com)

wine expo will be at the Park Plaza Castle April 18th-19th. The castle is located at 130 Columbus Avenue, Boston and you may visit www.secondglass.com for tickets and times.

HaiRAISING ... After a cold and snowy winter, marked by months of hats, hibernation and heavy coats, it's the perfect time to freshen up your look for spring. People all over Boston and New England can do just that, and do a good deed at the same

time. On Sunday, April 27th top salons throughout the region, including both Boston locations for Blo Blow Dry Bar, will come together in support of HAI Raising for Boston Children's Hospital. For the fifth year, salons will go to all lengths for kids as part of HAI Raising for Boston Children's Hospital, founded by hair legend, John Frieda of John Frieda Hair Care and John Frieda

(Continued on Page 13)

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Everyone's favorite teenage super heroes have saved the planet from total annihilation, so what's next? Swing by Titans Tower and find out as Robin, Cyborg, Raven, Starfire and Beast Boy chill out after a hard day of crime fighting, as they take on some real challenges like laundry, chores, video games and plain ol' trying to get along! Enjoy the laughs when Beast Boy introduces his new villainous girlfriend, Raven's demonic father stops in for a visit, or Cyborg has his birthday bashed by an evil pie baker. So suit up, order a pizza and check out these 26 all-new adventures.

LEAPFROG LETTER FACTORY ADVENTURES: THE LETTER MACHINE RESCUE TEAM (DVD) Lionsgate Home Ent.

Join Leap, Tad, Lily and friends on a problem-solving adventure! When Quigley announces the new Letter Factory is almost ready to open, the team takes a visit to learn about adjectives and words with consonant blends. But when the letter machine goes on the fritz, it's up to them to work together a "junior engineers" to find the best fix-it solutions! Perfect learning experience for children ages 4-7.

DOCTOR WHO: THE TIME OF THE DOCTOR (Blu-ray) BBC Home Ent.

Orbiting a quiet backwater planet, the massed forces of the universe's deadliest species gather, drawn to a mysterious message that echoes out to the stars. While the Doctor rescues Clara from a family Christmas dinner, the Time Lord and his best friend

must learn what this enigmatic signal means for his own fate and that of the universe. Bonus features include, 'Behind the Lens,' plus 'Tales from the TARDIS,' and an hour-long special 'Farewell to Matt Smith,' that looks back at Matt Smith's tenure as the Eleventh Doctor.

BIBLE SECRETS REVEALED (DVD)

Lionsgate Home Ent.

For thousands of years, *The Holy Bible* has been the foundation on which Judaism and Christianity are built. But, is it history or myth? Who wrote it? How old is it? It's been copied, translated, edited, and censored, but how accurate is it to its original intention? *Bible Secrets Revealed* explores the mysteries and reveals the hidden facts about the most read book in human history, featuring stunning on-location photography, compelling re-enactments, and interviews with scholars, archaeologists, and religious leaders.

WINNIE THE POOH: SPRINGTIME WITH ROO (Blu-ray) Disney

Each year, Rabbit plays Easter Bunny, but this year, he's decided it's "Spring Cleaning Day," and he orders everyone to hop to it: scrubbing, dusting, and mopping. All his pals are disappointed — especially little Roo — until Rabbit learns that putting others first and showing friends how much you care turns every day into a precious gift. Sparkling with unforgettable "egg-stravaganza" shows why love, hope and friendship are always in full bloom in the Hundred Acre Wood! Blu-ray Hoppin' Bonus fun: Get Up and Dance! — Spring into the holiday spirit and dance to songs from the movie.

SIBERIA: SEASON ONE (DVD)

Lionsgate Home Ent.

Sixteen reality show participants descend on Tunguska; oblivious to the land's mysterious past, to battle for a cash prize. Strange events begin to occur, and the contestants soon attribute these occurrences to ruses set up by the producers, even dismissing the death of a fellow contestant as accidental. Soon they meet the chilling realization that the occurrences are not part of the show.

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



First Priority Credit Union celebrates their 90th anniversary with many honors.

(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

THANK YOU TO VOTERS

"I am willing to do whatever it takes to secure the strongest possible future for Revere, Chelsea and Saugus. I will always be available to hear your concerns and to work with you to find solutions to the problems we face.

Thank you again for entrusting me with this great responsibility; it is an honor of a lifetime. I'm excited to get started and I'm ready to go to work for you."

— State Representative
RoseLee Vincent,
16th Suffolk District

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ON THE HORIZON

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band will be performing at Mohegan Sun on May 17th and 18th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FIRST PRIORITY

First Priority Credit Union recently celebrated their 90th anniversary with a birthday party at First Priority's East Boston office. Both the East Boston and Revere Chambers of Commerce showed up and a number of citations were presented. One from Rep. Carlo Basile's office, one from City Councilor Sal LaMattina and one from Revere Mayor Dan Rizzo from the City of Revere.

JOHN PINETTE, RIP

Local stand-up comic John Pinette who came from Malden before going nationwide with his stand up routine passed away at age 50 in Pittsburgh. Before *Seinfeld*,

he was a mainstay at Giggles in Saugus.

He was always a chubby kid and used his weight against himself in his act on stage. Pinette once stated, "I grew up in Malden. I was born to be as close to Kelly's Roast Beef as possible." He was larger than life and his humor will be remembered.

ALL NEW McDONALDS IN EASTIE

Over in East Boston's Central Square on April 11th, there was music in the air at the grand re-opening of the all-new McDonalds.

On hand for the celebra-

tion was the Veronica Robles Cultural Center. The large crowd was entertained by dance students from the cultural center.

QUINCY HIGH COMEDY SHOW

Tonight (April 18th) starting at 7:30 pm at the Adams Heights Mens Club on Bower Street in Quincy, everyone will be laughing and helping the Quincy High School's wrestling team. Enjoy a night out and help a great cause. Staring Joey Carroll with Chris Pennie and Micki Fizzi. For more information, call 617-953-1715.



Pat Treffiletti, McDonalds owner/operator with Veronica Robles and Connor Treffiletti surrounded by dance students from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.

Happy Easter

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NOW PLAYING UPTOWN & DOWNTOWN



Don't miss the acclaimed Mark Morris Dance Group's *Acis and Galatea* performance this May! Check the DANCE section for more information.

MUSIC

CITI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, WANG THEATRE
270 Tremont Street, Boston
617-482-9393

www.CitiCenter.org

IL DIVO — May 16. The record-breaking classical crossover group that has sold more than 26 million albums worldwide will bring *Il Divo* — *A Musical Affair: The Greatest Songs of Broadway* 25. Live to the Citi Wang Theatre in support of the group's sixth studio album, *A Musical Affair*. The show intertwines the most famous songs from Broadway musicals with the individual theatrical experiences of Carlos, David, Urs and Sebastien. The album *A Musical Affair* showcases Il Divo's signature romantic and emotional interpretation of heartfelt classics like *Some Enchanted Evening* (*South Pacific*), *"Bring Him Home"* (*Les Misérables*), *"Tonight"* (*West Side Story*) and more. Il Divo has also provided new arrangements for these much-loved songs, as well as invited familiar Broadway and pop artists to appear on certain tracks as their duet partners. "It has been so inspiring to work with such legendary songs from the world of Broadway musicals for our new album," says Urs Buhler of Il Divo.

HOUSE OF BLUES
15 Lansdowne Street, Boston
888-693-2583

www.HouseOfBlues.com

LANA DEL REY — May 6. **Elizabeth Woolridge Grant** (born

June 21, 1986), known by her stage name Lana Del Rey, is an American singer-songwriter. Del Rey started writing at the age of 18 and she signed her first recording contract with 5 Points Records in 2007, releasing her first digital album *Lana Del Rey* in January 2010. Del Rey bought herself out of the contract with 5 Points Records in April 2010. She signed a joint contract with Interscope, Polydor, and Stranger Records in July 2011. Del Rey's music has been noted for its cinematic sound and its references to various aspects of pop culture, particularly that of the 1950s and 1960s Americana. The singer has described herself as a "self-styled gangsta Nancy Sinatra." Before signing to a major record label, Del Rey provided sole production of her music videos. Musically, she draws influence from what she deems to be the masters of each genre, including Elvis Presley, Amy Winehouse, Janis Joplin, Nirvana, Eminem, Bruce Springsteen, and Britney Spears, as well as from poetry and film noir.

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

www.TDGarden.com

BARRY GIBB — May 15. The legendary Grammy Award winner, Barry Gibb, announced his *Mythology: The Tour Live* will kick off on May 15th in Boston, MA at TD Garden. Promoted exclusively by Live Nation, the run of shows, including three outdoor concerts, will bring the music icon to the New York City area, Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay

area, Chicago, Philadelphia and Boston. In addition to the TD Garden date, Barry will be performing at famed music venues including Nikon at Jones Beach Theater outside New York City and the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. The show also features his eldest son Stephen and his niece, Maurice's daughter, Samantha Gibb.

LADY GAGA — June 30. One of the top global touring acts of our time, having sold nearly 4 million tickets during her first 3 tours, Lady Gaga is hitting the road in support of her new album ARTPOP. Live Nation Global Touring announced that Lady Gaga's artRave: The ARTPOP Ball will begin May 4th in Ft. Lauderdale. The tour will include several cities that have not hosted Lady Gaga before as well as cities that missed her tour in 2013 following a hip injury, which forced her to cancel.

THEATER

THE HANOVER THEATRE
2 Southbridge St., Worcester
877-571-SHOW (7469)
info@TheHanoverTheatre.org

HAIR — May 6-7. The rock musical that sparked a revolution and ignited a generation is back! All the original hits and new songs rediscovered from the original production are played live by The Tribe. Although initially performed in 1967, the universal themes of individuality, experimentation and acceptance in the face of oppression are just as resonant today. All the chart-topping songs that became anthems of counter-culture and the sexual revolution are back, including *Aquarius*, *Let the Sun Shine In*, *Good Morning Starshine* and *Easy to be Hard*. Bold! Brash! Angry and defiant! This new production returns to its rebellious and provocative roots! Join the revolution — it's the dawning of a new age! **WARNING:** This production contains nudity.

STONEHAM THEATRE
395 Main Street, Stoneham
781-279-2200

<http://StonehamTheatre.org>

THE UNBLEACHED AMERICAN — Through April 27. Discover a piece of American history with Ernest Hogan, the "father of ragtime" and the first African American to perform on Broadway. Beloved by his fans and wealthy beyond his wildest dreams, Hogan was also an infamous writer of "coon songs" that many considered offensive to his own race. This fascinating world-premiere play imagines the relationship between Ernest and the woman sent to care for him at the end of his life, as he struggles with both his own mortality and the legacy he leaves behind. Don't miss Elliot Norton Award-winning actor Johnny Lee Davenport as Ernest in his Stoneham Theatre debut!

THE SECRET GARDEN — May 15-June 8. Mary Lennox, a young orphan, is sent to England to live with her reclusive uncle and sickly cousin. When this neglected child discovers an equally neglected garden, she begins to bring life (and a bit of magic) back to both the garden and her uncle's manor. This lush Broadway musical won 3 Tony Awards, including "Best Score of a Musical." Directed by Caitlin Lowans and Weylin Symes.

COMEDY

REGENT THEATRE
7 Medford Street, Arlington
781-646-4849

JOE AVATI "BACK TO BASICS" WORLD TOUR — June 14. Joe Avati is one of Australia's top comedy exports sitting just behind *Kath and Kim*, *Chris Lilley* and *Barry Humphries*. He is also the world's number one selling bilingual comedian. His massive cult following sees him crisscross the globe performing his unique brand of comedy (performing in both English and Italian) on both sides of the Atlantic where he sells out in the United Kingdom, The United States of America and Canada. This puts him into an elite group of comedians alongside the likes of *Jerry Seinfeld*, *Russell Brand*, *Robin Williams*, *Bill Cosby*, *Billy Connolly* and *Barry Humphries*. Joe Avati has been dubbed "the biggest comedian you've never heard of," cleverly staying under the radar and sidestepping the limelight avoiding the media attention.

MY SON THE WAITER - A JEWISH TRAGEDY — April 23-May 25. "Ninety minutes of non-stop laughter!" From the producers of "My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish and I'm in Therapy," "Respect" and "I Say Tomato You Say Shut Up!" If you ever longed for something, If you ever desired it with all your heart, If you were willing to wait tables for 29 years to pursue your dream then My Son The Waiter will give meaning to your Life! You don't have to be Jewish or a waiter to relate to Brad Zimmerman's 'one man show' about growing up, being an actor, being an actor who waits tables, and persevering through everything life throws at you. Brad's stand-ups of his childhood, family, career and misbegotten love life are as warm and poignant as they are hilarious! He has acted in "The Sopranos," and done his fair share of roasts at the famed Friar's Club. To quote Joan Rivers, "I've had 3 great opening acts in my lifetime: Billy Crystal, Garry Shandling and Brad Zimmerman." In the volatile world of comedy, Brad has had a long career, working with some of the best. He has made many television appearances on Conan O'Brian, Comedy Central, and The David Letterman Show. His new one-man show, My Son, The Waiter-A Jewish Tragedy, has been touring theatres throughout the country.

CITI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, WANG THEATRE
270 Tremont Street, Boston
617-482-9393

www.CitiCenter.org

EDDIE IZZARD THE WORLD TOUR — May 8-9. The man the *London Sunday Times* calls "The Greatest British Stand-Up Comedian of his Generation" returns to America with his world tour *force majeure*. One of the most acclaimed comedians of his generation, Izzard's unique, tangential, absurd and surreal comic narratives are lauded for their creativity and wit, earning him a New York Drama Desk Award and two Emmys for *Dress to Kill*, two British Comedy Awards for Top Stand-Up Comedian and an Olivier Award nomination for Outstanding Achievement. His comedy style takes the form of rambling whimsical monologue and self-referential pantomime. He had a starring role as Wayne Malloy in the television series *The Riches* and has appeared in many films. In the U.S., Izzard is the first solo stand-up comedian to perform at the Hollywood Bowl and has sold-out three consecutive nights at Radio City Music Hall.

SPECIAL EVENTS

HYNES CONVENTION CENTER
900 Boylston Street, Boston
617-954-2000

www.MassConvention.com

STAR TREK CONVENTION — June 21-22. The 2014 Star Trek Convention will include a great list of celebrities and offer attendees an off-the-hook, sensational weekend to remember. We are thrilled to add one of our favorites to the guest celebrity list, which already includes three captains, nine total guests and some fantastic events and attractions — priced at an amazing deal for full days of live entertainment.

CAFE FLEURI, LANGHAM HOTEL
250 Franklin Street, Boston
617-451-1900

www.Boston.LanghamHotels.com

DECADES OF DECADENCE — Every Saturday through June 28. The Chocolate Bar at The Langham,

Boston's Cafe Fleuri returns for its 25th season. The acclaimed desert paradise brings more than 200 pounds of chocolate to diners, and to celebrate the landmark anniversary, Executive Chef Mark Sapienza and Pastry Chef Ryan Pike present "Decades of Decadence," featuring the most popular desserts from the past 25 years. With a DJ spinning fun upbeat tunes, the all-you-can-enjoy Chocolate Bar feature stations with varying levels of chocolate intensity and flavors. There is also an adult chocolate cocktail menu featuring cocoa-infused martinis.

MARINE INDUSTRIAL PARK
South Boston
877-613-0134

www.Boston-Theater.com

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL - AMALUNA — May 29-June 15. *Amaluna* invites you to a mysterious island ruled by goddesses and guided by the cycles of the moon. Their queen, Prospera, directs her daughter's coming-of-age ceremony in a rite that honours femininity, renewal, rebirth and balance, marking the passing of these insights and values from one generation to the next. In the wake of a storm caused by Prospera, a group of young men seek refuge on the island, triggering an emotional story of love between Prospera's daughter and a brave young suitor. But their love will be put to the test. The couple must face numerous demanding trials and overcome daunting setbacks before they can achieve mutual trust, faith and harmony.

DANCE

CITI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, WANG THEATRE
270 Tremont Street, Boston
617-482-9393

www.CitiCenter.org

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER — May 1-4. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater grew from a now-fabled performance in March 1958 at the 92nd Street Y in NYC. Led by Alvin Ailey and a group of young African American modern dancers, that performance changed forever the perception of American dance. The company has gone on to perform for an estimated 25 million people at theaters in 48 states and 71 countries on 6 continents — as well as millions more through television broadcasts. When Mr. Ailey began creating dances, he drew upon his "blood memories" of Texas, the blues, spirituals and gospel as inspiration, which resulted in the creation of his most popular and critically acclaimed work, *Revelations*. Although he created 79 ballets over his lifetime, Mr. Ailey maintained that his company was not exclusively a repository for his own work.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP, ACIS AND GALATEA — May 15-18. Celebrity Series of Boston is co-commissioner of this fully-staged production of Mozart's arrangement of Handel's opera, *Acis & Galatea*, by director and choreographer Mark Morris and the Mark Morris Dance Group making its East Coast premiere. Known as one of the greatest pastoral operas, *Acis and Galatea*, based on Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, was composed by Handel in 1718 and arranged by Mozart in 1788. Celebrated visual artist and scenic designer Adrianne Lobel, fashion icon and costume designer Isaac Mizrahi and acclaimed lighting designer Michael Chybowski will set the stage for Morris who will direct the Mark Morris Dance Group and four vocal soloists in this epic tale.

ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

"The Sicilian Corner" — 10:00 am to Noon every Friday with hosts Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and **"The Italian Show"** with Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 9:00 am to Noon. Go to www.1110wccmam.com.

"Italia Oggi" — Sundays 11:00 am to Noon with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM. Go to www.1460WXHR.com.

"Dolce Vita Radio" — DJ RocGardarco Mesiti 11:00 am-1:00 pm; Sundays 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com.

"The Nick Franciosa Show" — Sundays from 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.

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

"L'Italia Chiamo Italian Radio Show" hosted by Stefano Marchese and Emanuele Capoano — Thursdays 2:00 pm-4:00 pm. Visit www.zumix.org/radio or litaliachiamo.wordpress.com; email: litaliachiamoshow@gmail.com. Tel. 857-334-0868.

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Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

So what did he confess? Pope Francis broke with centuries of precedent by publicly going to confession in St. Peter's Basilica. It was believed to be the first time a pope had ever been seen confessing his own sins. The priest hearing his confession appeared to laugh at one point.

As you know, the Pope met President Obama privately for nearly an hour, twice as long than expected, an encounter that aides said included a discussion of how to help the poor and those caught in conflicts. The Pope gifted Obama with a copy of his book *The Joy of the Gospels*. "I'm sure it will give me strength and calm me down," the President said. Amen!

Wow! A Georgia teen who found \$31,000 mistakenly deposited into his checking account allegedly spent most of it. A bank teller put the money deposited by one Steven Field into the account of an 18-year-old by the same name. Within days, the younger Fields spent \$26,000 to buy a used BMW and other items, and told bank officials that he thought the money was "from his grandmother's estate," police said. He's been told to return the money, or face prosecution.

Fork it over! A Romanian man went to the emergency room complaining of intense chest pain, admitting after questioning by doctors that he'd swallowed a metal fork to win a drunken bet with a friend. Radu Calinescu, 25, was rushed for an X-ray, which revealed that a piece of cutlery was in fact lodged in his esophagus. Doctors were hoping the fork would pass naturally through Calinescu's body. "I don't think I will be taking part in any bets for a while," he said.

Driving with kids! 911 received a call about a woman's screams coming from a Massachusetts man's car. When officers surrounded the car, instead of finding a woman in distress, officers discovered several goats in the back seat, and let him go.

For brainy people! Until recently, neurologists believed that a person's brain stopped physically developing when they were 25 to 35 years old. From that point onward, the hardware was set. But a growing body of research points to the possibility of a lifelong "neuroplasticity" — the ability of the brain to adapt to new input — and a 2011 Massachusetts Gen-

eral Hospital study found that those who meditate regularly for as little as eight weeks changed the very structure of their brains. MRI scans showed that by meditating daily for an average of 27 minutes, participants increased the density of the gray matter (which holds most of our brain cells) in an area that is essential for focus, memory, and compassion. Previous research had already shown that monks who had spent more than 10,000 hours in meditation had extraordinary growth and activity in this part of the brain. But it's now clear that even relative beginners at mindfulness can quickly rewire their brains in a positive way.

Robyn Waters of Swampscott says age stiffens the joints and thickens some brains. And Robyn's brainy husband Paul says, "If a person has no education he is forced to use his brains."

Finders' keepers! An unnamed scrap metal dealer from the Midwest made the find of a lifetime when the golden bauble he purchased for \$14,000 turned out to be a long lost Faberge egg worth an estimated \$33 million. The orb was originally made for Russian Czar Alexander Feodorovna, as an Easter gift in 1887. After the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, the egg was spirited away to the U.S., where it disappeared for decades. The egg's survival "is nothing but wonderment and a miracle," said Kieran McCarthy, an antique expert who helped confirm the eggs' provenance.

Antiques are things that one generation buys, the next generation gets rid of, and the following generation buys again.

Steven Sebestyen wants you to know, an antique is something people forget to throw away until it becomes valuable.

The brilliant and lovely Theresa Sebestyen, says, "Some people who buy modern furniture have antiques by the time they finish paying for it."

What a poll revealed was more than half of the 2.6 million veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars struggle with physical or mental health problems related to their service. Only 35 percent believe that both wars were worth fighting, but 87 percent are proud of their service.

Another poll claims 55 percent of Americans support



the death penalty, down from 78 percent in 1996. Among whites, 63 percent support the death penalty, while among blacks, only 36 percent do.

When adjusted for inflation, the average graduate student's debt load rose 43 percent between 2004 and 2012 to a median of \$57,600. Debt for students pursuing advanced degrees in the humanities and social sciences grew more sharply compared with professional degrees — in, say, business or medicine — which also yield greater long-term returns.

Ready for this? An 8-year-old Virginia girl has withdrawn from the Timberlake Christian School after school officials warned that her short hair, T-shirts, and tom-boy demeanor didn't meet its "biblical standards" for girls in a letter home. Principal Becky Bowman warned that Sunnie Kahle's, "dress and behavior need to follow suit with her God-ordained identity." The girls grandmother said, "How do you discriminate against an 8-year-old child?"

Looking back! It was in 1962, President John F. Kennedy speaks before a Columbus Day audience: "My grandfather John Fitzgerald, mayor of Boston, claimed that the Fitzgeralds descended from the Geraldini family of Venice. True? Check it out for me.

Reminders! The Jacuzzi hot tub and spa were invented by the Jacuzzi family, whose family of seven sons and six daughters came to America in 1907 from Italy. And the convertible sofa was invented by Bernard Castro who came from Italy and opened and upholstery shop in New York in 1931.

Time for show business reminiscing with the stately musicologist Albert Natale, Dean Martin fought as a welterweight in his youth and won 24 of his 30 bouts. Ann Miller was the first tap dancer every to appear on television. With the baseball season here it brings back memories of Les Brown's first hit record called "Joltin' Joe DiMaggio," with vocalist Betty Eddie Cantor is said to have lost \$2 million in the Wall Street Crash of 1929. He became the highest paid start on radio by 1936. Songs associated with Eddie include "If You Knew Suzie," "Dinah," "Ida," and "Makin Whopie." Reminder! Ventriloquist Edgar Bergen left his dummy, Charlie McCarthy, \$10,000 in his will, via the Actor's Fund, to see that Charlie was kept in good repair.

AMERICA IS A BEATIFUL
ITALIAN NAME

Recipes from the
Homeland
by Vita Orlando Sinopoli

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SHRIMP IN TOMATO SAUCE OVER LINGUINE

Vita Sinopoli has been contributing her recipes to the Post-Gazette for 15 years. Vita passed away on March 18, 2014 and she will be greatly missed by everyone. We will be continuing to publish her countless recipes, a gift she left behind and a token to remember her by.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 14 ounces of crushed tomatoes | 1 teaspoon of dried basil or two fresh basil leaves |
| 1 medium chopped onion | 1/2 pound fresh medium shrimp |
| 1 large garlic clove chopped (optional) | 3 tablespoons white wine |
| 1/4 cup olive, canola or vegetable oil | Grated cheese of choice |

Heat oil in skillet, add chopped onion, garlic (optional), and basil. Simmer until onion is opaque. Garlic should not brown. Add crushed tomatoes and stir thoroughly. Cover and allow the sauce to come to a slow boil. Lower heat and simmer for about twenty minutes. Stir occasionally to prevent sauce from sticking to the bottom of skillet. Add a half-cup of water if mixture appears to be too thick.

Remove outer skin from shrimp. Wash thoroughly and set cleaned shrimp aside in a bowl. When sauce has cooked about twenty minutes, add shrimp, stir and cover. Cook shrimp in sauce until they are pink. Do not overcook shrimp. Cover and remove skillet from heat.

Cook linguine, or pasta of your choice according to the directions on the package. While pasta is cooking, return shrimp-sauce mixture to burner to reheat slowly. After a minute, add three tablespoons of white wine to shrimp-sauce mixture. Stir and bring to a slow boil. Turn off burner and remove from heat. When pasta is cooked and strained, place in a serving platter and top with tomato sauce and shrimp.

OPTIONAL: Adding additional shrimp will give enough shrimp to serve with the pasta and some separately with a fresh green salad. Remaining sauce freezes well.

Serves two.

NOTE: When I was a child, Mama prepared this quick and easy meal often during the Lenten season. Because my husband and I enjoy shrimp, I serve this meal frequently throughout the year. In the summer, I use an older sturdy skillet and prepare this sauce with shrimp on my gas-charcoal grill.

Happy Easter

50 Sprague Street
Hyde Park, Massachusetts 02136

1st Generation
Italian-American
Vita Orlando Sinopoli
Shares with us
a delightful recollection
of her memories as a child
growing up in
Boston's "Little Italy"
and a collection of
Italian family recipes
from the homeland.

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Nanna & Babbonnonno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Today being Good Friday, reminds me of our youthful involvement with the teachings of the Church at holiday time. At Christmas, we brought used clothing and old toys to the church for kids that had less than we did. We went to Confession that Saturday before Christmas and headed for Mass the next day. Easter weekend was a little different. We kids visited several churches to say prayers and on Good Friday, were silent for 3 hours. For me, this was very difficult. For a couple of the other kids, this was impossible, but we did it. On Holy Saturday, we went to confession, said our penance, and went home for a good meal, as we had to abstain from eating until after Communion at Easter Mass.

I remember one of the kids from the neighborhood who hated going to Confession. He was the type of kid who couldn't say a complete sentence without an expletive thrown in somewhere. This kid dropped F bombs in just about every sentence he said and would have shocked a motorcycle gang if he engaged them in conversation. Many years later, when I headed back to East Boston to see some of my old friends who might still be on the street corner, I asked for my old friend, Richie. The response from one of the guys shocked me, "Oh, you mean Father Richard. He's been assigned to a parish church in Brooklyn."

A couple of weeks ago, I mentioned a powder blue suit that was made for me at Easter time by an East Boston neighbor named Danny Gallo. Before I go on, I must add that I just saw an obituary on line. His widow, Rose, passed away. My condolences go out to the Gallo family, I remember them well. Anyway, I dressed in that suit on Easter Sunday and headed to the Sacred Heart Church to attend the 11:30 Mass. After Mass, I waited outside to wish many friends Buona Pasqua and then headed to the Seville Theater to open up. The Sunday ritual usually was that Mr. Ray, the manager, would open up and I would go in at about the same time, turn on the heat or air conditioning (depending on the season), and burn the trash that had been bagged the night before. We had an incinerator in the boiler room, and back then, you could burn trash with no problem.

Mr. Ray, seeing me in my Easter finery, made me change into my usher's uniform just in case. He said he would rather see me soil a uniform rather than my new suit. Once I had finished my chores, he asked what time my ushers were scheduled to begin working. Just as I was about to tell him, the two I had scheduled walked in. He then told me to go home, enjoy Easter dinner with my family and then return to work after I

had eaten. I thanked him and headed to Nanna and Babbonnonno's apartment and saw that the family was already there waiting for me. I enjoyed the dinner but left when the men headed for the living room. I knew that after a few minutes, they would all be fast asleep. On the way back to the Seville, I thought about the baked ham that graced the center of the dinner table. Like the turkey in the center of an Italian Thanksgiving table, it was never touched. Both could have been made out of plastic and no one would have known. With Italian food served one course after another, they were just adornment, and nothing more.

For at least 25 years or more, I have combined my family with that of my cousin, Ralph Pepe. Nanna and Ralph's grandfather were brother and sister. This makes Ralph a second or maybe a third cousin, but we, along with his late brother, Anthony, and late sister, Lulu, all grew up together. Ralph and I are now the old timers at family dinners but Loretta and I won't be there this year. We will be represented by my sons John and Michael. Loretta and I will be in Florida. I'm still recuperating from brain surgery and I feel a lot better in the warm sunshine of southern Florida than I do here. This Sunday, being Easter, we will join with some friends and head for Mass and then our favorite Italian restaurant for a traditional Easter dinner.

What's more important is that when we return from Florida, it will be time for our son, John and his fiancée, Beth, to tie the knot. They will exchange vows on May 3rd. Son, Michael, will head home from New York to stand up for his brother, but more about the wedding as the day approaches. My wife, Loretta, loves to be in the middle of things to help out, but my comment to her was, "You're the mother-in-law, buy yourself a new beige dress to wear at the wedding, and keep your mouth shut."

John and Beth met when they were both in the wedding party of John's former college roommate. Beth was a friend of the bride. Since that day, they have been a couple and now it's time to say, "I do." For several years, John was working in finance in Zurich, Switzerland. Beth traveled to see him on several occasions, and when John decided to return to the U.S., they headed to San Francisco where part of Beth's family lives. John discovered that he is a Bostonian and wanted to return to his roots. And, here they are to stay. I kind of like the feeling that they will be living close by and I can see them often. Michael on the other hand, is doing well in New York as an actor/producer. You can Google him, "Michael Christoforo," and see what he is up to.

It's been six or seven months since my operations and I feel that I'm well enough to go back to work. I have committed myself to two colleges to teach courses this late spring, something I looking forward to. If I feel up to it, I may even consider getting back into some phase of entertainment. The head of Boston Casting and my son, Michael, have spoken to me about returning to acting, something I haven't really done for 40 years, since my Hollywood days. We'll see. Mentioning 40 years ... I have been best friends with Dean Saluti for that same length of time. We chummed around when we were single. He shamed me into going back to school to earn a doctorate. I did, and met my future wife at B.U. When Dean met Margie Cahn, my wife, Loretta, and she became the best of friends. Today, they are like extended family. Well, for the past few months Dean's health has not been where it should be. He has had several physical problems that have plagued him. He's on the mend but has taken stock in reforming his never ending work schedule. My comment to him was, "Hey, kid, we're not getting any younger. Maybe it's time to start backing off on a few things and just try relaxing." I think he agrees with me and will completely recover from his ailments. I told him that I have a spare bedroom in the Florida house, and if he and Margie accept my invitation, I will put a sign over the entrance to it that reads, "Saluti-Cahn Suite." We'll see if they accept.

Well, let's see, the warm weather is heading our way and the one thing I will want to do is take my antique cars out of winter storage and ride around in them ... and maybe head for some car shows. In the mean time, it is Easter weekend and I would like to wish all of my readers a very Happy Easter from the Christoforo family. Buona Pasqua, and may GOD BLESS AMERICA

• Socially Scene (Continued from Page 9)

Salons, and his business partner, Gail Federici. For a minimum donation, customers will receive a catwalk quality blow out at a great price and all proceeds will benefit Boston Children's Hospital. For more details and a list of participating salons, visit www.hairraising.org.

April Activity ... School vacation is on the way and here are a few fun things to keep the kiddies occupied.

Aussie Aviary opens for the season during April school vacation week. Stroll among hundreds of brightly colored budgies in this engaging, interactive space. Purchase a seedstick and the birds may land right on it! During April school vacation week, Aussie Aviary will be open 10:30 am - 4:00 pm, weather permitting. After April school vacation week, Aussie Aviary will be open on the weekends, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, weather permitting. Regular hours begin Memorial Day weekend when Aussie Aviary is open 11:00 am - 4:00 p.m. weekdays, and 11:00 am - 5:00 pm weekends.

April 19th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, the **Easter Bunny** will be hopping by for a quick photo opp! Guests can get their photo taken with the token bunny, and partake in holiday games, crafts, and other fun surprises.

On April 25th and 26th at Stone Zoo popular Nick Jr. character **Pocoyo** will be visiting on site for a meet-and-greet with guests! He will be there every half hour between 10:30 am and 3:00 pm on both days. Other activities will include storytimes, arts and crafts and more, and guests can take photos with Pocoyo!

Also on April 27th, don't miss the **Party for the Planet!** Franklin Park Zoo has teamed up with Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts to present a fun and engaging Earth Day celebration to raise awareness for the planet and all it has to

offer! Learn how you can contribute to a healthy planet and preserve the Earth. The festivities, which will be held 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, will include opportunities to meet the zookeepers, plus animal enrichment activities, scavenger hunts, entertainment, eco-friendly exhibitors and much more!

The Franklin Park Zoo is always a great time for all ages. The zoo is located at One Franklin Park Road in Boston. Call 617-541-LION or www.franklinparkzoo.org for more information.

Day of Gardening ... A Skills Workshop for the School Garden from Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom will be held on Saturday, April 26th.

Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom is teaming up with Tranquil Lake Nursery in Rehoboth to offer a full day of FREE how-to Gardening Skills workshops and demonstrations for educators, school gardeners and the general public. Spend a day brushing up on your gardening skills to get yourself ready for the gardening season ahead, whether growing plants in containers outside the classroom, in a school garden or in your own backyard. Twelve useful workshops and demonstrations will be conducted every hour from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Workshops will cover digging in-ground garden beds; mulching and creating a no-dig bed using mulch, caring for tools, planting and transplanting seeds, seed saving, composting, soils, skills for planting a tree, pruning and more. Ten Professional Development Points are also available to teachers with a classroom activity.

Plan to spend the whole day in a Massachusetts Agriculture classroom and learn how to improve your garden this spring. Bring a picnic lunch. For more details, call 508-336-4426 or visit www.aginclassroom.org and click on Conference and Workshops.

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News Briefs

(FROM ITALIAN
NEWSPAPERS AND
OTHER PUBLICATIONS)

Compiled by Orazio Z. Buttafuoco



Michelangelo Buonarroti, known as Michelangelo (1475-1564) Detail of drawings (known since 1975) in the room (open to the public in the 1980's) under the New Sacristy in San Lorenzo, Firenze.

A MICHELANGELO'S SECRET ROOM UNCOVERED IN FLORENCE. Michelangelo Buonarroti continues to surprise everyone with his inimitable artistic skills, several centuries later. In the monumental complex that includes, inter alias, the 'Basilica di San Lorenzo,' in Florence, a hidden room was discovered beneath the new sacristy, never before known to exist. The secret room's sides contained priceless drawings of the great artist in charcoal while he was hiding inside it to escape being captured by the Spanish, in 1529 during a brief siege. The secret room was uncovered in November 1975 during some work inside the Medici Chapels. The room is has been accessible to the public since the 1980's.

The artistic compositions will later be admired on a multimedia project. The artistic creations, quickly attributed to the author of the famous *David* as well as other art works, show a variety of inspired subjects, one of which is a self-portrait of the artist himself in a reclined position and in a passive pose. We will all be waiting for the multimedia material to observe, admire, and study what the anxious artistic world wants to see.

LACK OF JOBS: THE MOTHER OF MOST SOCIAL ILLS. The lack of available jobs, especially in the South of Italy, continues to perpetuate a condition that affects the economy of the entire nation. We often hear government officials who routinely announce government interventions to help the depressed South (of Italy) in hopes to catch up with the rest of the country, especially with the industrial, rich North. The present Italian Premier Enrico Letta recently announced 'priority' attention to create jobs (in the South) hoping to solve the youth unemployment that is plaguing an important segment of the work force, adversely affecting the presenting economic crisis. However, what may happen is that the youth that will get most of the available jobs live in the North where youth unemployment is about 8% as compared to 55% mostly in the South. Ergo, everyone can see that no jobs opportunities will continue to persist in the South where economic and social problems will slow down any resolution of the economic crisis. Of course the government will continue to support the industry in the North, adversely helping to perpetuate the perennial economic and social crisis while helping, in the process, to assure the wealth in the North and the poverty in the depressed South. Over the last 150 years no government in Rome has attempted to provide any help to the South, deliberately creating the conditions of today. Will things ever change, even a little bit in the South with the intentions of Rome's government? It would be quite a shocking, albeit pleasant surprise, to the many who still feel a deep mistrust of the static Rome's government policies. Let's see what happens, mabe some day!



Buona Pasqua

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GRONK RECOVERY ON TRACK



When Patriots Tight End Rob Gronkowski tore his ACL last December in a week 14 game versus the Cleveland Browns, most fans believed the season was over. However, the team surprised many prognosticators by reaching the AFC Championship game for the third year in a row. Without Gronk, the teams 2013 season ended in Denver. Reports that Gronk is "right

where he should be" in terms of his off-season recovery from January surgery is another good sign heading into next season. Gronkowski is a difference maker for the offense and most times is uncoverable by most of the NFL's defenses. His style of play puts him in harm's way, but it's this same style that makes him the best tight end in the game.

NEW FIELD TURF AT GILLETTE

Back in 2006, the Gillette Stadium field went from natural grass to field turf, marking the first time an NFL stadium had gone from grass to turf. Last week the field was given an upgrade to FieldTurf's Revolution turf system with VersaTile drainage and shock underlayment. The new turf is currently used in Seattle at Centurylink Field, home to the Super Bowl Champion Seahawks and Major League Soccer's Sounders. The surface is renowned for its unparalleled player safety and extraordinary durability. With similar winter climates to the Pacific Northwest, the Patriots may have wanted to have a field that will continue to hold up in unpredictable Northeastern weather conditions. Since the 2006 installation of Fieldturf, the Patriots have a .870 winning percentage, going 60-9 at the friendly confines of Gillette Stadium. Now, if only a Super Bowl could be staged in Foxborough ...



A VERY HAPPY EASTER — BUONA PASQUA TO ALL READERS!

Happy Easter

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• **L'Anno Bello** (Continued from Page 4)

Easter is a wonderful holiday of rebirth, renewal and joy. It inspires us to make fresh starts in ourselves, searching for ways that we too may shed past insecurities and habits and arise resplendent like the spring sun. The traditions that characterize Easter in Italy, from processions to exploding carts, chocolate eggs and ricotta pies, serve to promote the spiritual renewal of the holiday and the joy of the blossoming spring. This

Easter, no matter what customs you follow, I hope that the optimism and delight of the holiday linger with you wherever you go.

Happy Easter! *Buona Pasqua!*

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

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

own mousetrap. The *NY Post* called Sharpton “REV RAT” in a page one headline. Couldn’t happen to a better guy, huh?

According to the more liberal *Smokin’Gun* website, Al Sharpton was a confidential informant for the FBI back in the ’80s against the Mob. The website reported that Sharpton was caught up in a FBI sting and apparently flipped to save his own skin. Sharpton now says he went to the FBI, they didn’t come to him. He added, in his own

mind, he wasn’t a rat but rather a cat trying to catch the rats. However, the FBI did refer to him in documents as “CI-7” as in rat or snitch.

This guy never had credibility with me, nor with millions out there who are now having a great laugh while Rev. Rat continues to spin out of control. Poor baby. What’s MSNBC going to do over this rat-like host of theirs. GOTCHA AL, GOTCHA as you so often tell others on your show.



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



HANK AARON REMEMBERED ON HR ANNIVERSARY



I remembered April 40 years ago. Baseball fans were awaiting Hank Aaron breaking Babe Ruth’s lifetime home run record. Many fans back then were upset over Aaron surpassing the Babe. Many said he had way too many at-bats to be better than Ruth. Others clearly were upset that Aaron was African American.

Aaron is now 80 years old, but I will always remember him as “Hammerin” Hank Aaron. He was signed by the Boston Braves but the team moved to Milwaukee by the time he made it up into the Majors. For me, he, Willie Mays and Mickey Mantle were the top three sluggers in my baseball book growing up.

The Braves this year will wear an Aaron 40th anniversary patch on their uniform sleeves. I remember 1974. He tied Ruth’s mark with his first swing of the season off Jack Billingham in Cincinnati. Four days later, April 8, 1974 at home, he hit number 715 off Al Downing

against the Dodgers.

Aaron finished with 755 home runs, a mark topped by Barry Bonds’ 762 mark, but steroids have soiled that HR record and may always do so.

That season, NBC travelled with the team and started breaking into regular programming every time he came to bat. I still clearly remember when he swung at the ball and knew instantly it was out of the park.

I will always hold a special place for Babe Ruth and his baseball achievements including his 715 mark, but I also will remember Hank Aaron, too. He holds the record for most RBIs at 2,297 of them. He also struck out less than 100 times in every single season of his long career.

BOB QUINN DAY AT FENWAY

The Boston Red Sox paid tribute to former State Rep. and Attorney General Robert H. Quinn on Sunday, April 6th

at Fenway Park. His widow Claundina threw out the first pitch. Bob was a Savin Hill native and became a great elected official for both Savin Hill and the entire Commonwealth. I first met Mr. Quinn as a kid at Fenway Park as he was escorting a busload of Dorchester kids through the gates into the right field grandstands.

ORTIZ BEING BIG PAPI OR WORKING FOR SAMSUNG?

The news over that selfie taken by Dave Ortiz with President Obama during a recent White House visit by the world champion 2013 Boston Red Sox is old news, but I need to make one brief comment. When Ortiz took out his camera, did he do it spontaneously or not? He denies the selfie was taken for the purpose of promoting Samsung, but the company later admitted it talked with Ortiz before the visit. Is Ortiz free and clear of any charge of self-promotion for his latest employer? What is your verdict?

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN: (never known to fail) O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here You are my mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none who can withstand your power. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer 3 consecutive days and then publish, and it will be granted to you. **E.M.V.**

ST. JUDE AND ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

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

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed General Bids for **MPA Contract No. L1324-C1 TERMINAL E CUSTOM KIOSKS, EAST BOSTON, MA** will be received by the Massachusetts Port Authority at the Capital Programs Department Office, Suite 209S, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02116, until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014** immediately after which, in a designated room, the bids will be opened and read publicly.

NOTE: PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CAPITAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT (ABOVE ADDRESS) AT 9:00 AM LOCAL TIME ON TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014.

The work includes **CUTTING & PATCHING, ELECTRICAL, CASEWORK**
Bid documents will be made available beginning **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2014**

Bid Documents in electronic format may be obtained free of charge at the Authority’s Capital Programs Department Office, together with any addenda or amendments, which the Authority may issue and a printed copy of the Proposal form.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract General Bidders must submit with their bid a current Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and an Update Statement. The General Bidder must be certified in the category of **GENERAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION**. The estimated contract cost is **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR DOLLARS (\$156,124.00)**.

Bidding procedures and award of the contract and sub-contracts shall be in accordance with the provisions of Sections 44A through 44H inclusive, Chapter 149 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A proposal guaranty shall be submitted with each General Bid consisting of a bid deposit for five (5) percent of the value of the bid; when sub-bids are required, each must be accompanied by a deposit equal to five (5) percent of the sub-bid amount, in the form of a bid bond, or cash, or a certified check, or a treasurer’s or a cashier’s check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the Massachusetts Port Authority in the name of which the Contract for the work is to be executed. The bid deposit shall be (a) in a form satisfactory to the Authority, (b) with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth and satisfactory to the Authority, and (c) conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the bid.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a labor and materials payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract price. The surety shall be a surety company or securities satisfactory to the Authority. Attention is called to the minimum rate of wages to be paid on the work as determined under the provisions of Chapter 149, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 26 to 27G, inclusive, as amended. The Contractor will be required to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedules listed in Division II, Special Provisions of the Specifications, which wage rates have been predetermined by the U. S. Secretary of Labor and/or the Commissioner of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts, whichever is greater.

The successful Bidder will be required to purchase and maintain Bodily Injury Liability Insurance, Auto Liability Insurance, and Property Damage Liability Insurance for a combined single limit of **ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00)**. Said policy shall be on an occurrence basis and the Authority shall be included as an Additional Insured. See the insurance sections of Division I, General Requirements and Division II, Special Provisions for complete details.

No filed sub-bids will be required for this contract.

This Contract is also subject to Affirmative Action requirements of the Massachusetts Port Authority contained in Article 84 of the General Requirements and Covenants, and to the Secretary of Labor’s Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Opportunity and the Standard Federal Equal Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications (Executive Order 11246).

The General Contractor is required to submit a Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities prior to award of the Contract, and to notify prospective sub-contractors of the requirement for such certification where the subcontract exceeds \$10,000.

Complete information and authorization to view the site may be obtained from the Capital Programs Department Office at the Massachusetts Port Authority. The right is reserved to waive any informality in or reject any or all proposals.

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Run date: 4/18/14

LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMONS

The name and address of the court is:
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**CASE NUMBER:
113CV255045**

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT:

Pauline Pelin Kaylan
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
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NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Service Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2013

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff’s attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

Jacqueline S. Vinaccia/SBN 149885
Lounsbury Ferguson Altona & Peak, LLP
960 Canterbury Place, Suite 300
Escondido, CA 92025
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Johnny Rafuse and mother Helen



Jackie Morrell



Norman "Stoney" Stone and Bobby Covino



Luke McFadden and John O'Brien



Ring 4 Chaplain Edd Bernard



Mary Nelson, Mickey Finn, Tony DeMarco, and Dottie DeMarco

The Ring 4 banquet was held at Florian Hall in Dorchester on April 6th. The sold out event was a great success thanks to the hard work of President Mickey Finn who was honored with the rarely awarded and much deserved Life Time Honorary Membership.

Jackie Morrell and Johnny Rafuse were inducted into the Ring 4 Hall of Fame. Morrell, a former Lowell Golden Glove Champion and respected professional boxer, twice fought Sugar Ray Leonard in the amateurs as well as going on to a successful career as a professional facing the likes of Kevin Rooney, Johnny Bumphus, and Marlon Starling. Morrell also holds the record for the fastest knock out in Lowell Golden Gloves history having stopped his opponent in 12 seconds of the first round. Jackie is now a respected referee. Jackie was inducted into the Hall by his good friend and fellow boxer Leo Gerstal.

Meetinghouse Bank President Tony Paciulli was given an award in honor of his long time support of Ring 4. Mary Nelson was honored with the Ring 4 Appreciation Award for all of her hard work on behalf of the organization. Luke McFadden who does a fine job playing the bagpipes each year was recognized for his service. Johnny Rafuses mother Helen was given a gift certificate in recognition of her efforts in assisting Mickey Finn leading up to the event.

Be sure to get your tickets early for next year's banquet as this one sold out early.



Stephanie Davis and Bob Bower



Tony Paciulli

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



There used to be a road out near Worcester a number of years back that just ended in the middle of nowhere. You'd be driving along and suddenly you'd see an earthen embankment up ahead adorned with signs informing you that this was the end of the road. You had to take an immediate right turn to get off. You couldn't go any further. One's journey on that road was finished.

We thought of that road quite a bit this past week as the end of the 2013-2014 regular season approached for the Boston Celtics. It's been quite a different year for members of Celtics Nation who are used to seeing the Green and White advance to the playoffs.

Ever since last fall the Celtics have been on a road that is far from being completed. It may be some day but right now the embankment is there. You have to get off — at least for a while — and experience the desolation of life without the playoffs.

It's been a bumpy road, too. There was a bit of euphoria early in the season when the C's managed to play around .500 ball into December followed by the new reality that settled in after the New Year and continued into the early days of spring.

If it's the most recent experiences that people best remember then they will recall that the 2013-2014 Celtics were a losing team that couldn't finish a significant number of their games. There were countless nights where the Celtics would hold a lead with five minutes or less remaining in the fourth quarter, only to see the potential for possible victory gradually slip away.

You could see the discouragement as the players came through the tunnel that took them from the parquet floor to the corridor that led to the sanctuary of the locker room. It wasn't fun, it wasn't nice. In fact, some nights it was downright painful.

Near the end, when the Celtics defeated the Charlotte Bobcats at the Garden, head coach Brad Stevens came into the press conference area and informed the

media that his players were back in the locker room celebrating.

That's right. Celebrating. Why, you ask? Because they had just defeated a team with a winning record (the Bobcats had come into the contest with a 40-38 record) that was bound for the playoffs. It was only the second victory for the C's since March 19th.

Stevens said the team deserved their moment in the flickering spotlight since so many times the result had gone the other way.

It's interesting, isn't it? For so many seasons in the past, especially in the recently concluded Pierce-Garnett-Allen era, a win over a team like the Charlotte would have been considered routine, just another victory in a season that would be followed by a deep run in the playoffs.

But that was then and this is now. After another victory in Cleveland the next night, things caught up with the Celtics once again.

This time it was an encore performance by the lowly Philadelphia 76ers who came away with a 113-108 victory over Boston. This reinforced what we stated last week. It will always be remembered that these Boston Celtics won the season series against the powerful Miami Heat but also lost the season series with pitiful Philadelphia.

In between that high and that low was the rest of the season, a haze of nights that ended in games lost in the closing minutes.

Now comes the so-called off season, a period that promises to be very busy on Causeway Street. Celtics management has already promised that there will be "fireworks" during the summer months — a statement that was not made in reference to the July 4th celebration on the Esplanade.

One thing is for certain. The team that convenes for the start of training camp next fall will look very different than the one that closed out the season against the Washington Wizards on April 16th. Whether the results are different on the court next year is a question that will take another full season to determine.

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