

POST-GAZETTE

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Ten Fun Facts About Our Furry Friend The Groundhog!!!

by Vincent Spada
New England Author and Poet



Ground Hog Day Sunday, February 2nd

1. A groundhog is a rodent and member of the squirrel family (Sciuridae). They are also called woodchucks or whistle-pigs.
2. Most groundhogs weigh between 5-10 pounds, although they can reach a weight of up to 30 pounds.
3. Groundhogs eat wild grasses and common vegetation, as well as nuts, berries and even insects.
4. Groundhogs typically hibernate for a period of 5-6 months, although in warmer climates may only do so for 3-4 months.
5. The groundhog is found all over Eastern North America, stretching from Canada to as far south as Georgia.

(Continued on Page 10)

Gov. Healey Submits Annual Massachusetts Budget

\$62 Billion Dollar Budget, 3% Increase from Previous Year

by Patti Sartori

In an effort to be fiscally responsible, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey submitted a \$62 billion Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget, an increase of 3% compared to last year's budget. The Governor, mindful of the post-pandemic revenue decline, is relying on a voter-approved surtax to cover costs. The governor will also need a helping hand from the state legislature to meet the spending gap created by the overflowing state-run shelter system servicing an influx of illegal immigrants.

In an attempt to balance her spending plan, Healey suggests closing two mental health facilities, laying off health care workers and cutting eviction assistance benefits. The state has seen an increase in health care costs, education, and housing, "Costs are up all across the country. I don't have to tell anyone at home that, so we have asked our agencies to take a hard look to make sure that every dollar that is being spent is making that maximum positive impact."

The governor's proposal to close two mental health hospitals, the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children in Canton and Pocasset Mental Health

Center in Pocasset in addition to laying off half the state's case managers at the Department of Mental Health, received immediate pushback from state unions. "We recognize these changes have significant impacts on patients and families, and we are committed to supporting them through the transition of their care. We will also work with employees and our partners in labor to support impacted employees and ensure they are able to transition to new roles," a spokesperson for the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

The governor also plans to decrease the amount of money low-income families receive through the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program, which provides emergency funding to assist with evictions, foreclosures and utilities. Currently an eligible family may receive \$7,000 per year. The governor's budget would provide \$7,000 to families over two years, literally cutting the aid in half. "I certainly understand the importance of those programs, but I also know that I have a responsibility to present a budget that lives within our means," said Governor Healey.

Healey also proposed providing her economic team the authority to reduce spending in the 2022 economic development bill and the \$4 billion federal aid measure approved in 2021. Administration and Finance Secretary Matthew Gorzkowicz said state officials expect to see a \$200 million savings from a spending reduction on items in these two laws.

Since her State of the Commonwealth, Healey has been announcing pieces of her budget initiatives, including an \$8 billion dollar transportation funding plan over the next ten years reliant on revenue derived from the 4% surtax on income over \$1 million dollars along with a push to eliminate renter paid brokers' fees.

The governor has received an onslaught of criticism for her handling of the state funded emergency shelter system, spending hundreds of millions of dollars on the influx of illegal immigrants. Gorzkowicz said the administration will spend approximately \$1 billion dollars on the system in FY 26, although the final numbers could fluctuate depending on what policy changes the legislature approves.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Lynch Supports Laken Riley Bill

In a recent WBUR interview, U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch called the bill "imperfect," but said it's meaningful effort to discuss America's immigration system and how it is, he said, "completely out of control." Over multiple trips he's taken to the nation's southern border, Lynch said he found a "narrative" existed, sometimes promoted by "cartels or others, that anyone will receive benefits and services here, regardless of how they enter the country."

Staff is Warned: No DEI Disguise

The heads of federal agencies reportedly have told staff members that they were aware of efforts to "disguise" diversity, equity and inclusion programs banned by President Trump.

"These programs divided Americans by race, wasted taxpayer dollars, and resulted in shameful discrimination," read a memo to NASA employees last week by Acting Administrator Janet Petro. The memo, identical to a form letter sent to agencies by the Office of Personnel Management, said "employees have 10 days to report disguised DEI programs or face adverse consequences."

JFK, RFK & MLK Files

President Trump has ordered the declassification and release of all secret files on the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, his brother former U.S. Attorney General and U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.

(Continued on Page 10)

Day by Day, Week by Week, Month by Month the Cost of White Stadium Project Continues to Grow

by Patti Sartori

What began without the input and approval of the surrounding community, residents, and abutters has blossomed into a full blown legal and public relations battle between the neighbors standing in opposition to the proposed White Stadium renovation and the leading proponent of the project, City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. Thanks to the mayor's firm commitment to rehab White stadium, the Boston taxpayers are now on the hook for megabucks as part of the city's plan to house a women's pro soccer team on the site, a proposal that is facing immense backlash. Mayor Wu drew fierce criticism for stating the city was committed to paying for its half of the project "no matter what it costs" to taxpayers.

The city's share of the project began at \$20 - \$25 million, which grew to \$50 million, before jumping to \$91 million late last year, and is suddenly at \$100 million dollars according to Dion Irish, Boston's Chief of Operations. During testimony at last Wednesday's city council hearing Irish noted the city's

goal to keep the tax payer's portion to the most recent estimate, he couldn't rule out additional cost overruns.

At the hearing Councilor At-Large, Erin Murphy asked whether the Wu administration had determined a limit for what it was willing to allocate towards the project, or if there was an amount that would result in the city walking away from the public-private partnership between Boston Unity Soccer Partners, which owns the new pro women's team.

Boston Unity, an all-female ownership group, including investor *Boston Globe* CEO Linda Pizzuti-Henry, is set to pay their \$100 million dollar share, bringing the total cost of the project to more than \$200 million, according to the Wu administration officials who attended the recent council hearing.

Councilor Murphy called for the city to stop the demolition of the stadium, while Councilor Ed Flynn called for the project to be totally cancelled. Currently there is a lawsuit pending, with a March 18th trial date, seeking

to stop the project over claims that the city and Boston Unity are illegally privatizing public trust land.

The city has adamantly denied the privatization, and countered the new stadium would be owned by the City of Boston and the Boston Public Schools, sharing use with the new soccer team, who is subject to a ten-year lease agreement. "Boston taxpayers are being asked to pay through the nose to build an oversize professional sports complex for the benefit of a few millionaire sports investors. The fact is, we were never asked if we wanted a professional sports and entertainment complex in our park. Community members' concerns about public access, transportation impacts and countless other issues are being ignored, all in a mad rush to demolish White Stadium in order to meet the soccer stadium's desired opening date", said Jean McGuire, community activist and former Boston School committee member.

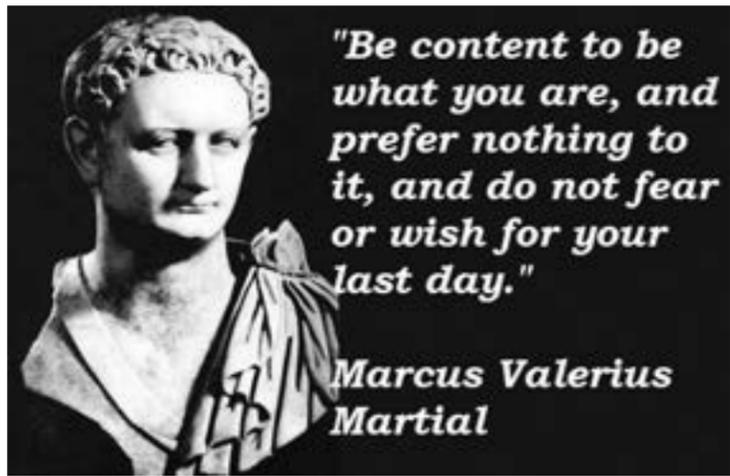
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Stirpe Nostra

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

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

MARTIAL



An epigram can be defined as a short poem with a witty point or ending. The term “epigram” was no doubt derived from the Latin “epigramma,” which in turn means inscription or short poem. During ancient times these were carved on a tomb or tombstone, and put into some kind of rhyme or meter. The greatest master of epigrams was the Greek writer Simonides of Ceos. He was the author of many inscriptions that were placed on the tombs of the soldiers who perished in the Persian Wars. The epigram was also a favorite form

of expression in all later ages. One collection of early Greek poems and stories shows at least 4,500 epigrams which were written by more than 300 poets. It is quite evident then, that the epigram was no frivolous or passing fad, and from the Greek writers, the style passed on to the Romans.

Our scholarly Roman for this week is probably the most famous of all Latin epigrammatists. His full name was Marcus Valerius Martialis, and history now refers to him as just plan Martial. He was born in Spain and then moved to Rome in

65 A.D. where he resided for about thirty-five years. He earned a living as a professional poet, writing verses that were commissioned by wealthy patrons, and was also high in the favor of Emperors Titus and Domitian. He prepared a book of spectacles in their honor called “Liber Spectaculorum” which celebrates the opening of the Coliseum in the year 80 A.D.

The inauguration lasted for one hundred days, during which time five thousand animals and many gladiators were killed, therefore the term “spectacle” is not improper.

The extant (still existing) works of Martial include:

- (a) 1,500 epigrams in 14 books. These are called “Epigrammata.”
- (b) “Liber Spectaculorum” as noted above, which totaled 33 epigrams in a single book.

The epigrams of Martial are distinguished by his great imagination, wit, and the pleasantness of his style. His work also furnishes a great source of information on national customs, morals, manners, and daily life in Roman society during the first century of the empire.

NEXT ISSUE: *Lucan*

Massachusetts on the Hook for \$2.1 Billion

The State of Massachusetts must return \$2.1 Billion in mis-spent Federal COVID-19 Funds under the previous gubernatorial administration. Governor Maura Healey announced last week that the state reached a settlement with the Federal Government to pay back most of what was misspent by the Baker administration on jobless claims. The settlement allows the state to spread out the payments over the next ten years, beginning December 1, 2025.

“It’s incredibly frustrating that the prior administration allowed this to happen, but we are going to use this moment to come together with the business and labor community to make meaningful reforms to the Unemployment Insurance System,” Governor Healey stated. Massachusetts was originally on the hook for over \$3 billion dollars, if required to pay the full amount, including interest and penalties, but fortunately negotiations with the Labor Department reduced the amount owed to \$2.1 billion.

Soon after assuming office in 2023, Healey announced her administration found the Baker administration improperly used \$2.5 billion in federal pandemic relief funds to pay for jobless claims when it should

have used state funds. The state continued to make this mistake over the three years of the pandemic. The plan is to pay the money from the state’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, which is funded by a tax on employers. The Governor said employees will not see any increase in their tax rates until at least 2026. The state will use \$73 million from its general budget to pay back interest. The payment back to the Federal Government may place the Unemployment Trust Fund in severe debt by the end of 2028.

“It is incomprehensible that the state made a monumental error and it’s Massachusetts small employees are required to foot the \$2.1 billion dollar bill. Add this to the \$2.7 billion they are currently paying back as a result of the state-mandated COVID shutdowns that were beyond their control, and it paints a very clear picture as to why Massachusetts’ businesses correctly feel like they are being crushed by one of the worst unemployment insurance taxes in the nation,” said Christopher Carlozzi, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business Massachusetts chapter.

U.S. Flag is the Only Flag



Under President Trump, the U.S. State Department has declared a new policy blocking United States embassies and outposts from flying the Pride and Black Lives Matter flags. According to the Washington Free Beacon, the “One Flag Policy” order, permits only the American flag to be flown at U.S. facilities at home and abroad, with two exceptions, the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) emblem and the Wrongful Detainees Flag.

“Starting immediately, only the United States of America flag is authorized to be flown or displayed at U.S. facilities, both domestic and abroad, and featured in U.S. government content. The flag of the United States of America united all Americans under the universal principles of justice, liberty, and democracy. These values, which are the bedrock of our great country, are shared by all American citizens, past and present,” the memo states, per the outlet.

The previous administration faced controversy for flying non-U.S. flags, resulting in rigorous debate between Democrats and Republicans. In response, GOP lawmakers introduced a bill known as the **One Flag for All Act**, which proposed making it illegal to fly, drape or display any flag other than the American Flag on federal buildings or properties, with limited exceptions.

President Trump vowed to immediately shake up the State Department upon re-taking office and will re-assign new officials into key roles to ensure the department is carrying out the Trump foreign policy agenda from day one. Trump’s nominee for Secretary of State, former Florida Senator Marco Rubio, was unanimously confirmed to the Cabinet Post immediately following President Trump’s inauguration.

ICE is Sweeping through the Nation

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is on the move sweeping through American cities from coast to coast picking up felons in and around major urban cities, including Boston, Denver, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Seattle, Washington D.C. and Miami. Federal officers began descending into sanctuary cities on President Trump’s first full day in office, apprehending more than 300 illegal migrant criminals, including attempted murderers and child predators, preparing them for deportation.

It is just the beginning of what U.S. Border Czar Tom Homan declared will be a swift and forceful effort to rid the nation of more than 700,000 illegal migrants who have committed crimes, and no sanctuary city will be spared. “ICE is doing their job, officers have put together a target sheet of illegal migrants with criminal records they plan to arrest. They are

out there right now looking for the most serious public safety threats,” said Homan.

President Trump promised a round-up of illegal immigrants in the U.S. of historic proportions, unlike the previous administration whose open border policies allowed 8 million people to enter the country illegally. In Boston, Fox National News reported ICE officers had arrested at least 8 migrants, including one illegal person who wasn’t originally on the target list, but was with a MS-13 gang member when ICE showed up.

Border Czar Homan reiterated that even without the assistance of sanctuary city and state leaders, the Federal Government will still “wait til they get out of jail, then we’ll go into neighborhoods and get them.” The Trump administration is taking a number of steps to close off the southern border from illegal crossings. Border Patrol Officers

have been prohibited from releasing illegal migrants into the country, instead holding and deporting illegal border crossers. Trump is also preparing to send troops to the border to reinforce the 2,200 active-duty soldiers and thousands of state national guardsmen already there. “President Trump signed an executive order - 1,500 additional troops to the United States southern border. This comes off his one day of action ... to direct the Department of Defense to make homeland security a core mission of the agency. This is something President Trump campaigned on. The American people have been waiting for such a time as this, for our Department of Defense to actually take Homeland Security seriously. This is a number one priority of the American people, and the president has already delivered,” stated White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt.

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

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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.

Madeleine Langone

January 5, 1936 - January 18, 2025

"Remember the people," were the famous last words of North End icon Clementina Langone. These words were reiterated many times by her granddaughter, Madeleine Langone. It was a motto, a mantra, and lifestyle. It was a precept that Madeleine Langone lived by until she passed away on Saturday night, January 18, 2025.



Madeleine was a fifth generation Bostonian, descended from a long line of distinguished Bostonians. Her great-grandfather, Joseph A. Langone, Sr., advocated for Italian immigrants rights, spearheading the defense fundraising for the famous Sacco and Vanzetti trial, and conducting their funeral as a dignified march for Italian-American rights. He founded the first chapter of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America. Her grandparents, Joseph and Clementina, were Bostonians dedicated to public service. Joe, Jr., served as a state representative and Clementina was a pioneer for women in civic service. Madeleine's father, Joseph Langone III served on the Governor's Council and was famously known as a defender of "the little man."

Born on January 5, 1936, she was raised in the North End. Madeleine was a graduate of Mount Saint Joseph's Academy and attended Radcliffe College. Madeleine survived rheumatic fever at the age of twelve. Spending months in the hospital in the Children's Ward was a formative experience for her. She vowed to always show gratitude to people who showed her any kindness and support, big or small. She was famous for her thank you gifts, which were often the freshest cookies from Modern Pastry. Her home was always open to everyone and she never forgot a favor or a kind word.

Madeleine followed this grand tradition. She served on the staff to Attorney General Francis Belotti, worked on the Central Artery Project, and spent over a decade at the historic Mariner's House. Madeleine was a gracious hostess, welcoming mariners with a warm smile. She was so well loved, that admirals would bring her Chanel #5, her favorite perfume, from Paris. Madeline was an advocate and icon for the modern working woman, marching for women's rights with Gloria Steinem. She was fierce and independent, raising her three daughters, Elizabeth, Laura, and Heather as a single mother and making sure each went to college, in a time when most women were still learning how to navigate the world outside of home and marriage.

She will be remembered for never having a hair out of place, her love of wine, good Italian food, Mr. Darcy, Sinatra, Bocelli, people, and the Church. She was the one of the last of a fading era of North Enders, a true lover of Boston and passionate about her Italian heritage. Madeleine is survived by her three daughters, seven grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Donations may be made in Madeleine's memory to The Home for Little Wanderers, <https://www.thehome.org/>

May She Rest In Peace

Mario P. DiLeo

January 2, 1928 - January 20, 2025

Mario P. DiLeo, aged 97, a cherished patriarch and beacon of kindness, passed away peacefully on January 20, 2025, at his home in East Boston.

Born on January 2, 1928, in Boston, MA, Mario's life was a testament to love, dedication, and service. He was a man who left an indelible mark on the hearts of all who knew him.

Mario was the beloved husband of Rosemarie DiLeo, with whom he shared an extraordinary journey spanning nearly seven decades of marriage. Their love story was one for the ages, culminating in their passing just days apart, with Rosemarie following him in death four days later, in their 70th year of marriage. Together, they raised a family that included their children John DiLeo and wife Deana, Lorraine DiLeo, Steven DiLeo and his wife Susan, and the late Rosanne Ameno and surviving spouse Michael. Mario was also a proud brother to Dominic and Richard DiLeo, and he was predeceased by his siblings Anthony, Nina, Joseph, Fanny, Maria, and Felippa.

The legacy of Mario's love and guidance lives on through his 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, as well as many loving nieces and nephews. Each of them carries a piece of his spirit and continues to honor his memory through their own lives.

Mario dedicated his professional life to education as an Industrial Arts teacher at Watertown High School, where he inspired



countless students with his passion for craftsmanship and innovation. His influence extended beyond the classroom through his involvement with various community organizations. He served as the president of the Holy Name Society at St. Mary, he was an employee of the North Bennet St Industrial School, and contributed to the Boys and Girls Club in the North End. His commitment to youth and community also shone through his work with Boxford Camp and the Summer Thing Program in the North End.

In addition to his contributions to education and community service, Mario was a proud Army veteran who served his country during the Korean Conflict. His patriotism and sense of duty were integral parts of his character, shaping the man he became.

Mario's involvement with the "Friends of the North End" was a reflection of his enduring love for his roots and the communities that had shaped him. He was a man who always remembered where he came from and sought to give back to the places that had given him so much.

Those who knew Mario would describe him as the embodiment of love and kindness. His selfless nature was evident in every facet of his life, from his devotion to his family to his unwavering service to the community. He was a beacon of light for those who had the privilege of crossing his path, and his impact will be felt for generations to come.

Rosemarie (Scotti) DiLeo

July 24, 1930 - January 24, 2025

Rosemarie (Scotti) DiLeo, age 94, lifelong resident of East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on January 24, 2025. Born in Boston, MA, on July 24, 1930, she was a beacon of love and kindness throughout her long and fulfilling life.

As the cherished wife of the late Mario DiLeo, whom she shared 70 years with, Rosemarie's life was a testament to enduring love and understanding. She was a devoted mother to her children John and wife Deana, Lorraine, Steven and his wife Susan, and the late Rosanne, and surviving spouse Michael. She was predeceased by her sister Theresa Northcott.

Rosemarie's spirit lives on through her 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, each of whom she adored with every fiber of her being. Her nurturing presence and unwavering support were the cornerstones of many family gatherings and celebrations, creating memories that will be cherished for generations to come.

Rosemarie devotedly spent her life and especially the few years taking care of her husband, Mario. Throughout their lives she was his right hand. A true homemaker at



heart, Rosemarie's skills in the kitchen were unparalleled. She was an extraordinary cook. Her greatest enjoyment was cooking for the holidays, with Christmas Eve being a particularly special occasion. It was at these festive gatherings that Rosemarie's culinary talents truly shone, as she loved nothing more than bringing the entire family together around the dining table. Rosemarie was also one of the most generous people, always remembering everyone's birthdays and holidays.

Rosemarie also loved to use her iPad; she had a knack for current technology. Rosemarie loved to travel. She took many trips over the years with her family and friends.

A lifelong resident of East Boston, Rosemarie was a fixture in her community. She was baptized at St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church where her Funeral Mass will be celebrated, marking both the beginning and the closing chapters of a life lived with faith and grace.

Donations in Memory of Rosemarie & Mario may be made to St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley Street, East Boston, MA 02128, or to All Care Hospice, 210 Market Street, Lynn, MA 01901.

Family and friends honored Rosemarie and Mario's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, East Boston, on Tuesday, January 28th, and again Wednesday morning before leaving in procession to St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church, East Boston, for a funeral Mass celebrating their lives.

Services concluded with Mario and Rosemarie being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

May They Rest in Peace

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Warm, Well-Lit Path to Spring

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



January has gone by quicker than a windswept snowdrift. It seems that just a short while ago, I was cheering the start of a New Year and packing away the last Christmas decorations. This past month has been a mixture of bitter cold spells followed by mild weather, of furiously falling snowflakes and pleasant days filled with the scent of newly-turned soil. I can sense the dueling seasons of winter and spring dancing around me, struggling to maintain their individual grip over these transitional, changeable months. However, February will soon arrive with its bevy of festivals that decidedly welcome the spring. St. Valentine's Day cuts through the snowy monotony in bursts of red and pink, ushering in the season of rebirth through images of hearts and flowers and Cupids. The revelry of Carnival, replete with mysterious masks and colorful beads, promises to chase the ghosts of winter away. I look forward to the joy and gaiety of these holidays. February starts, though, with a less recognized feast that introduces the month, and the season of spring as a whole, with powerful symbolism. This ancient, rustic holiday is known as Candlemas, and its worldwide traditions evoke the spring with anticipation and light.

Candlemas, which occurs on February 2nd, commemorates the date on which the Virgin Mary presented Jesus at the temple, forty days after His birth. The name of the feast derives from the widespread usage of candles during the religious services marking this holiday, which symbolize the light that Jesus metaphorically brings to the world. However, many of Candlemas's folk customs predate Christianity. The Celts celebrated February 1st as Imbolc, a festival heralding

the first day of spring. Imbolc, which some scholars theorize translates to "in the belly," honors the lactation of sheep and the beginning of the birthing season for lambs. This ancient Celtic holiday survives as St. Brigid's Day in modern Ireland, where people light candles, make Crosses out of vegetation, and visit holy wells. Indeed, since it serves as a welcome precursor to spring, Candlemas bursts with quaint customs and superstitions everywhere. European folklore states that a warm and sunny Candlemas portends harsh wintry weather, while a cold and blustery Candlemas promises an early spring. Immigrants from Europe brought these traditions over to America, where they melded into the festival of Groundhog Day. Like Candlemas, Groundhog Day is also celebrated on February 2nd, and it further pays homage to the end of the hibernation period for many animals. An Italian dictum repeats this well-known superstition, proclaiming "*Candelora con sole, tarde primavera,*" or "sunny Candlemas, late spring." These practices speak to the universal desire for spring and rebirth, whether it manifests in newborn lambs or candles flickering in the windowsills.

In addition to functioning as a turning point between winter and spring, Candlemas also provides people with an opportunity for celebrations and feasting. Pancakes are the traditional dinner of choice in France, possibly because their round shape and golden color resemble the spring sun, which is now remaining for a longer time in the sky. Superstition claims that a cook who can flip a pancake with one hand while turning a coin in the other will be blessed with luck. In Mexico, people eat tamales

on Candlemas, provided by the person who found the hidden bean in their Epiphany King Cake. Italians honor Candlemas, or *Candelora*, with local festivities and regional customs. Though Candlemas traditions vary across Italy, each honors the arrival of spring and the theme of light breaking through the darkness. In the Sicilian city of Catania, *Candelora* festivals segue into parades held in honor of the town's patron saint, St. Agatha, where people make offerings of large candles that illuminate the dark late winter sky. The people of Montevergine, a village located in the southern region of Campania, organize candlelight processions which honor gay rights and pray for increased tolerance. Meanwhile, Neapolitans celebrate *Candelora* with large street parties boasting torches and fireworks displays. Indeed, all throughout Italy, a visitor will find homes, churches and town squares illuminated by candles or bonfires on *Candelora*, the flames both providing warmth against the cold February air and reminding people of the light of the coming spring. Candlemas always makes me think of the long walks I would take on my old college campus at the start of the spring semester, propelled by the wind as I took note of the new buds adorning the otherwise bare tree branches. Nowadays, I bake orange cheesecakes on Candlemas, a seasonal recipe whose color and shape resembles mini sunbursts. How exciting it is to greet spring in all its myriad forms!

As winter slowly melts into spring, we should all take a lesson from Candlemas and search for the beacons of light in our own lives. What are the symbolic candles that illuminate our way out of our personal darkness? Which elements of our lives remind us that rebirth and hope are always near, even in the midst of a literal and metaphorical winter? To me, these "candles" include spending time with loved ones, the smell of baked goods wafting through my kitchen, hearty belly laughs, and warm sunsets. These signs remind me that the world holds so much beauty and promise, even when all appears bleak. Candlemas teaches us to look for these signals in nature as well: a frost-encrusted snowdrop flower, the flash of a robin in flight, a night lit with candles. When we hold on to the hope of spring and appreciate the moments our natural world has to offer, we will always hold the beauty of each season inside us — and that knowledge of Mother Earth's endurance will comfort us always.

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

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



Is She Looking to Crunch Budget Numbers on the Back of Some of the Most Vulnerable?

Lately, many in the political arena have been noticing a slight pivot in the way Governor Maura Healey has been parsing her words very carefully over the migrant overflow in the Commonwealth and the bad press she has been receiving, but I really was struck by her recent decision to cut the budget numbers on the backs of those who are dealing with mental health issues.

The reported move on her part to close two mental health facilities, one for young people in Canton and other in Pocasset serving folks down in that region of the state seems to many, myself included, both penny-wise and pound-foolish. Added to that the plan to lay off half the DMH's case managers is indeed foolish, and not the way to cut the budget and make the fiscal 2026 budget look better. Better for who? Certainly not for the clients out there who rely on these state services.

Just a month ago, didn't Governor Healey say "Mental health is health. Massachusetts needs a diverse, qualified behavioral health workforce to meet

the needs of residents across our state?"

Actions speak louder than words. How serious is our governor when she states one day that people who need mental health care should be able to receive it "where and when they need it" and then hope to slash the budget numbers by closing two mental health facilities and cutting half of the state's current case managers, one for children and a community mental health center for the south coastal and Cape region of our state. Cutting beds when there is a drastic shortage of in-patient beds. Dismantling the mental health infrastructure can only lead to devastating consequences.

Doesn't it seem the governor wants to move the deck chairs around in order to make her numbers look good but in doing might be turning those in need of mental health services into collateral damage?

There has got to be a better way to trim the state budget than apparently throwing folks into the water to save them from drowning.

Boston City Hall

Designated Historic Landmark

They say beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, and in the case of Boston City Hall, the Landmarks Commission must see something that most have overlooked. Boston City Hall, long considered one of the ugliest buildings ever built, has been designated a local historic landmark. Built close to sixty years ago, 1968 in Government Center, formerly the Scollay Square neighborhood, this building was constructed as part of Boston's urban renewal. Previously approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission, this designation recognizes City Hall's "architectural, cultural and civic significance, ensuring the preservation of its unique character and historical identity for future generations," offered Mayor Michelle Wu's Office.

"For more than five decades, Boston City Hall has served as a hub where residents come together to shape our city's future. This milestone serves as an affirmation of our commitment to preserving this space as a vital symbol of our democracy and a center for civic engagement," Mayor Wu said.

The unique design was vastly different than Boston's traditional brick and colonial brownstone look. Councilor Sharon Durkan, who championed the landmark designation, believes city hall's design is "iconic," and sees the building as a "living symbol of transparency, innovation and civic identity. Boston City Hall is more than a building. It's a catalyst for civic engagement, and a home

for those who serve our great city." The government building houses the mayor, city council and a number of city departments.

The landmark announcement comes two years after Boston City Hall was named the second-ugliest building in America, the fourth in the world, according to BuildWorld, a United Kingdom builders supply company. In the U.S., only the J. Edgar Hoover Building in Washington D.C. is thought to be a more painful eyesore. "While Boston City Hall has faced criticism and calls for demolition in the past, it has also inspired a dedicated community of advocates who recognize its architectural and cultural value," Mayor Wu stated.

Landmark designations typically require that proposed changes to features or aesthetics of the building undergo a review by the city's Landmarks commission to maintain its integrity. Councilor Ed Flynn advocated for further review by the council prior to the official designation, to ensure any historic preservation restrictions would still allow for accessibility upgrades. "I appreciate that this landmark designation will not prevent necessary upgrades to improve access for people with disabilities. City hall was constructed with architectural barriers that would not be present if it were built today, so accessibility upgrades will remain a key priority moving forward," said Kristin McCosh, the city's disability commissioner said in a statement.

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President Trump Sets his Sights on TikTok

There is no better deal maker than Donald Trump, and TikTok may just become his newest acquisition. President Trump has made it well known his idea for a U.S. Tik Tok adventure may be their only hope of survival and could set the tone for how he expects all Chinese companies to operate in America.

Trump's recent post on Truth Social, "I would like the United States to have a 50% ownership position in a joint venture. By doing this, we save TikTok, keep it in good hands and allow it to stay up." The next day President Trump signed an executive order giving TikTok 75 days to find a buyer before facing a ban.

While the details are still rather murky surrounding the U.S. owning 50% of TikTok or how it might actually work, it's most likely that Trump will push for a joint venture combining TikTok and an American Company or buyer, sharing profit and risk. It could become the standard bearer for how all

Chinese owned companies are expected to operate in the U.S.

Many American companies have permission to do business in China, including McDonald's, General Motors and Boeing, all operating as joint ventures. Trump is of the mindset, "If an industry is required to be in a joint venture in China, then a Chinese company needs to be in a joint venture here." Trump is known to favor reciprocal trade framework.

It's still unclear if a TikTok joint venture would completely satisfy the terms of the law, upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, that demands a complete divestiture of the company from its Chinese parent company, ByteDance, if the company would even agree to a joint venture or sale. TikTok does seem willing to keep an open mind. "We thank President Trump for providing the necessary clarity and assurance to our service providers that they will face no penalties providing TikTok to over 170 million Americans and allowing over 7 million small

businesses to thrive. We will work with President Trump on a long-term solution that keeps TikTok in the United States," said CEO Zi Chew, who attended the Presidents inauguration last week in Washington D.C.

Of the potential buyers and companies who have expressed interest in the joint venture are Frank McCourt and Kevin O'Leary, Mr. Beast, Bobby Kotick, Steve Munchin, Perplexity and Rumble, however those who have actually worked with the Chinese Government in the past may be given more serious consideration.

The Chinese Government isn't just going to let anyone operate TikTok, but one person they may feel comfortable with is Elon Musk, whose name has also been mentioned as a possible buyer. Musk already has a Tesla factory in China and maintains a good relationship with the Chinese Government.

Given its extreme popularity, it would be quite disappointing if President Trump couldn't make this deal a reality.

Who Felt It? Earthquake Hits New England

Some felt it and couldn't believe it, others wondered if they imagined it while a few missed it entirely. Originating approximately six miles off the southeast coast of York, Maine, just before 10:30 a.m. this past Monday morning, cities and towns throughout Massachusetts and up and down the East Coast felt the tremors of a 3.8 magnitude earthquake.

Susan Hough, a seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) said the agency did not "expect damage given the magnitude and location, probably not strong enough to knock things off of shelves, let alone do actual damage."

Some residents said they heard what sounded like a helicopter hovering over their house, while another said it felt like a train passing underneath them. The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) "received reports of shaking felt in Massachusetts, but no reports of damage at this time."

Earthquake reports came in from down in Nantucket, Massachusetts up through Augusta, Maine, and over to Montpelier, Vermont. Hough explained, "It was likely felt out to people at least two hundred miles from the epicenter. Energy travels more efficiently and quakes are generally felt

farther along the East Coast than they would be out West." This may not be the last you feel of this quake. "Statistically, any earthquake raises the odds of more earthquakes, most commonly aftershocks. At the 3.8 we expect to have a few small aftershocks. There's always a small chance of something bigger happening in the same area within the next week or so. Earthquake activity can disturb other faults in a way that can occasionally cause bigger earthquakes, but the chance is small. I think mostly it's a reminder that the Atlantic seaboard does have infrequent earthquakes, not like California," said Hough.

Another Piece of World War II Remembered

There are many important dates that come to mind when thinking of WWII, including the Japanese bombing of Pearl on December 7, 1941, bringing the U.S. into the War, and D-Day, the allied invasion of Normandy, on June 6, 1944, what many consider the turning point of the war. But there are so

many other key dates and events that often get overlooked, with one in particular this past week.

January 27, 2025, marked the 80th anniversary of Auschwitz liberation. Fifty-six survivors and their relatives gathered at the former concentration camp in Oswiecim, Poland to

commemorate the anniversary of the camp's liberation. Most survivors feared it would be the last major observance with any notable number of survivors present given the youngest members of the group are in their late eighties with some too frail to travel. The numbers have already dramatically dwindled from the two hundred survivors who attended the seventy-fifth anniversary. Ron Lauder, 80, recalled how he has been attending the anniversary observances for fifty years, but now he must be realistic, "This may well be the last commemoration, and also that I will speak at, but I leave today with the understanding that I did my best, I did my utmost to be worthy of the memory of all those who were lost."

Remembering serves as a reminder of the immense human suffering, the lives lost, and the sacrifices made by so many. "Lest we forget!"

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Pirandello Lyceum Scholarship Grant Applications Available



Each year the **Pirandello Lyceum**, identifies Massachusetts High School student Scholars for recognition and scholarship grants. The **Pirandello Lyceum** – Dr. Domenic Amara, President / Rosario Cascio, Chairman — is composed of Academics and Professionals dedicated to maintaining and sharing Italian and Italian American culture in America. It is considered one of the most prestigious Italian American organizations in Massachusetts and its student scholars have been recognized by the Consul General of Italy for their academic prowess.

Graduating High School Students with high academic achievement are encouraged to submit scholarship applications to the Pirandello Lyceum Committee, P.O. Box 520485, Winthrop, MA 02152. **postmarked on or before April 1, 2025.** Applications are available at High School Guidance Counselor's offices, the Pirandello Lyceum Website Pirandello.com or by contacting the Scholarship Committee at Pirandello Lyceum Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 520485, Winthrop, MA. 02152

Scholarship Grants are given at the Pirandello Lyceum **Awards Ceremony, Sunday, May 18, 10:00 a.m. at the Marriot Courtyard in East, Boston, MA, to receive the Scholarship recipients must be present to accept the award.**

The Pirandello Lyceum Scholarship Committee is convened by Vincent Fazzolari, Chairman, and Vice-Chairman, Dr. Anthony Lori.

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LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

Long Time Community Activist Dr. Jean McGuire Attends Boston City Council Hearing on White Stadium Proposal



When you are still at the council hearing that started at 10:00 a.m. and it is now 7:45 p.m., but you can't be tired because Dr. Jean McGuire, who is 93, is still here and full of energy. Thank you Jean for dedicating your life to uplift the voices of your community. Boston is a better place because of you," states Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy.

Collection Drive Underway for PAUL BAGLIO

by Sal Giarratani

Sacred Heart Parish in East Boston believes in the power of community and prayer, especially when one of its youngest members is facing an incredible challenge. Today, the parish is reaching out and asking for support for a brave little boy named Paul Baglio who happens to be a second grader at East Boston Central Catholic School.

Recently, Paulie was diagnosed with Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare and aggressive cancer that primarily affects children under the age of five. This fast-growing cancer targets the soft tissues of the body and requires intensive treatment.

This little boy is currently a patient at Boston's Children's Hospital and undergoing a 42-week treatment that includes extensive testing, surgeries, chemo, and radiation.

The parish has started a drive to help Paul's parents with their expenses. The drive will end on Palm Sunday, April 13th. You may drop off a donation to Sacred Heart Parish, in the memo write "Paul Baglio Donation" or visit the parish website at sacredhearteb.org/paul-baglio to make a donation. All monies raised will be sent directly to the Paul Baglio Family for this boy's care.

For further info, you can call 617-567-5776 or email sacredhearteb@gmail.com

Remembering FREEWAY



Seventh Anniversary
January 31, 2018

"Always my boy"
Unconditional Love

Saint Clodoald

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Born in 522, Clodoald was the grandson of the Frankish King Clovis I, whose conversion to orthodox Christianity — rather than the Arian heresy — made him the first Catholic ruler of present-day France.

After Clodoald's father Clodomir was killed in 524, he and his brothers were raised by their grandmother Queen Clothilde, whom the Church now honors as St. Clothilde.

Following his death in 511, Clovis' kingdom had been divided equally among his four sons. In an effort to secure Clodomir's share of the territory, two of Clodoald's uncles plotted to kill the three boys who were under the protection of the queen. While the uncles managed to kill Gunthar and Theudovald, Clodoald fled and was taken in by the archbishop Saint Remigius of Rheims.

Forced into seclusion by the plot against him, Clodoald became determined to renounce the power and wealth that had



brought grief to his family. Placing himself in God's service, Clodoald lived in a small monastic cell where he pursued a life of asceticism and contemplative prayer. He gave his inheritance to the poor, and eventually became a disciple of the hermit St. Severinus near Paris.

No longer pursued by his uncles, Clodoald appeared before the bishop of Paris in 542. He formally received the monastic habit from the bishop, who cut off the long hair that had signified his Frankish royal origins. Clodoald eventually left Paris to live as a hermit in the forest for several

years, growing closer to God in his contemplative vocation and studying Sacred Scripture extensively.

During these years, pilgrims began making their way to the hermitage, seeking his prayers which were known to work miracles. Though he had left Paris to live in anonymity and soli-tude, the hermit now sensed a need to return to the city, where he was ordained a priest in 551. His two murderous uncles are said to have repented of their deeds during the time of his ministry.

In 554, Clodoald returned to the monastic life, founding and leading a community of monks in the village of Nogent near Paris. There, he was known for his generosity toward the poor, and his attention to the work of religious instruction among the people. He passed away on September 7, 560, at the age of 38.

The feast day of Saint Clodoald is September 7th.

VFW Post 144 Donates to Local Organizations



Pictured, (L-R): NE/W Health Staff members Ann Fitzgerald and Daniel Coakley, Leo, North End Cares board member Karen D'Amico, VFW Post 144 member Joe Blazo, North End Cares board member Olivia Scimeca, Director of the Nazzaro Center Marlo Imbergamo D'Anna, Domenic, North End Liaison Ciara D'Amico, Alex and John Pregmon.

The North End VFW Post 144 recently made generous donations of \$2,500 each to two local organizations, North End Cares and the Nazzaro

Center. Both organizations expressed their deepest gratitude to the post and its members for their continued support.

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FREE WINTER FUN!

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Saturday
February 8

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11:00am-5:00pm

MORE INFO AT: WWW.REVEREBEACHPARTNERSHIP.COM

Dahlia Combinations for Gardens and Bouquets

by Melinda Myers

Dahlias come in various colors, shapes, and sizes making them easy to include in any garden, container, and bouquet. Grow them in their own dedicated space, mix them with other flowers, or plant a few at the end of the vegetable garden.

Consider including different varieties of dahlias for added interest and beauty in the garden and your arrangements. Select colors that you imagine will look great together in a vase. This will make it easy to create a lot of creative combinations on the fly.

Grow dahlias with flowers of different shapes and sizes to create more interesting arrangements. Dahlias offer many options and it's one of the reasons they are such a popular cut flower. Longfield Gardens provides help and inspiration in *Types of Dahlias: 8 Great Looks*.

You'll find the widest range of colors and styles with new varieties in the decorative dahlia group continually being released. Add a bit of elegance to the garden and bouquets with Mondriaan's soft pink petals tinged with pastel yellow, apricot, and lavender. Decorative dahlias make great cut flowers, and their sturdy stems make them easy to grow with other flowers in gardens and containers.

Add interesting texture to your gardens and bouquets with anemone-flowered and collarette dahlias. The anemone-flowered dahlias have a cluster of tubular florets in the center surrounded by more traditional petals. The two different lengths of petals in the collarette varieties add to their charm.

Enjoy an abundant harvest of cut flowers when growing ball and pompon dahlias. These perfectly round flowers are packed with tightly rolled petals and are long-lived in arrangements. Their size makes them excellent additions to mixed bouquets helping to connect the various flowers for an impressive display.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this article. Her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Dinnerplate dahlias, like this Berry Spritz collection, can grow up to 10 inches across on four- to five-foot-tall plants. (Photo courtesy of Longfield-Gardens.com)

The unique blossoms of waterlily dahlias have made it one of the most popular for cutting. The relatively flat flowers have tightly closed centers surrounded by several rows of flat or slightly curved petals.

Grow a few single dahlias for you and the pollinators to enjoy. The daisy-like flowers have a prominent center surrounded by a single row of petals. Their airy appearance complements a variety of late-season perennials in the garden and bouquets. Mix in a few peony-flowered varieties for a showier display. These also have a prominent center but are surrounded by two or more layers of petals.

Add a bit of excitement to any arrangement with cactus and semi-cactus varieties. Their tightly curled petals make them a standout in the garden and bouquets.

You'll only need one or a few dinnerplate dahlia blooms to make a statement in a vase or arrangement. The large flowers can grow up to 10 inches across on four- to five-foot-tall plants.

Tag team a pair of dinnerplate dahlias for the back of the border. Labyrinth and Tyrell have apricot flowers with pink and yellow accents that blend nicely with a wide range of colors in the garden.

If you feel overwhelmed by all the choices or can't decide on the best combination, let the experts lend a hand. Consider purchasing one or more ready-to-plant dahlia combinations selected to look great in the garden and arrangements. The bumblebee collection includes pollinator-favorite Kelsey Sunshine collarette and the coral pink decorative Great Silence. Or for a big splash of purple try the Berry Spritz dinnerplate collection (longfield-gardens.com) with lavender-pink, lilac, and eggplant purple blooms.

Take pictures of your favorite combinations and notes of what you want to try next year, and most importantly, enjoy the fantastic blooms. Fortunately, any flower combination is sure to brighten your day.

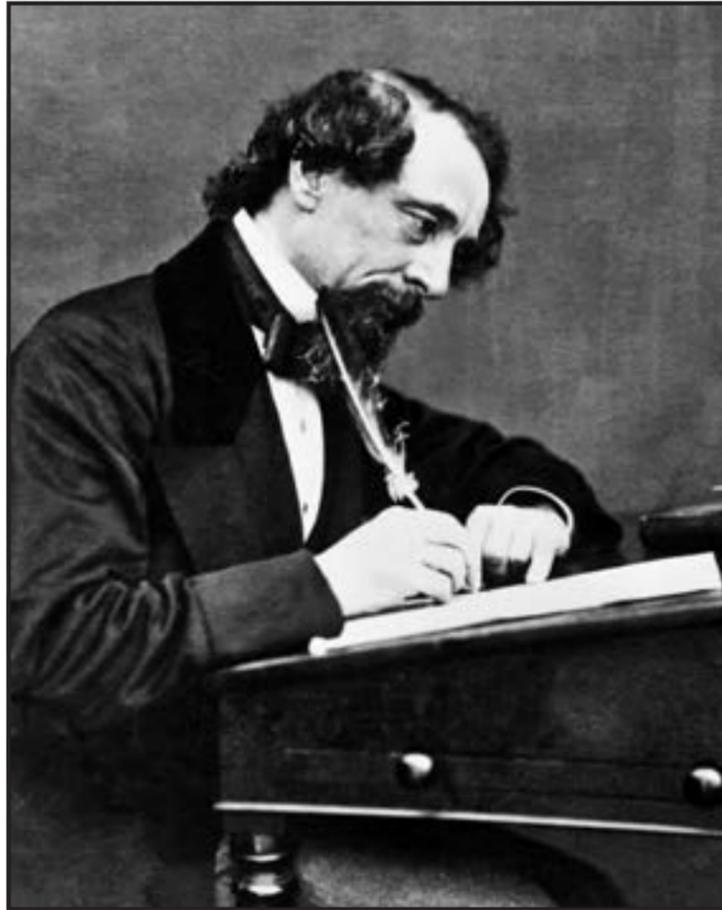
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Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

Charles Dickens



British novelist Charles Dickens was born in 1812 at Portsmouth, England. He examined social inequalities through his works including; *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, and *Nicholas Nickleby*. In 1843, he wrote *A Christmas Carol* in just a few weeks, an enormously popular work even today.

Charles Dickens is much loved for his great contribution to classic English literature. He was the quintessential Victorian author. His epic stories, vivid characters and exhaustive depiction of contemporary life are unforgettable.

His own story is one of rags to riches. He was born in Portsmouth on February 7, 1812, to John and Elizabeth Dickens. The good fortune of being sent to school at the age of nine was short-lived because his father, inspiration for the character of Mr. Micawber in *David Copperfield*, was imprisoned for bad debt. The entire family, apart from Charles, were sent to Marshalsea. Charles was sent to work in Warren's blacking factory and endured appalling conditions as well as loneliness and despair. After three years he was returned to school, but the experience was never forgotten and became the inspiration in two of his better-known novels *David Copperfield* and *Great Expectations*.

Dickens began his literary career as a journalist. His own father became a reporter and Charles began with the journals *The Mirror of Parliament* and *The True Sun*. Then in 1833, he became parliamentary journalist for *The Morning Chronicle*. With contacts in the press, he was able to publish a series of sketches under the pseudonym "Boz." In April 1836, he married Catherine Hogart. Within the same month came the publication of the highly successful *Pickwick Papers*, and from that point on there was no looking back for Dickens.

As well as a huge list of novels, he edited weekly periodicals including *Household Words* and *All Year Round*, wrote travel books and administered charitable organizations. He was also a theatre enthusiast, wrote plays and performed before Queen Victoria in 1851. His energy was inexhaustible and he spent much time abroad — for example lecturing against slavery in the United States and touring Italy with companions Augustus Egg and Wilkie Collins.

He was estranged from his wife in 1858 after the birth of their ten children, but maintained friendship with the actress Ellen Ternan. He passed away of a stroke in 1870. He is buried at Westminster Abbey.

Friends of the North End Public Library

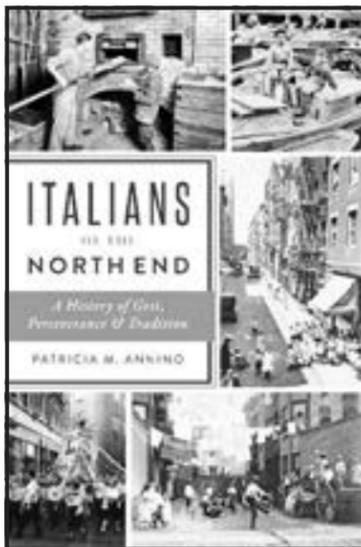
Presents

ITALIANS OF THE NORTH END

A History of Grit, Perseverance & Tradition

Come join us for an evening with the Friends of the North End Public Library on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the North End Public Library on Parmenter Street to hear about the challenges, perseverance and successes of the Italians of the North End. Hear how the Italians learned to adapt to their new surroundings in Boston, the modern ways of American culture, and their Americanization in relation to non-Italians as well as their countrymen from other regions of Italy.

Patricia M. Annino is both a successful author and attorney. Ms. Annino is a partner with Rimón Law's Trust and Estates Group. She is a nationally recognized authority on estate planning and taxation. She is the author of five consumer books with an emphasis on empowering and educating women. Patricia Annino is a Boston native and North End resident; a graduate of Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, Smith College, and Suffolk University Law School.



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RAE SREMMURD – SREMM LIFE (Vinyl)
(EarDrummers/Interscope/UMe)



The influential multi-platinum duo Rae Sremmurd celebrates the 10th anniversary of their double-platinum debut LP *SremmLife* (EarDrummers/Interscope/UMe), with a limited-edition vinyl double album. The album is now available as a limited-run of vinyl, via UMe's Urban Legends. *SremmLife* initially arrived on January 6, 2015, going on to take the culture by storm, and spawning a succession of smashes in the process. Upon release, it bowed in the Top 5 of the Billboard 200. However, its influence has only grown over the ensuing decade, powered up by the 7x-Platinum "No Type," 5x-Platinum "Come Get Her," 4x-Platinum "This Could Be Us," 3x-Platinum "No Flex Zone," 3x-Platinum "Throw Sum Mo" (featuring Nicki Minaj & Young Thug), and Gold-certified "My X" and "Up Like Trump."

With the bulk of its production helmed by Mike WILL Made-It and his EarDrummers production team, the album notably includes guest spots from Big Sean on "YNO" and Jace of Two-9 on "Unlock The Swag." Additional production contributions come from Swae Lee on "No Type," Sonny Digital, Young Chop, Soundz and Honorable C.N.O.T. The Inglewood-born and Mississippi-raised brothers – Swae Lee and Slim Jxmmi – ignited a stratospheric rise in the record's wake. It's no wonder *Forbes* touted them on its "30 Under 30" for 2016, and *Billboard* retrospectively pegged them as one of the "50 Greatest Rap Groups of All Time."

The aftershocks of *SremmLife*'s impact reverberate through hip-hop to this day. Beyond landing on 2015 year-end lists from Pitchfork, Stereogum, "Los Angeles Times, Complex, and more. *Rolling Stone* cited it as one of "The 200 Greatest Hip Hop Albums of All Time," promising, "the ebullience of their debut embodies pure pop-rap joy like few records in recent memory." Not to mention, it also paved the way for *SremmLife 2* (2016), *SR3MM* (2018), and *Sremm 4 Life* (2023). Ten years later, and it's still *SremmLife* forever. Complete track list includes: Lit Like Bic – Unlock the Swag (featuring Jace of Two-9) – No Flex Zone – My X – This Could Be Us – Come Get Her – Up Like Trump – Throw Sum Mo (featuring Nicki Minaj & Young Thug) – YNO (featuring Big Sean) – No Type – Safe Sex Pay Checks.

CLAIRE RITTER – SONGS OF LUMIERE (CD)
(Zoning Recordings)



Songs of Lumiere, is the third solo recording from the much-lauded pianist, composer and educator, Claire Ritter. Her status as a world-class instrumentalist and unique songwriter encompassing both scope and accomplishment is quickly reaffirmed with this album. *Songs of Lumiere* is a colorful reflection of Ritter's wide-range musical passions. Whether exploring

the paths forged by foundational jazz composers, including Mary Lou Williams and Ran Blake, or musing the grandeur of nature, Ritter is galvanized by a kindred spirit. Her independent creative vision as an artist symbolizes an original personal style that transforms the notes into multiple forms of abstract expression and creativity.

The centerpiece of this project, "Opus 30: Songs of Lumiere," displays a fascinating thread throughout by weaving nine newly composed works into the album – Ritter penned favorites include, "In a Sky Full of Rainbows" the opening track, which forecasts a beautiful day, ever so lightly, "The Cloud & the Moonbeam," the pretty "Color the Dream," which is a piano palette of tones, "Painting the Stars," "Girl With the Tattooed Eyes," you can feel the gentle blowing in the wind feeling on "Soul of the Grass," while the pretty "Waltzing Hope" sets your mind to dancing, plus the heavenly sounds of "Prelude to the Angels," and "Dancing With the Egrets." Also featured are two of Ritter's notable previously composed pieces – the tasty sound of "River of Joy" and the breezy strains of "Greener Than Blue." The reimagined four standards, "Let's Do It," the Cole Porter classic which Ritter makes her own, "Let's Fall in Love," the tender strains of "I Wish You Love," Claire shines with her version of Leigh Harline's classic, "When You Wish Upon a Star" and rams it up on Benny Harris' "Crazeology," adding an angular twist to showcase Ritter's versatility as a jazz pianist, with a nod to the great North Carolina-born composer, Thelonious Monk. As Ritter ends with a second take of Trenet's "I Wish You Love," listening makes you realize the difficulty of being able to label any of Claire's songs as 'favorites,' as they quickly all become your favorites ... great album to listen to over and over again.

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

by Sal Giarratani

CITY COUNCIL GETS A NEEDED BLESSING

I think we all need a good blessing every now and then and this includes the members of the Boston City Council who have had its ups and downs. Father Paolo Cumin from Sacred Heart Parish recently blessed the work of council members at the January 15th opening invocation at that day's Council meeting. District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata said she was thrilled to see how the Sacred Heart Parish East Boston community has thrived since he arrived in 2020. She stated that "In partnership with the community, he's been serving a free hot meal monthly for anyone in the neighborhood to join. Thank you, Father Cumin, for your leadership and commitment to serving East Boston."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO DOLLY PARTON

Country music legend Dolly Parton celebrated her 79th birthday on Sunday, January 19th and I recently listened to a song of hers released on May 28, 2022, and was inspired by the rough period we all lived through during the pandemic. She was trying to assure music listeners that everything would one day be okay again. I haven't heard this song often but it is one of both hope and resiliency.

IF ANYTHING, TRUMP IS BOTH CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS

Did you hear? Recently, President Trump has called for MSNBC to be shut down, saying the network "shouldn't have a right to broadcast." Trump unloaded on the network in response to news that CNN, another left-leaning network, was having to make major layoffs. On Truth Social, Trump wrote "MSDNC is even worse than CNN."

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SECRET SERVICE AGENT AT BUTLER, PA RALLY TO HEAD SECRET SERVICE

On January 22nd President Trump announced that Sean Curran, one of the agents who rushed the stage during the assassination attempt in Butler, PA, is to serve as Secret Service director in Trump's second term.

Said Trump, "Sean is a great patriot, who has protected my family over the past few years, and that is why I trust him to lead the brave men and women of the United States Secret Service."

Curran has been in the Secret Service for 23 years and worked as assistant agent in charge of the Presidential Protective Division during Trump's first term. Trump also asserted that Curran "proved his fearless courage when he risked his own life to help save mine."

Good choice by Trump to head the Secret Service.

REPUBLICANS PARTY LIKE IT'S 1999

Area Republicans, Independents, and even a few conservative Democrats joined up on the evening of January 20th



(L-R): Jack Zaccardi, Sal Giarratani, and Stephen Scapicchio of East Boston celebrating President Trump's return to the White House following his Inaugural Address on January 20th at the East Boston Yacht Club that evening

(Photo by Vera Carducci)

for a Trump Inauguration Day celebration over at the East Boston Yacht Club. The large crowd from East Boston, Winthrop, and Revere watched all the festivities on a large big screen TV as they ate, drank and were merry over Trump 2.0 making America happy again.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU25P0090EA

Estate of
JOHN DENNIS ZADEH

Date of Death: Septembe 06, 2023

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Katelyn Zadeh of Ewing, NJ.

Katelyn Zadeh of Ewing, NJ has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 01/31/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Division

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

Docket No. SU24P1612EA

Estate of
JOHN MICHAEL DeSIMONE

Also Known As

JOHN DeSIMONE, JOHN M. DeSIMONE

Date of Death: May 27, 2022

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Susan M. DeSimone of Milton, NH.

Susan M. DeSimone of Milton, NH has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

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Nanna & Babbonnonno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Some time back, I was talking about a trip to Italy that I made during the summer of 1972. Sal Meli, a fellow East Bostonian whom I had grown up with, had gone to visit his parents who had retired and moved back to their point of origin, southern Sicily. I joined them just before the end of June and Sal and I toured Sicily, headed to the mainland, visited a friend in Calabria, headed up the west coast to Naples, picked up friends from Medford at the Naples airport, Jose and Franny, and then aimed the car northward toward Rome.

One of the things I wanted to do after visiting the towns on the Amalfi coast was to stop at Anzio. Like Salerno, it was the site of a major World War II battle and I wanted to visit the American cemetery and pay my respects to our servicemen that had lost their lives in that part of Italy. The American Anzio-Nettuno cemetery was gigantic, filled with white crosses and Stars of David. The names of the men interred were carved into the white marble markers as well as the battles they fought in. Just outside the cemetery, a Frenchman, possibly a tourist, heard us talking about the men buried there. He walked over to us and sarcastically asked what was so important about the dead American soldiers. Sal was ready to confront him physically. I stepped in front of Sal and answered, "The importance is this, if it wasn't for those dead American soldiers, you would be speaking German today." The Frenchman said nothing and just walked away.

We drove northward and arrived in Rome around lunchtime. Knowing that Rome is like any other big city, I had made reservations for accommodations ahead of time. Summertime in Rome is tourist time and I didn't want to take any chances. We checked in at the Hotel Cristina on Via Nazionale, near the center of Rome. The only problem was parking. Everywhere I looked there were no parking signs and the hotel didn't have a garage. The desk clerk advised us to return the car to the rental agency and rebook it for the day we were going to leave Rome. He told us that the public transportation was excellent and easy to use. As it turned out, the main train terminal for Rome was just a few blocks away from the hotel at the Piazza Indipendencia. Sal, Jose and I unloaded the car and I drove it toward the train station where there were Hertz and Maggiore car rental agencies.

Just as I was making the arrangements to rebook the car two weeks down the road, I heard someone call me by my professional name (Johnny Christy). I turned and saw two people I recognized, Bill Leavett and his wife Ruki Surkano. Bill was a character actor I had known from my Hollywood days. Ruki, his wife, also an actor, was the daughter of the then president of Indonesia. I had run into them in Venezuela two years before when they were there working on an ill-fated version of the film Papillon at the same time I was taking a winter's vacation in Caracas.

I finished the paperwork returning the car and renting another for a point two weeks in the future. They were there renting a car for a drive to the French Riviera. Ruki was to appear in a couple of commercials being shot there and they were going to make it a working holiday experience. Bill mentioned that they had a friend, a character actor who had a full-sized American Chevrolet, and when he wasn't working as an actor, rented his car and his services as a chauffeur to people who didn't want to take public transportation. Like Hollywood, the movie studios in Rome are on a break during the summer and Bill indicated that his friend might be interested in driving us around. I liked the idea and Bill called the man who had no bookings. We agreed on a price and planned to sit with the man the next day to work out a schedule. Bill and Ruki drove me back to my hotel and said goodbye. I told Sal, Jose and Franny of my find and they were happy we would not have to worry about traveling around Rome.

I next checked out the room Sal and I were going to share: two beds, private bath room, a TV and a telephone. What more could I ask for. After unpacking, I decided to call home and let my folks know we had arrived in Rome. It was late morning in Boston when Babbonnonno answered the phone, "Allo." I yelled out, "Babbonnonno, it's John." My grandfather immediately asked me about my trip and I spent the next ten minutes detailing our travels. When mom finally was given the phone, I went through the same story. She then gave me the phone number of the only sister Nanna had that did not immigrate to America. She was widowed and lived in Rome with her son who worked in security at Rome's DaVinci Airport. I promised I would call and hung up. My gang was hungry and

it was time for dinner. Dinner in Italy is in the middle of the afternoon, not at 6:00 p.m. or so, as it is in the states. We asked the man at the front desk if he knew of a restaurant that wasn't a tourist trap. He explained that most Italians eat at places called trattorias. The upscale restaurants were for tourists and Romans who were celebrating special occasions. Seeing we were now walking, we took his advice and headed for a trattoria on a side street off Via Nazionale where the hotel we were at the place, an unassuming restaurant. The diners were all speaking Italian and the aroma coming from the food was definitely Italian. We knew the desk clerk hadn't given us bad information and we entered and were brought to a table.

The waitress brought the menus, and hearing us speaking English, tried her hand at it. I explained to her that we had just arrived in Rome and were given the name of her restaurant from the hotel. We ordered and were not disappointed. The food was fantastic and not expensive at all. The wine was home-made and arrived at the table in carafes with no labels. Just before we finished, the owner came over to the table and introduced himself. It seems that the restaurant was a family operation and that they were originally from Sardinia. He asked how we liked the food and we praised it to highest levels. The owner then told us to try other places to make comparisons and then return to his place for the best. We would take his advice and did just that. When we returned a couple of days later, the owner greeted us and asked how long we were going to stay in Rome. We gave him our itinerary and we told him that we decided to return each day for dinner. He asked if we minded if he picked out the specialties of the day for us and we told him to go ahead, letting him know what time we would arrive for dinner. As a result, we had the best authentic Italian food Rome could offer.

That night, we began a walking tour of that part of Rome which was near the Piazza Venezia, the geographical center of the city where the tomb of Victor Emmanuel is located. When we became tired, we found a sidewalk café, sipped espresso and sambuca and watched the people walking the streets of Rome. Before we called it a night, I called the man Bill Leavett had spoken to and made arrangements for him to pick us up in the morning to begin our sightseeing of Rome. Within the next two weeks and our driver's suggestions, we saw Rome as the locals experienced it not the tourists.

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by
**Marianna
Bisignano**

Italy is one of the world's top lemon producers, with Sicily's lush orchards yielding some of the finest. Sicilians take great pride in their uniquely sweet and vibrant lemons, often saying, "They are not real lemons unless they are Sicilian!" Now I understand why my Nonna used them so often, infusing their zest and juice into cakes, custards, biscotti, sauces, and fillings.

When my Nonna had leftover ricotta, she often turned it into lemony desserts. Today's recipe, *Ciambella alla Ricotta e Limone*, is one she would call "from the old country." While I've adapted it for volume measurements, I highly recommend using a scale, just as she did. This Lemon Ricotta Ring Cake is perfect to serve for breakfast or as a delightful treat at any time of the day!

LEMON RICOTTA RING CAKE *Ciambella alla Ricotta e Limone*



- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup (220g) granulated sugar
- 1 large organic lemon (zest and juice)
- ½ cup (120ml) sunflower seed oil
- 1 cup (250g) ricotta cheese
- ½ cup (80g) potato starch
- 2 cups + 1 tablespoon (260g) all-purpose flour (or 00 flour)
- 1 packet Paneangeli Lievito Pane degli Angeli (or 2 ½ teaspoons baking powder and
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract)
- confectioners' sugar for sprinkling

Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease and flour a 10-inch (26cm) ring pan.

In a large mixing bowl, beat eggs and sugar until light and fluffy. Add sunflower seed oil, lemon juice, and zest, then mix until well combined. Add ricotta and blend until smooth.

In a separate bowl, sift together flour, potato starch, and baking powder. Gently fold dry ingredients into the wet mixture until just combined.

Pour batter into the prepared pan and bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until the top is golden and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Let cool and generously coat with confectioners' sugar before serving.

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

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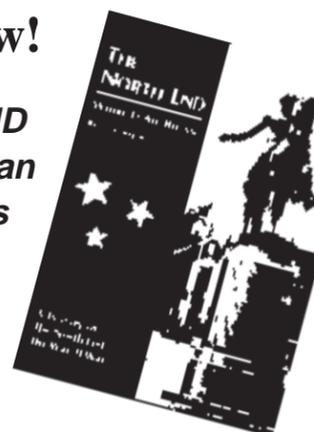
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• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

Trump stated, "Everything will be revealed" as he signed the executive order after decades of conspiracy theories. The order requires the DOJ and the Office of National Intelligence to prepare for the full and complete release of records on the JFK Assassination within 15 days and 45 days for the RFK and MLK cases.

Pope Supports Two State Solution

On the day a cease fire deal between Hamas and Israel went

into effect, Pope Francis said he hoped political leaders from both sides would support dialogue, reconciliation, peace and the existence of two states. "I trust that the political authorities of both of them, with the help of the international community, may reach the right solution for two states," said Pope Francis.

Some 146 countries, including the Vatican, recognize the State of Palestine while Israel is opposed to the idea.

End Quote

"The whole of science is nothing more than a refinement of everyday thinking."

— Albert Einstein

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI25C0052CA

In the Matter of
ADRIEN YUNG WU

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Adrien Yung Wu of Medford, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Adrien Yung.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 11, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 14, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI24C1231CA

In the Matter of
JIMMY WILLIE KELLEY JR.

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Jimmy Willie Kelley Jr. of Cambridge, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Jamie Kelley Toler.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 13, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 16, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI25C0049CA

In the Matter of
JADA LAMARGARETTE WILTZ

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Jada Lamargarette Wiltz of Somerville, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Seydan Lamar Polite.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 18, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 21, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Ramsay's Towing 152 Prospect Street, Waltham, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after February 15, 2025 beginning at 10:00 PM by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Ramsay's Towing.

DONALD ATUHAIRWE

2003 Saturn L200

VIN # 1G8JU54F53Y547592

PETER TZANNOS

2021 Dodge Charger

VIN # 2C3CDXMGXMH545324

TANIA GONZALEZ

2004 Lexus ES330

VIN # JTHBA30G045002620

DE JESUS, JULIO CESAR

2013 BMW X3

VIN # SUXWX9C5XD0A25853

Signed,

Justin Ramsay

Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after February 10, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2008 TOYOTA PRIUS

VIN # JTDKB20U483373764

2009 THOMAS BUILT HDX

VIN # 1T7YR4E2191115307

2005 NISSAN FRONTIER

VIN # 1N6AD07W25C432658

2009 FORD FOCUS

VIN # 1FAHP32N99W168356

2002 BMW 525i

VIN # WBADT43412GZ99654

2018 TAOTAO TITAN

VIN # L9NTCBAC2J1010213

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.

Please email for specific information

info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI24C1343CA

In the Matter of
SUSAN ASHLEY THEUS

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Susan Ashley Theus of Wakefield, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Susan Theus Johnson.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 10, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 13, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI24C0980CA

In the Matter of
MICHAEL ELLIOT LOWE

CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Michael Elliot Lowe of Lowell, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Amelia Luna Wolfe.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 25, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 28, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after February 24, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

2002 TOYOTA CAMRY

VIN # JTDBF30K520035727

2006 FORD EXPLORER

VIN # 1FMEU74E36UA49862

2002 TOYOTA CAMRY

VIN # 4T1BF32K82U526939

2011 FORD EDGE

VIN # 2FMDK3JC6BBB45949

2008 INFINITI FX35

VIN # JNRAS08W48X207310

2012 ACURA RDX

VIN # 5J8TB2H20CA001951

2001 ACURA CL

VIN # 19UYA42661A005323

2012 FORD ESCAPE

VIN # 1FMCU9D79CKB12779

2009 TOYOTA COROLLA MATRIX

VIN # 2T1LE40E99C004035

2013 FORD ESCAPE

VIN # 1FMCU9H95DUA30050

2004 BUICK REGAL

VIN # 2G4WB52K241348906

2011 NISSAN ALTIMA

VIN # 1N4AL2AP3BN513175

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information

info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
Lowell Justice Center
370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor
Lowell, MA 01852
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Docket No. MI25P0318EA

Estate of
PATRICIA ANN POLIZZI

Also Known As:
PATRICIA A. POLIZZI and
PATRICIA EDDY

Date of Death: September 12, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Suzanne Polizzi Newell of Reading, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Suzanne Polizzi Newell of Reading, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 01/31/2025

• Ten Fun Facts (Continued from Page 1)

6. Although known for their burrowing prowess, groundhogs can swim and even climb trees to avoid predators.

7. A mother groundhog will usually give birth annually in April or May, to a litter of 2-6 cubs or kits.

8. Groundhogs are generally diurnal, being more active in the daytime, and prefer open country as a suitable habitat.

9. In America, Groundhog Day began in Pennsylvania sometime in the late-18th to mid-19th century. It is of German origin but may also be loosely tied to certain Pagan or Celtic holidays.

10. Punxsutawney Phil (Pennsylvania) is the most

famous groundhog of all, but there are others who have made a name for themselves as prognosticators, too. These include Wiarton Willie (Ontario, Canada) and General Beauregard Lee (Lilburn, Georgia). Massachusetts has its own seer, Ms. G, who makes her predictions at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln.

Visit the Massachusetts Audubon Society (www.massaudubon.org) to learn more about the wonderful wildlife in our beautiful state, and please make a donation if you can, to help ensure it stays that way for future generations.

Happy Groundhog Day!

Copyright 2020-2025

• White Stadium (Continued from Page 1)

The Women's soccer team is slated to begin their season in Spring 2026. Demolition work on the stadium began last week and is expected to continue over the next few months. Construction would take place immediately following, right up until the season begins in March, 2026.

Some councilors expressed concern over the women's pro soccer team possibly walking away before construction was finished or if the team folded, while others wondered if the team could become so successful they outgrow White Stadium's proposed 11,000 seat arena and choose to look for a larger facility. Diana Fernandez Bibeau, Boston's deputy chief of urban design said, "the city would be able to pull from an escrow account and put those funds

toward construction activity. Per legal agreements, Boston has a corporate guarantee of \$45 million to cover stadium expenses, if the team chooses to walk away."

Critics have suggested the women's team should share the newly proposed New England Revolution stadium in Everett and that White Stadium should be renovated as a high school only Boston Public School facility strictly for Boston Public School athletes and the public. The Emerald Necklace Conservancy, one of the plaintiffs in the pending lawsuit estimated a smaller version of the facilities renovation would cost just under \$30 million, but the city doesn't seem so keen on this option, responding "In the long run we would have the operational costs to bear on our own."

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. MI25P0303EA

Estate of
PETER WAYNE BABINE

Date of Death: November 19, 2024

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kerin N. Sousa of Saugerties, NY and Kimberly A. Novak of Wenham, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Kerin N. Sousa of Saugerties, NY and Kimberly A. Novak of Wenham, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 25, 2025.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 28, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Docket No. SU25P0080EA

Estate of
GERALD JOSEPH ESPOSITO

Also Known As
GERALD JOSEPH ESPOSITO, JR.

Date of Death: January 06, 2019

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Theresa Esposito of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Theresa Esposito of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 26, 2025.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 24, 2025

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

Run date: 01/31/2025

2025 North End Athletic Association

BASEBALL REGISTRATION

With the coldest days of the year happening, we at the N.E.A.A. are getting ready for BASEBALL! It is time for registration for the 2025 Season and we are excited. We look forward to another great season. There will be all the same programs this year with **a few small changes in store with the schedule**, so please check them out. We will have in house baseball programs for boys and girls ages 4 to 12 again this year. We will also have our traveling Dodgers Baseball program for boys ages 13-15, and again this year, we have added the **North End Execution Girls Fast Pitch Softball Program** coached by Coach Chuck and Adam for girls ages 13-16. This is for the serious player who wants to learn and play some great softball and much more!

Clinic: Ages 4-Year-Old Boys & Girls - **Saturday Mornings** at 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.: Puopolo Park

T-Ball: Ages 5-Year-Old Boys & Girls - **Saturday Mornings** at 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.: Puopolo Park

Minor League Baseball: 6 to 8 Year Boys & Girls: Monday - Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Puopolo Park

Major League Baseball: 9- to 12-Year-Old Boys and Girls: Mon - Thurs 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Langone Park

Minor League and Major League Baseball starts with practices on April 1st. This is preseason. There will be pre-assigned practice days and times assigned to each team at the beginning of the season. Each coach may add additional practice time if there is field availability. Opening day for games is Saturday, April 26th when all teams will play. Games will then be played Monday - through Thursday for both age groups and run through mid-June. Practices will be scheduled throughout that time period as well and listed in the schedule that will be posted in mid-March. Please note that bad weather/rainouts etc. may cause the schedule to change.

Registration fee is \$65 per player for our age 4 - 12-year-old programs. Registration fee for Dodgers and Girls Softball is \$75 per player. The NEAA will never prevent a player from participating in our programs due to the inability to pay our registration fees. If you need assistance, please contact John Romano, NEAA Sports Coordinator before registering. 617-750-9749 or jromano45@gmail.com. For all team and league related questions, please contact Ralph J Martignetti, Mobile: +1-857-366-1213 or Email rmartignetti@nysir.org.

We look forward to another great year of baseball.

SPRING LACROSSE REGISTRATION

The NEAA will be kicking off its third season of lacrosse in March! The program, under the team name Midnight Riders, will compete in the Mass Youth Lacrosse (MYL) league again this spring. Both boys and girls teams will be registered with MYL at the 1st/2nd grade level and the 3rd/4th grade level, playing 8 total games on Sunday mornings starting March 30th and running through June 1st. Home games will be played here in the North End on the Puopolo Park fields while away games will be played in the greater Boston metro area against local opponents.

The NEAA will also be running its traditional Fundamentals Clinic on Sunday afternoons, which has been a hit amongst kids in the North End the last few years. Boys and girls ages 4-11 years old are invited to participate in a weekly clinic introducing the fundamentals of lacrosse. For 6 sessions on Sundays from 3:30 p.m. -4:45 p.m., they'll be on the North End fields working through the basics of throwing, catching, and scooping a lacrosse ball while blasting music and playing fun kids games. Please note that if you register for one of the Traveling teams, you can play in the clinic, you don't need to register again.

To register or ask any questions, you can reach out to the Director of NEAA Lacrosse, David Paolisso at dpaolisso@gmail.com. Registration link is <https://www.neaasports.org/register/form/221093232>.

PLEASE NOTE: The new URL for the N.E.A.A. website is <https://www.neaasports.org>

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000
Docket No. MI25C0019CA
In the Matter of
MOHAMED ABDIAZIZ MOHAMUD
CITATION ON
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Mohamed Abdiaziz Mohamud of Cambridge, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Mahamed Abdiaziz Samanter.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 21, 2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO,
First Justice of this Court
Date: January 24, 2025
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run Date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

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Probate and Family Court
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EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani



Gone, but Remembered Still

Last year, the Baseball World lost a number of great baseball legends that included Willie Mays the "Say Hey Kid," Pete Rose, Fernando Valenzuela, Luis Tiant, Orlando Cepeda, and Carl Erskine, who was a tiny bit before my baseball time, but there is still some good news, Bill "the Spaceman" Lee still lives and not that long ago turned 78 years old.

No Slam Dunk for Hall of Fame Picks on 2026 Ballot Newcomers

There are no slam dunk Hall of Famers coming up among the 2026 ballot newcomers. Among those eligible coming up to their first year on the ballot are Cole Hamels, Ryan Braun, Edwin Encarnacion, Alex Gordon, Matt Kemp, and Hunter Pence. Hamels might have the best shot after his 15-season career in which he pitched to a 3.43 ERA, reached four All-Star Games and was the World Series MVP for the 2008 champion Phillies.

Looking to the Future

The Red Sox have signed a 2-year, \$18.25 million deal with starter Patrick Sandoval who is currently recovering from Tommy John surgery and won't be ready for duty until the second half of this upcoming

season, shades of Lucas Giolito from this past season, huh?

Lenny Randle 12 Seasons in Spotlight Dead at 75



Lenny Randle who played 12 seasons in the Majors spoke five languages, performed stand-up comedy and was dubbed "The Most Interesting Man in Baseball," and got himself suspended for punching Texas Rangers Manager Frank Lucchesi three times before a spring season game on March 28, 1977. Career-wise he hit .257 with 322 RBIs and 156 stolen bases and played for the Senators/Rangers, Mets, Yankees, Cubs, and Mariners. His first Major League hit came off Vida Blue on June 16, 1971 when he beat out an infield hit to first base.

However, Randle was better known for a series of moments rather than his fielding or hitting.

He apologized to Lucchesi for hitting him and pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor battery and received a fine by the court. He later settled a civil suit in 1978. After his release by the Mariners, he became the first American to play in the Italian baseball league with Nettuno in 1983. "Playing baseball in Italy was like finding the fountain of youth," said Randle (and) "go over there and learn how to relax and enjoy the game. It's easy, because there's no stress."

Randle also performed stand-up at comedy clubs and released the song "Kingdome" by Lenny Randle & the Ballplayers.

Looking Back to Jim "Catfish" Hunter



Jim "Catfish" Hunter

Following the 1974 season, Oakland A's owner Charlie Finley apparently screwed up and was found to have been in breach of a contract he had with Jim "Catfish" Hunter and an arbiter said Hunter was a free agent. Hunter had been the winner of the 1974 Cy Young Award with impressive numbers (25-12 with a 2.49 ERA). He wasn't even 29 yet and already had four 20-win seasons when 20 wins was the gold standard for starters. The Yankees quickly scooped him up in free agency.

The deal was for five years and \$3.5 million spread out in deferrals. It showed the Yankees were back in the game after a long drought of poor seasons going back to the end of 1964. That December 31, 1974 the Yankees struck a deal with Hunter. In 1975 wearing pinstripes, Hunter did what he did best, he pitched to win going 23-14 with a 2.58 ERA and also amassed 30 complete games too. He was never that great again but still good enough. In the 1976 ALCS, he was the starter in the Yankees first play-off game in 12 years.

In 1978, when the Yankees roared back at season's end to catch up and pass the Red Sox in Game 163, who among us alive could ever forget that year? Catfish Hunter down the stretch flourished and helped the Yankees snatch victory from the hands of defeat. And of course that victory was snatched from Boston.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000
Docket No. MI25P0284EA
Estate of
JOSEPH T. MURPHY
Date of Death: November 15, 2024
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Cheryl E. Schkuta of Burlington, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Cheryl E. Schkuta of Burlington, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
Run date: 01/31/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Stephens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 39A, that on **February 14, 2025 at 10AM**, at said address, the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of notice and sale:

- 2018 NISSAN SENTRA, BLUE
VIN # 3N1AB7AP9JY228253
- 2011 MERCEDES-BENZ E-CLASS, WHITE
VIN # WDDHF8HB8BA472195
- 2006 LINCOLN MARK LT, SILVER
VIN # 5LTPW18546FJ13455
- 2014 FORD ESCAPE, RED
VIN # 1FMCU9GX6EUC80494
- 2020 FORD EXPLORER, BLUE
VIN # 1FMSK7DH3LGB22161
- 2013 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY, BLUE
VIN # 2C4RC1BG7DR694714
- 2013 CHEVROLET SILVERADO, WHITE
VIN # 1GCRCPFX1DZ147457
- 2019 HONDA FIT, SILVER
VIN # 3HGGK5H42KM729521
- 2012 HONDA CIVIC, GRAY
VIN # 19XFB2F58CE318687
- 2018 NISSAN ROGUE, GRAY
VIN # JN1BJ1CRJW287158
- 1998 GMC SIERRA, GRAY
VIN # 2GTEK19R0W1555647
- 1999 NISSAN FRONTIER, GRAY
VIN # 1N6ED26Y4XC328370
- 2004 FORD ESCAPE, BLACK
VIN # 1FMYU92124KA20872
- 2004 HONDA ACCORD, SILVER
VIN # 1HGCM563X4A178953
- 2015 KIA OPTIMA, WHITE
VIN # 5XXGN4A75FG420220
- 2014 CHEVROLET EQUINOX, WHITE
VIN # 2GNFLHE38E6203954
- 2021 YONGFU MOPED, BLACK
VIN # LL0TCAHP8MG004659
- 2022 YONGFU MOPED, RED
VIN # LL0TCAJXNG002092
- 2024 ZHILONG CLICK MOPED, RED
VIN # H22TBCNF6R1006240
- 2016 YAMAHA ZUMA, BLACK
VIN # RKRSA51A6GA004464
- 1982 YAMAHA YICS, BLACK
VIN # 5K5-012423
- 2021 TAOTAO HURAGAN, RED
VIN # L9NTCDPW3M1310221
- 2008 TAIWAN HELIO MOPED, SILVER
VIN # RKZMU22248N000056
- 2001 GARELLI E-BIKE, BLACK
VIN # SA04150
- 2024 ZHILONG CLICK MOPED, BLACK
VIN # H22TBCNF6R1006982
- 2019 YAMAHA ZUMA, MAROON
VIN # RKRSA43A5K127009

Run dates: 01/31, 02/07, 02/14/2025

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at **171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970**, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **February 17, 2025** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

- 2008 DODGE CALIBER
VIN #1B3HB48B78D630520
- 2012 CHEVROLET MALIBU
VIN #1G1ZD5E0XCF376555
- 2010 MERCEDES BENZ C-CLASS
VIN #WDDGF8BB4AF439491
- 2003 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
VIN #WVWSE61J93W461882
- 2022 KIA K5
VIN #5XXG24J29NG121597
- 2014 TOYOTA CAMRY
VIN #4T1BF1FK5EU317399
- 2015 KIA OPTIMA
VIN #5XXGM4A77FG432114
- 2012 NISSAN ALTIMA
VIN #1N4AL2AP4CN483718

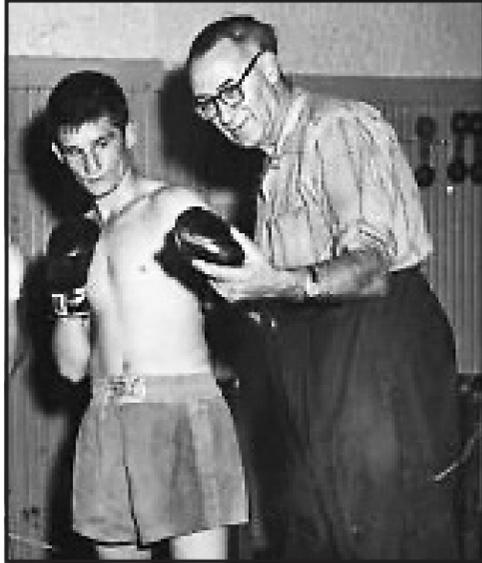
Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.
Please email for specific information
info@todiscotowing.com
Run dates: 01/24, 01/31, 02/07/2025

Boxing Ringside

WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

Photo Memories from the New Garden Gym

There were three iterations of the legendary New Garden Gym in Boston. The first two were on Friend Street and the third was on Causeway Street at the corner of Friend Street opposite the Boston Garden. Hundreds of boxers trained there over the years. Here are some photos of what you would have seen if you had gone there back in the day. Maybe you did. All pictures were taken in the New Garden Gym.



Gene Fosmire with Trainer Al Clemente



Future Pastor Don Drake with Trainer Bill Ebel



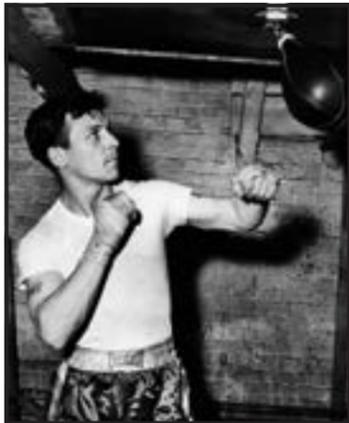
Heavyweight Contender and movie star Jack O'Halloran



Johnny Dunn holding the Heavy Bag for Joe DeNucci



Tommy Rose working the bag



Billy McClusky



Vinnie Curto getting in shape



Former Welterweight Contender Bill Duffy with his stable of Amateur Boxers

Super Bowl Bound

A Blow Out, A Nail Biter, Two Winners, Two Losers, and it's onto the Super Bowl in New Orleans, on Sunday, February 9th for the Philadelphia Eagles and the Kansas City Chiefs. The two teams faced off in Super Bowl 2023 with the Chiefs beating the Eagles and taking home the Lombardi Trophy for the first of their current three consecutive super bowl bids.

The Eagles victory began with Saquon Barkley's 60-yard touchdown run at the start of the game and ended with Philadelphia steamrolling the Washington Commanders for a decisive 55-23 victory. Philly and its quarterback Jaylen Hurts are in the Super Bowl for the second time in three seasons, with their only title coming in the 2017 season against the New England Patriots.

Washington quarterback Jayden Daniels was vying to become the first NFL rookie quarterback to lead his team to a Super Bowl, but fell short when he threw an interception and his team turned the ball over four times, including a fumble.

The Kansas City Chiefs are advancing to their third consecutive super bowl, with the dream of accomplishing what no other NFL team has been able to, threepat by winning three in a row. They are the fourth NFL team to reach the Super Bowl in three consecutive seasons, but none have won the third title.

This is the fourth time since January 2021 that the Chiefs have sent the Bills home early, spoiling their Super Bowl hopes. The Bills and quarterback Josh Allen put up a strong fight, tying the game 29-29 in the fourth quarter, but Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes along with the Kansas Defensive Blitz proved too much for Allen and the Bills.

It'll be a long two weeks of Super Bowl overload, made even more difficult to deal with when once again, our New England Patriot's will not be one of the teams heading to New Orleans. At least we still have the Celtics, possibly the Bruins and hope springs eternal for the Red Sox.

Stuck in Hall of Fame Limbo

Every Baseball Hall of Fame (HOF) Inductee is required to garner 75% of eligible ballots cast. The probability of former New York Yankee third baseman, Alex Rodriguez meeting this requirement is becoming less and less likely with each annual vote, falling short once again in 2025, the fourth year of his quest. Although 2025 was his personal best, 37.1%, it wasn't much higher than previous years. In 2022 (34.3%), 2023 (35.7%), 2024 (34.8%), and the most recent 2025 vote (37.1%).

Rodriguez still has six years remaining to reach induction, but the odds do not look favorable. It seems most voters have a mind-set opposing bestowing the honor upon A-Rod, believing his past violations of MLB's performance-enhancing drugs (PED) policy deems him ineligible.

Evidently his on-field achievements, three MVP's, 696 home runs, 3,115 hits and fourteen All-Star Game appearances, are not being considered by voters, and are instead focusing on his 2014 season suspension for his role in the Biogenesis scandal.

Voters are holding Rodriguez and other PED users accountable and hitting them where they are most vulnerable, their legacy. Former Red Sox outfielder Manny Ramirez, who many say retired to avoid a second PED suspension, received 35.3% of the 2025 votes, his ninth year of eligibility. He has one final opportunity in 2026 but it's more than a long shot.

Patriots Head Coach Mike Vrabel Quick to Fill Key Positions

New England Patriots Head Coach Mike Vrabel, moved swiftly in naming the three top coordinator positions. Opting to keep current special team's coordinator Jeremy Springer, Vrabel nabbed Detroit Lions Defensive Line Coach Terrell Williams to be the Patriots' defensive coordinator, while bringing Josh McDaniels back into the fold as offensive coordinator.

No stranger to Coach Vrabel, Williams spent six seasons on the Titans staff, while Vrabel served as head coach. He was the Titans' defensive line coach from 2018 to 2022, assistant head coach in 2023 before moving on as the Lions' defensive line coach this past season. Williams will replace Patriots Defensive Coordinator DeMarcus Covington, who served under former Patriots' Coach Jerod Mayo during the 2024 season.

This will be Josh McDaniels third go round as the Patriots offensive coordinator, holding the title two previous times, 2006 - 2008 and from 2012 - 2021. McDaniels was witness to the Pats victorious decades as well as Tom Brady's best seasons in Foxboro. He coordinated three Super Bowl winning offensive seasons and is credited with developing other young quarterback talent, including Matt Cassel, Jimmy Garoppolo and Mac Jones. With hard work, focus, determinations and a little luck it's easy to imagine what success he may have with current Patriot's quarterback Drake Maye.

Celtics Owners Preparing to Review Bids

Rumor has it the Grousbeck Family, owners of the championship Boston Celtics are expecting four to five bids from prospective buyers. The valuation is said to exceed six billion dollars. Current ownership will review bids and choose two finalists in the first quarter of this year, with a plan to sell a majority interest in the legendary franchise by early 2025. Wayne Grousbeck intends to remain on as a team governor through 2028, once the remaining shares are sold.

Ohio State Hangs Tough in Victory over Notre Dame

The decade plus College Football Championship drought is over for Ohio State, beating Notre Dame 34-23. The Fighting Irish mounted a fourth quarter comeback scoring two touchdowns along with two 2-point conversions to make it a one score game.

The Irish held the Buckeye's on the first two plays of the next drive, but Ohio's quarterback found his intended target on the third down and the rest was history. This is Ohio Football's sixth National Championship.