

# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 129 - NO. 50

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 13, 2024

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## Christmas Comes Early to the North End



North End Athletic Association (NEAA) Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone with the dedicated volunteers and participants of the 52nd Annual Christmas Parade

(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

### News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

#### There is a Surge in Store Closures in MA?

Macy's Department Store is rumored to be looking at possibly closing some of its store sites. Nothing is taking place right but large chains are either shuttering or shrinking the number of store sites due to continued post-pandemic inflation numbers and the competition from online retailers. Downtown Boston, like many downtowns across the nation, has been negatively impacted by malls in nearby suburbs going back to the '60s and '70s. Now, the newest threats to any downtown retail market seemingly are from online retailing services like Prime, Amazon, etc.

#### Boston Upholds Status as Sanctuary City

On December 4th, the Boston City Council unanimously reaffirmed Boston's status as a sanctuary city "to protect" immigrants amid President-elect Donald Trump's vow to carry out mass deportations when he takes office next month.

The vote was 13-0 to reaffirm the Boston Trust Act, which was first enacted in 2014 and later amended in 2019. The law prohibits Boston Police and other city departments from cooperating with ICE when it comes to detaining illegal immigrants in civil matters while allowing for cooperation in criminal matters like human trafficking, drugs, weapons, and child abuse, according to the resolution. The resolution was co-sponsored by Councilors Julia Mejia and Benjamin Weber.

#### Susan Smith Dreamed of Dancing on TV

Susan Smith, recently denied parole and is serving a life sentence in South Carolina for the 1994 murders of her two sons, reportedly had ambitions if she was paroled including becoming a contestant on *Dancing with the Stars*.

A source inside Leath Correctional Facility stated Smith has kept to herself since being denied parole.

(Continued on Page 11)

Old traditions mixed with a new tradition made for a non-stop, fun filled day for North End children, families, visitor's and anyone else passing through the neighborhood last Sunday. The adventure began with Santa Claus' helicopter touching down in Christopher Columbus Park, where a massive crowd eagerly awaited his arrival. The North End Athletic Association (NEAA) 52nd Annual Christmas Parade kicked off the day's festivities, featuring the Italian/American Band, the National Lancers, Boston Firemen's Band, Elmo, Rudolph, Frosty, Medford, North Reading and Woburn High School Marching Bands, a large contingency representing the Shriner's, Wallie and Tessie from the Boston Red Sox, the Celtic's dancers, Miss Massachusetts 2024 Melissa Sapini, an array

of antique convertible cars and so much more.

The parade weaved its way through the streets of the North End before finishing at Paul Revere Mall (Prado), where celebrants were greeted with a scene straight out of the North Pole. It was a "Winter Wonderland" set magically in the center of the neighborhood. There was Snowman and Gingerbread Land, Christmas Caroling, scrumptious pizza and sandwiches, presents for the children and a performance of Christmas classics by Street Magic. To cap off the day-long celebration the City of Boston Enchanted Trolley Tour arrived for the Annual Tree Lighting, with Santa Claus and Mayor Michelle Wu wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season.

The festivities would not have been possible without the continued efforts, support and generosity of Robert "Ted" Tomasone, Chairman of NEAA along with his many devoted assistants and sidekicks, Frank DePasquale and family of DePasquale Ventures, Steven "Virgil" Virgilio, North End Cares, the NEMPAC and Eliot School Choirs, the numerous businesses for their donations, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, At-Large City Councilors Erin Murphy and Henry Santana, and a special shout out and thank you to Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston Departments who ensured the day was a success.

(Continued on Pages 6 & 7)

### Trump/Biden White House Transition Formalized

President Elect Donald Trump's team has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Biden White House to formalize a transition. The memorandum allows both sides to formally begin a smooth transition of power. "After completing the selection process of his incoming cabinet, President-Elect Trump is entering the next phase of his administration's transition by executing a Memorandum of Understanding with President Joe Biden's White House. This engagement allows

our intended Cabinet nominees to begin critical preparations, including the deployment of landing teams to every department and agency, and complete the orderly transition of power," announced Trump's incoming Chief of Staff Susie Wiles.

The transition will not utilize taxpayer funding for costs related to the transition in order to be consistent with President Trump's commitment to save taxpayers' hard-earned money. The transition landing teams will quickly integrate

directly into federal agencies and departments with access to documents and policy sharing. Signing the documents means the government can now provide security clearances and briefings to incoming administration officials and the FBI can screen Trump's picks for the Cabinet and other key posts. The process is designed to uncover personal issues, criminal histories and other potential red flags that would raise questions about a nominee's suitability for key jobs.

# Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



## VERGIL



Charles Francois Jalabert - Horace, Vergil, and Varius at the house of Maecenas

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

Our scholarly Roman for today is Publius Vergilius Maro, the great national poet, and also the most famous of all Roman poets. He was born in 70 BC in a village in Cisalpine Gaul. There is no doubt about the spelling of his name since inscriptions clearly spell out

Vergilius and never Virgilius. He was educated at Cremona, Mediolanum (Milan), and Neapolis (Naples), and from his writings there are no doubt that he received an excellent education. His health was always quite delicate and consequently he never sought to increase his popularity through a military career.

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

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

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

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

**NEXT ISSUE:** Horace

## Corruption and Kickbacks Rock Boston City Council

by Patti Sartori

Over the course of 24 hours Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson, representing District 7, went from under Federal investigation to being placed in handcuffs and under arrest. FBI agents placed Fernandes Anderson in custody last Friday morning after she was indicted in an alleged kickback scheme that she orchestrated to sypher thousands of dollars in cash from a bonus she paid to her city council office staff member.

According to court documents, Councilor Fernandes Anderson is charged with five federal counts of wire fraud

and one federal count of theft. "These six felony charges stem from an alleged kickback scheme that she orchestrated to obtain several thousand dollars in taxpayer money in exchange for a bribe she paid to a staffer who she gave a very large bonus," said U.S. Attorney Joshua Levy. It seems her intent was to use the money from the kickback to pay a fine she was issued for an ethics investigation. Following several bank transactions and cash withdrawals by the councilor's staff member in June 2023, the money was then handed over to Councilor Fernandes

Anderson in a city hall bathroom. "Ms. Fernandes Anderson chose to violate her fiduciary duty and defraud the City of Boston, rather than find a legal means to pay off her debt," Levy said.

Fernandes Anderson stated she is "not thinking about quitting. I am not thinking about stepping down." Following her arrest, City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu said the councilor has a "right to a fair and legal process, but the serious nature of these charges undermines the public trust and will prevent her from effectively serving in the council. I urge Councilor Fernandes to resign."

City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune believes a resignation would limit disruption to the council while allowing the legal process to play out. "Given the severity of the allegations brought against her, and the direct impact that they have on residents' ability to see the Boston City Council as their faithful stewards, it is in the best interest of the body that she resigns," the council president wrote in a statement. A number of other councilors have called for Fernandes Anderson resignation including District 2 Councilor Ed Flynn, and At-Large Councilor Erin Murphy.

## City of Boston Holds Status as Sanctuary City

by Patti Sartori

The Boston City Council unanimously voted to reaffirm Boston's designation as a sanctuary city, vowing to protect immigrants, as a proactive safeguard against incoming President Elect Donald Trump's pledge to begin mass deportations once he is sworn in to office for his second term on January 20, 2025. The Boston Trust Act, first enacted in 2014 and later amended in 2019, "delineates the distinct roles and responsibilities of the Boston Police Department from those of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), by promoting trust between local law enforcement and immigrant communities."

The law forbids Boston Police from cooperating with ICE over the detainment of immigrants on civil warrants, but will allow for cooperation in criminal matters such as human trafficking, child exploitation, drug and weapons trafficking and cybercrimes.

City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, introduced the resolution at last week's council meeting, stating "As the national climate grows increasingly hostile towards immigrant populations, we must reaffirm who we are as a city, our leadership role in maintaining a positive and welcoming environment here with our immigrant communities. This resolution is just enforcing what is already

on the books and is what is already enforced."

The resolution was co-sponsored by councilors Julia Mejia and Benjamin Weber and follows Mayor Wu's stance that the city will continue to protect its immigrant population as they face the threat of deportation under President Elect Trump and will defy and federal directive that threatens residents' safety.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
The Probate and Family Court Department  
Middlesex, SS. Division

Docket No. MI24P6291PO

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR  
REMOVAL OF A TRUSTEE  
and APPOINTMENT OF  
SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE

To all persons interested in 16 Hamilton Street Irrevocable Trust, a petition has been presented by Elizabeth J. Donahue of Wakefield, MA to said Court praying that the Court remove the current trustee, Gina Karlsson of Haverhill, MA, and that some suitable persons be appointed as successor trustee(s) without sureties on his/her bond.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at 10-U Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01801 before ten o'clock in the forenoon on December 30th, 2024.

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG-CAFAZZO,  
Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this  
2nd day of December 2024.

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/13/2024

### 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 January 06, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.

#### 2010 FORD ESCAPE

Vin # 1FMCU9EG9AKD23735

#### 2010 FORD TAURUS

Vin # 1FAHP2DW7AG144877

#### 2001 CHEVROLET TAHOE

Vin # 1GNEK13T71R117283

#### 2010 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

Vin # KMHJU4AD3AU156196

#### 2007 LEXUS ES

Vin # JTHBJ46G272122406

#### 2020 HYUNDAI TUCSON

Vin # KM8J3CA45LU195374

#### 2019 TOYOTA CAMRY

Vin # 4T1B11HK0K164891

#### 2019 FORD FUSION

Vin # 3FA6P0RU2KR220907

#### 2009 NISSAN MURANO

Vin # JN8AZ18W89W212328

#### 2011 SUBARU IMPREZA

Vin # JF1GH6B9BH830286

#### 2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU

Vin # 1G11G5SX5FF183756

#### 2004 TOYOTA CAMRY

Vin # 4T1BE32K74U816546

#### 2010 VOLVO XC90

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#### 1992 FORD F350

Vin # 2FDKF37G5NCA35964

#### 2007 HONDA CIVIC

Vin # 2HGFA55527H11425

#### 2011 JEEP COMPASS

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Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.  
Please email for specific information  
info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 12/13, 12/20, 12/27/2024

### 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. MI24P6272EA

Estate of

ROSEMARY R. BROADBENT

Also Known As:

ROSEMARY RE BROADBENT,

ROSEMARY BROADBENT,

ROSEMARY C. BROADBENT

Date of Death: October 25, 2024

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by John Re of Atkinson, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that John Re of Atkinson, NH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 07, 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: December 11, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/13/2024

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# POST-GAZETTE

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

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Friday, December 13, 2024

**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.

## Remembering Sacrifices Made at Pearl Harbor

by Sal Giarratani



**USS Cassin Young site of this year's Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony.**  
 (Photo by Sal Giarratani)



**USS Constitution during a period of repair work in 1992**  
 (Courtesy photo U.S. Navy)

When I graduated Boston English High School (Class of 1966), I enlisted in the United States Air Force and when I called up my Uncle Joe (Harrington) at his home in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, he said he was proud that I had enlisted into the service but how come I didn't go into the U.S. Navy like him. Then he just laughed and said he was kidding.

My Uncle Joe who came from Charlestown joined the Navy as most Townies have always done. He got lucky when he enlisted a few days after the Pearl Harbor Attack on December 7, 1941. Following that attack within days thousands upon thousands started signing up to fight our enemies in Germany and Japan. He was sent to Puerto Rico where he spent the duration of the war on a Navy base. He said he was a very lucky guy and that most of the action he saw in WWII was the nightlife in San Juan where he eventually met his future wife. After the war, he made

I have never forgotten all those who have served this nation in peacetime and war. Especially at this time of the year I remember all those who perished on that Sunday morning at the crack of dawn when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor by surprise. Thousands died that day and many more suffered both physical and psychological wounds that each carried with them until the day they died. I can remember as a small boy meeting so many of those survivors from Pearl Harbor walking around sporting those visible wounds.



**USS Constitution this past December 7th at the 83rd Commemoration**  
 (Photo by Sal Giarratani)



**Aerial view of the Charlestown Navy Yard in 1960**  
 (Courtesy photo U.S. Navy)

his home in Puerto Rico where he and his wife raised four kids.

Twenty-five years later I was calling him on a payphone at Lackland, AFB in Texas. Like him, I got lucky too (must be Harrington luck) because I spent my entire time in the USAF in Texas. The only difference was I came home to Boston once out.

I bring this family history up because, like my uncle, I believe service to country is important and

This past Saturday, December 7, I was over at the Charlestown Navy Yard for the 83rd commemoration of National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day as I do every year.

Finally, I also want to salute all those women who took the place of so many men who went on to join the military during wartime. These women were also heroes during that war and many of them worked at Navy Yards across the country. My mom worked at the Charlestown Navy Yard. She finally told me her story after I kept endlessly asking her to do so. My mom told me about her bandana days but she let me know she was no Rosie repairing Navy ships, she cooked in the commissary for all those hungry riveters.

Just as we should never forget 9/11, we should never forget Pearl Harbor.

In Loving Memory of

Louis J. "Fudgy" Capodilupo, Jr.

December 15, 2011

13th Anniversary

A Bridge Called Love



It takes us back to brighter years, to happier sunlit days and to precious moments that will be with us always. And these fond recollections are treasured in the heart to bring us always close to those from whom we had to part. There is a bridge of memories from earth to Heaven above ... it keeps our dear ones near us. It's the bridge that we call love.

Love,

Stephen and Carol and Murray

### LETTERS POLICY

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

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

Send letter to: Pamela Donnaruma, Editor,  
 The Post-Gazette, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

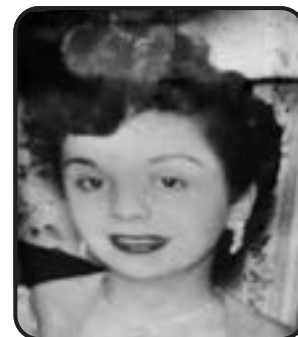
The opinions expressed by our columnists and contributors are not necessarily the same as those of The Post-Gazette, its publisher or editor. Photo submissions are accepted by the Post-Gazette provided they are clear, original photos. There is a \$5 charge for each photo submitted. Photos can be submitted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

### Marjorie Ann Miller

Marjorie Ann Miller, known affectionately as Margie to her loved ones, passed away on December 4, 2024, at the age of 89. Born on February 10, 1935, in Boston, MA, to the late George Foti and Jean (Muscarella). Her infectious laughter and vivacious spirit were a testament to her robust Sicilian heritage. She was proud of her roots and brought a slice of Sicily to Revere, Massachusetts, where she resided.

Marjorie was the beloved wife of 63 years to James Miller, and together they created a home filled with laughter, love, and the aroma of her delectable cooking. Devoted mother of Doreen Malonson of Revere, James Miller of Medford, and the late George and Christopher Miller. Cherished grandmother of Malana Malonson of W. Virginia. Dear sister of the late Stephen "Horse" Foti, Domenic "Dom Castle" Foti, Louis "Lemon Lou" Foti, and George Foti Jr. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was a dedicated waitress in the North End for many years bringing her love for people and her natural charm to her work in the restaurant business. Marjorie had a gift for making others feel special and welcomed, effortlessly brightening up any room she walked into.



Marjorie was a woman of immense heart and humor, whose generosity knew no bounds. Margie loved to cook and bake for family and friends. Family meant everything to Marjorie, and she poured all her love into creating lasting memories with them. She was a funny, loving, and generous soul whose memory will forever be a comforting presence in the lives of those blessed to have known her.

Visitation was held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, Revere, on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Revere. Private Interment at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Donations can be made to the Northeast Animal Shelter, MSPCA-Angell Attn: Donations, 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130 or at [www.mspca.org](http://www.mspca.org).

We invite all who knew Marjorie to share their stories, memories, and photos on her memorial page, celebrating the life of a woman who truly embodied the essence of love, laughter, and generosity. Her enduring spirit will live on in the memories we share and in the love she spread. Marjorie's legacy of love and laughter will forever bring joy to our hearts.

For guest book, please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

## L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

### Lighting Up Our Holidays

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Is there a Christmas symbol more powerful and life-affirming than the light? Everywhere I turn this season, different lights glow in the air around me, each providing a distinctive sensation of the holiday season. When I see the multicolored lights strung around the bushes surrounding the confection shop near my home, playfully blinking at me with their bright hues of red and green and blue, I am filled with a childlike zest for Christmas. These lights remind me of old-fashioned toys and candy canes, chocolate treats and wrapping paper. The golden lights that drip off ceilings are more elegant, reminiscent of a candle's warm heart and the generosity that accompanies the holidays. After all, a candle glowing in the window has long been a sign of hospitality and welcome. Meanwhile, the icy blue lights that adorn trees in some town squares remind me of quiet and snowy winter evenings, as sparkling as Elsa's palace in *Frozen*. Indeed, lights do form a significant aspect of the Christmas season, serving both a religious and symbolic purpose. Religiously, these candles signify the light Jesus brought upon the world at His birth on Christmas. Symbolically, the lights brighten the darkest nights of the year and celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. Two holidays which occur during this time, St. Lucy's Day and Hanukkah, incorporate lights as central features of their celebrations, spreading warmth and cheer into the chilly winter air.

St. Lucy's Day, one of my favorite feasts, occurs on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Known as *la Festa di Santa Lucia* in Italian, this holiday honors a fourth-century martyr from Syracuse, Sicily. Italians celebrate St. Lucy in varying ways depending on the region. According to a Sicilian legend, St. Lucy once alleviated

a famine by sending in ships bearing wheat into the port of Syracuse. To commemorate this event, some Sicilians prepare *cuccia*, or a porridge of boiled wheat berries that can be served with honey and ricotta, on the feast day. In the northern areas of Italy, such as Veneto and Friuli, St. Lucy serves as a gift-bringer. She distributes small gifts to children on the eve of her festival, accompanied by her donkey and by her assistant Castaldo. The name *Lucia* stems from the same Latin root as the word *light*, making her the perfect saint for festivities which take place on one of the darkest nights of the year. Before the calendar reform, December 13<sup>th</sup> was the winter solstice, a vestige which remains in the Italian proverb *Santa Lucia, il giorno più corto che ci sia* ("St. Lucy's Day is the shortest day there is"). Her association with light also explains why St. Lucy is such a popular saint in the Scandinavian countries, where winter darkness can last for the better part of the day. Candlelit St. Lucy's Day processions occur along the streets of major Scandinavian cities, featuring lots of girls dressed like St. Lucy and boys wearing gingerbread men costumes, or conical hats decorated with stars. On the feast of St. Lucy, a daughter in the family wakes up early and dresses in a white robe and a red sash. Sporting a wreath of electric candles on her head, she greets the family at breakfast by serving them hot chocolate and *lussekatter*, or raisin buns spiced with saffron, which infuses a cheerful yellow shade. On St. Lucy's Day, I honor the light breaking through the darkness by baking sweet potato biscuits, which emerge warm from the oven with a beautiful sunny glow.

Hanukkah, a Jewish holiday which begins on December 25<sup>th</sup> this year and ends

on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, also incorporates light into its festivities. Hanukkah celebrates the over two-thousand-year-old victory of a Jewish patriotic group known as the Maccabees over the Seleucid Army, which wanted to impose Greek culture and religion on the Jews. When the Holy Temple in Jerusalem was rededicated during the revolt, there was only a small supply of oil to light the sacred menorah, or candelabra, in the Temple. Miraculously, however, the oil lasted for eight days, which forms the basis of Hanukkah as an eight-day celebration. Families honor the miracle of the oil by lighting one candle on their own menorahs every night of Hanukkah. Fried food is traditional for Hanukkah because it also commemorates the oil that illuminated the Temple's menorah. These foods can include *latkes*, which are potato pancakes, and *sufganiyot*, a jelly-filled donut. Italy is home to a number of old Jewish communities in cities like Rome and Venice, and there Hanukkah is celebrated with beloved traditions and specialty foods. One such food is *precipizi*, or deep-fried dough balls coated with honey. Golden and warm, the *precipizi* look like miniature suns, reaffirming the motif of light breaking through the darkness. Italian Jews also popularized frying vegetables, and as such fried artichoke remains a popular Italian Hanukkah dish. I grew up in a town with a large Jewish population, and holiday parties in my elementary school always featured a blend of Christmas and Hanukkah festivities. I remember playing *dreidel*, a game involving a spinning top and a pile of prizes, with my classmates and accumulating delicious *gelt* (chocolate coins) wrapped in golden foil, and topping *latkes* with sour cream and applesauce. It was wonderful to have two great holidays bring my town close together during the dark of winter.

As the winter solstice approaches, the nights get progressively darker, casting a gray gloom earlier and earlier into the afternoon. For this reason, holiday lights play a powerful and heartfelt role in many winter celebrations. Candles illuminate the nights across the world, whether they spring from the crown of a girl dressed as St. Lucy or from a Hanukkah menorah being lit by a family. It is easy to get bogged in a metaphorical darkness this time of year — not just because of the early sunsets, but because of the stress and depression that sometimes accompany the holiday season. During moments like this, it is important to pay attention to the symbolic lights in our life: family and friends, nourishing food, personal strength, acts of kindness. When we dwell on these aspects, rather than let the darkness get the best of us, we will see that our inner light can outshine anything.

*Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a high school history teacher. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at adicens89@gmail.com.*

## THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



### Remember Jack Klugman Playing Dr. Quincy on NBC?

Lately, I have been watching *Quincy, M.E.*, a great TV drama on NBC back in the '70s and '80s. It has held up after all these years, too. I have forgotten most of the old episodes on FETV but a recent one from Season 5 titled "Honor Thy Elders" concerning the issue of elder abuse is still memorable and remains as relevant today as it was when it first aired on January 10, 1980.

The show's script obviously handled the issue quite well as I still remembered it. When it originally ran, I was only 32 years old and today I am considered an elder myself. However, I haven't grown old without learning a thing or two about living my life the best I can.

The only thing I found not to my liking was the portrayal of older people being treated like helpless children. I know it was only a storyline for a serious issue facing many older folk both then and most assuredly today. Today we all have a part in making our society safe for the vulnerable among us. We all have a right to grow old without being victimized by those who think old people are bothersome to them. As a society we should be known as one that protects and honors those in all stages of life. Someone once said, "Getting old is a part of life but abuse of any kind should never be acceptable as a part of life."

Klugman passed away on December 24, 2012, which means in a few weeks it will have been 12 years since his passing.

Actor Jack Klugman was a great TV actor on this crime drama as he was previously on the *Odd Couple* with Tony Randall. At the time this episode was shot, Klugman was a 58-year-old actor and his

character showed great empathy to older folk being abused by either angry family members or strangers.

I can't exactly remember my reaction to this episode on elder abuse but I can assure watching this same episode now at my age today, I took the subject much more personally.

As a police officer for 28 years, I have seen the aftermath of the exploitation of the elderly and on the flip side, I have also interacted with alleged abusers too.

Watching *Quincy, M.E.* now I realize things are always more complicated in real life as opposed to reel life. It is not always so easy recognizing abuse nor is it easy to spot an abuser. Most abusers are really good at hiding their diabolical or unscrupulous behavior. Klugman's medical examiner role on the show made things too easy to solve.

As for me, 44 years later, I am more self-aware of the aging process and of the ability to stand up and fight back. I can see why many elderly are afraid to do anything or to report any abuse because they can feel so helpless at this point in their lives.

Like 1980, today we as a society still have a duty and obligation to watch out for each other, especially those caught in the twilight of their lives. As a society, we are all part of one family, the human family.

Older folks should never be forgotten and put away hidden from life, they must be honored and cared for. Each generation owes a debt of gratitude to the generations before them just as one day the generations after us will look back to us for guidance. We will be there for them and this partnership is a mutual one.

No one really wants to get old but if we must, let's do it well, getting respect from younger people who one day will get old too. As I stated above, getting old is part of life, but abuse isn't.

### 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. SU24P2565EA

Estate of  
LOUISE MARY BARRY  
Also Known As:  
LOUISE M. BARRY

Date of Death: March 19, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Francis A. Barry of West Roxbury, MA. Francis A. Barry of West Roxbury, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/13/2024

### 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. MI24C1311CA

In the matter of  
NIYAHLEE JOSEFINA LOPEZ  
CITATION ON  
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Niyahlee Josefina Lopez of Lowell, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Niyahlee Josefina Pagan.

#### 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 December 30, 2024. 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: December 04, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run Date: 12/13/2024

## NOBILE INSURANCE

MICHAEL F. NOBILE, CPCU

Email: MNOBILE@NobileInsurance.com

ALBANO F. PONTE, CEP

Financial and Estate Planning

Email: AFPONTE@msn.com

Phone: 617-320-0022

BOSTON

30 Prince St., Boston, MA 02113

617-523-6766

FAX: 617-523-0078

MEDFORD

39 Salem St., Medford, MA 02155

781-395-4200

FAX: 781-391-8493

## Saint Gaudentius

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Born at Brescia, Italy, about the middle of the 4th century, St. Gaudentius was educated under St. Philastrius, Bishop of Brescia, whom he termed his "father". After earning a reputation for sanctity, he traveled to the East where he gained even more fame. In his absence, he was elected Bishop by the people on the death of St. Philastrius; though he felt unworthy to receive such an honor. He was influenced to accept it by the Eastern Bishops, and in 387 he was consecrated by St. Ambrose.



In 405, Gaudentius was sent with two others by Pope Innocent III and the Emperor Honorius to the East to defend St. John Chrysostom before the Eastern Emperor Arcadius. However, the party was prevented from reaching Arcadius and never formally interceded for John; the three men were shipped back home on a vessel so unseaworthy that it almost sank and had to be left at Lampsacus (an Ancient Greek city). Subsequently, Saint John wrote St. Gaudentius a letter of thanks for his efforts

Gaudentius was a powerful preacher and ten of his twenty-one Sermons have survived, offering ample testimony to this fact. He governed his See with prudence and humility, inspiring his flock to imitate the Divine Master constantly.

even though they had not borne fruit. Gaudentius passed away about 410.

The Feast Day of Saint Gaudentius is October 25th. Saint Gaudentius is the patron saint of Rimini.

## Ieri e Oggi

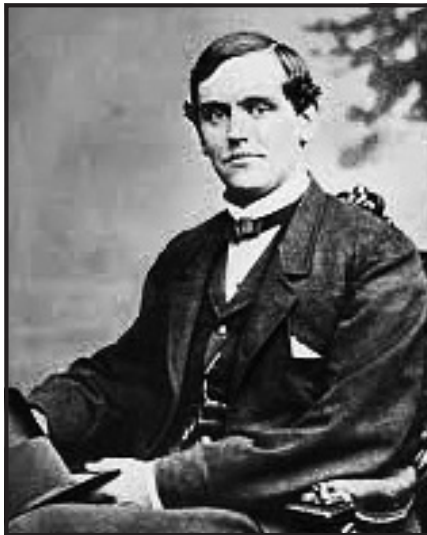
Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

### Phillips Brooks

Phillips Brooks was born in Boston into an old Brahmin family on December 13, 1835. An impressive man of six foot four and three hundred pounds, he had a kind of pulpit magnetism which quickly catapulted him to highly visible national ministries in Philadelphia and Boston and then briefly as the Bishop of Boston in the very difficult post-civil war years of reconstruction. People felt Brooks was speaking directly to them personally.



Brooks was descended through his father, William Gray Brooks, from the Rev. John Cotton; through his mother, Mary Ann Phillips, he was a great-grandson of Samuel Phillips, Jr., founder of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. Three of Brooks' five brothers – Frederic, Arthur, and John Cotton – were eventually ordained in the Episcopal Church.

Phillips Brooks prepared for college at the Boston Latin School and graduated from Harvard University in 1855 at the age of 20, where he was elected to the A.D. Club. He worked briefly as a school teacher at Boston Latin. In 1856, he began to study for ordination in the Episcopal Church in the Virginia Theological Seminary at Alexandria, Virginia. While a seminarian there, he preached at Sharon Chapel (now All Saints Episcopal Church, Sharon Chapel) in nearby Fairfax County.

In 1860, he was ordained priest, and in 1862, became rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia, where he remained seven years, gaining an increasing name as a versatile churchman preacher, and patriot.

During the American Civil War he upheld the cause of the North and opposed slavery, and his sermon on the death of Abraham Lincoln was an eloquent expression of the character of both men. His sermon at Harvard's commemoration of the Civil War dead in 1865 likewise attracted attention nationwide. In 1869 he became rector of Trinity Church, Boston; today, his statue is located on the left exterior of the church.

Brooks wrote that his only ambition was "to be a parish priest". Under his inspiration, architect Henry Hobson Richardson, muralist John LaFarge, and stained glass artists William Morris and Edward Burne-Jones created an architectural masterpiece in Trinity Church, Boston.

Among the building's notable features was the first freestanding liturgical altar

in the United States in an overall chancel design that attracted attention for its Liturgical Movement influence even in British architectural magazines. There were no choir stalls to distract from the central altar, which was hardly recognized as an altar in a period when most altars were backed up to elaborate carved screens. Until 1888, there was also no pulpit. Brooks preferred to preach his legendary sermons from a modest lectern near the rector's stall on the south side of

the chancel.

Such was the magnificence of Trinity Church that, in his chapter on Phillips Brooks' chancel in *Ralph Adams Cram: An Architect's Four Quests*, Douglass Shand-Tucci calls it "an American Hagia Sophia", a reflection of Brooks' architectural and liturgical tastes, disclosed in his travel writings, where in Germany for instance he referred to "thrilling music" and "thrilling incense" in respect to a liturgy he attended there in the Roman Catholic cathedral. Holy Week in Rome also greatly moved him, especially the Papal high mass on Easter.

The building of Trinity was completed in 1877, but the Venetian mosaics that Brooks and Richardson wanted could not be afforded. It was not until the magnificent new altar and sanctuary of Maginnis & Walsh were completed in 1938 that Trinity's chancel reflected that aspect of their dreams for Trinity, which Brooks called "America's glory forever". Brooks preached there Sunday after Sunday to large congregations until he was consecrated Bishop of Massachusetts, Episcopal Diocese in 1891. He had previously declined an election as associate bishop of Pennsylvania in 1886.

He was for many years an overseer and preacher of Harvard University. In 1881, he declined an invitation to be the sole preacher to the university and professor of Christian ethics. On April 30, 1891, he was elected sixth Bishop of Massachusetts, and on October 14 was consecrated to that office in Trinity Church.

He passed away unmarried on January 23, 1893, after an episcopate of only 15 months. His death was a major event in the history of Boston. One observer reported: "They buried him like a king. Phillips Brooks is a saint in the Episcopal Church. His Feast Day is January 23rd.

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## Former Mount Carmel Church in East Boston Facing Uncertain Future

by Patti Sartori

A former East Boston landmark, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, located at the corner of Gove and Frankfort Streets in East Boston, approved for over 100 units, is back on the market. Bank of New England held the mortgage and recently foreclosed on the property. The developer, Rise real estate firm, has faced financial uncertainty given the downward spiral of commercial real estate. Rise purchased the site a few years ago for approximately \$10 million dollars.

The previous developer was granted approval by the City of Boston Planning and Development Agency to convert the former church and convent into 14 for sale condo units and to build a 5-story building with an additional 94 units. The property has changed hands a number of times

since it was closed and sold off by the Boston Archdiocese. Parishioners and neighbors fought a long, unsuccessful battle to keep the church open, but sadly their protest fell on deaf ears.

Bank of New England plans to list the property as a permit approved, ready to go development opportunity. "There has been a lot of interest. It's a compelling location, a fully permitted site. It's basically shovel ready," said Paul Finn, Bank of New England CEO. Neighbors and abutters are upset with the state of the property, complaining the buildings have fallen into disrepair and the land needs to be cleaned up. Hopefully the buildings and architectural integrity can be maintained and incorporated into the final development.

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• Christmas in the North End  
(Continued from Page 1)

# NEAA CHRISTMAS PARADE



Santa arrives at Christopher Columbus Park in the North End from the North Pole



Tessie, Paul Cuccinati, Miss Massachusetts 2024 Melissa Sapini, NEAA Chairman Robert "Ted" Tomasone, Santa Claus, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Kathy Carangelo D'Amore, Sadie Antolini, Wally, and John Romano



Carla Pallotta, Miss Massachusetts 2024 Melissa Sapini, Angie Pallotta, and Christine Pallotta



Shrinercycle



Shrinermobile



Massachusetts National Lancers Calvary Squadron



Shriners MacTruck



North Reading High School Marching Band



Woburn High School Marching Band



Medford High School Marching Band



Jerry Iandoli's 68' Cadillac transports the Celtic Dancers and the D'Amico sisters



Minutemen offer a 21 gun salute



Merry Christmas from the Shriners'



Don't forget to purchase your Girl Scout Cookies

### DE PASQUALE VENTURES WINTER WONDERLAND



Michael Giannasoli, Rosina Fabbo, Karen D'Amico, Mason Lafferty, Olivia Scimeca, Giana DePasquale, Frank DePasquale of DePasquale Ventures, and Deborah DePasquale



Enjoying the festivities



Enjoying delicious Christmas cookies



North End families and friends enjoying Winter Wonderland at the Prado



The Grinch hangs out with Mr. and Mrs. Frosty and children



A scene from the Prado's Winter Wonderland

### MAYOR WU'S TROLLEY TOUR



Linda Riccio and family with Mayor Wu at the Enchanted Trolley Tree lighting





Mayor Michelle Wu with Enchanted Trolley Master of Ceremony Freddy with Santa Claus begins the tree lighting count down



Mayor Wu and Representative Aaron Michlewitz enjoying the North End Festivities with Michael DeLeo and family (Photos by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

# KEEP WIPES OUT OF PIPES

**ONLY Toilet Paper**  **NO Wipes** 

## "FLUSHABLE" WIPES CAN CLOG YOUR PIPES

Wipes that claim to be "flushable" and "sewer safe" in fact are not sewer friendly. Unlike toilet paper, wipes do not break down as they travel through pipes and the public sewer system. Wipes can cause backups in your home plumbing and can cause sewer overflows in the street.

**Don't flush wipes- Place them in the trash after use!**

 Boston Water and Sewer Commission  
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617-989-7000





**INTERSTELLAR  
10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
LIMITED EDITION  
(4K Ultra HD/Blu-ray/Digital)  
Paramount Presents**

*Interstellar* celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and Paramount Pictures is marking the occasion with a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Limited Edition 4K Ultra HD set. A transcendent science fiction drama, *Interstellar* became a cultural phenomenon, thrilling audience with exploration of humanity. Acclaimed for its scientific accuracy, *Interstellar* captured viewers' imaginations, earning five Oscar® nominations, with a win for Best Visual Effects. The film features an extraordinary cast, including Matthew McConaughey, Jessica Chastain, Anne Hathaway, Matt Damon, John Lithgow, Michael Caine, Timothée Chalamet, Ellen Burstyn, Bill Irwin, Wes Bentley, David Oyelowo, Casey Affleck, and more. A team of pioneers undertakes the most important mission in human history—to discover whether mankind has a future among the stars. Oscar-winner Matthew McConaughey stars as the ex-pilot turned farmer who is forced to leave his family and a foundering Earth behind to lead an expedition traveling beyond this galaxy. Revisit *Interstellar* with the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Limited Edition. This set includes the iconic film on both 4K Ultra HD and Blu-ray Disc, as well as a third Blu-ray with more than two hours of new and legacy bonus content that delves into the science of the film, its groundbreaking production, and a brand-new discussion of the film's impact 10 years later. The set also includes access to a Digital copy of the film, reproductions of five costume patches, five theatrical poster reproductions, and a never-before-seen storyboard sequence from the director's archives.

**PULP FICTION –  
30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
(4K Ultra HD/Blu-ray)  
Paramount Home Ent.**

In 1994, writer-director Quentin Tarantino blew away audiences and critics with his brazenly brilliant tribute to hard-crime capers, *Pulp Fiction*. 30 years later, the acclaimed and award-winning film continues to thrill new generations of fans with its infinitely quotable dialogue, superb cast, ingenious plot, and chart-topping soundtrack. In celebration of the cinematic masterpiece's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, *Pulp Fiction* was released on 4K Ultra HD in a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Collector's Edition on December 3, 2024 from Paramount Home Entertainment. *Pulp Fiction* became a cultural phenomenon that redefined cinema in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The film took home the Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or, the Independent Spirit Award for Best Feature, the Oscar for Best Original Screenplay, and dozens of additional awards. The unforgettable, star-studded cast includes John Travolta and Samuel L. Jackson (as a pair of low-rent hitmen, Uma Thurman (portraying a gangster's wife),

Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth, Amanda Plummer, Maria de Medeiros, Ving Rhames, Eric Stoltz, Rosanna Arquette, Christopher Walken, and Bruce Willis (as a desperate prize-fighter), in a wildly entertaining and exhilarating adventure of violence and redemption.

**SCALA!!!  
(Blu-ray/Digital)  
Severin Films**

The floors were sticky. The patrons were dodgy. Its legacy is extraordinary: Severin Films announced the North American Disc Premiere of the award-winning documentary *Scala!!! — Or, the incredibly strange rise and fall of the world's wildest cinema and how it influenced a mixed-up generation of weirdos and misfits*, in an unprecedented 3-disc collection with hours of Special Features. Between the politically volatile years of 1978 to 1993, London's most infamous repertory movie theater/pleasure dome screened over 4000 mind-warping films that influenced a generation of remarkable writers, musicians, filmmakers, actors, artists and activists. Co-directors Jane Giles and Ali Catterall now reveal the incredible true story of The Scala Cinema featuring rare archival footage, dozens of film clips from Scala favorites and interviews with former Scala audience members, guests and staff that include John Waters, Ben Wheatley, Jah Wobble, Cathi Unsworth, Mary Harron, Kim Newman, Nick Kent, Isaac Julien, Matt Johnson and more. Two additional discs include the new documentary *Splatterfest Exhumed* directed by Jasper Sharp about the notorious 1990 all-night horror festival featuring interviews with attendees John McNaughton, Brian Yuzna, Scott Spiegel and more, plus 12 specially curated Scala-screened short films, hours of additional material that include audio commentaries, an archive of Scala schedules, extended interviews, outtakes and animation, plus a replica Scala membership card and much more.

**THE BLOCK ISLAND SOUND  
(4K Ultra HD)  
Synapse Films**

Synapse Films unleashes *The Block Island Sound* from directors Kevin and Matthew McManus on 4K UHD and Blu-ray. Strange things are happening on the remote Block Island Sound. Harry notices that his father Tom (Solomon Grundy) is starting to act very differently, becoming forgetful and angry, and taking his fishing boat out in the middle of the night. It's also alarming that birds and fish have been dying around the island. Harry's marine biologist sister Audry arrives on the island to investigate the wildlife deaths for the Environmental Protection Agency. She brings along her daughter to enjoy island life with her family. Are the unimaginable calamities being caused by man's interference, nature running amok, or something beyond? Emmy nominated writer/producers Kevin and Matthew McManus created a potent blend of ecological and cosmic horror in *The Block Island Sound*.

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

**BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR  
ARRESTED BY FEDS ON  
CORRUPTION CHARGES**

Last week, District 7 Boston City Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson was arrested by the feds on corruption charges. The last time something like this happened was back in 2010, I believe, when District 7 Boston City Councilor Chuck Turner was arrested by the feds on reportedly similar charges. Nothing ever seems to change with the City Council except the names of councilors getting into trouble with the law. When it came to Turner, he was eventually kicked out of his district seat on a vote by the City Council. Could the same thing happen again? We shall see where this arrest will lead.

**NOAH'S  
ANNUAL DINNER MEETING**

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual NOAH Dinner Meeting will be taking place on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Spinelli's in Day Square. Come join the crowd to express much appreciation for local allies, volunteers, supporters, and residents celebrating the collaborative efforts making a positive impact on our community. For more info, call 617-567-5882.

**FALLING IN LOVE  
WITH A SIDEWALK**

I know this sounds like some old country music song but the sidewalk I'm talking about took me over to the accident floor at old Boston City Hall. I was walking home from school carrying my school bag full of textbooks and tripped over my own two feet and down I went. As I hit the ground with my books between me and the concrete, I heard a crack or two. Then, the pain came. I took myself over to the hospital up the street. Busted left wrist. It was December 13, 1963. Of course, in three years' time, I was playing a little B-ball with my brother on a concrete playground. He fouled me, I went down and once again heard a crack. This time it was my right elbow. At the time my brother was adamant, he didn't foul me. This also happened in late December.

Of course, knowing my luck, I fell again this past January on my way to a *Cena* at Rino's and of course I broke bones in my right hand. I seemed to heal much faster earlier in life. But I did heal. My object now is to swear off losing to a criminal sidewalk ever again. However, first I have to stop falling, which sometimes is easier said than done.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
AND COME ON DOWN**

Growing up in the '50s and '60s, I loved watching *Truth or Consequences*, a popular TV game show at the time, hosted by Bob Barker who would go on to the "New" *Price is Right* show. It was called "NEW" because Barker replaced the TV game show's original host Bill Cullen.

Yesterday (December 12<sup>th</sup>), Bob Barker would have turned 100 years old. He passed away on August 26, 2023 at 99 years old. *Truth or Consequences* aired from 1956-75 and *The Price is Right* from 1972 until 2007 before he was replaced by

Drew Carey.

**21ST ANNUAL  
EASTIE'S ELVES  
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

Once again, it is time for a relatively new Eastie tradition, the upcoming 21st Annual Eastie Elves celebration held as usual at the Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor hotel on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Admission price? One new unwrapped children's toy.

**A BLANK CANVAS  
GOING FOR \$1.5M**

By now we have all heard about that banana with a piece of duct tape just went for \$6.2 million, right? Well, now here is the latest artistic insanity. A blank canvas painted by its artist all white is now going for \$1.5 million. The "artist" calls his masterpiece "General 52 x 52." I am sure there is at least one idiot out there who will buy this "artwork."

**WILLIE NELSON'S  
90TH BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION ON PBS**

Last Tuesday evening (December 3<sup>rd</sup>), I turned on PBS and found the station playing the Willie Nelson 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration which had happened on April 29/30, 2023 at the Hollywood Bowl. The folks pitching for cash from viewers like us kept babbling on about what a great concert it was and indeed it was. However, this coming April, four months from now, he will be turning 92 years old. Only PBS would run a nearly two years old celebration like it just happened yesterday. I love good country music, especially the outlaw country subgenre of the late '60s and there was plenty of that to be had at this 2023 concert celebrating the life of Willie Nelson. How many years from now will PBS go back to the vault and pull this out again and again and again just like The Highwaymen did it again and again and again?

**MORE PBS MUSIC VIDEOS**

Last week on the same night, I witnessed PBS raising money off generational music. First, it was a music show on the music of the Big Band Era. The folks trying to take money out of the pockets of "Viewers like You" were trying to sell you DVDs and CDs showing old videos of Big Bands playing the music of the '30s and '40s. The pitch included giving everyone a chance to rekindle old feelings and old memories of the good old days. Only trouble, most of the people seeking those feelings and memories are currently living in places like Forest Hills, St. Michael's, Holy Cross,

and Woodlawn, eh? Then, there was PBS again running an old video of the Bee Gees in concert when they were all still alive. That video must be aimed at me since I still have feelings and memories of that good ole Disco Era. But I'm still not buying.

**GAMES HIGH SCHOOL  
KIDS PLAY**

Being a long-term high school substitute teacher, I get to see all the latest games high school students are now playing on their phones or laptops. One new game is called CLUB PENGUIN. I am still trying to figure out the rules. When I do, I'll let you know. We older folk need to keep up on all this important stuff.

The other game is called UNDODGEBALL. This game is just like dodgeball except different. Instead of trying to avoid getting hit, you stand still and, depending on where you get hit, points are given. It also doesn't take Albert Einstein to figure where the most points are given after getting hit. If you have any questions, just email me.

**I HAVEN'T HAD A  
LONE STAR BEER  
SINCE 2018**

I hope to be getting back down to Austin in the coming year and haven't been there for almost five years now. Both the death of my too young nephew from cancer and the beginning of the pandemic have kept me out of the Lone Star State too long for my own good.

Whenever I am down there, I enjoy drinking my Lone Star Beer. Did you know that this beer brand is sold nationwide but 80 percent of its sales are in Texas, making Lone Star Beer the National Beer of Texas which Texans proudly repeat to whoever is listening.

Did you know there is even a country music tune named after this beer? It was a hit song back in 1976 for Red Steagall and I just heard it again on Willie's Roadhouse on Sirius Radio.

**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. SU24P2589EA  
Estate of  
JUDITH CHERNOFF  
Date of Death: June 09, 2023  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Miriam C. Chernoff of Waltham, MA, Petitioner Ellen S. Chernoff of Brookline, MA, Petitioner Herman Chernoff of Boston, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Miriam C. Chernoff of Waltham, MA, Ellen S. Chernoff of Brookline, MA, Herman Chernoff of Boston, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 12/13/2024

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# Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Christmas was for us kids. This meant a visit to Santa Claus and there was only one true Santa Claus and he could be found in the toy department of Jordan Marsh. New York had its Macy's and Gimbals located on 34<sup>th</sup> Street. But we had our own version of these two rivals on Washington and Summer Streets: Filene's and Jordan Marsh. At Christmas time, they both went overboard preparing for December 25th. Filenes had the best window displays I had ever seen, mechanical mannequins with moving parts dressed for holiday cheer, American Flyer trains chugging away at their feet, and lots of toys for kids of all ages. But there was only one place to go to visit with Santa, the toy department at Jordan Marsh.

At one point in my life the toy department was located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and then it was moved up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. I don't remember the sequence or the years when this took place, but I do remember the toy department, and that's what is important. Mom and Grace Manfredonia, would plan to bundle me and the then three Manfredonia kids up, take the MTA from Maverick Station in East Boston and exit at Park Street Under. Once upstairs and outside, we could see the trees on Boston Common all decorated with colored lights. A short walk across Tremont Street and a peek at the goodies in the window of S.S. Pierce, a specialty market back in the day, and then a short walk down Winter Street to the corner of Washington and Summer Streets and there they were, Filenes and Jordan Marsh. John Manfredonia and I would push our ways through the people lined up in front of Filene's windows to see their displays. His sister, Adelaide and brother, Fred, were younger and stuck closer to Grace and my mother. Our observations were brief, as this was only the antipasto preparing the way for the delights that were forth coming.

The elevators were always crowded with waiting lines, and once inside, the operators would call out, "Floors, please." In unison, we kids would yell out, "The toy department."

Once outside the elevator, we were in one of America's largest toy departments and we kids would drag our parents to the biggest electric train display ever created to hypnotize a bunch of pre-teens. A display table that was about 50 feet by 50 feet would be set up like a small suburban town, complete with down town buildings, small

colonial homes, a pond with ice skaters, a waterfall at the head of a river, the local church and especially the local train station with a nearby freight yard. In constant movement around the perimeter of the display table would be the local trolley and several trains all passing each other, heading through tunnels, going up and down hills, and as they passed one another, they sounded their horns, whistles and bells. We would spend almost a half hour with our eyes glued to the movements of the Lionel passenger and freight trains that came our way. When the freight trains stopped at the freight yard, many of them had mechanical parts that were operated to allow them to be loaded or unloaded and as the passenger train pulled into the open-air stop in the middle of the town, we heard the constant clang of the bell that informed the tiny warmly dressed toy people that it was pulling in. What I also loved was the cars that were parked in the lot adjacent to the station. I loved cars even then. There were examples of cars from the '30s, '40s, and the newest cars that arrived after WWII, heading into the early '50s.

When we had had enough of the trains, I would head to an area where they sold model airplanes, most of which were examples of the fighters and bombers we flew during the war. Models made by Strombecker were of hardwood and had to be sanded, assembled and finished. Other manufacturers, like Guillow, made their models out of balsam, a soft wood that required some carving before the assembly process took place. I was a model maker and would point out to my mother the planes I didn't have.

From there I would head to the Gilbert display. Gilbert made the Erector Set. These were pieces of metal in all forms and shapes that were screwed together to represent machines. All came with an electric motor that would cause an assembled design to function. I already had one of these from Christmas a year or two earlier, but needed things added to it to make it more advanced. The second last stop was to the display of chemicals that accompanied a youth version of a microscope. I loved looking at things through Dad's microscope and this might be my version of Dad's if I asked for it.

The last step of the annual pilgrimage was the visit with Santa. Grace and my mother would round us up and get us squared away in the line that

awaited the visit. Once it was my turn, I would stand next to Santa, answer the usual question, "Have you been a good boy this year?" and then begin to list the things I wanted him to bring for Christmas. I always had quite a list: more cars for my trains, a few model planes, additions to my Erector Set, an array of chemicals, slides for my microscope and maybe a Daisy Red Rider lever action BB gun or/and a set of Roy Rogers cap guns, western revolvers housed in real leather holsters. I always received the same response regarding the BB gun, "I don't know about the BB gun, if you're not careful, you could shoot your eye out."

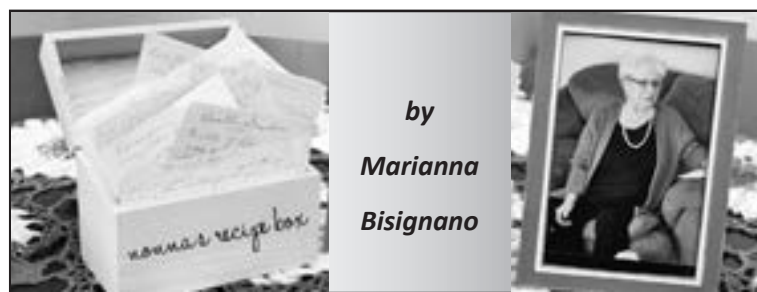
When I heard this dialogue in the film, *A Christmas Story*, years later, I knew that response must have been universal.

After the Manfredonia kids and I had visited with St. Nick, our mothers would tell us that it was time for lunch. We could have gone to several different places on Washington Street near where the movie theaters were located or we could have walked back toward the North End and indulged in Italian food that we could identify with, but this was a special occasion. The visit to Santa happened only once a year, so our mothers would march us back to Tremont Street and we would have lunch at the Thompson Spa, a rather upscale restaurant back in the day. Once seated, I prided myself on being the little proper Bostonian. Uncle Nick's first wife, Aunt Ada, made sure I had the social graces that she felt I would need in my life. As a result, I knew how to order without anyone's help, and when the food arrived, which utensils to use as I ate.

Once we arrived at home, Nanna and Babbononno would ask me what I said to Santa. I was always a story teller and would comment in detail on my conversation with the man. Babbononno would memorize what I wanted and later tell my father and uncles. I was the first-born male in the family and this meant that whatever I wanted, I would probably get. Babbononno would instruct me to leave Santa a glass of wine before I went to bed on Christmas Eve. He intimated that most little kids would leave Santa cookies, but the ride in an open sleigh would have made him very cold, and a glass of wine would do the trick. I guess Babbononno's suggestions always worked. I would leave a glass of wine and a note for Santa, and lo and behold, on Christmas morning, just about everything I had asked for would be under the tree, and the glass would be empty ...

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by  
**Marianna  
Bisignano**

*In Italy, Pasta Frolla Montata, or whipped shortcrust pastry, is the go-to dough for creating delicate and festive piped cookies. This unique variation delivers a lighter, softer texture compared to traditional shortbread, making it ideal for piping into intricate shapes such as rings, logs, and stars.*

*This versatile recipe for Whipped Italian Shortbread Cookies is both easy to prepare and endlessly customizable. Enhance the cookies by dipping them in melted chocolate and adding a sprinkle of chopped nuts, colorful jimmies, or festive sugar crystals. For an extra touch of holiday magic, decorate with candied cherries or sprinkles before baking. To create the much-loved jelly sticks, sandwich two piped logs with raspberry jam, dip the ends in chocolate, and roll them in jimmies. These cookies make a stunning addition to Christmas trays and are perfect for gifting, beautifully arranged in festive boxes to share with family and friends during the holiday season.*

## WHIPPED ITALIAN SHORTBREAD COOKIES

### Biscotti di Pasta Frolla Italiani Montati



- 1 cup butter (room temperature)
- 1 cup icing sugar
- 2 cups plain flour
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon milk (plus more if needed)
- Optional Additions:
- Raspberry jam
- Semi-sweet or milk chocolate (for melting)
- Sugar crystals, nonpareils, or sprinkles/jimmies
- \*\*\*piping bag and large star tip is needed

#### Instructions:

Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

#### Prepare the Dough:

In a large bowl, beat the butter, icing sugar, and vanilla extract together until the mixture is light and fluffy.

#### Add the Dry Ingredients:

Gradually mix in the flour, followed by the milk. If the dough feels too stiff to pipe, add another teaspoon of milk, one at a time, until the texture is workable.

#### Pipe the Cookies:

Transfer the dough into a piping bag fitted with a large star tip. Pipe the dough into desired shapes, such as logs, rings, or stars, onto a parchment-lined baking sheet.

#### Bake:

Bake the cookies for about 15 minutes or until they are golden brown around the edges. Let them cool completely on the baking sheet.

#### Final Touches:

Chocolate-Dipped Cookies: Dip the ends of the cooled cookies in melted chocolate. Coat with sugar crystals, sprinkles, or leave plain.

Jelly Sticks: Sandwich two piped cookie logs together with raspberry jam. Dip the ends of the sandwich into melted chocolate and coat with sprinkles or jimmies. Place the decorated cookies on a cooling rack to set.

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# THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso



## Saved by the Archive

If you think book antiquarians have no use for the digital world, consider my anecdote this morning. Among the most valuable books in my library is a first edition of Winston Churchill's autobiographical *My Early Life: A Roving Commission*, published in 1930 by Butterworth, London Ltd. I bought it from an antiquarian over a decade ago when I was compiling Churchill's written works. I inspect old books, especially scarce ones, extensively. Oversights do happen, however, both on my end and on the sellers'. Usually, these blights that slip by are discovered upon reading the volume.

This morning, however, I had quite a shock. I happened to pull out *My Early Life* in preparation as it is one of the upcoming volumes on my to-read list. To explain my alarm, which evolved into panic and then dismay, it is necessary to describe the book. Inserted sporadically throughout the pages of the text are several matte sheets containing illustrations, mostly of Churchill in his younger years. These illustrative inserts are not numbered so if one of them follows page 140, for instance, the page after the matte insert would be 141. In between a few pages, though, I saw not a full matte sheet of photographs but rather a thin matte strip between pages of text. This occurred in two or three spots. My logical conclusion: the matte sheets had been removed by a vandal at some point in the book's life! I had been sold a rare volume with missing pages, whether the sellers did this knowingly or not mattered little some ten years later.

My heart began to race, this was a scarce volume that replacing, if possible, at all, would be expensive. As several years had passed since the purchase there was no way of me returning or exchanging the volume with the vendors. Here is where panic mode set in and I quickly began searching eBay and AbeBooks. Panic did not last long before it was replaced with dismay. Later editions of *My Early Life* (less valuable) were selling for hundreds of dollars while first editions in poor condition were

surpassing \$1,000. I could not justify such an impulse buy and yet I was crestfallen over a damaged rare book.

I don't know what inspired my next move. Maybe it was just my sullen curiosity to see what was in those missing sheets or maybe something told me not to give up just yet. Whatever it was I turned to the Internet Archive, a database of digital scans (including covers) of pretty much any book imaginable. There are several editions of older titles and finding a page-by-page scan of the first edition of *My Early Life* was relatively easy. When I scrolled down to the spot where I believed the matte insert had been ripped out of my physical copy of the book, I could hardly believe what I saw. There was no insert there! Ever cautious, however, I refrained from rejoicing. Perhaps, I thought, the matte inserts were not included with the digital scan anyway. So, I picked up my physical copy and found a spot in the book in which there was an illustrative insert and when I matched that spot with the digital scan of the book that page of illustrations was present. Now I began to feel cause for optimism. I still wanted to be sure, however, so I found one of the other few spots in the physical book where a matte stem seemed to indicate that there should have been a sheet of illustrations and matched them with the digital book and once again saw that there was no sheet in the digital book either. This was the news I wanted but thought impossible. There never had been matte inserts in between those specific pages in my copy of the book. The book is complete and sound. The matte stem that made me believe there had been a sheet there is likely a mere printing anomaly.

My relief can only be understood by fellow bibliophiles, but I am still puzzled at by what impulse I turned to the Internet Archive. What I know for sure is that it saved me from deciding between two unpleasant options, live with a damaged volume or pay a hefty sum for a replacement. There wasn't a need for either one.

Local to Massachusetts, former U.S. Ambassador to Russia John J. Sullivan pens a comprehensive and informative autobiography of his tenure being ambassador to the country with the largest landmass as well as rival nation to the United States during the latter half and beyond of the twentieth century. One might think only of the formidable and truly precarious situations that enveloped both nations during the Cold War of post-World War II with the political circumstances known as the Cuban Missile Crises in 1962 and with the Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars") of the 1980s. Of course, given that both nations were considered Superpowers, covert activities resulting from enjoying such a status is certainly not a surprise.

Sullivan's wide-ranging work, *Midnight in Moscow* with subtitle *A Memoir from the Front Lines of Russia's War against the West* covers his tenure as Ambassador, in both President Trump and Biden's administrations. Sullivan's impressive diplomatic curriculum vitae includes serving as 10<sup>th</sup> United States Ambassador to Russia from February 2020 until September 2022; and prior to that as United States Deputy Secretary of State, and for a very brief period, Acting Secretary of State.

Unquestionably an imposing background, well-grounded in diplomatic experience and in the functions of government; indeed, Sullivan's familiarity extends back to President George W. Bush with his service as General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

*Midnight in Moscow* ... allows the reader to appreciate the challenging conditions that an ambassador must contend with in carrying out those diplomatic measures necessary to keep all well — at least as well as *can be!* The word *challenge* might be considered an understatement when considering those circumstances that Sullivan had to maintain in his role as diplomat; there have been numerous unstable conditions that has encumbered U.S.-Russian relations since the official ending of the "Cold War" in 1989.

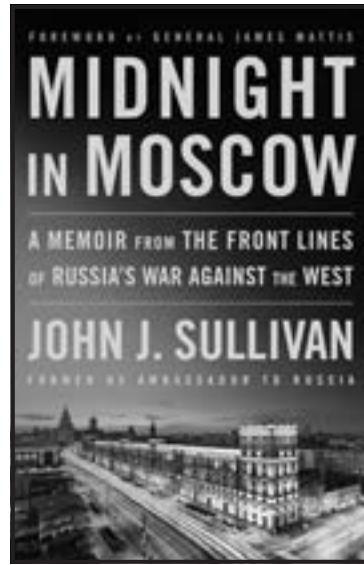
The reader will observe these encounters in a very straight forward and candid prose as Sullivan's writing is lucid, cogent and enlightening. Case in point, although furtive activities are assumed within the context of government intelligence, the author brings the audience into the world of tit-for-tat — and perhaps more than one could have realized. This is evidenced with Sullivan's sharing of how certain personnel are determined within the realm of the diplomatic setting if the number of staff is reduced due to a United States decision, then the Russian government will do the same. The definition of *One Up* is not lost on the proceedings taking place within the world of U.S. — Russian diplomacy. The reader will find these nuances, as well as other episodes in Sullivan's narrative compelling.

*Midnight in Moscow* ... is a book that the casual student of history would find appealing; certainly, a must for those like Sullivan himself who is a student of Russian history, its people and its culture. The author expounds

# MIDNIGHT in MOSCOW

BY FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA JOHN J. SULLIVAN

Book Review by John Joseph Fahey



heavily on Russian history to augment the motives behind the current conflict with Ukraine, for example. Although officially beginning in February 2022, with Russia invading Ukraine, the causes of the conflict are deep rooted; its background extends directly to Russia's annexation of Crimea and then with its involvement with the Ukraine's cities of Donbas and Luhansk. The fact that Ukraine's inclination towards acceptance into NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Association) and its candidacy for EU (European Union) has been generally perceived as one of the main causes of Russia's aggression; however, as the book points out, its genesis is much more, further detailed and historically based. To further explicate, the following quote is cited:

"The original conflict traced its roots to a dispute over whether Ukraine would align with, and in due course join, the European Union. In 2013, there was wide support in the Ukrainian parliament (known as the Verkhovna Rada) for an 'association agreement' with the EU that would establish a political and economic relationship, including a trade pact, between Ukraine and the EU. The agreement would be a step forward in the lengthy (yearlong) process for Ukraine to become a member of the union. Even to be eligible to sign the association agreement, Ukraine would have to implement certain legal, judicial, and electoral reforms required by

the EU, including the release from prison of the country's former prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko, a political rival of the current Ukrainian president, Viktor Yanukovich."

Sullivan's thorough background facilitates both the novice and acquainted reader in understanding of the issues in what has most certainly developed an obstruction in Russo-American relations.

Sullivan's acuity of history is something that will help the reader comprehend the severity of Russia's aims. The author also goes into a relatively comprehensive history of the Nuremberg Trials of the World War II era respective to the objectives of an aggressive regime and its possible ramifications; although undoubtedly not equating Russia with German regime of the Second World War, containment, nonetheless is the operative word. Sullivan's journal is quite clear on this point. Sullivan's thesis is quite reasoned in that the Ukraine, considered the underdog, has indeed evolved to become a formidable opposition — and Russia's restriction is essential to preclude a continental-wide conflict.

Despite this work being presented as a serious treatment about critical issues, *Midnight in Moscow* ... is occasionally interspersed with reflections of the former ambassador's family life along with the difficulties that the job entails — especially with the absence of family; indeed, the strain of being away from home and family can be almost overwhelming; and coupled that with how stressful the intricacy of statecraft can be, then the reader can understand the hurdles that an ambassador must go through to continue to foster compliant (albeit often times tolerable) diplomatic relationships.

*This work is highly recommended; its 403 pages are divided into 4 Parts with 15 chapters with an Epilogue (also a Forward by James N. Mattis, General (Retired), US Marine Corps.*

*Little, Brown and Company; Hachette Book Group, 2024.*

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**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. MI24C1268CA  
In the matter of  
**JACKSON WILLIAM FRINK**  
CITATION ON  
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Jackson William Frink of Somerville, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Eris Astra Prism**.  
**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 December 26, 2024. 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: November 27, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run Date: 12/13/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Northampton District Court  
Department of the Trial Court  
CIVIL ACTION PUBLICATION NOTICE  
Docket No. 2445CV000069  
**THE HEIRLOOM COLLECTIVE, INC.**  
v.  
**WESTERN FRONT, LLC**  
Filed April 23, 2024  
To the Officers, Directors, Agents and Representatives, current and former, of Western Front, LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company with a principal place of business at 420 Boylston Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02116, including but not limited to Dennis A. Benzan of 699 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, Marvin E. Gilmore, Jr. of 699 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, Omowale Moses, 699 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, Timothy Richard Flaherty, Esq., of 420 Boylston Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02116. A lawsuit in the Northampton District Court has been initiated against Western Front, LLC.  
A copy of the complaint and summons may be obtained from Plaintiff, c/o Michael J. McAndrew, Esq., Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinias, LLP, 1500 Main St., Suite 2700, Springfield, MA 01115, or via electronic mail at [mmcandrew@bulkley.com](mailto:mmcandrew@bulkley.com)  
Run Dates: 12/06, 12/13, 12/20/2024

**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. MI24C1225CA  
In the Matter of  
**KEILANY MARGARET NATICCHIONI**  
CITATION ON  
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Keilany Margaret Naticchioni of Cambridge, MA, requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to **Keilany Margaret Torrice**.  
**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 January 07, 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: December 10, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run Date: 12/13/2024

**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. MI24P6357PO  
TRUST CITATION  
In the matter of:  
**CONROY FAMILY TRUST**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by **John T. Conroy of Dracut, MA** requesting this honorable court enter an order to terminate said trust in accordance with MGL c 203e.  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on January 02, 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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 05, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/13/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**WATERTOWN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
ADVERTISEMENT  
INVITATION FOR BID  
LEASE OF ROOFTOP SPACE FOR  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES  
Project No: WHDC-11-25-24**  
The Watertown Housing Development Corporation (the "Authority") is soliciting sealed bids for the lease and use of the rooftop space at 100 Warren Street, Building A, in the City of Watertown, Massachusetts, Middlesex County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This space is available for installing and operating radio communications facilities, provided the use does not interfere with the operations of one other telecommunications company on the roof of the adjoining nearby building at Building B, with a long-term lease. These facilities can include, but are not limited to, cellular telephone, personal communications systems, paging, and land mobile radio. The lease and use of these spaces will be on a nonexclusive basis.  
**Sealed Bids will be received on or before 2:00PM (cell phone time) January 22, 2025, at the Watertown Housing Authority, Address: 55 Waverley Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472, Attn: Anthony DiGiovanni, endorsed with the name and address of the bidder and clearly marked with the applicable contract name and number. At such time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.**  
The WATERTOWN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION reserves the right to award and/or reject any and all bids for any reason determined to be in the Authority's best interest.  
Invitation for Bid (IFB) copies are available free of charge after December 11, 2024 via email request to [anthonyd@watertownha.org](mailto:anthonyd@watertownha.org) or by calling Anthony DiGiovanni at the direct office line at 617-393-1971. They may also be picked up at the Authority's Administrative Office at 55 Waverley Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472 by contacting Anthony DiGiovanni in advance at the above phone number and scheduling pick up.  
The existing building will be available for observation by appointment only on December 18, 2024 at 10:00AM and the building will be inspected immediately thereafter. Bidders please contact Anthony DiGiovanni at the above phone number or email address prior to close of business on the Monday prior to schedule an appointment for the observation.  
The observation is an opportunity to visit and observe the site only. Any oral interpretations offered at the site observation are non-binding. Any questions must be submitted in writing to Anthony DiGiovanni at the address email above no later than 4:00PM on the Friday prior to the date stated above for the receipt of bids. Questions after that time may not be responded to, at the sole discretion of the Authority.  
All prospective bidders should check the Watertown Housing Authority website ([www.watertownha.org](http://www.watertownha.org)) for any addenda prior to submitting a bid. For further information, contact Anthony DiGiovanni by phone: (617) 393-1971 or by email at [anthonyd@watertownha.org](mailto:anthonyd@watertownha.org)  
Run dates: 12/06, 12/13/2024



**EXTRA Innings**

by Sal Giarratani

**Boston English Runs by Boston Latin in 28-12 Battle**

This past Thanksgiving, Boston English and Boston Latin met up again at Harvard Stadium in the nation's longest continuous high school rivalry with Boston English beating Boston Latin by a score of 28 to 12. It was the third victory for English in the last four Thanksgiving Day games. For the longest time at least since I graduated from English back in 1966, Latin seemed to own Thanksgiving Day, but apparently English is back with both the offense and defense power to declare victory over its archrivals.  
Football became painful to watch around the time I was

graduating from high school (Class of '66). The late '60s started sending English down a long rabbit hole of losing seasons. Between 1964 and 2019, English had lost 52 of 56 Thanksgiving Day matchups with rival Boston Latin. Things got so bad when English alumni grads went to the game, we started betting not on winning or losing the game but on actually scoring any points at all. That's bad as bad could be, right? During the 1970s, Latin held English to 28 points over the entire decade. Those were brutal days for EHS alumni. Even if we wanted to forget it, it remains deeply buried inside our blue English jackets or hoodies.

Over the past four years, these Turkey Day games have been going thankfully Blue and Blue again and not just horribly Black and Blue. My alma mater is now 3-1 over the past few years. Remember it took English 56 years to win four of these games on all those cold Thanksgiving Day mornings.

Kudos to the *Bay State Banner* sportswriter Jimmy Meyers for his excellent coverage on this English-Latin football rivalry on November 21st. He presented a balanced viewpoint of the two schools and this great rivalry. Both sides surely enjoyed this piece, I am sure. Thank you to the *Bay State Banner* from this Boston English graduate. You did well.

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

She pleaded her case before the parole board back on November 20th and was denied. Only two people, her pastor and his wife, spoke in support of her parole bid.

**Busted in DC Trans Protest**

On Thursday last week, a dozen transgender activists, including military intelligence leaker Chelsea Manning, were arrested after storming a women's restroom inside the U.S. Capitol. The protesters were reacting to a new rule unveiled by Speaker Mike Johnson requiring individuals to use single-sex facilities that corresponded with their biological sex. Demonstrators held banners that read "Flush Bathroom Bigotry" and "Congress Stop Pissing On Our Rights."

Approximately 15 people were arrested for illegally protesting inside the Cannon House Office Building and among them was Manning.

**Just Tell Yourself You Want a Good Day**

According to Dr. Daniel Amen, a double-board certified psychiatrist and brain-imaging researcher in California, has taken to TikTok to share the positive morning affirmation that he promises can defeat negative thinking. Amen says the mantra needs to be said out loud to get the full effect. He recommends everyone start their mornings by saying, "Today is going to be a great day." Maintaining that these major words are effective when spoken to yourself or someone else.

**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. MI24P6171EA  
Estate of  
**PASQUALE A. PROIA**  
Date of Death: August 05, 2024  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **David A. Proia of Waltham, 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 **David A. Proia of Waltham, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 02, 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: December 05, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 12/13/2024

When you do this, he said, your subconscious mind begins to look for activities and moments you are looking forward to experience as the day unfolds. The doctor says a sunny perspective is crucial to programming the brain to seek the positive. He says this is very important, "You want to start every day with TODAY IS GOING TO BE A GREAT DAY."

**It was a Blue, Blue Christmas for this Thief**

A Virginia man has been arrested after allegedly trying to steal nearly \$1,400 worth of items from a Walmart right in front of dozens of police officers at the store for a holiday event. The Walmart had been hosting its annual "Shop with a Cop" event that partnered local police

and children to help pick out gifts for the holidays.

Nearly 50 police officers and deputy sheriffs were all inside the store when the culprit tried to hide the loot on his person and exit the store. There were 30 to 40 marked police cruisers parked right outside the store, which turned out to be a case of bad timing by the alleged thief, said a police spokesperson.

After a store clerk alerted the law to a shoplifter inside the place, they scoured the aisles and quickly found the suspect. The crook also had active warrants for failure to appear in court on a previous shoplifting case and now faces a felony charge of grand larceny for his failed holiday heist.

**Are Jags Pretty in Pink?**

Of recent, Jaguar has been attempting to woo Generation Z with a Barbie pink electric car but it seems to be backfiring as many Zoomers say this new UK vehicle looks like a cheap woke "Pink Batmobile." Folks on TikTok have been especially brutal saying "Go woke, you know the rest." The new \$125,519 Jaguar Type 00 concept unveiled at the Miami Art Week last week features a giant bonnet, slanted rectangular grills, no rear window and a new logo minus the leaping Jaguar. The Jaguar company dismissed all the criticism. Keep an eye on this ongoing news story. The marketing team seems to be standing by this remake but as critics say, we shall see, we shall see.

**Point - Counterpoint**

**POINT:** "Hunter Biden isn't the first presidential son caught up in controversy. Anybody remember Neil Bush?"

**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 **December 30, 2024** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other fees due.  
**2008 CHEVROLET EXPRESS**  
Vin #1GCGG25C881221893  
**2003 BMW 330xi**  
Vin #WBAEV53423KM26460  
**2007 SATURN ION**  
Vin #1G8AJ55F47Z148213  
**1999 HONDA CIVIC**  
Vin #2HGEJ6612XH559448  
**2010 NISSAN ROGUE**  
Vin #JN8AS5MT8AW501401  
**2016 YONGFU YN50QT-10**  
Vin #LL0TCAPK2GYC80784  
Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information [info@todiscotowing.com](mailto:info@todiscotowing.com)  
Run dates: 12/06, 12/13, 12/20/2024

— Esquire

**COUNTERPOINT:** "Esquire published a piece based on the premise that President George H.W. Bush pardoned his son, Neil. One problem: He didn't. But Esquire was so eager to whitewash Joe Biden's corrupt pardon for his son, it went on in the subhead: "Shut the fck up about Hunter Biden, please." After blowback, the magazine corrected and then totally yanked the piece. Moral: Don't let ChatGPT write your columns."

— NY Post Editorial Board  
**End Quote**

"I haven't seen what the proof is that the FBI has been weaponized against a political party or the Department of Justice."  
— Democratic member of the Special J-6 House Committee U.S. Rep. Jamie Raskin, December 1st

# Boxing Ringside



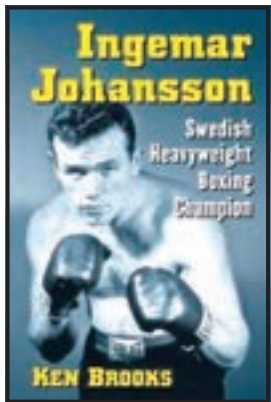
WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

## Pugilistic Pages

### Some Holiday Reading and Gift Ideas

With both Christmas and the cold winter soon to be upon us, I thought this would be a good time to stock up on some good books. This being a boxing column, well then, I will put forth a selection books on pugilism that I have found enjoyable, insightful, and informative. This is just a brief list. There are many more out there and I my intention is not to slight any of the hardworking authors who work countless hours to bring us these delightful stories.

**Ingemar Johansson:  
Swedish Heavyweight Champion**  
By Ken Brooks



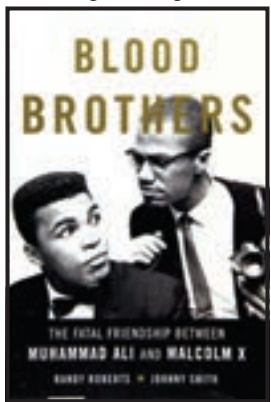
Though Johansson was heavyweight champion for less than a year, it can be argued that his presence put boxing back on its feet. Up until he won the title, the champion was fighting mostly handpicked opponents and people were losing interest in the most prized title in sports.

Mr. Brooks gives us a solid account of the rather quirky Swede who won the title in spectacular fashion, and who immediately captured the public's imagination. The man had star quality.

I wrote this in my review of the book:

"Mr. Brooks has done meticulous research, organized his material, given an array of footnotes to back up that research, and ends up with a lively narrative about a fascinating figure in the world of boxing. Though he clearly admires his subject, this is no hagiography."

**Blood Brothers: The Fatal Friendship Between Muhammad Ali And Malcolm X**  
By Randy Roberts and Johnny Smith



In his excellent biography of Muhammad Ali, Jonathan Eig has given us the complete life of the colorful heavyweight champion. With this work Mr. Eig has written the definitive biography of Ali.

Having said that, there is a lot of interesting ground to be covered in focusing in on particular aspects of

Ali's life. Randy Roberts and Johnny Smith have done a marvelous job of zeroing in on the relationship between Muhammad Ali and Malcolm X. It is not a flattering picture of the champ or of the Nation of Islam, the group that scooped up young Cassius Clay and changed his future. Ironically, it was Malcolm X who first worked to get Clay involved, and then later Ali would turn his back on his friend and mentor, as did the Nation of Islam when Malcolm was assassinated. This book is gripping.

From my review:

"This is an important book that will leave you rethinking your opinion of Muhammad Ali. It is in no way an attack on one of the greatest fighters of all time. It is an unbiased look at a flawed human being and a tragic friendship that will leave you asking, 'What if?'"

**Damage: The Untold Story Of Brain Trauma In Boxing**  
By Tris Dixon

Tris Dixon's book on the terrible injuries caused to those who participate in boxing was received with great praise when it was first published. It is meticulously researched and gives the public an honest account of just how serious a problem head injuries are in the sport. Unfortunately, the book quickly faded from view. This was not a work that those involved in boxing wanted to acknowledge. It lays bare the ugliness of the profession and those in it.

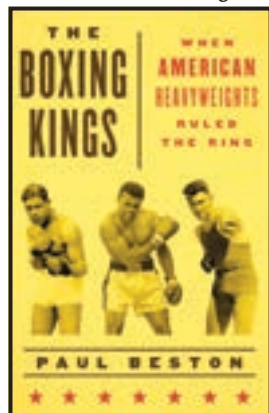
From Mike Silver's review:

"Dixon concludes with the following words: 'The sport might not be able to save every fighter but it must give them the best chance of saving them from themselves. Fighters must be made to understand the cumulative toll sparring

and boxing takes on them and they need to be prepared to walk away when the time comes. That is the hardest part for many fighters, and it's why the sport should do more to help as they start a new chapter ... It's time boxing confronts its own worst problem, stops ignoring it, and steps up to address it at all levels. This is a sport of courage and it will take bravery but it's happened in football, soccer, and rugby although it should not be up to other sports to take on boxing's biggest fight.' It is a fight that is long overdue."

**The Boxing Kings:  
When American Heavyweights Ruled The Ring**

By Paul Beston



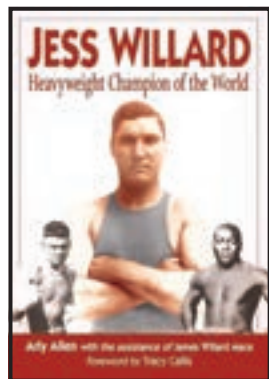
Paul Beston's book can be described as an overview history of the heavyweight championship, but that would be selling it short. While it does cover a lot of ground, it is a well-crafted work that brings us much more than just a brief look at the fascinating men who held that coveted title; it brings them to life.

"If you are not already familiar with this history there is no better book for you to learn from. If you are an experienced boxing fan you will find this work refreshing and informative. I consider myself to be a bit of a boxing expert and I still found much that was new to me while reading this lively narrative."

**Jess Willard:  
Heavyweight Champion of the World**

by Arly Allen

with the assistance of James Willard Mace



Today, Jess Willard is remembered primarily for being the man Jack Dempsey won the heavyweight title from. Watching brutality of that match on film still makes people cringe. It may surprise most that even after the loss to Dempsey, Willard was a huge drawing card with fans turning out in droves for the

remaining fights of his career. In fact, there was much talk of a second Dempsey/Willard fight, and that would have broken attendance records. Unfortunately, for Willard, his loss to Luis Firpo put an end to his chances to regain the title.

Arly Allen with the assistance of James Willard Mace, Jess's grandson, have given the neglected giant his due. Their book looks gives us a complete look at the man who was more complicated than many would have thought.

From my review:

"There is so much more to this book. Willard was champ during WW I and during flu epidemic. The stories of his real estate and farming investments, his sixty-year marriage to Hattie and the lovely family they raised all make for fascinating reading. Jess Willard deserves the attention of boxing fans and this book is the place to start. He was not just the guy who held the title between Johnson and Dempsey. He was a deeply interesting man."

We all owe a debt of gratitude to the authors who dedicate themselves to seeing these fighters of the past are not forgotten. Nobody writes boxing books to earn a living. They do it so that this unique and all too often forgotten history may be preserved.

## NBA Cup Out of Celtics Reach 12-13-24

The NBA Cup Championship offers the final teams a trip to Las Vegas for the knock-out rounds along with a half a million prize to each player on the winning team. Not to mention the bragging rights. Those who do not reach that depth, like the Celtics, will play two additional regular season games against other eliminated teams within their conference. For Boston, those games will be at the Garden this week against the Detroit Pistons and the Washington Wizards. C's player Sam Hauser expressed the team's disappointment with the Celtics elimination but also embraced the lighter schedule, stating "It's a chance to work on ourselves, work on our chemistry as a team, get better overall."

## Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) Impacting NHL Players

The largest study ever of CTE, conducted by Boston University CTE Center, proved the danger of repetitive head impacts for athletes, significantly increased the probability of this neurological disease. The recent study of 77 deceased male hockey players found the risk of brain disease jumped by 34% with each year played.

Of the nineteen NHL Hockey League players studied, eighteen were found to have CTE, a neurodegenerative disease caused by repetitive traumatic brain injuries, and most prevalently found in contact sport athletes exposed to consistent head impacts. The longer a hockey player competed, the more severe the disease. "Ice hockey players with longer careers not only were more likely to have CTE, but also had more severe disease. We hope this data will help inspire changes to make the game safer as well as help former ice hockey players impacted by CTE get the care they need," said Jesse Mez, co-director of clinical research at the BU CTE Center.

Researchers studied the brains of male amateur and professional ice hockey players, finding 96% of NHL players, 46% of college, juniors and semi-pro players, and 10% of youth and high school players, were affected, regardless of their position as an enforcer or non-enforcer.

"Enforcers have dominated the CTE conversation, but our findings provide the most evidence for the cumulative amount of play, as the predominant risk factor for CTE. Enforcers had about twice the odds of developing CTE, but the takeaway here is that non-enforcers are getting CRE as well. Ice hockey players skate quickly, and checking leads to impacts with other players, the ice, boards and glass. We think years of play is a proxy for these impacts that are harder to measure but are likely what are leading to the disease," said Mez.

Hockey is the third major sport to show, behind football and rugby, to show a correlation between years of play and CTE risk, proving stronger credence to the evidence that repetitive head impacts cause CTE.

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