

# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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**Massachusetts  
Primary Election  
Tuesday, September 3, 2024**

## News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

### Walmart Recalls Apple Juice with Arsenic Issue

Walmart has recalled nearly 10,000 cases of apple juice sold in stores across the nation that were found to contain potentially harmful levels of inorganic arsenic. The FDA gave the recall order a more urgent classification after making its original announcement on August 15th. The new classification said the affected product may temporarily cause adverse health consequences but is unlikely to cause serious or irreversible medical issues. The recall applies to 9,535 cases of Great Value apple juice sold in 25 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

### Few Can Afford to Buy Homes Says Data

A recent survey finds income of \$217,000 is needed to afford a single-family home in Boston according to the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University which means very few people can afford to buy anything. The average Boston-area household according

(Continued on Page 11)

## 103rd St. Lucy & 105th St. Anthony Feast



from Montefalcione in Avellino, the St. Anthony's feast has become the largest Italian religious festival in New England, and was named the "Feast of all feasts" by National Geographic Magazine. St. Anthony's feast day is June 13th and is the patron Saint for the recovery of lost items.

There were many opportunities to pay homage to these two saints beginning with a procession for Saint Lucy on Thursday, August 22nd to religious services at St. Leonard Church on Hanover Street, and many other events in between.

The highlight of the St. Anthony's feast was the

(Continued on Page 6)

St. Lucy was a young virgin martyr born in Syracuse, Sicily. As she blossomed into a very lovely young woman, she began to take her faith in Christ very seriously and held a special devotion to St. Agatha of Catania. St. Lucy's feast day is December 13th and is known as the protectress of eyesight.

San Antonio Di Padova Da Montefalcione, also known as St. Anthony's Feast, celebrated its 105th festival last weekend, with the 103rd St. Lucy festivities the day prior. Once again, the society members outdid themselves in celebration honoring their patrons, Saint Anthony and St. Lucy.

Begun in 1919 by immigrants



(Photos courtesy of the City of Boston)

## Democratic National Convention Recap

by Patti Sartori

The conventions are over. The Presidential nominees and their running mates are now official, albeit the Democrats followed an unconventional path in choosing theirs and used their unique opportunity to unify their core party base and persuade undecided voters in swing states to introduce the unexpected ticket to a broader audience watching at home.

The viewers heard from President Biden in what was widely believed to be a farewell address, former President Obama, Former First Lady Michelle Obama, Former President Clinton, former First Lady, Secretary of State and past presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, who noted that she clearly sees Kamala Harris on the other side of the shattered glass ceiling and her hope is it will be broken open once and for all.

Tim Walz, current Governor of Minnesota, called the nomination as the 204 Democratic Vice-President "the honor of my

life." A former teacher and football coach attempted to appeal to the small-town voters' common side, telling the crowd, "It is the 4th quarter of the election and the Democrats are down a field goal, but they're on offense and driving down the field. To get across the line, the crowd's job and of those watching is to get in the trenches and do the blocking and tackling in the election." He went on to make the Democrats case making housing more affordable, cutting the prices of prescription drugs, reducing medical debt, providing meals for kids in schools and standing for abortion rights.

Oprah Winfrey, a surprise guest, informed the crowd she is a registered independent and called on "all you independent and undecided to vote for Harris. Decency and respect are on the ballot in 2024. Common sense tells us that Kamala Harris and Tim Walz can give us decency and respect. Let us choose common sense over nonsense,"

she urged. Democrats also took the time to showcase rising stars and names to watch for moving forward. It's not just about the current election cycle but rather a chance for potential future candidates to shine, stand out and make a name for themselves before a national audience, including Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, Maryland Governor Wes Moore and our own Governor of Massachusetts, Maura Healey.

Both Obamas took this opportunity to scorch Trump and the Republicans. They unloaded their deepest beliefs in each of their respective speeches. She said Trump tried to stoke fear about her and her husband because he was threatened by two highly educated and successful people, who happened to be black.

Doug Emhoff, current second gentleman and hopeful first gentleman spoke glowingly of


(Continued on Page 2)



# Stirpe Nostra

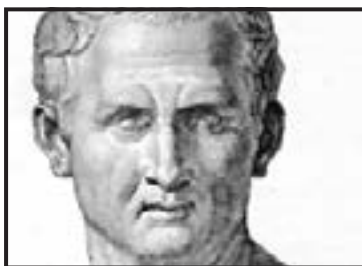
A weekly column highlighting some of the more interesting aspects of our ancestry . . . our lineage . . . our roots.

by Prof. Edmund Turiello



## LIVIVS ANDRONICUS

Last week, we divided all of Roman literati (scholars) into four general groups and then listed most of the celebrated literarians in each of those groups. The first category, as you may recall, was the Early Age or the Age of Greek Influence. The greats assigned to this era are: 1. Livius Andronicus, 2. The Scipionic Circle, and 3. Cato the Elder.



Livius Andronicus

Livius Andronicus, the first of my candidates in this Early Age, is considered to have been the founder of Roman epic poetry. We all know that epic poetry deals with important historical events and historical heroes. He was born of Greek parents in the ancient Greek colonies of Southern Italy which were called "Magna Graecia." He was brought to Rome as a slave after the conquest of Tarentum in the third century B.C. while still a young man. It is thought that he took the name Livius from his master after being given his freedom.

As a free man, he became an instructor in Latin and Greek languages. It was during this and possibly later times that he translated Homer's *Odyssey* into an ancient Latin poetry called "Saturnian" verse. This was a kind of poetry in which the meter was based on stress accents. His work contained some imperfections but, regardless of this, the translation was used as a schoolbook in Rome for centuries.

For those who are not too familiar with the work of Homer, I might add that he is considered to be the earliest man of

fame in Greece and the personification of epic poetry. His most popular works are, of course, *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

*The Iliad* tells of the war waged by a number of Greek City States to rescue the beautiful Helen, who was captured and held in the walled City of Troy; *The Odyssey* tells of the wanderings of Ulysses after the destruction of Troy. It also tells of the return of the Lady Helen to her husband in Greece.

About 240 B.C., Andronicus was successful in establishing dramatic poetry in the theaters of Rome and even appeared as an actor in his own creations.

Scanty remains of his works are all that have come down to us, but, in retrospect, Livius Andronicus should be remembered as the founder of Roman dramatic and epic poetry and for his translation of Homer's *The Odyssey* into Latin verse.

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
*The Scipionic Circle*

## What is the Reason for Labor Day?

### Who Should We Thank for It?

by Patti Sartori

Most people don't give much thought as to where our holidays or days off derive from, but with the end of Summer fast approaching, it made me wonder about the upcoming Labor Day long weekend. With just a little research, I discovered the first Labor Day celebration, in 1882, was actually a result of workers striking. What we now think of as Labor Day, a U.S. National Holiday, held on the first Monday each September, is unique in it is without rituals, other than it is most often a day to gather with family and friends, and it denotes the last weekend of summer before the start of the upcoming school year.

The holiday came about in the late 1800's as a way to unify union workers and reduce work time. The first Labor Day occurred in New York City, 1882, through the efforts of the city's Central Labor Union. In the 1800s, unions only accounted for a small number of workers and were relatively

weak. The goal was to bring smaller unions together, to join forces and become stronger and more powerful. The organizers of the first Labor Day hoped to create an event that brought different types of workers together to meet and discuss common interests. But how could all of these workers gather at the same time and place if they were all at their individual jobs? Thus, the idea to temporarily declare a one-day strike in the city was born. All participating striking workers were encouraged to march in a parade and then gather to eat and drink at a giant picnic afterward.

In the 1830s, workers were putting in long hours, close to 70-hour work weeks on average. More than half a century later, in 1890, the number of hours had decreased, although not by a large margin. Union organizers began focusing on shorter, eight-hour workdays, with more days off, and reducing the work week to just six days. It may have taken time and effort, but

those union organizers were victorious. Recent data shows the average manufacturing worker puts in slightly over forty hours per week and most work five days each week.

As the economy expanded and grew into the early 1900's, it became important to encourage consumers to spend their wages on traveling, entertainment, and dining out. Politicians and business owners actually supported giving workers time off to do so. Labor Day became a National Holiday in June 1894, when President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. Most people assume its recognized as a national day off, however congress' proclamation only covers federal employees and leaves it up to each state to declare their own legal holidays. It also does not require private employers or even municipal workers to be given the day off. Essential government services, health care, public safety, transportation and media outlets, amongst others, report for work each Labor Day.

So, for those not fortunate to enjoy the upcoming Labor Day holiday due to work requirements or commitments, we thank you, and we urge all Americans to be grateful for the contributions, efforts and resilience of the working Americans who have kept and continue to keep our country thriving!

## Erin Murphy

### CANDIDATE FOR Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County



Dear Fellow Suffolk County Residents,

I am Erin Murphy, and I am humbly seeking your support in the upcoming Primary Election on Tuesday, September 3rd. Over the past three years, it has been both an honor and a privilege to serve the vibrant and diverse communities of our great City as your At-Large City Councilor. I want to share with you why I am the best choice for Clerk of the Supreme

Judicial Court for Suffolk County.

**Proven Leadership and Integrity:** My successful public service career underscores my leadership abilities and commitment to ethical standards. These are crucial qualities for a role that demands impartiality, transparency, and reliability. **I will ensure the smooth operation of the court system through managing documents, scheduling, and ensuring procedural compliance.**

**A Record of Results:** As a legislator on the Boston City Council, I have been dedicated to delivering tangible results for our neighborhoods. **I have consistently lifted the voices of my neighbors and championed important causes that directly impact our community.** I have demonstrated my commitment to improving the quality of life for all residents in Suffolk County as an Advocate for better schools, more services for seniors and veterans, safer streets, and affordable housing.

**Extensive Public Service Experience:** My tenure as a Boston City Councilor, my decades as a public-school educator, and my lifelong community advocacy demonstrate my expertise and capability to handle complex administration, manage substantial amounts of information, and engage with a diverse range of people. **I will be an effective advocate for all.**

**Education Expertise:** My twenty-four years as a Boston Public School teacher and special education coordinator underscore my deep understanding of education and administrative processes. Managing over 150 IEPs yearly highlights my organizational skills and experience in managing extensive records and coordinating services. **I am dedicated to ensuring the fair and equitable treatment of all. Accessibility and Transparency:** Your voice matters. I have prioritized being accessible, attending community meetings in every neighborhood, and listening to your concerns. I will prioritize making everyone feel welcome when they access the court. **I will ensure that all individuals have equal access to information and services through a fair and equitable legal process.** I will continue to champion transparency and speak my mind in standing up for you!

On September 3rd, I ask for your vote for Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court. I believe you; the people of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, and Revere deserve an elected official who is committed to providing access to justice and will bring transparency and accountability to the role. When you vote for me, you know exactly what you are getting. I will bring the same work ethic and integrity that marked my time in the classroom as a Boston Public School teacher, and as a legislator on the Boston City Council. Together, we can achieve remarkable things for Suffolk County. Thank you for your trust and support.

Sincerely,

Erin Murphy

Boston City Councilor At-Large

#### • DNC Recap (Continued from Page 1)

his wife, but also displayed what a modern blended family may look like. Unlike former President Clinton, who also supported his wife's presidential bid and is a party favorite, Emhoff is fairly unknown. The campaign shines a spotlight on an inter-racial marriage and the sometime complex issue of step-parenting.

On the final evening of the Democratic National Convention, Harris ceremonially accepted her party's nomination. It was historic, not because of her ethnicity as the democrats like to brag, but rather it was due to the fact that she is the first nominee, of either party, who did not have to secure a single delegate or a single vote in the primaries and in all likelihood, would not have secured the nomination had there been any real competition for the job.

Maintaining her tradition for the past three and a half years, and over the past thirty days, her acceptance speech was full of promises and vision but

contained no facts as to where and how to actually achieve her goals, and more importantly pay for them. When she spoke about her short time as a U.S. Senator, she failed to mention she delivered zero bills that became law.

The two issues she did make extremely clear is she supports abortion, at all costs, and hates Donald Trump. The crowd hung on her every word and the vibes in the convention hall were palpable, even to those watching at home. The crowd cheered, hooted and hollered at all the right points in her speech.

The conventions are both in the rearview mirror. Both candidates and the Vice-Presidential picks will get back out to the campaign trail, fire up their bases, work to win over independents and voters in swing states. I along with many other Americans will wait patiently for the upcoming debates. Hopefully they will be more informative than the rah-rah conventions.

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Friday, August 30, 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.

## First Priority

### Back to School Backpack Giveaway

by Sal Giarratani



The staff seemed to be having as much fun as the kids

On Saturday morning, August 17th, First Priority Credit Union held its annual Back to School Backpack Giveaway at its East Boston branch and handed out plenty of backpacks for the coming school year. There was a steady parade of parents and kids coming into the Credit Union to pick out their favorite colors of which there were plenty of color choices available.

There was plenty of staff on hand who cheerfully interacted with all the children looking carefully over the choices in front of them. As I was leaving, there were more and more families coming inside. It was like this until they ran out of backpacks.



It was a family fun morning as parents and kids waited in line to choose their favorite backpack



The staff were showing off their favorite backpacks too

(Photos by Sal Giarratani)

## Concetta Andreottola

Concetta Andreottola, 89, of Boston's North End passed away on August 23, 2024.

Beloved wife of the late Michelangelo. Loving mother of Pasquale Andreottola and Francesco Andreottola. Dear grandmother of Michelle Pothier and husband David and Anthony Andreottola; great-grandmother of David and Anna Pothier. Treasured sister of Grace Romano and loving aunt of Martha Romano, Sean Romano, and Theresa Romano.

The family received visitors on Thursday,

August 29th in St. Leonard Church, Hanover Street, Boston, MA with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated. Services concluded with entombment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett, MA.

Donations in Concetta's memory may be made to St. Leonard Church or Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 200 Ivy Street, Brookline, MA 02446.

For online condolences, please visit [www.watermanboston.com](http://www.watermanboston.com)

## National Night Out in East Boston

by Sal Giarratani



Mayor Michelle Wu with Veronica Robles

As a retired police officer of 28 years for the Metro Boston Area DMH Police Department, I have always attended National Night Out because they solidify neighborhood pride and a sense of community. It also brings the concept of community policing to its fullness. We can't have one without the other. As usual every summer over at LoPresti Park, we see the police from District 7 mingling with the crowd and the members of the community sharing friendships, stories and mutual respect.

This year was no different. It was a great evening. There was food, there was music and there was communication going on between us and the police. There was thankfully minimal speechifying too, which everyone loved. The mayor showed up along with other elected officials but the most important folks who showed up were the members of the East Boston neighborhood and all the guys and gals from District 7 headed up by Capt. Dean Bickerton.



Young singers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center singing for the assembled crowd attending this event



There's nothing better than some great lemon slush or some other flavor if you're not a purist.



This year's National Night Out District 7 BPD Community Hero was Steve Scire and his wife Kathy, co-owners of Sammy Carlo's. Capt. Dean Bickerton presenting the 2024 Community Hero Award. Sammy Carlo's was founded in 1927 by Steve's grandfather Samuel Scire and is an East Boston landmark

(Above photos courtesy of the City of Boston)



District 7's Pizza Police



(L-R): Dottie and Skip Marcella, Carmen Mayo and Renee Scalfani

(Photos by Sal Giarratani)



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

Oh, Sweet September!

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



Lately, I have been paying special attention to the trees in my backyard. If I look at the leaves closely enough, I can detect the slightly perceptible hues of fall — crisp reds and golden yellows tickling the borders of still-green fronds. Small breezes lift a few orange leaves and blow them gently to the ground as they swirl around like tops. These sights, both the delicate colors and the falling of the leaves, are reminders that autumn is here, the season of cooler weather and harvest and the rhythms of nature. The month of September starts this wonderful season, bringing with it the smell of juicy apples and the purring motors of big yellow school buses. The beginning of September is always a very busy time for me, as it coincides with the commencement of the school year and all of the preparations that that entails. Nevertheless, when I stop to pause and really think about September, I feel a rise of excitement bubbling inside me. This is a month full of rustic holidays and old-country proverbs that highlight September's prominence as a seasonal turning point.

The first September holiday to occur in America is Labor

Day, falling on September 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. A festival honoring the contributions of working people, Labor Day also signifies the unofficial end of summer, as many schools return to their sessions after this long weekend. As such, Labor Day is often celebrated with a picnic or barbecue, and this year I will add to the food tradition by baking a sparkling apple cider pound cake or an apple-cream cheese crisp to honor the seasonal flavors of this month. Over in Italy, September heralds a flurry of feasts and activities that will last until the holiday season in the winter. It begins in a regal fashion, with Venice's *Regatta Storica* occurring on the first Sunday of the month. In this renowned boat race, a parade of elegant gondolas introduces an intense competition where skilled rowers in various different categories vie for first place. This event has a royal pedigree, as it is modeled after the welcome procession given to the queen of Cyprus, Caterina Cornaro, when she returned to Venice in 1489. Later in the month, the people in Naples celebrate the feast day of Saint Gennaro on September 19<sup>th</sup>, when spectators wait to see the mysterious

liquefaction of the saint's blood, and then hold an eight-day party as stalls selling trinkets and candy line the streets. This holiday has become so popular that many Italian-American communities hold their own *Festa di San Gennaro*. Autumn intensifies around the fall equinox, arriving on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month, after which the balance between daylight and night tips towards the edge of darkness. Finally, the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, or *San Michele l'Arcangelo*, closes out the month on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Also known as Michaelmas, this ancient feast features the autumnal themes of balance — the scales of St. Michael echo the equal hours of day and night during the equinox — and harvest, as ingredients like carrots and ginger are traditional on this day.

For our Italian ancestors of yore, September meant collecting the harvest, enjoying the bounty of the Earth, and preparing food for the winter. In this deeply agricultural society, proverbs reminded farmers to pay attention to the weather and their crops in order to ensure a successful harvest. Rain in September proved a mixed blessing. One proverb bluntly states that "*La pioggia di settembre è veleno per l'uva*," meaning that September rain is like poison for grapes. However, another proverb happily declares "*A settembre pioggia e luna, è dei funghi la fortuna*," advising farmers that rain and moonlight made favorable conditions for collecting mushrooms, such as the delectable Italian truffles. Other dictums reflect the changing weather of the month, as summer turns to autumn. A delightful little ditty proclaims: "*Aria settembrina fresco la sera e fresco la mattina*." According to this proverb, September air is cool during both the evenings and the mornings. This axiom reminds me of the autumnal mist I often see rising above fields like lace on crisp mornings, or dark evenings huddled under a blanket and drinking a cup of apple cider. Italian truisms even mention the autumn equinox. "*Di Settembre la notte col di contendere*" roughly translates that night competes with day during September, a reminder of the long winter evenings to come.

From holidays to proverbs, September is a month brimming with great significance as a seasonal milestone. Whether you enjoy the changing foliage or admire the taste of a fresh apple, be sure to pause and be grateful for all that the autumn has to offer. For it is autumn that teaches us humility before the gifts of the Earth and an appreciation for the cycle of the year. Therefore, no matter how you desire to honor September, let us toast to a month full of bountiful blessings and new beginnings!

Happy September!

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

# THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



### Playing Games with Debate Format?

It does appear that Democrat bigwigs are somewhat nervous about the upcoming debate between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump. Now the Harris people are pushing for open mics during the debate while muted mics were a requirement for President Biden to debate Trump. Then the Democrats had all their talking points in order for that first muted mic debate on CNN and now the Democrats are lining up all their ducks demanding no muted mics.

The first debate worked well with muted mics preventing candidates from talking over each other's answers to questions. Why are Democrats trying to change the rules in the upcoming debate? They have yet to answer that question and the compliant state media wants to remain innocent bystanders in this debate over debate rules.

Trumps and his campaign seem to be alluding to Harris wanting to cheat during the 90-minute debate and bring cheat sheets to her debate podium. Democrats deny this is the case. If I were the Republican campaign officials, I wouldn't get sucked into the to mute or not to mute debate. Let Harris change the rules. If Harris would rather sit for the debate, let her. Trump is more than capable of standing at a podium for 90 minutes. He just wants to debate her over the issues that divide both parties and the American people.

Harris still remains an empty vessel as having yet to hold an

interview or press conference since Biden endorsed her. Why is she afraid to handle unscripted questioning? Why is she afraid to expose who she is to the public which will choose between her and Trump?

I certainly hope there is a second debate between Harris and Trump. A debate that should be aired by Fox News or NewsMax just to be fair to both candidates. To date, Trump has been acting pretty presidential. He just has to keep it up and not let Harris or anyone else rattle him up. These debates are not about the candidates, they are about the American people who will be voting on who will lead us over the next four years. We need the game playing to stop.

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In the Matter of  
DEMETRI EMILIO LOPEZ

CITATION ON  
PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Demetri Emilio Lopez of Burlington, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Demetri Emilio Dignan.

#### 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 October 11, 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: August 16, 2024

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
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## Saint Phoebe

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

The name Phoebe means “pure,” “radiant,” or “bright.” Some scholars believe Saint Phoebe was responsible for delivering Paul’s epistle to the Roman Christian church.

Phoebe was a notable first-century Christian woman mentioned in the Epistle to the Romans by the Apostle Paul. She held a prominent position within the church of Cenchreae and was entrusted by Paul to deliver his letter to the Romans.

In Paul’s commendation, Phoebe is described as both a “servant” or “deacon” and a helper or patron of many making her the only woman in the New Testament to be specifically referred to with these distinctions. Because she is from the Church in Cenchreae (a port in Greece a few miles from Corinth), it becomes very plausible that she was Greek. Her ability and willingness to travel all the way from Cenchreae to Rome shows that she had an outstanding belief in Christ. Such a long and



arduous journey had to have been made by someone who was open to adventure and deeply committed to the mission.

Paul introduces Phoebe as his emissary to the church in Rome, providing her with credentials due to their lack of acquaintance. The use of the term “deacon” or “deaconess” should not be confused with the modern usage of the word,

“deacon,” as the ancient understanding was different from the modern.

Paul’s letter to the Romans was composed in Corinth between the years 56 and 58 AD, with the intention of garnering support for an upcoming missionary journey to Spain. Despite not having visited Rome, Paul would have been familiar with the community through contacts like Priscilla and Aquila, who had previously resided there.

In his letter, Paul commends Phoebe as a deacon of the church in Cenchreae, urging the Roman Christians to receive her warmly and assist her as needed, highlighting her beneficence towards many, including himself.

Unfortunately, little else is known of St. Phoebe primarily due to the lack of further mention and the many years that have passed from her time to the present age.

The Feast Day of Saint Phoebe is September 3rd.

## Is Election Day Becoming Extinct?

*Is it a Matter of Time Before it No Longer Exists?*

by Patti Sartori

There are approximately eight weeks until the Presidential Election, but less than one week until election season begins. By the time November 5th rolls around, most voters will have already cast their ballots. Early voting begins as soon as September 6th for eligible voters with seven battleground states sending out ballots to voters in the same month. However, if voters repeat what they did the last two election cycles, most of them will have already cast their ballots prior to election day.

States have always allowed specific categories of Americans to vote early, including members of the military or people with illnesses that may preclude

them from voting in person. Many states expanded eligibility in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it seemed riskier to vote in person. Now some states see almost every voter cast ballots by mail.

In the 2020 Presidential Election, 71% of voters cast their ballots before Election Day, with 30% voting early in person and 41% voting by mail. Early voting remained strong during the 2020 mid-term elections with 57% of voters casting ballots before election day. Election Officials insist that early voting is safe and secure. Recounts, investigations and lawsuits filed after the 2020 election did not result in any

solid evidence of voter fraud.

There are a number of ways for voters to cast their ballots prior to election day. The first is “early in-person voting” where a voter casts a regular ballot in-person at a voting center before election day. The second is voting by mail, where the process and eligibility varies by state. Some of those states vote almost fully by mail, including California, Colorado, Nevada and Utah. Registered voters receive ballots and send them back and most states allow any registered voter to use this option. This is currently referred to as mail voting or in the past absentee voting. Depending on a state’s rules, voters are able to return their ballot by mail, at a drop box, or at an office facility that accepts mail ballots.

The first voters to receive absentee ballots will be North Carolina, which begins mailing ballots to eligible voters on September 6th. Other states open up early voting as well, including Pennsylvania, Georgia, Wisconsin, Michigan and Nevada. In Massachusetts, in person early voting begins on October 19th.

There are so many unanswered questions regarding voting early by mail and this new process. It makes me wonder if Election Day has actually become extinct. Is it just a matter of time before in person voting on election day will no longer exist. How will voter integrity remain intact and how do we ensure the correct person is actually the person casting the ballot when using the early mail in ballot system. With the current speed of change in this country, it seems highly unlikely that voting will ever go back to its original and traditional form, but let’s just hope we never lose the right to cast a ballot in an open and democratic election.

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## NE\W Health

National Health Center Week



Shown above Vincenzo Scibelli, CEO of NE\W Health and Danny Coackley, Public Affairs Officer

In recognition of National Health Center Week, NE\W Health sponsored a number of free activities and celebrations at both their North End and Charlestown locations. On Monday, August 5th, free bundles of produce were handed out at the North End location, 332 Hanover Street, Boston. Some of the other events scheduled were a health fair, weekly walking club, yoga classes and a healthy eating workshop.

The purpose of National Health Center Week is to help raise awareness about the mission and accomplishments of America’s health centers over the past 5 decades.

## Nazzaro Center Senior Programs

SEPTEMBER 2024

Dance Fitness

Wednesday 9/4 and 9/11 (no classes until 10/30)  
10:30am-11:30am

Yoga

Thursday 9/5, 9/19 and 9/26 (no 9/12 class)  
10:00am-11:00am

Live Better in Your Body

Friday 9/6, 9/20, 9/27 (no 9/13 class)  
10:30am-11:30am

Lunch and Art Class Sponsored by New Health

Friday 9/13 from 12pm-1pm

## 2024 NORTH END FESTIVAL DIRECTORY

### AUGUST

**SAN GENNARO FEAST** August 30, 31, & September 1  
PRADO on Hanover St. Mass & Procession Sunday, Sept. 1st 12 pm

### SEPTEMBER

**ST. ROSALIA di PALERMO** September 8  
Procession Only - North Square 1 pm

### ADDITIONAL ITALIAN FESTIVALS

**Lawrence, MA**  
**FEAST of the THREE SAINTS** Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1  
Saints Alfio, Filadelfo and Cirino  
Common & Union Streets, Lawrence  
Sunday Procession 3 pm

**Cambridge Festival**  
**SS COSMAS AND DAMIAN** September 6, 7, 8  
Sunday Procession 1 pm  
Warren and Cambridge St., Cambridge



St. Lucy / St. Anthony (Continued from Page 1)



Saint Anthony Society Members



(Photos courtesy of the City of Boston)

Mayor Michelle Wu greeting Bishop Robert Reed Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, with Michael Bonetti, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz and Father Michael Della Penna, OFM, Pastor of St. Leonard Church

ten-hour grand procession of the statue of Saint Anthony through the streets of the North End, accompanied by a huge contingent of devotees and marching bands. The statue of the Saint was returned to his chapel as confetti and streamers cascaded from rooftops.

The organizers and committee members of both societies would like to extend their appreciation and gratitude to all the society members and their families for the continued support and devotion shown to their beloved patron saints and look forward to many more successful years of continuing these beloved traditions!!!



Remembering "Connie" Angiulo, Francine and Jim Gannon with grandson Theo and daughter Christi Capodilupo Gannon



(Photos courtesy of the City of Boston)

Mayor Michelle Wu, Stephen Scapicchio, District 1 City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta-Zapata, City Council President, City Councilor At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz



Gennaro Moretti, Jeff Moretti, Sheila Moretti, Vivian Aluia, Jason Aluia, and William Moretti



The Roma Band



St. Anthony Ribbon Girls

(Photos by Charles Rachal)



# Pizza & Ice Cream Social

Cools North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center Seniors Off on a Hot Day



Director Julia Power

Seniors at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) turned up the fun with a cool treat and a delicious feast to pass a pleasant summer afternoon and escape the heat. Staff at the NE/WE NSC served mouthwatering pizza pies, followed by an ice cream extravaganza including two types of ice cream, loaded with whipped topping, caramel sauce, a hard chocolate shell, crunchy nuts, and cherries on top. A huge shout out to Regina Pizzeria and Star Market, for bringing smiles to the community in the most delicious way possible!



You'll laugh so hard you'll ... well, you get the idea.

Lyric Stage Boston

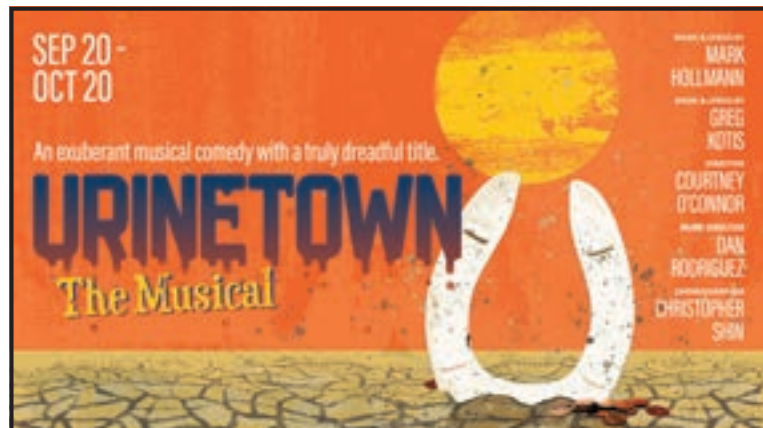
Presents

## Urinetown: The Musical

The Lyric Stage 2024/25 season kicks off with wild revelry and raucous fun at *Urinetown: The Musical*. Directed by Courtney O'Connor, Music Direction from Dan Rodriguez†, and Choreography by Christopher Shin, this new American-classic will have audiences beaming from ear-to-ear and coming back for more.

With music and lyrics by Greg Hollmann and book and lyrics by Greg Kotis, this irreverent and irresistible musical is the perfect way to bring a little joy to us all.

A greedy and unethical corporation profits from the citizens of a city in the middle of a water shortage by banning public toilets forcing the people to pinch their pennies for the "privilege to pee." But revolution is in the air. Led by Bobby Strong, a hopeful hero who rallies a cornucopia of colorful and quirky characters to take on the oily tycoon Caldwell B. Cladwell, the road to freedom is paved with straight-faced silliness, cheeky musical parodies, and boisterous comedy. With heart and hope, this modern classic reminds us just how great and revelatory the American musical can be.



Director Courtney O'Connor says, "*Urinetown* is a clever little show. While you think you're watching a raucous musical comedy, underneath the show-stoppers and comedy is a story about a world gripped by corporate greed and disparity within its community. Using humor and classic musical theater tropes, this wildly chaotic tale opens our eyes to injustices around us just waiting for a revolution — with a brassy musical number or two to make the cause even more fun."

Featuring Remo Airaldi, Anneke Angstadt, Christopher Chew, Gabriel Graetz, Elliana Karris, Kenny Lee, Todd McNeel, Jr., Paige O'Connor,

Katie O'Reilly, Darren Paul, Anthony Pires, Jr., Kathy St. George, James Turner, and Lisa Yuen. With Brandon Lee (cover performance on October 19th matinee)

Performances begin Friday, September 20th, 2024 and run through Sunday, October 20th, 2024.

On line tickets: [Lyricstage.com](http://Lyricstage.com)

Box Office Hours Tuesday to Friday / 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Performance Days Open at noon until 30 minutes into the performance. Call: 617-585-5678, Email: [boxoffice@lyricstage.com](mailto:boxoffice@lyricstage.com)

In Person: 140 Clarendon Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02116

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VOTE Tuesday, September 3rd

ERIN MURPHY

For Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County

Visit [ErinforBoston.com](http://ErinforBoston.com) to learn more





# Ieri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

September 25, 1690 — The first American newspaper was published. A single edition of *Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick* appeared in Boston, Massachusetts. However, British authorities considered the newspaper offensive and ordered its immediate suppression.

*Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick* was the first multi-page newspaper published in the British colonies in America. Before then, single-page newspapers, called broadsides, were published in the English colonies and printed in Cambridge in 1689. The first edition of *Publick Occurrences* was published September 25, 1690, in Boston, and was intended to be published monthly. It was printed by American Richard Pierce of Boston, and it was edited by Benjamin Harris, who was a refugee from England who had unsuccessfully tried to establish a free press there.

The newspaper consisted of four pages 7½" by 11½", with two columns, with the last page left blank, allowing one to conveniently write a letter about its news that could be sent to another family member or friend.

Without Parliamentary support or any prospective advertising, Harris quickly published what would prove to be the first and last issue of his newspaper. The only known copy in existence is housed in the London Public Record office, where it was discovered in 1845 by the Reverend Joseph B. Felt.

The first and only issue, published Thursday, September 25, 1690, had an account of a battle waged by General Fitz-John Winthrop during the French and Indian Wars covering the brutal treatment of French prisoners of war. No second edition was ever printed because the account angered the colonial government, which ordered the immediate suspension of the paper, only four days later on September 29, 1690, and which referred to the paper as a "pamphlet." All remaining issues of the newspaper were destroyed.

The three-page newspaper did not contain any criticism on the new licensing law for printing newspapers, or make any issues about colonial government. Instead, it appealed to and informed its readers about the various current issues, i.e., the smallpox outbreak, the successful harvest produced by the "Christianized" Indians, a murder, the execution of Native American prisoners of war. These issues were considered sensitive and questionable by colonial authorities, which led them to close down Harris' newspaper.

After the prompt suppression of *Publick Occurrences* and the subsequent passage of the newspaper and printing licensing law, future prospective publishers were discouraged from establishing new newspapers until 1704, when John Campbell established *The Boston News-Letter*. Campbell diligently made efforts to begin publication of his newspaper under authority, and with the proper license. Remembering the fate of the first newsletter, Campbell was careful not to print anything that could be construed as libelous or that otherwise would offend the Governor and the council; he generally limited himself to the reprinting of material taken from the *London Flying Post* and *The London Gazette*.



## 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

### INDIAN SUMMER ICE CREAM SOCIAL

As summer begins to wind down, what better way to say goodbye to summer than with an Indian Summer Ice Cream? Write this down: Tuesday, September 10th at A&L Bakery and Cafe at 330 Sumner Street up the Point. It starts at 5:00 p.m. and the ice cream is scooped until 7:00 p.m. A&L Bakery is the East Boston Chamber of Commerce's most recent returning member.

### ROSLINDALE PORCH FESTIVAL

The Annual Roslindale Porch Fest is taking place on Saturday, September 21st (rain date September 28th). A free music festival live from your neighbors' porches. For more info, go to [roslindaleporchfest.org](http://roslindaleporchfest.org)

### WEEKLY COOKING CLASSES

Does weekly cooking classes interest you? Well over at the GreenRoots Teaching Kitchen, you might learn a thing or two about making your own meals. The classes meet every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. For more information, go to [johnw@greenrootsej.org](mailto:johnw@greenrootsej.org)

### REVERE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

The Revere Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a



Once again the Eagle Hill Civic Association held its annual Summer Potluck Dinner at Putnam Park

very successful networking night at Murray's Tavern on Broadway. Chamber members along with numerous Revere city officials joined Chamber President Niles Welch and board members. For more info on the Revere Chamber, go to [reverechamberofcommerce.org](http://reverechamberofcommerce.org).

### FINALLY LET'S TALK ABOUT THOSE PBS MUSIC CONCERT SPECIALS

Our local PBS station, 'GBH, recently ran a great old music concert and tried their endless fundraising during concert breaks. The concert was a great old one, as in really OLD one. I swear it must have been a good 30, 40, or 50 years old. Patti LaBelle looked like she was about 55 years old. She was 50 many years ago. Guess what too? Their fundraising gifts

were music CDs, very expensive music CDs. Only trouble, how hard is it to get a CD player today? You can't even find them in cars made after 2015.

Obviously, PBS just likes to milk aging baby boomers for contributions endlessly. I listen to the music and watch old shows, but don't ask me for cash. You want cash, show me something new you have produced recently. Milking yesterday only goes so far.

### EVERETT STREET BLOCK PARTY

The annual Everett Street Block Party will be held on Saturday, September 7 from 2:00 pm until 8:00 pm between Lamson and Jeffries Streets. For more info, call 617-767-6046, children's entertainment between 2:00 - 3:30 pm.

## San Gennaro Feast

Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

The North End Italian Feast season is well underway and culminates on Labor Day weekend with the San Gennaro Feast - it debuted in 2018 and is now back for the first time since the pandemic. It is set to take place from Friday, August 30th through Sunday, September 1st at the Paul Revere Mall (aka The Prado) along Hanover Street. Hosted by The Saint Gennaro Foundation of Boston, the event first became a part of the North End feast lineup in 2018 thanks to Pasquale Trotta, who is originally from Naples, Italy, and was also responsible for bringing the bust of Saint Gennaro to Boston for use in the feast procession. Pasquale's sons, Gaetano and Christian Trotta, are co-founders, along with restaurateurs Frank



De Pasquale (DePasquale Ventures), Nick Varano (The Varano Group) and Angelo Vigliotta. Gaetano "Nino" Trotta is the co-owner and founder of Forcella in the North End.

Food will be provided by over a dozen North End restaurants, including Forcella and DePasquale's restaurants, including Strega, Bricco, Mare, Trattoria il Panino, and more. There will also be a beer garden and espresso martini bar. Funds raised from the non-profit organization, Saint Gennaro Foundation of Boston, will help build an educational center for autistic children.

Similar to other feasts, there will be music, art, food, culture and fashion on Hanover Street in the center of Boston's Little Italy neighborhood

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Event is Free of Charge  
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Light Refreshments Served Must Be 21 and over to attend

## Congrats Ariana Galvao

by Michelle Deveau

BCYF Nazzaro Community Center's very own Ariana Galvao is on her way to Central Saint Martins (CSM), part of the University of Arts London this fall. CSM has an acceptance rate of around 6%, making its BA Fashion Design program one of the most exclusive in the world. Some notable alumni are Alexander McQueen and Stella McCartney.

During her sophomore year, Ariana dedicated her summer to creating a 9x9 mural that is currently displayed at the Nazzaro Center. At only 16, she had the dedication and talent to create such a sizable project. Throughout the summer, she meticulously sketched, designed, and painted her masterpiece.



Ariana is an active member of the Nazzaro Center Teen Program, a recent graduate of Boston Latin Academy, a lifelong resident of the North End, and the daughter of Carmen and Joseph Galvao.

The Nazzaro Center is honored to have an "Ariana Galvao original" and to be part of one of the first projects in what will surely be a very impressive portfolio. The mural is located on the second floor of the Nazzaro Community Center and is open and accessible to the public. The Nazzaro Center encourages everyone in the

community to come see it and support Ariana. We extend our best wishes to her as she embarks on her next journey!



# Nanna & Babbonnonno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Labor Day will be upon us this coming Monday, but other than it being the practical end of summer, it has another significance for me. I met someone during the Labor Day weekend 51 years ago and we've been the best of friends ever since.

Babbonnonno always used to say, "You can't pick your relatives; you're stuck with them."

But you can pick your friends, so do it wisely." Over the years, I discovered his visions were right on target. My story begins around July 4, 1973. I had been in Hollywood doing some extra work at Paramount Studios and with the summer coming in, most of the production companies housed on the Paramount lot were shutting down for July and August. As a result, I decided to head home. My folks greeted me with open arms, and after settling in, I headed to East Boston to visit Babbonnonno. He was now in a nursing home and ready to turn 98. When I arrived at the Columbus Nursing Home on Saratoga Street, Uncle Nick was there visiting his father. The three of us chatted, and when it was time to leave, Uncle Nick said, "Oh, by the way, there's a Motown group passing through Boston minus a bass player ... you interested?" I said yes and let it go at that.

A day or so later, I received a call from one of the leaders of the Uniques, a Motown group that was heading north for the summer. Eddie Jackson called at the suggestion of Uncle Nick. He said that the band was heading to Maine and needed a bass player. Knowing from what Uncle Nick had said, I told Eddie that I wasn't African-American. His comment was, "What color's your talent?" I replied, "What do you mean, it's colorless." He then asked, "What color's your bass guitar?" I replied, "Black." Eddie's comment was, "Close enough." So, I joined the Uniques for the summer. I did let the guys know that I would be leaving around Labor Day as I had decided to return to teaching in the Boston Schools and playing music locally. They had no problem with my decision, and so, I headed to the Portsmouth Circle, met the band at the then Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge and followed the caravan northward to Caribou, Maine.

When we arrived at the location, we brought our equipment into a supper club that was part of a motel complex. The room was large, decorated like a Vegas nightclub and the people already in attendance having dinner were well dressed, multi-racial and many of them were in air force uniforms. It did not compute. As far as I knew, that part of Maine had only white people or Indians, (Native Americans) and most were involved in Maine's potato industry. What I discovered later that evening was that there was a SAC base in Caribou, the Loring Air Force Base, the east coast's most strategic missile site. The patrons I saw were employees and servicemen and

women from the base. There was nothing else in the way of entertainment for them except the performers at the hotel.

Things went well. I fitted in and learned their tunes and routines rather quickly. The man I mentioned, Eddie Jackson, became my roommate and we hit it off. The money was good, but as August pushed forward, I told everyone that I would be leaving around

Labor Day. Around the beginning of the last week of August, Jerry Cobb, the other leader of the band told me that a New York-based bass player was available and I could leave after the last show on that Friday evening. I was delighted. I had been invited to join a bunch of guys who were going to spend the holiday weekend on the Cape. I called one of the guys and told him I would be able to make it and asked for the directions. I left Maine, stopped at my folks' house in Belmont, packed some Cape Cod clothing and headed for Hyannis. I arrived in the middle of the night exhausted. Paul Blair, the friend who had invited me, showed me my bedroom and told me that there were some other folks coming later in the night. It seems that they all worked at a Boston nightclub and were leaving after work. When they arrived, I was awakened and looked out the window. What I saw made me curious. A '60s gray Jaguar XKE two-seater pulled up with about six people wedged into it. The driver got out and looked like a little kid with a mustache. My comment to myself was, "Oh, what the Hell," and I went back to sleep.

Late the next morning, someone yelled out brunch is ready. Everyone staying at the cottage headed for the kitchen, and I was introduced to all of them. The one who looked like a little kid with a mustache was named Dean Saluti. We sort of hit it off. He was a doctoral candidate at Boston University, working his way through the program as a bartender at Lucifer's, one of three nightclubs located in a complex called The Kenmore Club situated in the middle of Kenmore Square.

As the weekend progressed, Dean and I had many conversations about our back-grounds, growing up in Italian families, both having multiple college degrees, and our likes and dislikes in women, music and food. It seemed that we were always on the same page. When the weekend came to an end, we swapped phone numbers and I headed back to Boston and returned to teaching drafting and engineering subjects at Hyde Park High School by day and playing music at night. Within the week, I called Dean and told him I was playing at a nearby hotel that Saturday evening and would be interested in getting a bite to eat afterward. We headed for Chinatown and a late-night dinner. During our conversation, Dean talked me into applying for entrance to a doctoral program at Boston University, where he was

studying. I already had two masters' degrees and was busy teaching in Boston, playing music nights and periodically heading for Hollywood when they had something for me in the way of acting.

The conversation we had over dinner that night kept cropping up in my mind over the next few weeks and I decided to take one of the exams that would allow me entrance to a BU doctoral program. When I was sent a letter of congratulations by BU, I quickly picked my subject area, signed up for courses and contacted Dean to let him know I was now a BU graduate student. From that point on, we became closer friends, even double dating when there was time. Over the course of that fall and winter I came to know many of his friends and introduced my friends to his crowd. Uncle Nick and I often worked together on weekend nights and he enjoyed hanging out with the younger guys whenever we headed for a late-night restaurant after work.

That friendship hit the 51 year mark this past weekend. Dean Saluti was a groomsman in my wedding party and I fulfilled the same obligation at his wedding to Margie Cahn. For many years after we received our degrees, we worked together in an educational consulting firm he put together. Today, in our senior years, we have the Sons of Italy and our antique cars to augment our lifestyles. But most of all we have the friendship that began 51 years ago, something that is rare and unique in today's world.

## GOD BLESS AMERICA

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **Stevens Automotive Transport, 60 Union Street, Medford, MA 02155**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c.255 39A, that on **September 07, 2024 at 10AM**, at said address, the following motor vehicle(s) will be sold, in as is condition, no keys, at public sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for towing, storage, and expenses of notice and sale:

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- 2007 TOYOTA COROLLA, BROWN  
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VIN: # WDBRF92HX7F924822
- 2012 TOYOTA SEQUOIA, SILVER  
VIN: # 5TDDY5G12CS05779
- 2014 MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS, BLACK  
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- 2001 HONDA CIVIC, GREEN  
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- 2021 TAOTAO PONY, GREEN  
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- 2017 KIA OPTIMA, BLACK  
VIN: # KNAGT4L38H5150033

Run dates: 08/23, 08/30, 09/06/2024



by  
**Marianna  
Bisignano**

Biscotti, those delightful twice-baked cookies, are beloved for their satisfying crunch and are now found across Italy, in a rich variety of flavors. Each region adds its own twist to the traditional recipe, resulting in an array of biscotti experiences. Chocolate biscotti, are a treat enjoyed throughout the country. These biscotti typically feature a cocoa-infused dough, and though they are less sweet than their American counterparts, they deliver a deep, rich chocolate flavor that pairs beautifully with coffee, wine, or even a glass of milk.

Growing up, I could hardly keep track of all the different flavors of biscotti my Nonna made, each one more delicious than the last. But if you ask me, everyone had their own favorite depending on their personal taste. For the chocolate lovers out there, I highly recommend trying these Triple Chocolate Biscotti. With a cocoa-flavored base and a decadent mix of white and milk chocolate chips, they are the perfect harmony of sweetness and richness, never too overpowering in either direction. Loved by adults and children alike, they're an absolute must-try!

## TRIPLE CHOCOLATE BISCOTTI

### Biscotti al Triplo Cioccolato



- 8 1/2 tablespoons butter, room temperature
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 1/2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups milk chocolate chips
- 1 cup white chocolate chips

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

In a large mixing bowl, cream together the room temperature butter and granulated sugar until the mixture is light and fluffy. Add in the eggs, one at a time, followed by the vanilla extract. Mix until everything is well combined.

In a separate bowl, sift together the all-purpose flour, baking powder, and unsweetened cocoa powder.

Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet mixture, blending until a dough forms. Once the dough is well-mixed, fold in the milk chocolate chips and white chocolate chips.

Divide the dough in half. On the prepared baking sheet, shape each portion into a log, spacing them apart. Flatten the tops of the logs slightly.

**First Bake:** Bake in the preheated oven for 25 to 30 minutes, or until the logs are firm to the touch. The exact time may vary depending on your oven.

**Cool and Slice:** Remove the logs from the oven and reduce the oven temperature to 325°F (160°C). Allow the logs to cool slightly. Using a serrated knife, carefully slice the logs into 1 1/2-inch pieces.

**Second Bake:** Place the biscotti slices cut side down on the baking sheet. Bake for another 18 minutes, turning the biscotti over halfway through the baking time to ensure even crisping. Cool and enjoy!

Marianna Bisignano is a psychologist for the Boston Public Schools and can be reached at [nonnasrecipebox@gmail.com](mailto:nonnasrecipebox@gmail.com)



Mattéo Gallo

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(617) 523-2100 • Fax (617) 523-3530



# EASTIE PRIDE DAY 2024

Over the past 36 years, Eastie Pride Day has emerged as the pinnacle event of the Summer. It provides so many the opportunity to come together and celebrate a beloved community and re-connect with friends and neighbors, past and present. It's something everyone looks forward to, which is exactly what the former President and founder, Sal LaMattina, envisioned. "I wanted Eastie Pride Day to be an event where everyone who lived in the neighborhood felt welcome and could meet new people, new neighbors, and start community building. If you look at Eastie Pride Day now it is a true representation of the community." exclaimed LaMattina.

2024 was once again a smashing success. with something for all ages to enjoy. Food, music, face painting, children's games and outstanding entertainment enthralled and occupied the crowd throughout the day. We must acknowledge the planning and effort that goes into this event, and extend a huge shout out to Liana LaMattina, who took the reins as Chair of the Eastie Pride Committee from her dad in 2019, as well as the committee members who work along-side of her to make this such an incredible day. A huge thank you to the sponsors, contributors, donors and volunteers who make it all a reality. See you next year!



(Photos courtesy of the City of Boston)

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual LA Festa Baseball Exchange Program

by John Romano



**North End Dodgers and North Adams Allstars for LA Festa Baseball Exchange August 10th and 11th Puopolo Park**

The North End Dodgers and the North Adams Allstars played in the Annual LA Festa Baseball Exchange program the weekends of July 20th and 21st in North Adams Mass and then the follow up weekend in the North End in August 10th and 11th. This annual baseball exchange has been going on for over 33 years. Over 1000 players between the two cities have been involved and probably over 50 coaches and volunteers over the years have participated in some way, shape or form to ensure it has continued. There have been stretches where one or the other have been better but over the series it has been almost quite even. As with this past year each weekend, both teams split one game each at the others home field. The fun, friendship and camaraderie were prevalent throughout both weekends.



**Rep. Michlewitz with Dodgers Catcher Owen Flanagan**

During last weekend in the North End, the whole event was sponsored by State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus #1513 and the North End Athletic Association. Lunch was

donated and provided by Pauli's North End.

Special Note: Representative Michlewitz played in the Exchange for 3 years, coached the team for 5 years and is now a major sponsor of the event. We are extremely grateful for his commitment to the program over the years!

The first game was played on Saturday evening at 5:30 p.m., before the game was played, the team players were announced on the field, an awesome rendition of the National Anthem was sung by Tate McGivern of the North

End Music and Performing Arts Center. Representative Michlewitz threw out the first pitch and each player from both teams was given a friendship coin commemorating the 33rd Annual games!

Before the First Pitch Ceremonies, Mr. George Canales of North Adams was given a plaque by John Romano of the N.E.A.A. that commemorated him receiving the Hero of the month award for July 2024 for his work in North Adams for the LA Festa Exchange. George has been organizing the event in North Adams since its inception along with his family.

After the game on Saturday, which was won by North Adams 13-6, the players and coaches and volunteers headed over to the Nazzaro Center for a family style Italian dinner. Dinner was served by volunteers Patricia Romano and Ann Fitzgerald. When dinner was finished the group proceed to Hanover Street to enjoy the Madonna Della Cava Feast. On Sunday morning both teams enjoyed a continental breakfast on the field before game number 2. A much tighter game that went



**Tate McGivern singing the National Anthem**

into extra innings with the North End Dodgers winning in a walk off in the bottom of the 8th inning.

Each team chose an MVP for the other squad. The North Adams MVP was Brandon Durant and the North End MVP was Owen Flanagan. The MVP Awards are named after Mr. George Canales. When we were up in North Adams the awards are named after our good friend Mr. Robert DeCristoforo.

Special thank you also to Traci Griffith of the Eliot School,

Allison Singer & Carlo DiRenzo of the Nazzaro Center, Ralph Martignetti, John Romano Jr., and Catherine Martin.

As I think back to earlier in the week, the forecast was for torrential downpours all weekend, instead it was a sun-soaked glorious weekend for a fabulous 33rd Annual LA Festa Baseball Exchange that has lasted a lot longer than what anyone could have ever imagined and has provided so much fun for so many! Here's looking to next year and #34!



**(L-R): John Romano (N.E.A.A.), George Canales (North Adams) Rep. Aaron Michlewitz with the Score Plaque**



# Planting a Garden in the Shade

by Melinda Myers



**Placing shade-tolerant container gardens below tree canopies beautifies shady spots without damaging the tree roots.**  
(Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com)

It is possible to brighten up those shady spots in your landscape? It is all about proper plant selection, planting, and care.

Start by evaluating the sun and shade patterns in your gardens. Monitor the amount of sunlight different areas receive throughout the day and at various times of the year. You may be surprised the space gets more sunlight than you thought.

Make a list of plants you have successfully grown and those that failed in the shady location you are landscaping. Use this information to help you select other plants with similar light requirements.

As always, select plants that thrive in your climate and tolerate the amount of sunlight, moisture, and soil in the proposed garden location. Look for plants that provide attractive foliage all season long and flowers at various times.

When planting under or near trees be careful not to kill the tree when creating your shade garden. Plant a foot or more away from the tree trunk and don't cut or remove surface roots that create entryways for insects and diseases. Dig as small as possible planting holes to avoid disturbing the roots and for easy planting. Avoid adding soil over the tree roots and against the trunk as this can lead to tree decline and even death. Skip deep cultivation that damages the roots, the majority of which grow within the top 18 inches of soil with 50% of them in the top six inches.

Add seasonal color and vertical interest with shade-tolerant annuals like impatiens, begonias, and coleus. Avoid damaging the tree roots by planting these in containers and setting the pots on the soil surface amongst perennial shade-tolerant groundcovers or on mulched beds under the trees.

Once you've planted your garden, adjust the care to compensate for the limited light conditions. Plants growing under large trees or overhangs must be watered more often, especially during the first year or two until the plants become established. The dense canopy of many trees and impervious overhangs prevent rainfall from reaching the ground below. Plus, the extensive root systems of trees and shrubs absorb much of the rainfall that does make it through, so check soil moisture several times a week and water thoroughly as needed.

Spread a layer of organic mulch over the soil surface and away from the tree trunk and crowns of the plants. Organic mulches help conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and improve the soil as they decompose.

Tree and shrub roots also compete with plantings for nutrients. Use a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer that promotes balanced above- and below-ground growth. Apply it at planting and early each spring as needed.

Avoid high nitrogen, quick-release fertilizer that promotes lush succulent growth that is more susceptible to insects and diseases. Plus, limited light is a potential plant stressor that can further increase the risk of problems.

Sometimes there is just too much shade to grow even shade-loving plants. Consider mulching the area to suppress weeds, support the tree's health and protect the soil. Then relax and enjoy the shade on hot sunny days.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, Revised Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series* and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

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

to US Census Data makes \$107,000.

According to the Harvard study, a single-family home goes for on average \$705,000 which means homebuyers would need to make that \$217,000 to buy a median-priced single-family home in Boston.

**Target'ed Crime Closures Aid Chain**

Target's sales and customers traffic bounced back after it closed a number of crime-afflicted stores which suggests more retailers may begin shuttering locations over shoplifting. Target closed nine stores last year including NYC and Seattle. Many fear that shoppers may get stuck in "retail deserts" in high crime areas but according to experts that's what happens when cities fail to crack down on crime.

**Tulsi Gabbard Backs Trump**

Former Hawaiian Democrat congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard has formally endorsed former President Donald Trump. Gabbard is a decorated military veteran who made the announcement during a Trump appearance at a National Guard Conference in Detroit. She ran for president in 2020 before leaving the party in 2022.

**End Quote**

"We're going to put in the hard woke over the next 77 days."  
-Vice President Kamala Harris, last Tuesday

**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. MI24P4537EA  
Estate of  
MICHAEL J. MARTELL  
Date of Death: June 29, 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 Dawn M. Munro of Blackstone, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.  
The Petitioner requests that Dawn M. Munro of Blackstone, 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 October 18, 2024.

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: August 23, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 08/30/2024

**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. MI24P4554EA  
Estate of  
STEPHEN J. ANTOLICS  
Also Known As:  
STEPHEN ANTOLICS  
Date of Death: May 21, 2024  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Virginia Antolics-Leonard of Shrewsbury, 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 Virginia Antolics-Leonard of Shrewsbury, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With 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 September 23, 2024.

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: August 26, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 08/30/2024

**EXTRA Innings**  
by Sal Giarratani

**Ruth's "Called Shot" Jersey Goes For \$24 Million**

The jersey Babe Ruth wore when he called his shot during the 1932 World Series, hitting a homer to center field, sold at auction for over \$24 million. According to Heritage Auctions, the jersey went for \$24.12 million after a bidding war that lasted over six hours. This record-breaking price the jersey sold for topped NY Yankee Mickey Mantle's 1952 rookie card which sold in 2022 for \$2.8 million.

**Yaz at 85**



Boston Red Sox legend Carl Yastrzemski just turned 85 years old last Thursday. Captain Carl is very proud of his 34-year-old grandson Mike who is in his sixth season with the San Francisco Giants and still lives up the North Shore in Lynnfield. Yaz played for the Red Sox from 1961 through 1983. He replaced another legend Ted Williams in left field. I will always remember the 1967 pennant winners in their Impossible Dream season when Yaz won the Triple Crown and MVP status. I also still remember

Yaz Brown too. The Red Sox woke up Boston and all of New England that season. We baby boomers will never forget that incredible season and those incredible players led by Yaz that year.

**I'm Okay with Bonds Going into the Pirates Hall of Fame**

I don't want him in Cooperstown but he was one of the greatest players who wore the uniform of the Pittsburgh Pirates. What he accomplished there before he ended up with the Giants was amazing. He is right up there with Roberto Clemente and Willie Stargell in my book. He came up with the Pirates in 1986, stayed seven years before heading to the Giants in 1993 where those steroid allegations began.

Personally, like all the other players caught up in the Steroid Era neither he nor them belong in Cooperstown. I am sorry but that's how I feel. I have said the same thing of Roger Clemens. He too has a right to be in the Red Sox Hall of Fame. His numbers here were incredible but that taint of steroids keeps him outside looking into the Baseball Hall of Fame too.

**Happy Birthday to Rollie Fingers**

Rollie Fingers the Hall of Famer who wore a Red Sox uniform for three days when in 1976 A's owner Charlie Finley sold him along with first baseman Joe Rudi to Boston for \$1 million each but MLB nullified the deal and Fingers and Rudi returned to Oakland. Well, Rollie just celebrated his 78th birthday last week.

I always wondered what Fingers and Rudi thought of those crazy three days back in 1976.

**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. MI23P6763GD  
**NOTICE AND ORDER:**  
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor  
In the interests of  
ROSAMARIE PENA  
of Cambridge, MA  
Minor

**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**  
1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 12/28/2023 by Elizabeth Monzer of Winthrop, MA will be held 09/16/2024 10:00 AM Review Hearing Located 10-U Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01801, Courtroom 3  
2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.  
3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.  
4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.  
5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: June 17, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 08/30/2024

**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. MI23P6762GD  
**NOTICE AND ORDER:**  
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor  
In the interests of  
FERNANDO PENA  
of Cambridge, MA  
Minor

**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**  
1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 12/28/2023 by Ivonne Figueroa of Everett, MA will be held 09/16/2024 09:00 AM Review Hearing Located 10-U Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01801, Courtroom 3  
2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.  
3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.  
4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.  
5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: June 17, 2024  
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate  
Run date: 08/30/2024



# Boxing Ringside



WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

## They Couldn't Break an Egg But They Knew How to Win Fights



**Tommy Loughran**

The big punchers always excite the crowd. Even when they are losing fans know they can pull out a victory with one sudden and dramatic punch. There is no other sport where a win can be grabbed from the jaws of defeat so quickly. Seeing a big puncher in action at his devastating best often makes us overlook his flaws. George Foreman looked utterly indestructible until he was outsmarted by Muhammad Ali and taken to school by the light punching Jimmy Young. Tommy Loughran who only scored 18 knockouts in his entire career was able to box circles around Max Baer, who had 18 pounds on him.

While the ones with dynamite in their fists may be in fights that keep fans excited for years, think Foreman vs. Lyle, the accomplishments of the lighter punching fighters should not be overlooked.

Loughran who had a career record of 90 wins with 25 losses and 10 draws won the world light heavyweight title. Tommy failed to go the distance only three times. Once was early in his career because of a broken rib. The other two occasions were when fighting heavyweights. Steve Hamas stopped him in 1932. The two would fight three more times with Loughran winning two by decision and Hamas scoring a points win.

Sharkey kayoed Loughran in 1929, but Tommy would come back to beat the Boston Gob in 1933, decking Jack in the tenth round on his way to a very close decision win.



**Billy Conn**

Light heavyweight champion Billy Conn's record doesn't put him into the big puncher category, but there is something that stands out upon closer examination.

Conn had just 15 kayos in his 63 wins. But, when you look at his time campaigning as a heavyweight, five of his seven wins came via knockout. That means nearly half of his career storage wins were against men much bigger than he was. What accounted for this. I believe it was because when Billy was in with larger men, he was able to slow down a bit and focus on getting more leverage on his punches. The bigger men did not move as quickly as the middleweights and light heavyweights that Conn had been fighting for so many years.

It should also be noted that Conn had a total of nine fights as a heavyweight and lost only twice. Both of those losses were to the greatest heavyweight champion of all time, Joe Louis. He also came close to beating Joe in their memorable first battle. There was only one other time Billy was stopped. That was in his fourth professional fight when he didn't answer the bell for the third round. Years later he explained he was unable to continue because he had eaten a huge meal before the fight and was having problems with his stomach.



**Sid Terris**

Lightweight contender Sid Terris is considered among the top when it comes to all-time great lightweights. He was certainly a brilliant boxer. He possessed uncanny speed which he used to dazzle his opponents. His record includes wins over Ruby Goldstein, Babe Herman, Billy Petrolle, Ace Hudkins, Johnny Dundee, and Rocky Kansas.

While compiling 88 wins against just 13 losses, Terris had only 12 knockouts. Should he be discounted because of so few kayo victories? Of course not. Roberto Duran would have had his hands full with this genius of ringcraft.



**Maxie Rosenbloom**

I'll finish up with one more. Light heavyweight champion Maxie Rosenbloom. Slapsie Maxie had a total of 207 wins during his career. How many were by knockout? Just 19. Yet he is also considered one of the best.

While no footage exists of Rosenbloom's fights, it is said Cus D'Amato got the idea of the peek-a-boo style from watching him. He had a style that was quite difficult to deal with.

Out of 274 fights, Maxie was only stopped twice. Rarely being stopped is something these low knockout ratio fighters have in common. Part of it is probably attributable to their having solid chins, and also to the fact they were such smart boxers.

Adjectives usually coupled with their names include; fast, crafty, shrewd, calculating, and ghost like.

I have looked at only four of these great boxers here, there were any more. They are proof that being a power puncher isn't the only way to make it to the top. In fact, these men beat any hard punching foes. I also find them more interesting to watch. They knew their craft and were something to see in action.

## HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



There was an interesting small tidbit of information in a recent piece in Sports Illustrated that focused on the NBA Champion Boston Celtics.

It was briefly noted by the magazine, which was a weekly for decades following its founding in 1954, but has now cut its print edition back to 10 times per year, that Celtics star Bob Cousy was the highest paid player in the NBA during his final season in the league.

The magazine's first year coincides with Cousy helping to found the NBA Players Association — an organization that continues to this day. He served as the organization's first president.

In another piece, written in 2023 by Celtics Insider scribe Chris Forsberg, Cousy indicated "my last year (1962-1963 season) they told me I was the highest paid player in the league. I made \$35,000. One of the things I am most proud of is starting the Players Association. Because that has lent itself years later, in terms of the interaction between the Players Association and the owners, to guys signing \$300 million contracts for playing a child's game."

That's right. During the 1962-1963 campaign, his final season in the NBA, Cousy was the highest paid player in the entire league. His salary will seem seriously underwhelming for those who follow pro basketball in contemporary times. But it was a significant improvement from the amount paid to him during his rookie season — some \$9,000 for the 1950-1951 season.

That \$35,000 is not even a full single day's pay today compared to the numerous contemporary players who have signed multi-million-dollar contracts with their franchises. A number of them make over \$100,000 per day on a year-round basis when you divide their annual compensation by 365 — the number of days in the year.

Cousy would go on to become the head men's basketball coach at Boston College for six years, where his annual salary was significantly less than his final annual NBA salary. He supplemented his rather low annual college coaching salary through endorsements for basketball equipment.

In six years at The Heights, he put together a record of 117-38 that included making the NCAA March Madness tournament as well as going to the NIT championship game in 1969.

He left to become the head coach of the Cincinnati Royals franchise in the NBA.

Whatever fans may think of the Jacobs family — and opinion has always been somewhat divided within Bruins Nation — know this. Max and Jeremy Jacobs were the ones who enabled Cousy to live a lifestyle worthy of his fame.

They owned the Royals and wanted Cousy as the coach. According to a 2013 article in the Worcester Telegram, "they agreed to Cousy's request of \$125,000 a year (in salary), an apartment and a car. So Cousy coached the Royals for four and a half years before the Jacobs family sold the team and he was let go. But not before he made enough money and invested it wisely to assure him a comfortable life."

The Houdini of the Hardwood would not disappear. He would go on to a career in sports broadcasting, working local telecasts of the C's on game nights as a knowledgeable commentator for 34 years.

Bob Cousy hopes to return to the Garden for the game against the New York Knicks on October 22nd — the night that Banner 18 will be raised to the rafters and the Celtics will receive their championship rings.

As such he will be the only living member of the first Celtics championship team in attendance. That occurred in 1957. It also means that Cousy is one of the few associated with the team in any capacity that has witnessed the franchise win all 18 titles.

WILL THE CELTICS AND KNICKS MEET IN THE POSTSEASON? — While all fans are looking forward to the October 22nd opening game at the Garden between the two historic franchises, a number of the fans in Gotham have their eyes already set on a possible matchup in the 2025 Eastern Conference Finals next May.

That's because, according to a piece by Stefan Bondy in the New York Post, a number of prognosticators have already picked the Knicks to finish second in the Eastern Conference standings.

If everything worked out the way they do the math down there, both the first place Celtics and the second place Knicks would advance through the first two rounds of the Eastern Conference playoffs and then face each other in the Conference Finals.

That would prove to be an extended postseason run for the New Yorkers since the Knicks have not made it to the third round since 2000 — with only the Charlotte Hornets and Washington Wizards having even longer absences from the ECF.

Jalen Brunson, the new captain of the Knicks, has already acknowledged that advancement is something that the team has to focus on. "What can we do to get past the second round? That is our goal."

Actually, the possibility of the Knicks advancing to the Conference Finals to face the Celtics came close to happening last spring.

In their second-round matchup against the Indiana Pacers, the Knicks jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the series before Indiana fought back to tie the series at 2-2.

Even so, the Knicks won game five, thus providing the New Yorkers with two opportunities to close out the series and go on to meet the Celtics. But it didn't happen as the Pacers came back to win both game six and game seven.

That seventh game, by the way, was played at Madison Square Garden. "If you win a game seven at Madison Square Garden you have made history," said triumphant Indiana coach Rick Carlisle as he walked off the court following the convincing 130-109 victory.

And thus, an historic matchup in the ECF between the Knicks and the Celtics was denied for at least one more year. What will next spring bring?