

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

VOL. 113 - NO. 50

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 11, 2009

\$30 A COPY

Coakley Brown to Meet on January 19th Election for United States Senate

by Sal Giarratani



**Attorney General
Martha Coakley (D)**



**Senator
Scott Brown (R)**

On Tuesday, December 8th, Massachusetts voters in low numbers turned out to pick candidates for the January 19, 2010 US Senate Special Election. Democrats chose Attorney General Martha Coakley and Republicans picked State Senator Scott Brown.

Turnout was under 50% and in the Democratic race Coakley received 47% of the vote, with US Representative Michael Capuano in second place with 28%. Alan Khazee had 13th percent and Steve Pagliuca last with 12%.

On the Republican side, it was Brown in a landslide primary win over businessman Jack E. Robinson. Brown took 89% of the vote to Brown's 11%.

Luminarias Light Up East Boston Greenway



Zumix Carolers, volunteers of Boston Natural Areas Network and participants pose in front of the East Boston YMCA.

The East Boston Greenway was lit up on Sunday, December 6, 2009 in celebration of the holiday season. Over 1000 luminarias, candles set in weighted paper bags created by community volunteers, lit up the greenway. Zumix carolers serenaded

the crowd and participants were treated to cookies and hot chocolate, courtesy of Celeste Myers Business and Event Concepts and Jonquille's Diner, 275 Lee Burbank Hwy, Revere, MA. The event was hosted by Boston Natural Areas Network.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

New Candidate for Senate

A new name out of Charlestown, lawyer Dan Hill has announced for the State Senate seat now held by embattled Senator Anthony Galluccio. Charlestown has always been just a little bit political, huh? Anyway, Hill announced his candidacy inside the Navy Yard by the Muster House. Apparently, Hill is probably a yuppie guy since he announced at the Muster House rather than in real Charlestown. I mean, after all, he could have chosen the Bunker Hill Monument or the only acceptable spot inside the Yard, say, the USS Constitution. He could have picked the spot in City Square where Paul Revere landed in his rowboat back on April 18, 1775. Of course over the years the spot has been quite movable depending on the various urban planners redesigning the Square endlessly. However, the Muster House? I don't even know what it looks like. I hope a political Townie runs for the seat not someone seemingly thinking Muster House over the Warren Tavern.

Abierto to East Boston

I've only been in Eastie a short time but already feel I'm getting some East Boston emersion going on. I already know what "Por Favor de no interrumpir" means. I didn't know that in Rozzie. When it comes to dining out, Eastie is heaven. So much ethnic food, so little time.

It's Still Called Shay's Beach, Isn't It?

Whether you call it Shea's or Shay's, it just

(Continued on Page 13)

Mayor's Column

by Thomas M. Menino, Mayor, City of Boston

On the evening of my re-election last month, I stressed that we haven't made history by winning a fifth term, but we will with what we achieve in it. I want to accomplish as much in the next four years as we have achieved in the previous sixteen. This type of transformative change, however, will only occur by working together.

We have great momentum, and we're gearing up for the next term, when we will take on big challenges — not just when it's easy, but when it's hard, too. We will begin a new era of innovation in the Boston Public Schools; jumpstart stalled development projects in Allston, the South Boston Waterfront, and Downtown Crossing; make the Harbor Islands and the Greenway as central to our city's identity as the Boston Common and the Public Garden; and strengthen city government by implementing new technology, rebalancing public safety services, and pursuing consolidation where it makes sense.

Partnership is possibly most crucial in advancing our ambitious education reform agenda. Superintendent Johnson recently proposed 14 of our under-performing schools for turnaround, but we also want to elevate our strongest performing schools. Just as Fidelity Investments stepped up to provide enriching experiences for students at the Edwards School in Charlestown, we will seek to

create new partnerships so that all of our schools have the same opportunity for success. Education reform can't happen without those who teach our students, and renegotiating the current teachers contract to prioritize students over old rules governing teacher placement will be key. Finally, we will push our in-district charter legislation at the State House as part of a bill currently before the Legislature so that Massachusetts has the opportunity to compete for its share of \$5 billion in federal Race to the Top funding.

In the same spirit of collaboration, the city will work with the business community to jumpstart stalled development projects in Allston, the South Boston Waterfront, and Downtown Crossing. In Downtown Crossing, we have a chance to create the city's first Business Improvement District to capitalize on \$1.2 billion in private investments that have already been made and will allow the area to reach its full potential. We must also take the crucial step of re-imagining uses for the former site of Filene's Basement in order to animate the site again and strengthen the surrounding neighborhood.

We must also not be afraid to look at things differently on the South Boston Waterfront in order to attract innovative

(Continued on Page 14)

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

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

Call **617-227-8929** for more information

Stirpe Nostra

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

by Prof. Edmund Turiello



MORE STAINED GLASS

The most beautiful stained glass windows ever to be produced are said to be in the Cathedral at Chartres. The edifice stands on a low hill, 55 miles south of Paris, and it dominates all of the other buildings in the vicinity. The church spires can be seen 20 miles away. Fire destroyed two previous churches which stood on the same site. While the church was being built for the third time, preachers solicited gifts from all over France. People gave money, food, or labor. Other churches were larger, higher, and more richly decorated, but Chartres is known for being a people church, and also a pilgrim church. Students from the "Sorbonne", part of the University of Paris, make an annual weekend pilgrimage to this church by

walking the 55 miles, inspecting the stained glass, camping overnight in the church and then hiking back the next day.

We must be mindful of the fact that during this time in history, it was the clerks and scribes who were literate, but almost all others could not read or write, and had to be told about their religion in picture form. Early Christian art started on the walls of the catacombs, and gradually grew into a vast language of symbolism, which told stories of the Bible and of the Lives of the Saints. The Creation, Flood, Annunciation, Nativity, Miracles of Christ, The Crucifixion and The Resurrection were retold many times in this manner. The dove became the symbol of Peace and the Resurrection of Christ, the an-

chor symbolized faith, and a fish was the symbol for Christ.

Even the saints had their distinctions: St. Peter always held the keys to the gates of Heaven; St. Paul held a scroll; while St. Matthew held a purse. St. Catherine was always shown with her wheel of martyrdom and St. Mark was shown with his lion to name just a few.

During medieval times, people asked "What should one do upon entering a church?" and the answer usually was: 1. Take Holy Water; 2. Pray to the Almighty; and 3. Read the stained glass windows. The windows in the medieval cathedral became a spiritual encyclopedia to show the people what they were to believe.

NEXT ISSUE: *Vitrum*

Charlie Baker Announces Richard Tisei as Running Mate

Republican gubernatorial candidate Charlie Baker announced that State Senator Richard Tisei has joined his team as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor.

"Throughout his career in public service, Richard has built a solid voting record as a fiscal conservative and a reformer of state government," said Baker, introducing Tisei in his hometown of Wakefield. "If, on Election Day, the people of this Commonwealth stand behind our vision for helping future generations put their stake in the ground and pursue their dreams at home in Massachusetts, Richard Tisei will help the Baker Administration get the job done."

Speaking to a roomful of supporters, Tisei declared, "I've known Charlie for more than 20 years, and I strongly believe with all my heart that he's the very best hope for the future of the Commonwealth. He's the right person at the right time to get us out of this



mess and to put our State back on track."

Tisei continued, "Charlie and I share the same philosophy: We understand that the economy needs to be jump-started to get people back to work, that we need to change the 'business as usual' attitude on Beacon Hill, and that we need to make Massachusetts more competitive and more affordable."

Tisei was first elected to the State Senate in 1990 and elected Senate Minority Leader in 2007. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served six years in the State House of Representatives. Elected to the House at age 22, he was the youngest Republican ever elected to the Legislature and he is the longest serving legislator in the Republican delegation.

A resident of Wakefield, Tisei represents the Middlesex and Essex district, which includes Malden, Melrose, Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield and Lynnfield.

Sheriff's Department Public Affairs Program

Airs 100th Episode, Expands to Chelsea & Winthrop



Sheriff Andrea J. Cabral with Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis during a taping of Sheriff Cabral's public affairs cable program, Common Ground. The program's broadcast area has recently been expanded to include Chelsea and Winthrop and extended to an hour-long format.

The Suffolk County Sheriff's Department recently observed a milestone in achievement with the 100th episode broadcast of its public affairs television show, *Common Ground*.

Produced by the External Affairs Division of the Sheriff's Department, *Common Ground* was created as a means to promote public awareness of the programming within and operations of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department while delivering on Sheriff Andrea J. Cabral's commitment to increase the level of transparency of the functions of

the Department. The show also acts as one of the conduits through which Sheriff Cabral's external mission to promote public safety and crime prevention is disseminated.

Initially airing in a half-hour format on June 1st, 2006, the show commenced with Sheriff Andrea J. Cabral hosting Marie St. Fleur, State Representative of the 5th Suffolk District. Since that time, the *Common Ground* show has also been co-hosted by the Department's Chief of External Affairs and Communications Steve Tompkins, and guests have included some of the diverse denizens of Suffolk County, including Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis; Superintendent of Boston Public Schools Carolyn Johnson; numerous Suffolk County city and state officials from Chelsea, Winthrop and Revere as well as Boston; representatives from several of Suffolk County's community groups, organizations and institutions; a host of Suffolk County Sheriff's Department staff members, both custody and non-custody; and many others.

Representing the most current and significant changes to the program, *Common Ground* was recently expanded to an hour-long broadcast format, which allows for an

(Continued on Page 12)

Res Publica

by David Trumbull



... Reserved to the States Respectively, or to the People

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

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

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

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

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

David Trumbull is the chairman of the Boston Ward Three Republican Committee. Boston's Ward Three includes the North End, West End, part of Beacon Hill, downtown, waterfront, Chinatown, and part of the South End.

LAW OFFICES OF FRANK J. CIANO

GENERAL PRACTICE OF LAW

DIVORCE • WILLS • ESTATE PLANNING • TRUSTS
CRIMINAL • PERSONAL INJURY • WORKERS COMP.

617-354-9400

Si Parla Italiano

230 MSGR. O'BRIEN HIGHWAY • CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141

Join Saint Anthony Society in supporting the Saint Anthony Shrine - Arch Street Baby Center

Each month the Arch Street Baby Center provides assistance to over 900 families and children. During this Christmas Season help us spread the joys of the holiday to those much less fortunate than us.

Donation of the following baby items:
diapers, baby wipes, Creams & lotions
baby food, formula & cereals
Bottles, pacifiers & teething rings

Donations Can be dropped off at

Saint Anthony's Club

203 Endicott Street - North End

For more information call Jerry Moretti @ 617-723-8669



POST-GAZETTE

Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher and Editor
 5 Prince Street, P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113
 617-227-8929 617-227-8928 FAX 617-227-5307

e-mail: postgazette@aol.com

Website: www.BostonPostGazette.com

Subscriptions in the United States \$30.00 yearly

Published weekly by

Post-Gazette, 5 Prince St., P.O. Box 130135,
 Boston, MA 02113

USPS 1538 - Second-Class Postage paid at Boston, MA

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the
 POST-GAZETTE - P.O. Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113

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

Vol. 113 - No. 50

Friday, December 11, 2009

GUEST EDITORIAL

TOBIN, YOON, MENINO AND THE OFFICE OF MAYOR

by Sal Giarratani

Mayor Thomas Menino was recently elected to a fifth term. The first mayor ever elected five times by voters.

Previously, Mayor Kevin White was elected four, serving as mayor from 1968 until 1984. Had he wished to seek a fifth term at then age 54, he probably would have won again. Mayor James Michael Curley also was a 4-time mayor, first elected at age 40 in 1914 and last elected at age 71 in 1945. In between he was a mayor for one term in his 20s and one term in his 30s. He was an activist mayor, great orator and persistent candidate. He also lost three times for mayor, the last time in 1955 at age 81 when he still managed to garner over a 100 thousand votes in the preliminary election.

Interestingly, after getting elected in 1914, the City Charter was changed to prevent mayors from running for re-election.

In 1949, the City Charter once again let mayors run for re-election and the first mayor to do so was Mayor John B. Hynes in 1955. I say all this before bringing up two new reforms out there right now. City Councilor John Tobin has an ordinance that has been bottled up reportedly by Councilor Maureen Feeney, Chair of the Government Operations Committee. Tobin would like to see an ordinance that changes mayoral succession. If Tobin's legislation were successful, a mayor leaving in mid-term would be replaced by the City Clerk barred for running for the office in the next election. Currently, the City Council President gets to become Acting mayor as was the case for Menino in 1993 when Mayor Flynn left for the Vatican.

Outgoing City Councilor Sam Yoon also has an ordinance creating term limits for future mayors. A mayor would get only one extra term under this proposal. Long-term mayors could no longer happen. I think both these proposals shouldn't have been bottled up in committee. The people of Boston deserve to have these proposals taken out of committee and let them go to a full up or down vote before the City Council.

If both these proposals die at the end of this City Council session, it is time for City Councilor John Tobin and others to re-double their efforts in long needed reforms that make our city government much more transparent and open to the people of Boston.

Perhaps, a return to pre-1949 City Charter rules makes good sense. As British Prime Minister Winston Churchill once said, "The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you can see."

Politics will always be a part of government but only as long as it serves the people. Government is our business. It is up to us to add our voices into the mix. Stop bottling up good measures in Committee and give the people a chance to be heard.

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

AL NATALE

at the North End Branch Library



Al Natale and his big band performed at the annual Holiday Open House at the North End Branch Library on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Shown in Photo is vocalist Jim Bramante (left) with band leader Al Natale.

NICK'S FAMOUS DELI Welcomes Uncle Victor



Caleb Macaulay, Victor Catricala and Dennis Hanton behind the counter at Nick's Famous Deli, getting ready to serve up great sandwiches.



Victor Catricala in front of Nick's Famous Deli located at 66 Cross Street, North End. (Photos by Post-Gazette staff photographer)



The Varano Group's latest venture Nick's Famous Deli located at 66 Cross Street, (North End), Boston welcomes Victor Catricala. Victor is joining

his nephew Nick Varano, who is the owner and operator of the deli. Victor formerly of Victor's in East Boston is bringing his expertise in deli and hot dishes that he once fashioned in many of his locations in East Boston. Nick's Famous Deli is one of a kind in the respect that it serves tasty deli style sandwiches famously known in New York City. A few favorites include the Famous Pastrami sandwich (Don Rickle's Favorite) Famous Corned Beef

(Rodney Dangerfield's Smash hit), Famous Cubano (Mike Lowell's Home Run) and a sandwich tying the family back to their Italian roots, the Famous Calabrese (thin sliced hot soppressata, sharp provolone, and roasted red peppers served on ciabatta bread.)

Walking into Nick's Famous Deli, is like going back in time. The wall is adorned with old fashion photos and news clipping from sports to entertainment. You will find vintage photos of Nick's family including himself as a young boy surrounded by family at the kitchen table. Try Nick's Famous Deli today, whatever you desire at that moment, they will serve it up to you. If you are looking for a catered affair, Nick's Famous Deli will be happy to supply your needs. For more information log onto www.nicksfamousdeli.com or call 617-391-0050.

SANTA SKATE & TOY DRIVE

The North End Columbus Day Committee will hold their 2nd annual Santa Skate & Toy Drive on Saturday, December 12 from Noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Steriti

Skating Rink, Commercial Street, North End, Boston.

• Free ice rental for each unwrapped toy for a child 1-13 years old.

• Holiday music and carol-

ing by DJ Virgil and NEMPAC.

• Photo with Santa Noon to 1:30 p.m.

• Cookies, cakes, candies, coffee and cider.

R.J. Antonelli and Company Incorporated

Accountants and Auditors

Boston Business Journal Top 50 Firms - 2004/2005

Corporations • Trusts • Estates • Individuals • Computer Services • Financial Planning
 Buying and Selling Businesses • I.R.S. and D.O.R. Representation • Federal and State Taxes

331 Montvale Avenue
 Citizens Bank Bldg. @I-93
 Woburn, MA 01801



Rocco J. Antonelli, C.P.A.

781-937-9300

Since 1948



Financially Speaking

with Ben Doherty

UNEMPLOYMENT GETTING BETTER

Unemployment dropped 0.2% from 10.2% to 10% and the dollar rose, and the month of November rose 6% for the 6th month in a row. The economy has turned around much faster than expected. The gauge of future home sales rose for a ninth straight month suggesting slow but steady economic growth. Gold and copper reported new highs with gold @ 1,199.10/oz., and oil rising \$1.09 to \$78.37/bbl., as auto sales edged up driven by a 46% surge by Korea's Hyundai, while Ford and Chrysler sales dropped 25% and GM's sales fell 2% and Toyota sales rose 3%. Factory orders kept growing in November, but at a slower pace, suggesting slow but steady growth. The \$8,000 tax credit on new homes has been extended and expanded and helped the sales index by 3.7% for a 4th month of increases, signaling growth. Pending sales of homes rose 19.9% in September in the Northeast, 11.6 in the Midwest and 5.4% in the South, but Western sales fell 11.2%. ISM's figure disappointed analysts but details were generally positive. In all 12 of 18 industries reported growth. The job gauge fell to 50.8 from October's 53.1, signaling higher factory employment, but October's factory jobs fell by 61,000 their 23rd straight decline, Labor said. The market is looking ahead to inflation and higher rates. On Friday, the Dow and the S&P 500 climbed 1.2% each as the industrial reached a new closing high for the year. Volume rose on the NASDAQ. According to the Labor Department data out Friday employers cut payrolls by the smallest amount since the Recession and that job gains may be just around the corner. Non-farm payrolls weren't nearly as bad as previously thought or it seems that employees can't extract more from a shrinking work force. Payrolls fell just 11,000, better than a loss of 125,000 forecasted. Temporary jobs rose for a fourth straight month, jumping by 52,400 in November,

the most in five years. President Obama said he will unveil a package this week that will jump start hiring.

GM and Toyota introduced all electric vehicles at its Los Angeles show. The GM Volt car has a battery that will last 40 miles at full-charge. It expects to make 10,000 Volts in 2011. GM has lithium ion batteries from South Korea's LLG Chem for assembly engine that serves as a generator to keep the battery from running down. It takes 3-4 hours to charge with a 110 volt charge and 1-2 with a 220 volt charger. Nissans all electric Leaf slated to go on sale in 2010, is designed to drive up to 100 miles, but unlike the Volt, it has no gas engine, at all. It will lease the batteries for eight years so consumers won't have to buy batteries. Toyota has a plug-in Prius. It drives up to 12 miles on a charge, but then a gas engine kicks in. GM will sell the Volt for \$40,000, but U.S. buyers will get a \$7,500 rebate for a green car tax break, putting the price closer to \$32,500. That's 10,000 more than Toyota's Prius. A lot of customer feedback will be needed to see how and when customers charge vehicles. They all expect the market for electric vehicles to be smaller, so time will tell if those vehicles make it or not.

Biogen Idec moved higher Friday on an offer to buy Facet Biotech for \$17.50/share. This represents a premium of 25% to Facet's closing price, and nearly doubles Facet's stock price on September 2nd, when Biogen made its original offer. It can be a hazardous business trying to predict the winners in the high-risk high-stakes world of biopharma. One missed target in a clinical trial or one delay of the FDA can send a company's shares into the tank. But on the flip side, can be a stock such as Vanda Pharmaceuticals whose stock spent a year trading for pennies before getting an FDA approval in May sent shares soaring. The stock

peaked at \$15.49 in August and now trades at \$12/share. Vanda's psychotic agent Fanapt had lost the attention of the market and investors stopped looking, thinking the stock had no chance, when it happened. Back in 2008, the FDA had asked for more safety data on a hand to hand trial against another drug. The stock cratered, falling below \$1/share but the company refilled their application and addressed its concerns and Fanapt got full approval. The stock appreciated 900%. Vanda has a partnership with Novartis. The street also missed Human Genome Sciences and partner Glaxo-Smith Klines positive phase for their lupus drug Benlystra. Hope for a lupus drug faded when trials of Rituxan from a partnership between Roche Genentech and Biogen Idec failed in 2008. Human Genome was below \$1 in May, after positive data in July. Human Genomes shares were up 700% to \$28/share. It's partnered 50/50 with Glaxo. Another stock Targecept which does research on neuronal nicotine receptors in the brain, the same receptors which nicotine has its effects. Targecept's shares were up 650% on positive Phase II results for its depression drug TC-5214. The drug is for patients who need another drug to augment the first. They had some setbacks but the latest were twice as good as any drug ever seen for depression augmentation. The street became cautious as other drugs like PMZ never worked, but there are many new drugs hitting the marketplace with good results. Merke has a long history in vaccines and worth watching for several new drugs, but it's too soon to know if the vaccines will work or how well it will sell.

It's time to call your financial advisor or call me at 617-261-7777.

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS
Richard Settipane
Insurance Services
AUTO • HOMEOWNERS • TENANTS
LIFE • HEALTH • BUSINESS GROUP
Experience makes the difference
 WE PROMISE TO MEET OR IMPROVE YOUR PRESENT POLICY COVERAGE AT AFFORDABLE RATES
 CALL TODAY FOR YOUR QUOTE
617-523-3456
 1 Longfellow - Place Suite 2322 - Boston, MA 02114

Rapino Memorial Home
 9 Chelsea St., East Boston
 617-567-1380



Kirby-Rapino Memorial Home
 917 Bennington St.
 East Boston
 617-569-0305

Dino C. Manca
 Funeral Director

A Family Service Affiliate of AFFS/Service Corp. Int'l
 206 Winter St. • Fall River, MA 02720
 508-676-2454

THINKING OUT LOUD



by Sal Giarratani

Crosstown at Crossroads?

Recent financial news on Crosstown has not appeared positive. The *Boston Herald* recently stated, "Crosstown Center, one of the Menino's administration's pet projects to enhance a gritty section of Roxbury, keeps getting bad reviews on its finances." I remember when the project plans were unveiled ten years ago and as a former resident of lower Roxbury back in the 50s and 60s, I wanted this project to succeed and I hoped it would lead to redevelopment of all the other empty parcels along the Melnea Cass Boulevard stretch from Tremont Street to Mass. Ave.

I had hoped that the Crosstown Center would be the anchor for all kinds of retail, restaurants and residential units that would live up to the memory of community leaders such as Melnea Cass herself.

To date, not much has happened as can be seen by the endless empty parcels. Boston Water and Sewer has replaced the Stride Rite/Green Shoe factory but that site doesn't have any connection to the nearby community. Originally, the hope by Mayor Menino appeared to be a medical link between the Longwood Medical Area

and Boston Medical Center but this didn't happen. It might have just been the timing and the timing hasn't gotten any better recently.

My hope is to resurrect some semblance of the old Lower Roxbury that I grew up in which was working-class and close-knit. By the way, the neighborhood was never "gritty" to quote the Herald story. I hope the Hampton Inn and restaurants in Crosstown Center succeed and grow. I also hope that private developers will come in and add to the story of my old neighborhood. Melnea Cass Boulevard has so much potential. It is a shame to see things remain vacant for so long.

Especially as someone from the area, I remember those plans for the Southwest Expressway that would have cut right through Lower Roxbury. My neighborhood got WestEndized by a project that never came to be. Melnea Cass Boulevard can be the catalyst for even more development near that boulevard too.

Crosstown Center is too important an idea to fail. Melnea Cass Boulevard should be a road offering hope for better days rather than one paved in lost dreams.

North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council
MONTHLY MEETING
 The North End/Waterfront Council Monthly Meeting will be held on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Nazzaro Community Center located at 30 N. Bennet Street, North End, Boston, Massachusetts. All are encouraged to attend.

NORTH END PRINTING 
 5 PRINCE STREET • NORTH END • BOSTON, MA 02113
 Owned and operated by Pamela Donnaruma, Publisher, Post-Gazette

Quality Printing
 for all your
Commercial and Personal Needs

Stationery • Business Cards • Menus • Flyers
 Program Books • Wedding and Party Invitations
 Announcements • Business Forms and Documents

— COMPETITIVE PRICES —
617-227-8929

The Federal Trade Commission
 works for the consumer to prevent
fraud and deception.
 Call 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357)
 or log on to www.ftc.gov.

Rebuild My Church

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



Al Natale (left) and Father Antonio (right).

It was in the summer of 1206 that Francis Bernardone, who the world now knows as Saint Francis of Assisi, knelt before a life size icon of Jesus on the Cross in the Church of San Damiano and heard Jesus speaking to him from the Cross: "Go, Francis, and repair my house, which as you can see, is falling into ruin." Francis taking the words literally gathered his friends and set about restoring the decrepit old church. Then they went out and began restoring other church buildings in the vicinity of Assisi that were in need of repair. Only gradually did Francis realize that "re-build my church" meant to reform the institution, to rebuild it by witnessing to the truth of the faith and calling people to renewed faithfulness to Christ and commitment to His mission.

As Francis and his friends set about the practical task of restoring the old church of San Damiano, St. Leonard Church in Boston's North End under the direction of its Franciscan Pastor Fr. Antonio Nardoiani over the last several months has been in the midst of a series of renovations

Most recently completed was an extensive cleaning and re-pointing of the brick work to the facade of the building. Re-discovered were beautiful differences in the color of bricks used in the exterior of the Church which had been obscured by the buildup of decades of grime and smoke present in the city atmosphere. In addition, the statue of Saint Leonard of Port

Maurice, patron of Saint Leonard Parish, located on the Prince Street facade of the church, after years of deterioration has been wonderfully restored.

Extensive work is planned to repair and restore the magnificent stained glass windows of the church. The work has begun with the removal of the rose window in order to repair the casement and reverse years of deterioration to the window itself. The window will be reinstalled early in 2010.

Security cameras have recently been installed at considerable expense in both Saint Leonard and Sacred Heart Churches enabling both churches once again to be reopened throughout the day.

Finally, the famed St. Leonard Peace Garden is undergoing a complete renovation and reconstruction. Thanks to a generous gift of Albert Natale, former resident of the North End and an active patron of Saint Leonard's, a cement ramp is being constructed that will provide handicapped accessibility to the church as well as the offices and gift shop of the parish.

The old brick planters as well as the cement pathway have been removed to be replaced by a wide brick walkway; new sod has been added to the garden enhancing the beauty of this green, essential and irreplaceable oasis of the North End.

This is only the beginning of a wider restoration project that must be continued in order to preserve Saint

Leonard Church and the essential place it occupies in the hearts of its parishioners and the historic fabric of the North End. The project involves the repair and restoration of the stained glass windows, dome and interior of the church; postponing this work runs the risk of increased cost and further deterioration.

It is hoped that the outstanding generosity of Al Natale will inspire others who love Saint Leonard Church to support the renovation initiative. In the words of Fr. Antonio, no donation is too small while at the same time those who have been blessed with good fortune are encouraged to come forward to help defray the overwhelming cost of the renovation.

Donations may be sent to:
 Saint Leonard Parish
 14 North Bennet Street
 Boston, MA 02113
 Telephone: 617-523-2110

Located at the entrance to Boston's Historic North End!

DePasquale's
Homemade Pasta Shoppe

Now Open

A Family Tradition

Cheese Ravioli Manicotti Gnocchi Fettuccine Spaghetti Penne Rigate
 Ziti Fusilli Rigatoni Angel Hair Linguine Tortellini Lobster Ravioli

66A Cross Street Boston, MA 02113
 617.248.9629 — www.homemade-pasta.com

Disney
ON ICE
PRODUCED BY FELD ENTERTAINMENT

100
YEARS OF MAGIC

All the Magical Disney Moments You'll Remember Forever!

We've Iced the Price!
Opening Night Tickets Just \$15!*

DEC. 26 - 29
TD GARDEN

Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.
DEC. 26 11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM*	DEC. 27 11:00 AM 3:00 PM	DEC. 28 11:00 AM 3:00 PM	DEC. 29 12 NOON 4:00 PM

*Excludes Front Row and VIP seats. No double discounts. Price does not include \$2 facility fee.

Buy tickets at www.disneyonice.com, **ticketmaster**® Retail Locations, TD Garden Box Office or call 1-800-745-3000

Ticket Prices: \$20 - \$25 - \$30 - \$50 VIP - \$80 Front Row
 Limited number of Front Row and VIP seats available. Call or go online for details.
 (Service charges and handling fees may apply. Prices do not include \$2 facility fee.)

Take the **T** to Disney On Ice!

LUCIA

RISTORANTE & BAR

Traditional
 Italian Cuisine

Donato Frattaroli

415 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02113

617.367.2353

— Open for Lunch and Dinner Daily —

Private dining rooms for any occasion

donato@luciaboston.com
www.luciaboston.com

LA MALE NOTTE (*The Bad Night*) PART IV

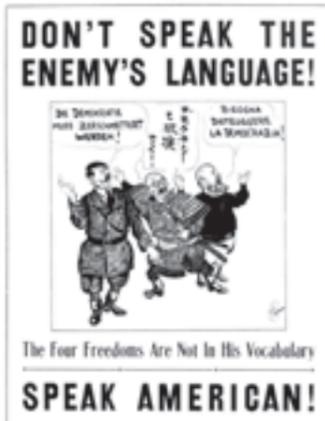
by Peter Vitale

(Photo contributed by Professor Larry DiStasi)

As an Italian American, I witnessed early on that the heartbeat of the Italian community is found in century old traditions like La Befana, the Vendemmia, and the festivals of the saints. Its life's blood can be found in the hundreds of provincial dialects that still vibrantly live today in Italian-American households. Yet during World War II, coupled with these evacuation and internment policies, the government campaigned to all Americans to "stop speaking the enemy's language. Speak American." The policy was an affront to the concept of the "melting pot". Somehow the speaking of one's native tongue was equated with disloyalty. The message was to be patriotic, one must not utter a language spoken by Hitler, Mussolini or Tojo. Unlike the American Navajo Indians who assisted in the war effort by the use of their language, generations of Italian-Americans were discouraged to communicate in their original tongue and pursue their traditions for many years after the war was over.

The epilogue to the policy of wartime internment and evacuation concerns the most important driver of our society — politics. It was political pressure against the personal ambitions of one individual that brought about an end to persecution policy during a historical period of hysteria. As early as the spring of 1942, President Roosevelt lobbied by civilian and government personnel realized the fallacy of a policy designed to segregate the masses during a time of war. Considerable personnel and infrastructure would be needed to register, track, capture and transport thousands of internees and evacuees. Camps and prisons would need to be built and maintained. An entire bureaucracy would need to be created to oversee all of the functions related to an effort that would only undermine the total war effort.

Additionally, the presidential elections were on the political horizon. Roosevelt was a sickly yet popular wartime incumbent



who needed to build momentum heading into a contest against a popular Mafia prosecutor, Republican and fellow New Yorker named Thomas Dewey. Roosevelt needed success on the European and Pacific battlefields but he also needed the Italian vote particularly in the congested Northeast. He wanted the country unified as he entered the final phases of the campaign. At the close of elections on November 8, 1944, Roosevelt would win New York and defeat Dewey by collecting 432 electoral votes overall and with a 7% margin in the national popular vote. The Italian-American community had forgiven him and had demonstrated their repudiation of Fascism once again.

It would be another 56 years before the country would acknowledge the violation of civil rights of the Italian community for what happened in World War II. In the autumn of 2000, the country's leaders admitted to these survivors and witnesses that the government bore responsibility for the treatment of resident aliens of Italian descent and Italian Americans by passing the Torricelli Bill S1909 and a House version, HR2442. President Clinton signed the legislation into Public Law 106-451 on November 7, 2000.

Professor Lawrence DiStasi concluded in his comprehensive study "Una Storia Segreta", "it is time America realized what is fundamental to its creed: to condemn one of us on the basis of our origins, national or otherwise, is to condemn us all."

The Italian-American community should once again take time to remember the sacrifices and contributions it has made in this regard and remind everyone that government policies based upon racial or religious origin should be condemned whenever and wherever possible.

I give my profound thanks to Professor DiStasi for his informational and pictorial contributions for this article.

Peter Vitale

East Boston Teacher Posts Project Request for Classroom Resources at DonorsChoose.org

Generous donors have fully funded a project request for classroom materials submitted by Ms. Reid, a 9th grade teacher at East Boston High School in East Boston, Massachusetts, the online education charity **DonorsChoose.org** announced recently. The project is titled "Calculating the Correct Answer" and it will provide applied sciences resources and experiences for 80 students. Two generous donors contributed \$141 in total to the project, which was matched with funds from a DonorsChoose.org grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Ms. Reid is among tens of thousands of teachers across the country who are turning to DonorsChoose.org to get the learning materials they and their students need.

"Too often teachers lack critical resources in their classrooms—and in many instances they spend their own money trying to provide for their students," said Charles Best, founder and CEO of DonorsChoose.org. "Unfortunately, even hundreds of dollars out of pocket each year doesn't necessarily cover the costs of what's needed. That's where concerned citizens come in; anyone, regardless of means, can donate directly to project requests like Ms. Reid's at **DonorsChoose.org**."

Donations go twice as far for many of the project requests posted at DonorsChoose.org, including Ms. Reid's. DonorsChoose.org received a \$4.1 million grant from the Gates Foundation in 2008 to support teachers who aim to promote college-readiness among students in high-need urban and rural public schools.

As Ms. Reid wrote in the project, "My project needs 21 scientific calculators would complete the student team kits and help the students when working on their projects. These calculators will make it possible for my students to take our lessons one step further and develop projects that incorporate the implementation of these calculators and broaden their experiences with mathematics in the real world."

In addition to Ms. Reid's project, there are currently six project requests in East Boston posted at DonorsChoose.org and in need of funding. They can be found by using DonorsChoose.org's search tool at: www.donorschoose.org/donors/search.html.

Individual donors can contribute any dollar amount to these and thousands of other projects nationwide at DonorsChoose.org. Once a project is completely funded, a team at DonorsChoose.org will purchase the requested materials and send them to the teacher. All donors will receive photos of the project taking place, a thank-you let-

(Continued on Page 13)

14th Annual Taste of Eastie

East Boston Main Streets will host the 14th Annual Taste of Eastie at the Hilton Boston Logan Airport on Tuesday evening January 12th 2010. Entertainment,

food and fun will highlight this wonderful evening. Over 25 local restaurants will showcase their delicious cuisine from South and Central American favorites

to Mediterranean, Chinese, Italian and American. Tickets can be purchased at Sovereign Bank, 2 Meridian Street, MP&CO, 146 Maverick Street or at the Chamber office, 296 Bennington Street. Tickets are also available by calling the East Boston Main Streets office at 617-561-1044.

Taste of Eastie tickets make a great gift for the holidays so call now!

EAST BOSTON

AVAILABLE 2/1/10!

2 bedroom - \$960/month
247 Bennington Street, #2

PLEASE PAGE ALEX
781-226-1235

DISPONIBLE 2/1/10!

2 Dormitorios - \$960/month
247 Bennington Street, #2

POR FAVOR PAGE ALEX
781-226-1235

Vazza

Funeral Homes

262 Beach St., Revere
781-284-1127

11 Henry St., E. Boston
617-567-0955

Louis R. Vazza - Mark A. Tauro
Funeral Directors
www.vazzafunerals.com



'Tis The Season! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Merry Christmas

St. Agrippina DiMineo Benefit Society

15th Annual

Christmas Program for
North End Children

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

On Sunday, December 13th from 12:00 to 2:00 pm
at St. Agrippina's Chapel at 459 Hanover Street

★ All who wish to attend please call 617-363-2678 between now and December 6th. To confirm you must supply your child's name, age, gender, *address* and phone number so that we can report to Santa's elves.

★ Please, you must confirm no later than **December 6th**. All children **10 and under** will receive a picture with Santa and a gift. Children must be present & *accompanied by an adult*. Also: *Face Painting, Balloons, Characters, Gift Bags*. Please bring a Camera!

★ Saint Agrippina's Christmas Program is for **North End Residents Only**.



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

Just a Merry Good Time
God Bless America



Buon Natale

NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

presents the

39th Annual
2009

NORTH END CHRISTMAS PARADE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009 - 1:00 P.M.



SEE SANTA CLAUS ARRIVE AT NORTH END PARK
BY HELICOPTER AT 1:00 P.M.

In case of bad weather, Parade will be held the next Sunday, December 20th
IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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

Merry Christmas



Associazione Culturale
"Canterini di Ortigia"



FSM & CSNA Present
Christmas Caroling
from Ortigia, Siracusa



To be held on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 7:00PM at the Malden Catholic HS Auditorium, 99 Crystal Street Malden, Massachusetts. To order tickets please call 781-461-9950.

Enjoy this unique evening of Sicilian Christmas carols. An evening of Christmas magic Italian style.

All proceeds to benefit the flood victims in Messina, Italy.



Mrs. Murphy . . . As I See It

The city has to put a stop to bottle collectors who walk in the middle of the streets with shopping carriages filled over their heads with soda cans, bottles and junk. These inconsiderates are going to cause a tragic accident eventually. Probably sooner than later. A driver in the Day Square area complained last week because he had to swerve, and risk hitting a car in order to avoid a woman pushing a cart in the middle of the street. Also, now that the streets will no longer be cleaned by the city for the winter, trash invaders will add mega messes along the streets, transforming East Boston into a mess. If residents are vigilant on trash day, they can discourage junk collectors from rummaging through their trash ... Finally the Boston City Council will hold a public hearing on December 10th for mayoral term limits. District Councilor Maureen Feeney was stalling the procedures for a long time! No one should linger in office indefinitely! ... With Christ-

mas 15 days away, residents of East Boston are urged to shop their hometown and support the local merchants ... Eastie is a fun place to live at this time of year. Organizations like the East Boston Chamber, East Boston Main Streets, East Boston Kiwanis, among many others organize events for the children, the Christmas Trolley comes to town, and in fact was here last Sunday entertaining the kids, Eastie people are generous with donations for the needy ... Boston Public Works received four outraged calls of street lights being out on Meridian street in the Central Square area, and the Bennington street area during the Thanksgiving holiday week ... A 50 year old East Boston man was charged with allegedly swiping more than a dozen checks from the Holy Rosary Church where he had been hired to do Masonry work on the building ... ZUMIX, Art Center is nearing completion and is set to open later this month. ZUMIX, a non-profit organization has been thriving since they opened some fifteen years ago. The

ZUMIX kids have given many striking performances during the years, and the organization has directed East Boston youths towards the fine arts of music, and dancing ... Michele McPhee, WTKK radio talk show host lit into former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee, who pardoned the prisoner that killed four police officers. The man he pardoned was a murderer, and Huckabee found it fit to put the killer back on the street allowing him to continue his killing spree! We need legislation taking the power to pardon away from governors and presidents ... The Bishop of Rhode Island refused to give Congressman Patrick Kennedy Communion because of his stand on abortion. This is where church and state should separate. The Bishop was wrong denying Kennedy the rights of the church. Kennedy is entitled to his views on abortion, however this being a subject in any other religion, Patrick would be out, and the matter done and over with! ... Christmas edition coming out December 25th ... *Till then, happy shopping!*

East Boston Chamber of Commerce Holiday Happenings ...

Seasons Greetings from the East Boston Chamber! This is a busy month, so we would like to fill you in on what we are doing to make the neighborhood a bit brighter for the holidays...

Similarly as we have done each year following our participation in the Mayor Menino's Annual Macy's Trolley Tour, the Chamber is hosting a **Santa Claus & Friends Parade on Sunday, December 13**, departing Conductor Street at 3:00PM, rolling through the streets of East Boston, and arriving at Orient Heights Square at approximately 5:00PM for a tree-lighting ceremony. Be on the lookout for Santa — full parade route can be picked up at the Chamber office or emailed to you by request. East Boston families are welcome to join us in Orient Heights, outside Ruggiero-Mazzarella Memorial Home, starting at 4:30PM for music and refreshments as we await the arrival of Santa Claus!

On **Thursday, December 17**, the East Boston Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with Bulgroup Properties is hosting an **Open House, Social Networking Night, and Family Holiday Reception**. Taking place at 175 McClellan Highway (located between Danilchuk Auto

Body and the Courtyard by Marriott), from 5:30PM – 7:30PM, this event is open to Chamber members, as well as any of the following parties, along with their families: those who are in need of affordable office or storage space with flexible terms; entrepreneurs, service-industry professionals, and artists; existing home-based business owners; other small- and mid-sized business owners; any group or individual in need of office, storage, or other commercial space, built-to-suit. Property management will be on hand to discuss your needs and offer site tours. Music, refreshments, and cash bar will be available ... and parents are encouraged to bring along their young ones for fun holiday entertainment including an Elf storyteller, face painter, and even a visit from Santa Claus! The event is free to attend, though donations of canned or other non-perishable food items are encouraged and welcomed. Donated items will be distributed to East Boston food pantries and other in-need organizations.

The Chamber for the second year in a row is distrib-

uting donation jars to local merchants, so watch out for them. Contributions go toward a fund used by the Chamber for annual holiday festivities throughout our neighborhood including lighting in the squares, Santa parades, and other decorations and activities. This year a portion of the proceeds collected will go towards purchasing food items for some of our East Boston food pantries, so please be generous!

Finally, thanks to a very generous donation by Suffolk Downs to the East Boston Chamber and the East Boston community, our neighborhood will have 100 beautiful Christmas wreaths hung on its light poles. Red bows are being purchased through last year's donations to the Chamber's donation jar drive and will be put together by several Chamber volunteers. Wreaths will be hung courtesy of Chamber President Angelo Vigliotta, Jr., and his company Galaxy Electric.

On behalf of the Chamber Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Membership, may you enjoy a happy, healthy, and prosperous holiday season!

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

- Financial Services
- Professional Tax Consultant
- Personal & Business
- Year Round Service

M.P. & Co. TAX & FINANCIAL SERVICES

GRACE PREVITE MAGOON, EA

617-569-0175

146 Maverick Street, East Boston, MA 02128

ESTABLISHED IN 1938

e-mail: gmagoon@aol.com

SERVICES

- Italian Interpreter
- Tour Guide
- Translations
- Si eseguono
- Pratiche Notarili
- Pensioni

Call 617.820.8885

E-Mail

Francesosca@yahoo.com

NICK VARANO'S
Famous Deli



**FAMOUS FACES.
DELICIOUS SANDWICHES.**

**COME DINE IN
OR TAKE OUT.
CATERING ALSO
AVAILABLE.**

**CALL OR ORDER
ONLINE TODAY!**

66 CROSS STREET
TEL: 617-391-0050 / FAX: 617-391-0053
WWW.NICKSFAMOUSDELI.COM

NEAD Community Awards, Medalist Dinner "Extraordinary"

Story and Photos by Bob DeCristoforo



North End VFW Post 144

You, always know it's going to be a success, but you are nervous, no matter what! Walking into Joe Tecce's Function Room on Saturday evening, November 21, 2009 my nervousness was quickly put to rest (a little). First thing I noticed was the flowers at every table, compliments of NEAD Board member George Hadaya. The Ad Book Programs were in place, John Romano was all set with the table check list. The room was ready, and so were we!

The North End VFW Post 144 members were getting ready to present the Flag, just like they do every year.

The 12th Annual North End Against Drugs Community Award Dinner was underway. The Michelina and

Raymond Costa Scholarship Medalist Presentation was a beautiful and emotional event. After the 'Posting of the Colors' and the Star Spangle Banner, we had a Moment of Silence for all our Veterans, who had passed on. The VFW Commander, Bob Caggiano, presented NEAD with a \$1000 donation. "Special Appreciations Awards" to Father Antonio, OFM, and Father Claude OFM in this the 'Year of the Priests, and we said 'Thank You' to retiring NEAD Board members Ilene Gladstone, Lorraine LaColla and Jayme Periera. The NSTAR Business Award officially became the Walter Salvi NSTAR Business Award in honor of Walter Salvi, who created our partnership with NSTAR

as our Corporate sponsor, now in its 21st year.

The Michelina and Raymond Costa Scholarship 2009-2010 Medalists Presentation was presented to Paul Bruno, Sal Firicano, Justin Amoroso, Tia Bevilacqua, Jordyn Amoroso, Nevaeh Nicole Boucher, Helena Fountas, Carly Hefferman, Nicholas Mustacchio, Colman Shea, and Peter Shea. They thanked the donors ... the Lane Family, the Fabbo Family, Domenic Piso, Barbara Maldero, St. Damien Society, Victor Passacantilli, Sam Viscione, Lenny Gambale, Charlie Coppola (Friends of the North End), the Knights of Columbus Ausonia Council 1513, the Boston Police Activities League (PAL), NEAD, as well as a very generous Anonymous Donor.

I had the pleasure to announce that Rose Toscano and Barbara Maldero, on behalf of the North End Younger Seniors presented us with a check for \$1,000 to begin the 2010-2011 School year Scholarship Drive, and that another Anonymous Donor had also presented us with a check for \$1,000, and will do so for the next's ten years, for the Scholarship Fund. Anyone interested in donating to the Scholarship Fund should contact me, Bob DeCristoforo, or any member of the NEAD Board. Our goal is to present \$10,000 in Scholarships each year. Donations are accepted all year long.

The Community Awards Honorees were introduced and presented by many of our Board members. Here comes the emotional part. I had the opportunity to introduce the Anthony Morella "Good Guy" Award, the Andy Puopolo Youth Award, the Emily Pugliano Public Servant Award, and the Barbara Anne DeCristoforo Senior Award, named in honor of my Mom. It wasn't easy. John Romano presented the Good Guy Award to Louis Strazzullo. Laurie D'Elia, along with members of the Puopolo Family, presented the Youth Award to John N. Romano, and she presented the Senior Award to Phyllis Vitti. I had the honor of presenting Area A Police Captain Bernie O'Rourke and Sergeant Tom Lima the Public Servant Award. Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis attended to offer his own personal congratulations to these two fine men. NEAD Board member Mary Wright of the North End Health Center, Walter Salvi, and NSTAR Liaison Dan MacGillivray presented Joe and Fred Giangregorio of the Green Cross Pharmacy the Walter Salvi NSTAR Business Award. Cathy Carangelo, and John Romano presented the Fred Carangelo Organization Award to Director Lia Tota, who accepted on behalf of the North End-West End ABCD Service Center, and then John presented the Alumnus Award to Al Natale. I presented the President's Award to Maria Cabrera of

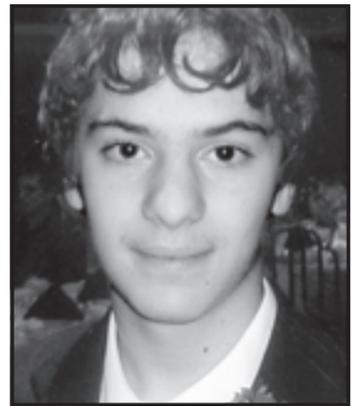
the Museum of Science. The Award Ceremony concluded with the presentation of the John Dexter 'UnSung Hero' Award to Jeremy Sarzana by NEAD Board members Laurie D'Elia and Carl Ameno and a Final Blessing by Father Antonio.

Special "Thank You" to NSTAR, Donato Frattaroli, and A Taste of the North End, the Puopolo, and Sciaba Families, to Board members Officer Ted Boyle, BPD, Michael Giannasoli, and Rosina Fabbo, to Al Vilar and Karen D'Amico, Joyce Papa, Michele Morgan, and Christine Vraibel. To the Tecce Family, who made the cost per ticket very affordable, so that families could attend. To the DeCristoforo Family, LaCapella Suites, Industrial Credit Union, Catherine Keegan, H.R. Hatch Insurance Company, Green Cross

Pharmacy, Hillside Press, Hanover Wines and Spirits, the Musto Family, Pam Donnaruma, Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus 1513, Camdele Construction Company, PAL Billy Stoddard, and to all who donated Raffle Prizes. Yes, it really is "All About Family"! ... Next Year's Date, Saturday, November 20, 2010.



Jeremy Sarzana received John Dexter Unsung Award



John N. Romano received Andy Puopolo Youth Award



Maria Cabrera received President's Award



Michelina and Raymond Costa Scholarship Medalists



Michelina and Raymond Costa Scholarship Donors



Police Commissioner Ed Davis (center) congratulates Captain Bernie O'Rourke (left) and Sergeant Tom Lima, (right) upon receiving the Emily Pugliano Public Servant Award.



Lia Tota received Fred Carangelo Award



Louis Strazzullo received Anthony Morella "Good Guy" Award



Phyllis Vitti received Barbara DeCristoforo Award



Al Natale received Alumnus Award



Joe and Fred Giangregorio owners of Green Cross Pharmacy received the Walter Salvi NSTAR Business Award.

The Socially Set

by Hilda M. Morrill



Nancie and Micael Chamberlain enjoy the "Celebration of Hope" benefit dinner. (Photo by Roger Farrington)

We share three more photos from the Partners Home Care and Partners Hospice festive "Celebration of Hope" benefit dinner at the Boston Harbor Hotel, which was featured in last week's "The Socially Set ..." column.

The event, "Courageous Voices of Home Care and Hospice," celebrated innovative programs and compassionately skilled clinicians who help enhance the quality of life for people coping with chronic and life-limiting illness by delivering care in the comfort and security of home.

For information about Partners Home Care and Partners Hospice upcoming programs and events, call 781-290-4000 or visit www.partnershomecare.org.

..... On Wednesday, De-

cember 16, at 8 p.m., Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart will lead the 26th annual "A Company Christmas at Pops," one of the BSO's most important annual fundraising events.

Grammy award-winner Debby Boone will headline a list of special guests that includes film and Broadway actor Frank Langella, who will narrate "A Visit from St. Nicholas," and the latest incarnation of the famous cappella group, The Swingle Singers.

This year's holiday fundraiser already has raised more than \$900,000 to benefit the Boston Symphony and Boston Pops orchestras, and represents support from nearly 100 New England companies. "A Company Christmas at Pops" is part of the Holiday Pops season, which is continuing through December 27, at Symphony Hall.

William F. Achtmeyer and Richard F. Connolly, Jr. are the event chairs for this year's "A Company Christmas at Pops."

Building on a beloved 26-year tradition, 200 youngsters from children's service organizations throughout greater Boston will be invited as special guests to this year's event. The children's program begins at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston.

Children will enjoy dinner, visits from Santa and costumed characters, and goodie bags provided by a variety of in-kind donors. Sil-



Partners Home Care volunteers Sandy Baker of Marshfield, left, and Laura Roberts of Milton. (Photo by Roger Farrington)

ver Fox Motorcoaches will provide buses to transport the children from the Fairmont Copley Plaza to Symphony Hall.

A limited number of tickets are available for public sale online at www.bostonpops.org. Single ticket admission is at 7:30 p.m. and includes only the concert. While available, tickets may also be purchased by phone at Sym-phonyCharge at 617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200. All Holiday Pops patrons, regardless of age, must have a ticket.

..... We remind our readers about the "2010 Boston Flower & Garden Show" which will blossom anew with the theme, "A Feast for the Senses," from March 24-28 at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston.

"The Gala Preview Party" on Tuesday, March 23 kicks off the Show on the eve of its public opening. Several horticultural non-profit organizations will benefit from this fundraiser, which brings together hundreds of garden enthusiasts for an elegant first peek at the floral extravaganza.

We are delighted to offer two free tickets to the show, courtesy of Carolyn Weston, Flower Show Director. For an opportunity to win the tickets, be sure to sign the Guest Book at your columnist's gardening website, www.bostongardens.com.

For show updates, visit www.thebostonflowershow.com.

..... While on the subject of flowers, this coming Saturday is "National Poinsettia Day."

Lucky me! I've had the pleasure of visiting the Paul Ecke Ranch in Encinitas, California with members of the Garden Writers Association, a very "social" group

indeed.

One thing I now know for sure — if you buy or are given a poinsettia for the holidays, it most likely originated at the Ecke Ranch as a cutting.

According to Paul Ecke III, our gracious host during our visit, more than 80% of all flowering poinsettias in the world at the time got their start at the Ecke Ranch. Their production facilities spanned over 40 acres of greenhouses.

Mr. Ecke told us that each year they shipped several million vegetative cuttings to growers in more than 50 countries, and they provided thousands of potted flowering plants for Christmas to wholesalers and retail florist outlets.

The plant we know today as the poinsettia has a long and interesting history. The fact is, that the lovely plant many of us place in our homes during the holidays was once used as a fever medicine.

Native to Central America, the poinsettia may have remained merely a regional plant had it not been for the efforts of Joel Roberts Poinsett (1779-1851). The son of a French physician, Mr. Poinsett was appointed as the first United States Ambassador to Mexico (1825-1829) by President Madison.

While visiting the Taxco area in 1828, he became enchanted by the brilliant red blooms he saw there. He immediately sent some of the plants back to South Carolina, where he began propagating them and sending them to friends and botanical gardens.

Although the widespread belief that poinsettias are



"Celebration of Hope" benefit dinner committee member Kathy Markell of Milton, left, and Danielle Degnan of Canton. (Photo by Roger Farrington)

poisonous is false, the Paul Ecke Ranch emphasizes that they are not intended for human or animal consumption. Certain individuals may even experience an allergic reaction to them.

In 1992 the poinsettia was included on the list of houseplants most helpful in removing pollutants from indoor air. So, not only is it a safe and beautiful addition to your holiday décor, it can even help keep your indoor air clean.

By an Act of Congress, December 12 has been declared as "National Poinsettia Day." The date marks the death in 1851 of Joel Roberts Poinsett.

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



Tom Sliney, left, General Manager of Dick's Last Resort in Boston's Quincy Market, recently presented a donation check to CarePacks President Stephen Doyle representing the final amount of more than \$7500.00 that was raised by the staff at Dick's through "Boston Salutes!," an annual fundraising evening that featured a complimentary buffet, beverages, entertainment by the Gregg Miller Group, a charity raffle and the live auction of an American flag that had flown over both Iraq and Afghanistan. The event was presented by Dick's with the assistance of American Airlines, the Boston Herald, Samuel Adams beer and WRKO. Staffed entirely by volunteers, the nonprofit CarePacks provides soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan with essential supplies to help improve their morale, mental health, quality of life, and remind them they are remembered back home.

(Photo by R.J. Donovan)

**DIAMONDS
ROLEX
ESTATE JEWELRY**
Bought & Sold
Jewelers Exch. Bldg.
Jim (617) 263-7766

— FOR YOU WHO APPRECIATE THE FINEST —
THE
Johnny Christy
Orchestra
MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS 781-648-5678

GALLO
&
Co.
Real Estate
Mattéo Gallo
Appraisals
Sales & Rentals
376 North Street • Boston, MA 02113
(617) 523-2100 • Fax (617) 523-3530

Bob D's Beat

by Bob DeCristoforo

NEMPAC CRAFT FAIR



Santa visits the North End early.



Peterlin Elves and Santa Romano

Freddura 'crafting it' at the NEMPAC Craft Fair at the Prado, as was NEMPAC President John Romano, and the Peterlin 'Elves', State Representative Aaron Michlewitz and City Councilor Sal LaMattina at the Mayor's North End Tree Lighting at the Prado, Ralph Z at his Harvard Square Pizzeria 'Pinocchio's', Umberto DeMarco at his new Caffè Graffiti & Ristorante on Cross Street, young Peter Lyons, home for Thanksgiving, Robert Carangelo Family, Matt 'Internet' Conti, all over the place and Santa Claus.

HOLIDAY RECITAL

The North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) will hold their 2nd Annual Holiday Recital on Friday, December 11 at 7pm at the Old North Church. See and hear 'live' what NEMPAC students have been learning during the Fall and Winter months. You will be pleased, and maybe surprised at all the great work NEMPAC does all year.

NEAA CHRISTMAS PARADE, ST. LEONARD'S CONCERT DECEMBER 13TH

The 39th Annual North End Athletic Association Christmas Parade takes place this Sunday with the arrival of Santa Claus at the Andy Puopolo North End Park at 1pm. Sunday evening at 6pm St. Leonard's Parish Christmas Concert featuring the English and Italian Choirs and St. John's School Children Choir takes place at Sacred Heart Church. Following the Concert the Parish Christmas Party takes place at St. John's School Hall. For information and tickets call the Parish Office at 617-523-2110.

FRANK MARINELLA

A Funeral Mass was celebrated for Frank Marinella at St. Leonard's Church on Monday, December 7. He was an active member of St. Leonard's Parish, a member of the North End Sulmona Club, and a past President of the North End Athletic Association.

EASTIE, BRIGHTON FALL IN HIGH SCHOOL SUPERBOWLS

Despite the results it was an impressive day for the Boston City Schools. Reaching the Superbowl Finals is quite a feat, and all these kids and coaches must be commended on a job well done. At Bentley in D4 Whitter came from behind to tip the East Boston Jets 14-12. Jet scoring star was Troy Williams, who had both EB touchdowns. Nick Ferreira had the game winner for Whittier. The game marked the final chapter for Jet Coach John Sousa, who will be retiring after a very impressive coaching career. In D4A Northeast playing in their very first Superbowl dropped Boston South Champion Brighton 22-12. Dwight Kennedy and Jonathan Ross had the Brighton TDs. Mike Cain had the opening touchdown for Northeast and the Golden Knights never looked back. High props to young Mr. Cain, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Green on a very well deserved Championship Super season! At Gillette Stadium our good friend Coach Billy Maradei via Eastie, and Savio watch his Austin Prep Cougars come from behind to defeat Holliston 38-15. Ray Acciavatti scored three touchdowns for the D3A Champions. In D3 Bishop Feehan came from behind to defeat Marblehead 12-6 on Nick Schwieger winning TD scored in the

final seconds of regulation. In the D2A thriller Marshfield held off Maconomet 13-12. QB Steve Sousa had a touchdown, and threw what proved to be the game winner to Brendan Meehan, and then played some mighty defense to secure the victory. In D2 Reading whipped Natick for the title. In D1A Gloucester sank Bridgewater-Rayhnam 33-13, and it was Xaverian shutting down Everett 29-0 for the D1 Championship. In the Vocational School Superbowls Small School Championship Blackstone Valley defeated North Shore 21-20. Jim Bianchi had the game winner, but Nick Barnicle's interception with just two minutes to go was the winning play. In the Large School Championship Pedro Martinez had two touchdowns and Ryan Murphy had the game winner to lead Lynn Tech past Southeastern 18-16 for the Title.

COLLEGE BOARD

In hockey action double trouble for Harvard, beaten by Dartmouth 6-2, and Brown 4-1. Vermont shutout Yale 1-0. On Friday in Hockey East action Blake Kessel had the game winner as UNH upended ULowell 2-1. BC got 2 goals from Cam Atkinson and freshman Parker Milner had 23 saves to defeat UMass 3-1. Merrimack downed Northeastern 3-1. Warrior Justin Bonitatibus had a goal and an assist. The Black Bears are growling again upping Providence 3-1. Gustav Nyquist had two goals for victorious Maine. Boston University came from behind to tie up Vermont 3-3. Corey Trivino had the third period tying goal. It was the Terriers fourth straight OT game. Good to see Patrick Cullity back in action for Vermont. In the ECAC Yale upset #4 Quinnipiac 7-4. On Saturday night BU was the place to be, especially if you were from BC. The Eagles broke up a 1-1 two period tie, scoring three quick third period goals to drop the Terriers 4-1. Carl Sneep, Edwin Shea, Joe Whitney, and Brian Gibbons all scored for the now soaring Eagles. It was pretty lively on Commonwealth Avenue after the game. BU honored its 'BU Olympic 4' Mike Eruzione, Jack O'Callahan, Jim Craig, and Dave Skill now celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the 1980 'Miracle on Ice' Gold Medal Team in a ceremony between the first and second period of the game ... 30 years, hard to believe! ULowell stung UMASS with their second straight loss coming from behind to beat the Minutemen 5-3. Dave Vallorani had the three goal Hat Trick for the River Hawks. Maine kept Providence down defeating the Friars 3-1. The Black Bears are now 8-7-1. Northeastern came home to beat Merrimack 2-1. In the ECAC Quinnipiac lost its second straight falling to Brown 2-1. Tufts improved to 4-2-1 defeating 4-3 in OT.

WORLD CUP SOCCER

On December 4th in Cape Town the Groups and first round schedules for the 2010 World Cup Soccer Tournament were announced. Group A: France, Mexico, South Africa, Uruguay. Group B: Argentina, Greece, Nigeria, South Korea, Group C: Algeria, England, Slovenia, UNITED STATES. Group D Australia, Germany, Ghana, Serbia. Group E Cameroon, Denmark, Japan, Netherlands. Group F: Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay, Slovakia. Group G: Brazil, Ivory Coast, North Korea, Portugal. Group H Chile, Honduras, Spain, Switzerland. The US and England Opener will be on June 12th in Rustenberg, South Africa. South Africa is the host site. A creative teacher could create quite a class curriculum around the World Cup!

TIDBITS

- Thank You, Father Martin at St. Stephen's Church.
- Hey, George Farro, how was Miami?
- Saturday, December 12 is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- Celeb Sightings: Johnny Cammarata paying his breakfast bill at Contrada's, Flossy Ferrara, and niece Barbara.
- 14th Annual West End Christmas Tree Lighting, hosted by Norman Herr, and the Friends of the Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park takes place on Saturday, December 12th at 6pm.
- 15th Annual St. Agrippina DiMineo Christmas Program for NORTH END Children takes place on Sunday, December 13th.
- Don't be afraid to say 'Merry Christmas'

SMILE!



SUGARLAND - GOLD AND GREEN (CD) Mercury

2009 has been a 'sweet' year for Sugarland, both on tour and with record sales. Therefore, it was an easy decision for Jennifer Nettles and Kristian Bush to issue this ten-track gem for their fans, titled Gold and Green, with half the songs penned by Nettles and Bush, and five traditional Christmas songs. Their musical Christmas gift to fans contains five new songs penned by Nettles and Bush. Included are, "City of Silver Dreams" about Christmas in New York, the emotional "Coming Home," the festive "Gold and Green," the wishful "Maybe Baby (New Year's Day)," and put a bow on their gift of song with the pretty "Little Wood Guitar." Traditional holiday favorites have, "Winter Wonderland," the catchy "Holly Jolly Christmas," the humorous "Nuttin' For Christmas," plus "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," and the classic "Silent Night." Put this one on Santa's list!

STRAIGHT NO CHASER - CHRISTMAS CHEERS (CD) Atco-Atlantic

Acappella group Straight No Chaser is currently on a 50-city tour that began in September and brings the popular group to Boston's Berklee Performance Theater on December 19th. The 10-member group has released Christmas Cheers, a new full-length holiday album. Cheers features a new batch of holiday classics reworked in Straight No Chaser's inventive and original style. SNC re-energizes holiday classics as, "We Three Kings of Orient Are," "Let It Snow," the multi-lingual "Donde Esta Santa Claus," the tight harmonies continue with "I'll Be Home for Christmas," the popular "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," the pretty "Holy Night," along with "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," and "Jingle Bells." Added 'gifts' have performances of "The Christmas Can-Can," "Christmas Time Is Here," the jazzy "Hey Santa," the Elvis-flavored "Santa Claus Is Back In Town," the tasty "Who Spiked the Egg Nog?" and their song that scored more than 10 million views online, "The 12 Days of Christmas. Fun album and you won't miss the instruments at all!

RODNEY CARRINGTON - MAKE IT CHRISTMAS (CD) Capitol Nashville

Stand-up comedian Rodney Carrington forays into the Christmas music scene with his first, Make It Christmas. Carrington's easy to listen to vocals cover traditional tunes as, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Winter Wonderland," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "White Christmas," "Mary Did You Know," and "Oh Holy Night." Carrington showing a side you don't see often, adding new ones via, David Foster's sensitive "Grown Up Christmas List," saluting those who serve with "Camouflage and Christmas Lights," and

Rodney's self-penned humor is reflected on "The Presents Under the Tree (Better Be For Me)." The wonderful title track "Make It Christmas" and ends with the beautiful "Presence of Love." Excellent!

MERRY KIDSMAS (CD) Giantslayer/S1 Songs/Welk Music Group

Merry Kidsmas is the brain trust of The Song Trust, a collaboration of hits songwriters and artists based in Nashville. Country music duo Joey+Rory, are members of The Song Trust, and Rory is listed as writer, organizer and co-producer of this album. Contents have a dozen songs sung by everyday kids of all ages, ranging from humorous to sensitive. Pick your favorites from cuts, "Box of Rocks," holiday favorite "Wudolph (The Red Nose Reindeer)," the emotional "Bring Him Home Santa" a 6-year-old girl asking Santa to bring her dad home for Christmas, plus the comedic "Even My Daddy Sings," Rory's composition "A Christmas Story," and the imaginary vision of "A Picture of Santa Claus." That's just the half of it, as the fun continues with a new take on "All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth," the belief of "Christmas Is," followed by the confirmation "I Still Believe In You," and the content of "Santa's Magic Christmas Bag." A moving version of "Little Drummer Boy" creates the true feel of Christmas, ending with every child's question — "What's In the Box." Christmas songs for kids of all ages ... sung by kids of all ages!

CELTIC WOMAN - SONGS FROM THE HEART (CD) EMI-Manhattan

Celtic Woman, an all-female musical group, was conceived and assembled by David Downes, a former Musical Director of the Irish stage show Riverdance. Downes recruited five Irish female artists who had not previously performed together: vocalists Chloë Agnew, Lynn Hilary, Lisa Kelly and Alex Sharpe, plus fiddler Máiréad Nesbitt. A sale of over 50 million albums worldwide, has labeled Celtic Woman as one of the most commercially successful musical acts in the world. Sample Celtic pleasure as the popular, "Fields of Gold," the spiritual gem, "Amazing Grace," along with Irish classics "Nil Se 'n La," "My Lagan Love" and "Galway Bay. Enjoy the heavenly harmonies of, "When You Believe," "The New Ground - Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears," travel musically to "The Coast of Galicia" be serenaded via "Non C'E Piu," and be aware "The Moon's a Harsh Mistress." The haunting "You'll Be In My Heart," is followed by "Goodnight My Angel," and the festivities wind down with the surreal "The Lost Rose Fantasia" and the finale "O, America." Celtic Woman has been called "Riverdance for the Voice." An accurate statement and an excellent album!

**NOW
PLAYING**

UPTOWN & DOWNTOWN



Italy's top female singer-songwriter CARMEN CONSOLI Debuts New Project "Elettra" (Electra) in North America Come in from the cold this January as Italy's Carmen Consoli kicks off 2010 with a special treat for her North American fans. The Sicilian singer-songwriter will preview songs from her brand new album "Elettra" (Electra) for the first time in front of a live audience debuting her new repertoire a full month prior to the Italian tour launch at Rome's Auditorium Parco della Musica. "Elettra," the Sicilian singer-songwriter's seventh studio set, debuted at number two on Italy's national charts this month (right behind Michael Jackson's posthumous album release). Written and recorded in Sicily during the summer of 2009 following the tragic death of her father, "Elettra" is the most personal collection of songs in Carmen's career employing Italian, Sicilian, Arabic and French languages and including a special guest appearance by friend and mentor Franco Battiato. Check out Italian Events and Programs.

THEATER

ZERO ARROW THEATRE
2 Arrow Street, Cambridge, MA
THE DONKEY SHOW - Now through January 2, 2010. The intoxicating international sensation that takes you behind the velvet ropes into a glittered wonderland of decadence, divas, and disco, inspired by Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night Dream." For tickets or more info, you may call 617-547-8300 or log on to the website at: www.AmericanRepertoryTheater.org..

LOEB DRAMA CENTER
64 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA
HAMLETMACHINE - December 17th through December 20th. This story is a descent into unspoken fears and fantasies, a love story within an imagistic dreamscape. It explores the difficulties of transcending our own neuroses to make a human connection.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS - Now through January 3, 2010. This is a new musical for the whole family that is bursting with the sounds of R&B and Gospel which includes community, university and church choirs - this is a definite must see!!! For tickets and more information, please call: 617-547-8300 or visit: www.AmericanRepertoryTheater.org.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston, MA
MAMMA MIA - December 16, 17, 18 at 7:00PM. December 19 at 2:00PM and 8:00PM and December 20 at 2:00PM and 8:00PM. If you love Abba or not, this musical will definitely be sure to delight all! Lose yourself in this fast paced, highly entertaining musical. It is bound to get you dancing and jumping out of your seats. For tickets call Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

EMERSON UMBRELLA CENTER FOR THE ARTS
40 Stow Street, Concord, MA
EBENEZER SCROOGE: A CHRISTMAS CAROL - December 11th through December 20th (nine performances only). This spiritually uplifting musical adaptation of the 1843 Charles Dickens' classic tells the story of the

tight-fisted curmudgeon, Scrooge and his personal transformation. You won't want to miss this. For tickets and more information, please call: 877-746-9755 or online at: www.NewLifeFineArts.org.

ROBINSON THEATRE
617 Lexington Street
Waltham, MA
IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME - 27th EDITION - 2009. Six Performances only! December 11th at 7:30 PM; December 12 at Noontime and 4:00 PM; December 13 at Noontime and 4:00 PM. The Living Nativity, Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, A Victorian Christmas on Boston Public Garden and much, much more. For tickets, call: 781-891-5600 or go online at: www.reagleplayers.com.

SANDERS THEATRE
45 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA
39TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS REVUELS - December 11 through December 27th. Holiday carols and rounds for all to sing, lively morris dancing, a serious funny mummies play and much more. For tickets, and other information, please call: 617-496-2222 or online at: www.revels.org.

NORTH SHORE MUSICAL CHILDREN'S THEATRE
466 Central St., Saugus, MA
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD - Sunday, December 20th at 2pm. Kaleidoscope has been performing at both the South Shore Music Circus and Cape Cod Melody Tent for almost thirty years. Next summer Kaleidoscope will continue at the Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom with another monthly series. In early December you can also enjoy Kaleidoscope's Cinderella's Christmas at Boston's Wilbur Theatre! For more info visit the website: www.kaleidoscopechildrenstheatre.com, email Grouptixne@aol.com or call 1-781-230-3976 for reservations.

MUSIC

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY
Forsyth Chapel
95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston, MA
The Borromeo String Quartet will present the works of Joseph Haydn on Sunday, December 13th at 2:00 PM. For more information and tick-

ets, please call: 617-524-3354 or visit: www.foresthillstrust.org.

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA
LES FOLIES FRANCOISES - Friday, March 19, 2010 at 8:00 PM. This French chamber ensemble breathes new life into the wide instrumental and vocal repertoire of the 17th and 18th centuries. For more information, call: 617-661-1812 or visit: www.bemf.org.

KING'S CHAPEL
Corner of School and Tremont Streets, Boston, MA
MID-DAY RECITALS - Tuesday, December 15th at 12:15 PM - Renaissance & Medieval music for the season. **MID-DAY RECITAL** - Tuesday, December 22nd at 12:15 PM. Traditional Carols and Seasonal works by Bach, Scarlatti and others. **MID-DAY RECITAL** - Tuesday, December 29th at 12:15 PM - Works by Bach, Franck and Guilman. **CHRISTMAS EVE AT KING'S CHAPEL** - Thursday, December 24th at 10:30 PM - Lessons & Carols by Byrd, Mendelssohn, Rutter and Distier. **NEW YEAR'S EVE AT KING'S CHAPEL** - Thursday, December 31st at 9:00 PM - **A First Night Button is required**. Heinrich Christensen plays the C.B. Fish Organ - All works by Bach. For more information, please call: 617-227-2155 or visit: www.kings-chapel.org.

Special Events

CUTLER MAJESTIC THEATRE AT EMERSON COLLEGE
219 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
CHRISTMAS CELTIC SOJOURN 2009 - December 13 and 17-20, 2009 - WGBH Presents a Christmas Celtic Sojourn 2009. Presented by WGBH, A Christmas Celtic Sojourn brings dynamic musical and dance performances from around the world center stage for a truly unique experience that embodies the warmth of the holiday spirit. Tickets on sale through Cutler Majestic Theatre Box Office: Telecharge, 1-800-233-3123 or www.broadwayoffers.com.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
LOWELL LECTURE SERIES - Now through April 2010. Travel the world without leaving Boston. Lecturers include Paul Theroux Frances Mayes and Alexander McCall Smith. All lectures to be held in the Rabb Lecture Hall. All lectures are free and open to the public. Please visit: www.bpl.org/news/lowell.htm.

BOSTON'S SOUTH END
(between 460 Harrison Avenue and Albany Street)
NEW HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE IN SOWA FEATURES DIVERSE SELECTION OF ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES - In December on Thayer Street. The Marketplace will coincide with the SoWa Winter Lights Celebration, which will include festivities around the many galleries and retailers in the area. There will be singing and dancing and a spectacular light show. The Marketplace will be open December 11th, 12th and 13th and the 18th, 19th and 20th. The Marketplace hours will be Friday from 4:00 to 9:00 pm, Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is free parking on Albany Street. For more info visit www.sowaantiquesmarket.com.

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM
Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA
HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: ASSABET VALLEY CHAMBER SINGERS - Saturday, December 12th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Join us for a performance by a small ensemble who will perform holiday songs.
HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR - Sunday, December 13th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Listen to the magical blend of soft and powerful voices of these choirs as they perform traditional Christmas tunes.
HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE: THE ALL-SAINTS CHOIRS - Sunday, December 20th from 2:00-3:00 PM. Enjoy one of Worcester's cultural treasures as they perform joyous holiday music. For more information call: 508-799-4406 or visit: www.worcesterart.org.

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE
310 Washington St., Boston, MA
THE ANNUAL REENACTMENT OF THE BOSTON TEA PARTY - Sunday, December 13th. This reenactment is open to the public and audience members are invited to choose sides - Patriot or Loyalist - and lend

their support for or against the tariff. For more info, call: 800-838-3006 or www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org.

HARD ROCK CAFÉ BOSTON
22-24 Clinton St., Boston, MA
HARD ROCK CAFÉ BOSTON HOSTS ROCK-N-ROLL BENEFIT FOR AUTISM AWARENESS - Saturday, December 12th starting at 7:00 PM. This event will feature live music by Boston-based band **SLIP KID**. This event will also include a silent auction with proceeds benefiting Autism Speaks, the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization. For tickets and other information, please call: 617-424-7625.

TOP OF THE HUB
800 Boylston Street
On the 52nd floor of the Prudential Building
TOP OF THE HUB - December 31, 2009 will usher in the **New Year** with a special evening-long celebration on Thursday, **December 31**. The festivities will begin with a **Welcome Cocktail Reception** at 7:30 p.m., followed by a **Six Course Prix-Fixe Dinner** at 8:30 p.m. and a dazzling **Champagne Toast** at Midnight. With sweeping views of the city serving as a spectacular backdrop. Live jazz entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by **The Bob Nieske Group** featuring **Phil Grenadier** and popular vocalist **Maggie Galloway**. To add to the celebration high above the city, the evening not only promises views of a **Full Moon** (weather permitting) but a **Blue Moon** - which has only occurred on New Year's Eve one other time in the past 20 years! The event is a 21+ event and reservations are available by calling 617-536-1775.

EMMANUEL CHURCH BOSTON
15 Newbury Street, Boston, MA
JOHN HOLLENBECK AND THE CLAUDIA QUINTET - December 31, 2009 with special guest Gary Versace premiere new works from their Chamber Music America's 2009 New Jazz Works Grant Commissioning and Ensemble Development program funded through the generosity of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. They'll be performing as part of the First Night Celebration: December 31st "First Night" Event Set Times: 9:00 PM - 9:45 PM, 10:15 PM - 11:00 PM log onto www.firstnight.org.

ARTS

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem, MA
REVISIONS: INDIAN ARTISTS ENGAGING TRADITIONS - Now

ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ITALIAN RADIO
"The Sicilian Corner" 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and "The Italian Show" w/Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10AM to 1PM www.1110wccmam.com
"Italia Oggi" (Italy Today) Sundays 1PM to 2 PM with host Andrea Urdi 1460 AM www.1460WXB.com
"Dolce Vita Radio" DJ Rocco Mesiti 11 AM-1 PM Sundays. 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com
"The Nick Franciosa Show" - Every Sunday at 12 Noon to 3:00 PM on radio stations WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM.
"Guido Oliva Italian Hour" 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM every Sunday on WSRO 650AM Framingham and online at www.wsro.com.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston, MA
PUPO E I MAGNIFICI 7! - Friday, December 11, 2009 at 8:00 PM. Straight from RAI Television Show will be performing "Ti Lascio Una Canzone" A portion of the net proceeds will go to the Sicilian Association of Greater Boston, initiator of INSIEME (Uniti per Messina), INSIEME prefaces its scope to bond the solidarity of Italian Communities present in this area in collaboration to render genuine action for this cause, in favor of the victims of the devastating mudslides in Messina, Sicily. For tickets please call Ticketmaster at 1-800-982-2787 or www.ticketmaster.com.

REGATTABAR
AT THE CHARLES HOTEL
One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA
CARMEN CONSOLI - Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 7:30PM. A melodious voice that echos in one of Boston's finest and popular jazz venues, Sicilian born artist Carmen Consoli will promise to entertain her

through Spring of 2010. Come see how some of today's leading artists reinterpret traditional use of color, composition and subject. This unique exhibition pairs some of the finest works from PEM's world renowned contemporary Indian Art collection with rare works from the Harvard Art Museum.

RARE BIRD OF FASHION: THE IRREVERENT IRIS APFEL - Now through February 7, 2010. This exhibit features more than 80 dramatic ensembles from the personal collection of legendary tastemaker and style icon Iris Apfel.

TRASH MENAGERIE - Now through May, 2010. This exhibit presents over 30 whimsical animals created from things most of us simply throw away. For more information, call 866-745-1876 or

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA
HARRY CALLAHAN, AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER - Now through July 3, 2010. This exhibition features intimate portraits, scenes of Urban Life and the Natural Landscape. There are a collection of approximately 40 photographs that survey the major visual themes of this artist's career. For more information, please call: 617-369-3445 or visit: www.mfa.org.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
100 Northern Ave., Boston, MA
KRZYSZTOK WODICZKO - Now through March 7, 2010. In a new projection-based work, Krzysztof focuses on the experience of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. His politically-charged works explore the relationship between art, democracy, trauma and healing.

RONI HORN AKA RONI HORN - February 19, 2010 through June 13, 2010. Using a variety of materials including pure pigment, 24 carat gold, color photographs, and cast glass, Horn creates immensely beautiful and sensuous works that evoke the mystery inherent to even the most familiar subjects. For more info call: 617-478-3100 or visit www.icaboston.org.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA
HARRY CALLAHAN, AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER - Now through July 3, 2010. This exhibition features intimate portraits, scenes of Urban Life and the Natural Landscape. There are a collection of approximately 40 photographs that survey the major visual themes of this artist's career. For more info call: 617-369-3445 or visit: www.mfa.org.

American fan base. For more information call (617) 395-7757 or www.peltrix.com/getshowtix/regattabar.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston, MA
TOMIE DEPAOLA'S STREGA NONA - Saturday, January 9th at 11am, 2pm and 5pm. Strega Nona will bring its delightful story and fresh, original score to Boston's Colonial Theatre on January 9, 2010. Under the direction of Tracy Ward (*Hunter Gatherers*, Bay Area Premiere), choreography by Nicole McGann and a "pop-up book inspired" set design by Andrea Bechert; the magic of each song brings new life to the material for a young audience and to audiences that have grown up reading the legendary stories of native New England author Tomie dePaola. Maximum Entertainment is presenting the tour in association with Active Arts Theater. Tickets available through an authorized ticket seller found only at Ticketmaster 1-800-982-2787, at all Ticketmaster outlets, by visiting BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com/Boston and directly at the box office of Boston's Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston Street, Boston during normal business hours Monday- Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm. STREGA NONA is part of the Broadway Across America - Boston 2009-2010 Family Series and is recommended for ages 4 - 9.

MALDEN CATHOLIC HS AUDITORIUM
99 Crystal St., Malden, MA
CHRISTMAS CAROLING FROM ORTIGIA SICILY - Friday, December 18, 2009 at 7:00PM. Enjoy Sicilian Christmas Caroling. A definite treat and unique experience. To order tickets please call 781-461-9950. All proceeds to benefit the flood victims in Messina - Italy.

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS



A female escort who reportedly slept with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi published a book describing their night together in graphic detail. In her memoir, *Take Your Pleasure, Prime Minister*, Patrizia D'Addario, 42, says she made out with the 73-year-old billionaire politician after a party at his mansion in Rome, the Palazzo Grazioli. "We kissed an infinite number of times," she wrote. The scorned Berlusconi has not denied spending the night with D'Addario. We won't say what else she mentions in her juicy-reading book. We doubt if there will be an English edition of the book.

Bella Culo of Chestnut Hill, says, "You can't explain sex appeal: many a man falls in love with a woman without a fraction of attraction, a trace of grace, or a glimmer of glamour."

Carlo Scostumato, says, "Many a man leaves the straight and narrow path to follow a woman who isn't built that way"

A study by the University of Leeds in England found that women who reveal 40 percent of their skin attract the most men. "any more," said researcher Dr. Colin Hendrie, "and the signal changes from 'allure' to one indicating general availability and future infidelity."

Fatso news! Twenty-five seniors at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania may be barred from graduating because they're too fat. Lincoln's four-year-old "Fitness for Life" policy requires obese first year students to lose weight or take a class in nutrition. Yet 25 members of the Class of 2010 have done neither. "No student should leave Lincoln and not know the risk of obesity," said school official James DeBoy.

Eating lots of cheeseburgers, fries, and sugary snacks makes people gain weight—but not, new research shows, just because these foods are so high in calories. A high-fat, high-sugar diet, say Washington University scientists, changes the balance of bacteria in the gut, and effectively "programs" people's digestive systems to make them fat.

It has also been reported, you can have your cake — and lose weight, too! Of course, you can't eat the sweet treats. You can only look at mouth-watering photos of them! Researchers discovered that tempting pictures of yummy cake actually discouraged female test subjects from pigging out on high-cal desserts.

Commara Maria, says the best way to loose weight is to eat all you want but just don't swallow!

Recycling! The Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Illinois began selling necklace pendants and Christmas tree ornaments made from dried reindeer dung. "It may be silly," said zoo spokesperson Susie Ohley, "but it not only brings in money and support for the zoo, it brings people smiles."

Ho! Ho! Children who write to Santa Claus can continue to receive replies from the Alaska town of North Pole, thanks to the policy reversal by the U.S. Postal Service. North Pole (pop. 2,100) is home to Santa's Mailbag, a 55-year-old venture in which volunteers answer letters addressed to Kris Kringle. The Postal Service recently said it would drop Santa's Mailbag from its route because its postal district was unable to comply with new security measures designed to protect the children's identities; the measures were ordered after a volunteer for a similar program, in Maryland, was recognized as a registered sex offender. But following a public outcry, the Postal Service said it would continue to forward mail to North Pole under the new guidelines. "It's great!" Said Santa's Mailbag "chief elf," Gabby Gaborik.

The conservative Tom Analetto of Medford, says, a father's biggest difficulty at Christmas time is convincing the children that he is Santa Claus and his wife that he is not.

The spirited Rosalie Cunio of Waltham wants you to know that next Christmas Santa Claus won't be the only one in the red.

Robyn Waters of Swampscott, says, some

men refuse to believe in Santa Claus until they get married and have to be him.

Steven Sebestyen reminds us, when Santa Claus comes down the chimney, your money goes down the drain.

Steven's adorable wife Theresa thinks there have always been some Christmas stockings that provided Santa with a few problems, but one wonders about his reaction to panty hose!

The astute Lisa Cappuccio thinks a man goes through three stages: he believes in Santa Claus; he doesn't believe in Santa Claus—then he is Santa Claus.

Gee, when I was a little boy all I wanted from Santa was a small toy drum. Wow! My widowed mother found some money to purchase the drum. On Christmas morning, there it was on the floor behind the black coal-burning stove! Bang! Bang! Bang!

The mezzo Italian American Regis Philbin went public on *Live With Regis and Kelly* that he was going to take a leave of absence from the show to recover from hip-replacement surgery. The 78-year-old Regis says he plans to return to the show after a four-to-six-week recovery period.

Poll watch! A poll disclosed, 61% of American voters say the press treats Sarah Palin unfairly, while 31% say she is being treated fairly. Among Republicans, 83% are convinced she gets a raw deal in the media, while 53% of Democrats say she gets the press she deserves that was a fabulous sexy photo of Sarah on Newsweek's cover.

Some advice for you fanatic Christmas shoppers! If you plan to shop around the mall be sure to wear "comfortable shoes" to handle "all that walking." Also, it's wise to "leave your coat in the car" to keep it from weighing you down. Don't get lost. Come prepared with a list and make a "beeline for select stores." If you must wander, do so wisely. "Shop in circles, starting at a store you will remember," then circumnavigating the entire floor before heading upstairs. Take breaks! Stop for a snack or just to regroup on a bench before heading back. Watch the spending! If you're shopping on a budget, "stick to the list" to avoid impulse buys. In the midst of holiday madness, you can't expect to be thinking clearly.

As for gifts, we look forward to receiving jars of orange marmalade. Yes, we enjoy spreading orange marmalade on toasts and on waffles. We have enjoyed receiving jars of orange marmalade from England, Scotland, and Israel.

Questions people ask: Why were paste-on "beauty marks" worn in 17th century Europe? To cover up smallpox scars. Owing to several devastating epidemics, more than half the population of Europe had facial scars. What 1920s world-famous dancer accidentally strangled herself? Isadora Duncan. While riding in a roadster, the long scarf around her neck became entangled in the spokes of one of car's wheels and choked her to death.

Show business reminiscing with the noted maestro and musicologist Albert Natale. "Young At Heart" is one of the most popular recordings ever made by Frank Sinatra. It was the main theme from the motion picture of the same name, in which Sinatra starred with Doris Day. Steve Allen hosted the first network TV program on jazz on NBC in 1957. Actress and singer Julie Andrews was a radio star in the late 1940s to the '50s on a program called "Educating Archie," in which she starred with ventriloquist Peter Brough. Versatile entertainer Ann Margaret was a runner-up at age sixteen on Ted Mack's *Original Amateur Hour*. Louis Armstrong was perhaps the most influential musician of the century and one of the best-known, best-loved entertainers in the world. Former New York City Mayor James Walker wrote the song "Will You Love Me In December As You Do In May?"

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME

Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



COPYRIGHT. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

MY MEATBALLS

1 pound ground beef (or ground turkey)
1/2 cup Italian-style bread crumbs
2 slightly beaten eggs
1 tablespoon grated Romano cheese
1/8 teaspoon of garlic powder or
one small chopped garlic clove
1 teaspoon parsley flakes — optional

Place ground beef or turkey, prepared breadcrumbs, and slightly beaten eggs in a bowl. Mix ingredients thoroughly. Shape meatballs by taking a full tablespoon of mixture and rolling it in the palm of your hands into a ball shape. Place each meatball on a lightly greased baking tray. Bake in a preheated 350°F oven for about fifteen to twenty minutes.*

Remove from baking tray to separate meatballs from excess oil. Makes about twelve to fifteen meatballs, depending on the size preferred.

*To microwave: Place meatballs on a microwave-proof platter and cook for five minutes, then turn and continue cooking for five to eight more minutes.

NOTE: The aroma of frying meatballs filled the air in most North End apartments every Sunday morning. My brother and I waited for Mama to start frying her meatballs so that we could enjoy one before the noontime meal.

My recipe evolved from watching my mother prepare her bread crumbs for the meatballs. Most families had a special technique to acquire their desired taste. When I prepare my meatballs, I add one tablespoon of grated Romano cheese and one-eighth teaspoon of garlic powder (or one small chopped garlic clove) to the flavored bread crumbs. These additions give me the taste and aroma of the meatballs I remember enjoying in my childhood.

Vita can be reached at voswriting@comcast.net

• Sheriff's Department Public Affairs Program

(Continued from Page 2)

even greater opportunity to keep viewers informed of some of the many issues and operations within the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department and throughout the County. In an effort to reach out more fully to every resident of Suffolk County, the Department has also begun broadcasting in Winthrop and Chelsea on their respective cable stations.

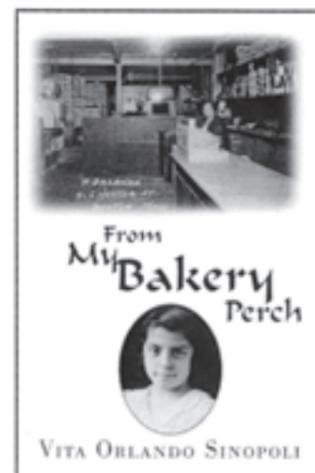
According to Chelsea Community Cable Executive Director Robert D. Bradley, the pairing of Sheriff Cabral's powerful public safety message with the Chelsea community's committed viewership has the potential to elicit significant and positive impact.

"Chelsea Community Cable is the local Public Access Channel for residents of Chelsea," said Bradley. "It is watched very closely by approximately seven to eight

thousand subscribers. Common Ground will be extremely helpful and educational to the viewers in Chelsea, informing them about how their County Sheriff's office operates. I am sure Common Ground will provide an outstanding service to Chelsea."

The *Common Ground* show can be seen live in Boston on Comcast Cable's Boston Neighborhood Network Channel 9 on Thursday's from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., and it repeats later that evening from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday's from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

You can now watch *Common Ground* on Chelsea Community Cable on Channels 3 and 16 Monday's from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. To view the floating schedule for the show on Winthrop Cable Access Television Channel 3, visit: www.wcat-tv.org/channels/frameset.html.



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

Great as Gifts

FROM MY BAKERY PERCH available on AMAZON.COM
and in local bookstores — ask for
Hard cover #1-4010-9805-3 ISBN
Soft Cover #1-4010-9804-5 ISBN

Nanna & Babbonnonno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



My Family at dinner in Zurich, Switzerland. Standing: Left to right - Son John, nephew Roberto Archidiacono, yours truly, wife Loretta, Roberto's wife Rosa. Seated: Son Michael, Giuseppe Archidiacono, his wife, my cousin Raffaella DeCristofaro Archidiacono.

Someone may ask, "Where was the Thanksgiving story where the Christoforo family teamed up with John's cousin, Ralph Pepe, and his brood?" Well, there is a good explanation for this. I wrote the story for Thanksgiving week a bit earlier than usual because we weren't here. Here's what happened ... Young John, couldn't get the time off to come home for November 26. He lives in Switzerland and our American Thanksgiving is not a holiday there. He will be home for a lengthy stay around Christmas time, and as a result, we decided to bring Thanksgiving to him.

After our plans were made, John announced that Michael, our younger son, was going to join us also. This way the family would be all together. But, that was part of the surprise. If you remember, I mentioned that John had accidentally found family in Zurich, Switzerland and we were going to all get together once Loretta and I made it to Europe.

We left Boston on the night of the 24th and landed in Zurich 8 hours later and checked into the Renaissance Hotel. Michael was already at John's apartment. By the time John arrived home from work on Wednesday evening, we were already at his place planning for a Thanksgiving dinner with Michael. After John arrived, we headed for a local Italian restaurant to have dinner and make plans for Thanksgiving and the rest of our stay. Over half of the restaurants in Zurich are Italian. The Swiss love Italian food and there is a sizable Italian population in that city. As we ordered dinner, we discussed what we were going to do on the 26th. John hadn't bought a turkey yet, nor any of the fixings

that go with it, so we decided to eat out. The problem was that turkey is only popular at Christmas time and we were going to have to settle for something else. So, what do Italians eat, if not turkey on Thanksgiving? That's right, Italian food.

The next day was Thanksgiving and we saw the sights while John was at work. He joined us in the late afternoon at a local watering hole at the train station in the center of Zurich. I ordered cocktails and we struck up a conversation with two ladies sitting at the next table who were also speaking English. They lived in Lugano, a city in the Italian speaking section of Switzerland, but were from Scotland, originally. When John arrived, I ordered him a cocktail and he joined in the conversation. When it was time to leave, we pondered as to where we should have dinner. It turned out to be another Italian restaurant. So, instead of turkey for Thanksgiving, I dined on linguini aglio-olio (linguini with garlic and oil).

The next day was Friday and while John was at work, we shopped. Zurich is a world class city and the downtown area reminded me of Newbury Street or 5th Avenue in New York. During all of this, we were accompanied by two of John's friends, David from Ireland and Vanni from Italy. Vanni speaks fluent English and it made things a little easier. When John finally showed up, we decided to head to a restaurant. Guess what, we ate Italian food again.

The next day was Saturday and all of us boarded a train for St. Moritz. The boys wanted to go snow boarding and there was plenty of snow on the mountains in St. Moritz for downhill skiing and snow boarding. St. Moritz

is a resort town for the European jet set. As we walked to the spot where we were to board a cable car to head to the top of one of the mountains, we passed several stores with names like Cartier, Tiffany's, Gucci, Harry Winston, Ferragamo, Chanel and a dozen or so others ... no T.J. Maxx, Marshalls or A.J. Wright bargain stores. While John and Michael dressed in their snow boarding outfits, tackled the slopes of St. Moritz, Loretta, David, Vanni and I had lunch and then did a bit of window shopping. The prices were for the jet set, not us working class folks. As an example, I stopped in front of a clothing store and saw a Brioni suit for 4500 Swiss Franks. The Swiss franc is about the same as the American dollar. The shirt and tie that accompanied the suit were 500 and 200, and the shoes were 1000. I just looked.

The next day was Sunday and we were to have dinner with the family that we are related to. John had become friendly with a young couple Roberto and Rosa Archidiacono. Roberto is the son of Giuseppe and Raffaella Archidiacono, originally from Avellino. Raffaella's maiden name was DeCristofaro. We all met at, you guessed it, an Italian restaurant and after introductions, we began to discuss the DeCristofaro family. It seems that Raffaella and I may be cousins, once removed. John had told them that my grandfather had come from San Sossio de Baronia, the same village she originally came from. We talked about who was who and Raffaella knew that a great uncle named, Nunzio, had immigrated to America at the turn of the 20th century, settled in Bos-

(Continued on Page 15)

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

ain't Constitution Beach. Ask most folks in East Boston and you'll find the old name for the beach is still quite popular. Back in the 70s and 80s, I, like most Charles-town bathers always headed there to cool off from the heat. We had a whole little section to ourselves. I was always proud of my East Boston tan.

Quincy Named Top Family-Friendly City in State

Business Week magazine has named Quincy the best city in the Bay State to raise a family based on a series of quality of life statistics. Quincy's public school system, its low crime rate, housing affordability and closeness to Boston were top factors in ranking Quincy number one. Mayor Tom Koch stated, "The people of Quincy have known for generations that this is a great community to raise a family, but it's always nice to receive outside recognition."

Over 200 years ago, John Adams called his hometown "that remarkable spot AND TODAY Quincy is obviously still a remarkable place.

Contradas Where The Music Never Dies

Contrada's coffee shop on Hanover Street at the corner of Charter Street has become the North End's favorite meeting place. Everyone who is anyone shows up there on a daily basis. They come for the food, friendship and old-time music in the background. When I think of the place, I think of Angela, Cheryl, bagels and cream cheese. Angela and Contradas sounds like the name of one of those old

groups you hear from behind the counter on WJIB 740 am.

One day it looked like the place was going to the dogs as Cheryl passes out those dog bones to all kinds of dogs, even yuppie dogs. However, if the pigeons come in for a landing, Cheryl chases them away. One day last summer she stared down a hawk for hours which was across the street on a fire escape. She, however, does work well with the Hawk behind the counter. If you haven't tried Contrada's do yourself a favor stop by and tell them Sal Pazzo sent you.

Kudos to Bobby D.

The recent Community Service Awards Dinner sponsored by North End Against Drugs was a real success. Congrats to NEAD President Bobby DeCristoforo. I agree with him 100 percent when he said, that the awards dinner was "our way of expressing gratitude for those who help make a difference in the community on a regular basis."

Bobby is right on. A neighborhood isn't bricks and mortar; it is the people who do so much more than reside at an address. Neighborhoods are built by community people who live FOR their neighborhood.

St. Anthony's is Supporting St. Anthony's

The Saint Anthony Society is helping to collect various kinds of baby items for the St. Anthony Shrine Arch Street Baby Center which provides assistance to nearly 1,000 families and kids. You can help too. Just drop off your donations at the St. Anthony's Club. For more information, call Jerry Moretti at 617-723-8669.

• **Teacher Post Project Request** (Continued from Page 6)

ter from the teacher, and a cost report showing how each dollar was spent. Donors who gave more than \$100 will also receive handwritten thank-you letters from the students.

Any public school teacher can post a project request at DonorsChoose.org; those projects aimed at college-readiness in high-need or rural high-schools may be eligible for the Double Your Impact match.

DonorsChoose.org

Founded in 2000, **DonorsChoose.org** is a nonprofit website where public school teachers describe specific

educational projects for their students, and donors can choose the project they want to support. After completing a project, the donor hears back from the classroom they supported in the form of photographs and student thank-you letters.

To date, 109,000 public and charter school teachers have used the site to secure funding for \$39 million in books, art supplies, technology, and other resources that their students need to learn. Through **www.donorschoose.org**, individuals from all walks of life have helped 2.5 million students from low-income families.

POST-GAZETTE EAST BOSTON SATELLITE OFFICE

IS NOW OPEN

MARIE MATARESE

35 Bennington Street, East Boston

617.227.8929

MON. and TUES. 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

THURS. 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

ACCEPTING Advertisements

General Advertisements • Sales and Rentals
Memorials • Legals

ADVERTISING WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The Bilingual Corner

by Orazio Buttafuoco



LO SAPEVATE CHE ...

L'esposizione universale del 2010 e' stata richiesta dalla Cina, per Shanghai, l'enorme metropoli cinese. Dopo aver condotto, con successo, le Olimpiadi del 2008, la Cina vuole, di nuovo, stupire il mondo con l'Esposizione Universale piu' grande di tutti i tempi. L'Italia ci sara'. La prima pietra del Padiglione italiano all'Expo di Shanghai e' gia' stata posta, e rappresenta un punto di svolta nella difficile fase dell'economia mondiale che stiamo attraversando. L'Ambasciatore italiano in Cina, Riccardo Sessa, ha detto che l'impegno dell'Italia, per l'Expo, rappresenta una sfida ed una grande opportunita'. E' una sfida perche con 230 altri paesi partecipanti dovremo davvero fare un'offerta accattivante, ed attraente, che e' certamente nelle nostre capacita'. Ma e' anche una grande opportunita' per mostrare agli ottanta milioni di visitatori, previsti, un volto nuovo dell'Italia, del nostro sistema produttivo, e della nostra cultura. Il Governo ha stanziato 36 milioni di euro per organizzare la presenza italiana. Circa 28 imprese hanno contribuito con sponsorizzazioni ed organizzazione di eventi per i visitatori. Il padiglione italiano ospitera' mostre ed eventi unici nel loro genere, con l'aggiunta di un ricco programma culturale ed artistico, che intende stupire e suscitare emozioni, ed aprire interessanti opportunita' di collaborazione per le imprese italiane. L'Expo si aprira' a maggio del 2010. Il padiglione italiano, su progetto dell'architetto Giampaolo Imbrighi, sara' chiamato "La Citta' dell'Uomo". L'Expo chiudera' il 31 ottobre 2010.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The Universal Exposition of 2010 has been claimed by China, in the city of Shanghai, the country is vast metropolis. After successfully conducting the Olympiads of 2008, China again hopes to astonish the world with the Universal Exposition, the largest of all times. Italy will be there. The first brick has been already placed for the Italian Pavilion, at the Expo of Shanghai, and will represent a turning point in the present economic difficulty the world is going through. The Italian Ambassador to China, Riccardo Sessa, stated that Italy's commitment for the Expo represents a challenge and a great opportunity. It is a challenge because in the presence of 230 countries participating, we truly ought to offer something captivating and attractive, which is in our capacity. It is also a great opportunity to show to the about 80 millions of anticipated visitors a new face of Italy, of our productive system and of our culture. The Government has appropriated 36 million euro (@ \$54 mil.) to promote the Italian participation. About 28 Corporations have contributed with sponsorships, organization of events for the visitors. The Italian Pavilion will host exhibits and quite unique events, in addition to our rich, artistic and cultural programs, which will aim to astonish and stir-up emotions, and will open up interesting opportunities of collaboration by the Italian Corporations. The Expo will open its gates in May 2010 and will close its doors on October 31, 2010. The Italian Pavilion, by architect Giampaolo Imbrighi, will be called "The City of Man".

• Mayor's Column (Continued from Page 1)

development such as a life science center or housing for medical students. The City and the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) are aggressively pursuing \$84 million in infrastructure investments to create thousands of jobs and unlock the potential of several parcels in the Marine Industrial Park. At the same time, we're working with the Convention Center Authority to create plans to expand our award-winning Convention Center in South Boston.

With all of these reform measures, we must realize that a city doesn't work if its finances don't work. Municipal health insurance costs are our number one challenge as we move into fiscal year 2011, which will be even tougher than this fiscal year. We are spending about \$280 million annually on health insurance for

our employees, and we need the same abilities as the state to control plan design and reduce the burden on taxpayers.

Last December, we filed state legislation to give all municipalities this power. With every month that goes by without this legislation passing, Boston loses over \$1 million. That's more than \$1 million each month that could have been invested in turning around a school, preserving public safety, and investing in infrastructure.

We're all going to have to work together. Boston is about much more than me or anyone of us — it's about all of us working as a team to move our city forward.

These transformative changes will not be easy, especially in today's economic climate. But I am energized and excited, and I know we will reinvent our great city once again.

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

NO ONE'S SQUEAKY CLEAN NOT EVEN TIGER WOODS

The recent news about Tiger Woods, his car and the tree it met has been making endless headlines recently. The fact that Tiger has turned the police away three times shying away from an interview only gives added life to the crash. Tiger Woods appears no longer squeaky clean. He's like the rest of us now.

ABBIE HOFFMAN SHOULD LIKE

BRETT WHITE'S LOGIC

Remember back in the day, I don't know if it was Monday or Tuesday but I remember I was in college. It was during the Anti-Vietnam War protest days. There was a radical named Abbie Hoffman who was founder of the Yippies. He was a member of the infamous Chicago 7. He wrote a book and titled it, "Steal This Book!" People did. Then when he realized he wasn't making any money on it, he told his fans to BUY it. A case of do as I say, not as I do.

Anyway, there's this academic out at the University of Arizona who's been touring the country selling the idea that the millions of homeowners who can't keep up with their monthly mortgage payments, instead of just "walking away in droves" from their mortgage payments, they continue to pay them out of guilt. His recent academic paper supports a "strategic" default on their mortgages because they really don't have any prospect of recouping what they owe. To him, paying out of an "emotional" sense of personal responsibility is apparently misguided thinking. Also, by the way, you should buy stuff on credit. Don't worry, be happy. Screw them.

A recent Michael Graham Herald piece also talked about another guy Bruce

Marks, a housing activist and self-described "bank terrorist." People who "need" houses have the right to move into empty bank-owned homes. So, remember if you can't keep up with the payments just walk away. When you find a nice empty home just move in. Don't be guilty or anything. The whole world is evil and you have a right to do what ever feels nice to you.

I recently read a story about an elderly grandmother who was using credit cards left and right. Buying anything as she pleased. When her son asked what was up, she said if they're silly enough to give me a credit card, I'm going to use it. If I croak, they're out of luck unless they can catch up with me in hell. When I'm dead, they can't get me. I win.

If everyone did like grandma, all of those anarchists back in my college days would see their dreams come true. They might not like what they see, just like Abbie Hoffman really wanted fans to buy his book.

TIME TO END

CUBAN EMBARGO

For some 55 years now, the US embargo of Cuba has been in effect. In all these years, little has changed and little progress when it comes to human rights. Both Fidel and his brother Raul have survived the embargo and nothing would be more threatening to them than the end of the embargo. They like things just as they are. Opening up Cuba to the United States kills their whole reason to be in power. Just as the Soviet Union fell and the Berlin Wall crumbled, the same crumbling would eventually happen in Cuba too. People everywhere aspire to be free. Once Cubans start tasting freedom again outside their island, they will want it inside Cuba too.

The embargo is a metaphorical "wall" once crumbled; the forces of liberty will seize the opportunity. The embargo only made the Castros stronger and more brutal. Take away the embargo and Cuba will start walking that road to freedom. The days of the Castros will be numbered as the desire to improve themselves pushes Cubans in our direction and the Cold War will close its final chapter.

FREE ELECTIONS, HONDURAS, DEMOCRACY AND BAD MOON RISING FOR CHAVEZ

On Monday November 30,

I read both the *Wall Street Journal* and the *NY Times* to find out what happened in the elections held in Honduras for president and Congress. The *Journal* called it a victory for democracy while the *Times* wasn't that sure. The *Journal* listed all the nations who supported the results of the free elections while the *Times* listed all the nations not recognizing the winners of the election.

The truth was the elections were free and democratic. The rule of law prevailed. The biggest losers were Hugo Chavez from Venezuela and Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Spain which did everything possible to block the election. As Mary Anastasia O'Grady in the *Journal* pointed out, "The completion of these elections is a national triumph in itself and a win for all people who yearn for liberty."

The deposed president didn't want an election, Chavez didn't want an election and his lackies at the Organization of American States didn't want one either. The Honduran people spoke out at the polls and said No to Chavismo and a loud Yes to democracy.

Meanwhile, the old gray mare, the *NY Times* kept looking for clouds in the bright blue skies of Honduras.

"CHRISTMAS SHOES" SONG IS BAAACK!

You know, I love Christmas songs. One of my favorite is "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" but one of the worse has to be the "Christmas Shoes" song. Even, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" is less depressing than that. It's only been around a few years but it is such a horrible tear-jerker, no one should be forced to hear it. I'm surprised our A.G. Eric Holder has declared it a form of torture. Hey, It's a good thing those Navy Seals didn't sing that song, eh? Pretty soon, Michele McPhee will be moaning over those Christmas shoes too.

KUDOS TO SENATOR HART

Every year at Florian Hall in Dorchester, State Senator Jackie Hart, D-South Boston puts on a Thanksgiving dinner for all those folks who would otherwise celebrate alone. Senator Hart thinks everyone has a right to celebrate Thanksgiving because all of us have something to be thankful about. Plenty of turkey, entertainment and new friends to hang out with on America's Holiday.

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

The POST-GAZETTE newspaper is a paper of general circulation.

We are qualified to accept legal notices from any court in each town that we serve.

LEGAL NOTICES

For information on placing a Legal Notice in the POST-GAZETTE, please call (617) 227-8929; or mail notice to: POST-GAZETTE P.O. BOX 135 BOSTON, MA 02113 Attn: Legal Notices

KJS
Mechanical
Heating & Air Conditioning
Sales, Service & Installation

Ken Shallow
617.593.6211

Fully Insured
Lic #017936

kenskjs@aol.com

• **Nanna & Babbononno** (Continued from Page 13)

ton, met a lady named Antoinetta, married her and had two children, John and Mary. Well Nunzio was my grandfather's name, Antoinetta was my grandmother, John was my father and Mary was his sister, my aunt. It couldn't be a coincidence. This had to be family. There is a woman named DeCristofaro who is in her late 90s and lives in San Sossio de Baronia that they all will visit in the near future. She supposedly remembers the information we need to know and it will prove that we are related.

The dinner lasted for several hours with Guisepe and Raffaella presenting us with Christmas gifts of champagne, Italian red wine and homemade strufoli, little ball shaped Italian cookies with sprinkles and honey on them. Nanna used to make the same thing at Christmas time. Toward the end of dinner, their daughter, Milena, dropped by. She couldn't join us earlier as she had to work. The family was now complete and we all talked about relatives in Italy and America. It seems that most of the DeCristofaro's that left Italy

went to Argentina and only my grandfather came to America. Giuseppe and Raffaella headed for Switzerland early on and Giuseppe worked in banking but is now retired.

We parted company when the restaurant had to close but it took another half hour for us to kiss, hug and say goodbye, Italian style. When we returned to Boston, Loretta bought out a store to send them all American Christmas presents. Before I close, I just wanted to let you know about the new picture atop this column. The old one was 20 years old. This new one is what I look like now.

In closing, 100 plus years later, I have found roots. Nanna, Babbononno, Grandpa and Grandma Christoforo would be proud ...
GOD BLESS AMERICA

FREE KITTEN
Orange Tabby

Male, approximately eight weeks old, lovable and playful.

Call Jennifer at 781-588-9011

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI09P4955GD

In the Matter of
MANUEL MERCADO
Of MARLBOROUGH, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
M.G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Bolton Manor Nursing & Rehab. Ctre. of Marlborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Manuel Mercado is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Ziola Mercado of Marlborough, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 12/21/2009. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI,
First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 23, 2009
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/11/09



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giarratani



NEW LOGO FOR PIRATES?

Rumor has it; the Pittsburgh Pirates will be doing a makeover of their team logo. Pirates no longer look like Captain Cook, Johnny Depp or Captain Morgan. Gone are the patches, parrots and pirate flags. Capt. Morgan doesn't hijack anyone anymore but some still disagree saying they often get hijacked by the captain. But I digress here. The real story is the rumored new team logo out in Pittsburgh. The new design resembles four little Somali guys riding on a raft. Hey, who knows? It could happen

DEREK LOWE WANTS TO START AGAIN

If Derek Lowe admits, he sorta stunk toward the end of season. Last season was his first as a Braves starter. Lowe doesn't have a no trade clause in his 4-year, \$60 million contract. He likes Atlanta but didn't like the end of the season personally. He allowed 232 hits in 194.2 innings. He lasted seven innings in only two of his last 2 starts. He did win four out his last five starts and finished 15-10 with a 4.67 ERA. He started 34 games which was more than any other NL starter. His sinkerball obviously was sinking enough during this past season. Says Lowe, "The important thing for me right now is to work hard and try to correct my

mechanics and get back to being the pitcher I know I can be.

WHITEY FORD REMEMBERED

NY Yankees great and Hall of Famer Whitey Ford was one of the best starters of the 50's and 60's. Everyone remembers the 1961 Home Run Race between Roger Maris (61) AND Mickey Mantle (54) but in that same year the World Champion NY Yankees had Ford going 25-4. Amazing pitcher. In his rookie year, he finished runner up for Rookie honors to the Red Sox Walk Drogo going 9-1 with a 2.81 ERA.

BASEBALL WRITERS USING NEW MATH

Tim Lincecum of the SF Giants needed just 15 wins to take his second Cy Young award. One time you won the Cy Young the hard way. You had to get lots of wins, you needed lots of strikeouts and you needed a low ERA in as many innings as possible. You had to be like the Energizer Bunny. Durable wasn't enough you had to be super durable. That is all history now. Lincecum's 15 wins are the fewest ever for a Cy Young starter in a full season. Zack Greinke won the AL Cy Young with just 16 wins. Back in 1968, Bob Gibson won the NL Cy with a 22-9 record and incredible 1.12 ERA. The same year Denny McClain

from the Tigers won it in the AL with 31 victories, the combined total of Greinke and Lincecum this year.

The old stats are gone and replaced by WHIP; FIP and BABIP. Whatever they are, it seems a joke. Greinke likes FIP, fielding Independent pitching and Lincecum is partial to WHIP, Walks plus hits per inning. It's all alphabet soup to me and quite meaningless. Someday a pitcher with good FIP and good WHIP is going to win the Cy Young with a losing record. Just wait and see.

PUJOLS WINS NL MVP, MAUER WINS AL MVP

Joe Mauer of the Twins was named AL MVP, the first catcher in 33 years to accomplish that feat. Meanwhile home runs, the most complete baseball player playing today, Albert Pujols of the Cardinals easily won the NL MVP. It was his third MVP award. This past season, Pujols had 47 homeruns, 135 RBIs, a .658 slugging average, 45 doubles and a .327 batting average. At least when it comes to hitters, they don't have any of that new math or WHIP, FIP and whatever else.

THE JUNIOR WATCH

Ken Griffey Jr., resigned with the Mariners. His new one-year deal gives him \$2.5 million and with incentives that could reach \$3.9 million.

LEGAL NOTICE

JUNIOR AUTO BODY
480 COLUMBIA STREET
SOMERVILLE, MA 02143
617-767-2912

TO: CHARLES D. RUFFIN AND LUIZ MARTIN & PAULA SANTOS
JUNIOR AUTO BODY
SOMERVILLE, MA 02143
HAS HAD YOUR VEHICLES 2000 LEXUS VIN #JT8BF28G7Y5076218 AND A 2004 NISSAN VIN #1N4BA41E74C841637. JUNIOR AUTO BODY WILL BE ASKING THE SOMERVILLE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE RIGHT TO SELL BOTH VEHICLES FROM THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

SUBMITTED BY
MICHAEL SORRENTINO
FOR
B&B TOWING

Run dates: 12/11/09

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI09P5223EA

In the Estate of
MARGARET M. SPINAZOLA
Late of WOBURN, MA 01801
Date of Death November 9, 2009

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed and that ANDRIA FUCCIONE, of Concord, MA and VICTOR SPINAZOLA, JR., of Tewksbury, MA be appointed executor/trix, named in the will to serve Without Surety.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT CAMBRIDGE ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON December 29, 2009.

In addition, you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the Court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI,
First Justice of this Court.

Date: December 1, 2009
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 12/11/09

Attention Electricians

Must relocate to smaller location
ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES FOR SALE
No reasonable offer refused! Call 617-733-1703

Leave the Delivery to Us!

With a Gift Subscription to the Post-Gazette, your generosity will be remembered every week of the year.



We'll send the recipient an announcement of your gift. Their subscription will begin with our Christmas issue and continue for one year.

Fill out coupon below and mail with payment to: Post-Gazette, PO Box 130135, Boston, MA 02113.

I would like to send a one year Gift-Subscription to the Boston Post-Gazette to the following person(s). I have enclosed \$30 per subscription.

Recipient Name _____ Giver Name _____
Address _____ Address _____
City/State/Zip _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Phone _____

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. If you want your photos returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.

Tony DeMarco, Carmen Basilio, Micky Ward, Gerry Cooney, and Willie "the Worm" Monroe, were in New York, at the Rochester Boxing Hall of Fame. This Winning Hand of Kings beats a Royal Flush. They were all honored this day, in a special tribute to Carmen Basilio. Tony DeMarco says, "It was important for him to be there." "Carmen Basilio is important to me." "We're a team, without really being a team." Carmen Basilio, is not in the best of health. Tony DeMarco says that Carmen was signing many autographs at this function, right to the end of the night. "It was proper to go there!" They have a closeness, and association with Boxing. They are etched in World Boxing History for Eternity, in the **"Fight of the 20th Century!"** Tony DeMarco, missed the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame in Boston, in order to stand alongside his Comrade, who are both etched together in Boxing History, for eternity. In their Battle



World Champion Carmen Basilio. The other half of the 20th Century Fight of the year participant.

of the 20th Century, these two great World Champions, **Tony "The Fame and Fury of Fleet Street" DeMarco**, and **Carmen "The Onion Farmer" Basilio**, are a great part of History. **Tony DeMarco** says, "It was proper to go there, to show himself." "We've always been friendly."

Dave Zirin, The Nation Sports Editor, on **After Words**, discussed this top acclaimed great read; **"Sweet Thunder," "The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson."** This great book was written by author **Wil Haygood**, discussing the life of the great **Sugar Ray Robinson**, AKA **Walker Smith Jr.** **Dave Zirin** The Nation Sports Editor did a fine job in interviewing



Referee Dick Flaherty



Janet Silvano and World Champion Tony DeMarco, fighter in the 20th Century Fight of the Year.



Promoters Al Valent and Fred Valenti

Wil Haywood on this book. They spoke of the experience that Sugar Ray had down South, when stationed with, Heavyweight Champion **Joe Louis. Sugar Ray Robinson**, went on to own a nightclub, a hair salon, and his wife owned a lingerie business. They spoke about the six fights between **Sugar Ray Robinson**, and **Jake LaMotta**. Boxing is "The Ultimate One on One Sport." He was a very elegant champion. **Wilbert Skeeter McClure** was interviewed on radio a few weeks ago on this book. After this interview, I am more likely to buy, and read this book. I would like to do an interview with our own great World Champion **Tony DeMarco** soon, and let you know what you are in for when you read on the great life of our own **Tony DeMarco. Bernard Hopkins**, at the age of 44, closing in on 45 defeated **Enrique Ornelas** by a unanimous twelve round decision. He's a master, and

a throw-back to the great veteran fighters of yesteryear. **Bernard Hopkins** says that he will be the Heavyweight Champion in 2010? **Roy Jones Jr.** was overwhelmed by **Danny Green** in Australia, Down-under.

The referee stopped the fight as Roy Jones stood against the ropes covering, and allowing himself to be hit, and putting up no resistance to defend himself. The referee stopped this fight in one.

A Mass will be given in Memory of **Eleanor Sherry**, at St. Augustine's Chapel, in



Trainer Norman Stone

South Boston on Dorchester Street, Saturday at 5:00 pm, December 19, 2009. **Eleanor Sherry** is the sister of **Fran "Pops" Lynch**, and aunt of Congressman **Stephen Lynch**.

December 12th at Lindsey's in Wareham, Ring 4 Boston will have its Annual Christmas Party with Ring 4 Boston President **Mickey Finn**. On the 15th there's a Pug's Breakfast. Ring Leader **Tom Martini**, has it at the Florian Hall in Dorchester.



Irish Billy Skinner and Jim McDonald

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



WELL, THEY STILL USE STICKS, SORT OF — Newly hired Ladies Professional Golf Association Commissioner Michael Whan has a background in the hockey world. Nearly a decade ago he founded Mission Hockey — a company that made hockey skates and inline skates. Four years later, Mission Hockey was involved in a corporate merger. The new company, Mission-Itech Hockey, focused on protective equipment such as face masks. Two years ago Bauer Hockey, one of the sports iconic corporate names, bought Mission-Itech for \$80 million.

MEETING THE MARK — It was back in September, when it was still warm and all the trees still had green leaves that Bruins coach Claude Julien made his observation concerning the NHL standings and Thanksgiving. He remarked at the time that how the teams stood on the day of the late autumnal feast was a pretty good indication of how they would finish at the end of the regular season and thus line up for the playoffs.

Fast forward to the morning of Turkey Day — a time synonymous with high school football in these parts — and behold there were our very own B's atop the standings in the Northeast Division. It was only by a point over Ottawa, but there they were, leading the Division. If the playoffs had started that night the B's would have qualified as division winners.

Ah, but the Black and Gold had played only 24 games, meaning that about two-thirds of the season still remained at that juncture. But somehow, it felt good that the B's had made the milepost as pacesetters, rather than as followers.

If the playoffs had started that day the Eastern Conference rankings would have looked like this: Pittsburgh and Washington were tied with 34 points, followed by New Jersey, Boston, Ottawa, Philadelphia, the New York Rangers with Montreal, Atlanta, Tampa Bay, Florida and the New York Islanders in a four-way tie for the eighth and final playoff spot.

Over in the Western Conference the San Jose Sharks were leading with 36 points followed by Chicago, Colorado, Calgary, LA, Nashville, Dallas plus Columbus and Phoenix in a two-way tie for eighth.

Of course the standings change on a daily basis. But let's remember how the teams stood on the day the coach singled out and compare them with how the teams finish when they complete the regular season in April. Will coach Julien's predictions come true?

HELLO DOWN THERE — It was May 14 and the Carolina Hurricanes were playing the Bruins at the Garden in the deciding game of the second round of their Stanley Cup playoff series. The Canes would score an overtime goal,

sending the Bruins, who had amassed a total of 116 points over the course of the regular season, home for the summer. It was a bitter pill to swallow for the B's, who seemed poised to move on to the Conference Finals.

Fast forward to the present season and as of December 8 those Canes had become a mild breeze, having won only seven games (the fewest in the league) and were last in the NHL with only 19 points. It's hard to believe that it was the Canes that won two game sevens on the road in last year's Stanley Cup en route to a berth in the Conference Finals. What changes a new season does bring.

PONDERING THE PIGSKIN PATH — Is the future of a college football team — not an NFL team but a college team — worth a \$36 million change? Apparently at one school in the Midwest it is. Just two days before Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis was dismissed from his job the *Wall Street Journal* came up with an estimate of how much money Weis would wind up with as he left the Indiana school. Figuring the salary over the five years he had actually coached and the large potential buyout of the several years remaining on his contract, the *Journal* estimated that Weis could exit with up to \$36 million.

The *Journal* then put that figure in collegiate terms. It said \$36 million would finance the construction of two additional residence halls on campus. Alternatively, it would provide money that would completely fund over 930 full-tuition scholarships. Or, present and future students would be able to purchase textbooks — over 423,000 of them — assuming a selling price of \$85 per book.

And remember, the severance doesn't include possible payments to the assistant coaches. Nor does the money cover the cost of hiring a new head coach and his staff. That move will cost Notre Dame additional funds.

All that for a college football team? Maybe the Ivy League has the proper perspective after all.

HOCKEY EAST NOTES — Well, there's no \$36 million contract there, that's for sure ... UNH defenseman Blake Kessel, brother of former Bruins player Phil Kessel, had 12 assists to his credit as December dawned, good enough to be tied for tops in the nation for assists by a defenseman ... When Maine routed St. Lawrence 10-1 recently it was the most goals by a Black Bear team in one game since 1998 ... The highly popular Red Hot Hockey contest between Boston University and Cornell wound up in a 3-3 overtime tie at New York's Madison Square Garden ... Boston College was averaging 3.82 goals per game in early December, good enough to be ranked sixth in the nation in that category. See you next week.