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STATE OF THE CITY

Walsh Promises Education as Top Priority

by Sal Giarratani

While the City of Boston faces a number of challenges of the human scale, Mayor Marty Walsh announced at his State of the City address at Boston Symphony Hall that his number one challenge will be an uplifting of public education across the city. While inside the Hall, speaking of his academic reforms, picketers were outside faulting him on a \$50 million deficit facing schools next year.

In challenging the audience to stand as one, the mayor stated, "We have a tremendous opportunity to come together right now, behind programs that experts, teachers, and parents all agree will make a lasting difference."

Walsh announced his support "for fair and sustainable

funding" for both district and chartered schools. "Let us work through the state budget process this year to make a full investment in our children and our families and our Commonwealth's future."

Walsh spoke of the recent news of General Electric's decision to relocate its headquarters to the Seaport District. This corporate move could bring additional folks into Boston's growing work force.

The mayor also announced the creation of a new Office of Housing Stability "to develop resources for tenants, incentives for landlords who do the right thing, and partnerships with developers to keep more of our housing stock affordable."



However, what I found missing was in respect to the quality of life in our city. Solutions to strategies that address the growing violence in many of our neighborhoods that have long been called "killing zones." The impact of street crime, gang, drug and gun violence continues unabated. On the afternoon of the Mayor's State of the City address, it looked as though the Gunfight at the OK Corral was taking place at the Maverick T Station on the Blue Line in East Boston, where the color flowing was sadly bloody red.

In order to keep and maintain Boston as a world-class city, the mayor must deal with the undercurrent of violence that

flows across the city from one place to another.

I wish I had heard more focus emphasizing strategies in dealing with all the players in this situation. Good schools are great, but safer neighborhoods are even more important and a much greater challenge for all of us.

In order to make better schools, it will take our elected officials, our teachers and our parents working together in a common cause, and the same kind of commitment is needed when it comes to community policing. Residents of this city must unite and empower themselves because that is how that better tomorrow for our children will happen.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

What Ever Happened to Post-Racial Obama America?

It seems like over the last seven years of the Obama White House, America has become more obsessed with race than ever before. Look at the Black Lives Matter agenda. Look at President Obama and all the Democrats always preaching race differences. I had hoped that those things that unite us as a nation would grow stronger, but that is not how things have gone, sadly.

Recently, I heard several school districts across the country will be holding school on the MLK holiday to discuss and debate why Ferguson happened. Freddy Gray and the Chicago Police Department's policies on race. Is that what the King holiday is all about? Everything now is seen through the prism of race. America should be moving forward, but it seems like it is being pushed backward by those whose agenda is division.

I heard that among the topics to be discussed is the issue of white guilt, because that is what seems to fuel folks in the multicultural world of diversity.

Did you hear that CBS Television wants to bring those old *Nancy Drew Mysteries* back? Except this time, Nancy HAS to be either African-American, Asian-American, or Latina. White actresses need not apply, says CBS head honchos. Isn't this racist?

U.S. Senate Says No to New Obama War Powers

The U.S. Senate will not be taking up President Obama's request for new war powers to fight the Islamic State. According to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, they want to avoid tying the hands of the next president.

Last fall, the Obama Administration proposed a three-year authorization that would take the fight beyond national borders and expand it to any "closely-

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Massachusetts Launches Comprehensive Digital Health Initiative

Industry, Healthcare & State and Local Government Partner to Enhance Economic Development, Patient Care in Growing Health Industry

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Speaker Robert A. DeLeo and executives from the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership (MACP) joined leaders from across state government, healthcare, and the technology sector at Boston Children's Hospital to announce a comprehensive public-private partnership designed to accelerate the competitiveness of the Commonwealth's digital healthcare industry.

"Our administration is committed to making Massachusetts a national leader in digital health by partnering with private industry, convening key stakeholders and addressing market gaps," said Governor Baker. "This emerging industry cluster has the potential to become a powerful driver of job creation across the Commonwealth, while also unlocking new advances in improving patient care and lowering health care costs."

Digital health, or eHealth, is a rapidly growing sector at the intersection of healthcare and information technology, and according to a report by Goldman Sachs represents an approximately \$32B market opportunity over the next



decade. The sector spans a variety of technologies including electronic health records, consumer wearable devices, care systems, payment management, Big Data analytics and telemedicine among others, and has close connections to the state's technology and life sciences sectors. Massachusetts is well-positioned for success in digital health as host to world-class healthcare and academic institutions, a strong startup culture, significant venture capital investment, a dominant life sciences sector and roughly 250 existing digital health companies.

The initiative will bring public, private, academic, and healthcare leaders together to build a stronger and more connected statewide digital health ecosystem. To support digital health startups, the City of Boston, Massachusetts eHealth Institute at MassTech (MeHI), and MACP announced the establish-

ment of a digital health innovation hub. The initiative will provide space, programming, a strong industry network for digital health startups and will serve as a Boston "hub" for the industry. Programming through the hub will be managed and operated by MassChallenge.

"Strong public-private partnerships are what make our City, and our region, more competitive in the global economy," said Mayor Walsh. "We know that the digital healthcare industry is Boston's future, and I thank our state and private sector partners for their support. By working together, we can maintain Boston's leadership in health care and the life sciences, and create an environment where the digital healthcare industry can thrive and we can better serve our patients and their families."

MACP also announced several private industry-led initiatives that will help accelerate growth in the digital health sector, including innovative approaches to providing private funds for digital healthcare companies that are starting up, located in, or planning to re-locate to, Massachusetts. MACP also facili-

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Stirpe Nostra

by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



Res Publica

by David Trumbull



ROMANESQUE CHURCHES



Metropolitan Cathedral-Basilica of the Nativity of Saint Mary, Milan, Italy. Cattedrale Metropolitana di Santa Maria Nascente, Milan, Italy.

In previous issues we discussed the origin of religion, how Christianity was brought to Rome, and the persecutions which were started by Nero and continued for 250 years until the time of Emperor Constantine. We also learned how the Early Christians chose the pagan Roman Basilica as the style which most closely suited their religious needs, and how this style influenced the design of the Early Christian-style church. Probably the most important thing for us to understand at this time is that the Church hierarchy can designate any kind of church to be a basilica. Historically speaking, a basilican-style church is laid out in a rectangular plan with a broad nave running down the center, flanked with colonnaded aisles, a chancel rail, a raised altar, and with a semicircular apse behind. The design and layout of the Early Christian church with

its masonry walls and timber roofs served their needs very adequately, except that the dry timber roofs were often struck by lightning and the lack of fire-fighting equipment as we know it permitted serious damage to occur in their roof structures. The next logical step then, was to construct the roofs of stone by building a series of vaults and arches. Inadequate knowledge about arch thrusts caused some sidewalls to spread and the roofs to fall. Many of the structural problems confronting these early Christian builders were fairly well solved during the Romanesque period which followed. Romanesque means “Romanish” or “that which is like the Roman.” It was a style or a period in the development of world architecture which began after the decline of the Roman Empire and attained its highest development in Italy, France,

Germany, and England. There was a decline of community life after the fall of Rome, when her strong guiding hand was removed from Western Europe. Cities disappeared and whole countries slid into the Dark Ages. For several hundred years, the people lived a rural life around the castles of the wealthy barons, and in little villages. Christianity was the chief source of education when science, letters, art and culture became the monopoly of the religious orders. Schools were attached to monasteries and monks with their pupils often designed cathedrals. These medieval masons were prevented from copying the early Christian basilica because of their love for thick masonry walls and round arched openings, in addition to their concerns about roof fires. There were at least three great difficulties which plagued the Romanesque builders; first, the heavy weight of the stone roofs, which required piers of great size; second, the difficulty in providing resistance to the thrust of the stone vaulting; and third, the difficulty in providing the tremendous amount of stagings and formwork which were required to construct the stone roofs. A three-hundred-year struggle to conquer these problems reaped its rewards in the Gothic period that followed. The Romanesque period in history is not without its characteristics. A few of the more prominent are round arched openings; massive stone walls with buttresses; large interior columns; and vaulted stone ceilings.

NEXT ISSUE:
The Gothic System

City of Boston Fire Department Now Accepting Firefighters Exam Applications

The City of Boston Fire Department has announced that a written exam for firefighters will be administered on April 16, 2016. There will be an additional fee for applications received after March 1, 2016, and no applications will be accepted after March 21, 2016. To apply online, please visit our website at www.cityofboston.gov/fire. Boston Fire will host a series of open house sessions to provide more information and answer any questions candidates may have.

These sessions will be held on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 12 noon on the following dates at the listed locations:
January 23, E9 & L2, 239 Sumner St., **East Boston**
February 6, E24 & L23, 36 Washington St., **Dorchester**
February 13, E28 & TL10, 746 Centre St., **Jamaica Plain**
February 20, E14 & L4, 174 Dudley St., **Roxbury**
February 27, E48 & L28, 60 Fairmont Ave., **Hyde Park**
March 5, E52 & L29, 975 Blue Hill Ave., **Dorchester**
The Boston Fire Department

will also host a test preparation session at Florian Hall, 55 Hallet St., Dorchester on March 29, 2016 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. All sessions are free and open to the public. Cancellations due to inclement weather will be posted on the Boston Fire Department's Facebook page: facebook.com/bostonfiredepartment. Contact 617-343-3024 or michelle.mccourt@boston.gov for more information.

The Ride to Partner with Uber and Lyft?

When President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law on July 26, 1990, he said: “It signals the end to the unjustified segregation and exclusion of persons with disabilities from the mainstream of American life.” Among the things mandated by the ADA is The Ride, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) paratransit system for handicapped riders. The Pioneer Institute, an independent, non-partisan, privately funded research organization that seeks to improve the quality of life in Massachusetts, recently reported on some proposed changes to The Ride. On December 14, 2015, the MBTA’s Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) met to discuss how to fix the agency’s out-of-control budget and debated making changes to The Ride. According to the Pioneer institute: “The FMCB has proposed a real innovation for MBTA paratransit: using Uber, Lyft, and taxis for certain trips, specifically the 80 percent of trips that don’t require wheelchair accessible vans.” The report notes that this would make the MBTA the first public transit agency in the country to work together with the popular ride-sharing companies. The MBTA is required to provide The Ride service for any trip that is within 3/4 of a mile of a bus, subway, or trolley line. The fee is limited to not more than two times the cost of a subway ride. Currently, The Ride goes to many more places than just those within 3/4 mile of a regular “T” route. This is known as “premium service” and the fee is \$5, rather than the \$3 fee for ADA-mandated service. According to the Pioneer Institute, one of the money-saving proposals at the hearing was dropping the premium service and restricting The Ride to the smaller area mandated by the ADA. I was pleased to read that Pioneer believes that the MBTA should not restrict The Ride to the minimum ADA standard. As the report states: “Many people have based their choice of housing location on access to The Ride. For the MBTA to change the rules now and restrict service to certain areas would effectively force users who depend upon The Ride to relocate.” Pioneer reports that the board did not vote to approve the proposal to restrict The Ride. The report does not indicate whether the board is going forward with the proposal to partner with taxis and ride-share providers, but seems to suggest that that proposal is still being considered.

Saint John Cantius

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Poland has given us many wonderful saints among whom is John Cantius, also known as John of Kanty. He was born on June 23, 1393, in Kety, a small town near Oswiecim, Poland, to Stanislaw and Anna Kanty. He attended the Krakow Academy at which he attained a Doctor of Philosophy in 1418. After graduation, he spent the next three years conducting philosophy classes at the university while preparing for the priesthood. Upon his ordination, he became rector at the school of the Canons Regular of the Most Holy Sepulcher in Miechow. While there, he was offered a professorship of Sacred Scripture at the Krakow Academy. After attaining a doctorate in theology, he eventually became director of the theology department, holding the professorship until his death in 1473. The multi-faceted Kanty also helped develop Jean Buridan’s theory of impetus, which anticipated the work of Galileo and Newton. As most learned men of his day, John spent many of his free hours hand-copying manuscripts of the Holy Scriptures, theological tracts, and other scholarly works. Although only 26 volumes have survived to our time, their total of over 18,000 pages is a testament to his exceptional industriousness. During his time in Krakow, John Kanty became well known for his generosity and compassion toward the poor, especially needy students at the university. He subsisted on what was strictly necessary to sustain his life, giving alms regularly to the poor. He made one pilgrimage to Jerusalem and four pilgrimages on foot to Rome. Michael Miechowita, the medieval Polish historian and the saint’s first biographer, described the saint’s extreme humility and charity in his work. He was canonized in 1767 and was declared a patron of Poland and Lithuania by Pope Clement XII in 1737. His Feast Day is celebrated on December 23rd.





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Friday, January 22, 2016

OUR POLICY: To help preserve the ideals and sacred traditions of this our adopted country the United States of America: To revere its laws and inspire others to respect and obey them: To strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty: In all ways to aid in making this country greater and better than we found it.

BURLINGTON SONS OF ITALY OFFERS Italian Language Classes

With highly qualified professional instructors, the Burlington Sons of Italy, Lodge #2223, is once again offering Italian language classes to anyone who is interested in acquiring levels of proficiency with the language or to learn about the country of Italy. Highly acclaimed by the Italian Consulate in Boston, in addition to their language aspect, the classes will explore the culture, the terrain, the people and the culinary arts of Italy.

Two semesters are offered annually in levels of Beginner 1 & 2, Intermediate 1 & 2 and Advanced 1 & 2. The first 12-week session began this past fall, with the second or spring semester beginning February 10, 2016.

Note: First semester attendance is not required in order to enroll in the February semester.

All Beginner 1 & 2 classes, Intermediate 1 & 2 classes and Advanced 1 & 2 classes will meet on Wednesday evenings at St. Margaret's School on Winn Street in Burlington. New Advanced 1 and Advanced 2 classes were introduced last semester and have been included in the program as a final step in the process of learning Italian. Advanced 1 is designed to assist those Intermediate 2 students in preparation for making the transition to the Advanced 2 level.

The fee covers the 12-week semester. The registration policy mandates that this is a non-refundable fee.

Registrations will take place on Wednesday, February 3rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at St. Margaret's School. For additional information or to enroll, please visit our website: www.burlingtonsonsofitaly.org and click on the link *Italian Classes*, or contact Burlington Sons of Italy Lodge #2223 President Don McGowan, at 781-272-0529, e-mail at bsoilodge2223@aol.com.

The 12-week 2016 schedule will begin on February 10, 2016, at times listed below:

Beginner 1 class

6:00-7:30 pm

Beginner 2 class

7:30-9:00 pm

Intermediate 1 class

7:30-9:00 pm

Intermediate 2 class

6:00-7:30 pm

Advanced 1 class

5:30-7:00 pm

(Note: This is a NEW offering!)

Advanced 2 class

7:00-8:30 pm

Note: The advanced classes are recommended only for students having completed Intermediate 2 or having a basic comfort in conversational Italian.

If you are unable to register in person on February 3rd, please complete the Registration Form located on our web site shown above and mail it with your check payable to Burlington Sons of Italy Lodge #2223. Mail completed registration form and check to: Don McGowan, 206 Fox Hill Road, Burlington MA 01803.

Be sure to register early as space is at a premium. No registrations will be accepted after February 10, 2016.

The Order of the Sons of Italy Burlington Lodge 2223 has been offering the Italian language classes the past two decades and the program is one of the lodge's proudest achievements. The on-going goal of the lodge is to teach Italian to interested members of the community. This goal is a 'work-in-progress' in which many people over the years have been introduced and educated in the Italian language.

Many students have completed the entire course and have returned year after year to keep up with their conversational skills. Whatever the reason, learning a new language and culture can be a rich, rewarding and enjoyable experience.

For specific information about our professional instructors, class content and textbook requirements, please visit the Italian Classes section of our www.burlingtonsonsofitaly.org website where the syllabus is available to assist you in deciding your current level of Italian expertise as well as to which level you should enroll. If you later feel you have selected the wrong level class for any reason, you can always change to a higher or lower level as needed since the same text book (Prego!) is used in both basic and intermediate classes.

Remember, mail the registration form early to reserve your place.

Donne 2000 Celebrates La Befana



Donne 2000 Board Members and La Befana. Back row: Rita Susi, co-secretary. Middle row, L-R: Dora Volpe, co-treasurer; Rosa Giammarco, president; Maria DiCenso co-treasurer; and Doreen Giammarco, co-secretary. Kneeling: La Befana, Michelle Andreottola

One again this year, La Befana came to visit the members of Donne 2000 and their children. She was dressed in old, worn garb, with broom in hand sweeping. She gave out gifts to the little children, and treats to the adults consisting of tangerines, torrones, and chocolates. Just like in the old days in Italy when they were kids. Prior to La

Befana's appearance, Joe Pagliuca, of Big Joe Productions, kept the children entertained with his creative stories. There were also crafts for the children and raffle prizes.

As legend has it, La Befana, thinking that she had missed the opportunity to accompany the Wise Men in search of the Christ Child, later decided to

follow them. Unable to catch up to them, she gave every child that she saw along the way a small treat in hopes that one of them would be the Christ Child. Each year on the eve of the Epiphany, she sets out looking for the Baby Jesus. She stops at each child's house to leave treats to those who have been good.

La Befana is one of Italy's oldest and most celebrated legends. Each year on January 6th, the children of Italy awaken in hopes that La Befana has made a visit to their house. This is also a significant day for Italians, because it marks the end of the Christmas season and the day that the Three Wise Men arrived at the manger of the Christ Child, bringing Him presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Over the years, the Epiphany has become a more celebrated holiday for the children of Italy, even more so than Christmas.

This story teaches our children customs and traditions from our ancestors and it is up to us to pass them along to future generations so that they will not be forgotten.

Donne 2000 is a non-profit women's organization whose mission is to educate women and perpetuate Italian culture and traditions from generation to generation.

For more information on Donne 2000, please visit www.Donne2000.com



La Befana and children.

Wicked Free Winter Fun

Visitors to Massachusetts can add extra value to their vacation budget this winter, thanks to the state's new Wicked Free Winter Fun calendar of over 100 free events and family activities in the Bay State.

Launched by the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (MOTT), Wicked Free Winter Fun runs through Thursday,

March 31, 2016, and features both indoor and outdoor activities. They range from ice skating, outdoor hikes and farmer's markets to museum visits, concerts and film screenings – all free of charge. Visit massvacation.com/freewinter for complete details.

Among the listings are dozens of local museums offering free

visits at various days of the week.

Wicked Free Winter Fun also rounds up a variety of outdoor winter activities offered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, Trustees of the Reservations and local cities and towns.

For more information, go to massvacation.com.

Thursday Night at the Bremen Street Theatre

by Sal Giarratani

Once again, it is time for another great cinema presentation at the East Boston Branch Library on Thursday, January 28th. The movie is *The Boston Strangler*, the curtain rises at 5:30 pm, and it's free.

The movie is based on the true story of the Boston Strangler. I remember this story quite well because it was a real-life scary period in Boston history. Living in the South End at the time (early '60s), a string of stranglings put the fear of God into every-



one, as woman after woman died at the hands of a mysterious murderer who was roaming our streets looking for his next prey.

It seemed almost daily that the *Record American* splashed news of the latest victim on the front page for all to see. It came to an end when police apprehended Albert DeSalvo, the convicted strangler. The movie stars Tony Curtis and Henry

Fonda.

Remember, it starts at 5:30 pm and is free.

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

The Magical, Mysterious Winter Sky

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



During the month of January, I really start to notice the sky. Perhaps this is because the sky brims with subtle changes and seasonal premonitions throughout the month. For example, as winter slowly melts into spring, the sun remains in the sky for a longer period. Whereas the early evening in December meant skies the color of blackened coal, January evenings bring turquoise-hued heavens with clouds rimmed in pink and gold by the setting sun. Frosty nights also entail clear skies where every star stands starkly against the night, like a diamond resting on velvet. Then, of course, there is the moon. The moon in January has always seemed especially magical, mysterious and alluring to me, filled with the energy of the New Year and particularly reflective against the snowy ground. As someone born under the zodiac sign of Cancer, which is ruled by the moon, I suppose it is natural that I feel such a connection with this celestial body! As I enjoy the sky in January, I also seek to find out more about the role of the sky in superstition, folklore and mythology. Italian culture is especially ripe with legends about the denizens of the sky.

My fascination with the sky begins in the early morning, when dawn breaks over the Earth. I can practically sense everything starting fresh, awakening like a newborn baby from the primordial darkness of the night. From the chatter of the birds — which grows increasingly ebullient as the morning progresses — to the pale sunlight breaking through the gray clouds, dawn is the perfect time for greeting the day with optimism and anticipation. Our ancestors in Ancient Rome had a goddess of the dawn named Aurora. Every morning,

Aurora awakened from the darkness and flew across the sky to signal the arrival of the sun. Aurora also lends herself to another sky-related phenomenon — the aurora borealis, or the undulating bands of colorful light often seen in polar regions. I have never seen the aurora borealis, but my father and brother did witness a display many years ago when travelling to New Hampshire for a camping trip. Meanwhile, towards the mid-afternoon, the sky changes once again. In January, skies often take the form of blanket-like gray clouds or brilliant sunshine that reflect off the snow like glitter. Once again, according to the Ancient Romans, this sunlight was the work of Apollo, the god responsible not only for the sun but also for knowledge, health, light and music, all things which metaphorically bring “illumination” into our lives. Finally, night descends once more upon the land, calling us back to the warmth and shelter of our homes. For according to olden folklore, nighttime was the realm of spooky, supernatural beings. It was better to stay safe and wait for the dawn to approach than to risk an encounter with one of these ghoulish fiends!

The celestial body with which I associate the strongest, however, must be the moon. This synergy derives from deep into my childhood, when no road trip was complete without my father singing an Italian pop song which intoned: “La luna, la luna, ti porterà fortuna!” Meaning that “the moon will bring you luck,” these lyrics formed the basis of my vision of the moon as a mystical and dreamlike influence. My pride in my womanhood also impacts my love for the moon, as she is often depicted as a

female deity in mythology. In fact, Roman legends contained at least three moon goddesses! Luna, who lends her name to the Italian word for “moon,” was the personification of the heavenly orb. Diana was a fierce and independent huntress often linked artistically with a crescent moon, which mimicked the shape of her bow. Hecate represented the darker aspects of the moon, as she presided over the realms of witchcraft, crossroads, and the night. The moon also features prominently in Italian superstition. According to a piece of folklore which is also well-known in the United States, the full moon has the power to sway human behavior in a myriad of ways, whether it is awakening romance or causing mayhem! In fact, the word “lunacy” derives from “luna.” Italians also have their own version of the werewolf, known as the lupo mannaro, who, like his English and American counterparts, becomes active at the full moon. So let us all keep our eye out for strange happenings when the full moon falls on the 23rd of this month! The phases of the moon can also dictate the best times for certain events and actions — a waxing moon, for example, is the ideal cycle under which to plan a wedding, as the couple’s happiness will increase just as the moon grows. Indeed, the moon is saddled with much power and clout over mythology, folklore and culture all around the world. For this reason, whenever I see the sliver of a crescent moon peeking from behind bare tree branches or a resplendent full moon shining her light over a glassy lake, I pause to admire her wisdom and strength.

We often take the sky, in all its incarnations, for granted. After all, we always expect it to be over us! However, by never taking the time to admire the sky, we risk missing out on the beauty and the spirituality that nature has to offer. January functions as an especially appropriate month to observe the sky because, with its ever-longer afternoon sunshine and soft golden evenings, it holds the promise of the arrival of spring. Each phase of the sky can impart to us emotions and lessons that will latch on to our souls, helping us find an inner strength that will guide us in our everyday lives. The dawn brings rejuvenation, the afternoon grants us bolts of energy, and nighttime offers repose. The sun warms the land and boosts the growth of crops, while the moon proves strong enough to influence ocean tides while reminding us of the mystery and magic still left in the world. With spring quickly approaching and life renewing itself all around us, let’s take a moment from the excitement and extend our faces skyward, giving thanks for all that nature has given us!

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

THINKING OUT LOUD

by Sal Giarratani



Is Cruz Eligible for Presidential Run?

The issue of whether or not U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz is eligible to run for president as a natural-born American is not settled law as he keeps stating (Cruz: defends birth eligibility, January 13th).

According to the Constitution, only natural-born Americans can run for president. The op-ed piece by Professor Lawrence Tribe brought up a good case that it is far from settled law in the case of Cruz’s candidacy.

Why did Cruz decide to renounce his Canadian citizenship back in 2014? Was it because he knew this birth issue was far from settled?

Tribe was once Cruz’s professor at Harvard and understood the future presidential candidate was an “originalist” when it came to the Constitution. Like one of his mentors, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, an originalist is someone who believes that the constitution is what it states. There is little room for any interpretation. The U.S. Constitution is not a living document. The founding fathers, when writing the U.S. Constitution under Article II, Section 1, Paragraph 5, stated that only citizens born on U.S. soil could run for president. However, our founders never defined what it meant to be a “natural-born American.”

The previous cases of Barry Goldwater (1964), George Romney (1968), and John McCain

(2008) involved a question similar to the one being asked of Cruz’s candidacy, but I believe the other three candidates for president were proven to be natural-born Americans. Barry Goldwater was born in 1911 in the Arizona Territory, which was U.S. soil. George Romney was born in Mexico; his parents were U.S. citizens in Mexico as temporary Mormon missionaries. In the case of McCain, he was born on a U.S. base where his father was stationed. While he asked for and received a U.S. Senate resolution declaring him eligible to run, he really didn’t need that resolution.

When Ted Cruz was born in Canada, his mother, a U.S. citizen, quickly registered his birth at the U.S. Embassy. His parent’s permanent address was in Canada, and his father was a Cuban national. For purposes of legality, Cruz was born a U.S. citizen; but for purposes of Article II Section 1, Paragraph 5, things are not that clear.

Isn’t that why he renounced his Canadian citizenship two years ago before announcing his 2016 campaign?

If you could call up John Adams or Thomas Jefferson today, they might not agree with Cruz that his eligibility is settled law or fact.

Donald Trump may indeed be doing Ted Cruz a favor by bringing attention to this issue now rather than later.

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Freeway Says ...

Due to his increasing popularity and several suggestions from readers (and after much negotiating on our part with his huge salary demands), our friend Freeway has consented to try to answer readers' questions concerning him or any of our little four-legged friends. You can email your questions to postgazette@aol.com to the attention of Freeway. Don't forget folks, Freeway is not a vet, so please keep the questions light-hearted! Thanks.

PETS GET THE WINTER BLUES Help Your Pets Battle Cabin Fever

Pets and people have a lot in common, including the winter blues. Even if you live in one of the warm states, the change of season affects pets and people. It can be tough on a pet, especially one that normally spends much of its time outdoors.

Prescription-Free Solutions. Pet owners who ignore their pet's need for winter stimulation will find their companions gaining weight, becoming irritable and sleeping too much. Fortunately, there are some steps you can take that will make you and your pet happier during the long cold months:

Brighten the Lights. Dogs and cats respond to illumina-

tion like we do: they get peppier when the light is brighter. So even if it's too cold to go out, open drapes and let in any sunlight there is, turn up indoor lights, and even replace bulbs to create a more day-like environment. For reptiles, keep heat and light cycles balanced throughout the entire year. Know the general husbandry standards for your specific reptile so that you are aware of possible hibernation needs during the winter as well.

Encourage Play Time. Cats love to play, and the best place to play is in the house. Make toys, drag enticing objects around, get your cat chasing

clumped paper, anything to keep him or her busy and burning energy. Install a window perch because cats love to sit by the window and watch the birds. It's free entertainment and can keep them busy for a while. For dogs, games like tug-of-war and wrestling can mean a great workout while building their appetite. The best time to play with rabbits is in the early morning or as it begins to get dark.

Recalculate food quantities. If your dog or cat is not outdoors very much, he or she doesn't need to eat as much. Less food means less weight gain and more energy. If your dog is outdoors with an appropriate dog house, he may need extra calories to stay warm.

Enhance scents around the house. Scented goodies keep dogs busy as they try to find the source of the smell. Cats like toys with catnip or may rather fill their time with a scratching post. If you have a bird, do not use sprays or candles, scented or otherwise, since sprays and candles emit carbons and volatile toxins that can be harmful, or even fatal, to birds if inhaled.

Go Outside. Even if your cat roams freely, you might not want him or her to do this in the winter. So to get a cat outdoors and under control, spend a few weeks training them to walk on a leash. It takes patience, but it's possible. Dogs would welcome romping in the snow and can do this using a long retractable leash. If coyotes live in your area, however, it is not recommended that you walk your dog on a retractable leash. Coyotes have been known to target and attack dogs on longer leashes.

Enjoy your time with your pets, it's a L...O...N...G... WINTER. *That's all for now!*

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THE WHITE CHIP

a Very Funny Play about a Very Serious Subject

The White Chip, now playing at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre in Lowell, is an important work. Written by Sean Daniels, MRT's Artistic Director, it is a no-holds-barred look at Sean's painful struggle with addiction. In it he tells the story of how he practically ruined his life, his relationships, and his health because of the hold alcohol had on him. In the play, the audience witnesses Sean's tragic life as we see the disease progress and tear him apart. And while we are watching this tale of self-destruction, we are many times laughing to the point of tears. I know, it sounds a bit strange.

The cast is led by Jeffrey Binder as Sean, who is superb in a role that takes incredible emotional stamina. Within minutes he has formed a bond with the audience, who now become immersed in his life story. Mr. Binder is fluid on the stage and his face takes on the years of abuse as the play, and his alcoholism, progresses. This is not done with makeup.

Benjamin Evett and Isabel Keating are listed in the program as Actor #1 and Actor #2 as they play multiple roles and slip in and out of their various characters without missing a beat. Having seen Mr. Evett perform many times before, I was not surprised at this, as he is one of the area's top actors. This was my introduction to Ms. Keating, and to say I was impressed would be an understatement. It's wonderful to watch such talented actors

switch from character to character at the drop of a hat.

The title refers to the white chip, or token, that is given to people when they first attend a Twelve Step Program. It is in recognition of their taking the first step towards recovery. Unfortunately, Sean has amassed a large amount of these chips over the years, as he has relapsed time and time again, with each new round of drinking dragging him further and further down towards that black hole. Along the way, he learns better ways to hide his drinking from others, how to lie to himself, and how to avoid responsibilities, but eventually his life starts to completely unravel. Much of this will be familiar to those who have, or know someone who has, dealt with this awful disease.

Okay, so you must be wondering why I said this is a funny play. It sounds pretty dreadful, and it is. The great thing about *The White Chip* is how Daniels has filled it with so much laughter. There are jokes about his Mormon upbringing, his embarrassing escapades while on a bender, his relationship with his mother, who also is an alcoholic, and his meeting with the Jews, where he is finally able to make some sense of things. Who would have thought such a thing? There is wonderful banter among all the characters as they move about the stage engaged in quick-witted exchanges. There are projections onto two screens with cartoon-like characterizations



Isabel Keating, Benjamin Evett, and Jeffrey Binder. (Photo by MRT)

of the embarrassing escapades Sean has embarked on while drunk, as well as graphics listing the pros and cons of his behavior. Mr. Evett is particularly impressive when he plays Sean's father, who is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Many of these scenes are heartbreaking and touching.

If this play wasn't funny, it would be unbearable to watch. And that is what is so wonderful about it. By allowing his audience the release through the comedy, Mr. Daniels is able to tell his story of just how terrible his

struggle has been, and of how so many people are dealing with the same battle. It is a battle to overcome the shame and ask for help. It is not only a play for those who have or are struggling with addiction, but a story that should be seen by all people so they will begin to realize that the stigma associated with addiction is cruel and uncalled for. The way to help people is to allow them to step away from the shame and know they will be able to reach out for help without being branded as weak and lacking in character.

In the program notes, Sean Daniels expresses something that has to be a first for an artist. About *The White Chip* he writes, "And I do hope that no one produces it in ten years because it feels incredibly outdated — because we have no more silent deaths." As much as I enjoyed this play and urge people to see it, I have to agree with him.

The White Chip is playing at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Lowell, MA, through January 31st. Box Office: 978-654-4678 MRT.Org



A Beautiful Violet Grows at the Speakeasy

VIOLET

at the Calderwood Pavilion, Boston



Flick, Violet and Monty
(Photo by Glenn Perry)

My review of the Speakeasy Stage Company's production of *Violet* could be summed up in just three words: See this play.

Violet, which premiered off Broadway in 1997, originally got mixed reviews, but fortunately survived and went on to play Broadway. The Boston run is being directed by Paul Daigneault, who is taking it on for the second time, (it played the Speakeasy in 2000), and he has done a masterful job. Along with a remarkable score composed by Jeanine Tesori with lyrics by Brian Crawley, and a first rate cast led by Alison McCartan, *Violet* is near perfect.

Set in 1964, it is the story of Violet, a young woman who has a severe facial scar that resulted from a tragic accident when she was a child. She has gathered together enough money to take a bus trip from her home in Spruce Pine, NC, to Tulsa, OK, where she believes a faith healer can remove her scar and the emotional pain that goes with it.

Along the way, she befriends a number of people including two

soldiers, Flick and Monty, who both come to care for her very much. There are also wonderful scenes between the young Violet, played with amazing depth by Audree Hedequist, and her father, played by Michael Mendiola in a role filled with emotion that seems made to order for him. The two are beautiful to watch together and give the audience insight into how Violet's strength was developed.

It would have been so easy for this play to have fallen into the story of a bitter young woman who is mad at the world for the bad hand she has been dealt, and the people who look at her and feel pity for her, but that is not how it goes.

Violet is tough and smart. Yes, she is angry and hurt, but at no time did I feel pity for her. I was sympathetic towards her, but I also recognized the amazing strength of her character. Flick does as well. Her father did a remarkable job giving her the tools to enable her to deal with life, which is conveyed in the number "Luck of the Draw." The people Violet

encounters on her trip learn as much from her as she does from them.

The musical score is breathtaking, covering many genres including gospel, folk, rock, and country. It is hard to believe one composer could master so many different types of music. While all the numbers are outstanding, I do have to make mention of "Let It Sing" performed by Dan Belnavis as Flick. His incredible voice fills the theater with emotion.

I would also note that the scenes with the faith healing preacher are played just right by John F. King. He did not slip into parody, which would have been easy to do, but instead showed the human qualities of the man without diminishing him. It was not easy to do, but Mr. King got it right.

Again, see this play, you will not be disappointed. *Violet* will move you, touch you, and make you want to Let It Sing!

Violet is playing through February 6th at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont Street, Boston. 617-933-8600.



HANK WILLIAMS JR. – IT'S ABOUT TIME Nash Icon Records

Are you ready for country music with no-holds-barred? Then you're ready for Hank Williams Jr. and *It's About Time*. Williams is as rowdy and energetic as ever, with a dozen explosive rockers that just never let up. The pace is set with the initial cut penned by Neil Young, and previously recorded by Waylon Jennings — "Are You Ready For the Country," a duet with Eric Church. This is followed by "Club U.S.A.," the driving "God Fearin' Man," missing the past via "Those Days Are Gone," and "Dress Like An Icon," which he penned. Williams addresses the gun controversy with "God and Guns," the biographical cut he wrote, and shines on, "Just Call Me Hank," expressing himself with Mel Tillis' tune "Mental Revenge," followed by Williams taking a verbal shot at pop country sound with the album title cut "It's About Time." The festivities continue with "The Party's On," getting the spiritual mood on with "Wrapped Up, Tangled Up In Jesus (God's Got It)," and puts the finishing touches on with "Born to Boogie" with Brantley Gilbert, Justin Moore and Brad Paisley.

RACHEL PLATTEN - WILDFIRE Columbia Records

Rachel Platten is enjoying the success of *Wildfire*, her major label debut that is receiving much critical acclaim and airplay with her charted tunes, "The Fight Song" and "Stand By You." Her local tie to Boston (Newton) adds to the mystique of this talented young lady who has made her mark on the music scene. Delivering a cool dozen cuts which she had a hand in writing, this album is inspirational. In addition to her charted hits, check out the powerful "Hey Hey Hallelujah" featuring Andy Grammer, plus the emotional "Speechless," the pounding "Beating Me Up," and the catchy "Better Place." The rapid lyrics of "Lone Ranger" drive the beat on the second half with "You Don't Know My Heart," the crescendo-driven "Angels in Chelsea," the soaring "Astronauts." Then the album winds down with "Congratulations" and the powerful "Superman." Platten's *The Wildfire Tour* stops at Boston at The Royale on March 12th.

CONDEMNED – MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK Lakeshore Records

Condemned is a score that is moving in many ways, with electronic-based music created by Daniel Davies & Sebastian Robertson, utilizing varying sounds that range from the mysterious and suspenseful to emotional vibes that tend to be very interesting. Mix in a bit of dance tracks like "Black Disco" and run the gamut of the slow-paced track "Axe Face." Included in the roller-coaster ride of music are tracks "Shynola's Rumble," "Cookie's Theme," as well as the uniqueness of "Johnny's Jazz" and "Alejandro's Angels," both featuring Cody Carpenter. The crumbling of "Cookie's End," the disconnect of "Broken Phone," scaling with "Roof to Roof," and "Maya's Escape" lead to the finale "Condemned Theme." Music sure to stimulate the suspense of the film!

CASUAL – SOUNDTRACK Lakeshore Records

With an original score composed by Mateo Messina with Rolfe Kent, the Hulu television network's comedy series takes on new meaning. Romance, living together, relationships, etceteras, and all these emotions in the music mix. The titles pretty much tell the story of this television series that stars Michaela Watkins, Tara Lynne Barr, Frances Conroy and Patrick Heusinger. For openers, Messina serves up "Love You Too" with a sound that is hard to categorize as it features a blend that is difficult to label. Kent's cut of "Dark Room" offers some snap-your-fingers beat to fit the mood. Add in titles "Cat Glasses," "Like She Probably," "Ride A Bike," "Giving It," and "From Behind." The list of flavorful ingredients for this comedic recipe includes, "You Didn't Know How," "Loved," "Bun," "Carrot Cake," "Found and So Lost," and "You Didn't." Sort of leaves an interesting taste in your mouth, doesn't it?

THE GOOD DINOSAUR - ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK Disney Pixar

When Disney Pixar selected Academy Award-winning composer Mychael Danna and Emmy-nominated composer Jeff Danna to create the original score for *The Good Dinosaur*, you pretty much know they were likely to hit a home run. Well, one swing of the bat and this duo has gone the distance. 30 tracks of musical creations produced with the use of alternative world music instruments, plus classic strings, percussion and brass. Included were Greek instruments such as the bouzouki, Turkish cumbus, Iranian saz, and even a Nordic instrument harpolek. They made music that sounds big when it has to and music that pulses sensitively when the situation calls for it. The bottom line? The talented team of Danna and Danna did the *Dinosaur* good!

LESLIE PINTCHIK – TRUE NORTH Pintch Hard Records

Pianist/composer Leslie Pintchik offers up her fifth CD, titled *True North*, with a stellar band comprised of Steve Wilson, soprano and alto sax; Ron Horton, trumpet and flugelhorn; Scott Hardy, bass; Michael Sarin, drums; and Satoshi Takeishi on percussion. This outstanding collection was recorded live at Boston's Scullers Jazz Club. Pintchik's ten-track collection of music fits the album title well, as her songs steadily climb 'north' with success. Having written six of the tunes herself, Pintchik does a great job on "Let's Get Lucky," rolling right along with "Tumbleweed," followed by the conversational "Just Sayin'." She does justice to John Lennon's "Imagine." With "Crooked As A Dog's Hind Leg," Pintchik tells the straight truth with a super jazzy beat, along with the pretty title track "True North," feeling romantic with "Falling In Love Again," then taking a page from Mancini/Mercer's book with "Charade." "Discreet" is her final composition; then J. Fred Coots and Sam Lewis' "For All We Know" performed live. Excellent!

The time has come, the walrus said,

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

by Sal Giaratani

PRETTY IN PINK

A few days after getting sworn into office, city councilors were getting back to work in their offices. A few of them moved to new quarters, and two of them were newbies. One of these was Boston City Councilor Annissa Essaibi George of Dorchester, who decided to brighten up the drab concrete walls of her office space with a splash of color. She splashed the walls with several gallons of "hot pink" paint from a guy named Benjamin Moore. As Essaibi George says with a smile, "Why would you go boring and usual? I happen to think my pink is cool."

HAPPY 90TH TO BOB NOBLE OF QUINCY

A good friend of mine for many years, Bob Noble, recently celebrated his 90th birthday among a large gathering of family and friends at the Common Market Restaurant in Quincy. Bob is a well-known and respected Quincy-ite. He has had many milestones in his life, beginning with his large family. He was an expert photographer for the *Quincy Sun* newspaper for decades. He is also a living member of the Greatest Generation, who survived both the Great Depression and World War II. During that war, he was captured by the Germans, and was released along with other American prisoners of war at the war's conclusion. He's a



State Senate candidate, Lydia Edwards at the L'Hacienda Restaurant in East Boston talking about the upcoming senate race.

great person, and a great American. Live long and prosper, as Mr. Spock always said.

EASTIE'S LYDIA EDWARDS ANNOUNCES FOR SENATE SEAT

Last week, State Senate candidate Lydia Edwards held a volunteer organizing meeting at the L'Hacienda Restaurant on Meridian Street and large crowds showed up to listen to Edwards talk about the upcoming senate race and the need to spread the word on her candidacy.

MADISON PARK HOUSING PART OF ROXBURY'S RENAISSANCE

Last week, I was over in the Dudley Station area, where the Governor and Lieutenant Governor showed up to announce a state grant for new job creation in the neighborhood. It felt like yesterday, as the announcement

was being made inside what once was the site of the old Woolworth's five-and-dime store at the corner of Ruggles and Washington Streets. As I walked around Dudley, I could see all the positives taking place in this area.

When I was growing up here, Dudley was like Downtown Crossing. Folks could get almost anything there. It was a great, diverse shopping mecca.

I have seen photos from the '30s and '40s; I remember firsthand the '50s and '60s.

I also remember the sadness of the late '70s and '80s when the whole area went downhill faster than quicksand in an hourglass.

Good to see the Dudley Station retail area on the rebound after all those sad years of hopelessness. It is truly a Roxbury Renaissance, thanks to both government involvement and a commitment from community folks.

GOVERNOR GETS STOMPING

WITH THE STOMPERS

Recently, Gov. Charlie Baker got down at Johnny D's in Somerville to catch the Stompers, an East Boston legendary party band fronted by the one and only Sal Baglio. Sal and the Stompers had a great 1978 hit, "Coast to Coast," that went coast to coast that year. And, as the governor said, "Thirty years later, they still got it!"

• Digital Health Initiative (Continued from Page 1)

tated the development of standardized software, technology and sponsored research agreements and user guides to make it easier for entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and the private sector to do business with our world-class academic institutions, including the University of Massachusetts system, Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University and Partners HealthCare. MACP will also host a second year of its Mentorship Speaker Series, with a focus on digital health, connecting high-level, experienced industry leaders across the state with entrepreneurs of emerging companies to discuss how to start and grow a successful tech business in Massachusetts.

"The innovation economy comprised of the life sciences and digital technology sectors is the future growth engine of our Commonwealth," said Dr. Jeffrey Leiden, who led the Digital Health Initiative on behalf of MACP. "It has been a privilege for me to lead this outstanding group of public and private sector partners toward our shared goal of accelerating the growth of the digital healthcare industry in Massachusetts. With the strengths of our universities, academic medical centers, and life sciences companies, Massachusetts is uniquely positioned to succeed in digital healthcare and I'm thrilled to be part of the team that will make it happen."

"Massachusetts residents and organizations are known worldwide for their brain power and industrious spirit," said House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo.

"These traits uniquely position the Commonwealth to become global leaders in the digital healthcare sector. I am proud that the House's past two economic development bills have supported eHealth programs because I believe this industry presents rich opportunities for Massachusetts. I look forward to collaborating with the Baker and Walsh Administrations, and local companies, to ensure that eHealth is an economic driver for Massachusetts."

Governor Baker and Secretary Ash have designated the Massachusetts eHealth Institute at MassTech (MeHI) as the state's implementing agency. Established in 2008 by the Legislature as a division of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, an economic development agency, MeHI works to promote and accelerate the use of digital healthcare, such as electronic health records and health information exchange. Governor Baker announced today that he will file legislation to expand MeHI's efforts to include digital healthcare cluster development activities.

Led by a Strategy Committee composed of leaders across industry, academia, healthcare, and government, MeHI will work on cluster development activities designed to promote and support the sector. MeHI will co-invest in the establishment of a digital healthcare hub in Boston, lead development of a market access program designed to help digital health innovations get to market faster by building strategic connections between entrepreneurs and the healthcare system, and

partner with state agencies to better capture the "big data" opportunity in healthcare.

"The Baker-Polito Administration is creating jobs in all the Commonwealth's regions by harnessing emerging technologies to strengthen our diverse innovation economy," said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash. "This new statewide public-private partnership in digital health builds on a base of existing investments in an array of sectors, from biotech to cloud computing and flexible hybrid electronics. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with industry stakeholders and academic researchers to harness Massachusetts' national leadership in research and development, and unlock new economic opportunities."

Digital health is an emerging industry cluster identified by the Commonwealth's economic development plan signed by Governor Baker on December 23rd. The digital health market is emerging rapidly, and has potential to create multiple positive effects on the state's economic bottom line by creating jobs, attracting investment, and developing solutions, which improve healthcare delivery and ultimately can help contain healthcare costs.

"Data and technology are powerful tools in our goal to improve health care outcomes, to integrate behavioral health and physical health care and to deliver on the promise of health care transparency," said Executive Office of Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders.

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

Read carefully! It's common knowledge that eating too much sugar loads the body with empty calories and leads to weight gain. But a new study suggests this sweet staple of the American diet isn't merely fattening, it's toxic. "Sugar calories are the worst, because they turn to fat in the liver, driving insulin resistance, and driving risk for diabetes (and) heart and liver disease," explains endocrinologist Robert Lustig, the study's lead author. Enough said!

Every night for the past five years, Tony Berard has bicycled 14 miles to and from his grocery store job. But the Michigan man can now put his bike away. Jason Kapoor, 20, recently noticed Berard cycling on a highway and stopped to offer him a ride. Berard, 50, explained that he struggled to support himself and his sick wife and couldn't afford a car, so Kapoor set up an online fundraiser. Within a week, it had raised more than \$18,000, enough to buy Berard a minivan and leave him cash for gas. "I will never take any of this for granted," he said.

On this date, January 22nd, Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th U.S. President, passed away in 1973.

Johnny Duckworth doesn't have a full-time job, a working car, or a home of his own. But when the 50-year-old busboy found an envelope stuffed with \$3,000 in cash at the Colorado diner where he works, Duckworth promptly handed it to his boss, Randy Emmons, who returned it to its owner. To reward his honest employee, Emmons started an on-line fundraiser, hoping to raise \$3,000 to pay some of Duckworth's bills. So far, people have donated more than \$28,000. "It's going to change my life," said a grateful Duckworth.

Our distinguished musicologist Al Natale forwarded the following amazing piece. Ever since Edward Hardy moved into a nursing home, the British jazz pianist hasn't had anybody to jam with. But that all changed last month when staff at the home posted an appeal online asking for musicians to play with the 95 year-old, and more than 80 people replied, including drummers, bassists, and saxophonists. Remarkably, three of the respondents were former band mates of Hardy's, whom he hadn't seen in 35 years. "It is marvelous that I've been reunited with my old band," Hardy said. "I've missed playing, and when I do play now it makes me feel young again."

Unbelievable! Omaha's schools have proposed an updated sex education curriculum that has sparked outrage from parents, who claim the new standards "rapes children of their innocence." The new curriculum would include lessons on contraceptives, abstinence, STD's, and gender identity. Opponents say the curriculum "gives children too much information."

Being taken to the leader, after Hillary Clinton told a New Hampshire newspaper that as president she would "get to the bottom" of mysterious UFO's. "I think we may have been visited already," Clinton said. "We don't know for sure."

News from Washington D.C. Romney's warning: Mitt Romney cautioned Jeb Bush in a private meeting last year not to run for the Republican presidential nominations because he didn't think Bush could beat Hillary Clinton, according to a Washington Post interview published this week.

Achtung! Growing resistance to Germany's willingness to accept migrants from the Middle East flared after gangs of men described as having a North African or Arabic "appearance" sexually assaulted and robbed scores of women at New Year's celebrations outside Cologne's cathedral. After tossing fireworks into the crowd to cause chaos in a planned attack, about 1,000 men split into small groups and began surrounding single women. Some 90 women reported being groped and threatened; one said she was raped. The Government said there is no evidence that the men were refugees, but the assaults spurred right-wing groups to call for closing the border. Germany took in more than one million migrants last year, mostly from Iraq, Syria, and Libya.

Ah, Cologne's cathedral. We visited the great cathedral during WWII. It was quite an experience.

A Russian man who was declared dead after he drank too much vodka and collapsed at a party, woke up to find himself in a morgue, and then rushed off to rejoin the festivities. A Police spokesman said the man screamed when he regained consciousness in the mortuary freezer, attracting the attention of staff. He was released and quickly returned to the party, where his pals were still drinking, this time in his memory. The friend who opened the door fainted when he saw the "dead"

man, but the mourning ceremony was quickly turned into a "re-birthday party."

An astronaut on the International Space Station phoned a British grandmother from space by mistake, and she hung up on him because she assumed he was a drunken prank caller. British astronaut Tim Peake had been trying to phone his family, but accidentally dialed Betty Barker, 79. "He just said, Hello, is this planet Earth?" So I said, "No," explained Barker. "I thought it was someone who'd been out down the pub. I just put the phone straight down on him." Barker now regrets hanging up. "It would have been nice to talk."

Huh? The 400 highest-earning taxpayers in the U.S. paid just 17 percent in federal taxes in 2012 on average incomes of \$336 million, the same rate they'd pay if they made \$1,000,000. The super wealthy have essentially created a parallel tax system by paying lawyers and lobbyists to alter the tax code, create loopholes, and set up complex shelters, trusts and shell corporations that confound even the IRS.

Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders raised \$33 million in the last quarter of 2015, only \$4 million less than rival Hillary Clinton during that period. Overall, the Vermont Senator is outpacing President Obama's fundraising numbers from 2008, and has collected more than 2.5 million individual contributions, compared with Obama's 2.2 million contributions at this stage in 2012.

A poll disclosed 49% of Americans say they're angrier about the news today than they were a year ago. More Republicans (61%) are angry about current events than Democrats (42%), and more white Americans are angry (54%) than Latinos (43%) or blacks (33%).

Surprise! The Irish people have a complex genetic history shaped by mass migrations from the Middle East and Spain, with blue eyes and fair skin arriving through a later migration from Eastern Europe, new DNA evidence indicates. The evidence was found in the bones of four people buried in Ireland: a brown-eye, black haired female who lived on a farm some 5,200 years ago, discovered buried in a small village in Northern Ireland, and three men who lived between 3,000 and 4,000 years ago, found on Rathlin Island, just off the Irish Coast.

Gee, new research reveals that the purest water on Earth can be found in the rivers and lakes of Puerto Williams in Southern Chile.

Deaths from heavy drinking have soared to their highest level in 35 years, and alcohol is now the second most lethal drug in the U.S., trailing only tobacco as the leading killer of Americans, a new Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study shows.

Italian-Americans have founded some of America's oldest colleges and universities. The University of Santa Clara, CA, was founded by two Italian Jesuits, John Nobili and A. Accolti, in 1851 with only \$1.50. Gonzaga University in Washington State was founded by a Jesuit priest, Joseph Cataldo, in 1881. St. Bonaventure's College, one of the best well-known small colleges in New York State, was founded by Father Pamphilus in 1858.

The great stately musicologist Al Natale reminds us Sonny Bono achieved international fame in 1972 with his wife Cher, recording his composition, "I Got You, Babe." Bono died during a skiing accident in Lake Tahoe in 1998. He was 62 years old. Well, in the news today, his wife Cher has battled the Epstein-Barr virus since the 1990s, and the viral infection has wreaked havoc on her heart and kidneys. In brief, "Cher is fading fast, There's no hope for her," said a source close to her. Cher is expected to bare details about her life in a blockbuster memoir, according to a published report. The ailing diva fears she won't live to celebrate turning 70 next May! Sonny Bono's true name was Salvatore Philip Bono. Cher's address is P.O. Box 960, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.

Health scare of the week! People who wander through the streets transfixed by their Smart Phones, utterly unaware of their surroundings, aren't merely irritating. Research indicates that walking while preoccupied can lead to serious injuries, even death.

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME



Parla Come Mangi!
(Speak as You Eat!)

by Alessandra Sambiase



Benvenuti! The beginning of the Carnevale festivities in Italy is the perfect occasion for us to explore the Veneto region that seems to have it all. The capital city, Venezia (Venice), formerly known as Serenissima Repubblica (the most serene Republic), once the most aristocratic and powerful seaport trading link to the East, is home to the historic Carnevale and is also one of the most visited art cities in Italy. Not far from Venezia is Padova (Padua), synonymous with the great Roman Catholic saint, Anthony, and known for housing his remains at the monumental Basilica di Sant'Antonio. The city is also home to the University where Galileo Galilei taught. The area surrounding the city has natural hot springs dating back to the Romans that have been converted into beautiful thermal spas. The nearby city of Verona, where the literary romance between Romeo and Juliet took place, has a well preserved Roman amphitheatre called Arena di Verona, used for Opera performances and concerts. The wonderful cuisine of Veneto is defined by the characteristics of its territory. The northern, mountainous area uses more meats, sausages and polenta, while the south is a great plain region and is known for risotto with various ingredients like pumpkin, asparagus, frog's legs and radicchio. Venetian cuisine has its own characteristics stemming from its rich lagoon that represents a great source of fresh fish like turbot, sea bass, squid, octopus and some local varieties of mussel. The wide use of spices evokes the connection between the present and Venice's glorious past. Beans and legumes are used widely in the region: dishes like risi e bisi (rice and peas) or pasta e fagioli (pasta with beans) and desserts like pandoro traditionally come from this region. Baccala' (salted dry cod) is widely used in Veneto. Baccala' is often confused with stockfish, which is cod that has been dried without the addition of salt. Baccala' alla vicentina (Vicenza style baccala') is one of the most beloved dishes of Veneto. This old recipe combines baccala' with milk and sardines, making a succulent dish that requires over 2 hours of cooking. Baccala' alla vicentina is best enjoyed with a glass of Soave wine and is traditionally served with grilled slices of polenta.

Baccala' Alla Vicentina

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 2 lb soaked baccala' | 1 onion (finely chopped) |
| 6-7 Tbsp Extra Virgin Olive Oil | 4 cups whole milk |
| 3 cloves of garlic (chopped) | 3 canned sardines |
| 2 Tbsp parsley (chopped) | Parmigiano Reggiano (grated) |
| Salt, pepper and ground nutmeg to taste | |

Preparation: Soak the baccala' in cold water for one to three days, changing the water two or three times a day and keeping it refrigerated in the meanwhile; then wash, pat dry and cut into pieces. Place half of the olive oil, the garlic and 1 Tbsp of parsley in an oven proof casserole, then add the fish and sear on all sides. Season lightly with salt and pepper then add the onion. Remove from the heat and take out the garlic. Warm the milk slightly and pour over the fish to cover completely. Sprinkle with a little nutmeg, cover and simmer for about 2 hours until the milk is nearly all absorbed. Preheat the oven to 430 °F. Heat up the remaining oil in a small saucepan and soften the sardines in it. Pour over the cod and sprinkle with the remaining parsley and grated Parmigiano Reggiano. Remove the lid and bake the casserole for about 10 minutes. *Buon appetito!*

Baccala' Alla Vicentina

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Kg di baccala' dissalato | Sale, pepe e noce moscata q.b. |
| 6-7 cucchiaini di olio extravergine di oliva | 1 cipolla (tritata finemente) |
| 3 spicchi d'aglio (in pezzi) | 1 litro di latte |
| 2 cucchiaini di prezzemolo (tritato) | 3 sardine in scatola |
| | Parmigiano Reggiano (grattugiato) |

Preparazione: Dissala il baccala' tenendolo in ammollo in acqua fredda da uno a tre giorni, cambiando l'acqua due o tre volte al giorno e tenendolo in frigorifero, quindi sciacqualo, asciugalo bene e taglialo in pezzi. In una casseruola di coccio metti meta' dell'olio d'oliva, l'aglio e 1 cucchiaino di prezzemolo quindi aggiungi il pesce e fai rosolare leggermente su tutti i lati. Aggiusta di sale e di pepe quindi aggiungi la cipolla. Rimuovi dal fuoco ed elimina l'aglio. Intiepidisci il latte e versalo sul pesce coprendolo completamente. Aggiungi un po' di noce moscata, copri e fai sobollire per circa 2 ore fino a quasi completo assorbimento del latte. Riscalda il forno a 220°C. In un pentolino fai ammorbidire le sardine nel restante olio quindi versale sul baccala' aggiungendo cospargendo di prezzemolo tritato e di Parmigiano Reggiano. Rimuovi il coperchio e inforna per circa 10 minuti. *Buon appetito!*

If you would like to cook with me go to www.speakasyoueat.com.

Alessandra Sambiase is an elementary and middle school Italian language teacher in the Catholic school system and in the North End. She is also a cooking instructor and founder of "Parla come mangi!" (speak as you eat!) cooking classes, where the passion for the Italian language meets the love for the Italian food.

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



Looking at my calendar, I see that Easter will be early this year. This might not mean anything to most people, but in the old days when a musician could make a living at his or her trade, it meant a lot. Many of the band leaders in the Boston area catered to a Christian clientele. During Lent, the forty days preceding Easter, religious marriages, baptisms, confirmations, etc ... they all come to a halt. This meant a large segment of the musicians weren't going to be doing much work.

Dad and my uncles didn't have to worry as they worked for Jewish band leaders. They were among the best musicians working out of the Boston union, and were booked constantly. As a matter of fact, if a band leader asked them if they were free on a particular date, and they answered in the negative, they always had a list of musicians who played the same instrument and were quite capable.

Monday was union day in Boston. Babbononno, my uncles, Paul and Nick, my father, and I when I turned professional, would head to St. Botolph Street in Boston's Back Bay area and congregate at the union hall. The meeting hall would be packed with hundreds of musicians looking for work. Many worked with organized groups and played the night clubs, restaurants, theaters, music halls, dance halls, ballrooms and hotel lounges. They didn't have to worry about lack of work as Lent wouldn't affect them at all.

The musicians who played what were called "club dates," were the ones who suffered. These were the men who played with pick-up bands for impromptu one-nighters. They really felt the effects of the Lenten season.

I remember seeing Babbononno heading out one night when I was very young. He was carrying his guitar case to a waiting car. I remember asking him where he was going, "Babbononno, dov'e vai?" (Babbononno, where are you going?) His answer was, "Al barbiere." (To the barber.) After he left, I ran in and asked Nanna why my grandfather was taking his guitar to a barber shop. She explained that the leader of the Neopolitan band that he played for owned a barber shop and that was where the members of the band rehearsed, one or two nights of the week. She then explained what I've already mentioned regarding the disappearance of work during Lent, and she added, "And so, they rehearse."

I once asked Dad what happened to him and my uncles during Lent, and he said that there were a couple of Jewish band leaders who would keep them busy during the forty days. When I began following in the family business, I started doing the same things as my father and uncles. While I was in college, I couldn't work a steady job. I had my studies and the Seville Theater. By that point in time, I had to be at the Seville on certain nights and music had to fit in around my usher's schedule. That would change after I graduated college. As I became better known, music forced me to call it quits at the Seville. That usher job was part of my youth and now it was time to leave it behind and go on to the next level. For the most part, when I became a seasoned musician, I played the night clubs, and later followed in the footsteps of the men in my family.

Starting on the day after Palm Sunday, the band leaders would be handing out work to the men at the union hall. After the following week, Lent would come to an end and the weddings, baptisms and christenings would be back in full swing.

Now that I'm semi-retired, I've had people ask me what type of music I played. They usually expect an answer like, "Ballroom, pop, rock, jazz, or classical." My answer usually throws them off. I reply, "Good music." Over the years, I've come to understand that there is good and bad music in every type. Keeping away from the bad helps one appreciate the good and forces you to preserve it. To substantiate this, I've heard many of the famous rock singers from the past doing the Great American Song Book or the Sinatra song book. Let's say that what singers like Frank Sinatra offered us will last forever, and history repeats itself.

When Dad and Uncle Nick thought I was ready, they put me in the union, and got me started with the upper level of professional musicians. Dad brought me to Richmond Brothers, a Washington Street men's store. I was fitted for my first tuxedo by one of the brothers, and when it was ready, they added in a pocket handkerchief, cummerbund and a bow tie, gratis. Babbononno told me to wear comfortable shoes when I played, as he envisioned me standing up all night.

I had auditioned for a few bands and was offered work, or given work by all of them. I didn't know if it was my talent or that my uncle was Nick Conti, and my father, Johnny

Christie. But, I knew that whether it was the names or not, I had to produce or I would be finished.

One of the greatest thrills of my young life was a booking the union offered me one summer. During the summer months, free concerts were programmed at public beaches, town greens where they had band stands, and picnic grounds. When the union called, they asked me if I could put a Dixieland band together to play a concert at Constitution Beach. Constitution Beach is located in East Boston and used to be called Shay's Beach. When I was a kid, I swam there, played handball there and "hung out" there during the summers of my youth. When I accepted the offer, I let the East Boston papers know I would be back there on a particular Sunday. I was shocked when I arrived and began to set up. It was like old home week as dozens of people I grew up with, or remembered me from the Seville Theater, came to the alcove behind the bath house to say hello.

That band that day was special. I put together a Dixieland band composed of musicians most of whom came from East Boston. Uncles Nick and Paul were on clarinets, Ed Pizzi on trumpet, Joe Lombardo on trombone, Carmen Rich on drums, Remo Zecchino on keyboards and Dad on tuba. It was one of the most heart-warming jobs I ever played. I was back home playing for my people with my family in the band. I don't know if concerts like that still exist in the Boston area during the summer, but when they did, it was a lot of fun and the crowds were great.

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Malden Catholic Senior Commits to Play Baseball at American International College



Malden Catholic Senior Brendan Lavallee with Malden Catholic Principal, Brother Thomas Puccio, C.F.X. (left) and Athletic Director, Mr. Patrick Driscoll (right) along with Lavallee's grandfather (back).

Malden Catholic High School senior Brendan Lavallee has signed a commitment to play baseball at American International College in Springfield, MA this fall. "I'm very excited for this opportunity. Malden Catholic has trained me to manage my time so that I feel completely prepared to handle the rigors of my academics along with playing baseball," said Brendan. "I feel more prepared for my transition to college than I did for my transition to high school and that is all thanks to MC."

Lavallee, of Everett, is a member of the National Honor Society, plays golf and baseball for the Malden Catholic Lancers, and baseball for the New England Stampede Baseball team during his summer breaks. The epitome of school spirit, Brendan can be found inside the Lancer mascot suit at Malden Catholic sporting events. "I'm extremely proud of Brendan. During his four years here, he has brought an outstanding work ethic to all aspects of MC life," said Malden Catholic Athletic Director Mr. Patrick Driscoll. "He is a role model for all student athletes."

For more than eighty years, Malden Catholic High School has maintained a tradition of leading students to achieve academic excellence in a Catholic, familial atmosphere. Annually, 99 percent of Malden Catholic graduates attend college. The Class of 2015 applied to more than 212 colleges and universities distributed across 32 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. Graduates last year received college scholarships with a 4-year value of more than \$17 million. Recognized for its dedicated faculty, challenging curriculum, spiritual guidance, social outreach, and championship caliber athletic programs, Malden Catholic educates young men from more than 40 communities surrounding Boston. A Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School, Malden Catholic is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Further information on the school may be found at www.maldencatholic.org

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

related successor entity” to the Islamic State. The plan did not allow large-scale boots on the ground.

It also seemingly puts him at odds with House Speaker Paul Ryan. Many in Congress are reluctant to commit to a new war powers authorization, as doing so would be seen as an approval for Obama’s strategy against ISIS.

Is Hillary Ready for UFOs?

Recently, while campaigning up in New Hampshire for the quickly approaching first-in-the-nation primary, Clinton stopped off at the offices of *The Conway Daily Sun* for an interview during which she expressed her desire to uncover the truth about UFOs and Area 51, the top-secret U.S. Air Force Base in Nevada. I kid you not. She actually expressed her opinion that aliens from outer space may have already visited our planet. She said, we don’t know for sure about anything connected to aliens from out in the vast beyond. Hey, as someone said, at least she didn’t blame an internet video or anything. Turns out Bill Clinton is also concerned about space creatures.

I am interested in aliens, too, but real ones from the Mexican border, and boatloads over in Syria, not visitors from the *Outer Limits* or the *Twilight Zone*.

We better be on the lookout in case any of these illegal space aliens try to register to vote. We don’t want any extraterrestrials trying to vote illegally in our presidential elections, right?

I Like Trump but ...

As American fans get ready for the countdown to the Super Bowl, Donald Trump says he’s losing interest in the NFL because the game has gone “soft.” At a rally in Reno, he lamented that those big players can’t tackle anymore because of flag-happy refs. Says Trump, “Football has become soft like our country has become soft.” I’m not agreeing with him here.

Recently, we have seen too many street thugs on the field trying to beat up their opponents. At a recent wild card game, one player tried to take out an opponent by going for his head. Another player tackled the other team’s coach.

Meanwhile, Trump failed to understand why the NFL has been under scrutiny for brain trauma to players, and the increased numbers and dangers from football-related concussions on the field. The NFL hasn’t gone soft, just smart.

Big Surprise — Planned Parenthood Endorses Hillary

I am not shocked by this announcement. Hillary is playing politics to the hilt. She is in trouble with the growing support of Bernie Sanders in N.H. She can’t let him beat her or get close to beating her. She needs to take him apart at the election polls. He’s closing in on her, and fast.

Hillary needs to sew up her support among women in both New Hampshire and Iowa. At the moment, the millennials are clobbering her in the polls. Which is probably why DNC Chairman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz criticized young women voters by saying, I kid you not, “Here’s what I see, a complacency among the generation of young women whose entire lives

have been lived after Roe vs. Wade was decided.” She got into big trouble over that and there have been demands by parts of the Democrat base for her to resign her DNC chairmanship. Ouch!

Here’s hoping that Hillary and her DNC mouthpiece Debbie Wassermann-Schultz get whooped in both N.H. and the Iowa Caucuses. Serves them right. Next time Debbie should do a Sgt. Schultz know-nothing routine and stay out of trouble.

Quote to Note

“It’s the Bill Cosby effect.”

— NY Police Commissioner Billy Bratton, referring to the increase in reported rapes

Unsuccessful Naked Power Grab

A federal judge recently dismissed a lawsuit against the Portland, OR, Police Department filed by a 26-year old man arrested for playing a violin naked in front of the same courthouse months earlier. The judge ruled the musician wasn’t making any specific political statement and therefore his action was not protected by the First Amendment.

I Was Only Trying to Save My Dog

The *NY Post* ran a great photo of a man who tried to save his dog after it ran onto a somewhat frozen pond. The photo shows a man in above-the-waist icy water, waiting with folded arms and looking quite upset while his pooch stood next to him on the icy pond. The dog stayed dry, but the owner got soaked as they waited for rescuers to get them back to terra firma. He didn’t look like a happy camper, but the dog looked pretty happy about the whole thing.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16P0195EA

Estate of

HUGO ROBERTO ALVAREZ

Also Known As

HUGO ALVAREZ

Date of Death September 9, 2014

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Zoila Alvarez of Framingham, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 10, 2016.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 14, 2016

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/22/16



Gridiron Audibles

with Christian A. Guarino

The national media grudgingly expects it, odds makers are banking on it, and come Sunday night, the Broncos will have to accept it.

This Sunday, the New England Patriots will go to Denver and win the American Football Conference title for the 9th time in franchise history and 7th under head coach Bill Belichick and quarterback Tom Brady.

A game being billed as the 17th, and most likely last, installment of an epic matchup of future Hall of Fame Quarterbacks, the aforementioned Brady and the Broncos Peyton Manning, will be a slugfest between the two best teams in the conference squaring off for the right to play in Super Bowl 50 in Santa Clara, CA, on February 7th.

The two teams played in Denver back on November 29th, with the Patriots forfeiting a 21-7 fourth quarter lead and falling in overtime 30-24. In that game, the Patriots were without wide receiver Julian Edelman and linebacker Jamie Collins. They would lose linebacker Dont’a Hightower in the game, greatly hindering an already fragile defensive unit.

Last Saturday, a resurgent Patriots squad took down the Kansas City Chiefs rather impressively, 27-20. Brady completed 28-of-42 passes for 302-yards and two touchdowns and also added a rushing touchdown. The two scoring strikes went in the direction of tight end Rob Gronkowski, who finished with seven catches for 83 yards. The much-maligned offensive line did not surrender a sack to the vaunted Chiefs defense, keeping Brady clean all afternoon. Much of the credit should go in the direction of Edelman, who returned to action leading all pass-catchers with 10 receptions for 100 yards. His ability to create space allowed Brady to once again utilize his signature quick release, something that the Chiefs, like the rest of the NFL, lack an answer for.

Beating the Broncos on Sunday will depend greatly on the Patriots ability to stop Bronco runners. In November’s game, the Patriots defense had no answer for the Broncos rushing attack, particularly when Hightower went out, surrendering 179 yards on the ground. In fact, while Hightower was in the game, the Brock Osweiler-led Broncos offense couldn’t muster any points, but wound up hanging 30 on the Patriots down the stretch.

“They challenge you on the running game,” said Belichick “They do a great job of setting up formations and trying to put your defense in a run-pass conflict, or some kind of a compromising spot with their formations, or their ability to change plays based on what the better



look is. If we’re not sound, if we don’t play with good technique, if we don’t tackle well, it will be a problem. If we do those things, then we should be competitive, but it won’t be easy.”

So what makes me so confident in this one?

Well, it sure isn’t Tom Brady’s career win-loss record in Denver where he is only 2-6, 0-2 in the playoffs.

My confidence stems from the fact that the Patriots are simply the better team, and Brady is the better quarterback. On the road versus Peyton Manning a few years back would have scared me. This time, not so much. While Manning has admirably stepped back into the starting lineup the last two games, his passing numbers remain mediocre, completing 26-of-46 passes for 291 yards and zero touchdowns. But despite throwing a career worst 17 interceptions in his first nine games this season, he stayed clean in that category over his last two matchups, home wins over the 4-12 San Diego Chargers and the Antonio Brown-less Pittsburgh Steelers. Despite his opponent’s mediocrity, Manning has efficiently played the role of game manager, a part that will simply not be enough in order to beat the Patriots. To win, Manning will need to do it through the air. The Patriots best game plan will be to ensure he gets that chance.

A win this Sunday will be for all the Patriots teams that failed in Denver. It will be for the first game in franchise history back in 1960. A game the Broncos literally stole 13-10 after head coach Frank Filchock stealthily sat in the stands at BU’s Nickerson Field (Patriots first home field) and watched the Patriots practice on the eve of the game. The original “spy-gate.” Despite the fact that Filchock was known for his dirty tactics, which included accepting a bribe as a member of the New York Giants prior to the 1946 NFL Championship game, this story never garnered national attention.

It will be for that moment during a 1996 regular season game when Broncos tight end Shannon Sharpe ridiculed the Patriots on national television by pretending to call then President Bill Clinton and petition him to “send in the national guard because we are killing the Patriots.”

Some are calling this game Manning’s last crack at another Super Bowl championship. After Sunday, the only Super Bowl activity Peyton Manning will be preparing for is his Papa John and Nationwide commercials that will air while Tom Brady is adding to his all-time Super Bowl passing records in his home state of California.

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Docket No. MI16P0023EA

Estate of

MARY M. BRAULT

Also Known As

MARY BRAULT

Date of Death November 8, 2015

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Dennis J. Brault of Medford, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Dennis J. Brault of Medford, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

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Docket No. MI15P7158EA

Estate of

WOLFGANG HERZFELD

Date of Death October 30, 2015

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Judith Herzfeld of Newton, MA, Petitioner Deborah Cline of Stamford, CT, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Judith Herzfeld of Newton, MA, Deborah Cline of Stamford, CT has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
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Docket No. MI16P0161EA

Estate of

ORAZIO S. SALAMONE

Also Known As

ORAZIO SALAMONE

Date of Death February 7, 1991

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Gloria D. Whitcraft of Fort Wayne, IN.

Gloria D. Whitcraft of Fort Wayne, IN has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **TODISCO TOWING OF 94 CONDROR STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c 255, Section 39A that they will sell the following vehicles.
Vehicles are being sold to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and notices of sale:

2011 TOYOTA COROLLA
VIN #JTDUBU4EE0BJ101786

2012 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
VIN #1GCRKSE01CZ352803

2006 HYUNDAI SONATA
VIN #KMHET46CX6A089385

2006 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER
VIN #SALMF13496A238932

The above vehicles will be sold at auction online only at
TOWLOT.COM
FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016
at 8:00AM at towlot.com
Run dates: 1/8, 1/15, 1/22 2016

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Division
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI15P6520EA

Estate of
LOIS SILVER
Date of Death August 17, 2015

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Robert P. Silver of Framingham, MA**.

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

Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI15P6949EA

Estate of
GIZELLE N. PROUDFOOT
Date of Death April 8, 2015

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Sandra Le Gendre of Woburn, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Sandra Le Gendre of Woburn, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of January 28, 2016.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 31, 2015
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by **TODISCO TOWING OF 94 CONDROR STREET, EAST BOSTON, MA** pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c 255, Section 39A that they will sell the following vehicles.
Vehicles are being sold to satisfy their garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and notices of sale:

2015 TOYOTA CAMRY
VIN #4T4BF1FKXFR507996

2005 DODGE MAGNUM
VIN #2D4FV48T45H531063

1989 FORD F-150
VIN #1FDKF37L0HKA73115

2002 ACURA TL
VIN #19UUA56842A001899

2002 GMC YUKON
VIN #3GKFK16ZX2G268945

The above vehicles will be sold at auction online only at
TOWLOT.COM
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016
at 10:00AM at towlot.com
Run dates: 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2016

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
The Probate and Family
Court Department
Middlesex, SS Division
Docket No. MI16P0170PO

NOTICE
In Re matter of:
CORRECTION OF MARRIAGE
CERTIFICATE

To all persons interested in the marriage certificate of **Guobao Jiang of Stoneham in the County of Middlesex**.

A Petition has been presented in the above-captioned matter praying for **authority to correct a marriage certificate issued in accordance with M. G. L. chapter 46 sec 13**. IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT MIDDLESEX PROBATE AND FAMILY TRIAL COURT, 208 CAMBRIDGE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02141, ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 a.m.) on February 10th, 2016.

Witness, EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
Esquire, First Justice of said Court at
Cambridge, Massachusetts, this 13th day of
January in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Sixteen.
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Court
Run date: 1/22/16

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI16P0216EA

Estate of
ELIZABETH M. CARLHIAN
Date of Death November 1, 2015

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Marie Penelope Carlhian of Charlestown, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Marie Penelope Carlhian of Charlestown, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 12, 2016.

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

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

Witness, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 15, 2016
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 1/22/16

EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



Ken Griffey, Jr.

Hall of Fame Numbers

Congrats to Ken Griffey Jr. and Mike Piazza for getting inducted into this year's class of Hall of Fame entries. Griffey was a shoo-in, while Piazza was a bit of a surprise with the steroid issue that many connect to his career. His entry means that the writers who voted are looking at those from the commonly referred to Steroids Era.

Could the trio of Mark McGwire, Barry Bonds, and Roger Clemens find themselves elected in a few years' time? Apparently, Jeff Bagwell still didn't get the benefit of the doubt over the steroid "problem." He still suffers with the sportswriters who vote on the nominees.

Ken Griffey Jr. was one of the greatest players who ever played the game of baseball. Injures hurt him a lot. Otherwise his numbers would have been even greater.

When I think of Junior, I think of Mickey Mantle, as perhaps the greatest players of their generation. As a baby boomer, I can only wonder how much better the Mick would

have been if he had a healthy body that avoided all his injuries over the years. He was, to me, the closest thing to being Babe Ruth.

Baseball Goes to Cuba

Eventually, I see a Major League franchise setting up in Cuba, and maybe even San Juan, P.R. Major League Baseball officials and players visited Cuba last month for a goodwill tour, the first MLB event in Cuba since a 1999 exhibition game between a Cuban national team and the Baltimore Orioles.

Former player and manager Joe Torre visited the island December 15th-18th, with a few current players yet to be named, for a series of youth baseball clinics and a charity event.

2017:

50th Anniversary of the Impossible Dream Team



It is hard to believe that the 2017 Boston Red Sox will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Impossible Dream "Kardiac Kids" Boston Red Sox of 1967.



Mike Piazza

The year prior, 1966, the Red Sox finished a half-game out of last place to the N.Y. Yankees, who were also having a bad season. Take a look at this 1967 Narragansett Beer sign prophetically declaring, "This is the Year!"

Yankees Pick Up Yates

The N.Y. Yankees recently added reliever Kirby Yates from the Indians in exchange for a cash consideration. The 28-year-old righty was designated for assignment by the Indians after they had purchased Yate's contract from the Rays.

Yates had a solid 2014 season, appearing in 37 games with a 3.75 ERA while striking out 45 batters in 36 innings. Yates stumbled last year with a 7.97 ERA. "OUCH." How well this righty can do at Yankee Stadium is a big "iffy" question. Time will tell.

Sal's Consistent if Anything, Huh?

In 2014, catcher Salvador Perez hit .260 with 70 RBIs and one stolen base. In 2015, Sal hit .260 with 70 RBIs and, yes again, one stolen base. The baseball world will be watching in 2016 to see if Sal goes for those numbers once again to make it three in a row.

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Pamela Donnamaria, Publisher

Boxing Ringside

WITH BOBBY FRANKLIN

ALI - LISTON III *It Could Have Happened*



Clay-Liston 1964

In 1967, Muhammad Ali was stripped of his title for refusing to be inducted into the United States Army. Boxing commissions across the country fell into line in denying the champ his right to defend the title. Shortly after this action was taken, the World Boxing Association set up a tournament to crown a new heavyweight champion. Joe Frazier was invited to participate but refused and won the New York state version of the title by beating Buster Mathis.

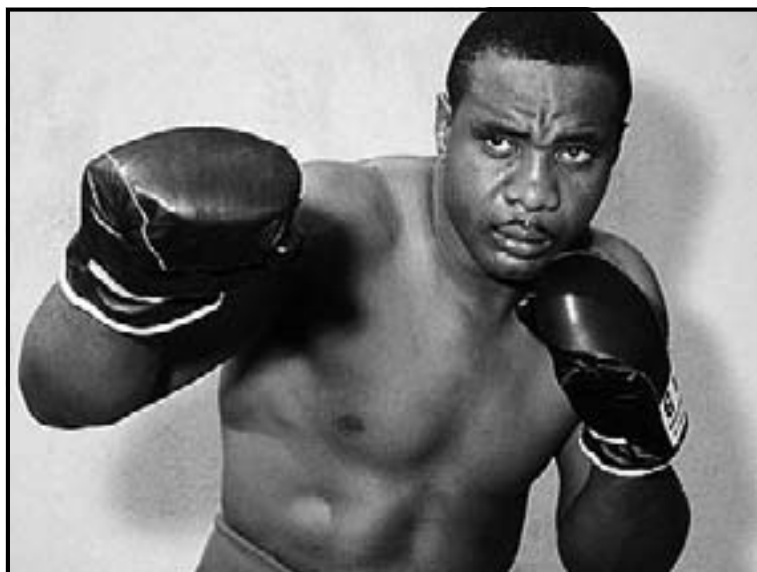
The WBA chose eight contenders to fight it out. The eight were Ernie Terrell, Floyd Patterson, Oscar Bonavena, Karl Mildenberger, Jimmy Ellis, Jerry Quarry, Thad Spencer, and Leotis Martin. Martin was chosen to replace Frazier. All but Martin were ranked in the top ten by *Ring Magazine*. Mildenberger, Terrell, and Patterson had each fought and lost to Ali. Ellis, Quarry, Martin, and Bonavena were rising stars. The tournament was a mix of the old versus the new and resulted in a changing of the guard.

Meanwhile, Sonny Liston, who was not ranked by *Ring Magazine*, was fighting in Sweden. After his disgraceful loss to Ali in 1965, he was no longer sought after by promoters. The Ali situation was controversial enough without having Liston, with all of his mob connections, brought back onto the scene.

While overseas, Liston racked up four wins during 1966 and 1967, beating second-rate contenders Gerhard Zech, Amos Johnson, Dave Bailey, and Elmer Rush, all by knock out. He had become the forgotten man of boxing.

But what if Liston had been included in the WBA tournament? How well would he have done? We know that Patterson most likely would have still been an easy mark for him, seeing as he had already stopped the former champ in one round on two occasions. It is doubtful Karl Mildenberger could have stood up to Liston's power, either. Terrell showed his age while being beaten by Thad Spencer. Odds are that Liston would have been able to take on the old guard successfully.

But what about the young fighters who were making names for themselves? After all, Liston was no kid at somewhere around 37 years of age (though



Sonny Liston

nobody, including Liston, knew for sure how old he was.) Also, the former champ wasn't the cleanest living guy on the planet as he liked his liquor. However, a motivated Liston would train, and train hard. He also might have been motivated by the desire to get his fearsome reputation back.

Sonny Liston still had one of the best, and probably hardest, left jabs in the history of boxing. He was deadly accurate with it and knew how to follow it up with hard combinations. Would Liston still have had enough left in him to intimidate guys like Bonavena, Ellis, Quarry, and Spencer? None of those four had the foot speed of the young Cassius Clay who danced circles around the Bear in Miami Beach in 1964.

Let's say Liston was able to beat the three men it would take to win the WBA title. He knocks out Patterson for the third time. Then goes on to stop Mildenberger, and beats Ellis for the title in a battle of left jabs. This would really make for an interesting heavyweight picture.

Liston and Frazier would have been on a collision course. Many believe, based on his fight with Foreman, that Frazier would have been made to order for Liston. Well, this was a younger Frazier who was much faster and had not yet been worn down from the fight with Ali. Of course, Liston would be able to hit him with that incredible jab and may have been able to follow through with his combinations. One thing is certain, Joe Frazier would not have been intimidated by him. I don't believe that Sonny Liston, at that point in

his career, would have beaten Frazier. But if he had gotten to that point, he would have been coming off three straight wins against top contenders and would have to have been in good shape. He would also be motivated and anything could happen. Remember, Bonavena, not Sonny Liston, had decked Frazier twice in their first bout. Liston very possibly could have landed on Frazier's chin and been able to unify the title.

Now, talk about things becoming interesting. Hypothetically speaking, in 1970, Ali is granted a license to box again. He takes on Jerry

Quarry and Oscar Bonavena, defeating both. Liston has defended his title two or three times. The public sees Ali as the true champion and wants him to once again take on Liston and get his title back. Liston is back in the role of bad guy, a place he is used to being, but not now because he feels he has vindicated himself and has turned over a new leaf.

The fight is signed for March of 1971. By now Liston would be 40 years old. However, Ali would no longer have the legs of the young Cassius Clay or Ali of 1967. It would have been a bit of a different fight depending on whether or not Liston could overcome his demons when it came to stepping in the ring again with Ali, who would pull out all the stops in intimidating the old champ. I doubt very much Liston would win this fight, but it would have been interesting to see if Liston, now looking to vindicate himself, would fight with everything he had or fold up again.

This scenario is a bit far-fetched but fun to toy with. It must be remembered while conjecturing that Liston was dead by 1971, having been found in his Las Vegas home with a gun and syringe by his side.

But what if Sonny had been included in the tournament and won it? Would he have cleaned up his act? Would he have stuck to training and stayed away from the wise guys? Could he have turned his life around? And could he have dug down deep and given Ali a real fight, maybe even pulling off an upset? We will never know, but that is what makes boxing so much fun to discuss.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



We thought Bruins coach Claude Julien made a good point recently when he mentioned that being out of action for a few games is not the only thing that has to be considered when a player gets back into the lineup again.

According to Julien, the effect of the inaction can actually last for a few games before the player is back to his top level of performance. The period of inactivity plus the period of time it takes a player to get back to top level actually means the total effect of the sidelining is quite a bit longer than many fans might believe.

The topic came up recently during Julien's post-game press conference at the Garden following the B's victory over Toronto.

"He just seemed out of sync," said Julien of forward Brad Marchand's play in several previous games before he scored the game winner against the Maple Leafs with less than a minute to go in the contest. "He just didn't seem to be at the right place at the right time. He was slow getting to places. He just kind of lost his rhythm."

The coach noted that Marchand had returned following a three-game suspension, but had not played up to his normal level for several games — until the final 30 minutes or so of the contest with Toronto.

"There was a three-game suspension followed by playing in four games," noted Julien. "Then the fifth one (the Toronto game), probably more in the second half than anything else, he started playing the way we're used to seeing him play. We started seeing more of his game skating and him making the right plays."

That resulted in one goal being waved off because of an offside call midway through the third period (following a lengthy delay for a video review) before he found the range for the game-winner with 47 seconds remaining. It was his first goal in 12 games, since December 14th against Edmonton at the Garden.

In the locker room following the game, Marchand agreed with Julien's assessment. "Yes I did [feel out of sync]," stated Marchand. "Any time you have almost two weeks off you definitely get out of sync. I was in a groove there for a bit and when you get out you lose a little bit of your legs and confidence. It felt a lot better against Buffalo and even more so against Toronto. I've said it before. It's a game of inches between a goal and a save. The main thing is you have to stick with it and eventually you know it's going to come. Hopefully I can continue."

The lesson here, of course, is that the effect of being out of the lineup may actually persist a good deal longer than the actual absence. So, while a player may have been eligible to come back, that does not necessarily mean he will perform at 100 percent the first couple of days back. It may take a few games before the player comes back to his maximum level.

The other reality concerns the delays that take place dur-

ing coaches' challenges. For example, Marchand's first goal was called back after a video review upheld Toronto coach Mike Babcock's contention that the B's were offside. They were. It was a close call via video review, but the officials made the correct call. "Our goal was called back. It was the right call," said Julien.

The real problem was holding up the game for several minutes until the decision was announced.

"I know there's been some talk about that, that they (the reviews) are delaying games quite a bit," said Julien. "I think you have to balance it. Do we do that and get it right or do we worry about the flow of the game and get it wrong? The goal is to get it right. This is the first year so maybe as we move along we may have better cameras situated in better places that are going to make those decisions come a little quicker. There's definitely some room to grow there, but at the same time I support the fact that you want to get it right."

IT'S ALMOST TIME — For the Beanpot Tournament at the Garden. The 64th annual edition of this rite of winter gets under way on Monday, February 1st with Boston College facing off against Harvard at 5:00 pm in the opener. The second game will feature 2015 Beanpot champion Boston University taking on Northeastern at 8:00 pm.

The two winners will meet for the championship on Monday, February 8th at 7:30 pm. The consolation game will start at 4:30 pm. BU's victory last year snapped a streak of five championships in a row by Boston College (2010-2014). When BU beat Northeastern in the championship game last year, it was the Terriers' first Beanpot title since 2009.

The 38th annual Women's Beanpot will be played at Walter Brown Arena on the BU campus. Defending champion Harvard will meet 2014 champion Boston College in the opener on Tuesday, February 2nd at 5:00 pm, with BU facing Northeastern in the second game at 8:00 pm. The two winners will meet in the championship game on Tuesday, February 9th at 8:00 pm. The consolation game will start at 5:00 pm.

Unlike the men's Beanpot, played annually at the Garden, the women's tournament rotates among the four schools. The 2017 tournament will be played at Northeastern's Matthews Arena while the 2018 event is slated for BC's Kelley Rink at Conte Forum.

Harvard won the first men's tournament in December of 1952, beating BU 7-4 at Matthews Arena, the only year the men's event was not played at the Garden. Northeastern won the first women's title in March of 1979, downing BC 3-1.

Want something different this year? Then root for Harvard and Northeastern to meet in the men's championship game. Why? In the 64-year history of the tournament, the two schools have never met in the Beanpot final.