

POST-GAZETTE

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Happy Groundhog Day

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

The largest and most famous Groundhog Day celebration is held in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, with a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early; if it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow and the winter weather will continue for six more weeks.

News Briefs

by Sal Giarrotani

They All Look the Same, Right?

During ABC's telecast of the Inaugural Address, George Stephanopoulos confused an NBA legend with a Hollywood legend. Panning to a shot of Bill Russell wearing a Boston Celtics cap, Stephanopoulos identified him as Morgan Freeman. Russell is 6'-9" while Freeman is 6'-2". It is a good thing that Denzel Washington wasn't nearby or he might have become Bill Cosby, huh?

Payroll Tax Hitting Shoppers Hard

The payroll tax hike of 2 percentage points has hit workers who received their first paycheck of 2013 hard. The hike came about as neither Congress nor the president opposed the hike this time around as opposed to one year ago. The rate lowered under President Bush returned to 6.2 percent. Lower income working families will be hit the hardest. Shoppers already look like they are cutting back on spending due to the higher payroll tax rate. Back in 2012, the average amount saved on the lower rate tax was about \$770. Biggest winners could be stores like Walmart and Target as consumers seek discounted prices.

Barack Obama Seems at Odds with JFK Vision of America

As I listened to President Obama's Inaugural Address, I heard much partisan talk and plenty of lip service to both Abraham Lincoln and Martin

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MAYOR MENINO IS BACK

and Ready for Boston's Future

by Sal Giarrotani

"Others can help us get better, but only we can make Boston great."

— Mayor Thomas M. Menino

On Tuesday evening January 29th, Faneuil Hall was jam-packed with an SRO crowd to listen to Mayor Tom Menino deliver his 20th State of the City Address. I landed upstairs on the top floor and was reminded of those old days at Boston Garden in the upper rafters with my ears popping. The mayor strolled into historic Faneuil Hall to the sound of music blaring, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Considering all the medical problems he had in 2012, it seemed very appropriate. He was full of energy, compassion and a passion to take Boston to even newer heights. When he spoke of Boston, he said the city was strong and sound like never before. He knocked people dead with a very inspiring speech in which he certainly looked the part of an active participant in Boston's future. Many things have been going right for Boston and most in the hall would say his leadership made much of



(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

Boston's success possible. Menino said he felt great and "Really energized ... It is good to be back."

He didn't mention any specific plans for 2013 but did use the word "encore" once and it did not go unnoticed with me. Apparently, State Treasurer Steve Grossman caught it too, saying, "His encore is going to be four more years. It was a visionary speech. I was very impressed." City

Councilor Rob Consalvo added, "Clearly, he's back and ready to lead Boston forward."

Menino's speech talked about all the positives that are taking place here. Menino spoke of the economic growth, the new Seaport District, Downtown Boston, great progress in Boston's public schools, taking on the cancer of crime and offering hope and a place at the table for all Bostonians. He didn't seem concerned about where Boston would be later this year or into 2014, his focus was on the decades that will follow. His vision was long. To be honest, I hadn't heard this kind of passion from a politician since the days of Bobby Kennedy almost 45 years ago. There was a connection up on the stage at Faneuil Hall that is not often seen in politics anywhere in this country.

I also think back to 1967

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AN EAST BOSTON RENAISSANCE IN THE MAKING



Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) joined with Governor Deval Patrick, New Jersey-based developer Roseland, RBS Citizens and other elected officials and members of the East Boston community recently to celebrate the groundbreaking of Portside at Pier One, East Boston's first new residential waterfront development in many years. The first of seven planned buildings is now underway, and will lead in the transformation of the underutilized shoreline which has spectacular views of the Boston skyline.

"Today's groundbreaking demonstrates how public-private partnerships can create economic opportunity and prosperity for a local community," said Gov. Deval Patrick. "I applaud the City of Boston and Massport working together with the East Boston community and the private sector to support this important waterfront investment. Ultimately everyone who lives, works and does business in East Boston will benefit."

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

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

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

Stirpe Nostra

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



CAPSULE GEOLOGY

For the novice, a very small and elementary dose of geology, blended with some technology, might help to provide a better understanding for parts of ancient theology.

The solid surface of the earth as we see it is either rock or soil. Rock is the term used to denote the large geologic formations. Rock is broken into stone of various shapes and sizes. Rock is divided very generally into three classes according to the method by which it is formed. These classes are: (1) Igneous rock, which is formed by solidification of molten rock; in other words by volcanic action. Granite curbstones are a good example of igneous rock. It is the strongest and most durable of all rock; (2) sedimentary rock, which is formed from disintegrated products of other rocks. Flagstone is an example of sedimentary rock; (3) metamorphic rock, which is rock whose physical or chemical character is altered by pressure, temperature and time. Marble is a good example of metamorphic rock.

Marble plays such an important role in religious architecture that it might be well to note that the most desirable qualities in sculptural marble are pure white crystals, straight uniform grain, freedom from natural stains, voids and microscopic cracks. A good grade of marble is available in the U.S.A. Marble from Carrara, Italy is better and pentelic marble from Mt. Pentelicus in Greece ranks with the world's best.

Soil is formed from the disintegration of rock. Soil that remains where it was formed is called residual soil and it builds up at the phenomenal rate of about one quarter inch in one thousand years. Soil that has been transported by water and deposited at another site is called alluvial soil. The deltas of all rivers contain troublesome deposits of alluvial soil. An important soil type which is formed by wind-blown material is called loess.

Soils are also classified as (1) coarse grained like gravel and sand and (2) fine grained like silt and clay. The grain size of sand is about 1/1000

inch but in clay it is less than 1/12,500 inch. Much of the plains of Mesopotamia are made up of silt and clay carried down by the Tigris and Euphrates from the mountains the north. During ancient times these two rivers emptied into the Persian Gulf independently. Alluvial deposits have now forced the two rivers to join as one before reaching the Gulf and they have built up more than one hundred miles of silty soil in a huge delta. Ancient cities that used to be close to the shore line are now far inland.

It follows then, to understand your Bible lands, you must understand the influence of geology upon that area. There was little or no building stone, just silt and clay, more silt and more clay. Where there is a lack of other building materials and an abundance of clay, we can look for and find brick. In this area there was small brick, large brick, sun-dried brick, kiln-baked brick and glazed brick in many colors.

NEXT WEEK:
Clay Is A Brick, Or Is It?

The Wisdom of the Founders

One hundred years ago the Congress of the United States approved and, state-by-state, the voters ratified the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, providing for direct election of senators. Before that the legislature of each State selected the two senators to represent that State in Washington. It was a radical change, one that drastically altered, for the worse, the relationship of the States and the National government.

James Madison wrote in *Federalist* 39 "The House of Representatives will derive its powers from the people of America ... So far the government is *national*, not *federal*. The Senate, on the other hand, will derive its powers from the States, as political and coequal societies ... So far the government is *federal*, not *national*."

The Seventeenth Amendment undid that balance of National and Federal. The result has been one hundred years of expansion of the power of 546 men and women in Washington (435 Representatives, 100 Senators, the President and Vice President and Nine Supreme Court Justices) to dictate nearly every aspect of your life.

Direct election of senators was promoted as a scheme to give the people more say in their government. The result has been exactly the opposite. Rather than senators appointed by our local legislators who live among us and know our needs and desires, we have a Senate dominated by billionaires and celebrities far removed from the lives of ordinary Americans. And why not? With so much at stake in a senate election, outside special interests, not ordinary citizens, provide the massive funding necessary to run a statewide campaign.

George Will, writing in 2009, said: "Severing senators from state legislatures, which could monitor and even instruct them, made them more susceptible to influence by nationally organized interest groups based in Washington. Many of those groups, who preferred one-stop shopping in Washington to currying favors in all the state capitals, campaigned for the 17th Amendment."

The astute observer of American democracy, **Alexis de Tocqueville**, considered indirect election senators to be

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GENERAL CONSULATE OF ITALY - BOSTON

2013 GENERAL ELECTIONS



ELEZIONI POLITICHE 2013

Pursuant to Presidential decree n. 226 of December 22, 2012, elections will be held on February 24 and February 25, 2013 to elect representatives to the Chamber of Deputies and to the Senate of the Republic. In Italy, voting at the polling stations will take place on Sunday, February 24th (from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and on Monday, February 25th (from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

Outside of Italy, Italian citizens residing abroad who are registered voters in the Overseas District may vote **by correspondence**. They can do so by casting their vote for the candidates listed on the ballot for the "Circoscrizione Estero" (Overseas District).

All voters residing abroad will receive a packet by mail **before February 6th** from the Consulate General of Italy in Boston containing: an instruction sheet on the voting procedures, the electoral certificate, a ballot (two for voters over the age of 25, therefore eligible to vote also for the Senate), one blank white envelope for the ballots, a stamped envelope bearing the address of the Consulate General of Italy in Boston, and the list of candidates for the Electoral zone of residence.

The stamped envelope containing the ballots, completed as indicated by the instruction sheet, must be sent by mail **as soon as possible** in order to reach the Consulate General of Italy in Boston **by - and no later than - 4:00 pm on February 21st**.

The vote is personal and secret. Voting more than once or voting on another's behalf is prohibited. Violators of the law will be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

Voters who have not received a complete packet **by February 10th** should contact the **Consulate General of Italy in Boston** to verify their electoral status and, if necessary, request a duplicate.

For further information, please visit Consulate's website www.consbooston.esteri.it, or contact anagrafe.boston@esteri.it, or call 617.722.9220.

INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT www.esteri.it

Con Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica n. 226 del 22 dicembre 2012 sono state indette per il 24 e 25 febbraio 2013 le votazioni per l'elezione della Camera dei Deputati e del Senato della Repubblica. In Italia le votazioni si svolgono presso i seggi nei giorni di domenica 24 febbraio (dalle ore 8,00 alle ore 22,00) e di lunedì 25 febbraio (dalle ore 7,00 alle ore 15,00).

All'estero, i cittadini italiani ivi stabilmente residenti, iscritti nelle liste elettorali della Circoscrizione Estero, possono partecipare alle elezioni votando **per corrispondenza**. Essi votano per le liste di candidati presentate nella rispettiva ripartizione della Circoscrizione Estero.

A ciascun elettore residente all'estero, il Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston **invia** per posta, **entro il 6 febbraio**, un plico contenente: un foglio informativo che spiega come votare, il certificato elettorale, la scheda elettorale (due per chi, avendo compiuto 25 anni, può votare anche per il Senato), una busta completamente bianca in cui inserire le schede votate, una busta già affrancata recante l'indirizzo del Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston, le liste dei candidati della propria ripartizione.

L'elettore, utilizzando la busta già affrancata e seguendo attentamente le istruzioni contenute nel foglio informativo, dovrà spedire **SENZA RITARDO** le schede elettorali votate, in modo che **arrivino** al Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston **entro - e non oltre - le ore 16.00 del 21 febbraio**.

Il voto è personale e segreto. E' fatto divieto di votare più volte e inoltrare schede per conto di altre persone. Chiunque violi le disposizioni in materia elettorale, sarà punito a norma di legge.

L'elettore che **alla data del 10 febbraio** non avesse ancora ricevuto il plico elettorale, **potrà rivolgersi al Consolato Generale d'Italia a Boston** per verificare la propria posizione elettorale e chiedere eventualmente un duplicato.

Per ulteriori informazioni si prega di visitare il sito web del Consolato www.consbooston.esteri.it o scrivere ad anagrafe.boston@esteri.it, o chiamare il 617-722-9220.

INFORMAZIONI DETTAGLIATE SONO INOLTRE DISPONIBILI SUL SITO www.esteri.it

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Friday, February 1, 2013

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.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Governor Patrick Does a Hugo Chavez?

by Sal Giarratani

As I watched the governor lay out his tax plan during his State of the State address, I wondered what planet he occupied. His spending agenda would be the highest tax hike in Massachusetts history. Taxpayers simply cannot finance this dream of his. His attempt at building a legacy on transportation and education would bankrupt the Commonwealth long after he is history. Once again we get the liberal notion that we have a spending problem, we are apparently not spending enough of our money. We also have a taxing problem. Governor Patrick wants to dig deeper into the taxpayers' pockets which are already pretty depleted of capital.

As I heard the governor talk about extending rail service across the entire state, I wondered why. Do we need trains to the Berkshires or Springfield or even Medford? Sounds like a Disneyland approach to transit issues. Instead of finding ways to finance what we already have, it is like being in denial riding around in those Disney-like monorails. Also, his whole financing scheme seems premised on raising the state's income tax rather than lower the state's sales tax. The opposite move would have been the better case. However, in any case, raising taxes never produces growth. It only stifles it.

How much more can we take? Why isn't the governor taking the radical approach of cutting taxes and needless spending in order to better finance his dream world where we must be growing money on trees and where it rains coins?

Kudos to the *Boston Herald* recently for pointing out in its editorial, "Gov, this is WAR!" We can only hope our legislators on Beacon Hill take a serious look at his huge spending ideas and his oppressive tax hike.

**TO SHORTEN WINTER,
BORROW SOME MONEY
DUE IN SPRING.**

— W.J. Vogel

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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La Befana Visits Donne 2000



La Befana and grandchildren of Donne 2000 members.

One again this year, on the feast of the Epiphany, January 6th, La Befana paid a visit to the members of Donne 2000 and their children. She came in dressed in old worn garb with broom in hand for sweeping. She gave out gifts to the little children and little treats to the grown ups, consisting of a tangerine, torrone 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.

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, along the way every child that she saw, she gave them 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 tasty treats to those who have been good.

La Befana is one of Italy's



La Befana and Donne 2000 board members Rosa Giammarco, Mari Di Censo, Doreen Giammarco and Rita Susi.

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 arrive at the manger of the Christ Child bringing Him presents of Gold, Frank-

incense 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.

GEORGE MENDOZA



George Mendoza, 73, of Boston's North End on Wednesday, January 23, 2013. Loving husband of the late Monica Maxwell-Mendoza. Cherished father of Jorge Mendoza and his wife Karen, Patrick Mendoza and his wife Elisa, Maria Mendoza, Juan Mendoza and his wife Julie, and Frank Mendoza and his wife Amanda. Beloved grandfather of



Jorge, Sofia, Veronica, Matthew, Megan, Maxwell, Melanie, Mia, Natalie, Coco and

made in George's Memory to the Eliot School, 16 Charter Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02113.

Daisy. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws. Funeral was from the Boston Harborside Home, 580 Commercial Street, Boston, on Monday, January 28 followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Stephen Church, corner of Hanover and Clark Streets.

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Case of Spring Cleaning

by Ally Di Censo

I sense the ground shifting below me, pulsing with a new energy. According to the Chinese lunar calendar, we will enter the Year of the Snake on February 10th, and the meaning of this resonates within my bones. I was born in another Snake year, 1989, but lately I have been feeling more and more like a figurative version of the slithery reptile, dropping rusty scales of my past self as I scamper through the grass. Everything around me vibrates with newness: the start of a new semester in graduate school, the transference of my job to a new location, the search for a new home with my fiancé. Appropriately, these changes are taking place during February, a month ushering the crisp air and cautious life of early spring. February prevails as a month devoted to purification, to casting aside remnants of a woebe-gone past in favor of a hopeful future. The Italian roots of the word February hint at its power of cleansing, as it derives from *Februa*, an ancient Roman festival of purification. While I relish in the new vibrancy February offers me, I am also pleased to discover that my urge to "spring clean" myself during this month stems from my Italian heritage. Italian customs and traditions fully embrace the opportunity to start anew in February, making the month an exciting window to the coming spring.

My father often told me of a quaint ritual that formed a part of his childhood in the Abruzzi region of Italy. On February 3rd, he walked through the chilly air to Mass at his local church, where the parish priest would then hold two crossed candles against the throats of the congregants and say a blessing. This was *il Giorno di San Biagio*, or St. Blaise's

Day, honoring the patron saint of throat maladies. St. Blaise, an Armenian bishop, reportedly saved the life of a boy who had a fishbone stuck in his throat, thus cementing his reputation for healing neck-related illnesses. The church ritual of my father's boyhood meant to prevent the worshippers from acquiring any sort of throat illness in the future. According to author Helen Barolini in her book *Festa*, Italians eat hard biscuits on February 3rd as yet another means to heal the throat. I believe that the throat blessing on St. Blaise's Day serves as an example of purification rites so prominent during February. The purging of illness from the body can also be seen in a theoretical light — after all, February offers us the opportunities to cleanse our self from bad habits and dead-end situations, just as the candles and the biscuits brush away physical ailments. I think it is appropriate, therefore, to view St. Blaise's Day as a time to plan what changes need to be made during the year and what resolutions would prove beneficial.

In Catania, Sicily, *il Giorno di Sant'Agata*, or St. Agatha's Day, is another chance for a purification festival. The city explodes in a celebration of light and festivities that culminate on the saint's feast day, February 5th. Huge candles and bonfires sparkle like tiny suns throughout the town, purging away the winter darkness and calling forth the clear skies of spring. Like St. Blaise, St. Agatha, a Sicilian martyr, also serves a protector invoked against certain illnesses, in her case maladies of the breast. Finally, this holiday contains an extra layer of purification as Sicilian bakers have their breads and pastries

blessed during this feast day. Presumably, these comestibles are now imbued with powers of healing and may bring a much-needed amount of luck to those who eat them. I never knew that much about St. Agatha's Day, but now this celebration fascinates me, with its interesting mixes of light and dark juxtaposition, feminine power, and traditional foods. It fits perfectly into the month of February as it strives to eliminate maladies, whether literal or figurative, as well as welcome the renewed energy and life of spring. When St. Agatha's Day ends, Italian citizens can look forward to other holidays that greet spring, from the raucousness of Carnival to the self-reflection of Lent.

This February, I am excited to begin many new chapters in my life. I glance around me at the tropical colors decorating spring fashions, at the birds calling out amongst bare branches, at Valentine's Day chocolates tempting me from store fashions and I realize that I am not alone in my zest for the coming days of warmth and light. February is a wonderful month of transition, where customs and folk traditions from around the world joyfully hug spring with celebrations that emphasize purification. In order to enjoy spring, after all, we must be cleansed of negative perceptions left behind from the winter: those moments of self-doubt and worry, those bad habits we vowed to drop on New Year's Day. I will take the cue from St. Blaise's Day and St. Valentine's Day and make this February a month of self-improvement and self-love.

(Speaking of coming clean, I have a correction to make. In my last column, I wrote that Montevergine was in the region of Catania, when I had meant to write that it was in the region of **Campania**. I had written "Catania" too many times in the preceding sentence and I guess it was still on my mind! Sorry!)



Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" Shows "The Dream" which Remains Unfinished

As I read a commentary in the *Bay State Banner* on the *Lincoln* movie by Steven Spielberg, I believe Marc Morial, who is president and CEO of the National Urban League, misses the main point of this great movie on the dilemma of President Abraham Lincoln, who was trying to end a deadly war and the deadly practice of human slavery. As the movie highlighted, the choice facing him was between two great evils and he had to choose which to give first priority and which would immediately follow.

None of us truly knows when Mr. Lincoln became anti-slavery in his view of American society, do we? Who helped shape his views? Who led him to the door which he then opened for himself? We can only make assumptions with no real guarantees of historical accuracy.

Marc Morial questions why Spielberg forgot to make mention of Frederick Douglass, the "Great Orator" of abolitionism, in his movie presentation. I also agree that the passage of the 13th Amendment in 1865 was the work of far more than one man living inside the White House. The groundswell for emancipating slaves was years in the making. I agree that one of the most unsung heroes of 19th century America was Frederick Douglass. A man who escaped his bondage and went on to be a great orator and writer in the cause of truly making the phrase "All men are created equal" mean equality for all men. When he was once asked to explain what he meant by his fiery words, he stated, "What I ask for the Negro is not benevolence, not pity, not sympathy, but simply justice."

Unfortunately, when our founders created this nation the proposition that slaves were less human and more property, stained those flowery words within Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence. The knowledge that Jefferson owned slaves as did many others of his time didn't lessen the importance of his words. Sadly, it took nearly 75 years to arrive at the deeds that matched the words. We should not rank by importance who was responsible for the sea-change in the attitude of slavery. Eventually, it would have to go as a societal practice and it went sooner than later thanks to both the encouragement of Douglass and the forthright actions of Lincoln.

Steven Spielberg did a movie, a great movie, an award-winning movie, on the courage of a President of the United States who took a courageous stand for both his generation and the generations that followed.

I grew up in the '50s and

'60s. I was only 17 years old when America celebrated the 100th anniversary of the 13th Amendment freeing the slaves. I understood the words of Douglass as I watched the TV news during the Civil Rights Movement. I understood what he wanted as I watched the dehumanizing of African Americans who were still kept in bondage from full American opportunity. Douglass believed in full economic and political equality regardless of skin color. The fight for the 15th Amendment after Lincoln's death was as equally important as was the passage of the 13th Amendment. We may never know how either Lincoln or Douglass felt about the right of women to vote and it would take another half-century until that would happen.

I remember witnessing Martin Luther King, Jr., and his struggle for full equality for all, a century after Frederick Douglass started speaking out for it. King did not have to sacrifice his life for a cause but he felt he must because that was his calling from God. Many Christians believe God puts us here for a reason. All of us. Some offer services in small and unrecognized ways. Others are called to speak out louder and address a much wider audience. Dr. King's life may have been brief in years but long in accomplishment. He gave up a life that could have been selfishly devoted to his family and to his local ministry and took on the role of America's conscience. He was only 39 years old when a gunman took his life but his work carried on and is still important today.

I would like to think that when Abraham Lincoln was fighting for the 13th Amendment, he could see into the future and into the times I grew up in. He could see that the road was long and full of bumps. He could see future sacrifices made for a cause he had come to believe in himself. All of us, generation to generation, are tied to one another. Life is a continuum. We pass on hopefully better than what we received at birth. As I look back on this recent movie I saw, I think about those debates on the floor of the White House where grown men were screaming at the idea that God created us all equal to each other. Many of them just couldn't fathom such an idea. Today, it seems some of us still can't and we realize that we must grow constantly as human beings and understand there are principles bigger than all of us combined.

Rather than bad mouth Steven Spielberg for forgetting Frederick Douglass, we should be thankful that he remembered the courage of Lincoln.

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"Sciatu Mio,"
you are the reason why I breathe.
 By Frank J. Pennisi

A rich and multi-layered romantic novel. Historical events are interwoven with stories for control of the sulfur mines in Sicily, and the wars between the Irish and Italians for control of the N.Y. docks.

"Family Tale Captivates with Sicilian intrigue, romance, drama and history."
 - SUN NEWS

"A Riveting True Story...would make a Compelling movie."
 - CREATESPACE

"An Earnest, Vivid Portrait about a family that stands up to the Mafia."
 - KIRKUS BOOK REVIEW

And from Amazon.com Readers:
 "Pulls you in, I Loved It, Passionate, Emotional, Heartwarming"

Available on Amazon.com, Kindle and Major Book Stores

BOOK REVIEW



by Claude Marsilia



UNBROKEN

A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption

By Laura Hillenbrand

473 Pages • Hard Cover • Published by Random House

This true story is about a remarkable man who lived five distinct lives.

First, as an individual against society, second, as a successful long distance runner, third, as an Army officer lost at sea, fourth, as a mistreated Japanese POW, and fifth, a respected sports coach, after WWII. His name is Louis Silvie Zamperini, the son of Italian immigrants.

He was 12 years old when he witnessed the ill-fated German dirigible Graf Zeppelin flying over his home in Torrance, California. Eventually this led to his desire to fly. From his childhood Louie was difficult to handle, and uncontrollable. He had a fierce appetite. He stole food from homes and places of business. The only person he would listen to was his older brother Pete.

Louie became a track star in high school. The need to race was a dominant factor in his life and took over his apparent opposition to society. He was a changed individual. Everything he did was aimed toward being a top runner. He was well on his way to being an outstanding miler.

Hillenbrand fills dozens of pages to elaborate on Louie's outstanding racing expertise, which includes his efforts to prepare for the Olympics in Berlin. His brother and his sister were convinced that Louie was capable of running the four-minute-mile. This ideal thinking was happening during the era of the renowned runner Jesse Owens.

"As Louie worked through the summer of 1940, America slid toward war." In early 1941 Louie joined the Army Air Force. Subsequently, Louie became an astute bombardier officer and became part of the crew for the issued B24 bomber; commonly known as "The Flying Coffin" because it was plagued with mechanical problems. It is in this section of the book that Hillenbrand stirs the memory of the devastation of World War II, beginning with Pearl Harbor.

Hillenbrand tells us that the airmen faced an impossible task. "... in WWII, 52,173 AAF men were killed in combat. Read this, "... a



Laura Hillenbrand
author of *Unbroken*

Pacific Bomber crewman's tour of duty had a 50 percent chance of being killed." The B24's were accident-prone. Hillenbrand writes about the horrible conditions the airmen faced once they ditched their injured airplane, such as roving sharks. Seldom were they rescued. The first half of the war was dominated by the agile Japanese airplanes.

While on a rescue mission, Louie and his shipmates crashed into the sea. Before

were subjected to. I cannot get over this abuse. Sometimes I have to sit silently until my anger subsides. I will never forget.

Once again they are moved to another dreaded prisoner-of-war-camp, Omori. It was here that Louie met his nemesis, Watanabe. He was a brutal individual who was feared by the prisoners as well as his fellow guards. Watanabe became fixated on Louie. He beat Louie daily. Reading and feeling about the constant abuse and degradation the POW's experienced, I find it difficult to understand how any of these unfortunate heroes ever made it.

Finally some sense of relief was becoming evident; from time to time B29's were flying overhead showering leaflets over the prison camps. This may be a good time to note the definitive photographs that outline this book and how grand and telling they are. They add credence to this unbelievable book. The following line is so significant, "In its rampage over the east, Japan had brought atrocity and death on a scale that staggers the imagination."

"On the morning of September 2, 1945, Japan signed its formal surrender. The Second World War was over." I found it incredible to read that some POW's forgave their sadistic and cruel captors. Louie who was lost in this post world war turned to the one redeeming quality he cherished, distance running. He began training and subsequently clocked a mile in 4:18 minutes. During one of his historical runs he injured himself severely. "It was all over."

His life became a shambles. In time Louie returns to Japan and visits Sugamo Prison, which held 850 former guards. Here he shook hands with the bewildered guards he remembers.

Reading about the desperation that this true hero lived through is disturbing and heart rending. Hillenbrand's writing on how Louie fights back is engrossing and everlasting.

The following line lets the reader learn how far Louie had come after his devastating experiences, "Coach Zamperini was so beloved that upon his retirement in 1977, he was feted by eight hundred people on the Queen Mary."

This well written and richly researched book reflects the life of a remarkable man. Don't miss it.

This true story is about a remarkable man who lived five distinct lives. His name is Louis Silvie Zamperini, the son of Italian immigrants.

long, Louie realized it was more important to keep one's mind active than having food. The survivors related stories, Louie was able to recite his mother's recipes. On the forty-sixth day the haggard shipmates were rescued by a Japanese Patrol boat and treated with alternate care. At this point Louie weighed 80 lbs, his fellow airman, Phil weighed 67 lbs. Their emaciated bodies were difficult to behold. They were transported to Execution Island whose despicable reputation preceded it. They were treated miserably, and disrespectfully.

Hillenbrand captures the essence of the airman's mindset. Knowing full well that death was approaching, the reality of their burden through their suffering should be coming to an end. Similar to other sections of her book she is capable to write in an encapsulated manner, that the reader will clearly understand the compelling drama.

I have read many books that revealed the terrible ordeals our servicemen

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Mt. Carmel Survivors Group to Hold Valentine Reunion

by Sal Giarratani

Former parishioners of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on Gove Street in East Boston, who have been in vigil since the Boston Archdiocese shuttered the church and parish back on October 12, 2004, are planning a Valentine Reunion on Saturday, February 9th from 7:00 pm until 11:00 pm at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Cottage Street.

These Mt. Carmel Catholics have been meeting every Sunday since 2004 at 10:00 am for a communion service. First they met inside the shuttered church itself and after being locked out they started meeting across the street by the Padre Pio statue. During the cold months, a decision was made to move the services inside the Embassy Suites until the spring brings back warmer days.

If you are interested in attending the upcoming dinner party, please contact Steve at 617-828-7416. Remember, every Sunday at 10:00 am the communion service is held inside the Embassy Suites Hotel.

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Don't Send Frank to the Senate

by Sal Giarratani

As a reader, from time to time, of the *Free Press* down in North Attleboro, I have rarely seen a newspaper editorial in it. However, on January 10th, there it was: *Send Frank to the Senate*. Apparently, the *Free Press* believes we live in dangerous times in Washington and "Massachusetts cannot afford to be without two strong senators in Congress talking ... important business. Nor can we afford a ceremonial senator filling the vacancy, one without the skills, knowledge, experience or standing to influence the debate."

I believe the *Free Press* should have more faith in our governor to find the right person for this job. Back in 2009, when the governor had to appoint an interim senator, he picked Paul Kirk who was there in the ready before the special election put Scott Brown into office. I am sure there are many qualified applicants out there including Paul Kirk. Former U.S. Representative Barney Frank is a liberal loose cannon with too much of an egotistical mindset. He couldn't wait to seemingly push Governor Deval Patrick into a corner by going public on MSNBC with his desire to be a temporary U.S. Senator.

These are tough times in Washington where our elected officials are as nearly divided as the rest of us. Lately we move only through crisis mode like the fiscal cliff or now the battle over raising the debt ceiling. The last person we need in Washington is a liberal loudmouth who often comes across as a legend in his own mind. How can we expect Frank to fix things when he was among that liberal core up on Capitol Hill who actually created the mess to

start? The subprime mortgage scandal was created mostly by liberals in Congress who were trying to house the so-called unhoused. Forcing lenders to give out mortgage money to folks at grave risks to the lenders. As a result, foreclosures increased and the housing market bubble burst.

If we need a street fighter, as some have suggested, does Frank fit the bill? What we really need are less street fighters pushing ideological agendas and more folks willing to listen to each other and come up with reasonable solutions to the great divide of issues we keep kicking down the road to later.

As a conservative Democrat, I think what Massachusetts needs is a good interim senator who can serve the several months between U.S. Senator John F. Kerry's Senate conformation as secretary of state and the date of the special election to fill Kerry's unexpired term. I don't unfortunately see much need for a street fighter as a debater. We need someone qualified to speak out resolutely and with passion for the best interests of all Massachusetts residents. We already have too many street fighting egotists down in the Beltway.

My choice for interim U.S. Senator would be former three-term Governor Michael S. Dukakis, the 1988 presidential nominee. Who better qualified to be our interim voice along with U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren?

He isn't about tooting his own horn. He is a rare politician who tamed his ego years ago. He would be my first and only choice. Tell Barney to stay retired. He is toast now.

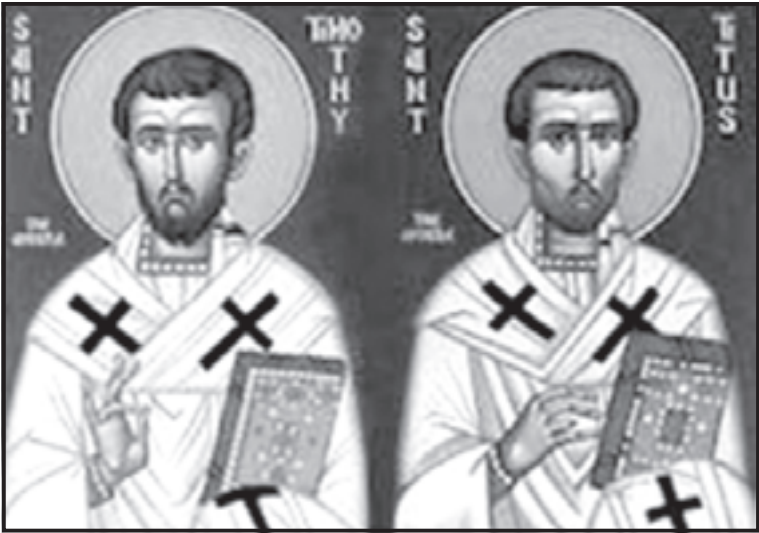
Saints Timothy and Titus Bishops

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Saint Timothy was from Lystra in Lycaonia, his father was Greek and his mother Jewish. Timothy, his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois probably embraced Christianity at the time of Saint Paul's first visit to Lystra. It was on Saint Paul's return visit to Lystra that Timothy, who was highly recommended by fellow Christians, was chosen by Paul as a missionary, accompanying the Apostle of the Gentiles at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Timothy became Paul's trusted friend and was sent on difficult missions by Paul — often in the face of great disturbances in local churches which Paul had founded.

Timothy was with Saint Paul at the time of his imprisonment in Rome. He accompanied Paul on his last missionary journey remaining at Ephesus to head the Church. Saint Timothy spent the rest of his life at Ephesus as its Bishop. Timothy was stoned to death for having denounced the worship of the goddess Diana, in the year 97, thirty years after St. Paul's martyrdom. He is the patron saint of stomach disorders.

St. Titus was a convert



from paganism. He became both friend and disciple of Saint Paul accompanying him on many apostolic missions. Titus was with Paul and Barnabas at Antioch and accompanied them to the Council of Jerusalem. Titus was specially entrusted with organizing the alms collection for poor Christians of Judaea and evidently acted as a commissioner of Paul at Corinth, where he replaced Timothy. He is said to have been Paul's most cherished disciple. Paul later made Titus bishop of Crete, a difficult charge because of the spread of erroneous doctrines on that island. St.

Paul's writings tell us that the affectionate and sympathetic nature of Saint Titus drew the hearts of Crete's inhabitants. He died in the year 96. The Feast of Saints Timothy and Titus is celebrated on January 26th.

St. Titus is the patron saint of the United States Army Chaplain Corps. The Corps has established the Order of Titus Award as a non-denominational award which, according to the Department of Defense, is the only award presented by the Chief of Chaplains to recognize outstanding performance of ministry by chaplains and chaplain assistants.

Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition Organizes Statewide Cut-a-thon Event for Breast Cancer Prevention

In honor of Mother's Day 2013, the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC) will organize a statewide Cut-A-Thon event to benefit their work towards preventing breast cancer for future generations. On the weekend of May 4th-5th, Massachusetts salons will devote one day to donate all proceeds from hair cuts to MBCC. Salons will charge a \$15 donation per haircut and events will bring communities together in an effort to make a difference and change the legacy of

breast cancer. MBCC is a local advocacy organization that seeks to understand the environmental causes of breast cancer in order to find ways to prevent the disease before it starts. To learn more about their work, visit www.mbcc.org. To find a participating salon near you or to register your salon for the event, please contact Cheryl Osimo at cosimo@mbcc.org or 508-360-5513. The deadline for salons interested in participating in this Cut-A-Thon event is April 1, 2013.

Post-inaugural Thoughts

by Sal Giarratani

Watching this year's Inauguration wasn't what I had hoped for. I didn't vote for President Obama's re-election bid. I still think while he can turn a phrase quite well, he still reminds me of the ineffectiveness of the peanut farmer Jimmy Carter who was elected due to Watergate but mercifully was defeated for re-election by one of the nation's most beloved presidents, Ronald Reagan. I voted for Mitt Romney last November but with a big clothespin on my nose. I knew he was a goner and that Obama would roll back into an easy second term.

I watched the president deliver his address about his hopes and dreams for both his administration over the next four years and for all of America which still remains quite divided and angry at times. Parts of his speech were quite well in content but at other times came across like a campaign stump speech. I was looking for

more graciousness but found such an attribute lacking. America is a living breathing entity and will survive the worse thrown at it.

As a conservative Democrat, I too often long for the days of Democrats who would reach out to a more global audience both at home and abroad. During this current administration, America keeps splitting apart as it did during President George W. Bush's administration. We all need to admonish this divisiveness that carries on from Bush to Obama. It needs to end here in this post-Inaugural period.

While watching the event on my television, I remembered a quote I recently saw over on Commonwealth Avenue next to Boston University. It was inside a coffee shop called "Blue State Coffee." Even though I am more comfortable with the color red for my politics, this place makes a mean vanilla latte served in a real coffee

mug. However, it was that quote above the counter that said it all, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change we seek." Barack Obama said this and I agree with it completely.

As a Democrat and an American, I still remember 1968 when both Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy were gunned down for their beliefs in equality for all. They realized that they were the ones they were waiting for. Today, I look forward to the future of America and truly wish our president and leaders on Capitol Hill can find that common ground and courage to take us forward making America a more prosperous nation for all Americans. Words must come off the page and into action. That is my hope and prayer for my country. We are the ones we are awaiting.

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The Bilingual Corner

by Orazio Buttafuoco



LO SAPEVATE CHE ...

Un comune metodo di cura contro molte malattie neurodegenerative, tra cui l'Alzheimer ed il Parkinson, e' possibile e consiste nell'impedire la morte dei neuroni disattivando una proteina coinvolta in queste malattie. La prospettiva e' quindi arrivare a sviluppare un unico farmaco che vale bene per tutte. Il grande passo avanti, che apre un campo di indagine totalmente nuovo ed insperato per la cura di queste patologie, si deve ad uno studio di Giovanna Mallucci del reparto di tossicologia della Universita' di Leicester (UK), condotto su topi afflitti dal morbo di Creutzfeldt-Jacob (malattia prionica simile a 'mucca pazza'). Disattivando la proteina si impedisce la morte dei neuroni, tipica di questa e di altre malattie neurodegenerative, ha spiegato all'ANSA la Mallucci, nata a Londra da papa' italiano e da madre irlandese. Bloccando la stessa sostanza si riscrive il destino dei neuroni salvandoli da morte certa ed arrestando la malattia. "Si tratta di un lavoro rivoluzionario, se il risultato fosse confermato in altri modelli di malattia neurodegenerativa. Potrebbe essere un buon meccanismo per cominciare a pensare ad una terapia come a molte malattie", ha commentato Maurizio Pocchiari, direttore del reparto Patologie Neurologiche Degenerative ed Infiammatorie dell'Istituto Superiore di Sanita'. Mallucci ha spiegato che i neuroni muoiono perche' l'accumulo delle proteine tossiche li porta a fermare del tutto la sintesi di qualunque altra proteina. I neuroni hanno bisogno di produrre tantissime proteine per vivere e funzionare. Il neurone ha bisogno di proteggersi dall'accumulo di proteine tossiche per non morire.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

A common form of therapy against many neurodegenerative illnesses, such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, is possible and consists in preventing the death of neurons by blocking a protein causing these illnesses. A significant step forward, which opens up an entirely new investigative and unexpected field for the treatment of these pathologies, is the work of a study by Giovanna Mallucci of the Toxicology Department of the Leicester University (UK) and performed on mice afflicted with the Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (typical of the 'crazy cow' illness). By deactivating the protein, the neuron stays alive, as in the case of other degenerative illnesses, Mallucci explained to the ANSA (Italian News Agency), Ms. Mallucci was born in London of an Italian father and of an Irish mother.

By blocking the same protein the neurons remain alive and the illness is stopped. "It is quite a revolutionary work, if the results are confirmed in other neurodegenerative examples. It could be a new mechanism, just thinking of a common therapy on many illnesses," remarked Maurizio Pocchiari, Director of Regenerative and Inflammatory Neuro-pathologies, of the National Institute of Health. Mallucci explains that the neurons die because the concentration of toxic proteins makes them stop entirely the synthesis of any mother protein. The neurons need to produce a lot of proteins to live and function. The neuron needs to have protection from heaping up toxic proteins to live.



East Boston Kiwanis Club

VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

The Kiwanis Club of East Boston is presenting a pre-Valentine's Day Bash at the VFW in Beachmont (Revere) on Saturday, February 2nd from 7:00 pm-11:00 pm. With your ticket you'll get a heart-warming dinner buffet of comfort food and music from DJ Phil Brangiforte of Perfect Sounds. What better way to pass a cold winter's night than with friends you've known for a long time and the new ones you'll meet that night? Come on, spread some love! Please call Kiwanian Bill Chisholm for tickets at 1-339-226-1029.



Freeway Says ...

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.

Here is a very interesting article I read. **Can Cats Deliver Your Mail?** This is one of the strangest cat facts I've ever dug up. We all know the ol' dog-chasing mailman cliché, but what if I told you the mailman was a cat? According to an 1876 article in the *New York Times*, an organization known as the Belgian Society for the Elevation of the Domestic Cat once came up with the outlandish idea to use cats as messengers between villages. The first step was to test whether these house-cats could find their way back home from a strange location in the middle of nowhere. So three dozen cats (plus one more for safe measure, apparently, for a total of 37) were rounded up, placed into a big bag, and then trotted out on horseback for 20 miles into the Belgian countryside. Then they were released and left to their own devices.

Wouldn't you know, the first of the cats arrived back home in Liege, Belgium, five hours later. And within a day's time, every one of the cats had reportedly returned to their houses, looking by all accounts as if nothing had happened out of the ordinary.

Based on these surprising results, the society hoped, somewhat illogically, that a regular postal system could be set up using cats to deliver messages between villages. It would be like carrier pigeons, but using cats instead and the messages would be inserted into waterproof baggies tied to the cat's neck.

Did this plan ever come to fruition? Apparently not. And I don't think anyone has ever been surprised that this idea was a big dud. Then again, was the whole thing just a hoax?

Good Question. I'm honestly not sure, but it's clear

that the *New York Times* had a great deal of fun writing its tongue-in-cheek article. (The newspaper jokingly predicted a day when "swift and discreet" felines could be entrusted to relay messages even between lovers and their mistresses.)

Let's be grateful that we live in an age when the mail is not delivered by cats.

Don't get me wrong. I am only a pooch and I love cats. But I'm not sure I'd trust a cat to deliver my human companion's rent check! Would you?

I hope my boss isn't going to ask me to go to the Post Office and get the mail!

Sources:

The *New York Times* "Postal Cats" March 4, 1876.

The *Western Argus* (Kalgoorlie, Washington) "Cats as Messengers" April 11, 1922.

That's all for now!

P.S. I would like to congratulate my human Marie Simboli who was elected to North End/Waterfront Resident's Association (NEWRA) as Sergeant-at-Arms. I guess I'll be home another night alone!

Don't Write Off Frank Baker's School Committee Idea Too Quickly

by Sal Giaratani

City Councilor Frank Baker, who represents District 5 on the Boston City Council, recently introduced what I consider a much-needed reform as far as the Boston School Committee is concerned. Baker seeks to have four members appointed by the mayor and three members elected at-large by the voters of Boston. Presently, the entire Boston School Committee is appointed by the mayor. Baker believes a hybrid system would be more democratic and closer to the parents of Boston's public school students.

Baker is not alone in this reform measure. All we have to do is look back over recent history and we see the anguish shared by many parents trying to get their kids into the best schools out there and at the same time have their children not spending so much time riding buses to and from

schools distant from home and neighborhood. The *Boston Herald* editorialized against Baker's idea recently saying the last thing the children and parents of Boston need are more politics back in the school system. Taking a closer look at the editorial I see the *Boston Herald* puzzled why the people should be handed the power to elect members to its school board since parents years ago elected horrible (in their eyes) members of the old elected five-member school committee.

Aren't we a government of, for and by the people? Are the people the government and don't our governors all work for us? Just because the electorate may have elected members who may have not shown the greatest leadership doesn't mean you strip the people of power. The same argument could be also made against giving the

people of Boston the right to elect members to the Boston City Council since some times their own voices in government leave much to be desired.

To quote the *Boston Herald's* opinion, "It was simply put, a disaster, and kids in the school system were the ones who paid for it. That particularly bad bite of history must never be repeated."

What I find very disastrous is the lack of faith in the American people to freely choose their leaders through the vote which many over generations sacrificed their very being to protect.

Let's hear out Frank Baker and the people of Boston before writing off this reform measure. Thomas Jefferson once stated, "We are not a democracy of the people but a democracy of the people who participate. Let the people participate in the decision-making of their own government."

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Fascino Salon and Spa Official Launch Party



FASCINO SALON AND SPA STAFF: Deanna Dillon, Kristin Wheeler, Colleen Tagen, Caterina Ferullo, Jack Abbott, Michele Raposa and Kasey Buono.



On Friday, January 11th, Fascino Salon and Spa held their official launch party, complete with a walk down the red carpet, a signature Fascino mimosa, music, passed hors d'oeuvres and a gift basket giveaway. Many came by to see the new salon and enjoy the evening of fun and fashion (courtesy of a fashion show highlighting clothes and accessories by Savas Studios). Fascino owner Caterina Ferullo thanked everyone involved in the successful evening by saying, "Thanks to all who participated in the celebration of the official launch of Fascino Salon and Spa ... it was a huge success! We're looking forward to many more events including charity work and community outreach."

Fascino Salon and Spa is located at 30 Tremont Street in Downtown Boston. To inquire about the services they offer or to make an appointment, please call 617-367-2446. You can also visit them online at www.facebook.com/fascinosalonandspa.



(Photos © Jamie R. Doyle Photography)

CHOCOLATE TASTING Timed for VALENTINE'S DAY



For chocolate lovers, there is never a day that goes by when a quick bite of the "brown gold" isn't satisfying. Valentine's Day is just an added bonus – when single servings can easily multiply and anyway, a boxed assortment makes choosing a single candy an exercise in futility.

Imagine, then, plates of freshly created chocolates free for the tasting. Artisanal concoctions that include the richest, rarest dark chocolate filled with a dark ganache infused with black tea and ginger or fresh hazelnut paste. Consider

zabaglione petit fours, blood orange ganache enrobed in dark chocolate, or white chocolate with macadamia nuts.

These are just some of the flavors created by chocolatier Christopher Norman – the Hudson business that will be featured during a Wine and Chocolate Tasting scheduled for Saturday, February 9th from 5 until 7 pm at Verdigris Tea and Chocolate Bar, 135 Warren Street, Hudson. The event is free and open to the public.

Rated second best in the United States, the artisanal makers are known for their

inventive flavor combinations, high quality, and exquisite taste. Among their domestic customers are Tiffany's, Dean & DeLuca and Whole Foods. Says Kim Bach, owner of Verdigris Tea and Chocolate Bar, "We're really fortunate to have Christopher Norman here in Hudson. They are considered to be among the top ten chocolate makers in the world. To have them as a local resource is a privilege."

Once thought of as a simple Valentine's Day gift, chocolates have now become a specialty with ingredients so rare that a comparison to caviar is not out of the question. Organic, specially selected, and hand-picked are just some of the words found on chocolate packaging these days. Makers travel around the globe to taste and savor ingredients that will add just the right combination of richness and exotic vibe to their candies. Then again, even the word candy seems too antiquated and naïve for these creations.

And owner Kim Bach knows just how extravagant these artisanal chocolates can be. "I remember buying

a Hershey's chocolate bar after school when I was a kid," she says. "These days, to buy some of the artisanal bars we offer here (in flavors like "Wood Smoked Chocolate") you can spend \$10.00 easily. During the holidays, or for a special event, we have customers who will select two or three bars, wrap them with a ribbon and hand them on as a really exceptional gift."

The chocolates from Christopher Norman are just such an extravagance. From pumpkin ganache to kiwi, tea infusions to ground hazelnuts, even red beet and carrot flavorings, chocolate makers Joe Guiliano and John Down are inventors of some of the most extravagant and tasty chocolates made today. Their Amarene Cherries begin with imported wild cherries from Italy, then coat them in two layers of chocolate – the first dark, the second bitter-sweet. The result is nuanced flavors both sweet and tart. Spiced chocolate selections have even more complicated combinations – difficult to imagine, but delicious to taste. Names like

Sweet Basil, Coconut Curry, Rosemary Walnut, Cinnamon Cardamom and Basil-Smoked Sea Salt with Olive Oil are not selections normally associated with confections found on an after-dinner chocolate tray.

"Christopher Norman Chocolates are exceptional," concludes Kim Bach. "We're lucky to have them making chocolate in Hudson, and lucky to have them at our store. This tasting should give the customers a chance to see how delicious, exotic and fun artisanal chocolates can be. And, of course, it's no coincidence that we're hosting this event three days before Valentine's Day. We want people to sample these chocolates, then make up a box filled with their favorites. We'll add the bow and they can take it away – ready for gift giving."

The Chocolate and Wine Tasting is scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm on Saturday, February 9th. Verdigris Tea and Chocolate Bar is located on the corner of Second Street at 135 Warren Street. The event is free. For further information, call 518-828-3139.



Socially Scene

by Angela Cornacchio

It seems the city is a bit on the quiet side for events so the theme this week seems to be something you can always rely on in Boston ... music! Yet, there is a little old-fashioned winter treat that I have included to complement all these quality shows set for sound.

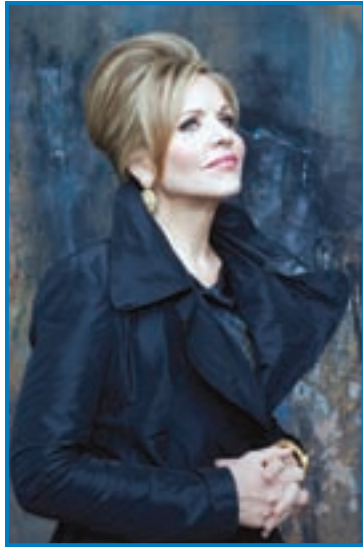
Boston's Celebrity Series moves into February ...

Renée Fleming, soprano and Susan Graham, mezzo-soprano, will take the stage on Sunday, February 3rd at 2:00 pm at Symphony Hall in performances that will complement one another.

The American mezzo-soprano, Susan Graham, was born in New Mexico and raised in Texas. She is a graduate of Texas Tech University and the Manhattan School of Music. She studied the piano for 13 years. She was a winner in the Metropolitan Opera's National Council Auditions and also a recipient of the Schwabacher Award from the Merola Program of San Francisco Opera, as well as a Career Grant from the Richard Tucker Foundation.

A favorite artist at the Salzburg Festival, Susan Graham has appeared there in productions of *Le nozze di Figaro*, *La clemenza di Tito*, *Lucio Silla*, and *Falstaff* and *L'Orfeo*. In 2000 she sang the title role in a new production of Gluck's *Iphigénie en Tauride*. In the late 1990's, she made a series of acclaimed European debuts, including the Vienna State Opera as Octavian, La Scala as Marguerite in *La damnation de Faust* conducted by Seiji Ozawa and Glyndebourne and the Paris Opera as Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, the latter marking the reopening of the Palais Garnier for operatic performances. She made her professional recital debut in San Francisco's prestigious Schwabacher Debut series.

Renée Fleming was born in Indiana, Pennsylvania and grew up in Rochester,



Grammy Award winning soprano Renée Fleming joins the Boston Celebrity Series this February.

(Photo by Andrew Eccles/Decca)

New York. Since her parents were voice teachers, her musical training came naturally; "My parents discussed singing every night over the dinner table; I had a tremendous music education." However, Fleming did not automatically assume that she would make her career in performing. For a time, she considered a career in music education and, while studying at the State University of New York, she took up singing with a jazz trio in an off-campus bar. As well as broadening her experience in performance and communication, the jazz performances brought Fleming to the attention of legendary jazz saxophonist, Illinois Jacquet, who was so moved by her singing that he invited her on tour with his big band. Instead, Renée Fleming went on to graduate studies at both the Eastman School of Music and The Juilliard School. Her early awards included winning the 1988 Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, the Richard Tucker Award, the George London Prize, the Grand Prix at the International Singing Competition in Belgium and a Fulbright



Sixpence None the Richer, a Nashville-based band, hits the stage in Boston on February 4th.

Scholarship to Germany.

Soprano Renée Fleming has a devoted international following wherever she appears, whether on the operatic stage, in concert or recital, on television, radio or on disc. 1999 brought a Grammy Award for her Decca recording, *The Beautiful Voice* which follows honors from *Musical America* (1997 Vocalist of the Year) and *L'Academie du Disque Lyrique* (1996, inaugural Solti Prize). Her recent releases illustrate perfectly just how varied are the roles and music that she likes to perform.

Each season from October to May, the Celebrity Series presents more than 50 multicultural and international artists and performing ensembles to audiences in the greater Boston area. By utilizing a number of different performance venues throughout the Boston area, each year the Celebrity Series presents programs of classical music, modern and classical dance, jazz, folk, world music, family music and multi-media performances.

You can catch these high pitch angels on February 3rd at Symphony Hall located 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston. For more information on the show or tickets you may call the box office at 617-266-1492.

Sue Auclair, Promotions Presents ... Yuto Kanazawa & Earthwards featuring Mario Castro, Felix Peikli, Zwelakhe-Duma Bell le Pere and Roberto Giaquinto on Wednesday, February 13th at 8:00 pm at the Scullers Jazz Club.

Tokyo-born, Fukushima-raise, 26-year-old jazz guitarist and composer Yuto

Kanazawa is a Berklee College of Music and Koyo Conservatory graduate who has been studying all kinds of music — pop, rock, classical, jazz and folk — since he was three years old. Yuto got the "jazz bug" while at Koyo Conservatory and subsequently moved to Boston to attend Berklee where he studied with Mick Goodrick, Tim Miller, Hal Crook, Dave Santoro, Greg Hopkins and Phil Wilson. He has since toured Japan and performed at the Hama-matsu Jazz Festival as well as at the Blue Note Osaka. His hip band also appears in shows and clubs in greater Boston.

Kanazawa's new CD, *Earthwards* will be released February 13th at Scullers with Interrobang Records. It features powerful contemporary jazz with one track, *The Ocean* written immediately in the aftermath of the Fukushima Tsunami disaster in 2010. The piece musically describes his reaction to the devastation in his home city. At Scullers, *Earthwards* will include saxophonist Mario Castro from Puerto Rico, clarinetist Felix Peikli from Oslo, Norway, bassist Zwelakhe-Duma Bell le Pere from Connecticut and drummer Roberto Giaquinto from Italy.

Scullers Jazz Club welcomes Yuto Kanazawa and Earthwards on Wednesday, February 13th. Tickets are on sale at www.scullersjazz.com or by calling 617-562-4111. Scullers Jazz Club is located in the Doubletree Suites by

Hilton Hotel at 400 Soldiers Field Road in Allston.

The Red Room @ Cafe 939 Announces February Shows

... Friday, February 1st at 8:00 pm, The Kopecky Family Band/The Eastern Sea start the month off. Following is; Becca Stevens on Saturday, February 2nd at 8:00 pm and well-known Sixpence None the Richer perform Monday, February 4th at 8:00 pm.

After co-headlining a tour with the Lumineers in April, the Kopecky Family Band put the finishing touches on their album. The result is *Kids Raising Kids*, a culmination of five years of hard work shared amongst friends, family and fans.

From Austin, Texas, the Eastern Sea began working on their first official LP, *Plague*, in 2010. This project represents the band's most cohesive collection of songs to date. Musically, it combines the hypnotic rhythm of post-rock, the playful melodies of traditional American folk and the dynamics of contemporary progressive indie-rock, a distinct evolution of the sound that appeared on the Eastern Sea's self-titled release.

Hailed by *The New York Times* as a "best-kept secret" with an "impressively absorbing" debut album, Becca Stevens has established herself as a singer/composer of enormous talent. Her songs expand and blur the boundaries of folk, jazz and pop

(Continued on Page 13)



Designed in 1815 in Albany, New York, these sleighs have a distinctive round "swell" or "swan" body shape.

(Photo Courtesy of Old Sturbridge Village)

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**DESTINY'S CHILD -
LOVE SONGS
Music World/
Columbia/Legacy**

Romantics' delight, Destiny's Child is here to caress your ears with 14 tracks of pure love. During the group's reign (1997-2005) as the world's top-selling female recording group, they achieved sales of 60 million records. Beyoncé, Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams pour soulful harmonies around love songs that include, *Cater 2 U*, *Killing Time*, *Second Nature* plus from Rowland's solo album — *Heaven*. More Destiny on *Now That She's Gone*, the tender *Brown Eyes* and mark the midpoint with the emotional *If*. The haunting *Emotion* maintains the mood, followed by *If You Leave* featuring next, the fitting *T-Shirt*, the sensual *Temptation* and an interesting Timbaland remix of *Say My Name*. Winding down this excellent collection is the pretty *Love*, and *Nuclear*, Destiny's Child's first new tune in eight years!

PLENA LIBRE - CORAZON

Best described as Puerto Rican music with layers of complex, good-spirited brass, strings, and hard-hitting hand percussion, *Corazon* is a wonderful experience. Plena Libre's founder Gary Nunez is the driving force behind non-stop rhythms that explode on cuts as the spirited *Algo Contigo*, trailed by high energy on *Bomba Pa'Ti*, the plena gem *A Papá*, the young Emanuel Santana serves up his vocals on *Qué es la Vida*, and the bomba classic *Habla Cuembe*. The delicious mix of jazz, rock and other Latin and Afro-Caribbean music continues via the tempestuous *Huracan*, the truthful *La Verdad*, the rhythmic *Tira la Bola*, and Libre ends with a tribute to Puerto Rico's flag with *Que Bonita Bandera*. Super!

**STAND UP GUYS -
SOUNDTRACK
Lakeshore Records**

Stand Up Guys is a film about the mob and their allegiance to one another. The soundtrack is filled with songs 'you can't refuse' — including two new songs written and performed by Jon Bon Jovi titled *Old Habits Die Hard* and *Not Running Anymore*. The list is filled with classic and modern soul songs as, *Hard Times* (Baby Huey & the Babysitters), the funky *Give It Back* (Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings), and the soul gem from Sam & Dave *When Something Is Wrong With My Baby*. Sandwiched slices have, *Bright Lights* (Gary Clark Jr.), the horn-laden *Get Down With It* (Wayne Cochran), the bluesy *How Long* (Charles Bradley with Menahan Street Band), plus Elvin Bishop's hit *Foiled Around and Fell In Love* and Muddy Waters classic (*I'm Your*) *Hoochie Coochie Man*. Lyle Workman delivers an instrumental, musical 'hat trick' with *Stand Up Guys*,

I Was Painting You and the high energy of *Chew Gum Or Kick Ass*. Rounding out the original motion picture soundtrack are Leroy Reynolds' falsetto-flavored *Love From Above* and the soulful funk of *Sock It To 'Em JB* (Pt. 1) from Rex Garvin & the Mighty Cravers. An arresting soundtrack!

**RON OSWANSKI -
DECEMBER'S MOON
Tames Records**

In a human, the most important organ is the heart. In his music, Ron Oswanski's most important organ is his Hammond B3. Long a major player on the jazz scene, he now makes his debut with *December's Moon*. Check out his sounds created by exploring the music of Led Zeppelin, Kenny Wheeler and Fred Hersch, interspersed with his beautiful originals. Opening with one of his seven originals in the form of the lengthy *White Meadow*, followed by saxophonist Tim Ries' soothing *Solo Por Undia*, the gentle glow of Oswanski's title cut *December's Moon*, stepping up with *Ukrania Polka*, and the temperature is rising with *Mercury Retrograde*. Oswanski takes Zeppelin's Jimmy Page/Robert Plant's *The Rain Song* to new heights, followed by four of his originals — *Sleeping Beauty*, the numerical strains of 80-80-8, a tune he co-wrote with the legendary horn genius Maynard Ferguson titled *Milk of the Moon*, and his own jazzy effort *Standard Title*. Wheeler's *Kayak* gets the Oswanski treatment and pianist Fred Hersch's catchy *Evanessence* is polished up and ready to shine with Oswanski tickling the ivories. Super debut!

**LINCOLN -
ORIGINAL MOTION
PICTURE SOUNDTRACK
Sony Classical**

When one thinks of *Lincoln* you can't help but remember his legend of being truthful. So, being truthful, there's nothing like a John Williams score for a Steven Spielberg drama. The original music Williams created for the Oscar-worthy (12 nominations including Williams for 'Best Original Score') *Lincoln* soundtrack and it is memorable. Using 17 tracks, Williams does a presidential job in creating music that superbly depicts the many momentous and historic events. To perform his score, Williams used the services of the renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chicago Symphony Chorus. Highlights noted are tracks as *The People's House*, filled with violins and woodwinds resulting in a moving piece and *The Purpose of the Amendment*, with its grand opening complete with blaring trumpets. Another pair of majestic offerings have the strings providing emotion on *With Malice Toward None* and the pensive solo piano theme on *The Blue and Grey*. A John Williams treasure!

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

**PATRICK GOES AFTER
SODA AND CANDY NOW**

The cost of candy, soda and cigarettes is about to rise. Governor Patrick has submitted his FY 2014 budget taxing ideas. Candy and soda are no longer off limits. Cigarettes will be going up another dollar as the cigarette tax will now go to \$3.51 a pack. Patrick has called the \$434.8 billion budget "a growth budget that makes investments in education and transportation to grow jobs ... and opportunity." Only in Taxachusetts would a liberal politician think that more taxes will create jobs and opportunity.

**COME CELEBRATE
RON DELLA CHIESA'S
BIG DAY**

Ron Della Chiesa's Valentine's Day 75th Birthday Bash will be held on Friday, February 15th. Don't miss this great Sinatra Tribute Dance Party to be held at 8:00 pm down in Hingham at Raffael's at the South Shore Country Club. Wear red and put your dancing shoes on. Dance to Rico Barr & the Jump 'N Jive Review, called New England's premier dance band and pay tribute to the Chairman of the Board, Dino, Louie Prima, Tony Bennett, Michael Buble, Bobby Darin and so many more great voices to enjoy. Also, on May 3rd celebrate Ron Della Chiesa's Spring Tribute to Frank Sinatra also down at Raffael's in Hingham. Dance to Frankie and all the sounds from the American Song Book. (May 3rd, by the way, is one day before my birthday too!) For further information on these events, visit musicnotnoise.com, email Paul Schlosberg at musicnotnoise@aol.com or call Paul at 617-633-5100.

**DEPUTY SHERIFF GROUP
MEETS FEBRUARY 10**

The Middlesex County Deputy Sheriff Association will be holding its annual swearing in ceremony breakfast on Sunday, February 10th at 9:00 am up at the Andover Country Club. Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian will be present to swear each deputy in. For

further information email mcds@Verizon.net.

**PROTESTERS CALL FOR
PAID SICK BENEFITS**

Card-carrying protesters rallied outside a Dunkin Donuts shop across from the State House on January 24th in support of an Earned Paid Sick Time bill. This proposed legislation would ensure that some once million Bay State workers without employer-paid sick time are able to earn sick time off to be used when they or their families are ill. People are constantly being forced to work sick or lose their incomes.

**CONSALVO
WINTER BREAKFAST**

You are invited to join Boston City Councilor Rob Consalvo for a winter breakfast Saturday, February 23rd from 10:00 am to noon at the Boston Lodge of Elks in West Roxbury. For more details, go to www.robconsalvo.com.

**OLD CHARLESTOWN
SCHOOL GIRLS**

Anyone having resided in and attended schools in Charlestown before January 1, 1970 with a desire to become lifetime members of the Old Charlestown School Girls Association can do so by sending a \$10.00 donation for membership. Make checks payable to the association and mail to P.O. Box 290276, Charlestown, MA 02129.

THE RACE IS ON

With the recent and surprising news from Lt. Governor Timmy "Crash" Murray that he will not be a candidate for governor in 2014, the political landscape has changed overnight. Also, the news from Attorney General Martha Coakley that she is geared for a re-election bid for her current office means others will be announcing. Biggest name being mentioned is State Treasurer Steve Grossman. He looks to have both the field organization and cash to make a successful run for governor if he wants to. Long-shots as usual are Joe Kennedy II if he still has the bug or likes being an oil man too much.

I am surprised Barney Frank hasn't been announced yet for the Corner Office.

NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN

Governor Deval Patrick has just appointed new Suffolk Sheriff Steve Tompkins to replace long-time former Sheriff Andrea Cabral who the governor just named as Secretary of the State's Public Safety Division. Tompkins is a Boston College graduate and had been Cabral's spokesperson and for the last five years was the head of external affairs. Many have criticized the new sheriff picked by Patrick as too political. However, I have known Tompkins for almost 10 years and think he will be a good sheriff and is more than qualified for the sheriff's post. I hardly agree with Patrick on anything he says but like him "I think we got the right guy." Best of luck to the new sheriff in town and congrats too to Andrea Cabral on her new public safety post.

**IS IT JUST ME OR DOES
THIS AD SOUND CRAZY**

I found an ad printed in the *Metro* the other day to be bizarre. The advertisement concerned apartments at Mission Main. Newly renovated apartment units are now up for leasing. When I think of Mission Main, I think the projects, don't you? However, listen to this from the paid ad, "Mission Main offers the simplicity and convenience for your active urban lifestyle. Located in the vibrant Mission Hill neighborhood, Mission Main Apartments are just minutes away from endless possibilities and steps to the Brigham Circle MBTA Green Line T Stop and Longwood Medical Area." Oh and by the way, rents start at \$2500 per month with heat and hot water. Doesn't this sound like a heavenly place to call home? Not for me. Remember once again, this is near the Brigham and Women's Hospital too. Keep this all in mine when walking alone late at night living your active urban lifestyle, huh?

• Mayor Menino is Back

(Continued from Page 1)

when a young Kevin H. White ran for mayor when I was only 19 years old. He was a visionary too. He had his song too that went "Only the Strong Survive." I saw many young people in the audience for the mayor's address and I am sure they were feeling what I felt back when Kevin White moved into City Hall. For a couple of minutes that old enthusiasm of mine returned and I was feeling like Boston's best days were still ahead of it.

Boston remains in good hands today thanks to the leadership of the Honorable Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of Boston.

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NOW PLAYING UPTOWN & DOWNTOWN



The Boston Lyric Opera presents *Così Fan Tutte* this March at the Shubert Theater. For more information about the production see the THEATER SECTION.

THEATER

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE
539 Washington St., Boston, MA
617-259-3400
www.BostonOperaHouse.com

SHEN YUN 2013 — February 8-10, 2013. Shen Yun brings to life 5,000 years of Chinese civilization through classical Chinese dance and music in an exhilarating show you will never forget. Shen Yun captures the spirit of a culture long lost. The show moves quickly through regions, dynasties and legends. Ethnic and folk dances fill the stage with color and energy. Tremendous athleticism, thunderous battle drums and masterful vocalists are all set to animated backdrops that transport you to another world. It is a grand production with nearly 100 artists, 400 costumes and the only orchestra in the world featuring both classical Western and Chinese instruments as permanent members. Shen Yun is the first company to present classical Chinese dance to the world on a large scale. And it has taken the globe by storm, performing in over 100 cities. Shows in top venues, like New York's Lincoln Center, are sold out. Think of it as a journey into a long-lost world you cannot see anywhere else — from ancient legends to heavenly palaces to the dusty plateaus of the Middle Kingdom. You cannot even find a show like this in China, where this ancient heritage has been destroyed. But now you can experience it live on stage. For thousands of years, Chinese artists cultivated virtue, believing that to create true art worthy of the heavens, there must first be inner purity. Today, Shen Yun's artists follow this noble tradition. The result is a performance of consummate beauty, purity and goodness. Find out why artists and theatergoers around the world are calling Shen Yun "brehtaking," "mesmerizing," "a miracle" and "inspiring." Allow yourself to be taken away to distant lands and ancient legends.

THE BOOK OF MORMON — April 9-28, 2013. Winner of nine Tony Awards including Best Musical. From Trey Parker and Matt Stone, four-time Emmy Award-winning creators of *South Park* and Tony Award-winner Robert

Lopez, co-creator of the Tony Award-winning Best Musical *Avenue Q*, comes *The Book of Mormon*, a new Broadway musical that Jon Stewart of *The Daily Show* describes as, "a crowning achievement, so good it makes me angry" and by *Entertainment Weekly* as "the funniest musical of all time." Featuring choreography by Tony Award-winner Casey Nicholaw, *The Book of Mormon* is directed by Nicholaw and Parker. Don't miss your chance to see what Ben Brantley of *The New York Times* calls "the best musical of this century." Contains explicit language.

CITI PERFORMING ARTS CENTER WANG
270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
617-482-9393
www.CitiCenter.org

JERSEY BOYS: THE STORY OF FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS — January 30 to March 3, 2013. More than 117,000 theatergoers cheered when JERSEY BOYS made its sell-out premiere at the Citi Performing Arts Center Shubert Theatre and 84,000 more during its triumphant Winter 2010 return to the Citi Emerson Colonial Theatre! Worldwide, more than 13 million people have seen JERSEY BOYS. And now, the show that makes critics and audiences cheer is "Working Its Way Back" to Boston. JERSEY BOYS, is the Tony®, Grammy® and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers The Four Seasons: Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito, and Nick Massi. This is the story of how four blue-collar kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. JERSEY BOYS features their hit songs *Sherry*, *Big Girls Don't Cry*, *Rag Doll*, *Oh What a Night* and *Can't Take My Eyes Off You*.

REAGLE MUSIC THEATRE
617 Lexington St., Waltham, MA
781-891-5600
www.ReagleMusicTheatre.org

VICKI LAWRENCE AND MAMA: A TWO WOMAN SHOW — Sunday, February 17, 2013. Vicki Lawrence returns with the role that took her to stardom. The Emmy award winning performer gained esteem for her role as Thelma Harper (also known as Mama) from the *Carol Burnett Show*

and the celebrated show *Mama's Family*. She is bringing back the character that made her famous in *Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A Two Woman Show*. Instead of revisiting the now legendary skits, this performance will feature brand new pieces that mix comedy, music and Vicki's views on the real world. This is the perfect show for audiences looking for laughs and satire.

SHUBERT THEATER
270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA
617-482-9393
www.CitiCenter.org/Theatres/Shubert

THE BOSTON LYRIC OPERA PRESENTS COSÌ FAN TUTTE — March 15-24, 2013. Mozart master of the ambiguities of love explores the battle between passion and reason through the lens of a playful and, at times, deeply serious farce. Set on a sunny Neapolitan beach under the looming threat of Mount Vesuvius, two young men gamble that their fiancées will remain faithful, even under the utmost pressure. *Così Fan Tutte* is light, airy, ravishing and yet, in the end, moving and serious; proof that love is, indeed, a dangerous game. British baritone Thomas Allen makes his BLO debut as the production's stage director as well as onstage in his signature role, Don Alfonso. Allen is an established star of the world's greatest opera houses, recently celebrating his 40th anniversary with the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Caroline Worra and Sandra Piques Eddy return as the sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella. Performances are sung in English.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston, MA
617-931-2787 or 617-426-6912
www.Charles-Playhouse.com

BLUE MAN GROUP — Ongoing. This giddily subversive off-Broadway hit serves up outrageous and inventive theater where three muted, blue-painted performers spoof both contemporary art and modern technology. Wry commentary and bemusing antics are matched only by the ingenious ways in which music and sound are created. The show has recently been updated.

SHEAR MADNESS — Ongoing. This hilarious Boston-set whodunit, where the clues change every night and the laughs come fast and furious, is a worldwide phenomenon filled with up-to-the-minute spontaneous humor and quicksilver improvisation where the audience becomes part of the action and gets to solve the crime.

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Oberon, 2 Arrow St., Harvard Sq., Cambridge, MA
617-547-8300

www.AmericanRepertoryTheatre.org
THE DONKEY SHOW — Ongoing. Bringing the ultimate disco experience to Boston, this crazy circus of mirror balls, feathered divas, roller skaters and hustle queens tell the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* through great '70s anthems you know by heart.

MUSEUMS

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway Boston, MA
617-566-1401
www.GardnerMuseum.org

THE EDUCATON STUDIO PRESENTS WARP, WEFT, STITCH — Saturday, February 9th at 11 am. The Education Studio is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm, there to spark your creativity through hands-on projects for visitors of all ages although visitors under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Spend some time looking at the tapestries in the Museum's collection—each one has a fascinating story to tell. Then come to the studio to try your hand at textile techniques.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square
161 Essex Street, Salem, MA
978-745-9500, 866-745-1876
978-740-3649
www.PEM.org

NATURAL HISTORIES, PHOTOGRAPHS BY BARBARA BOSWORTH — Now through March 31, 2013. Over the last 20 years, renowned Boston artist Barbara Bosworth has made photographs of her family around her childhood home in Novelty, Ohio and at other locations significant to her family. Be among the first to see these touching images that explore the joy of youth and the wistfulness of aging,

memory and the passage of time. Also on view, delicate natural objects collected by Bosworth's family show a continuity of interest in nature across generations. The photographs in *Natural Histories*, Photographs by Barbara Bosworth are among the most successful of Bosworth's career, but most will appear for the first time at PEM. Support provided by the East India Marine Associates (EIMA) of the Peabody Essex Museum. *Natural Histories*, Photographs by Barbara Bosworth is part of PEM's Year of Photography, which is sponsored in part by WBUR, Boston's NPR news station, Hunt's Photo & Video, and Canon.

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
46 Joy Street, Beacon Hill
Boston, MA
617-725-0022

www.AfroAmMuseum.org
PORTRAITS OF PURPOSE: A TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP - BOSTON 1980-2012 — Now through April 15, 2013. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Boston was a leader among Northern communities of color. Black Bostonians traveled and interacted with leaders nationally and internationally. They were entrepreneurs, educators, artists, authors, activists, elected officials and patriots. This tradition continues. Leaders and citizens in Boston's communities of color have continued to lead and form institutions that have proved critical to the fabric of this city. Their activism, community involvement and commitment have led to a better Boston and a better world. A selection of these dedicated citizens is represented in Don West's *Portraits of Purpose*, a collection of life-sized photographs. *Portraits of Purpose* gives us an understanding of the many people of Boston and beyond who have acted their conscience and made a difference. Their history will not be forgotten. Don West, noted Boston photographer, has been photographically recording the events and the people in Boston for over 35 years. He began his career as a freelance and news photographer, making a conscious choice to capture affirmative images of people of color in all facets of community life. In the 1980s he worked for United Press International and Boston's black weekly paper, the *Bay State Banner*. West has since gone on a host of assignments with major newspapers and magazines such as the Boston Globe, New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, Ebony, People and Black Enterprise.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston
617-267-9300
www.MFA.org

VISITING MASTERPIECES: THE CAPITOLINE BRUTUS — Now through May 1, 2013. Don't miss your chance to see one of the icons of Roman art on view in the MFA's Roman Art Gallery only through May 1. The Capitoline "Brutus," a world-famous bronze portrait of a Roman statesman is on loan from the Palazzo dei Conservatori/Capitoline Museum, Rome, for just a short time. The loan of this extraordinary work of art is part of an ongoing partnership between the Museum of Fine Arts and Italy that started with the transfer of thirteen antiquities to Italy in 2006. The head is believed to be of L. Junius Brutus, founder of the Roman Republic, and possibly ancestor to the Brutus who assassinated Caesar. Long associated with liberty — and one of the earliest examples of Western portraiture — this image has been an icon of Roman art since its discovery in the 16th century.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
1 Science Park, Boston, MA
617-723-2500
www.MOS.org

DESIGN ZONE — Opens Sunday, February 10, 2013. What does it take to make a video game you can't put down? How many beats per minute do you need for rhythms that draw your friends onto the dance floor? How do you design a roller coaster or a skate park to give riders the biggest thrills? In Design Zone, learn the science behind some of the world's most energizing experiences. Art, music, and engineering — math concepts are the foundation for amazing creations from these fields. Put your own math skills to the test as you match beats to sample tracks, create and test your own roller coaster on a giant magnet wall, and more! Design Zone was created and is toured by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, Oregon. The exhibit was made possible with funds provided by the National Science Foundation.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOSTON CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTER
415 Summer Street, Boston, MA
617-954-2000

www.MCCAHome.com/BCEC.html
THE PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE NEW ENGLAND BOAT SHOW — February 16th-24th. New England's premier winter boating event. The show fills 300,000 square feet with hundreds of the newest boats from the region's top dealers, along with a wide selection of marine accessories and special features, creating a marine marketplace and boater's paradise like no other! The Progressive Insurance New England Boat Show offers dozens of sailboats from skiffs and one design dinghy racers to Coastal Cruisers. All rigged and ready for your inspection! The show also has more than 250 exhibits of the latest in marine accessories to stock up on everything from the newest navigational equipment, hardware and galley ware for your boat. There will be seminars and informational clinics, interactive displays, giveaways, contests and more!

FENWAY PARK
4 Yawkey Way, Boston, MA
617-226-6666

www.redsox.com/tours
FENWAY PARK WINTER LIGHT SHOW — Now through February 28th. For a limited time, the fabled Green Monster comes alive to music and lights. Experience this spectacular display of illumination at America's Most Beloved Ballpark. Available daily on the 4 pm, 5 pm and 6 pm tours. For more info call (617) 226-6675.

COMEDY

NICK'S COMEDY STOP
100 Warrenton Street, Boston
www.NicksComedyStop.com

DAVE RUSSO — Friday and Saturday, February 8th and 9th. Recently named "Best Male Comic" in the city by the Boston Examiner, Dave Russo has been a mainstay of Boston comedy for the last fifteen years. As co-host of NESN's *Dirty Water TV*, he produces a regular comedy series, in addition to reporting on the best of Boston night life. He has appeared on The E! TV series *The Entertainer*, NBC's *The Today Show*, FOX 25 with Gene Lavanchy, *The Phantom Gourmet* and was hand selected by the producer of NBC's *Last Coming Standing* to perform on NESN's *Comedy All-Stars*. Dave was recently featured on BostonGlobe.com's "Boston, A Comedy Capital" panel, where he participated in a discussion of the history and future of Boston comedy. You can hear him every Friday on 980 WCAP. Dave performs regularly for the troops, appearing with the U.S.O. at shows all over the country. He is also heavily involved and supports many local charities. Dave has performed on Denis Leary's annual "Comics Come Home" to benefit The Neely House. He has played softball alongside Boston Bruin Milan Lucic at his annual Rock & Jock Celebrity Softball game raising money for the Celebrities for Charity Foundation. Borth shows begin at 8:30 pm and are appropriate for ages 18 and over.

WILBUR THEATRE
246 Tremont St., Boston, MA
www.TheWilburTheatre.com

JUSTIN WILLMAN: MAGICIAN AND HOST OF FOOD NETWORK'S CUPCAKE WARS — Saturday, February 9th. Justin Willman, also known as Justin Kredible, is an American actor, magician and entertainer. He hosts two Food Network series, *Cupcake Wars* and *Last Cake Standing*, and two shows on The Hub, *Hubworld* and *Scrabble Showdown*. He also makes appearances in live magic shows around the country. His television appearances include *The Defenders*, *The Suite Life on Deck*, *Room 401* (produced by Ashton Kutcher), *The Today Show* and multiple appearances on the *The Rachael Ray Show* as well as many commercials. In March 2012 he appeared on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. Willman has his own show, *Magic Meltdown* on the Nerdist YouTube channel. Willman is an alumnus of Emerson College in Boston and St. Louis' Ladue Horton Watkins High School. His live shows have been a hit all across the country. This evening's show begins at 7 pm and is appropriate for ages 18 and over.

ITALIAN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMS

"The Sicilian Corner" 10:00 am to 12 Noon every Friday with host Tom Zappala and Mike Lomazzo and **"The Italian Show"** with Nunzio DiMarca every Sunday from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Go to www.1110uccmam.com.

"Italia Oggi" Sundays 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm with host Andrea Urdis 1460 AM www.1460WXBR.com.

"Dolce Vita Radio" DJ Rocco Mesiti 11:00 am-1:00 pm Sundays 90.7 FM or online www.djrocco.com.

"The Nick Franciosa Show" Sundays from 12 Noon to 3:00 pm on WLYN 1360 AM and WAZN 1470 AM.

"Guido Oliva Italian Hour" 8:00 am-9:00 am Sundays on WSRO 650 AM and online at www.wsro.com.

"Radio Italia Unita" - Thursdays 2:00 pm-3:00 pm on www.zumix.org/ radio or itunes, college radio click on Zumix. For more information, log onto www.italiaunita.org.

"Tony's Place" on MusicAmerica WPLM FM 99.1 - Sundays 9:00 pm-10:00 pm on MusicAmerica. Host Ron Della Chiesa presents Tony's Place. Visit www.MusicNotNoise.com.

Ray Barron's 11 O'CLOCK NEWS

So what's new? Americans under the age of 50 are more likely to have poor health and die prematurely than people in 16 other developed countries, according to a new study by the National Research Council. Car accidents, gun violence, obesity, diabetes and drug overdoses are the leading contributors to the U.S.'s comparatively low life expectancy among the countries in the study, including Canada, Australia and the nations of Western Europe.

Speaking of health, medical doctors measure physical health by how the tongue looks. The Great Physician measures spiritual health by how the tongue acts.

Just remember a good wife and good health are a man's best wealth.

Wow! A set of gold rings stolen at a house party 15 years ago has been returned by a self-professed "dumb kid who wants to right a wrong." The four rings disappeared in 1998 after Margot Riphagen, then 16, hosted a party at her parents' house in Portland, Oregon. They included her mother's wedding ring and her grandparents' wedding bands. The contrite but still anonymous thief mailed the rings to Riphagen's parents along with a letter of apology. "As an adult I realize how sentimental items like this can be," he wrote.

Big news! A 400-pound woman who crashed through a New York City sidewalk survived because her girth cushioned her fall. "They said that my size was the only thing that saved me," Ulanda Williams said.

Natural gas, after the Social Security Administration issued, then retracted, an official reprimand to a flatulent staff member. The worker was told that his gas-passing constituted "conduct unbecoming a federal employee," until higher-ups withdrew the rebuke.

Did you hear about the two unemployed school teachers? One had no principle, the other, no class!

According to the astute and charming Rosalie Cunio of Waltham, the only thing that children wear out faster than shoes are parents and teachers.

The world seldom notices who teachers are; but civilization depends on what they do and what they say.

Isola del Giglio, Italy. A year after the cruise ship *Costa Concordia* ran aground off the coast of Italy, hundreds of workers are still engaged in the largest salvage operation in history. The 114,000-ton ship, listing precariously for months, has been secured with giant cables and in a few months huge metal platforms will be erected under the ship so it can be rolled upright this summer and eventually towed to a shipyard. "There is a lot of calculating, recalculating and validating the calculations in an operation like this," said Nick Sloane of Titan Salvage. "There is no room for mistakes." Since the grounding, thousands of pounds of food have been rotting in the hull and the stench now reaches the surface.

Carlo Scostumato wonders if some of the food includes Baccala.

Wow! A dog that looks like a lion sparked a panic in Norfolk, Virginia. "Charles the Monarch" is in fact a Labradoodle, shaved and dyed by his owner to resemble the lion mascot of nearby Old Dominion University. Wandering near his home, Charles prompted several Norfolk residents to breathlessly dial 911. "I'd like to report a lion sighting!" one caller said. Police quickly traced the reports to Charles. The dog, meanwhile, is now world famous, with 50,000 Facebook friends and 1,000 Twitter followers.

Disgusting! In India, about 100,000 women are burned to death each year by husbands or families. Another 125,000 die from injuries inflicted in domestic violence that's never reported to police. Source: *The New York Times*

The lovely Mona Lisa Cappuccio, says, "A New Year's resolution is a promise to stop doing everything you enjoy most."

The great Peter Beatrice of Swampscott says, "Serious trouble comes when the New Year's resolutions collide with the old year's habits."

You are under surveillance! There are around 330 million commercial surveillance cameras in the U.S., and thousands of government cameras, recording your image at banks, toll booths, grocery stores and public places. Police patrol cars in many cities are being equipped with automatic license-plate readers that check 1,000 plates an hour against database scofflaws. With facial-recognition technology in the works, "how long until police identify 1,000 faces per hour walking around the streets?" Online, your emails, searches and website travels are being tracked and recorded; so are your travels in the real world, as revealed by your Smartphone or your tablet's GPS. The government can easily demand access to all this information. The National Security Agency is building a massive, \$2 billion data center in Utah, capable of storing 5 zettabytes of data — the equivalent of "every email, cell phone call, Google search and surveillance-camera video for a long time to come. "If you are online or out in public, you may well be under surveillance, "Plan for it."

The USA now is: Led by a biracial president. More diverse (Hispanics have surpassed blacks as the largest minority). There are more single people. The median age of marriage is at a new high (28.6 for men and 26.6 for women). More people are living alone or with unmarried partners and less than half of households are traditional husband-and-wife arrangements. The latest Census data count same-sex couples and people who are multiracial. According to William Frey, demographer at the Brookings Institution, for most of the nation's history black-white race relations have dominated. Now, the surge in the number of Hispanics — who can be of any race but are counted as a group — has changed the equation. So has the rapid growth of Asians. "But Hispanics really are a very big part of America's present and future," Frey says.

In brief, real brief! The history of the Italian in America began in 1492, when Christopher Columbus sailed out of Balos, Spain in the service of Queen Isabella. Three months later, Columbus and his ships reached the island of San Salvador in the Bahamas. Columbus was on America's doorstep. How could he have figured that during the next 500 years the descendents of his countrymen, through their energy and creativity, would make major contributions to the progress and culture of a great American civilization.

Show biz stuff by the stately musicologist Albert Natale. With a pregnant wife and only \$100 in the bank, Sylvester Stallone wrote the script for *Rocky* in three and a half days. The screenplay found a buyer, but Stallone, age 30, refused to sign the contract unless he was allowed to play the lead. The film received an Oscar for Best Picture in 1976. Stallone is one of the highest-paid actors of all time. Reminder! One of Hollywood's most gifted directors, Frank Capra was born in Sicily in 1897. While with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, legendary drummer Dave Tough played on some of the biggest hits of the era, including "Marie" and "Song of India." He replaced Gene Krupa in the Benny Goodman Band, when Krupa ventured on his own. While most remembered for his choral arrangements, Fred Waring also played violin and banjo. Among his hit recordings, "The Whiffenpoof Song" with Bing Crosby in 1947. And drummer Gene Krupa studied for the priesthood before becoming a professional musician.

Take a bow! The 113th Congress is the most diverse in history, with 81 women in the House and 20 in the Senate; 29 Latinos in the House and 3 in the Senate; 42 African-Americans in the House and 1 in the Senate; and the first Buddhist in the Senate, Mazie Hirono of Hawaii.

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME



Recipes from the Homeland

by Vita Orlando Sinopoli



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BREADED EGGPLANT SLICES

Baked or Fried

1 medium size eggplant	2 beaten eggs
2 cups prepared breadcrumbs	¾ cup olive, vegetable or canola oil

Remove dark eggplant skin with paring knife or potato peeler. Slice eggplant into one-quarter inch rounds. Layer slices on a flat dish and salt lightly. Beads of liquid will appear on the slices as they rest one on top of the other. Cover eggplant with wax or plastic paper and place in the refrigerator for at least a half-hour.

FOR FRYING: With paper towels, wipe beads of liquid from each eggplant slice before dipping into beaten eggs. Then coat with prepared breadcrumbs and set aside in a platter.

Heat one-quarter cup of oil in a skillet. Place breaded slices in heated oil and fry until brown on both sides. Place fried eggplant slices on paper towels to absorb oil. Then set aside on a clean platter. Because eggplant slices absorb oil while frying, additional oil may be needed in the skillet as you fry.

FOR BAKING: Place breaded eggplant slices on a lightly sprayed baking tray. Drip small amount of oil on top of each eggplant slice in the tray. Bake in a preheated 350°F oven for fifteen minutes. Turn over all slices that have browned. Return to oven and bake another ten to fifteen minutes. Check often in order not to burn. Remove from oven when browned and tender to your liking. Continue baking remaining breaded eggplant slices in this fashion.

Serve hot or cooled. Remaining cooked eggplant slices can be refrigerated. Reheat in microwave oven for a later serving.

NOTE: Some North End neighbors planted eggplant seeds in large containers on their fire escapes or on the roof. Some grew them in their rented garden lots in Revere or Woburn. Others waited to purchase eggplants in produce stores on Salem, Cross and Blackstone Streets. Today they are available throughout the year.

When baked, they are a tasty and nutritious snack that can also be served as a hors d'oeuvre.

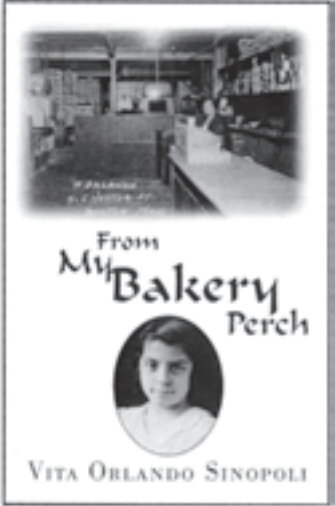
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Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



I pulled into the local gas station that I frequent, asked the attendant to fill the tank and waited while he handled the pump. I know several of the employees at this particular station and often chat or kid with them while the gas is flowing. The employee servicing me glanced at my appearance a couple of times during the filling process and when I handed him the cash, he said, "You know what I like about you? You have class, something you don't see in people too often anymore." I felt embarrassed, thanked him and then asked why he said what he did. His reply was, "You're always dressed with a suit and tie, so you look the part. You treat us with respect when you speak to us, which means you act the part, so you must be secure enough to play the part without being phony about it."

As I drove to work, I began thinking about the way I dress and act in public. My conclusion was that I learned it from Babbononno. My maternal grandfather often said that he was the shortest man ever in the Italian marines. When he stood tall, he made to 4 feet, eleven inches ... that's it. He often said that he was short even by Italian standards. Once, after a couple of glasses of wine, he offered up, "Where I come from, everybody is my size. If you were over five foot eight inches in Foggia in the late eighteen hundreds, it was assumed that your mother had an affair with a Turk. (For whatever reason that I never discovered, Babbononno did not like Turks.) From this diminutive grandfather, I learned many things that I've held on to during my life. He taught me the skills for survival professionally, that is he taught me what he knew: how to play music and how to build things from wood. As a result, I became a professional musician in my teens and although I never worked as a carpenter I taught cabinet making and woodworking many years ago. Those weren't the only things I got from Babbononno. He taught me how to dress. His translated comments about one's appearance included the image you pass off to the public, "If you dress like a bum, you could have a million dollars in your pocket, but people will look at you like a bum. If you look the part and have holes in your pockets and nothing more, you will be respected due to the image."

As a child, I watched my grandfather ready himself when he had to go out. He would spit-shine his shoes to a mirror glass finish. He would next lay out the suit he was going to wear and then decide which starched white shirt, necktie and pocket handkerchief he was going to add in. After he bathed and shaved, there was always a splash of after shave that gave him a nice smell, and before he left the house, he always brushed his favorite fedora and then placed it on his head looking into a mirror as he adjusted the brim. This is the image that I still have of my grandfather. Beyond this, I watched him in action when, as a child, I accompanied him. He treated people he met on the street with respect. He and Nanna both used to say regarding respect, "You give it, you get it." Actually, the way Nanna said it was, "Se si sputo direttiamenti in aria, si cada solo nel su' faccia." (If you spit straight up in the air, it only comes back in your own face.) She had a way with words.

Well, growing up most kids find a reference point or let's say someone they try to emulate. Even at a young age, I remembered the words and images of my grandfather and decided to look the part and act the part. Don't get me wrong, I didn't dress like Babbononno. I dressed, but followed the styles of the day. In the '50s, when a one button suit was all the rage, especially if the pants were pegged at the bottom, I was on top of it. To this image I added in pointed toe shoes with the sole sticking out on the side a bit to give the title of spades to the look. Due to Babbononno's influence, they were always shined. My dress shirt had a rolled collar, a style we copied from Billy Eckstine, a pop singer and band leader back then. To this I added in a narrow velvet tie.

From that point to now was, let's see, 58 years ago, and I still like to dress. When I lecture, I dress ... suit and tie. Some of my contemporaries show up on campus to teach wearing the same things the students are wearing, jeans, sneakers, a hoodie, who knows what else that makes them look like the male members of their classes. My rationale is, I'm the professor, I might as well look the part ... and for me it works. My approach in terms of respect corresponds to the image. I try to treat people as I want to

be treated. It seems to work with both my contemporaries and my students as well.

Thinking back to my days on a street corner in East Boston and the North End, there were guys who were tough and we feared them. There were those who were respectful and we envied their popularity. The choices for developing personalities were do you want to be feared or respected. Some chose the former, others the latter, and a few both. As I grew into my own, the tough guys stayed on the street corner and the rest of us grew out of it at some point. Don't get me wrong, I think the street corner gave me several tools that I've used in life, especially something called "street smarts." This isn't something you can get out of a book; you have to learn it by living it. Today, they would call it a survival skill ... but believe me it works.

One thing that impressed me as a teenager was the way Mr. Ray, the manager of the Seville Theater where I worked, handled people. All of the patrons treated him with respect. Most called him by Mr., not by his first name. When my father dropped in unexpectedly one night as I worked, I tried to introduce him to my boss. Dad called him Jim and Mr. Ray called Dad, John. I was shocked. What I didn't know was that they knew each other from bygone days. What I liked about Mr. Ray's image was the parade of young ladies that came into the theater to visit with him. Being an impressionable teenager, I was impressed. I combined what Babbononno had taught me about dressing and added in the things I observed where Mr. Ray was concerned. I developed an image that seemed to have been effective and maybe still is.

In terms of respect again, I stayed at the Seville from the time I was thirteen until I was out of college. In my early 20s I was already a working musician and on my way to a career in teaching. My days at the Seville were getting numbered but it was tough to leave. By this point in time, Mr. Ray had become a surrogate father image and when we went out to dinner on occasion, he insisted I call him Jim. I just couldn't do it. It would have been like calling my father, Johnny or Babbononno, Mike. The title Mr. stayed.

They are all gone now, Babbononno, Dad and Mr. Ray, but the lessons I learned are still fresh in my mind. Hopefully the apple doesn't fall far from the tree and I've passed on to my kids the things I've learned in life. I think this is true as both my boys seem to be successful in life. Time will tell and I hope I'll be around to witness the future and then look back and say, "Mille grazie, Papa, Babbononno e Signore Ray." GOD BLESS AMERICA

• Socially Scene (Continued from Page 9)

while engaging the listener through keen poetic observation, rich musical language and beguiling singing. Her musical roots are in classical guitar, the folk music of her native North Carolina, and jazz, with additional influences ranging from West African rhythms to eccentric pop.

Sixpence None the Richer was founded by guitarist Matt Slocum and singer Leigh Nash. Since 1993, the Nashville-based band has released four albums, scored several hit singles, and appeared on countless soundtracks. They are best known for their songs *Kiss Me* and *Breathe Your Name* and their covers of *Don't Dream It's Over* and *There She Goes*. They've landed a platinum record and have been nominated for several Grammy Awards. Long in the making, their latest album, *Lost in Transition*, finds Slocum and Nash sharing the songwriting duties, along with musician Stephen Wilson, Nash's husband. This album features a stripped down sound. The end result is a gorgeous mix of pop hooks, piano, acoustic guitars, a bit of country and a newfound beautiful simplicity to the songs. To coincide with the album's release, the band will hit Turkey, Europe and the U.S.

Berklee College of Music's Red Room @ Cafe 939 is a state-of-the-art, all-ages venue and coffeehouse. Cafe 939 is dedicated to showcasing, developing, and supporting musical and performance endeavors that fit in a 200-capacity club. The venue is open to the general public and aims to attract musicians and music fans from all walks of life. Right down to the colors on the walls, it's a jewel. The Red Room @ Cafe 939 is located at 939 Boylston St., Boston. For more information or tickets visit www.cafe939.com.

Old-Fashioned Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rally ... Old Sturbridge Village celebrates the nostalgia, romance and

grace of gliding over the snow in horse-drawn sleighs at its annual Antique Sleigh Rally set for Saturday, February 2nd beginning at 11:00 am.

Among vintage sleighs featured will be Portland and Albany cutters, utility sleighs and bob sleighs pulled by different horse breeds, including Haflinger, Standard Breed, Gypsy, Morgan, Arabian, Clydesdale, Percheron, Registered Mini and Spotted Draft Saddlebred. The competition includes divisions for adults and juniors. In the "Currier & Ives" class drivers and passengers wear vintage costumes and in the "Sleigh Dog" class, drivers' dogs get to come along for the ride.

According to Old Sturbridge Village historians, getting about in winter via sleigh over snow-packed roads was easier and smoother than navigating bumpy roads at other times of the year. After the first snow of the season, early New England families usually switched from wheels to runners and from carriages to cutters. Even stagecoaches exchanged their wheels for runners in winter.

Sleighs came in many shapes and sizes, from utilitarian vehicles resembling wooden boxes set on runners with benches inside for passengers, to the finely crafted and polished cutters of the high Victorian era. Bob-sleighs were mounted on four short runners called "bobs" that maneuvered independently, making these sleighs easier to turn sharply and less likely to tip over than sleighs with a single long runner on each side.

Sleighbing season was also a time for the young to court and families to visit. Winter was the social season in early New England. Crops had been harvested, livestock butchered and preserved, and while there was always work to do on the farm, and tasks were not as pressing during the short days and long nights of winter. "People not only had time to relax a bit and socialize, but traveling to see friends and relatives was easier in the winter," Kelleher notes. "The winter months were filled with visiting, organized dances, impromptu 'frolics' and other social occasions. Travel by horse-drawn sleigh usually played a major role in all the cold weather jocularity."

With Valentine's Day just around the corner a sleigh ride is a great way to let your sweetie know you care. For event details you can visit www.osv.org or call 800-SEE-1830.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Docket No. MI12P5476EA

Estate of
CAROLYN DALY
Date of Death November 12, 2012
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PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Ishay Grinberg of Natick, MA.

Ishay Grinberg of Natick, 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.

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A.T.P.

• News Briefs (Continued from Page 1)

Luther King, Jr. Obama gave his “We are Government” speech. Remember back in 1961 on a snowy Inauguration Day when JFK stated, “Ask not what you can do for your government but what your government can do for you.” If you remember that, you must be living on some other planet. John F. Kennedy put his strength in the people and not the government but Obama seems to feel the government is here to do for us and turn too many Americans into accepting the idea that government is here to hand us free stuff. We will become serfs with all these “entitlement” programs that sap the strength out of us. We will look to government for everything from sliced cheese to direction.

Back in 1961, America still knew that we the people are the government. Today that no longer seems the case. We seem on the road to socialism and serfdom. Our founders must be rolling over in their graves.

America is changing and I grow weary of it all.

Jimmy O'Neill DJ Who Hosted TV's Shindig!

Jimmy O'Neil, barely out of his teens when he became a top-rated radio disc jockey and only 24 when he hosted TV's rock 'n roll show *Shindig!* recently passed away at 73 years old. In 1959 he made radio history as the first voice on KRBC-AM when it dropped its country-western format for rock music. The station rose quickly as a powerhouse and launched him into TV in 1964 as emcee of *Shindig!* Anybody who was anybody showed up on his show. It ran once a week on prime time as opposed to “Where the Action Is,” during the afternoons. Dick Clark's *American Bandstand* was a Saturday noon time show. The Beatles were guest on his show back in 1964. O'Neill had to take his show to England since the group was too busy to come to California.

I will always remember how he opened each show with the rousing welcome: “Howdy-hi, Shindiggers. We've got a Shindig for you that's so far it's out of sight.” Bill Medley of the Righteous Brothers once said of O'Neill, “Jimmy was the perfect guy to host the show. He wasn't slick; he never tried to be too hip. He was just the perfect guy to hold all that together.” I tried never to miss that show of his and all the great guests who performed for TV viewers. The show only lasted 15 months on ABC but has been forever remembered by many aging boomers even today.

Another Great Opine from Letter Writer

I love reading good letters to the editor. Another showed up the other day in the *Boston Herald* from Teri O'Conner of Leominster who stated, “Shame on Congress and the president for failing to keep the 2 percentage payroll-tax cut for Social Security. Trying to protect the middle-class? Really? They should all have to live

paycheck to paycheck and still not have enough money to live on. Then they would see how the real world is.”

Look Out for Big Doctor

Never-mind George Orwell, 1984 and Big Brother, with the government now in charge of our health care, soon Capitol Hill and the White House will be telling us what and what not to eat or drink. Really, this has already started. Think Mayor Bloomberg and New York City when he sought to outlaw all super-sized drinks. This, we know what's good for you government mentality will only grow worse now. If government pays all the medical costs of treating sick people, soon won't government start rationing care, will our government soon punish us for not taking proper care of ourselves?

If our founding fathers returned today, how much would they like what they are seeing from the government they created? In many ways, the further we get from the Spirit of '76, the more we are turning into King George's England. Our 18th century founders were sharp as a razor when it came to democracy but our leaders today only look as sharp as a bowling ball.

Quote to Note

“The struggle of today is not altogether for today — it is for a vast future also.”

— President Abraham Lincoln, December 3, 1861

Don't Mess with Texas?

I love Texas and enjoy visiting with my family down there. It is a Red State where American values are still held high but like everywhere else, our values seem under attack. When it comes to the Second Amendment, this place doesn't back down from liberals attacking the right to keep and bear arms. However, it does seem that common sense sometimes can get caught in the crossfire. Recently, Republican Rep. Jason Villalba at the State Capitol has introduced something called the Protection of Texas Children Act which would permit Texas schools to “appoint a member of the faculty as a “school marshal,” who would be trained, certified and authorized to carry a concealed weapon. Speaker Joe Strauss has not yet taken a stand on this proposal. Republican Lt. Governor Dave Dewhurst is also considering legislation requiring training for teachers who want to carry weapons at work.

I am a strong supporter of the first 10 amendments as the basis for our entire system of government. We need the Bill of Rights in order to have a true democratic republic. The government isn't them, it is us. However, I do not support putting firearms in the classrooms of Texas or anywhere else as a protection from crazed killers bent on destruction of life. Texas seems to be over-reaching and acting more out of emotion than logic. Understandable after Sandy Hook but still not the response needed.



EXTRA Innings

by Sal Giaratani



After Stan “The Man” Musial and Earl Weaver Baseball Changed

If Hall of Famers Stan Musial and Earl Weaver stood for anything, it was the integrity of the game. Back in the late '90s and early into the 21st century, baseball as we knew it ceased to exist. The steroid era destroyed any accountable measuring of personal responsibility. Records were being broken and old ones shattered by alleged drug-induced power. We watched as players grew into either the Incredible Hulk or a Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade float. Most fans were noticing it all but baseball brass stood silently until they had to face reality. Now it could be too late to ever fully resurrect the game back into America's sport once again. Between the slowness of the game and records created by steroid use, baseball has become pretty much an expensive game to watch and also meaningless. Cooperstown has lost its luster as entry into the Hall of Fame becomes problematic for the likes of those home run hitters that bloated into giants going back some 15 seasons ago. It took 37 years to shatter Roger Maris and his 61 home run mark but only three seasons to break the 1998 mark. We went from 61 to 70 to 73 and now the only mark that counts is still that set 53 years ago in Yankee Stadium when Maris hit a long one off Tracy Stallard and the Boston Red Sox and put Maris into the history books. Then there was the guy who said “Baseball been berry good to me” who hit 60 or more homers thrice. Now, that feat is as meaningless as most attained during that era of baseball's black eye.

Today without those alleged steroid fixes, baseball seemingly has slowed down and seems never-ending. Everything took the wayback machine home to pre-1998 and baseball keeps losing fans. Add meaningless records and you can understand why football is America's new pasttime. Baseball needs to redeem itself in the eyes of baseball fans the world over. Should any player suspected of doing steroids be allowed entry into Cooperstown? Should they all be lumped together and barred forever? Without knowing for certain who the cheats were, can we just assume the worse and write off the stats of that era? These are questions that must be asked and answered. Hank Aaron no longer holds the lifetime home run record. Roger Maris no longer holds the single season HR record. Meanwhile, great players like Mark McGwire, Barry Bonds, Sammy Sosa and Roger Clemens retain their amazing feats. Many of their supporters say they were already Hall of Famers before

1998 — but isn't the point that they may have cheated to up their numbers?

If this were a criminal case in court, those suspected of using steroids could never be found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt but the preponderance of the evidence certainly points in that direction. The preponderance factor made a mess out of baseball records that we may live with until the four winds are no more.

Getting back to Musial and Weaver, both of them died within days of one another in January. Stan Musial was 92, Weaver was 82. I remember back in the early '60s following the tail-end of Musial's long career with the St. Louis Cardinals. He was called the premier player in the decade following WWII and his 22 seasons with the Cardinals earned him a place in the Hall of Fame. In 1952, legendary Hall of Famer Ty Cobb said of Musial, “No man has ever been a perfect ballplayer. Stan Musial, however, is the closest to being perfect in the game today.”

Baseball was very big in the late '40s and into the '50s. Musial was smack between older legends like Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams and younger than yet to be legends like Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays. I would say all five of these ballplayers might have been the best of my lifetime with pure power and no enhancing stuff. Musial played out his heart on the field. He hit 3,000 hits in only 16 seasons, a feat still unmatched. He hit 474 home runs and held a .331 batting average. He was named an All-Star 20 times. He led the NL for the batting title seven times. He won the NL MVP Award three times and was runner-up

four more times.

Hall of Fame pitcher Warren Spahn once said, “Once Musial timed your fastball your infielders were in jeopardy.” In 1969, he was elected to the Hall of Fame in his first appearance on the ballot. An 8-foot bronze statue of Stan Musial was unveiled outside Busch Stadium in 1968. Two years ago, President Obama presented him with the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I never heard him say anything about the steroid era but I am sure it saddened him because it tarnished baseball's long history.

Within two days of Musial's passing, Earl Weaver followed him into eternity. The former and quite feisty Baltimore Orioles manager was 82. At the slightest provocation, the Earl of Baltimore would spin his cap back, point a finger into an ump's chest and unload. He was though beloved by many in Baltimore and was an Oriole right to the end. Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer said, “Earl was a black and white manager. He kind of told you what your job description was going to be and kind of basically told you if you wanted to play on the Orioles, this was what you needed to do. And if you couldn't do it, I'll get someone else.”

Weaver took the O's to the World Series four times over 17 seasons but won only one title. A statue of him was dedicated last summer at Camden Yards along with the team's other Hall of Famers. I can only imagine how Weaver would have handled enhancement drug use on his teams. He demanded the best out of his players but cheating was not in his vocabulary.

When I think of the game of baseball, I see the integrity of both these men as the true definition of what the game of baseball is supposed to be all about.

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. MI12P5336EA

Estate of
ANTHONY DI BONAVENTURA
Date of Death November 12, 2012
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Christopher A. di Bonaventura of Chestnut Hill, MA**. A Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Christopher A. di Bonaventura of Chestnut Hill, 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: 2/1/13

LEGAL NOTICE

MICHAEL SORRENTINO (AGENT)
95 CRESCENT AVE., SUITE 107
REVERE, MA 02151
(617) 347-9104
(781) 286-8402 (fax)

TO OWNER OR OWNERS OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES, IF YOU COULD SHOW PROOF OF OWNERSHIP, PLEASE CONTACT THE ABOVE NUMBERS. VEHICLES NOT CLAIMED WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THIS AD WILL BE SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE TO SATISFY MONEY OWED ON THE ABOVE VEHICLES

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**2004 MERZ C240 SEDAN
VIN #WDBRF61J24E018734**

SUBMITTED BY
MICHAEL SORRENTINO (AGENT)

Run dates: 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 2013



CORNER TALK

by Reinaldo Oliveira, Jr.

**"Working on Some Ideas!"
"To Keep Punching!"**

Next Week's Article Will Present Some of These Ideas and More!

What I am focusing on is boxing and the M.M.A. (Mixed Martial Arts). I've got a fighter, who is interested in introducing his style of **x-treme boxing**, to the M.M.A. I believe that this idea, along

with the input of others, would do very well. Boxing will always be in our hearts, and continue to be the **Great Major Fight Sport**, it's always been. Adding the x-treme boxer to the M.M.A.

will also be great too. An x-treme boxer will win the M.M.A. world title and boxing will continue to be the great sport it is and has always been. Got some ideas! Sounds like a **"Challenge!"**

• An East Boston Renaissance (Continued from Page 1)



(Photo by Rosario Scabin, Ross Photography)

First to be constructed is a five-story apartment building featuring 176 units, with 26 designated for affordable housing and retail space on the ground floor. It is part of a larger planned mixed-use, 550 luxury-unit project scheduled to be built over the next few years on Massport-owned property along Marginal Street and on Pier One.

"Just one year ago I made a commitment to take East Boston's enormous waterfront potential and turn it into progress," said Mayor Thomas M. Menino. "Thanks to focus and collective action, today I can proudly share with the residents of East Boston this momentous housing start and a promising neighborhood that is underway."

In 2006, initial construction began on the Roseland project, but stalled during the economic downturn and challenging real estate market. In 2012, Massport restructured the ground lease for the first apartment building, giving new life to the project. Massport and Roseland continued to work with members of East Boston's Waterfront Development Advisory Committee (WDAC), the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association, the East Boston Piers Project Advisory Committee (Piers PAC) and local elected officials to preserve plans to revive the

13-acre waterfront site.

"Today represents the culmination of effort by the Governor, the Mayor, the East Boston community and its elected officials, Roseland and Massport, to get this project restarted," said Thomas P. Glynn, Massport's CEO & Executive Director. "Like Piers Park, this development represents a significant contribution by Massport to revitalize East Boston's waterfront neighborhood. We believe it will also prompt other private development in the rebirth of one of Boston's hidden gems."

In 1995, Massport constructed the 6.5 acre Piers Park, located adjacent to the Portside at Pier One site, and boasting the same spectacular views of downtown Boston. The public park features a 600-foot pedestrian promenade extending out into Boston's inner harbor, and more than 16 different species of trees, flowering shrubs, annual and perennial flowers.

In addition to stunning views, Portside at Pier One amenities include, close proximity to the MBTA's Blue Line, on-site parking, public access to the waterfront and landscaped open spaces. Roseland is also providing a subsidy for a proposed water transportation service at Lewis Street serving East Boston when the first apartment building opens, which

is scheduled to be completed in spring of 2014.

The construction of the first apartment building is expected to create some 200 full-time union labor jobs, and is estimated to cost roughly \$46 million. RBS Citizens is providing \$42.5 million in construction loan financing. Roseland is a Mack-Cali Company with headquarters in Short Hills, NJ. The general contractor for Portside at Pier One is Cranshaw Construction of Newton Lower Falls, MA.

"We are delighted to see this much-anticipated project get underway," said Mitchell E. Hersh, President and Chief Executive Officer, of Mack-Cali. The extraordinary public and residential aspects of this community, including an expanded marina and shipyard, world class waterfront park and magnificent views of the downtown Boston skyline, will all combine to energize the East Boston Waterfront."

"RBS Citizens is proud to work with Roseland who are exceptional developers and to have met their needs throughout this unique and transformational project," said Kevin Boyle, Regional Manager for Commercial Real Estate at RBS Citizens. "We've been very active in East Boston in recent years and look forward to being part of its continued redevelopment."

adopts. Men who are chosen in this manner accurately represent the majority of the nation which governs them; but they represent the elevated thoughts which are current in the community, the propensities which prompt its nobler actions, rather than the petty passions which disturb or the vices which disgrace it."

• Res Publica (Continued from Page 2)

one of America's greatest contributions to democracy and the popular franchise, writing in *Book I, Part 2, Chapter 5 of Democracy in America*:
"...this transmission of the popular authority through an assembly of chosen men operates an important change in it, by refining its discretion and improving the forms which it

Tocqueville was so persuaded that indirect election of senators could save the American democracy from degenerating into despotism, as had historic democracies, that he confidently predicted that Americans would surely expand the principle to other offices. Sadly he was wrong.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



THE EYES OF TEXAS ARE UPON HIM — It was one tough, grind out victory over the defending NBA Champion Miami Heat at the Garden on the last Sunday in January.

The C's served notice that they still could win in this league — despite being without play-caller Rajon Rondo. And as the game entered the last moments of the fourth quarter and then into the overtime sessions, we could not help but think about just one line we had read in Saturday's *Boston Herald*.

It was in the transactions section, that portion of the sports section printed in small type that takes note of the comings and goings of athletes and front office personnel.

And there it was — that former Celtic Delonte West had signed on with the Texas Legends of the NBA's Development League.

We thought about Delonte because the spirit and attitude that the Celtics possessed in that inspiring contest against Miami had his grit and toughness written all over it.

West, who will be 30 this coming July, had two stints on Causeway Street and was originally selected by the Celtics as the 24th pick in the 2004 NBA draft. A native of Washington D.C., he played his high school ball in the Maryland suburbs, where he led his public school team (Eleanor Roosevelt High) to the state championship finals. Although his team lost, he had 22 points and eight rebounds, continuing a string that saw him score in double figures in all but one game during his senior season.

That punched his ticket to Division I St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia where he played for three years, averaging 18.9 points and shooting 41 percent from three point range through his junior year. The Hawks finished the regular season undefeated at 27-2 and were 30-2 when all was done.

He then declared for the NBA Draft and was selected by the C's. Injuries bogged him down in his initial season, limiting his playing time to 39 games, mostly in a bench role.

West advanced to play a full season in 2005-2006, averaging 11.8 points and was selected for the sophomore team as part of the Rookie Challenge at NBA All-Star Weekend.

During the 2006-2007 season West had several memorable games, including a buzzer-beater that provided a victory over the Bobcats, a last second shot against New Jersey that sent the game into overtime (the Celtics won) and a career high 31 points against Minnesota in a double overtime victory.

But there was also as new person on the scene — a fellow guard by the name of Rajon Rondo.

Thus, during the 2007 NBA Draft, West was part of a deal that sent him to Seattle and

resulted in Ray Allen and Big Baby Davis coming to the Hub. Isn't it interesting how so many of the players, their destinies and fates, intertwine over the years?

He played in Seattle for part of one season before being traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers with former Celtic Wally Szczerbiak on February 21, 2008. He played the 26 remaining games of the regular season, including one where he scored 20 points against the Celtics.

The next season (2008-2009) he moved up to the starting guard position with the Cavaliers, a team that featured NBA All-Star LeBron James. That squad won 66 regular season games, went 39-2 at home but lost in the Eastern Conference finals to the Orlando Magic.

Some decisions players have no control over. Shortly after LeBron James announced "The Decision" to leave Cleveland and play for the Miami Heat, West was traded to Minnesota, clearing the way for the Celtics to sign him to a one year deal to back up Rajon Rondo. What goes around comes around.

This time, averaging only 5.6 points per game, West lasted only that one season in Boston. Then it was on to Dallas where he averaged 9.6 points per game during the 200-2012 season. He was waived by the Mavericks in late October and then signed by Texas of the D-League just last week.

How long will he be there? There was speculation in the *Globe* that he even might come back to Boston as a replacement for the injured Rondo. But who knows? Careers have rebounded in the D-League, other have come to a close there. Part of it is how the player performs, part up to the needs of various NBA teams. Time will tell.

His last big contract was with the Cavaliers when he signed a three-year, \$12.7 million deal in September of 2008. If he has been prudent with his funds that money should last a lifetime.

Meanwhile, it's interesting that while Rondo is out at least until September, the man whose fate was intertwined with his continues to play. Hoping for a return to basketball's biggest and brightest stage.

SCOLDING THE SCRIBES — "You can write the obituary, I'm not." That was coach Doc Rivers' comment as he entered the post game press conference area following the team's impressive victory over Miami that co-featured the announcement of the loss of Rondo for the season.

And with that River threw down the gauntlet and issued a challenge. The team would move forward, find a way to win, find someone who could step up and get the job done.

Will it happen? With reversals come opportunities. Now that Rondo is out, bench players can step in, get a chance to impress and maybe win a starting position.



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