

POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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A Winter Poem

*It's winter in Massachusetts
and the gentle breezes blow.
At seventy miles an hour
and at thirty-five below.
Oh how I love Massachusetts
when the snow's up to your butt.
You take a breath of winter
and your nose gets frozen shut.
Yes, the weather here is wonderful
so I guess I'll hang around.
I could never leave Massachusetts
cuz I'm frozen to the ground.*

— Author Unknown



News Briefs

by Sal Giarratani

Medicare Co-pays, Fees Upward Bound?

The president's budget proposal calls for the squeezing of \$399 billion over the next 10 years from Medicare, Medicaid and other programs run by the Department of Health and Human Services. Under the Obama proposal, Medicare beneficiaries would have to pay more for their care as well as coverage.

Note to Readers

Recently, some of my readers have let me know of my disgust for politicians running this country is showing up loudly to them. I try to never write when I am angry and I try to be as reasonable as I can.

I will try to do a better job of presenting my arguments without sounding like that news anchor Howard Beal from that old movie classic "Network." It is easy to get "mad as hell" without opening up a window and screaming at the top of your lungs.

Bolton for President?

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton appointed by President George W. Bush is seriously looking at a run for president in 2016. Bolton is an expert on foreign policy, but would be a first time candidate which could hurt him. I have seen him often on the Fox News Network, he is articulate and knows his stuff. We simply cannot afford to elect another community organizer.

However, like Dr. Ben Carlson, it is difficult to start running for public office by seeking the presidency.

Obama to Tax Foreign Profits?

President Obama says he is trying to help the middle-class with his proposal to create a new tax

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WATCHING WHILE THE WORLD BURNS

by Sal Giarratani

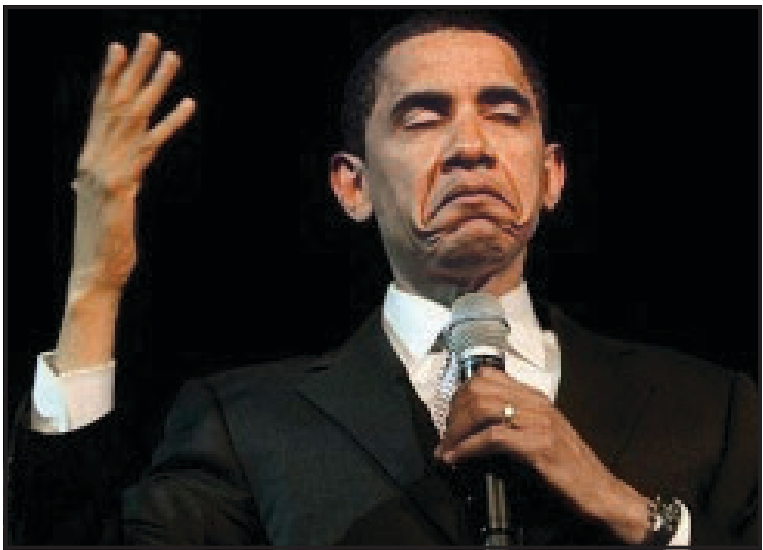
Back when Jack Kennedy was a young man, he penned a great piece of non-fiction entitled, "While England Sleeps" in which he warned the world that to sit back and watch evil like a helpless bystander led to World War II. While Hitler and the Nazis slaughtered millions of innocent people, including six million Jews, the West sat on its hands, but eventually evil has a way of growing if left alone.

I see the very same thing taking place as I write this commentary. Just over the Presidents' Day holiday weekend, 21 Coptic Christians were rounded up by ISIS and all dressed in orange jumpsuits had their heads severed on video for the world to see. The White House's response was typical. First the 21 who were executed were referred to as "Egyptian citizens," but they were killed for being Christians who refused reportedly to convert to Islam.

Even folks on MSNBC like Chris Matthews and "Sgt. I know nothing" Ed Schultz even opened fire on the Obama White House for being totally out of the loop as to the danger the growing ISIS threat means to the world. When the moon bats on MSNBC start going after Obama for being totally ineffective in taking on this global threat, you know that Obama is really making matters worse.

Obama still has his lackeys in the news media that try and defend the defenseless actions of this White House. Over at *USA Today*, columnist DeWayne Wickham recently penned, "... the Islamic State isn't a group of Islamic terrorists. It is a mob of terrorists who falsely cloak themselves in Islam." Sounds like he and Obama are drinking from the same paper-cup of purple fruit drink. "There are none that are so blind," as the old pop hit from the early '70s went, "as those who will not see" the truth.

We have a president who seems to have a blind spot



when it comes to his objectivity on Radical Islam who are trying to create a global caliphate when Jewish patrons at a Paris deli are executed, this was just "random street violence" in Paris. When an Army colonel opens fire on his comrades at Ft. Hood in Texas yelling "Allahu Akhbar, it gets called "workplace violence."

White House press secretary Josh Earnest says that global warming is a much bigger threat to U.S. security than ISIS. I heard U.S. State Department talking head Marie Hart say the way to hit ISIS is to lift them out of poverty, give them affordable health care and create a good jobs program.

Oh, and meanwhile, while all this horrible news is taking place over the holiday weekend, reportedly the president had a great weekend of golfing. Some say our president is a friend of Islam, noting he was raised in a Muslim environment and studied the Koran. If you start talking like this you get branded a "Birther" or a "Bircher," but all you really need to do is read Obama's "The Audacity of Hope" and carefully read page 261 and see for yourself about his thinking on Islam.

The latest warning from ISIS is clear. They are at war with Western civilization and America is their deadly enemy. Now they proclaim their eyes are on the Land of the Cross, which clearly

puts a target on Europe and especially Rome, Italy. Our president may not believe we are in a war, but we are thanks to the other side.

Congress should not give this president the re-authorization he is requesting in the current mission of airstrikes. He just wants Congressional cover for what he is already doing. He wants permission to conduct a semi-war and Capitol Hill needs to stand up and say NO.

Recently, up in New Hampshire, Governor Chris Christie said something that needs to be repeated, "This president had the audacity to tell us that terrorism is on the run as they're burning a Jordanian pilot alive, as they're beheading hostages. Does terrorism look like it is on the run?"

The United States of America is endangered today. Our allies neither trust nor respect us and our enemies mock us. Our ship of state seems leaderless. Even Christie said of Obama, "I almost feel bad for the president. He's like a man wandering around a darkroom, feeling along the wall for the light switch of leadership." As harsh as that comment sounds, what do you think ISIS terrorists think of our Commander-in-Chief?

As President Ronald Reagan said years ago, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction." Truer words never spoken.

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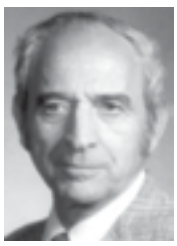
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The Bilingual Corner

by Orazio Buttafuoco



ARTEMIS AND DIANA

The union of Zeus with the goddess Leto produced the twins Apollo and Artemis. Both twins were worshiped in many areas of the ancient world, but their principal places of worship were in Greece and Rome. Apollo, became identified as the god of light, health, prophesy, music, poetry and protector of the flocks, while Artemis (Diana in Rome) became the virgin goddess of the hunt and wild life. During ancient times this goddess was usually depicted wearing a knee-length tunic, braided hair, leather sandals, and armed with bow and arrows. While Apollo became known as the luminous god of day, Diana in turn, with her torch, became the goddess of light by night, and in time she also became identified with other goddesses of the moon and of the night.

The natural environment of Diana was the hills, valleys, woods, meadows, and rivers. She became a mighty huntress, chasing wild animals, dancing, playing, or bathing, with her companions, the nymphs, in the forests. This is also an appropriate time to mention that the Galleria Borghese in Rome contains a painting entitled "The Chase of Diana." It is one of the famous works of the master named Domenichino, and it portrays Diana with her nymphs



The Diana of Versailles, a Roman copy of a Greek sculpture by Leochares. (Louvre Museum)

shooting arrows and bathing in a forest retreat. All animals were sacred to this goddess, but the hind, of course, was her favorite. This was the sacred animal which inspired the offerings of deer-shaped cakes during ancient ceremonies. Diana was also worshipped by Roman women who sacrificed to her for happiness in marriage and for normal childbirth.

Although her image was one of peace and tranquility, we are told that in Greece even the Spartans sought her favor by the sacrifice of a she-goat before a battle. It was prior to the battle of Marathon, when Miltiades

vowed to her as many goats as there were enemies who had fallen in the fields. The numbers were so great that the vow could not be kept, but instead, five hundred goats were sacrificed at each anniversary of the battle.

In addition to her position as goddess of the hunt and wildlife, she was also worshipped as the goddess of the moon. Special holidays honored her with parades and sporting events. During the full moon, large round cakes with candles were carried in procession and presented as a symbol of her light. Girls between five and ten years old, clad in orange-yellow colored garments were conducted in procession to the image of the goddess and commended to her care. As protectress of youth, young girls worshipped this virgin goddess as the guardian of their maiden years and prior to their marriage, they offered up a lock of their hair, their girdle, and their maiden garments.

Another interesting aspect of the Artemis-Diana worship, was the construction of several temples, one after the other, on the same site in Ephesus, Syria, and dedicated alternately to Diana Artemis. The latest structure was built about 350 B.C., so large, that it became one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. It was the center of the Pan-Ionic festival of the Asiatic colonies, and assumed to itself almost every public function. It was serviced by special priests, priestesses, image makers, poets, and soothsayers, while at the same time offering asylum to fugitives, acquired vast wealth, became a treasury, and later even a bank. The roof of the temple was supported by 127 columns which were between 54 and 60 feet high. Thirty-six of the columns were beautifully sculptured on their lower sections, while the gable end of the temple showed the goddess flanked with her devotees bringing offerings.

The most celebrated ancient statue of this goddess is the "Diana of Versailles," which once stood in Emperor Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli, his favorite residence. During this emperor's reign, the villa contained miniature reproductions of many famous structures of antiquity. The next time you visit the Villa d'Este at Tivoli, look off in the distance (about half a mile) and you'll see the ruins of one of the most splendid villas that the world has ever known. I'm sorry to say that time and the elements have taken their toll and most tours don't even visit the area now. How do you think you'll look when you're 1,900 years old?

NEXT ISSUE:

Dionysus and Bacchus

QUALITY DIET vs. CALORIES COUNT. Those who ingest food with the same calorie count can become skinny, normal or even obese! Why? Because it is not the calorie count that is relevant, it actually is the quality of the ingested food that makes the difference. As by the research conducted by the national University "La Sapienza" in Rome, Italy, by the department of medical and endocrinology-physiopathology, the outcome was presented at the 7th Regional Congress of the Italian Society of Obesity held in Rome. Researchers analyzed food intake of 120 people who followed different dietary methods as follows: 30 of them were strictly vegetarians, 30 were milk-egg vegetarians, 30 were skinny omnivorous and 30 were omnivorous obese. Each group ingested quantities of calories, but with very different body weight. Vegetarians ingested 1,920 calories a day, but with a body-mass index of 23.6; the milk-egg vegetarians 2,174 calories with a body-mass index of 22.9; the skinny omnivorous ingested 2,020 calories with a BMI of 23.69; the obese omnivorous 2,140 calories and a BMI of 37.9. When the quantity of calories were similar every day the four groups showed very different weights. Which showed that the ingestion of calories is not the only way to determine the increased obesity or the overweight condition, but instead what the menu consists of, as Andrea Lenzi, professor of endocrinology and director of the center of Medical Physiology and Endocrinology, in the department of experimental medicine at "La Sapienza" University. Researchers have come up with a new indicator called "Index of Quality Diet" (IQD), which makes possible to identify the "perfect menu" that prevents putting on weight, but provides good health, irrespective of the calories. Actually the damages caused by certain foods can be overcome by foods rich in fiber, such as cereals, vegetables and fruit, which create a balance between foods that contain saturated fats. Thus dishes deprived of fiber and grains, namely red meats, make possible a fattening outcome causing the development of illnesses related to obesity. Overweight and obesity occur mainly among the omnivorous who indulge eating fatty meats and certain types of cheese, totally ignoring greens. Although the "quality index" is still on the experimental stage, researchers plan to further extend the "sample," hoping to come up with a system common to everybody, to follow a healthy nutrition and show a "perfect persona"!

A NEW 10-EURO BILL WILL SOON ENTER THE MARKET.

On September 23, 2014 a new high-tech currency that will prove to be a serious challenge to counterfeiters appeared in the 28 member nations of the European community. It shows the Greek goddess "**EUROPA**," which is the appropriate old name of the continent. It looks similar to the old 10-euro bill (of about 12 years ago). It will be a long-standing bill thanks to a special protective material that will last much longer than any of the present bills.



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Friday, February 20, 2015

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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

President Failed to Provide Leadership

Dear Editor:

The President has once again failed to provide the necessary leadership for this nation.

His request of Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) against the Islamic State shows that he has failed to carefully evaluate the threat, develop a workable strategy to overcome it, and propose to use all means necessary to achieve success.

His justification for the use of force is a grab-bag of statements, with only a vague reference to the "national security interests of the United States" and no attempt to clearly define those interests, nor to consider whether the use of military force is the best approach. Other reasons given to justify intervention describe conditions which exist outside the Middle East (e.g. the depredations of Boko Haran), yet he does not believe they require US intervention elsewhere. Congress, during its hearings on the AUMF, must take the responsibility for debating and deciding what our national interests are and whether the threat requires military force.

The President's "strategy" relies on US air power and ground forces provided by other nations. However, it remains to be seen whether those nations, primarily Iraq, will be able to field effective armies. At best, it will take time for them to be equipped and trained, which raises questions about the three year limitation proposed by the President. Military experts, and even high-ranking officers of the armed forces, have declared that US ground forces may be needed, and should be available for use. A good strategy should not assume that all will go well. Rather, it should assume that the difficulties will be greater than expected and be prepared to deal with them, not placing limits of time or force structure.

If the Islamic State is a true threat to our "national security interests" (and I believe a strong case can be made), then our strategy must include possible use of as much military force as necessary to guarantee victory. Victory in the Gulf War of 1991 and the Iraq War of 2003-11 came because American presidents

(Continued on Page 9)

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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IACO PRESENTS Southern Italian Folk Ensemble NEWPOLI



Join the Italian American Cultural Organization (IACO) on March 1st for an afternoon of Southern Italian Folk music by Newpoli. Newpoli is a new and vibrant music group to hit the region.

Doors open at 2:00 pm, concert begins at 3:00 pm at The Great Pond Manor Function

Hall, 120 Baystate Drive, Braintree, MA. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Children under 12 are free.

For more information, contact IACO President Richard Leccese at 781-843-5095 or by e-mail at rmleccese@beld.net, newpolimusic.com, southshoreiaco.com.

North End Students Earn Boston College High School Honors

MICHAEL LAPOSATA '16 and **CHRISTIAN CATTANEO '18** of the North End achieved High Honors for the Second Quarter at Boston College High School. For High Honors an upperclassman must have at least a 3.80 quality point average and all grades "C+" or higher. A Freshman needs a 3.6 GPA and all grades "C+" or higher.

NICHOLAS A. BENNING '15 and **ISAIAH**

EMMA '17 achieved Honors. For Honors a student must have at least a 3.20 quality point average and all grades "C-" or higher.

Boston College High School is a Jesuit, Catholic, college-preparatory school for young men founded in 1863. The school enrolls approximately 1600 students from more than 100 communities in eastern Massachusetts.

The Pirandello Lyceum Celebrates The Founding in 1800 of the American Conservatorio of Boston

The following is a follow-up article to one that was published in the Post-Gazette of December 5, 2014 pertaining to the founding in 1800 of the "first conservatory of music in Boston and in the United States" — the American Conservatorio of Boston.

The Pirandello Lyceum, Rosario Cascio, president, on Sunday October 26, 2014, sponsored the unveiling of the plaque marking the location of the American Conservatorio of Boston founded in 1800, the first conservatory of music in Boston and the first in the United States. The commemorative plaque is located at the Bedford Street facade of the historic Church Green Building. The Pirandello program cited the three immigrant musicians, Filippo Trajetta of Italy, Francis Mallet of France and Gottlieb Graupner of Germany who founded the American Conservatorio of Boston. The Privitera Family Charitable Foundation, represented by Philip Privitera, president, and Frank Privitera chairman, generously donated the funding of the beautiful bronze plaque at the site of the Conservatorio. The Privitera Family Charitable Foundation also provided the major funding for the Pirandello celebration at the West End Museum which immediately followed the unveiling. The program included the life and times of Filippo Trajetta, an Italian musician from Venice and one of the founders of the American Conservatorio of Boston. Sal Bramante was Master of Ceremonies for the program.

The discovery of the founding of the American Conservatorio of Boston in 1800 unfolded because of the research of Teresa F. Mazzulli, (a Pirandello "I Migliori" award recipient in 2014 in recognition of her interests in historic research). The Boston Musical Intelligencer.com website (August 29, 2014) reported that Teresa discovered this little-known Boston music history after reading a passage back in 1999 in a book titled "The Italian Americans of Greater Boston" by William P. Marchione, which stated in essence that the conductor-com-



The picture shows the virtual plaque unveiling ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Boston Hotel on August 27, 2014. Clockwise Philip Privitera, president, Privitera Family Charitable Foundation; Teresa F. Mazzulli, historian; Frank Privitera, chairman, Privitera Family Charitable Foundation.

poser from Venice, Filippo Trajetta "... established the first American conservatory of music in Boston." Motivated by this passage in Marchione's book, Teresa Mazzulli began her meticulous research establishing that the American Conservatorio of Boston founded in 1800 is the first conservatory of music established in Boston and in the United States, and her "shedding light" on the important music legacy to this country by each of the three European immigrant musicians, beyond the founding of this first conservatory of music in America.

A special program arranged by Teresa Mazzulli was conducted and supported by the Hyatt Regency Boston Hotel on August 27, 2014, including a musical interlude by the Rowe's Lane Quartet, named in honor of the "street" where the American Conservatorio of Boston and the Conservatory Hall were located in 1800 (today's Bedford Street was then known as Rowe's Lane). A "virtual plaque" unveiling ceremony by Privitera Family members complemented the Hyatt's joyful celebration in recognition of this remarkable music history of our City of Boston and of our United States.

L'Anno Bello: A Year in Italian Folklore

A Night at the Movies

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz

NOTE: This is my traditional Oscar column! I change the details every year, but keep much of it the same as it is the piece I am most proud to have written about my love for film. Just as you bring something different to the table every time you see a presumably familiar movie, I hope that this column instills in you a renewed love for cinema each year you read it.

It is that wonderful time of the year again. The time of watching movie stars glide across the red carpet, as graceful as paper swans, wrapped in jewel-hued gowns. It is the time when television channels replay Oscar-winning movies of the past, with iconic images of sultry *femme fatales* and tight-jawed heroes and conniving villains flashing across the screen. During the past few weeks, people have devoted many moments to recognizing the artistic achievement, a medium which often goes unappreciated, being synonymous with lightweight popcorn fare. Now, however, people are in full recognition of the powerful force that movies play in our lives. Which film of the past year, they ask, best crafted a story that transported us to another time or place? Which director imbued his or her project with the most love and passion? Which actress or actor best delved into the complexities of their role? Yes, it is the time of the year when the Academy Awards are announced. As a long-time lover of film, I will spend the evening of Sunday, February 22nd, glued to my television, shivering with anticipation as the little gold statuettes are distributed. While I am watching, I will also pay tribute to the significance of movies in my life and heritage. Movies have always comprised an integral part of my soul. Indeed, film has contributed to the collective subconscious of people around the world. Much of our notions of good and evil, achievement, love and longing derive from the celluloid world. When I think of selfless romance, for example, I think of cynical café owner Rick Blaine from *Casablanca* letting his true love Ilsa depart on a plane on a foggy Moroccan night, all for the higher cause of stopping Nazism. Han Solo from *Star Wars*, on the other hand, forever stays in my mind as the epitome of the rascal with a heart of gold, the guy everybody knows, who tries to be tough but cannot conceal his soft side for long. When he reappeared at the end of the film to save Luke Skywalker from the clutches of the evil empire, I felt a cheer swelling up inside me. That is why I appreciate film so much, because they are little stories that encompass the spectrum of emotions that give meaning to our existence as humans. During Oscar season, I try to catch as many of the Best Picture nominees as I can, though busy work and school schedules make it hard. This year, embarrassingly, I have yet to see any of the Best Picture nominees, as an unfortunate clash of illness, snow days, and busy work schedules made it difficult for me to get to theater. However, I hope to watch many of the nominees as soon as I am able, perhaps on a cozy movie night, snuggling with my husband and a big bowl of buttered popcorn. From dramatic biographies to quirky indie



flicks, the year's Oscar-nominated films encapsulate a rich tapestry of the human story, and I hope to soon add them to my repertoire. The Oscar season also reminds me of the tremendous achievement that Italians and Italian-Americans have made in the field of cinema. Stateside, directors like Francis Ford Coppola and Martin Scorsese have become icons of American filmmaking. My father is always quick to remind me that Italian-born moviemakers have supplied the world with many indelible masterpieces. World cinema stands all the richer because of directors like Federico Fellini, who brought whimsy and absurd satire back to the silver screen or Vittorio De Sica, who gave a voice to Italy's working-class citizens or Sergio Leone, whose revisionist Westerns reshaped the myth of the American frontier. Italian film even forms the backbone of an interesting story repeated among my family. When my grandmother was a young and sophisticated student in Rome, she was courted by the studio bigwigs of Cinecittà, the Italian version of Hollywood, to become an actress. Though one of her old-fashioned relatives put an end to this, the story speaks to the splendor of Italian cinema and its ability to inspire dreams in young people just like the fictionalized Hollywood of legend. In honor of Italian contributions to movies, I often serve star-worthy Italian dishes for my Oscar-watching events. Last year, I made a mascarpone cheesecake drizzled with chocolate sauce. It was such a decadent and creamy hit that I plan to make it again on Sunday, an appropriately stylish plate for the most glamorous night of the year. Films are a roadmap of our hopes, dreams and values. I encourage everyone to watch at least a few of the Best Picture nominees before the Oscar ceremony on Sunday in order to find one that resonates on an emotional level. Good movies enrich our lives, as they provide us with visions of another world or new perspectives or characters so strongly written that they remain inside our mind long after the projector has stopped running. This month, I will revel in the Oscars in order to pay tribute to the films that have enhanced my life journey, and I will also pause to honor the Italian movies that have become milestones in my culture and heritage. After all, the ability to view films as more than just entertainment, but as significant social art and artifacts is an achievement worthy of an Academy Award in itself.

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

THINKING OUT LOUD



by Sal Giarratani

Give Me More Snow, Less Obama

So far, in little over two-week's time, Greater Boston has turned into a Buffalo nightmare. My niece who lives just outside Minneapolis, is laughing at all the snow we have here, which is lacking there. Lately, with all my shoveling, life is starting to look like one of those old Richard Simmons' workout videos. I feel like I'm training for the Olympics. It is difficult to think politics even though I am starting to see snow as a form of terrorism. I don't think ISIS is behind the snow, but then again Obama doesn't even know what ISIS is. On February 11th, he finally called ISIS a "terrorist organization." Up to then, ISIS was just a bunch of guys committing random acts of violence like chopping off heads, cooking people alive or executing shoppers inside a Jewish deli in Paris. Eventually, he may get around to calling them radical jihadists, but that's a long way down the road he rides. At this point in my life, I won't get too excited over foolish politicians who don't know their elbow from their @\$\$s. Jeff Kuhner has a great line that defines Obama for me, as he would say on air, "You liar, you fake, you fraud you." I love Mark Levin nights on WRKO Radio. He recently told listeners that he personally IMPEACHED Obama and that he no longer has a president. Would it be that easy to put Obama out of mind? But alas every day I wake up to his pontificating inside the White House. While we worry about the threat of Radical Islam targeting the West and especially America, we have a president who still thinks that the massacre at Fort Hood in Texas by a self-proclaimed jihadist yelling "Allahu Akhbar" was nothing more than workplace violence. Then at the National Prayer Breakfast, our president compared terrorists who have hijacked Islam with Christianity during the crusades. He made them both simply evil twins, both evil doers. He basically told Christians to get off their high horses. Remember this

event took place following the death of a Muslim Jordanian soldier burnt alive in a cage for the entire world to see. Now, we have a president who must envision himself as "Barack the Benevolent" on his own white horse. He hasn't got time to sweat the small stuff like jihadists when he is out there trying to end income inequality, climate change and fossil fuels. As a mostly independent kind of voter, I don't have much faith in the Republicans. I see them as I see Democrats, useless. When it comes to giving this president re-authorization to continue the fight against ISIS for another three years, I say no to that request. Haven't enough young Americans sacrificed their all for us and we keep asking this small group of Patriots to keep redeploying on our behalf, not once, not twice but four or five times. Never have so few faught so hard for so many who seem unable to see such sacrifice. I do not wish to see us doing so little to tear down, degrade and destroy these barbarians at our gates. What is our foreign policy? What are our aims and why are we fighting with one foot in the ring and the other in the national audience? Kirk Douglas put it best when he talked of his great successes in Hollywood saying, "You have to have some inner philosophy to deal with adversity." Anyone can run a nation or a government agency when things are going smooth, but the real test of mettle is when things are going bad. The good thing is that Obama can't run for a third term, but the bad news is the Republicans running for president thus far aren't any great shakes. I see the Democrats keeping the White House with the choice between Hillary Clinton or Senator Elizabeth Warren. Given those choices, I might be ready for Hillary myself. After all, we have so far survived the worse foreign policy president ever, how much worse can things get from putting Hillary and Bubba back in the White House?

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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.

WINTER PET CARE

Five good habits to teach your pet. It's never too late for your cat or dog to be on their best behavior. When a pet knows and follows the rules, it makes living together more pleasant for everyone. Even though owners love their pets, the animals behavior sometimes needs improvement. It's never our objective to annoy; it's just that we haven't yet learned (or have forgotten) the proper way to act. If you believe your pet could benefit from etiquette lessons, know that it's not difficult to teach a dog or cat to behave better. To make the most of your relationship with your pet, teach good habits using:

PRACTICE: Once you decide on a behavior to focus on, give your pet plenty of opportunities to practice it. Try it at different times of day, in different situations, even in different locations around the house.

PRAISE: Animals love to be adored and told how good we are. When your pet masters a new habit, praise him or her in an enthusiastic voice. Use the pet's name and say how wonderful they are. Pat them on the head or scratch them behind the ears as you praise.

REWARDS: Who doesn't like a cookie (even if it's in the form of a dried fish morsel for a cat?) Accompany your praise with a treat. Even a small piece communicates how proud you are.

IMPORTANT HABITS TO LEARN

1. **COME:** The best time to teach a cat is before mealtime. Call her name right before you reach for the kibble or can opener. With repetition, she'll start to believe that hearing her name means to make a beeline for you. Away from the kitchen, call her name and have a reward like a silver tuna or chicken. Repeat. Similarly, with a

dog you can use food and practice, praise and reward.

2. **GO:** When placed in a lean litter box, most cats figure out what to do. With a kitten, gently take her paw and use it to scrape the litter. If instinct doesn't take over, keep her in a confined space with the box until she uses it. Clean and repeat. With dogs, it's all about timing (crate training helps too!) And remember to praise and reward good behavior with enthusiasm.

3. **BE A GOOD TRAVELER:** Whether you need to take your pet to the veterinarian down the street, or on a trip around the world, good behavior can make travel less stressful for everyone. To keep your pet and others safe, make sure that you have an appropriate restraint or carrier for them. Make test runs to get your pet accustomed to leaving the house. On a trip, allow time to stop and provide water and a bathroom break.

4. **LEAVE IT:** Pets are naturally curious, and dogs in particular are scavengers. To convince yours to give up something he finds that's toxic or potentially dangerous, teach him that the "Leave it" command is always followed by a tastier reward.

5. **DON'T PULL:** Walking even a small dog can pull you off balance, so it's important to control your pet rather than the other way around. With the dog on your left, walk quickly, talking to the dog as you go. Stop, treat, and go and make every walk a training session until your dog consistently keeps pace with you.

I hope you enjoyed this article as I have learned a lot from it and today I am one happy pooch.

That's all for now!

Saint Margaret of Cortona

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari

Margaret of Cortona, was born in Loviana, Tuscany in 1247. Her father was a farmer, while her mother died when she was just seven years old. Margaret's stepmother had little care for her high-spirited stepdaughter. Rejected at home, Margaret eloped with a youth from Montepulciano. They lived together for nine years in his family's castle near that city. Despite her many requests, he refused to marry her. After he was murdered on a journey, Margaret left Montepulciano and returned to his relatives all the jewels and property he had given her, leaving his home. With her son intow, she set out for her father's house. Her father would have received her, but his wife refused, and Margaret and her son were turned away.

Two ladies, aware of her



plight, offered Margaret and her son assistance and took her home with them. Later they introduced her to the Franciscan Friars at the Church of San Francesco with whom she placed herself under their spiritual direction. For three years, Margaret struggled with her inner desires, she felt much

drawn to the world. But temptation only convinced her the greater necessity of self-discipline and to entirely consecrate herself to religion. Margaret fasted rigorously, abstaining altogether from meat, and generally subsisted on bread and herbs.

After three years of consideration, Margaret was admitted to the Third Order of St. Francis of Assisi, and from that time onward, she lived in strict poverty, following the examples of Francis. She freely lived a life of service to others; especially to the sick and poor whom she nursed. It was at the time that Margaret became a Franciscan tertiary that the revelations began. In the year 1277, as she was praying in the church of the Franciscan Friars, she seemed to hear these words: "What is thy wish, poverella?" and she replied: "I neither seek nor wish for other but Thee, my Lord Jesus." From this time forward she lived in intimate communion with Christ. Margaret, though coming to lead more and more the life of a recluse, remained active in the service of others. She prevailed upon the city of Cortona to establish a hospital for the poor and sick, and to supply

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ALL THAT ZAZZ

by Mary N. DiZazzo

Japanese-Style Watercolor Nail Art

Ciao Bella,

As a Nail Technician, when I worked mostly full time, I enjoyed painting art on finished-polished nails. I owned different fine brushes and painted free style art with some rhinestones to glam it up. I owned a nail art paintbrush kit and would sometimes decorate one or two nails on each hand or sometimes all ten. Rainbows of colored stripes and swirls, flowers and gold accents with a holiday decal were my fun and quick specialty. Most certainly making people happy!

Recently, there has been a new development in the world of nail art. Hailing from Tokyo, with a home and salon also in Vancouver, Canada, comes an innovative gal. Her name is Jasmine, a Japanese Nailist, who is a certified nail artist. She trained in Yokohama and wants to bring Japanese nail art to the forefront of our industry creating Neiru! This is a subscriber, online workshop to train Nail techs the latest in Japanese trends, technique and style. The watercolor art is just amazing, simulating a unique and one-of-a-kind design. Picture your fav watercolor painting and visualize a small part of it on your nail! Perhaps a flower which Neiru is popular for.

So the next time you make a manicure appointment, put some spice in your life and try some nail art.

Buona giornata and God bless the United States of America!
— Mary DiZazzo-Trumbull

Read prior weeks' "All That Zazz" columns at www.allthatzazz.com. Mary is a third-generation cosmetologist and a Massachusetts distributor of Kosmea brand rose hip oil products. She may be contacted at (978) 470-8183 or mary@mary4nails.com.



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(Continued on Page 6)

THOUGHTS BY DAN ABOUT THIS & THAT

with Daniel A. DiCenso

THE HISTORY OF ANIMATION: That's All Folks!



Nowhere was the ending of classic animation bumpier than the Warner Bros. lot. Animators and studio heads were moving around and, strangely, the studio's cartoons were finally being recognized by the Academy, which had been dominated by Disney and the *Tom & Jerry* shorts. It's as if the studio wanted one last burst of energy before its closure.

Chuck Jones's *Road Runner* continued to dominate the Warner cartoons during their sunset years as well as the cast of new characters including Pepe Le Pew, Marvin the Martian, and the Tasmanian Devil.

Warner was struggling with the changing of times as well, going so far as shutting down the studio for 5 months in 1953 in a complete refusal to invest in the new 3D technology of animation that Disney had taken to. The studio, however, took much more kindly to TV, repackaging some of their classic shorts in anthology kids shows like *The Bugs Bunny Show* and later *The Road Runner Show*.

Still, the real prize was in the theatrical shorts and some of the very best cartoons that Warner did came out within its last few years. *Birds Anonymous*, a clever spoof of *Alcoholics Anonymous* with Sylvester struggling to give up birds, won the award for Best Animated Short Subject. The following year, the award went to a very funny Bugs Bunny and Yosemite Sam pairing set in Arthurian times. In *Knighty Knight Bugs*, Bugs is a jester in King Arthur's court tasked with retrieving the legendary Singing Sword from Captain of the Guard Sam and his troublesome dragon with a habit of sneezing at the worst possible time.

The reality of TV's domination, however, could not be ignored for long and when David DePatie took charge of the animation division in 1961, he knew the studio would not live to the end of his reign. Indeed, the following year he announced the closure of the studio, letting go of several of its most tal-

ented artists including Chuck Jones. By December of 1963 the studio that in its heyday had been one of the pillars of the Golden Age of Animation, closed its doors for good. Before his departure, Jones and others rushed out some last minute cartoons that were released in 1964, including *False Hare*, Bugs Bunny's last theatrical cartoon until 1990's *Box-Office Bunny*.

After that, most of the animation team dispersed, Chuck Jones had a varied career of his own, at first reviving Tom and Jerry for M-G-M before moving onto animated feature films. Friz Freleng turned his focus to a series of *Pink Panther* cartoons inspired by the success of the Peter Sellers movie. He joined forces with his old boss DePatie to form DePatie-Freleng Enterprises in an attempt to revive some of the classic characters they worked with in their glory days. For their headquarters, they leased their old studio and even brought an old protégée Robert McKimson, onboard.

Most of these shorts involved Daffy Duck's battles with Speedy Gonzalez and Road Runner-Wile E. Coyote skits, but none of them matched the ingenuity of the classic cartoons in any department, not animation, not gags, not character development. Even the creation of new characters, like Cool Cat, failed to renew spark.

If there was any good to come out of this bleak period it's that Warners realized the value of their old cartoons, moved the animation unit back within the studio, and began airing them as a regular fixture on TV, where they found a new generation of fans and have continued to delight young and old ever since. Broadcasted in various networks (from ABC, home of the original *Bugs Bunny Show*, to Nickelodeon) before Ted Turner, who had bought the Warner Bros. package, confined their airing to Cartoon Network and its off-shoot *Boomerang!*. No matter the channel, however, the Warner Bros. cartoons have stood the test of time and are the strongest living monument to the days when animation was king.



They Certainly Know How to Hold a Super Bowl Party at the VFW in Norwood

by Sal Giaratani



Cheryl Lyons with her lucky high heels and watermelon helmet.

Sunday night February 1st, I was over at the VFW Post 2452 in Norwood thanks to my sister-in-law Tanya, who invited me to her favorite VFW post just around the corner from my favorite Starbucks, on Route 1.

I was planning to watch the Patriots in the Super Bowl at home, talking with my cat who doesn't even know what football is, never-mind who this Tom Brady character is.

The atmosphere and the price were both right. The dinner was only ten dollars and included ribs,

roast pork, prime rib, potatoes, salad and if you had room for it, cheesecake.

The game was crazy, up and down, down and then up again thanks to Pete Carroll and Malcolm Butler. Who knew that when it was all was said and done "the Butler did it" and got a brand new car to prove the victory was real.

The hostess with the mostess was Cheryl Lyons, a lady who knows how to make a good Sombrero and how fast you should drink it. Preparing the food were chefs Carl Rossi Sr., and Carl Rossi Jr., who spent that whole day in the kitchen making everything turn out just right.

The only way to end that night at VFW Post 2452 was knowing the score was 28-24 Patriots and the whole place knew they were all Patriots in both war and football, but at least for one Sunday night it was mostly football.



The two Carl Rossi(s) Sr. and Jr. standing over a large pan of boiling water. Didn't anyone tell them about watching boiling water boil?

• Saint Margaret of Cortona (Continued from Page 5)

nurses for the hospital, she instituted a congregation of Tertiary Sisters, known as "Le Poverelle (the little poor). She also established the confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy; the members of which bound themselves to support the hospi-

tal, and to help the needy. Moreover, on several occasions, Margaret intervened in public affairs for the sake of putting an end to civic feuds.

In 1289, Margaret searching for greater quiet, took up residence near the ruined

church of St. Basil above the city and had the church repaired. It was here that she spent her last years, and in this church she was buried. After her death, it was rebuilt in a more elaborate style and dedicated to her name. There her body remains enshrined to this day, incorrupt, in a silver shrine over the high-altar. Margaret was canonized on May 16, 1728. Her feast day is celebrated on February 22nd.

ST. JUDE AND ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Anthony, most loving protector and wonder worker, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day and by the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. My prayers have been answered. Favor received.

J.M.S.

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ARTIST PRODIGY

Autumn de Forest

to Exhibit in Boston

Thirteen-year-old Autumn de Forest will make a special live artist appearance in Boston, Massachusetts on Friday, February 27th, 2015. This is a rare opportunity to meet the young art prodigy who has set the art world on fire with her extraordinary work. Autumn will be exhibiting her work at the Ritz-Carlton on the Boston Common, 10 Avery Street, Boston, Massachusetts with a live artist presentation beginning at 10:00 am on Friday, February 27th followed by a preview of the work and a live auction. For further information or to RSVP (required), go online to www.parkwestgallery.com/Autumn-de-Forest-Event or call toll free 844-643-7506.

Park West Galleries is pleased to announce that it will, for the first time and in a premiere event, invite the public to an exhibition of the works of Autumn de Forest at the Ritz-Carlton in Boston.

In recognition of this event, Autumn is creating an original artwork entitled "Healing Steps for Boston" to honor the people of the great city of Boston.

Her exhibitions have defined her as one of the most accomplished and recognized artistic prodigies of our time. Her original masterpieces have sold for tens of thousands of dollars, and have been acquired by several major art collectors. Autumn is also the youngest Artist ever to have their artwork housed in Park West Gallery's carefully curated Collections.

Autumn's work is exhibited in the very good company of Park West's Modern Masters Picasso, Miro, and Chagall, and alongside iconic artists Peter Max and Salvador Dali. To date, this 13-year-old artistic genius and prodigy has surpassed the million dollar mark in terms of sales, which makes this a story unlike no other.

Autumn is active in philanthropic endeavors, supporting well-known and high-profile charitable and humanitarian efforts including arts education. She created an original work of art that was unveiled and dedicated to the victims of Super Storm Sandy with a personal thank you from Governor Christie. The accompanying art installation is the largest art installation ever by a young artist, and the original artwork from which the installation was inspired was auctioned off in September of 2013 raising significant funds for the American Red Cross.

Autumn was invited by the PGA to create an original piece for PGA sponsor Valspar Corporation, which was also auctioned off raising funds for Habitat for Humanity. This past November stars Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard commissioned Autumn



The Artist, 2014

to do an original piece that was auctioned off at a celebrity-studded event to benefit "This Bar Saves Lives." To view all of the humanitarian efforts of this young artist, www.autumnndeforest.com/epk/.

Autumn has never had any formal art training. Early on she began a process of self-education through studying works by other artists in books, online and at museums. The first book she remembers picking out for herself was a huge volume on Georgia O'Keeffe. Attracted initially to O'Keeffe's pretty pictures of voluptuous flowers, Autumn poured over the book and tried to figure out the techniques O'Keeffe used to make her images. Works by Autumn over the years of ram skulls — sometimes primitively outlined against bold shapes of color, other times illusionistically painted against diaphanous backgrounds — clearly reference one of O'Keeffe's trademark motifs.

Autumn's first overt homage to another artist was her "Barbie Marilyn," based on Andy Warhol's iconic "Gold Marilyn Monroe" (1962) which she saw at the Museum of Modern Art on a trip to New York. Shortly after, she received a Marilyn Monroe Barbie doll for her seventh birthday from her grandmother. On looking at the doll's face, she immediately had the idea to paint it in the canonizing style of Warhol. Unknowingly, Autumn tapped into the art world strategy of appropriation, pioneered by artists including Sherrie Levine and Richard Prince who have reframed recognizable images from art history and consumer culture for their own critiques. More specifically, Autumn's "Barbie Marilyn" resonates with works by Deborah Kass and Elaine Sturtevant who specifically have painted their own portraits in the guise of Warhol.

At age 13, Autumn de Forest is truly referred to as an artist prodigy. With her works selling for tens of thousands of dollars apiece, Autumn has taken the fine art world by storm. She has been featured on the Discovery Channel, interviewed on NBC's Today Show, and after numerous prominent

projects with Disney, including Disney Princesses and its "Citizen Kid" interactive series, Disney had this to say about the artist "Autumn de Forest is one of the most important Artists of her generation."

If these accomplishments were not enough, Autumn was also profiled on CNN in their "Power of She" series, in addition to appearances on The Wendy Williams Show, PBS, Inside Edition, ABC, CBS, FOX, and NBC News. American Girl Magazine, Scholastic News, The

Daily Beast, Time Magazine for Kids, and the Huffington Post are just a few of the publications that have written extensive features on Autumn as well.

Autumn de Forest is a world-renowned child prodigy, who has, at the age of 13, sold well over \$3 million in art. Her focus is to use her success, her artistic gifts, and her ever-growing Collector and fan base to make the world a far better place to live in. She is,



Barbie Marilyn



Preliminary sketch for "Healing Steps for Boston" 2015
Autumn de Forest

quite simply, a humanitarian and a highly serious young woman with a vision and a purpose.

As an artist, speaker and philanthropist, Autumn insists upon supporting charitable and humanitarian efforts. These have included public art installations celebrating the re-building efforts of the New Jersey Shore, and the donation of works to several major charitable beneficiaries, corporations and brands, among them the Professional Golfers Association, Sandy Relief.org, and Habitat For Humanity. Autumn's passion for learning through the arts led to an invitation to speak at Harvard University on the importance of keeping arts in schools. Autumn had the honor of being the youngest artist ever featured at the National Art Education Association's annual convention, where she appeared alongside art legends such as

Peter Max and Chuck Close.

Her gift has been recognized across media platforms, and Autumn has been profiled by The Discovery Channel as a child genius, and by CNN in their "Power of She" series, in addition to her interview with Matt Lauer on The Today Show. Television appearances that feature Autumn's extraordinary talent include PBS, Inside Edition, ABC, CBS, FOX, and NBC news, while publications that highlight her genius include Forbes, The Huffington Post, The Wendy Williams Show, Parenting, and American Girl Magazine. Autumn has been the subject of feature articles in Scholastic News and last spring's feature subject in Time Magazine for Kids. Autumn also starred in the "Epic Kids" Spring 2014 Campaign for P.S. from Aeropostale, landing her on an electronic billboard high above Times Square.

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CBS+Paramount

It's an Easter tale for the ages! When Mama and Papa Doppler are in danger of losing their farm to the greedy Tobias Tinwhiskers, it's up to their son Peter and his animal friends to save it. Featuring Mother Nature, the Easter Bunny, and lots of colorful eggs, it's a story the whole family will enjoy!

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French Alps. The sun is shining and the slopes are spectacular, but during lunch at a mountainside restaurant, an avalanche suddenly bears down on the happy diners. With people fleeing in all directions, and his wife and children in a state of panic, Tomas makes a decision that will shake his marriage to its core, and leave him struggling to reclaim his role as family patriarch!

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Wherever there is chaos and destruction, you will find Superman's mixed-up clone, Bizarro, who hears the opposite of what is said, says the opposite of what he means and does the opposite of what is right. The Man of Steel decides it's time to find a new home for him ... on another planet, Bizarro World! On Earth, Superman and the Justice League go about with the usual business of stopping bad guys. When Bizarro World is threatened with destruction by the galactic tyrant Darkseid, he returns to Earth and clones the Justice League to create more "heroes" like himself; the Bizarro League is born! His backward clones are spawned, and called Bazarro, Bizarra, Greenzarro and Cyzarro. It's up to the Justice League to team up with their bizarre counterparts to stop Darkseid and save the galaxy! A Bazarro LEGO minifigure included on-pack, while supplies last.

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To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **Christina M. Nesbada of Worcester, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. And also requesting that **Christina M. Nesbada of Worcester, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on March 12, 2015.

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

The estate is being administered under formal 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 recipients 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.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 12, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15

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

QUOTES TO NOTE

"February, where the days of winter seem endless and no amount of wistful recollection can bring back any air of summer."

— Shirley Jackson,
American author

"It snowed and snowed, the whole world over. Snow swept the world from end-to-end. A candle burned on the table, a candle burned."

— Boris Pasternak,
Russian author

"I like these cold, gray winter days. They let you savor a bad mood."

— William Watterson

CAROL BURNETT AT SYMPHONY HALL

Actress and comedian Carol Burnett will be hosting an evening of laughter and reflection at Symphony Hall on Sunday, April 19th at 4:00 pm. For more information, go to bostonsymphonyhall.org or call 888-266-1200.

DORCHESTER CIVIC FORUM STARTED

Dorchester's First Parish Social Justice Committee has partnered with the Bowdoin Geneva Residents Association and launched a monthly civic forum on the first Friday of each month to facilitate communication between community activists. The next one is scheduled for March 6th.

Among the topics up for debate and discussion include jobs, living wages, better education, immigration and climate change. At the bottom of its list are the topics of better public safety and police relations.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800
Docket No. MI15P0209EA

Estate of
AUDREY LEWIS
Also Known As
AUDREY ANN LEWIS, AUDREY A. LEWIS
Date of Death October 25, 2014
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **David N. Harris of Peabody, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. And also requesting that **David N. Harris of Peabody, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on March 17, 2015.

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

The estate is being administered under formal 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 recipients 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.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 20, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15

Sounds like just another liberal, wacko group. You know something is off-base when climate control is higher on the priority list than safe streets to walk.

The climate of fear should be priority number one because without public safety, does anything else amount to a hill of beans?

WE DON'T NEED CHARLIE RIDING THE MBTA

We need new leadership with better focus on long-term infrastructure needs. It isn't just about new trains and new equipment, it is about proper maintenance. How long should Red, Green, Blue or Orange Line trains last? Is 25-30 years too long? How about train switches and tracks? It appears the biggest problem is not the trains, but the rails they use to transport folks station to station.

GM Beverly Scott had to go and her remark that even God Jr., couldn't have made a big difference. Nothing like a smart\$\$\$ at the helm. Bev will do fine as she always has done. Boston becomes part of her career resume and another city will hire her to run their transit system and at great pay as well.

I remember Gov. Michael S. Dukakis back during the Blizzard of '78 and also how quickly the MBTA got back on track. As Dukakis stated 37 years ago, "We did it." The

time when the T should shine is exactly times like this. This is when you pick up riders. If it's a disaster, you've lost a great opportunity to market the system,

Governor Dukakis took the Green Line to work, it wasn't a political stunt. We don't need Gov. Baker riding the T, we need those paid to do their jobs to do them. We need a master plan put into place to prevent another MBTA disaster. We don't need speeches, we need action and accountability.

SPINDLE CITY STRAIGHT TALK SHOW

It has been said many times over that light is the best disinfectant. Get the real skinny on all the local political goings-on by tuning into "Spindle City Straight Talk" every Monday at 11:00 am and 5:00 pm, Wednesdays at 11:00 am and Thursdays at 5:00 pm channel 95 on Comcast Fall River.

C.J. Ferry and Chip Camara will shine light on the truth of Fall River politics. Find them on Facebook at the Spindle City page. Then sit back and watch the cockroaches scatterer as C.J. and Chip say.

FOLLOW THE ROAD TO EMERALD CITY

Better hurry, *The Wiz* is coming to the Strand Theatre in Uphams Corner in Dorchester, February 13-22, 2015. For more information, go to fiddleheadtheatre.com or call 617-229-6494.

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

on foreign profits. He will be seeking to impose a 19 percent tax on U.S. companies' future foreign earnings.

Also, he would seek a one-time 14 percent tax on an estimated \$2.1 trillion in profits piled up abroad over the years by such companies as General Electric, Microsoft, Pfizer and Apple.

Deported Twice, But Back Again

Border security is a big

joke. It took immigration officers 37 years to deport Ivan Vaclavik to the Czech Republic and it took him a few months to return twice. He got deported in late 2013, but was caught once crossing the Rio Grande and deported again. Then in January, he was picked up by the Coast Guard on a sinking boat off the Florida Coast.

Deport him again and wait for his return in a few months.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI14D1987DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
LUIS R. GONZALEZ GONZALEZ
vs.

YESSICA Y. MALDONADO NOLASCO

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Desertion.

The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Luis R. Gonzalez Gonzalez, 14 Old Sandy Pond Road, Ayer, MA 01432** your answer, if any, on or before **March 17, 2015**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 3, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
Docket No. MI15D0260DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
JOSEPHINE BERNARD
vs.

JOSEPH FANFAN CERISIER

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Josephine Bernard, 35 Wolcott Street, Malden, MA 02148** your answer, if any, on or before **March 17, 2015**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 3, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15

Ray Barron's
11 O'CLOCK NEWS

A proposal to add a Latin phrase to Vermont's state motto caused an uproar when some residents mistook the ancient Roman language for Spanish. A state senator proposed adding "Stella quarta decima fulgear" (The 14th star shines bright) to the state seal. But protestors took to the internet to declare "Vermont ain't no Latino area" and "This is America, not Mexico."

Product placement, after Danielle Lei, an enterprising San Francisco Girl Scout, opened up a stand outside a local marijuana dispensary and set a national record by selling 208 boxes of cookies in just two hours.

Heartful performances, after a Colorado woman pleading to be excused from jury duty was told to come back to court the next day. She fell to her knees and began pulling out clumps of her own hair, and was immediately excused.

Tough love, after a Missouri couple was arrested for allegedly arranging to have their 6-year-old kidnapped because he was "too nice" to people. The boy was lured into a pickup truck, threatened with a gun and tied up, and then lectured about "stranger danger."

First impressions, after a Texas woman lost her prospective pizza delivery job because she tweeted, "Ew, I start this (expletive) job tomorrow." Her boss tweeted back, "No you don't start that job. I just fired you!"

Waste management, after a \$110,000-a-year water manager in San Francisco was suspended for urinating in a city reservoir, suspended without pay for five days, and warned that if he "pees in the wrong place again, you are toast."

Boston Record snowfall: Harsh winter weather continues to pound New England as residents brace themselves for their fourth powerful snowstorm in less than a month. The winter storms have been so extreme that Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker was forced to deploy 500 National Guardsmen to help shift the nearly 6-feet of snow that fell in just 17 days — much of which has been thrown into Boston Harbor in violation of normal practice.

News from Grosseto, Italy. Cruise captain found guilty: An Italian court has sentenced the former captain of the Costa Concordia cruise ship, which capsized in 2012, killing 32 people, to 16 years in prison. Francesco Schettino allowed the ship to be steered too close to shore, where it struck a reef, and then he hopped on a lifeboat to save himself while the vessel keeled over. He was convicted of multiple manslaughters, causing a shipwreck, and abandoning passengers. He won't serve time soon though, since the court said he could remain free during Italy's complicated appeals process, which is expected to take years. Before the verdict, Schettino wept on the stand. "All the responsibility has been loaded on to me," he said, "with no respect for the truth or for the memory of the victims."

Rosie O'Donnell has quit The View just five months after her dramatic return to the show so she can deal with her split from second wife, Michelle Rounds. The couple had been living apart for months, says the New York Post, and O'Donnell is concerned about the well-being of her five kids-including her adopted baby daughter with Rounds. "This has been a very stressful situation," said a spokesman for O'Donnell.

To think, we acquired a slight British accent when billeted with an English family prior to the invasion of Normandy. Ah, what memories of a spot-of-tea and fish n' chips. Most of all, we had a beautiful British girlfriend.

68% of Americans support police using drones to solve crimes, but only 30% approve of private ownership, and 73% want tighter regulations of remote-control aircraft.

Hey, guys, pay attention. Men who average three drinks a day and women who average two face a significantly higher risk for stroke in middle age, a new study has found. The study by Swedish scientists examined drinking habits of more than 11,000 twins over four decades, and found that those they defined as "heavy" drinkers in their

50s and 60s have a 34 percent higher risk for stroke than more moderate drinkers. That makes excessive alcohol consumption a greater risk factor in strokes than high blood pressure and diabetes. Heavy drinkers also were more likely to have strokes five years earlier than light drinkers, regardless of their genetics or other health habits. The findings are consistent with the American Heart Association's recommendations that men not exceed two drinks a day, and women, one. Previous studies have found that moderate drinking can have a protective effect on heart disease and overall mortality, and the Swedish study found that abstaining from alcohol altogether did not lower the risk of stroke. Drinking is "like Jekyll and Hyde," Tara Narula, a cardiologist at New York City's Lenox Hill Hospital, tells CBSNews.com. "It can be medicinal and beneficial or poisonous and detrimental, depending on how much you use."

Over the past decade, thanks in part to widespread restrictions on when and where people can light up, the number of Americans who smoke has rapidly declined. But despite that reduction, some 58 million Americans are still regularly exposed to secondhand smoke, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease control and Prevention. Although this is a 50 percent drop from 10 years ago, one in four nonsmokers remains vulnerable, and the risks are most pronounced among African-American children and the poor. Exposure among black children from ages 3 to 11, is still 68 percent-about twice the level for white or Hispanic kids. The percentage of impoverished people exposed to secondhand smoke stands at about 43 percent, compared with roughly 21 percent for those living above the poverty line. Health officials warn that when it comes to secondhand smoke-which is linked with several health risks, including asthma, respiratory infections, and heart and lung disease-there is no safe level of exposure.

Italian-Americans in U.S. Military history: More than 100 Italian Americans served as officers in the Union forces during the Civil War, including 4 generals; 2 naval commanders, 11 naval officers, 9 colonels and lieutenant colonels; and 28 majors and captains. The exact number is unknown because of the Americanization of Italian surnames and mixed marriages. Bancroft Gerardi was the first Italian-American to attain the rank of U.S. Admiral. He and Louis Sartori were U.S. naval commodores during the U.S.-Mexican War. At least 39 Italian Americans have received the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military award given by the U.S government for bravery "above and beyond the call of duty." Six in the Civil War: two in the Indian War: one for the Spanish-American War; and one for the China Boxer conflict.

Some show biz stuff from the stately musicologist Albert Natale. "When the country started latching onto the big band sounds in the mid-1930s, it was merely discovering the music that Duke Ellington and his band had already been playing for almost ten years. According to Anthony Perkins, Rock Hudson let his gay agent marry him off to his secretary because he didn't want people to get the right idea. Lew Ayres, says, "Ginger Rogers was married to her career and to that mother of hers. I interfered with both relationships. They were stronger or more important to Ginger than I was. It was fine while it lasted." Here is Lee Remick with her words about Barbra Streisand. "The face, that's a matter of opinion. But the voice is beautiful, the ego rather ugly."

She'll never be nominated for another Oscar — she's alienated too many people in this town."

AMERICA IS A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN NAME



Parla Come Mangi!
(Speak as You Eat!)

by Alessandra Sambiasi



Benvenuti! This week's recipe, Castagnole fritte, is in honor of my recent visit to Venezia where I took some of my students to see Carnevale last week. After learning about "Le maschere della Commedia dell'Arte" we were able to see Arlecchino, Dottor Balanzone, Pulcinella, Colombina and other maschere performing live in Venice's piazzas! "Commedia dell'Arte," the 16th century Italian colorful and tragicomic teatro di piazza consisting of improvised sketches and scenes representing human characteristics through the maschere of the Italian comedy performance, was born as a reaction to the cold and rigid plays of the time. "Pazzi Lazzi," a delightful professional troupe of accomplished Italian actors, brings the excellence of the Commedia dell'Arte right here in Boston with the delightful "Aria di Commedia" shows where actors interact on stage with the "Renaissonics," professional Renaissance musicians bringing the audience right back to the 1500's. I bet Arlecchino would love to try some Castagnole, a sweet fried dough dessert that gets its name from the Italian word castagne (chestnuts) due to its shape and size.

Castagnole

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1/3 cup + 2 Tbsp of milk | 1 ¼ cups of flour |
| 1/3 cup + 2 Tbsp water | 4 whole large eggs + 1 large egg yolks |
| 3 Tbsp vanilla sugar | Powdered sugar to garnish |
| ½ stick butter | Frying oil |
| Grated zest of ½ lemon | |
| 1 tsp baking powder | |

Preparation: In a medium pot bring the milk, water, sugar, butter, salt, lemon zest, vanilla and baking powder to a boil, remove from the heat and all at once throw in the flour mixing well with a spatula or wooden spoon, put the pot back on the stove on low heat and stir until the dough forms into a ball that detaches from the sides of the pot. Transfer the dough into an electric mixer and let cool slightly. Using the paddle attachment, incorporate one egg at the time into the dough. Make sure that each egg is well incorporated before adding the next. This process will take several minutes. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest at room temperature for one hour. In a large pot, pour enough frying oil for deep frying and heat it up at medium high temperature. Using a tablespoon, scoop some dough into the oil (a little spoon will help you get the dough off the tablespoon and into the hot oil), lower the heat to medium and fry until golden brown. The Castagnole will puff right away but make sure to fry only a handful of them at a time to avoid further lowering of temperature of the oil. Transfer onto a paper towel to drain. Let cool completely, sprinkle with powdered sugar and serve. Buon Carnevale!

Castagnole

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 100 ml latte | 1 cucchiaino di lievito per dolci |
| 100 ml acqua | 140 g di farina |
| 50 g di zucchero vanigliato | 4 uova intere + 1 tuorlo |
| 60 g di burro | Zucchero a velo per guarnire |
| La buccia grattugiata di mezzo limone | Olio per friggere |

Preparazione: Versa in una casseruola i primi 8 ingredienti e fai bollire il tutto su fuoco moderato. Leva dal fuoco e versa la farina, tutta in una volta, mescolandola bene con una spatola o con un cucchiaino di legno. Rimetti sul fuoco e mescola continuamente a fiamma bassa fino a quando si sarà formato un composto omogeneo e liscio e che si stacca dai bordi della pentola. Togli dal fuoco, fai intiepidire e aggiungi, una alla volta, mescolando bene le uova ed i tuorli avendo l'accortezza di non aggiungere un altro uovo se il precedente non sarà stato ben amalgamato. Copri la pasta con la pellicola trasparente e fai riposare per 1 ora. Riscalda l'olio, circa 1 litro, in una padella. Quando è ben caldo ma non bollente prendi con un cucchiaino un po' di pasta e, aiutandoti con un altro cucchiaino, fai cadere la pasta nell'olio a fiamma moderata e le castagnole si gonfieranno immediatamente. Toglile dal fuoco quando sono ben dorate e colorite. Trasferiscile su della carta assorbente e falle raffreddare completamente. Guarniscile con dello zucchero a velo e servi. Buon Carnevale!

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

• Letter Editor (Continued from Page 3)

were willing to commit strong US forces, and to augment those forces when necessary.

The President has not done his job. It is now time for Congress to fill the gap. They must hold lengthy and extensive hearings, asking the tough questions that the President has chosen to avoid.

They must then decide whether the President can be trusted to command effective military action, or if intervention is more likely to be a waste of resources in a lost war.

Sincerely,
Peter J. Thomas
Chairman
Americans for
Constitutional Liberty

Nanna & Babbononno

by John Christoforo

A Nostalgic Remembrance



February school vacation was a couple of weeks away and I had made plans to go on vacation. I was teaching drafting and industrial design at Hyde Park High School and was playing with several bands, performing each night of the week except on Mondays. That was unofficially the night off for most musicians back in the day. I had learned my lesson a month earlier, between Christmas and New Year's Eve. I had accepted an invitation at a ski lodge near Cannon Mountain in New Hampshire.

Let me start by saying, "I hate the cold." As I've gotten older, I hate it even more, but even back then, I hated the cold. This time around, I wanted to vacation in the tropics. More about the plans in a minute, but first let me tell you about a trip to Cannon Mountain: A pretty young teacher on our faculty was an avid skier and invited me and another young male teacher from the Hyde Park faculty to the ski lodge she belonged to. We would pay our own way, but as her guests, it was a lot cheaper than if we made reservations at a hotel.

I had never been on skis before and didn't have the right clothing nor the equipment necessary. When I mentioned my plans to the guys in the bands I was working with, a couple of them offered to lend me the necessary clothing and boots. Sal Meli, an old friend from East Boston, could take time off from his job at Polaroid and decided to join in with us, and on December 26th, Sal, the girl that invited us and the other male teacher, Tom Aylward, and I jumped into my Thunderbird four-seater and headed north.

It was Wednesday morning, the day after Christmas. I picked everyone up, but told my friends that we would have to come home on Sunday, as I was playing on New Year's Eve, but didn't want to take any chances. All agreed and off we went.

The resort had all of the amenities, and by late afternoon we were checked in and raring to go. After dinner, Sal, Tom and I were introduced to the club members and we partied until it was time to call it quits. Early the next morning, I was fitted for skis and headed to the novice slope of Cannon Mountain to take a skiing lesson. The instructor took about a half hour, showing us the ins-and-outs of the sport. To me, the most important aspect of everything was how to stop. Once I thought I was ready, I

headed to the top of the novice slope, but didn't think I could maneuver around all of the beginners who were falling down. As a result, I decided to head farther up the mountain. When I got to the intermediate level, it was too crowded, so I continued until I found myself at the top of Cannon Mountain with the expert skiers. I snapped on my skis, pointed them down the mountain, said a quick Hail Mary, and pushed off.

Dragging my ski poles, I slowly descended the mountain, swerving to avoid the pros that were flying down the mountain. The swerving also allowed me to miss the trees and boulders that dotted the slopes of Cannon Mountain. I was nervous and wished I were back home having a glass of winter wine with Babbononno.

Well, I somehow made it down the mountain without falling or hitting anything. When I arrived at the novice slope, I zigzagged my way around all of the falling beginners and saw the side wall of the public ski lodge coming closer, I pointed my skis at each other (called snow plowing) and jumped sideways. I stopped within a couple of feet of the outside wall of the lodge, snapped off my rented skis, looked back at the slopes of the mountain, saluted and headed inside with no broken bones, no scrapes or bruises, only a body full of cold New Hampshire mountain air. I had beginner's luck and didn't want to tempt fate. That was the first and last time I ever put on a pair of skis in my life. Once inside, I ordered a hot chocolate and waited for Sal and the rest of my friends to come back and join me. I don't know if I was dressed well enough for the northern New England climate, but it took me a day or two to warm up. I made a promise to myself, if the good Lord would allow me to thaw out, I would never go skiing or try outdoor winter sports ever again. I warmed up and have kept my promise.

A couple of months later, and as I said, the February school vacation was approaching. Both Sal and my faculty friend, Tom, decided to go to Puerto Rico. I knew two things about this island, it was an American commonwealth, and it would be warm during February vacation. I called a friend of Uncle Nick and Aunt Dorothy to arrange things. He was the vice president of Colpitts Travel Agency and he knew just what I wanted. As a result, he put a package to-

gether that we could afford and we were to leave on the Friday afternoon before the vacation week.

Back in the day, you dressed at night in San Juan, so I filled two suit cases with suits, ties, shirts, and whatever I would need for the beach and the pool. Dad, mom and Babbononno drove Sal and me to the Eastern Airlines Terminal and we waited for Tom to show up. When he did, we were raring to go, but there was a problem, it was snowing and our flight was delayed. There was a lounge at the Eastern Terminal that was owned by former Senator LoPresti. I had campaigned for him when he ran for office and he knew me by name. He happened to be at the lounge when we went in and he spotted me. We shook hands and I introduced him to my friends, and then lamented that our flight was delayed. He told the bar tender to take care of us, gratis. He whispered to me that the drinks were on the house but that we should take care of his bartender and off he went. Well, I'm not much of a drinker and neither was Sal. Tom had a couple, but the friend that drove him to the airport put a good dent in a bottle of Jack Daniels and was feeling no pain.

After a couple of hours, they rescheduled our flight in spite of the snow and by late that evening we were ready to fly out.

Just before boarding the plane, I called home to let everyone know what was going on. Babbononno answered and told me that I should have taken him with me to translate. I asked my grandfather if he could speak Spanish and he said, "Noh, ma Italiano, sheeza peedy close to Spanisha." I thanked him anyway and told him to tell Mom and Dad we were on our way. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

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. MI14D3963DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

YOLA DUBOIS

vs.

FRITZNER AUGUSTE

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon **Yola Dubois, 364 Rindge Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140** your answer, if any, on or before **March 17, 2015**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 3, 2015
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 2/20/15

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. MI15P0317EA

Estate of

MARIA G. CHAIRES

Date of Death January 30, 2010

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Joe Chaires, III of Visalia, CA.**

Joe Chaires, III of Visalia, CA 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: 2/20/15

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. MI15P0320EA

Estate of

LESTER LEROY DICK

Date of Death June 7, 2012

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Rose M. Dick of Atwater, CA.**

Rose M. Dick of Atwater, CA 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: 2/20/15

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. MI15P0341EA

Estate of

JOHNNY CASTILLO DOMINGUEZ

Date of Death February 4, 2008

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Guadalupe M. Dominguez of Houston, TX.**

Guadalupe M. Dominguez of Houston, TX 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: 2/20/15

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. MI15P0336EA

Estate of

SHIRLEY ANN NERO

Date of Death November 7, 2011

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Te Lana E. Nero of Oklahoma City, OK.**

Te Lana E. Nero of Oklahoma City, OK 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: 2/20/15

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. MI15P0314EA

Estate of

JAMES LEE SPRINGER

Date of Death December 22, 2012

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Marjorie E. Springer of Centralia, WA.**

Marjorie E. Springer of Centralia, WA 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: 2/20/15

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. MI14P6555EA

Estate of

NANCY A. GRIFFIN

Also Known As

NANCY A. KELLY

Date of Death November 26, 2014

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Martin Coffey of Bethlehem, PA.**

Martin Coffey of Bethlehem, PA 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: 2/20/15

The Federal Trade Commission

works for the consumer to prevent

fraud and deception.

Call 1-877-FTC-HELP or visit WWW.FTC.GOV.



EXTRA Innings



by Sal Giarratani

Banks Honored in Chicago as “Mr. Cub”

Fans and friends recently paid tribute to legendary Chicago Cubs slugger Ernie Banks recalling how he helped break baseball’s color barrier in the early ‘50s during a great Hall of Fame career in which he won over teammates and fans with the optimism he brought to both the game and his life. At a memorial service, the man known as “Mr. Cub” was remembered for both his character and his many accomplishments on the field, including 512 homers.

Banks died on January 23rd of a heart attack shortly before his 84th birthday . I will have more to say on Ernie Banks next week.

Happy Birthday to ...

Tim Lincecum, who just turned 48 years old.

Martinez or Clemens?

Pedro Martinez is in the Hall of Fame and Roger “The Rocket Man” Clemens still needs to buy a ticket to get into Cooperstown. So, who was better on the Sox? From 1998 through 2004, Pedro went 117-37 with a 2.52 ERA with 1,683 strikeouts for the Sox. Clemens played from 1984 through 1996 going 192-111 with a 3.06 ERA with 2,590 strikeouts.

I always thought, while watching Clemens pitch for Boston that he might be the best Red Sox starting pitcher ever, even better than Babe

Ruth. However, that was before steroids entered the pitcher. Now, I think Pedro is Number 1.

Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame

Felipe Alou, a longtime manager for the Montreal Expos, and a great slugging outfielder for the San Francisco Giants during the ‘60s playing along side Willie Mays, Willie McCovey and Orlando Cepeda will be inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame on June 13th.

Padres Get Shields

Pitcher James Shields, who helped the Royals get to the World Series this past season, has agreed to a four-year, \$75 million contract with the San Diego Padres. Shields was traded by the Rays to Kansas City two years ago. He went 14-8 with a 3.21 ERA but decided to look elsewhere.

Good News for V-mart

The Tigers are hoping that Victor Martinez will be ready to start the season after having knee surgery which apparently went better than previously expected. Doctors now say, he should be ready to play baseball in about 4-6 weeks. Good news for the Tigers and Martinez.

Tigers’ Dave Bergman Passes Away

Dave Bergman, a member of the 1984 World Series winning Detroit Tigers has died at age 61. He was a first baseman and outfielder who played nine seasons with the Tigers after being traded to Detroit in 1984. He had a career high 44 RBIs, helping Detroit win its first World Series since the 1968 season.

His career started with the New York Yankees where he made his debut in 1975. In 17 seasons, he had a batting average of .258 with 54 homers and 289 RBIs. He also played for the Astros and Giants during his career.

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

Docket No. MI15P0439GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the Matter of LILLIAN C. STREETER of Lexington, MA

RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Chris C. Streeter of Lexington, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Lillian C. Streeter** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Chris C. Streeter of Lexington, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 a.m.** on the return date of **March 6, 2015**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 6, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141-0005
(617) 768-5800

Docket No. MI10P0169EA

In the Interests of EILEEN M. WHITMORE
Date of Death October 14, 2007

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **Stephen P. Burke of Dover, MA** requesting that an Order of Complete Settlement of the estate issue approve an accounting compel or approve a distribution adjudicate a final settlement and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on March 12, 2015.

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

WITNESS, HON. EDWARD F. DONNELLY, JR.,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 5, 2015

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 2/20/15



Gridiron Audibles



with Christian A. Guarino

WE’RE MOVING ON TO THE OFF-SEASON ...

With two weeks separating us from Malcolm Butler’s Super Bowl clinching interception, it’s time to start shifting focus onto the 2015 season. The Patriots long play-off run and subsequent championship celebrations have the team behind in terms of preparation for next season. The team has decisions to make with key players who are headed for free agency, names that include safety Devin McCourty, kicker Stephen Gostkowski, running back Shane Vereen and center Dan Connolly, to name the essentials. The contract situation of Cornerback Darrelle Revis, who will hold a \$25 million cap charge, is another issue that needs to be resolved.

Of the above listed free agents, McCourty is a top priority and definitely needs to be retained by the team. This is not intended to diminish the contributions of the others, but this upcoming free agent period will be one of the weakest in recent history when it comes to safeties. With a defensive secondary that played incredibly down the stretch of last season, the Patriots would be foolish to tinker with the group. With the franchise tag at their disposal, if a long term deal cannot be reached with McCourty prior to March 10th, the tag must be applied.

Bottom line: Devin loves playing for the Patriots and the team should do everything it can to bring him back.

Next, the Patriots need to ensure that another key piece of the secondary, Darrelle Revis, remains in Foxboro next season and beyond. The two sides will need to be willing to renegotiate the one-year left on his contract, and bring his mammoth cap number way down. Team President Jonathan Kraft all but guaranteed a Revis return, calling the current deal a “place-holder,” and I believe the two sides will come together and that Revis will sign a lucrative long-term deal. The team hasn’t performed well and has at times down right insulted players with their contract offers. Revis is not the player to do this with. We all saw how much he meant to the Patriots last season, giving head coach Bill Belichick the flexibility to run more exotic defenses. This was only possible because of Revis ability to shut down his side of the field.

Bottom line: Pay the man!

Another player in a contract that requires adjustment is linebacker Jerod Mayo. Mayo is coming off a second consecutive injury shortened year and will carry a cap charge of \$10.4 million. Further complicating things for Mayo was the play of Dont’a Hightower and Jamie Collins. Those two never missed a beat in the middle of the de-

fense after Mayo was lost in a mid-season win at Buffalo. The two will also come at a fraction of the cost, approximately \$3.5 million combined. The organization and Mayo share a mutual affinity, however, unless he agrees to take a significant pay cut, the team should walk away. I’ve never been a fan of Mayo’s game and quite frankly think he is overrated. Bottom line: Cutting Mayo will mean \$4.3 million in cap relief and will make resigning McCourty and the others more doable. Release him.

UPCOMING NFL DATES TO REMEMBER

March 10 — New league year begins at 4:00 pm EST bringing with it free agency

April 30-May 2 — NFL draft in Chicago, Illinois

EARLY LOOK AT 2015 REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE

The Patriots opponents for the 2015 regular season combined to finish 122-134, (.477 winning percentage) during the 2014 regular season. By comparison, this past years Super Bowl winning squad

entered the season with an opponent winning percentage of .516.

HISTORY OF FOOTBALL IN BOSTON

The game of Football has a long and storied history in the city of Boston. Contrary to popular belief, the sport existed prior to the arrival of Bill Belichick and Tom Brady in 2000. Football in our city pre-dates even the New England Patriots franchise which had its beginnings in 1960.

In fact, the Patriots aren’t even the first pro franchise to call Boston home.

Beginning in next week’s article, *Gridiron Audibles* will bring you the history of the game in Boston, from prep school aged boys who historians believe were the first to play organized football, through the evolution of the professional game in the city, and the story behind three failed pro football franchises. All leading into the present day dynasty that has finally made football the predominant sport in Boston and across the New England region.

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed General Bids for **MPA Contract No. L599-C2 MODERNIZATION OF NEW TOWER ELEVATORS, LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, EAST BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**, will be received by the Massachusetts Port Authority at the Capital Programs Department Office, Suite 209S - Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128-2909, until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2015**, immediately after which, in a designated room, the bids will be opened and read publicly.

Sealed filed sub-bids for the same contract will be received at the same office until 11:00 A.M. local time on **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015**, immediately after which, in a designated room, the filed sub-bids will be opened and read publicly.

NOTE: PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CAPITAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT (ABOVE ADDRESS) AT 10 AM LOCAL TIME ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015.

The work includes **MODERNIZATION OF TWO TRACTION ELEVATORS LOCATED IN THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER. TRADES INVOLVED ARE ELEVATOR AND ELECTRICAL.**

Bid documents will be made available beginning **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015**.

Bid Documents in electronic format may be obtained free of charge at the Authority’s Capital Programs Department Office, together with any addenda or amendments, which the Authority may issue and a printed copy of the Proposal form.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract General Bidders must submit with their bid a current Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Assessment Management and an Update Statement. The General Bidder must be certified in the category of **ELEVATORS**. The estimated contract cost is **EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000.00)**.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this contract, filed Sub-bidders must submit with their bid a current Sub-bidder Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance and a Sub-bidder Update Statement. The filed Sub-bidder must be certified in the sub-bid category of work for which the Sub-bidder is submitting a bid proposal.

Bidding procedures and award of the contract and sub-contracts shall be in accordance with the provisions of Sections 44A through 44H inclusive, Chapter 149 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A proposal guaranty shall be submitted with each General Bid consisting of a bid deposit for five (5) percent of the value of the bid; when sub-bids are required, each must be accompanied by a deposit equal to five (5) percent of the sub-bid amount, in the form of a bid bond, or cash, or a certified check, or a treasurer’s or a cashier’s check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the Massachusetts Port Authority in the name of which the Contract for the work is to be executed. The bid deposit shall be (a) in a form satisfactory to the Authority, (b) with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth and satisfactory to the Authority, and (c) conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the bid.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond and a labor and materials payment bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract price. The surety shall be a surety company or securities satisfactory to the Authority. Attention is called to the minimum rate of wages to be paid on the work as determined under the provisions of Chapter 149, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 26 to 27G, inclusive, as amended. The Contractor will be required to pay minimum wages in accordance with the schedules listed in Division II, Special Provisions of the Specifications, which wage rates have been predetermined by the U. S. Secretary of Labor and/or the Commissioner of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts, whichever is greater.

The successful Bidder will be required to purchase and maintain Bodily Injury Liability Insurance and Property Damage Liability Insurance for a combined single limit of **ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000.00)**. Said policy shall be on an occurrence basis and the Authority shall be included as an Additional Insured. See the insurance sections of Division I, General Requirements and Division II, Special Provisions for complete details.

Filed sub-bids will be required and taken on the following classes of work:

ELECTRICAL (\$55,000.00)

The Authority reserves the right to reject any sub-bid of any sub-trade where permitted by Section 44E of the above-referenced General Laws. The right is also reserved to waive any informality in or to reject any or all proposals and General Bids.

This Contract is also subject to Affirmative Action requirements of the Massachusetts Port Authority contained in the Non-Discrimination and Affirmative Action article of Division I, General Requirements and Covenants, and to the Secretary of Labor’s Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Opportunity and the Standard Federal Equal Opportunity Construction Contract Specifications (Executive Order 11246).

The General Contractor is required to submit a Certification of Non-Segregated Facilities prior to award of the Contract, and to notify prospective subcontractors of the requirement for such certification where the subcontract exceeds \$10,000.

Complete information and authorization to view the site may be obtained from the Capital Programs Department Office at the Massachusetts Port Authority. The right is reserved to waive any informality in or reject any or all proposals.

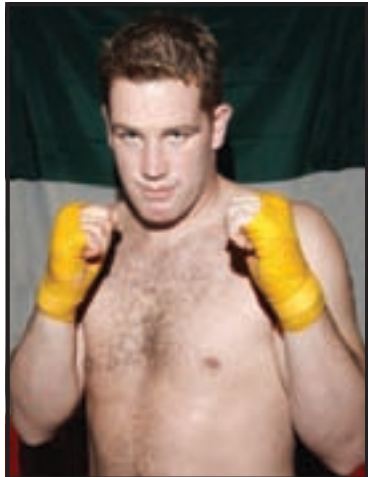
MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
THOMAS P. GLYNN
CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Run date: 2/20/15



Ring 4 President Announces 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees

*Annual Banquet to Honor Tony DeMarco on 60th
Anniversary of Winning World Title*



Kevin McBride

Ring 4 President Mickey Finn has announced this year's Ring 4 Hall of Fame inductees at a meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 14th. Kevin McBride, Ken Flora and Brian Powers were selected as this year's honorees.

Kevin McBride, The Clones Colossus, represented Ireland in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain. Kevin turned pro after that and compiled an outstanding record of 24 wins, 3 losses, and 1 draw when he signed up to fight Mike Tyson. Most experts didn't give McBride a chance against Iron Mike, but Kevin trained to win and was not intimidated by the hard-hitting former champ. Kevin made history when he stopped Tyson in the 6th round, sending Mike into permanent retirement. Kevin finished his career with a record of 35-10-1 and an amazing 29 wins by knock out. In addition to Tyson, he faced top contenders Axel Schulz, Louis Monaco, Andrew Golata and Tomasz Adamek. He was trained by Goody Petronelli.

The New Garden Gym (there were actually three over the years all within yards of each other) was the Mecca of Boxing in Boston. Anyone who was anyone in boxing stepped into the ring there. There were saints and sinners, cops and robbers, and some of the best people you would ever want to meet there. Ring 4 inductee Ken Flora's story is a great example of what a great influence that old gym had on so many young men looking for a place in which they could find the path to manhood and the road to self confidence. Ken described himself as a very shy kid with a speech defect who got hooked on boxing once he saw the *Friday Night Fights* on TV. He did some boxing with his friends around his home town of Watertown and eventually climbed the stairs up



Ken Flora

to the New Garden Gym. It was there that he met middleweight contender Blair Richardson, one of the New Garden's saints, who gave the young Ken great encouragement and was a posi-



Mickey Finn and Tony DeMarco

tive influence on him. Ken trained alongside fighters such as Gabe LaMarca, Johnny Coiley, Jerry Graci, Dick Hall and Marion Conner. His first amateur bout was at Norfolk Prison where he was part of a team put together by Vinny Marino, Johnny Gagliardi,



Tony DeMarco

Johnny Dunn and George Holden. Former World Middleweight Champion Paul Pender was athletic director at the prison. Ken fought from 1966 to 1970 and compiled an outstanding record of 30-8. He holds wins over Golden Gloves Champion Bobby Jones, Mark DiAmicus and Art



Brian Powers

Montminy. He dropped a decision to fellow Ring 4 Hall of Fame member Mike Mullen whom he considers the best he ever fought.

Brian Powers retired from boxing as an undefeated professional. Everyone I have spoken to tells me he had everything it took to go all the way to the top. Tony Petronelli says Brian had it all, punch, guts, stamina and desire. Ring 4 President Mickey Finn told me that Brian was one of the best prospects he has ever seen. Brian, who calls Holbrook his hometown, fought from 1986 until 1992 with one more fight happening in 1998. He fought some rough guys and always came out on top. He beat three opponents who went into the ring against him with undefeated records. Brian has stayed active working with young boxers and is highly respected among his peers.

President Mickey Finn told me he is extremely proud of this year's class of inductees and that he is looking forward to the banquet and award ceremony.

In addition to the Hall of Fame inductions, former World Welterweight Champion, Tony DeMarco, will be honored at this year's banquet. April 1, 2015 marks the 60th anniversary of Tony's winning challenge against Johnny Saxton for the World Championship. Tony won the title in magnificent fashion when he kayoed the very tough Saxton in the 14th round at the Boston Garden. I don't think any fighter could have beaten Tony that night. The 83-year-old former champ is still going strong and has written his autobiography, *Nardo*, which is a great read. Tony also still throws a mean left hook, so keep your distance.

Tickets for this year's banquet, which will be held at Florian Hall on Sunday, April 12th, can be purchased by contacting Mickey Finn at 617-838-0055. Tickets include a terrific buffet dinner. I know they are selling fast, so be sure to get yours for this great event.

HOOPS and HOCKEY in the HUB

by Richard Preiss



Breaks in the action are funny. Sometimes they can come just when a team needs them, providing a time to prepare for the games to come, a time to put together a strategy for the stretch drive.

At other times, they can appear on the schedule at a most inopportune time. Their pause can break momentum, stifle enthusiasm, postpone or perhaps derail entirely an excitement that had been building over the course of several contests.

As we considered it over the course of another snowy weekend as the road outside our dwelling grew ever narrower while the piles of snow grew ever higher, we realized that when the Celtics resumed action after the All-Star break, they would be at such a juncture — one that could well determine whether they will play beyond the end of the regular season on April 15th.

When the Celtics broke for All-Star Weekend, they did so with the sound of euphoria resounding throughout the TD Garden. Their one point victory (89-88) over the Eastern Conference leading Atlanta Hawks brought echoes in the hallways of the Garden that have been almost foreign for some time. They were the shrieks, the whoops, the stride, the pride of victory, the most significant one for the C's thus far this season and a perfect experience to relive through nine days away from the action.

Most media outlets concentrated on Evan Turner's seven-foot jumper with just two-tenths of second remaining that delivered the victory to the Green. But you can't overlook another stat — the 19 for 20 foul shooting that truly was the decisive hidden factor. If the C's had missed just a couple of more of those, the Hawks would have left with their 44th victory of the season.

And yes, Turner had a significant hand in that. He was 4-4 from the line on a night when that stat meant so much.

"It feels good in that locker room for these guys to experience a win where you didn't play perfect but you ground out a victory against a really good team," said Celts Head Coach Brad Stevens minutes after the C's captured their 20th win of the season. "We needed that experience and hopefully we can build off it."

A good many people have already taken notice. The Celtics have seemed to play with a new spirit, a new expression, a new enthusiasm since yes, Rajon Rondo was traded to Dallas back on December 18.

Remember earlier in the season when the Celtics would keep up with teams in the first half and then go south in the second (especially the fourth quarter) on

the way to another depressing defeat. That rarely happens anymore. The Celtics can lose games, of course, but there is a different feeling about those setbacks — a fought-them-to-the-end attitude rather than a wave-the-white-flag - in-defeat resignation.

"We had a bunch of games early that didn't go our way," noted Stevens. "We had a bunch of things that we could control and that we could do better. One of those things was making game-changing plays in game-changing moments. The other was executing a little bit better. We've also tried to put an emphasis on our play at the end of quarters."

In short, the young Celtics are learning how to win and the good feeling that can flow from that. During most of February Stevens stated things have been different from the time of the early season losses, noting in recent games "we've had to come back and I feel like it's been a positive in the last eight minutes of games. So that's encouraging from where we started the year."

And wouldn't you know, as the Celtics resume after the All-Star break with 31 games remaining on their schedule, there is finally talk in the daily media (we've been saying it all along) that this current group of Celtics could possibly qualify for a playoff berth.

Indeed, at the break the Celts were only one and a half games out of the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. There are a number of other contenders for the same berth. Things will continue to be very fluid as play resumes. The Celtics will have to continue to win and yes, several other teams will have to lose, but the Celts seem to now have a much better attitude toward it all.

As we write this, the NBA trade deadline was looming and rumors were rampant that the C's would pick up one or more players for the final couple of months of the season. The various names mentioned would fill a good portion of a team roster.

But, in some ways, Stevens is still a college coach, one who appears to like a settled team, especially the one that he has now. The team has started to gel and one has to be careful about introducing individuals into that mix that might upset that chemistry. The Celtics already have numerous draft picks (through 2021) acquired through previous transactions. Whether a player with an expiring contract would really make a difference now is questionable. If it was earlier in the season, yes. But now, as the current players forge a cohesive unit, it would not be productive to disturb that process. Our suggestion is to let it be and see how things turn out in April.