# POST-GAZETTE

(Formerly LA GAZZETTA del MASSACHUSETTS)

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# Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey Delivered Annual State of the Commonwealth

Governor Maura Healey delivered her second State of the Commonwealth speech last Thursday evening covering a myriad of topics, including the ongoing emergency shelter crisis, infrastructure, and housing. This was the second speech of the Governor's tenure as she heads into her third year in the corner office. Healey offered an overview of her upcoming budget proposals, which highlighted the elimination of renter paid broker fees and a transportation funding plan.

In last year's address, the Governor requested funding for roadways, public transit, and a new literacy program. Over the course of 2024, her administration allocated monies to replace the Sagamore Bridge, passed a major economic development bill and eliminated slow zones from MBTA subway tracks. She also dealt with a massive crisis within the emergency assistance shelter system, leading to a chaotic situation the past two years.

Healey has also been tasked with devising new high school graduation requirements, after the voter's passed Question 2 last November, eliminating the requirement that students must pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in mathematics, science and technology, in order to receive a high school diploma. Healey opposed Question 2 but stated she "respects the voter's decision."

The Democratic Governor's speech came just a few days before the U.S. is set to inaugurate a new President, Donald Trump. During his first term in the White House, Healey served as the Massachusetts Attorney General, leading approximately one hundred lawsuits against his administration. Healey must find a way to work cooperatively with the Republican leadership in Washington D.C. or the state of Massachusetts may find itself on the losing end of funding and facing other negative financial impacts.

### **News Briefs**

by Sal Giarratani

### Missing Woman's Body Found Under Meridian Street Bridge

This past Saturday morning, the body of a female was found under the Meridian Street Bridge in East Boston and was identified as Elba Portillo, 61, who had last been seen on December 13th on her way to work but never arrived. According to Suffolk Court District Attorney Kevin Hayden, "I wish the disappearance of Elba Portillo had a happier ending, and I convey my deepest sympathies to her family and friends."

A GoFundMe page has been set up. As of this last Sunday evening, it had raised over \$10,000.

The funeral service is scheduled for January 30th, according to the GoFundMe page.

#### Trump Seeks to End Birthright Citizenship

President Trump announced the end of birthright citizenship for children of illegal immigrants living in this country in an executive order on his first day in office. Trump called his executive order "a big one" and added, "People have wanted to do this for decades."

Critics say ending birthright citizenship could raise legal questions, since the 14th amendment states, "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction therefor are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

### Biden Issues Last Minute Preemptive Pardons to Family Members

On one of his last hours serving as president, former President Joe Biden gave out preemptive

(Continued on Page 11)

# DONALD J. TRUMP Sworn in as 47th President of the United States

On a blistering cold day in Washington D.C., Donald J. Trump was inaugurated as the 47th President of the United States, marking his second, non-consecutive term in office. Due to the extreme weather conditions, the ceremony was moved from the traditional outside setting to inside the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. Chief Justice John Roberts administered the oath of office with First Lady Melania Trump holding both the Trump family bible and Abraham Lincoln's bible, as his children, Don Jr., Ivanka, Eric, Tiffany and Barron stood alongside, watching proudly as their dad took the oath of office.

Vice-President J.D. Vance was sworn in by Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh as his wife, mother and three children looked on. The event was attended by notable figures, including tech leaders such as Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerburg, as well as former presidents Clinton, Bush, Obama and other political dignitaries.

In his inaugural address, President Trump reiterated campaign themes focusing on issues like inflation, immigration, and national security. He openly criticized the policies of the preceding administration, as they sat



listening, and declared January 20, 2025, as "Liberation Day" for Americans." The speech was widely acclaimed for its America First Theme.

Immediately following the inauguration, President Trump signed a series of executive orders aimed at reversing policies from the prior Biden/ Harris administration and implementing his campaign promises, including strengthening border security and tightening immigration, reversing protections for transgender individuals and limiting federal recognition to only two sexes, pardons for individuals convicted in relation to January 6th Capitol events, extending

TikTok and a host of others. President Trump's immediate executive actions signaled a swift change in federal policies, aligning with his "America First" agenda and setting the tone for his second term in office, ushering in the "Golden Age of America."

Due to the inclement weather, the traditional inaugural parade was held indoors at the Capitol Arena. President Trump, First Lady Melania Trump, Vice-President J.D. Vance and wife Usha Vance attended the three inaugural balls later in evening, beginning with the Commander in Chief Ball, the Liberty Inaugural Ball and the Starlight Ball.

### A Look at Donald Trump's Key Cabinet Nominees

As President-elect Donald Trump prepared to assume office, he announced a series of cabinet nominations reflecting his political loyalties and policy priorities. Last week some of his key nominees appeared before the confirmation committee to answer questions from both Democrats and Republicans.

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth, a former Army National Guard officer, and Fox News commentator, has been nominated to lead the Department of Defense. Known for his conservative viewpoints and advocacy for veterans, Hegseth's nomination has created debate regarding his military experience, political positions and issues surrounding his personal life. Pam Bondi, previously served as Florida's Attorney General, has been nominated for the nation's top law enforcement position, U.S. Attorney General. Bondi has been a vocal supporter of President-elect Trump and was very visible on the 2024 campaign trail. South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem is nominated to lead the Department of Homeland Security. She has become a well-known conservative figure, and her appointment points to strict immigration and border policies.

Other Cabinet nominees have yet to appear before the confirmation committee including, former U.S. Representative Lee Zeldin-NY, chosen to head the Environmental Protection Agency. Zeldin's legislative record indicates support for deregulation, partnering with the incoming Trump administration's pro-business stance. Investment manager Scott Bessent has been chosen to oversee the Department of the Treasury. His financial expertise is expected to influence the administration's economic policies. Former U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard from Hawaii is nominated for Director of National Intelligence. Gabbard is a Democrat known for her independent viewpoints and brings a diverse

perspective to the intelligence community.

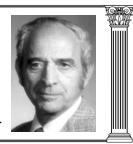
Each of the nominees is required to appear in person for committee hearings and undergo a committee vote before becoming eligible for a floor vote regarding their confirmation. Once nominations are on the floor, opponents could stretch the debate process for days. Some, like Hegseth could see the lengthiest delays given the controversy around his nomination. Others, like John Ratcliffe, Trump's pick to head the CIA, will most likely see a swift vote. U.S. Senator Marco Rubio was confirmed as Secretary of State immediately following the inauguration.

Another Trump nominee who is expected to have some Democratic support is United Nations Ambassador Elise Stefanik, while other more controversial nominees, including FBI Director nominee Kash Patel, Health and Human Services nominee Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and Tulsi Gabbard have not yet appeared before the committee.



by Prof. Edmund Turiello

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



#### **JUVENAL**

Our second distinguished scholar from the Silver Age of Latin literati is Decimus Junius Juvenalis, generally referred to as Juvenal, and considered to be the most representative satirical poet of this age. Satire as you know is that kind of writing which ridicules a person's vices or follies.

Juvenal was born in Aquinum, in the southern part of Italy, sometime around 63 B.C., was well educated in his rhetorical studies, and started writing satire when he was about forty years of age. He lived a simple lifestyle in a country estate near Tibur (Tivoli), and at various times in his life held the office of Tribune, and of Flamen. He was exiled to Britain or to Egypt because of a satirical attack on a favorite of the emperor, and he died while in exile about 130 A.D.

The total works of Juvenal are unknown, but sixteen of his

His concerns were mostly centered around those dark years in Roman history from Nero to Domitian.

Although he displayed great passion and imagination, Juvenal is mostly distinguished from earlier satirists in his concerns about depravity and vice.

He possessed a savage indignation or scorn, and in his poetry, he was able to fabricate memorable lines and scenes.

Once again, like so many other greats, his fame came long after his death. His satires gained popularity toward the end of the fourth century, and for the next hundred years he became one of the most commonly read of the Roman poets. His work was rediscovered in the ninth century when he became one of the "golden authors" of the Middle Ages.

NEXT ISSUE:

### Coletta Zapata Introduces Legislation Providing Tax Exemptions to Landlords Keeping Rents Below Market

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata proposed legislation allowing the City of Boston to opt-in to the "Good Landlord Tax Abatement." The Good Landlord Tax Abatement allows municipalities to offer property tax exemptions for affordable rentals occupied by individuals earning below a locally determined income threshold. The tax credit, sponsored by State Senator Lydia Edwards and State Representative Andres Vargas, was included in the Massachusetts 2023 tax package.

"Boston is consistently ranked as one of the most expensive cities for renters. The housing crisis continues to displace our neighbors, force families out of their communities, and leave countless residents on the brink of homelessness. Adopting the "Good Landlord Tax Abatement" will allow the City of Boston to deliver more housing to renters at affordable rates by incentivizing landlords to provide truly affordable housing opportunities," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata. "I look forward to the discussion with my Council colleagues to provide both immediate relief and longterm opportunities for Boston's residents and property owners."

To qualify for the exemption, the property must be rented at an affordable rate set by the City of Boston per United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines, have a yearly lease, and be occupied year-round by households earning no more than 200% of the area median income.

Coletta Zapata's ordinance comes as Boston's housing crisis continues to worsen, with many residents being pushed out of their neighborhoods due to rising rent costs and rental availability, though expanded in recent years, remaining limited. As of January 2025, Boston's average rent is \$3,393 per month, more than double the national average. Rising maintenance costs for small landlords frequently drive-up rents, further limiting affordable housing options for residents.

"I am so excited to see Boston leading the way. I am particularly proud of Councilor Coletta's leadership. If passed we will be helping small property owners that are already doing the right thing. I hope more cities and towns will use this special power to keep rents low and while helping landlords," said State Senator Lydia Edwards.

This docket was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means chaired by Councilor Brian Worrell (District 4). A hearing will be scheduled in the upcoming months and posted on the Councilor's social media channels. This proposal was cosponsored by Councilors Brian Worrell (District 4) and At-Large Councilor Henry Santana.

To read about Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 59, Section 50, visit bit.ly/ MGL\_Chapter59

To read Councilor Coletta Zapata's legislation in full, visit: bit.ly/GCZ\_GoodLandlordTax

For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at 617-635-3200 or by email at gabriela. ramirez@boston.gov.

# satires remain. All are written in a special kind of rhythm of verse called dactylic hexameter. The style of these poems represents or to Egypt rical attack on

rhe style of these poems represents the final development of satire among the Romans. His work is emotional, scornful, the language is abusive, and in his writing, he attempts to set himself up as a judge to censor the

actions of his contemporaries.

### Boston Mayor Michelle Wu Adds 301 New Jobs in First Three Years of Administration

In a letter to the city council, Mayor Wu acknowledged the hiring of 301 new employees created over the three-year period since she assumed office in late 2021. More than one third of the new hires earn more than \$100,000 with the average salary pegged at almost \$85,000. The total salaries amount to over \$27 million or approximately 0.6% of the city's \$4.6 billion budget, which grew by 8% this fiscal year.

"These positions represent important investments that have been carefully analyzed through the city's budget process and deliver key improvements in core key operations and services that our constituents depend on," Wu wrote in a letter to the City Council. The information was provided by the mayor in response to a 17F request made by Councilor Erin Murphy which require the mayor to provide requested information within one week after it is approved by the council. Murphy initially requested the information on October 23, 2024 and it was finally provided by the mayor on January 14, 2025

Of the 301 newly created positions, 112 were filled in 2022 and 135 were filled in 2023, with 54 added between January and November of 2024. Ninetyseven of the new city employees were hired at salaries over \$100,000, with the highest position topping out at almost \$195,000 for the Office of People Operations Chief in July, 2022. "At a time when residents are burdened with higher tax bills and the rising cost of living, we must prioritize tightening our belt and ensuring that every dollar spent serves our community directly," Murphy stated.

Wu refiled legislation last week to provide relief for homeowners burdened by double digit tax increases by shifting a higher tax onto businesses, beyond the 175% currently allowed by law. The mayor's first tax shift bill was approved by the city council last year, but did not pass the state legislature amidst criticism that her administration did not look at

slashing the city's \$4.6 million dollar budget, which increased by 8% this fiscal year.

In her letter to the council, Wu states "new hires represent less than 1% of the city budget and Boston's staffing trends are consistent with national municipal employment numbers." A good portion of the staffing growth was focused on basic city services (67 jobs), human services such as community centers and libraries (40) and public safety (39). She also wrote "many of the new positions were specifically requested or designated by the council through budget amendments or created through ordinances approved by the council as part of the budget process," including the Office of Language and Communications Access and Black Male Advancement.

"We are proud of our city workforce who keep Boston running and deliver excellent municipal services each and every day, and have worked diligently throughout our administration to support our residents," Wu stated.

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# Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy's

Statement on the Hearing Order for Discussing Residential Property Values and the Assessing Process

The City of Boston is at a critical juncture where affordability, revenue generation, and equitable investment intersect with the future of residential and commercial property landscapes. This hearing order aims to shed light on the complexities surrounding the assessing process and its direct impact on residential tax bills.

#### KEY POINTS FOR DISCUSSION:

Assessment Variability:

- Why do property values differ significantly between nearby parcels?
- What causes considerable fluctuations in property values within short timeframes?
- What specific criteria and methods are used to establish a property's value, and are there alternative methodologies that could provide more accurate or equitable assessments?

Transparency and Relief Options:

- The city offers exemptions, abatements, and potentially rebates, yet the criteria, application process, available relief, and timing need clearer communication.
- Ensuring residents understand and can access these resources is crucial for fairness and support.

### In-depth Exploration of the Assessing Process:

- A comprehensive review of the factors contributing to property valuation, including home improvements, sales of nearby properties, and other market dynamics.
- Analyzing existing valua-tion methods to identify their benefits or limitations and exploring creative, comprehensive solutions to improve the process.

Objective: To foster a transparent dialogue that includes city officials, community advocates, and the public, ensuring every voice is heard and considered in refining the assessment process to be fair, equitable, and clearly communicated.

By addressing these critical questions and concerns, we aim to build trust in the assessing process, ensuring it serves the best interest of all Boston residents.

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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.

#### **COMMENTARY**

# It's Morning Again in America

by Sal Giarratani

This year, I hung out at A & L Bakery and Cafe up the Point in East Boston sitting around a table with a few friends including Rita and her daughter Maria listening to President Trump's Inauguration Address on the radio just like folks used to do back in my parents' day. Listening to it rather than watching it, I seem to focus more on the words being spoken and the passion in those words. Not distracted by who was standing next to who or what someone was wearing for the day or the look on peoples' faces.

The day after, I read Joe Battenfeld's comments in the *Boston Herald* on the address and he seemed quite spot on when he stated, "This was not a typical inaugural speech, with a feigned show of 'unity' or optimistic promises like '1,000 points of light' that other presidents have given. But Trump is not your usual president."

The president's address was nearly double the previous address on this day. I would give him an A for the contents and the delivery too. While many Bay State Democrats called the speech "dark," I must have been listening to another speech because the one I heard was full of optimism, hope, and liberation.

There was one brief paragraph I thought summed up the day as the president observed, "If we work together, there is nothing we cannot do and no dream we cannot achieve ... I stand before you now as proof that you should never believe that something is impossible to do."

### **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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### **Boston City Council Considers Tax on Soda**

The Boston City Council introduced a proposal at Wednesday's council meeting introducing a 2-cent tax on every ounce of soda or sugary drink sold in the city, meaning a 20-ounce bottle would cost an additional 40 cents, and a 12 pack of soda would cost an additional \$2.88. Councilor Sharon Durkan sponsored the measure, seeking to explore the new tax as an option to generate revenue the city would allocate to public health initiatives while discouraging the consumption of sugary beverages that she claims have been shown to increase obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

"Sugar sweetened beverages are a major contributor to these health issues, and offer high sugar content with no nutritional benefits, while being aggressively marketed to our youth. This is not just a policy to regulate sugary drinks. It's a step towards a healthier, more equitable Boston," Durkan suggested. Councilor Durkan believes such a tax could generate approximately \$20 - \$30 million in funding that could be put toward food literacy programs and youth recreation infrastructure projects, while advancing health equity in the city.



Not all of the councilors were receptive to this proposal. Councilor Julia Mejia worried the new tax would most adversely impact low-income people and people of color, hitting those residents where it hurts most, their wallets, while also negatively impacting small business owners selling those drinks. Councilors Erin Murphy and Ed Flynn also expressed their opposition. "During Challenging times, it's not the right time to add more taxes," said Flynn, as Murphy added "the new tax would further burden Boston families who are already grappling with increased residential taxes and a rising cost of living."

Cities that have already implemented a similar tax are Philadelphia, Seattle and San Francisco. Interim President of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau suggested any revenue generated from new taxes should be used to reduce the city's reliance on property taxes. This new beverage tax comes on the heels of Mayor Wu's second attempt at providing tax relief for homeowners through a home rule petition submitted to the state legislature last week.

Councilors Henry Santana, Benjamin Weber, Brian Worrell and Council President Ruthzee Louijeune signed on to the order, which was referred to the Council's Ways and Means committee for further discussion.

### When Elected Officials are Inept, We the People Pay the Price

by Patti Sartori

When Elected Officials fail to rise to the occasion, the consequences don't just trickle down into local communities, these failures manifest as chaos, destruction, and despair. The New Orlean's New Year's Eve terrorist attack and shooting, California's raging fires and Massachusetts illegal immigration debacle are stark reminders of what happens when so called leaders prove themselves to be incapable of managing crises

Instead of New Orleans ringing in the New Year in celebration, it was met with tragedy. Bourbon Street, a well-known vibrant tourist destination became the site of a deadly shooting and domestic terrorist attack that claimed the lives of fourteen individuals. Critics blame local officials for allowing crime to spiral out of control, creating an environment where violence is allowed to fester, with no accountability.

New Orleans is consistently ranked one of the most dangerous cities in the U.S., with a weak response from leadership. Instead of proactive measures, residents listen to vague promises of reform as police departments remain understaffed and underfunded. The victims are the everyday working citizens who feel unsafe in their own community, families who lose loved ones due to senseless criminal acts, whose businesses suffer as tourism declines. It's a blatant failure by government officials on every level.

Wildfires in California are nothing new, but the frequency has escalated as of late and the intensity of this current inferno has left many to wonder why the City of Los Angeles and the State of California were not better prepared. In the past,

Governor Gavin Newsom has spoken of the state's \$4 billion-dollar annual investment in wildfire prevention, yet the state continues to burn. This month, California faced one of its worst wildfire seasons to date, with hundreds of homes and businesses destroyed, thousands of residents displaced, and entire neighborhoods and communities literally left in nothing but smoldering ash.

The fires aren't just a natural disaster, they are a governance disaster. Critics are pointing to poor forest management, lack of response by Mayor Karen Bass administration officials and a lack of coordination between state and local agencies. It's of no help to now spend billions of dollars on preventative measures, such as updating infrastructure and ensuring adequate water supply and firefighter resources are available.

For Californians, the consequences are devastating. Homes and livelihoods have been reduced to ash. Insurance premiums skyrocket, the trauma of losing everything, the thought of where to even begin rebuilding, all while politicians' grandstand on camera, leaves residents bitter and angry.

In Massachusetts residents and tax payers know all too well the what the impacts are from inept actions of elected officials, especially Massachusetts' overly generous Right-to-Shelter law, which resulted in the entire state becoming a magnet for migrants and illegal immigrants, costing the state's taxpayers well over \$1 billion dollars. Rather than take responsibility for this crises, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey deflected the blame, instead pointing the finger at lax federal policies on immigration,

and inadequate production of affordable housing. The lack of leadership federally and at the state and local level resulted in Massachusetts being overrun with illegal immigrants over the past few years and as a result the demand for emergency shelter in Massachusetts has skyrocketed to unattainable numbers.

What are the odds that Governor Healey, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, and other local elected officials and state leaders step up and admit their policies were total failures and a disaster for every hardworking citizen of the state of Massachusetts. Any politician who did not stand up, speak out and oppose Boston's sanctuary city status or our tax dollars supporting criminals living free of charge in state run shelters are complicit and must shoulder the blame and responsibility. Unfortunately, most will be let off the hook and glide to victory in the next election. Shame on us as voters and citizens for not holding each and every one accountable for their lack of action.

When elected officials fail to deliver the cost isn't just financial, they hit the core of each human being affected by the preventable and senseless tragedies. People lost their lives, sense of security, trust in government and often a sense of hopelessness can hold.

Leaders are expected to serve, not to make excuses, and yet time and time again they prove themselves incapable of rising to the occasion. Maybe it's time we relieve elected officials from their duties once and for all and take back our country, states, cities, towns, communities and neighborhoods one election at a time, once and for all!

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

Cool Baking for Chilly Days

by Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz



I recently noticed that the culinary world is at war, a drawn-out conflict between cooks and bakers. If one believes the Internet, cooks deride bakers for their supposed lack of spontaneity and creativity; bakers prefer the comfort of following a recipe. This conflict never manifested in my childhood — my mother cooked up a hearty meal of orecchiette with broccoli rabe as easily as she baked my scrumptious birthday cakes. However, as I grew older and developed my own identity in the kitchen, I realized that I am definitely more of a baker. I love the magic of turning the basic essentials of human life, flour and water, into substantial treats. I adore the way the oven warms my kitchen and embraces me with tantalizing scents. Finally, I do see the creativity in baking, in the way one simple recipe can be adapted, tweaked and altered to yield a myriad of delectable results.

A lot of praise has been heaped — justifiably! — on how wonderful Italian entrees are, but oftentimes traditional Italian desserts go unnoticed. So, in honor of my love for baking, I have compiled a list of desserts from the Old Country that stir passion and nostalgia through my veins. Since Italian desserts are plentiful, I will try to focus on desserts that pertain to the current month of January and the upcoming month of February, a very sweet stretch of time indeed due to St. Valentine's Day and Carnival! I hope you enjoy this trip down memory lane as much as my stomach does!

Cannoli: Arguably the most famous Italian dessert, cannoli are a staple in cookbooks and supermarket aisles everywhere. To find an authentic cannolo, however, your best bet is a small family-run bakery or

restaurant, of which Boston's Italian neighborhoods have plenty! The traditional filling for cannoli is ricotta, and the shells must be freshly filled with it to order. Leaving a cannolo languishing with cream inside will make the shell turn from a decadent crisp to a mushy mess. Interesting facts about cannoli: they originated in Sicily, specifically the Palermo region, but they are now enjoyed all over Italy and around the world. Cannoli were originally treats for the Carnival season, when dishes made of rich ingredients were eagerly consumed before the austere period of Lent. The name "cannolo" means "little tube" in Italian, speaking to their distinctive shape!

Cenci: Known as "angel wings" in English, these fried strips of dough covered in powdered sugar are a real Carnival delicacy in Italy. I loved making them with my grandmother on an early-spring day, when the joyous sensation of Carnival penetrates my bones and the promise of Easter seems just a few hops away. My grandmother has always called these little goodies cenci, but they are known by different names according to the region of Italy. Many of the names reflect the whimsical nature of Carnival, as you will also find them called bugie (lies) or chiacchiere (chatter)!

Crostata: A crostata is an Italian tart or pie, whose name derives from the word "crust." Crostatas are rustic, free-form pastries, and the beauty of this treat is that the filling can change according to the season. January can call for crostatas stuffed with orange marmalade, tart lemon curd or a fresh pear compote. Next month, why not celebrate St. Valentine's Day by making a romantic crostata with ruby-red strawberry or raspberry preserves, or — my favorite! — Nutella?

Pizzelle: Hard or soft? Vanilla, anise or lemon extract? No one can agree on what makes perfect pizzelle, or the waffled cookies so popular among Italians and Italian-Americans. When there is this much debate about a dessert, it must mean that it has permeated deep into the culture. I am partial to soft pizzelle, but honestly all forms are so good that I would rather eat them than fight about them. Pizzelle are often associated with holidays, like Christmas or Easter, or special events like weddings and baby showers, so much so that I cannot think of pizzelle without imaging some kind of party in my mind. Fun fact: pizzelle originate from Abruzzi, the part of Italy from which my father hailed!

Tiramisu: I always thought tiramisu was an old Italian dessert, but quick research tells me it is a mid-twentieth century invention. That could be why tiramisu, in its modern incarnation, never appeared in any of my grandmother's childhood cookbooks. One would think that because it is a more contemporary dessert its origins could be easily investigated, but the creation of tiramisu is actually shrouded in legends and myths. Some say the earliest tiramisu was prepared in 17th century Siena for Cosimo de Medici. Others say it was created in the 1960s in the Veneto city of Treviso. All that is certain is that the name of this mascarpone-and-ladyfinger layered dessert means "pick me up," which its servings of espresso will certainly do! A citrus tiramisu made with a lemon-mascarpone cream would be a perfect seasonal treat for the chilly month of January. Meanwhile, traditional tiramisu is a romantic pick for St. Valentine's Day.

What is your favorite Italian dessert? Let me know what makes your stomach grumble and your heart melt like a chocolate zabaglione. Until then, keep cooking!

Ally Di Censo Symynkywicz is a high school history teacher. She appreciates any comments and suggestions about Italian holidays and folklore at adicenso 89@gmail.com.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

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info@todiscotowing.com Run dates: 01/17, 01/24, 01/31/2025



### I Can Never Take the Police Officer Out of Me Moment

On a recent return home from my job as a long-term substitute in Quincy Public Schools since my retirement as a police officer after 28 years on the job, I found myself easily sliding into police mode. I retired shortly after the Boston Marathon Bombings back on April 15, 2013, but even after almost 12 years, I still can't get policing out of my system and probably

I promised myself after retirement that I would move on from any security position as a retirement job and I still haven't forgotten that promise I made. Since then, I have tried a few different things. I did spend five years working at the Quincy Market area turning myself into a Sausage Guy late at nights and into the early mornings serving steak and cheese, hot dogs and, of course, the main attraction, those greasy sausages to endless lines of young folk and tourists too eager for a good sausage sandwich at 1:00 a.m.; sometimes earlier or even later. I could tell stories. My job could have been a TV show. That's how bad it could be sometimes.

Once while serving up "street meat" across from the Black Rose, a customer came up to the sausage cart and ordered a dog and then proceeded to show his police badge looking for a freebie. I reached into my back pocket and pulled out my wallet and gold shield and told this off-duty cop that a gold badge beats silver anytime. I again asked for the six bucks, but he left the dog on the counter and walked away. Like I said, the stories I could tell.

My latest great story connecting me once again to my law enforcement career just happened last week. I was driving home from across the Neponset Bridge from Quincy when I found myself caught up in a massive logjam at the onramp to the southeast "distressway." A tracker trailer was stopped at the top of the ramp and traffic was ensnared and going nowhere fast. I immediately called 911 letting the Staties at the South Boston (Old Colony) barrack know what was going on. In a few minutes I heard the siren but it was down below the ramp and they got also stuck in the same traffic. Two staties finally got up to me and I pointed them toward the truck ahead. I had been trying to move traffic to the sides of the ramp trying to let the marked vehicle get closer but I soon discovered most motorists don't know if they're alive or dead. One officer told me to return to my car and they would take over. I told both officers I couldn't help myself after 28 years of being on the job. They laughed, thanked me and one of them even shook my hand. Becoming a retired-cop is apparently always a work in progress.

My name is not Joe Friday and I did carry a badge. Actually, I still carry my shield with me today and from time to time the badge still comes in handy like with the off-duty cop looking for a free hot dog. You know, maybe I don't want to take the police officer out of me but at the moment I love my job in the classroom. They say everything in its time.

### **Governor Healey Announces**

### Funding for Massachusetts State College Classrooms

vear 2026 budget was due, ture investments, we will give Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey announced she would be filing a \$2.5 billion borrowing bill that will infuse the state's public higher education system, allowing updates to aging classrooms and buildings that have seen years of neglect.

Following a tour of Bridge Water State University earlier this week, Healey said the monies will be used to modernize campuses across the state with new labs, classrooms, training facilities that meet the needs of research, web design, construction management, and building trades.

The Governor noted the years of neglect the state colleges and universities have witnessed since they were first bult in the 1970s, and she doesn't want to "kick the can down the road any longer when it comes to educating our kids and training our workers of tomorrow. With

Just days before her fiscal these transformative infrastrucstudents a cutting-edge education in our affordable public universities and colleges, create thousands of good-paying jobs for our workers and keep our state economically competitive for years to come," Healey offered in a statement.

> If funded, the proposal will create an estimated 15,000 construction related jobs, and will borrow against \$125 million in revenue derived from a surtax on incomes over \$1 million dollars and will support the \$2.5 billion allocation over the next ten years. The surtax, better known as the "Fair Share Amendment or Millionaires Tax" is estimated to add \$2.4 billion to the Massachusetts coffers in the next fiscal year. The legislature capped surtax spending at \$1.95 billion dollars with the overage to be deposited into reserve funding.

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## Running Against the Wind with Angels on His Shoulders

by Silvio Laccetti



### Anthony crossing the finish line, winning the silver medal

A four-year track and crosscountry (XC) star at Stillwater High in the Upstate Capital Region of New York, Anthony Zazzaro, a high honors student, is used to bucking fierce headwinds. Stillwater is a very small school (graduating class of around 70) with a strong athletic tradition. Nevertheless, the XC team had only two members this past year. For Anthony, it means running and training alone, close mentoring by his Coach, Shawn McClements and plenty of support from his townsfolk for whom he has become a familiar sight running in all kinds of weather — all year long.

Coach McClements comments: "Anthony and I have a very holistic coach-athlete relationship. For us, it's always been about advancing the whole person, because Cross-Country is very mentally and spiritually demanding. Moments racing alone in the backwoods test a runner as he confronts obstacles."

Why has Anthony continued, year after year, in these stringent conditions? To answer, just know this about the young man. He has set high standards for himself. He has no Olympic dreams, but he does want to perform to his maximum potential — to be the best as his own champion. Commenting on his abilities, Coach McClements states: "There is a remarkable cadence to his running; you notice how effortless and fluid his motions are. He's a natural!" He was the first and only Stillwater XC runner ever to advance through the States competition to the NY State Federation Championships,

which he did in 2022, 2023, and 2024. After the 2024 season, he won the Class C State Silver Medal.

Anthony Zazzaro exemplifies the qualities of Fortitude, Perseverance, Bravery and Faith. These were learned and nourished by his family. From his father, Mark, grandson of immigrants from Calabria, Italy, Anthony inherited the work ethic common to Italian Americans. From his Puerto Rican mother, Diane, Anthony understood the value of community service and engagement. She attended Perth Amboy (NJ) High School where she participated in every student club imaginable and was President of her class.

Anthony's most cherished and poignant moment in racing was competing in the Kelly's Angels Mother's Day Race in 2023 at the age of 15. Kelly's Angels was founded by Mark Mulholland, an area media personality, to honor and memorialize his wife Kelly who passed from cancer in 2007 at the age of 37. Among the many, many programs they run is the Mothers' Day Race. Kelly's Angels was well known to Anthony who had been a beneficiary and contributor to their outreaches, since his mother was suffering from cancer herself.

The race in 2023 was supremely special to Anthony. He ran to honor his Mom who had been the major force and fan motivating her son to succeed, taking him to practices and events as a child, gently prodding him to get up and running on those cold weekend mornings when other teens would nestle in bed for a few more hours. In this May of 2023, Diane Zazzaro was at the end of her heroic two-year battle with cancer.

Anthony set out to win the race for his Mom, and so he did! As he recounted, during that effort his heart was breaking, but pumping harder than ever.



Winning the Mother's Day Race for his Mom

"Every breath, every step I took, I wanted it for her."

In a wheel chair, Mom witnessed her son's Mother's Day tribute to her. It was to be one of her final shining experiences. Three days later, she passed away.

Devastated but unbroken by his loss, young Anthony dedicated his racing career to Diane. And so it is, now, two years later, he runs with purpose, commitment and unbreakable resolve, pursuing personal excellence.

And, in this difficult situation, running against the wind, Anthony is blessed and encouraged by the memory of all the "Kellys" who left their families much too early. Sunrise or sunset, the cold of dusk and the heat of mid-day are part of the continuing cycle of training, competing and achieving. And so, just recently he handily won the Springfield, Ma. Invitational to begin his indoor track season. There is more to come. Much more!

But Anthony doesn't run alone. He has many angels on his shoulders to propel him ever onward.

Silvio Laccetti, Ph.D. is a retired History Prof., a national columnist and director of The Silvio Laccetti Foundation

*Note:* As of this writing Anthony Zazzaro's career record is: 56 Starts, 37 wins, 5 seconds and 1 third.



Mother and son embrace after the victory

### Comedy Night

to Support the

## Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy and the Wilmington High School Band

On **Friday** evening **March 14th**, the **Wilmington Sons and Daughters of Italy** and the **Wilmington High School Band Parents** will be having our annual **Comedy Night** to support our programs and charities. You can bring your own food or snacks and there will be a cash bar.

The event takes place at the **Wilmington/Tewksbury Elks Club** at 777 South Street in Tewksbury. **Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the Show begins at 9:00 p.m.** 

There will be three fantastic Comedians headlined by Tony V. The show will be MC'd by Wilmington's own Steve Bjork and is also featuring Jody Sloane and Steve Scarfo. Plenty of free parking and a guaranteed fun-filled night. There will also be a silent auction and raffles throughout the night. For more information or to buy tickets, contact Wilmington SDOI President John "JR" Romano at 617-750-9749.



## Will the Colosseum Become Rome's Disneyland?

From Ancient Arena to Modern Amusement Park



The Colosseum in Rome, Italy, one of the most famous and oldest sites in the world is slated to undergo a dramatic transformation into a state-of-the-art amusement park. This development has sparked heated debates among historians, conservationists, tourists and locals. The Italian Government, in partnership with private investors, announced plans to reinvent the nearly 2000-yearold amphitheater into a space that blends history and entertainment.

The project, known as Colosseum 2.0, aims to attract younger generations while generating significant revenue earmarked for the preservation of Italy's cultural heritage. The proposed park will feature historically inspired roller coasters, virtual reality experiences, and interactive exhibits. Visitors will be able to "relive" ancient gladiatorial combat through immersive AR technology or take a ride on a chariot themed roller coaster that loops through the Colosseum's arches. The food courts offerings of Roman delicacies, from various pastas and sauces to an assortment of pastries, will enhance the experience.

The project promises to retain the Colosseum's historical integrity while introducing modern features. Planners claim no irreversible changes will be made to the monument's structure. Glass walkways will

be added to allow visitors to explore the Colosseum's underground. "We are committed to preserving the Colosseum's legacy while reimagining how it can engage modern audiences. This is all about bringing history to life, not replacing it," said the project leader Claudia Montini.

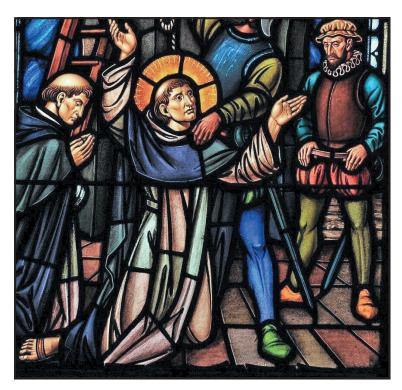
Despite these assurances, the proposal has set off a fire storm of controversy. Critics argue that converting this symbol of Rome risks trivializing its historical significance. Many Italians view the Colosseum as a sacred site, a reminder of their shared cultural identity, and are concerned that commercialization would reduce its importance. "This is not just a building, it's a symbol of our past," said historian Marco Romano.

Supporters argue the project could breathe new life into Rome's tourism industry, attracting millions more annually and boosting local businesses while creating jobs. "I think it's a great idea. It's a chance to learn history in a fun, interactive way," said Sarah Miller, an American visitor.

The proposed transformation of this iconic site represents a crossroads between preserving the past and embracing the future. For now, this historic Roman structure still stands as a symbol of ancient ingenuity as it continues to evolve into the modern ages.

### Saint John Gorcum

by Bennett Molinari and Richard Molinari



All that is known of John's early life is that he attended the University of Cologne, then recognized as one of the best educational institutions in Europe. He entered the Dominican Order at Cologne and received his formation there. After completing his education, John was assigned to a parish in the Netherlands village of Hoornaar, where he served for the next twenty years.

By 1572, Lutheranism and Calvinism had spread through a great part of Europe. In the Netherlands this was followed by a struggle between the two denominations in which Calvinism was victorious. On April 1, of that year Calvinists and a group called the Watergeuzen (Sea Beggars) conquered Brielle (Den Briel) and later Flushing. In June of that year, Dordrecht and Gorkum also fell into their hands. There they arrested all the Catholic clergy and held them in confinement, in an attempt to get them to deny the Catholic beliefs on the Eucharist and papal primacy.

As John became aware of what had happened to his fellow priests, he disguised himself and attempted to bring them the comfort of the sacraments. He secretly ministered to the captives but was eventually found out and also taken captive. These nineteen were imprisoned in Gorkum from June 26th until July 6th, undergoing much abuse. Meanwhile, a letter from William the Silent, Prince of Orange, enjoined all those in authority to leave priests and religious unmolested. Nevertheless Lumey, the commander of the Watergeuzen, ordered them to be hanged on the night of July 9, 1572 after cruel tortures. The site of their martyrdom soon became a place of pilgrimage. John was Canonized on June 29, 1865 by Pope Pius IX.

The Feast day of Saint John Gorcum is July 9th. The Feast day of the nineteen martyrs of Gorkum takes place on the same day.

### Pirandello Lyceum Boston Bel Canto Opera

Annual Luigi Pirandello Lyceum Italian Opera Concert

Sunday, February 9, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. Dante Alighieri Italian Cultural Center

41 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Adriana Repetto, soprano Joanna Porackova, contralto Joseph Holmes, tenor Paul Soper, baritone Fred Furnari, bass (BBCO debut)

Operatic Arias from:

La Wally, Otello, Semiramide, I Capuleti e Montecchi, La Boheme, Gugliemo Tell, Giulio Cesare, Un Ballo in Maschera, II Barbiere di Siviglia, I Vespri Siciliani

Operatic Ensembles from: Don Carlo, Lucia di Lammermoor

Pirandello members are admitted free of charge and a \$10 charge for friends of the Pirandello entering at the Pirandello table.

Admission is \$28.00; \$25.00 for seniors (62 and older) and students with proper ID

Cash and personal checks ONLY at the Door

**OPEN SEATING** 

(Parking is FREE, adjacent to the building, but spaces are limited)
Also on-street metered parking, which is free on Sundays

### Kid- and Pet-Friendly Indoor Gardening

by Melinda Myers

Creating an indoor oasis of greenery can help lift your spirits, reduce stress and improve your overall wellbeing. Challenges arise when growing indoor plants with kids and pets in the house. Keep them safe by selecting petand kid-safe plants and pest management strategies.

Increase your indoor gardening success by selecting plants suited to your home's growing conditions and gardening style. If you tend to overwater your plants, grow moisture-loving plants or opt for more drought-

tolerant plants if you practice benign neglect. Once you have your list, double-check their people and pet toxicity. Consult with your veterinarian and visit the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) website for a list of pet-safe and toxic plants. Consult with your pediatrician, local botanical garden, and children's hospital for a list of kid-friendly indoor plants.

Keep an ongoing list of all the plants you are growing. Include both common and botanical names for accurate identification. Research the care they need and their toxicity to your pets and youngsters in the home. If you suspect your pet or child has ingested a toxic plant, you'll have the proper plant name when contacting your veterinarian or poison control center.

Display any toxic plants out of the reach of curious kids and pets. This can be challenging if your cat or child is skilled at jumping and climbing. With so many beautiful houseplants, play it safe and avoid those that are toxic or too tempting.

Secure plants against accidental tipping by inquisitive pets and kids with mounting putty. A couple of pieces on the bottom of the pot will help reduce the risk of spilled plants and soil. Invest in pots with wider bases for floor plants or secure several pots together to reduce the risk of tipping.

Cover the soil surface to prevent children and pets from digging. Fiber mulch and plant pot grid covers create a barrier between the soil and those who like to dig.

Once you narrow down the list, place your kidand pet-friendly plants where they will receive the necessary amount of sunlight. An east- or west-facing window provides enough light for most indoor plants. Keep those that need brighter light within two feet of the window. Those that prefer



Prayer plant (Maranta leuconeura) is a tropical plant with beautiful, unique foliage that's non-toxic to pets and people.

(Photo by MelindaMyers.com)

lower light can be grown near a north-facing window or up to six feet back or off to the side of an east- or west-facing window.

Regularly groom and wipe dust off the leaves of your indoor plants to help reduce the risk of insect damage. Remove spotted leaves when they appear and adjust your watering. This is often enough to correct fungal disease problems. Enlist children in the ongoing care of your indoor plants. This will help them gain respect for the plants and may instill a love of gardening.

Give kids a hand lens and go on an indoor pest hunt. Children often find bugs more interesting than plants. Have them place yellow sticky traps like Summitâ Sticky Traps in various pots to help monitor and trap insect pests.

Always look for kid- and pet-friendly options when intervention is needed. Start with a strong blast of water to dislodge pests like aphids and mites. Follow with an application of a lightweight horticulture oil like Summitâ Year-Roundâ Spray Oil. This organic spray controls aphids, mites, immature whiteflies, and all stages of scale and mealybugs.

And if those tiny fruit-fly-like gnats are too annoying to tolerate, consider managing them with a *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* product like Summitâ Mosquito Bitsâ (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com). It's labeled for controlling fungus gnat larvae and is non-toxic for people, pets, and plants.

Always read and follow label directions when using any product. You'll have better results and prevent problems caused by misapplication.

Proper plant selection and ongoing care will help keep your indoor plants healthy and children and pets safe from harm.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.

### February: The Month of Love

The gorgeous trellis is now the



for the month of February.
Post your photos to Instagram #FOCCP.



### Christopher Columbus Park

110 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA

February 01, 2025, 6:00 AM EST – February 28, 2025, 11:50 PM EST

Love is in the air! Bundle up, grab your honey and come on over to Columbus Park where your spirit will be warmed as you walk through the Tunnel of Love! Feel free to dance to the music as you stroll through the tunnel. Post your photos to Instagram using the tag #FOCCP. There will be fun surprises in the park during February so visit often.

## leri e Oggi

Yesterday & Today

A COLUMN OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS

by Bennett Molinari & Richard Molinari

#### Glenn Miller



Glenn Miller was born on March 1, 1904, Clarinda, Iowa. He was an American big band leader, arranger, composer, and trombonist, considered the premier musical symbol of the World War II.

Miller began studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder, but he left to work as a musician. He played for several bands before being hired as a trombonist with Ben Pollack's orchestra in the mid-1920s. From 1928 to 1936, Miller worked as a freelance musician, contributing to the bands of Red Nichols, the Dorsey brothers, Benny Goodman, Ray Noble, and Smith Ballew. In 1935, he studied with the music theorist, Joseph Schillinger, who proved influential in Miller's development of the instrumentation that was an important component in his later success. Miller formed his first band in 1937; it attracted little notice, but some of its recordings were admired by critics.

Miller disbanded his first orchestra in early 1938 and immediately assembled a new one. With this group Miller discovered the sound that was to bring him lasting fame. "A band ought to have a sound all of its own; it ought to have a personality," he once stated. His formula consisted of a clarinet playing the melody, doubled by a tenor saxophone playing an octave lower and other saxes in harmonic support. Jazz historian Gunther Schuller wrote, "It is hard to think of anyone with a sound quite so unique."

The new orchestra played ballrooms and casinos throughout the East, including several that hosted national radio broadcasts. Live appearances routinely broke attendance records. In late 1939, Miller got his own thrice-weekly radio show. The band was in constant demand for recording sessions, as well as movies (Sun Valley Serenade in 1941 and Orchestra Wives in 1942). Miller's first million-selling recording, his own composition, was "Moonlight Serenade" (1939). Other hits from the nation's most popular big band included "In the Mood," "Sunrise Serenade," "Tuxedo Junction," and "Perfidia."

Miller was a perfectionist, more interested in mass acceptance than critical praise, and less concerned with how close his music came to a jazz ideal than with how well it connected with the listener. His hit songs define the swing era itself for many listeners, and they are among the best-loved songs of the period. Contributing to the success of the Miller band was tenor saxophonist-singer Tex Beneke, whose country-tinged vocals highlighted such numbers as "Chattanooga Choo" and "(I've Got a Gal in) Kalamazoo." Also notable was Wilbur Schwartz, whose lead lines on the clarinet were noted for purity of tone. Bobby Hackett was known as a jazz cornetist. His solo "A String of Pearls" is perhaps the most celebrated instrumental solo on a Miller recording. Miller himself rarely played trombone solos (as on "Little Brown Jug").

Miller's reign at the top of the music charts came relatively late in his career, and he stunned the music world by disbanding his orchestra and enlisting in the army in the fall of 1942. As he wrote on August 12, attempting to persuade officials of his usefulness, he wanted to "put a little more spring into the feet of our marching men and a little more joy into their hearts" as well as to modernize the band. To that end, and to raise millions of dollars for the war effort, he spent October 1942 to December 1944 leading the all-star Army Air Force Band, a 42-piece orchestra with a 19-piece swing band at its core. The band was made up of some of the best players from the classical and jazz fields.

When Miller boarded a London-to-Paris military flight on Dec. 15, 1944, he transcended his celebrity status to become a figure of American myth. No trace of the plane was ever discovered. Miller's death came as a shock to his fans throughout the world, as well as to American servicemen who ranked Miller with Bob Hope and the Andrews Sisters as the war's greatest morale boosters. On December 15, 1944, his plane disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris where he was scheduled to perform.

# East Boston Holiday Lights Thank You

The Holiday Light committee would like to thank everyone who donated to our effort to light up East Boston! SPECIAL THANKS TO THE EAST BOSTON FOUNDATION, Spinelli's Function Facility for the sponsorship of decorating DAY SQUARE, Cappuccio Construction & Cora Operations for sponsoring our wreaths and providing installation and removal, The City of Boston Mike Donaghy of Street Lighting Division and Roberto Gomez Mayor Wu office of Neighborhood Services — East Boston Liaison, State Representative Adrian Madaro who supported our project from the beginning, staying on top of it to make it a success, Rednose Holiday Lights & Decor for going above and beyond — very committed group of people who ensured a seamless installation process, Very BIG THANKS to Massport for an outstanding job in lighting up, Bremen Street Park for the season! This was a big addition to our program, and we are so thankful and appreciative for Massport's partnership in making Eastie shine! MassDot for decorating the tunnel entrance, Hilton Boston Logan Garden Inn for sponsoring a FREE Christmas party for the kids. Finally, our sponsors and friends who made a financial contribution small or large — every penny counted! We applaud you and thank you!

#### Corporate Sponsors

Rockland Trust, Neighbor Health, Shaw's, AECOM Technology, Burger King, David and Laura Lank, Phillip Street Grant Program, Allison Eng, Angelo's Auto Body,



Shaw's supermarket donated \$1,000 for the Holiday Light program and already pledged their donation of \$1,000 for 2025. "Shaw's is delighted to contribute to the lights and decorations, Central Square, especially looked beautiful this holiday season." (L-R): Samantha Wu-Topolski, Katherine Stowers, Shaw's Bakery Operations Specialist, Lisa Cappuccio, Shirley Fabbo East Boston Chamber of Commerce President, Marcus Amann Shaw's Store Director, Yesenia Martinez, and Jelani Phillips Shaw's District Manager

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OUR COMMITTEE: Lisa Cappuccio, John Casamassima, Luke Fanuele, Celeste Ribiero Hewitt, Shirley Fabbo (East Boston Chamber of Commerce), Gina Guange, Samantha Wu-Topolski, Yesenia Martinez, Christine Mazzarella Doherty, Bridget Heiglemann, Keeley Fanuele, and Bianca DeAngelis

# Free Lead Replacement Incentive Program

Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) is offering Boston property owners a free inspection - and free replacement of their building's water service pipe if we determine it is lead.

Take advantage of the No Cost Lead Replacement Program now. Please contact BWSC's Lead Hot Line at (617) 989-7888 for additional program information.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects.



Some older properties in Boston may have lead water service lines.





BWSC distributes drinking water to Boston properties lead-free.



When lead comes in contact with water, it can dissolve and end up in your drinking water.





Boston Water and Sewer Commission



# NO REMORSE: THE ILLUSTRATED TRUE STORIES OF LEMMY KILMISTER AND MOTORHEAD DELUXE BOOK + VINYL 2-LP EDITION

### (Vinyl + Book) Sanctuary/BMG/Z2 In celebration of the

upcoming 50th anniversary

of the legendary Motörhead, Z2 Comics has gathered a staggering lineup of icons to narrate their personal encounters with the man that came to define the sex, drugs, and Rock & Roll lifestyle, Lemmy Kilmister. NO REMORSE: The *Illustrated True Stories of Lemmy* Kilmister and Motorhead kicks off this 176-page tribute with a deeply personal foreword by his dear friend Dave Grohl, and a truly touching afterword by his longtime friend and collaborator Ozzy Osbourne. The book pairs up 25 rock star contributors with 25 acclaimed illustrators to tell the stories of their true and unbelievable personal encounters with the heralded founding father of Motörhead. Recounting their history with Lemmy over the span of his life and career are the greatest living musicians Ozzy Osbourne, Lars Ulrich, Slash, Chrissie Hynde, Dee Snider, Dave Navarro plus world-class writers Neil Gaiman, Michael Moorcock, pro-wrestling giants Triple H, Corey Graves, TV & Film luminaries including Matt Pinfield, Penelope Spheeris, Riki Rachtman, as well as his bandmates Phil Campbell, Mikkey Dee, and Slim Jim Phantom. With a gorgeous variety of visual approaches the artists of NO REMORSE: The Illustrated True Stories of Lemmy Kilmister and Motorhead; including Dave Chisholm, Bob Fingerman, Jay Jackson, and Jim Mahfood capture th many facets of these incredible TRUE TALES of Lemmy Kilmister.

This book comes in a variety of highly-collectible editions, including the 1:5 "All-Access" Edition which features a framed AAA Artist Pass from Lemmy's 70th birthday party at the Whisky A Go-Go; and the 1:25 "Backstage" Edition that comes with a framed original 2012-2013 Motorhead tour laminate. All of these artifacts are from the personal collection of Lemmy Kilmister. The "No Remorse" editions of the book will come with an exclusive white vinyl variant of the legendary Motörhead double LP, No Remorse, a poster triptych set, and a three-card, collectors set presented in a custom frame. The 2-LP vinyl track list includes: SIDE A: Ace Of Spades - Motörhead -Jailbait - Stay Clean - Too Late, Too Late - Killed By Death. SIDE B: Bomber - Iron Fist -Shine - Dancing On Your Grave - Metropolis - Snaggletooth. SIDE C: Overkill - Please Don't Touch (Featuring, Girlschool) - Stone Dead Forever - - Like A Nightmare - Emergency (Featuring, Girlschool) - Steal Your Face. **SIDE D:** Louie - No Class - Iron Horse - We Are

The Road Crew - Leaving Here - Locomotive.

All collector editions will include the oversized deluxe volume of the NO REMORSE: The Illustrated True Stories of Lemmy Kilmister and Motörhead book contained in a metallic foil embossed slipcase, with die cuts that reveal the holographic coating on Lemmy's classic aviator specs on the cover of the book. From his early years, Lemmy gravitated to the livefast attitude of rock & roll, starting out as a roadie for Jimi Hendrix, joining the seminal space-rock outfit Hawkwind, and famously getting fired from the band for "doing the wrong drugs." Forming Motorhead in 1975 after his dismissal, he set out to kick things up and create an aural assault, the likes of which had not been heard. Lemmy Kilmister became the unequaled standard for the Rock & Roll lifestyle.

#### MOTLEY CRUE: UP TO HERE – LIMITED EDITION – 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY (6LP Vinyl) BMG

Thirty-five years after its

release, Dr. Feelgood stands as the last great rock record of the 1980's, and one of the greatest rock records of all time. Released in 1989, this iconic album took MÖTLEY CRÜE to #1 on the Billboard Top 200 and earned a 6X Platinum certification in the US. With five massive hit singles that kept radio request lines busy, the Dr. Feelgood World Tour saw MÖTLEY CRÜE on the road and in the air for over 2 years. First single "Dr. Feelgood." with its instantly memorable opening, and catchy chorus, set the tone by reaching the top 10 on the US Hot 100 singles chart. Originally a Top 30 hit upon release, "Kickstart My Heart" went on to become MÖTLEY CRÜE's most popular landmark track. From the buzz saw intro to the cheating-death lyrics and music video shot in a rare return to a club show at the world-famous Whisky a Go Go in Hollywood. The Hot 100 hits kept coming as "Without You" hit "Don't Go Away Mad (Just Go Away)," and final single "Same Ol' Situation (S.O.S.)." The centerpiece of this 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary campaign is the Limited-Edition Box set available on LP and CD, with the remastered version of the original album, as well as rare demos and live tracks, plus a 24-page replica tour book with photos, a backstage pass, live show handbill, press kit, and guitar pick. Album Track list: T.n.T. (Terror 'n Tinseltown) -Dr. Feelgood - Slice Of Your Pie - Rattlesnake Shake - Kickstart My Heart - Without You - Same Ol' Situation (S.O.S.) - Sticky Sweet - She Goes Down - Don't Go Away Mad (Just Go Away) Time For Change. Demos Track list: Dr. Feelgood - Get It For Free - Kickstart My Heart -Time For Change - Without You. Live Track list: - Dr. Feelgood - Don't Go Away Mad (Just Go Away) Without You - Kickstart

My Heart - Same Ol' Situation

(S.O.S).

The time has come, the walrus said,

### TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

#### DON'T DENY YOURSELF OF THIS FUN-FILLED EVENING

Save the date, Saturday, February 1st from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. as the iconic Eastie band, "Don't Be Denied" will be onstage for a great-sounding night of music. This is a fundraiser for ZUMIX. All proceeds of this evening will go to ZUMIX. Stop by or email ZUMIX for ticket information or just stop by the old firehouse if you're nearby.

#### FUNDRAISER FOR LISA CUTTING SET FOR JANUARY 30TH AT BEACHMONT VFW

A committee is planning a fundraiser for Lisa Cutting, owner of Ocean View Kennel and Pet Resort, for January 30th at 6:00 p.m. at the Beachmont VFW. Former Mayor Dan Rizzo is helping to organize this event and said Lisa is a longtime and dedicated quasi-public servant who has been helpful to the City of Revere throughout her career in the field of pet care. Rizzo adds, "We really want to rally the city behind Lisa who has done so much for our community for so long." This fundraiser will help, Lisa is battling some tough times professionally and personally, according to

For further information or to purchase tickets, you can reach out to Dan Rizzo at danrizzo02151@gmail.com.

### FRIENDS OF THE MARY ELLEN WELCH GREENWAY NOTICE

The next monthly meeting of the Greenway Community Network will be taking place on Thursday, January 23rd from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the East Boston YMCA on Bremen Street.

### **JOIN EASTIE FARM 2025 CSA**

You can now join Eastie Farms 2025 CSA. Weekly shares of fresh local food (May 28th - November 14th, 2025). Discounted prices available. For more info, go to eastiefarm.com/csa/today.

#### CLAPTON & CASH ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

This past January 15th marked the 43rd anniversary of Eric Clapton and Johnny Cash being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, both on the same day. I never saw the Man in Black live on stage, but I did get to see someone do a great job making me believe it was actually the real Johnny Cash a few months back over at a legends show at the Norwood Theatre. As for Clapton, I saw him live back in the day when I was a young college student at the original Boston Tea Party in Boston's South End.

#### DANNY LUBERTO LIVE ON-STAGE FEBRUARY 21ST

Danny Luberto, the longtime owner of Luberto Pastry Shop on Broadway in Revere, is also very much in his own right a talented singer. A few years back, I attended one of his performances at a Christmas event and his voice and presence on stage were just electrifying. He will soon be back on stage at Oceanside (the old Wonderland Ballroom) on Friday, February 21st starting at 10:00 p.m. This is a Chris Salerno Promotions event. For more info or tickets call 781-629-4762 or 781-289-8100.

### LATEST FROM THE INBOX

Sal,

You're right on the money about the J. Geils Band. It's ridiculous that they aren't in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. They were one of the biggest touring bands in the country from 1975 to 1985. U2 opened for them. If they can put Cheap Trick and Bon Jovi in, they can certainly put J. Geils in.

— Sean F. Flaherty, of Charlestown

### PROGRESSIVE TURNOUT PROJECT

I get plenty of emails from Democrat political groups either seeking donations or building their own lists of Democrat activists they can go back to over and over again. The latest email that arrived in my inbox was from something called the Progressive Turnout Project that is pushing a piece of legislation filed by retiring U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin requiring an 18-year term limit on U.S. Supreme Court Justices.

Up until Trump's return to the presidency on Election Day as he demolished Harris and the Democrat Party, Manchin was no favorite of the Democrats, but now the libs are pushing this Manchin bill saying they "must pass this bill in the final 6 days of the Biden Presidency," because Trump "wants to take over our institutions and to rip our rights away."

Overnight, Manchin went from being a turncoat to being "BRILLIANT." These anti-Trumpers are so pathetic, aren't they?

#### NEWSOM AWFUL AT GOVERNING?

California Gov. Gavin Newsom "is terrible at this governing thing, and he's been terrible at it for a long time," says National Review's Jim Geraghty. Amid the pandemic, Newsom "attended a fancy dinner party" and "was seen bare faced while indoors" at an NFL game when his state limited large gatherings and mandated masking indoors. U.S. News & World Report ranks California "dead last in opportunity, dead last in affordability, 47th in employment, 47th in energy infrastructure, 46th in air and water quality." For five straight years, U-Haul data ranked California "highest in people moving out of the state." "The catastrophe of Los Angeles fires will likely end chatter that "Newsom could be president someday."

#### WINTHROP ELKS LODGE VALENTINE'S DANCE

The Winthrop Lodge of Elks is celebrating the upcoming Valentine's Day holiday with a big dance to help fund needed kitchen repairs. It will happen on Saturday, February 1st at

the Elks from 6:30-9:30 p.m. For more information on ticket price and payment, contact secretary 1078@comcast.net.

Chinese food, pizza, raffles, and entertainment by singer Olivia Freni.

### CHECK OUT THIS WINTHROP SENIOR CENTER EVENT

There is going to be a Valentine's Day Pizza and Salad party at the Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center on Tuesday, February 11th from 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Entertainment will be by Howie Conley's Memory Laners. Tickets are five bucks. Stop by the senior center before February 4th. Space is limited.

### IF YOU'RE A REPUBLICAN OR CONSERVATIVE LISTEN

On Thursday, January 30th, the new Mass GOP National Committeeman Brad Wyatt will be attending a meet and greet at the East Boston Yacht Club to introduce himself to area Republicans, independents and even conservative Democrats to both listen to you and to explain his goals for political success here in Blue State Massachusetts. If you are tired of the political charade games, give Brad a good listen and tell him what you think too.

## Small Ads Get Big Results

For more information, call 617-227-8929.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court

Middlesex Probate and Family Cou 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000 Docket No. MI24P5561GD

NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor

In the interests of DYLAN M. MARION of Malden, MA Minor

#### NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

- Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 10/17/2024 by Linda K. Clark of Malden, MA will be held 02/19/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located 10-U Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01801, Judge Gargas Session Courtroom 4
- Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

  File the original with the Court: and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

- Tive (s) business days before the hearing.
  3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
- 4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
- going to be heard.
  5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: January 22, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate
Run date: 01/24/2025



by John Christoforo



A Nostalgic Remembrance

It was January, a cold snowy January in 1956. Dad had gotten a call from a friend in Augusta, Maine. It seems that there was a major snow storm that hit Maine's capital and our cottage was in the nearby town of Winthrop, Winthrop, Maine had, at one point, a Ford plant and a couple of factories, but by the mid-50s, they were ready to close. As a result, the only local economy the town had was during the summer when the seasonal residence were back. The town was situated on the south side of Lake Maranacook. The road we lived on, Memorial Drive, had mostly summer cottages on the lake side of the road and local residents on the other side. When Emil Andy called, it was to say that he swung by the lake to check on three places, ours, Mike Barca's place and Emil's brother-inlaw's place. Mike was Dad's best friend from his days working for the Boston Schools. He and Mike were two of the four pioneers in the Department of Audio/Visual Education. As two men with Italian last names, they gravitated toward each other at a point in time when they were in the minority. Mike had married a woman from Maine and they built a cottage on Lake Maranacook back in the '40s. Due to the friendship that developed between Mike and Dad, the families came to know each other and we were invited to their summer cottage several times, the main reason for us buying a summer cottage a few doors away, right on the lake. Next to Mike's place was Emil's brother-in-law's place. Lionel Lemeux was a writer for the Lewiston Sun, a local daily newspaper in that part of Maine. Emil and Lionel, or Lal, as everyone called him, headed to the lake to check out the cottages after a major January snowstorm.

Emil told Dad that when they got to our place, they couldn't find it. It was covered with snow drifts, and the snow from the roof in back of the cottage slanted right out toward the middle of the frozen lake. As a result, Dad decided that we should head to Maine to see if there was any damage to the place. The same storm had hit Boston, but northern New England had gotten a real "Nor'Eastah," and they were snow bound. Emil also said that the roads were clear and easy to travel on, but we had to be precautious. He advised Dad to pull the antenna of the car all the way up and attach a red banner to the top. If we stopped at an intersection, the

snow might be so high that the only way a driver in a vehicle coming from the right or left might know we were there behind a snow mound was to look for the flag. We packed our warmest clothes and Dad, Mom, Nanna, Babbononno and I climbed into Dad's '54 Chevy and headed north.

Of course, part of Babbononno's things included a gallon of Zi'Antonio's best home-made red wine. He had become friendly with one of the locals, a man called "Old Vic" by the locals. Vic Gordon was around Babbononno's age and the two had hit it off a couple of summers earlier. Vic had a thick Maine accent and Babbononno spoke fractured English. The wine would allow them to understand each other without a problem.

We headed north picking up the Maine Turnpike just outside of Portsmouth, New Hampshire and continued toward Augusta. A mile or so out before the Lewiston-Auburn sign was the sign for Winthrop and we headed on the local roads arriving at Mike Barca's cottage within a half hour of when we planned to be there. When we arrived, the house was filled with several families, Mike, his wife, Nara, her parents Ed and Ma Mascal, Emil Andy, his wife, Irene, their three children, Lionel Lemeux, his sons, and the Gordon family from across the street. They were all waiting for us. After coffee, tea and a couple of drinks, we headed to our place, called Frosty's Point. When Dad bought the place the original owner gave Dad a discount on the price if he would keep the same name it had had for a couple of generations. Seeing most of the summer homes had names, Dad kept the tradition going, which was part of the acceptance of the Christoforo family as part of the local summer scenery.

We bundled up again and walked to our place which was about 100 yards from Mike's cottage. Dad, Mike, Emil, and I began shoveling a path from the road, and then the snow away from the front door. It took a long time as the snow was several feet high. The door was frozen shut and Emil and Mom began cleaning snow away from a kitchen window that was just to the left of the door. The window wasn't locked and Mom climbed inside followed by her favorite son (me). With us pushing from the inside and Dad pulling from the outside, we finally opened the door. Mike had brought a wagon filled with dry firewood with him and he

and Dad stuffed the pot belly stove with whatever would fit and then lit the fire. Emil had brought a ladder from Mike's place, set it up, climbed on the roof, cleared snow from around in the chimney and we closed up and headed back to Mike's place, planning to return within an hour or so when the cottage had warmed up.

We walked back to Mike's place where Nara, her mother, and Nanna had prepared dinner for everyone. Babbononno and Old Vic had put a good dent in the gallon of wine and were singing two different songs, Vic's in English and Babbononno's in Italian. When we returned to our place a couple of hours later, the heat from the stove had melted a lot of the snow from the sides and roof of the cottage, enough so that we could see the windows and the back porch. When we entered, the place was quite warm. Mom and Nanna made up the beds and we slept there overnight.

One of the Gordon kids, Old Vic's granddaughter, knocked on the front door early the next morning and told us that Mike and Nara expected all of us for breakfast within the hour. We could smell the bacon cooking fifty yards from their front door. As we walked in, Nara yelled that we were having fried eggs with bacon and ham. She had also make buckwheat pancakes from scratch and drowned them in local maple syrup. If you add in the homemade bread, fresh from the dairy butter and a few other Maine delicacies, you had a lumberjack's breakfast. Nanna had two pots of coffee waiting, one American and one Italian. It was a feast.

We decided to wait for a while and then head back to Boston. Dad, Emil, Mom, and I headed back to our cottage which now was completely visible due to the heat from the stove melting the snow. Mom packed up the bed linens and the rest of the clothes and things we had brought from Boston. We headed back to Mike and Nara's place for a thank you and to say goodbye, which took about a half hour. It was quite an experience for all of us and we talked about the folks all the way home, referring to them as if they were family. Maybe, in a sense, they were, family sixtyeight years ago.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA** 

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after February 03, 2025 by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other faces due.

2009 HONDA ACCORD VIN # 1HGCP268X9A057641

**2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE** VIN # 1J4GW48S24C371363

**2023 FORD TRANSIT** VIN # 1FTBR1C81PKB64426

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only.

Please email for specific information
info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 01/10, 01/17, 01/24/2025



Throughout northern Italy, cooking meat in milk is a time-honored tradition, with regions like Tuscany and Bologna laying claim to the beloved *Arrosto di Maiale al Latte* — Italian Pork Loin Braised in Milk. This comforting dish features pork loin or shoulder, slow-braised in milk until it curdles into a luscious, velvety sauce, creating an incredibly tender and juicy roast. While it may not be the most visually striking dish, its rich, nutty flavors and melt-in-your-mouth texture make it an unforgettable culinary experience.

In my family, *Arrosto di Maiale al Latte* was a winter staple, prepared with a simple yet satisfying method. In a Dutch oven, we started by sautéing a fragrant *soffritto* of finely chopped carrot, onion, and celery, then seared the pork until it developed a rich, golden crust. Next, we added milk, lemon peel, and a blend of warm spices, allowing the dish to gently simmer for hours, resulting in an irresistibly tender, flavorful roast. The sauce — deeply savory with a hint of nuttiness — was perfect drizzled over polenta or mashed potatoes, though my family's favorite way to enjoy it was with a loaf of crusty Italian bread, soaking up every last drop!

#### ITALIAN PORK LOIN BRAISED IN MILK Lonza Di Suino Italiano Brasato Nel Latte



3 to 4 pounds pork loin or shoulder
1 small onion, finely chopped
2 carrots, finely chopped
2 stalks celery, finely chopped
8 tablespoons butter, divided
Salt and pepper, to taste

1 sprig rosemary (optional)
2 long strips of organic lemon
peel

½ cup white wine ½ gallon whole milk

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

In a large Dutch oven over medium-low heat, melt 4 table-spoons of butter. Add the onion, carrots, and celery, sautéing until softened. Pour in the white wine, then add the rosemary (if desired), salt, and pepper. Increase the heat slightly to cook off the alcohol, then lower it again. Remove the vegetables from the pan and set aside.

In the same Dutch oven, melt the remaining 4 tablespoons of butter. Add the pork roast and sear it on all sides until golden brown. Use kitchen tongs to turn the meat, avoiding piercing it to retain its juices.

Pour the milk into the pan, ensuring the roast is about three-quarters submerged. Return the cooked vegetables to the pot, add the lemon peels, and raise the heat to bring the liquid to a gentle boil. Be careful not to let it boil over. Immediately reduce the heat to low and let the pork simmer gently for 3 to 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours, turning the meat every 20 to 30 minutes. During cooking, the milk will curdle and slightly thicken, developing a golden hue.

Once done, carefully remove the roast from the pot and wrap it in foil to keep it intact and make slicing easier. Discard the rosemary sprig and lemon peels from the sauce.

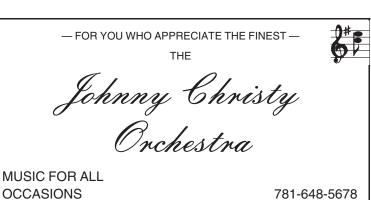
Using an immersion blender, blend the sauce in the Dutch oven until smooth. Increase the heat slightly and whisk in the flour, 2 tablespoons at a time, until fully incorporated and the sauce thickens. Season with additional salt and pepper to taste.

Unwrap the roast, slice it, and arrange it on a serving dish. Pour the rich, creamy sauce over the meat and serve with polenta, mashed potatoes, or crusty Italian bread to soak up the flavors.

Marianna Bisignano is a psychologist for the Boston Public Schools and can be reached at nonnasrecipebox@gmail.com

### Photo Submission Guidelines

Photos submitted for publication should have a minimum resolution of 150 dpi (or ppi), 300 dpi for best results. Photos taken with camera phones are typically only 72 dpi and will be too grainy to print. If taking photos for a submission, please use a digital camera. If supplying existing photos, please submit a high-quality print for scanning.



### **THOUGHTS** BY DAN **ABOUT** THIS & THAT



with Daniel A. DiCenso

### The Will Rogers Ranch:

A Tribute

In 2017, as part of a larger tour of Hollywood and its surroundings, I took a trip to the Santa Monica Mountains to visit Will Rogers State Historic Park and joined a tour of the ranch house, polo grounds and stables. I did not know then I was seeing what would in less than a decade become lost history. By the second day of the L.A. wildfires the ranch house and stables were among the many cultural markers lost to the inferno. Their destruction pales in comparison to the thousands of homes destroyed, the thousands of people displaced and the



lives lost. Nonetheless, the loss of what was a testament to a fascinating character, a uniquely American success story, is a blow.

Memorials and honors to Will Rogers abound west of the Mississippi. Most notable among them is the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore, Oklahoma, near where the Will Rogers story truly begins. Rogers was born in 1879 in Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory near what the coming railway would soon influence rechristen Oologah, Oklahoma. Both his parents were of mixed Cherokee and European blood, but considered themselves part of Cherokee Nation, his father, Clement V. Rogers holding important political positions within the Territory.

Typical of a boy raised on a ranch, Rogers became an expert roper. Unlike many young men of his time and place Rogers took his roping skills abroad, albeit with limited success. First, in Argentina he attempted starting his own ranch. When that endeavor failed, he became an entertainer, rodeoing before crowds in South Africa and then Australia. By 1904, he was back in the United States. After gaining popularity at the St. Louis World's Fair as a stunt roper and, the following year, roping a bucking steer before a stunned audience in Madison Square Garden, Rogers began a fruitful career in vaudeville and later in radio and film.

Rogers's career as an entertainer is as well remembered for his comical takes on politics and society as for his roping skills. After his popularity was established in rodeos and theater, Rogers found an outlet for his observational wit in newspapers, radio and talking pictures. His satire was gentle and often self-deprecating. He described it best himself, "I joked about every prominent man of my time, but I never met a man I didn't like.'

It was his joy of living and good-natured humor that made him a beloved national icon, a triumph of a humble young man from the Indian Territory who took the rodeo world by storm and helped America laugh at herself even during some of her darkest moments. As it has a sad habit of doing, tragedy cut the laughter too soon. While flying with his aviator friend Wiley Post over Alaska on August 15, 1935, both Rogers and Post were killed when the Lockheed Orion-Explorer Post was piloting crashed into a lagoon some twenty miles south of Point Barrow. A nation mourned.

The museum in Oklahoma is an important archive and testament to the legacy of Will Rogers but the ranch house Rogers built in the 1920s in the Pacific Palisades is an irreplaceable loss. Its conception, construction and furnishing were all direct products of Rogers's imagination and unique style. They were the rewards of a long and happy career. Just as there will never be another Will Rogers there will never again be another ranch like the "Ranch that Jokes Built". In face of this we should count our blessings that the home was preserved after Rogers's widow, Betty, willed it to the State of California in 1944 for the world to see. Above all, we owe a debt of gratitude to the park rangers who cleared the ranch house of as many artifacts as they could while the fires were encroaching. Thanks to their efforts and dedication many Native American artworks, Rogers's banjo and some furniture was saved and not a single horse in the stables perished.

On January 8th, the fires completely engulfed the ranch house and burnt it to the ground along with other historic landmarks. In the wake of the fire all that was left of the Will Rogers ranch was two crumbling chimneys and smoldering rubble. For the second time in less than a century, a nation mourned for Oklahoma's Son.



#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI24P6132GD

NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor

In the interests of **JAYCE R. TENTONI** of Ashland, MA

#### NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

- 1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 11/21/2024 by Kiana I. Alfaro of Ashland, MA will be held 02/10/2025 09:30 AM Motion Located Lowell Justice Center. 370 Jackson Street, 5th Floor
- 2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you

File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

- 3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the
- 4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
- 5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests

Date: November 22, 2024

**ACROSS** 

1. Bungle

5. Cause of a trip?

8. Dao, alt. sp.

12. Super garb? 13. Inlet in Norway

15. Cogito

16. Long story

17. Deprived of a limb

18. \*Half-time headliner 20. Ice, dark or middle

21. \*Cindy Crawford wore "

in a Super Bowl ad

26. A cheap, run-down motel

23. \*Last vear's Super Bowl winners

the fields we go'

22. Flightless bird

30. "

31. Merry

34. Actor's part

35. Expensive

39. Civil Rights icon

42. Letters of distress

48. Grieve for the dead

appearances

55, 3600 seconds, pl. 56. Casino chip

57. Salmon's output

61. Uber alternative Robinson

63. Acronym, abbr. 64. "Come Sail Away" band

1. Service charge 2. Sonabird

4. Marilyn Monroe, e.g.

lazuli

9. Greek god of war

appearances 19. Looney Tunes duck

23. Meat of coconut

22. Architectural add-on

14. \*Team with no Super Bowl

DOWN

3. Craving

7. 52 cards 8. Hefty volume

6. Hot

10. 1. e.g.

12. Cherry red

13. Post vitriol

59. En \_\_\_\_\_, all together 60. Like Piper of Hamelin

43. What rule follower does

47. Greed, biblically-speaking

52. \*Team with most Super Bowl

40. \*David Tyree's

37. Not him 38. Cell phone bill item

45. Get cozv

50. Time period

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate

Run date: 01/24/2025

11. Between marquess and viscount

### First Time for Everything

City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu's nickname should be "First Time Michelle." Just a couple days after giving birth to her third child, the mayor was caring for her new daughter as she listened to Boston Public Radio and took the opportunity to transition from a long-time listener to "first time caller" while weighing in on the daily call

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

**Suffolk Probate and Family Court** 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 617-788-8300

Docket No. SU24D2408DR **DIVORCE SUMMONS BY** PUBLICATION AND MAILING **CARRIE HERNANDEZ** 

#### CARLOS AMILCAR HERNANDEZ

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce equesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown

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 Carrie Hernandez, 8 Forsyth St., #1, Chelsea, MA 02150 your answer, i any, on or before March 13, 2025. If you fai 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. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 16, 2025

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate Run date: 01/24/2025 topic — What listeners thought of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu's decision to forego a formal maternity leave.

"I'm sitting in my living room nursing little Mira, and I hear everyone is telling me what to do around here, Wu said in a surprise call. "It went very well for us. The boys are in a little bit of shock, but Mira is a joy." The mayor said she has been in touch with her team, editing press releases, planning for the future and keeping the business of the city moving along. "I am doing it my way. I am doing it how I believe it best serves the city, and I enjoy doing it this way." Wu added.

The mayor declined to take a formal maternity leave, even though she helped establish paid paternal leave for municipal workers, while she was an at-large city councilor. While on Boston Public Radio late last year Wu was asked about maternity leave saying, "In my role, there is no such thing as delegating the job and just taking off weeks at a time. I am on call 24/7 and when a decision needs to be made, I make it."

Wu was the first Boston City Councilor to give birth while in office and is now the first mayor in Boston history to deliver a child while in office. It makes you wonder what First Time Michelle" may be up to

### Super Bowl

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- 24. Roman king of Judea
- 25. Like certain whiskey 26. Grow crop
- 27. Brag
- 28. Algorithmic language 29. Ganders' companions
- 32. Tom Jones's "
- 33. Rolodex abbr.
- \_ Superdome 36. \*
- 38. Wombs 40. Lady lobster
- 41. Hardened 44. Follows wash
- 46. Pia sounds
- 48. Bouncing off the walls
- 49. Weasel's aquatic cousin
- 50. Fly like an eagle
- 51. Boot-wearing kitty
- 52. Mama Bear's husband
- 53. To perfection (3 words) 54. \*Justin Timberlake's Back," sung
- in Super Bowl show
- 55. Expression of doubt
- 58. \*Steelers' number of Super Bowl trophies

(Solution on Page 11)

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

pardons to extended members of the Biden family, which surprised even Democrats in the nation's Capital. Biden had already pardoned Hunter Biden. Democrats and many in the news media questioned

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

Middlesex Probate and Family Court 10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781) 865-4000

Docket No. MI25P0124EA

Estate of SHERMIN S. BYNOE

Date of Death: November 03, 2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

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

The Petitioner requests that Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA be appointed as serve With Corporate Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of February 14, 2025.

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

#### **UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION** UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

Witness, HON. TERRI L. KLUG CAFAZZO, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 17, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro, Register of Probate Run date: 01/24/2025 such actions at the last moment with CNN's John King stating that this move would "stain his

#### Christopher Wray at Odds Over Biden Pardon of Leonard Peltier

Native American activist Leonard Peltier is being released after serving nearly 50 years for the 1975 killings of two FBI agents. Peltier had his sentence commuted. The White House said, Peltier, now 80 and in declining health, will be transitioned to home confinement. This is not a pardon, but he gets out of prison. Former FBI Director Christopher Wray in a private letter to Biden told Biden that Peltier is a "remorseless killer" and urged Biden not

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Plymouth Probate and Family Court** 52 Obery Street, **Suite** 1130 Plymouth, MA 02360 Docket No. PL24D1095DR **DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION ERNEST RICARDO WATSON** 

VERONICA M. COTTLE-WATSON To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown 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 Gabriel Cheong, Esq., Infinity Law Group LLC, One Adams Place, Suite 400, Quincy, MA 02169 your answer, if any, on or before March 17, 2025. 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. PATRICK W. STANTON,

First Justice of this Court. Date: January 08, 2025

Matthew J. McDonough, Register of Probate Run date: 01/24/2025

Wray stated, "Granting Peltier any relief from his conviction or sentence is wholly unjustified and would be an affront to the rule of law."

#### Trump to Pardon Most of the So-Called J-6 "Insurrectionists"

It appears that one of his first executive orders will be to fully pardon most of those arrested, charged, or sentences for their actions on January 6, 2021 delaying the certification of the 2020 election results. Some members of Team Trump reportedly are advocating for a full and complete investigation into the death of Ashli Babbitt inside the U.S. Capitol on January 6th by a member of the Capitol police.

#### **End Quote**

"A country founded on freedom seemed to have lost its sense of fight."

> - Abigail Shrier, senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Todisco Services, Inc., with its corporate office located at 171 Boston Street, Salem, MA 01970, under the provisions of Mass G.L. C. 255 Section 39A, will sell the following vehicles on or after **February 17, 2025** by public or private sale to satisfy a lien for towing, storage, and all other

> 2008 DODGE CALIBER VIN #1B3HB48B78D630520 **2012 CHEVROLET MALIBU** VIN #1G1ZD5E0XCF376555

2010 MERCEDES BENZ C-CLASS VIN #WDDGF8BB4AF439491 2003 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

VIN #WVWSE61J93W461882 2022 KIA K5 VIN #5XXG24J29NG121597 2014 TOYOTA CAMRY

VIN #4T1BF1FK5EU317399 2015 KIA OPTIMA

VIN #5XXGM4A77FG432114 2012 NISSAN ALTIMA VIN #1N4AL2AP4CN483718

Vehicles may be seen by appointment only. Please email for specific information info@todiscotowing.com

Run dates: 01/24, 01/31, 02/07/2025

### **EXTRA** Innings

by Sal Giarratani



#### "Mr. Baseball" Has Left the Playing Field

Bob Uecker, the colorful icon in both the booth and beyond, has passed away at the age of 90. Bob, who turned by his own admission a mediocre baseball career with the Milwaukee Braves into a 54-year long broadcasting gig with the Milwaukee Brewers earning him a spot in the Baseball Hall of Fame and featured roles in commercials, a 1980 TV series, a hit in that great Major League movie trilogy and one of the most frequent guests



**Bob Uecker** 

on the Johnny Carson Show, is no longer among the living Uecker was a light-hitting catcher for three teams during his six-year Major League career, including with his hometown Braves and with the 1964 World Champion Cardinals, but is most remembered for his great one-liners rather than his line drives. His career batting average stood at .200 in 2,987 MLB games and once led the league in passed balls. "And I didn't even play in all the games," he proudly stated.

By the way, his deadpan, self-deprecating humor was always on display. It opened all kinds of doors for him. He made more than 100 appearances on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson. He can thank all those Miller Lite TV beer commercials for kick starting his initial fame.

At 20 years old after having dropped out of high school and enlisted in the U.S. Army, he loved baseball so he told the Army and that he had pitched for Marquette University's baseball team. Of course, no one verified that and thus stayed stateside playing baseball in Virginia and Missouri while serving his country in uniform. He was, as an old friend of mine once said, "a smarta guy."

After his discharge, he signed with the Braves and bounced around the Minors for several seasons before making the big leagues out of spring training in 1961. But he quickly returned to the Minors after the Braves manager told him, "There's no room in baseball for clowns." But that clown reached the Majors to stay in 1962.

Following his release from the Cardinals in 1968, Uecker became an ambassador for the Atlanta Braves, then Bug Selig, owner of the Brewers brought him back to Milwaukee and eventually moved him into the radio booth. In 2003, he received the Ford C. Frick Award. The Brewers have two statues to Bob in the Brewers' home park, one outside the stadium and the other inside, in the last row of the upper deck in left field.

According to an official statement from the Brewers' organization, "Ueck was the light of the Brewers, the soundtrack of our summers, the laughter in our hearts and his passing is a profound loss."

### **End Quote**

"A gang is where a coward goes to hide."

Mickey Mantle



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# Fifteen Rounds Or Less! PART 2



Ali Vs Chuvalo

After Sonny Liston won the title from and then defended it in a rematch with Floyd Patterson, it seemed the public wouldn't see any heavyweight title fights lasting fifteen rounds for a very long time. After all, Liston's destruction of Patterson was so devastating, winning both fights in the first round, who on Earth could stand up to the Bear for the full championship distance.

Well, it did prove true that the streak of title fights not reaching the final bell would continue, but not because of Sonny's ferocious power. It was a young upstart from Louisville, Kentucky who kept the string going when he stopped the fearsome Liston, when the champ refused to answer the bell for the seventh round, claiming an injured shoulder.

While only four of Clay's 19 fights at the time of his title challenge had gone the distance, he was not seen as a great puncher, a view I believe was unfair. While he may not have had the paralyzing power of Liston, his accuracy and speed proved overwhelming for all but just a few of his opponents. So, how would the new champion fare when meeting challengers over the fifteen rounds?

Well, he managed to keep the kayo streak of heavyweight champions going when he stopped Sonny Liston in the first round of a rematch. He then went on to face another former champ, Floyd Patterson. Patterson managed to make it into the 12th round before the referee halted the one-sided fight.

The Patterson fight was in 1965, so you had to go back to 1954 to find the last heavyweight title fight that lasted the full fifteen rounds. Clay had now become Muhammad Ali, and was proving formidable not only in winning fights, but winning them before the final round. However, the streak of knockouts in title fights would finally come to an end when Ali would defend the belt against George Chuvalo, a man who had not only never been knocked out, but had never been put on the canvas.

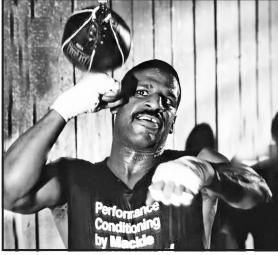
In March of 1966 Chuvalo, stepping in as a last-minute substitute, took the full measure of Ali for fifteen rounds and at no point was even close to being stopped. The kayo streak had been brought to a halt.

In Ali's next four fights he scored stoppages but was then taken the distance by Ernie Terrell. It was a one-sided fight with Terrell mostly covering up after receiving an injury to his eye. It looked like full fifteen round fights, while not becoming a common thing, would at least be happening more often.

Unfortunately, Ali would only get to defend the title one more time before he was stripped of the title for refusing to accept induction into the military. Now there would be a period when the heavyweight champion was not allowed to fight, and no immediate successor to fill the void.

The World Boxing association held a tournament to find a new champion and it came down to a fight between Jerry Quarry and Jimmy Ellis, That fight went fifteen rounds to a decision win for Ellis. Jimmy then went on to defend that title against Floyd Patterson, winning a fifteen-round decision

Meanwhile, the New Your State Athletic Commission recognized Joe Frazier as heavy-weight champion based on his knockout win over Buster Mathis. Could this be the beginning of a knockout run in title fights?



**Michael Spinks** 

While it seemed the power punching Frazier would be the man to get a new streak going, he was taken the distance in just his second defense of the title when he was fully extended by Oscar Bonavena.

Frazier would defend his title three more times including a win over Jimmy Ellis to unify the championship. All of these wins were by kayo.

This set up a fight with Muhammad Ali who had now been allowed to fight again. The fifteen round fight was set for March 8, 1971, with hardly anyone expecting it to go fifteen rounds, Sure enough, while the two undefeated champions gave one another terrible beatings, they were both standing at the end with Frazier the victor.

From here on it appeared early endings would become common again as not only did Frazier run off three stoppages, but he was also taken out by George Foreman, a fearsome puncher reminiscent of Sonny Liston.

George reeled off two title defense kayo wins, stopping Joe Roman in one round and Ken Norton in two before being matched with Ali in a fight where few gave the former champ much of a chance of winning. In fact, it was thought he could be seriously injured. However, much like his fight with Liston, Ali stunned the experts when he stopped George in the 8th round.

Ali would fight thirteen more fights in which the heavyweight title was at stake. Ten were successful defenses before he lost the crown to Leon Spinks via a fifteen-round decision. In his other defenses five out of ten lasted until the bell sounded for round fifteen. Chuck Wepner lasted into the fifteenth but could make it until the end of the round.

Ali won the title back with a decision win over Spinks and then retired. That would be his final fight going fifteen rounds. He retired after that fight only to return two years later to face Larry Holmes in an effort to regain the championship. The bout was scheduled for fifteen rounds, but Ali was unable to answer the bell for round eleven.

Holmes had won the title in 1978 with a fifteen round decision win over Ken Norton in a fight to name a successor to Muhammad Ali. Larry would defend the title twenty times over the next seven years before losing it to Michael over fifteen rounds.

It was during Larry's reign that some heavy-weight title fights were beginning to be scheduled for twelve rounds. Of his twenty defenses, four were set at the twelve-round limit. Out of these four, two went the distance. In the remaining sixteen fights scheduled for fifteen rounds, just three went the full limit.

Michael Spinks would be the last heavyweight champ to defend the title in fights scheduled for fifteen rounds. He made just three defenses before being kayoed by Mike Tyson. Two of those wins were by kayo with only Larry Holmes lasting the distance in a rematch.

The era of hearing the ring announcer calling out "Now the main event. Fifteen rounds or less for the heavyweight championship of the world. Introducing ..."

While the vast majority of heavyweight title fights never went the full limit, it was always very exciting to hear those words before a bout. It meant that a title fight was really something special. Those championship rounds meant something.

#### ESPN Disses National Anthem

(Admits Not Airing it Before Start of Sugar Bowl was an "Enormous Mistake")

ESPN faced backlash for failing to broadcast the national anthem at the start of the Sugar Bowl on January 2nd, one day after a domestic terrorist attack killed 14 people in New Orleans. ESPN Vice-President Burke Magnus admitted the failure to broadcast the national anthem was an "enormous mistake," blaming employees working in the Bristol, Connecticut office at the time. "There's a group of people in Bristol who just made an enormous mistake, it was human error, it happens. That was just a horrible error made by a group of really well-intentioned people who feel really terrible about it. I don't want to minimize it by any stretch," Magnus stated during an interview on Sports Business Journal's "Sports Media Podcast."

The circumstances of the game. due to its one-day delay resulting from the January 1st attack, affected the scheduling and timing of the people working on the broadcast. Magnus insisted the company did not make a deliberate decision to not broadcast the national anthem. "The notion that it was somehow intentional, or we were trying to avoid acknowledging what was a horrific situation in New Orleans was really misplaced. It was a mistake that we feel terrible about and should be held accountable for. Our timing got fouled up."

The failure to air the anthem was only a part of the backlash. ESPN's decision to air a video message from the CEO of Allstate, which is the Sugar Bowl's corporate sponsor added to the insult. In the video, Wilson suggested Americans have an "addiction to divisiveness" and "must accept people's imperfections and differences," leading many customers and fans exclaiming they would be cancelling their Allstate insurance plans. Allstate later deleted the video from its social media accounts.

The network made sure to air the national anthem at the January 9th Orange Bowl between Penn State and Notre Dame and a prayer ahead of the January 10th Cotton Bowl game between Ohio State and Texas.

### Drake Maye Celebrates in Off Season

(New England Patriots Quarterback Gets a Win)

Patriots quarterback proposed to his longtime girlfriend Ann Michael Hudson, and joyfully announced the pair were engaged in an Instagram post. The pair have been dating since middle school and celebrated their ninth anniversary this past October. "Love doing life with you. Can't wait to marry you!" Maye wrote in the caption of the photo, showing him on one knee. The Patriots also posted a congratulatory message on their Instagram account, "Congratulations Drake May and Ann Micheal Huson!!" the team wrote.

The pair attended the University of North Carolina, where Hudson is still a student in the business school. "Nine years with you and it keeps getting better every day. I couldn't imagine my life without you as my best friend. I love you more than you know," Hudson wrote in an Instagram post. New England selected Maye with the third overall pick in

### Chiefs Top Texans, Bills Beat Ravens to Reach AFC & NFC Title Games

The Kansas City Chiefs beat the Houston Texans 23-14 last Saturday, advancing to the AFC Championship game for a seventh consecutive year. The dynamic duo, Patrick Mahomes and Travis Kelce have successfully positioned the team in contention for an unprecedented third consecutive super bowl title. The Chiefs are the fourth NFL team to follow back-to-back Super bowl championships with trips to conference title game. All three have lost. The victory gave Head Coach Andy Reid his 300th career win, becoming the fourth head coach to do so.

In six attempts, the Texans have still not won a divisional game, losing twice to Kansas City. Houston Quarterback C.J. Stroud threw for 245 yards, but kicker Ka'imi Fairbairn missed a fifty-five-yard field goal attempt, and extra point try and had another field goal attempt blocked in the final two minutes of the game, which would have kept Houston's comeback hopes alive.

It was a snowy battle in Philadelphia, but the Eagles hung on to edge out the L.A. Rams 28-22, advancing to the NFC Championship game for the second time in three seasons. Philly quarterback Jalen Hurts had a forty-four-yard scoring run while Saquon Barkley ran for a sixty-two-yard score in the first half and capped off the fourth quarter with a seventy-eight-yard touchdown run.

The Buffalo Bills squeaked out a tight win against the Baltimore Ravens, 27-25 to earn a spot in the AFC Championship game. The Ravens were threatening to take the lead in the fourth quarter but couldn't overcome three turnovers as they watched their season come to an end. The Bills have advanced to the playoffs over the past four seasons, suffering elimination losses to the Chiefs in three out of the four games.

The Washington Commanders stunned the Detroit Lions on the road with a 45-31 victory in the divisional round, advancing to their first NFC championship game in thirty-four years. Washington's rookie quarterback, Jayden Daniels, stepped up with another strong performance totaling 350 yards and two touchdowns, while successfully evading sacs along the way. Dropped interceptions and missed fumble opportunities added to the number one seeded Lion's loss.

The Kansas City Chiefs will host the Buffalo Bills in the AFC championship game, while the Philadelphia Eagles will host the NFC championship game against the Washington Commanders, both are scheduled for Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.