

Little News Weekly

"All the News That's of Little Interest"

November 24, 2005

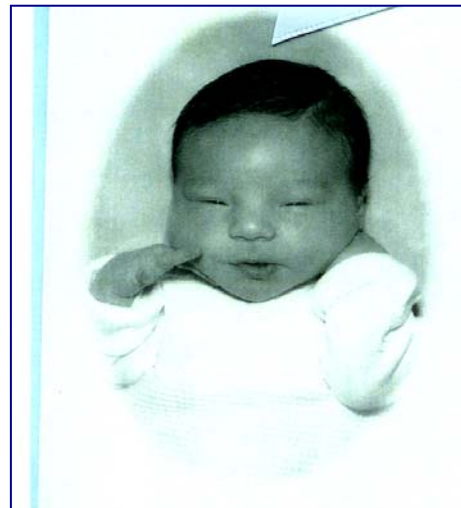
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*****SPECIAL DELIVERY*****

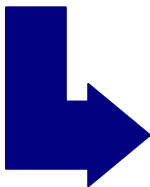
It's a Boy and a Girl

STORK shows up in New Jersey and Massachusetts

Parents Elated---Grandparents DEMENTED with JOY



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Editors Note:

Well, it's the newsletter that almost wasn't!! A few months ago, I was feeling worn out with my myriad of responsibilities delivering the high quality journalism you have come to know and love. Not to mention the stress on my reputation as a crackerjack reporter. Hey, it's a lot of work covering the Donohue and Jayne families. All most people see is the glamour of this job: Traveling around NJ in a circus car with 3 crazy midgets may look like more fun than a barrelful of monkeys, and it probably is comparable, now that I think about it. Anyway, I digress—After contemplating taking this year off from the Paper, I decided to float the idea to my staff (husband) for a reaction. He looked up from his electronics project and said “What newsletter?”. I rest my case. However, in thinking about it—his reaction was perfect – in fact...Inspired! This newsletter has become so much a part of the fabric of

our lives that no one even notices it anymore. We have arrived into the mainstream of American Culture. So I felt I must struggle on—and looky here—it's another fantastic issue. Packed full of useless facts, meaningless jargon, and utter nonsense! There is even a Play! What more could anyone ask? Lets talk Pulitzer!...
Sincerely,
The Editor

Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

This is a pre-emptive strike!. I know this rag “newspaper” is going to report on certain bizarre behavior attributed to me leading up to my daughters birth. Ok, Maybe I did freak out a little before hand. And yes I remember, I actually wrote a letter to this paper last year listing my “concerns” (diapers, lack of sleep, etc). I did go on a bit after a couple of Jack Daniels, truth be told. It's hard to really remember those days now that we have my darling Madeline. Which

brings me to the purpose of this letter: I certainly hope this newspaper will recognize how I stepped up to the plate! Did anyone think I had it in me? I didn't! I don't want to take anything away from my wife—have you all met Sibyl? Beautiful, charming, smart! Am I a lucky man or what? Anyway although we all know she actually had to go through delivery— I was really helpful through it all- wasn't I Sibyl? Only went out for Baskin Robbins once during labor! Just kidding! And I have been really enjoying my late nights with Madeline. Have you seen my baby? She is the cutest! Anyway just wanted to set the record straight.

Sincerely
Joseph Jayne
Happy father

p.s. it turn out that selling a condo and buying a house is a whole lot worse than having a baby, let me tell you...

Milestones

- Mr Donohue turns 70: Great Party!
- Tom and Jan celebrate 30 years of marriage

- Bobby and Michelle: 2 years+ 1 baby
- Kennon and Sabra celebrate # 49 waiting for the big 50 celebration!!
- Mr and Mrs Donohue – 45--celebrated in style in Bermuda
- Connor Stambaugh Elected Student Council President
- Tiptoe goes to Lourdes
- Madeline is born
- Dillon goes to States for Wrestling
- Ryan is born
- Isabelle Rosa and Maxwell Jayne attend Kindergarten
- Miss Leigh goes to Washington
- Ian graduates from 8th grade: Receives PTA Award . On to Shore Regional!
- Sarah Vosk gets married
- Joe and Sibyl Jayne buy a house
- Joe Joe Jayne agrees to go on the potty, but “later”

Maid of the Mist

By Kennon Jayne



Niagara Falls, NY, October 20, 2005. Seldom in the annals of platonic marriages has such a young couple attempted a renewal of their marriage vows with such a devastating outcome. After weeks of planning and practicing rehearsals for renewing their marriage vows, this devotedly married husband and wife arrived in the renowned marriage capital of the world – Niagara Falls. Their anticipation was at an all

time high. Man and woman would cement their marriage again – two would become one in spirit for a second time. Hand in hand they would go forward together.

Unfortunately, only one member of this team could be found when photographers arrived. Pictured here is the one lonely spouse. Her expression exhibits a mixture of sorrow, and possibly relief. Apparently her vagrant husband of several years had found something else to do that day. Renewal of marriage vows did not take place. We expect another attempt at Niagara Falls next year. Better luck Sabe – next time around. In the meantime, “Solo Sabe” is pictured here officially as the “Maid of The Missed.”

Climate Change at the Jayne Residence Evidence of Global Warming?

Lately, temperature extremes and unpredictable weather phenomenon seem to have become the norm. Respected scientists and

disreputable crackpots all agree: If you don't like the weather wait awhile. New evidence has emerged however, contributing to a growing mountain of evidence of something or other. Here in Littleton, at 15 Matthew Drive, friends and family have historically been subjected to holiday celebrations at near freezing conditions in the Fall. Needless to say, none visit in the winter. Early summer visits are planned with a careful eye on the heat index; midsummer visits have been highly discouraged.

Throughout the year the temperature inside the house has been a subject of constant comment. Luckily, veteran guests to the Littleton Thanksgiving have each shown some real Yankee ingenuity as they each have devised their own remedies to the otherwise hostile environment. Entrepreneurial souls like Tom and Jan Kirwan, make the best of it by continuing to attend Thanksgiving but only in long underwear rated to 20 below zero. Others, like Mrs.

Donohue , try to drop hints like” Aren't you cold?” and when that doesn't work “ PUT SOMETHING ON YOUR FEET YOU ARE MAKING ME COLD”. New visitors have had it the worst, however. Take for example Michelle Donohue's first visit to Mathew Drive. She spent most of the holiday huddled inside the fireplace and saying things like “Oh don't worry about me, I'm fine!!” while heads shook back and for in the kitchen resignedly.” Such a shame—no one told her...

The summer visits have been equally controversial. I'm sure we all remember this past summer's incident. Apparently a false rumour was circulated about impending central AC installation. With such good news, elaborate plans were constructed for a summer visit by the Donohues along with most of the Rosas. When the truth was revealed that the Jaynes make all such decisions with a speed which rivals a glacier, there was significant back-pedaling in NJ. In fact Mr Donohue just

came right out with it: “We’re not coming.” Fortunately, Isabelle indirectly saved the day. Jean Marie was too scared to tell her the trip was off, and in an effort to forestall a meltdown, had one of her own.

All of this historical rambling is leading to a potentially happy ending!! Our reporter spotted central air conditioning installers in the driveway recently.

Apparently a contractor was there to give yet another quote on this job. When questioned, the AC representative only had this to say: “They seem like nice people, but what is up with the trapeze?”

All in all, it’s good news, especially for those who were worried about the heat on Thanksgiving day. Hmm.

In other news, there have been reports that the Jaynes are also considering purchasing an electric woodstove with a cheesy fake flame, to offset their heating bill, and--what’s this-- provide

extra warmth?. If this is not evidence of global warming, then a sure sign of the apocalypse.

BIG Baby BOOM

The Stork arrived this year and dropped little bundles of joy on happy parents! We are so pleased to report on the births of Ryan Christopher Donohue and Madeline Smith Jayne.

Madeline “Baby Mads” arrived in March 21, to a jubilant Joe and Sibyl Jayne. What a beauty! And born on Sabra Jayne’s birthday!! .Blessed Event!!

And now, 8 months later, the baby is smiling, and the parents are still smiling!! They made it through the early sleepless months and have maintained their celebrity profile. How do they do it! Sibyl actually looks even younger, and Joe has a new jaunt in his step. “Have you seen my baby? Isn’t she the cutest?”

Ryan Christopher was born August 18th to Bobby and Michelle Donohue. Both the pregnancy and the birth of this child has been the talk of the town. From last year's Christmas night announcement—"We're going to have a baby!" to the crazy waiting room scene at Monmouth Medical—no one could have scripted this better!!—(not even me, ha ha!). Probably the best scene had to be at the hospital when the large group of waiting family members—who had camped out with sleeping bags and survival kits—got the good news. Ryan had been born. I wish I had been there in person, but then I would have missed the classic labor reports from Bruce Stambaugh.

Ahh! Auspicious beginnings for both Madeline and Ryan!

The Donohue Year @39
Court Drive
By J. R. Donohue

THE BEST- Waiting in the waiting room at Monmouth

Medical along with my wife, daughters Jean-Marie and Coleen when my son Bob flew through the door, dressed in scrubs with his feet at least a foot off the ground announcing excitedly "It's a Boy!" Absolutely one of the great moments in my life—Ryan Christopher Donohue—The Donohue name lives on!"

Second Best- Celebrating our 45th wedding in Bermuda at my niece Mary Miller's palatial house. My wife refers to the trip as "returning to the scene of the crime" as our honeymoon was there, way back when. Let it be known that niece Mary has quickly become my FAVORITE, overcoming all of my other worthless no-good low-life relatives who have been trying to work their way into my will, these many years. "Humbug" I say. "Come up with something better than the house in Bermuda"!

The Worst- (Germ: Wurst)
(Brooklyn: Weist):
1) Paying bills is absolutely ruining my retirement years.

- 2) Not having an expense account. This just hit me. It took three years.
- 3) Broken coffee Pot. I had to buy a new coffee pot. Repeat, Buy and NEW. My consecutive streak of one dollar coffee pots from garage sales has been broken.
- 4) Donovan's Bar- the news that this landmark bar on the ocean at Sea Bright may be sold and converted into condos. What is wrong with this world?
- 5). Old Age- When Ryan Christopher is 10 years old, Big Bob will be 80. That cannot be true. Lets have a recount.

Thanksgiving Hope: That Karen and John have enough chairs to handle the multitudes. That all of the grandchildren behave at the dinner table (only kidding). That all of the grownups behave at the dinner table (serious) That we all thank God (my wife insisted I write this one) For being here today and hopefully hale and hardy to enjoy a great meal with all the relatives!

Conman critic

Howdy, It feels like it's been ages since I have written movie reviews, but it feels good to be back. This year in the movie world, there have been bombs, knockouts, and just plain zany flicks to catch the eyes of anyone in front of the screen. From musicals to boxing flicks my reviews will have you gazing down at this paper saying, " WOW, he's good looking and can write!" but in all seriousness I hope you take these into consideration and enjoy THE CONMAN CRITIC!

The Phantom of the Opera

Starring: Emmy Rossum,
Gerard Butler
Rated: Pg-13
Genre: Musical/Drama

I could review one of the year's best films, but instead I'll tell you about The Phantom of the Opera. Let me tell you all that it is very difficult to adapt an infamous Broadway show to the big screen. Andrew Lloyd

Webber's brilliant music and score could not save this well-directed (Props to Joel Schumacher) movie/musical from being a bomb in theaters as well as with critics. I have seen the show, and seen the movie, but when people ask my preference, I give it all to the show. This movie is more directed to the troubles of Christine Dae (Emmy Rossum), a back-up dancer at some haunted theater. Emmy did a great job portraying this young beauty, haunted by the shadows of the phantom (Butler) who surrounds the stage of the theater. The set of the movie does not even come close to that to the shows, but I honestly say that some of the music was better in the movie. The drama is real, but the passion is lost in all the romantic mumbo-jumbo between the leads. Despite the phantom's slight lisp and almost offbeat voice, the casting for the parts could not have been more on target. All of this aside, music buffs will go crazy and fall in love with Christine, who somewhat carries the film. She almost

makes you forget that there is a Phantom, whose slow performance was not up to par. However, you kind of have to feel bad, considering he was born so hideous (Props to makeup artists) Everything in the beginning of the movie wants you to turn off the television, but everything at the end makes you mad that there isn't more! So I am split about this semi-dreary, semi-extravagant film, and I am sure you will be too. CONMAN Rating: **!2

Million Dollar Baby

Starring: Hillary Swank, Clint Eastwood, and Morgan Freeman
Rated: PG-13
Genre: Drama/Sports

Baby, let me tell you- this movie is worth a "million dollars!" Flaws are almost impossible to pick out in the Oscar-Winning tale about a female boxer and her relationship with her grumpy trainer. A lonely, almost redneck diner waitress Maggie (Hilary Swank) works out at

the dilapidated gym run by Frankie (the great, but not getting any younger Clint Eastwood), and then pesters the ringside veteran into managing her. This drama of tough excitement and surprise has everything a great film should have. The dark realness of this picture is what won the Oscars for the cast and crew. Swank's gracefully tear-jerking performance stands out a tad more than Eastwood's, but Morgan Freeman pulls out an unstoppable performance that will leave you in awe. However, you have to think that the Oscar system is corrupt. Who puts the late, great Clint, who shines in his grizzled role, against an unbeatable Jami Foxx? Criminals, that's who! And, you have to love Morgan Freeman in any movie that he's in. Anyway... I believe that in all its glory this knockout of a movie rang the victory bell for people all over this country, and even rang a sentimental bell inside our hearts. (This is where you

pretend to cry). Winner... Million Dollar Baby.
Conman Rating:****

Batman Begins

Starring: Christian Bale, Liam Neeson, Michael Caine, and... Morgan Freeman!
Rated : PG-13
Genre:
Action/Adventure/Drama

How do I begin to describe such a fabulous movie? I am not quite sure, but I'll give it a shot. In all its darkness, the Caped Crusader is back, and most definitely better than ever! Now as Batman, we have newcomer Christian Bale, who suits up for the performance of his life. Before saving Gotham City from almost certain peril, this flick shows Bruce Wayne's life and his childhood fear of bats. It shows how he fights to survive and overcome his parent's tragic death, which is a concern among this billionaire. Suspense is a sure thing and so is action! The very suave and very chiseled Bale kicks some major villain

but before and after the creation of his alter ego Batman. With his trusty butler, (Caine) at hand, and the gadget wiz Mr. Fox (Freeman) giving him aid, Batman takes down Gotham's giant drug lord and his former master, played devilishly clever by Neeson. From beginning to end, Batman Begins swings into gear with Million Dollar Baby to become one of the year's best movies!

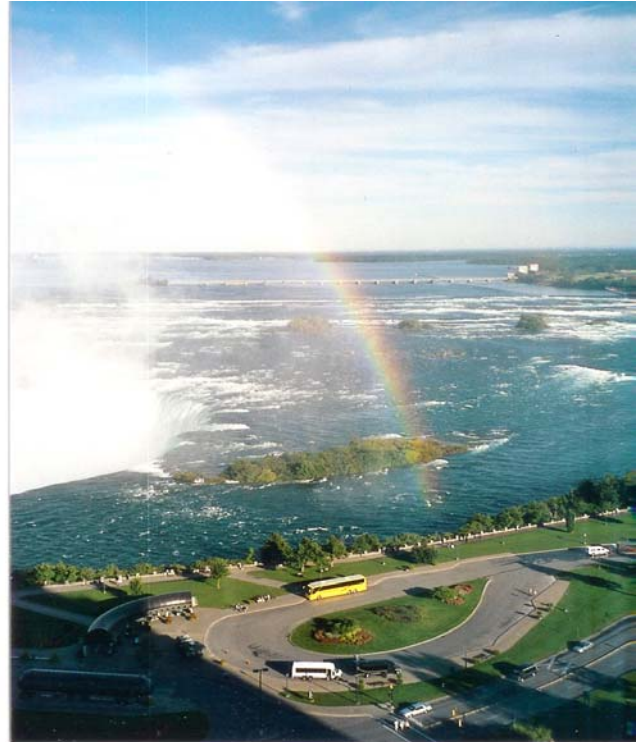
CONMAN RATING: *****

Missing Spouse Found. A late report filed after news of Niagara Renewal Vows failure..

Niagara Falls, NY. November 1, 2005.
By Kennon Jayne

Following a week of intensive tracking down leads from reliable sources, this reporter has evidence concerning the disappearance and location of the missing spouse in the renewal of marriage vows episode as reported by this paper on 10/20/05. Searches in restaurants, bars, and

churches produced no trace of



missing husband. Photographs were taken of the falls knowing that missing husband was attached emotionally to the sea – perhaps more so than to the altar. Low and behold a rainbow appeared which proved that the wandering husband was being true to form in his greatest interest. He was chasing that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Mystery is solved – but we think he is still looking for a fast buck.

The Culture Vulture Report

The buzz around town is all about a new play by an unknown playwright about to open Off-Off Broadway (Broadway, Long Branch, that is). This reporter received an exclusive synopsis from the reclusive author, now in the witness protection program. Here it is-- printed in its entirety , even including the handwritten notes:

****Play theme from Twilight Zone here******
(Doo doo doo doo....doo doo doo doo)

Rod Serling voice over: Take a normal couple, let's call them...Jean Marie and Tony Rosa, place them in the heart of America, a small town called...lets see...Monmouth Beach. Beautiful houses, beautiful people. Highly desirable real estate. A Beach community. A sleepy community. Or *is* it? Lets just see what happens when fate drops this lovely couple a gigantic curve ball (or is it a spit ball, yuck!) in the form of two egomaniacal general practitioner neighbors and a contested spit of land called THE ROAD. It's a story for our times with universal appeal.

Here are the main characters:

- Jean Marie: Stay at home mom fighting for social justice on whatever turf she can find.
- “Tip-Toe” Tony Rosa : Legal-eagle humanitarian, ready to do what it takes.
- Dr. Joel and Dr What's-His-Name: two mediocre doctors with apparent satanic leanings, and no, they are not gay (unfortunately).
- Marge: saintly neighbor

Background: An old private road is shared historically by the main characters providing a secondary access route to their homes and a nice walkway between the neighborhoods. Rare car traffic has been observed.

Situation : Certain neighbors/ doctors believe the road presents a hazard.

Act 1 Synopsis

The story unfolds following repeated attempts by the good doctors to “close off” the road. Perhaps certain diplomatic discussions took place with their neighbors. Perhaps not. (We don’t care since this is ART and we can therefore make stuff up) . But this part is not made up: the nasty doctors contract a company to drop huge cement blocks in the middle of this road, thereby violating the understood right-of way.

Act 1 SCENE 1:

Jean- Marie looks up from watering plants in backyard to see huge crane on side of house. Immediately drops coffee cup. Sound of shattering pottery. Patrick (the Rodheisan Ridge Back pet dog, the size of a small horse) takes a charging stance.

Drop lights for next scene

Authors handwritten note: I like this big opening, a lot of drama!!

Act 2 Synopsis:

Ahh, Awake the sleeping giant. The Rosas poise for action. After repeated conversations with Marge and Marge’s Rumson-ite brother, it is decided: It is just not RIGHT. Jean Marie is outraged! Tony goes into action. In the heat of the moment, Tony rushes out with a long crow bar and starts inch by inch, to slowly move the heavy blocks of cement. We are reminded of Hercules or Sisyphus. (*authors handwritten note: Nice dual meaning that audience can ponder*). Time goes by, evidenced by Ian riding bike back and

forth in the background. Perhaps Ian is carrying a large potted tree that seems to grow larger with each interval.

Authors handwritten note: need to beef- up mythological overtones. Maybe in the midst of this, Tony starts hallucinating and Patrick becomes a speaking woodland animal, such as a centaur??

Then, Dr Joel shows up, pleading for Tony to desist in the event that he might hurt himself. To persuade him, Dr. Joel breaks out into song and a tap dance on the cement block (Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, etc), Tentative song title: "Tip-Toe Through The Lawsuit", which ends with Dr Joel doing a backflip off the cement block. Tony completely ignores the dance routine and stays on task. At the end turns to the audience and just smiles enigmatically.

Act 3 Synopsis

Jean Marie in disguise hurrying up West Street on the way to the town offices.

SCENE 1:

Court clerk: "Hi Jean-Marie. Why are you wearing those crazy glasses and nose?"

Jean-Marie: "I don't know what you mean. You've put me in the difficult spot of telling a lie, which I don't do. Why don't we just stick to business. I need certain documents relating to a certain right of way issue of interest to me."

Court Clerk: "No soup for you, chickee. AND by the way, I don't like dogs."

SCENE 2: Dinnertime at the Rosas.

Jean-Marie : "Tony, I don't know how to tell you this. It's much worse than we previously thought."

Tony: “A conspiracy, again?”

Jean-Marie: “Yes. BUT, it is all starting to make sense to me. On top of everything, the court clerk doesn’t like dogs.”

Tony: “That’s it! It’s time to go to press!”

SCENE 3: Big Dance Number.

Dancers are the “Monmouth Beach Players”—the usual neighborhood crowd including some surfers and other beach-combers who may have spent too many days on the beach, plus a couple of drunk out-of-towners from Sallie T’s Restaurant and Bar. Dance scene is reminiscent of old Busby Berkeley Productions. At the end – everyone should be lying spread eagled on the floor with feet touching – opening and closing legs to make “flower” formations. Then a crane brings in a high dive with Isabelle in two piece American flag bathing suit with bathing cap on.

Crowd yells: “We love the two piece...”

Isabelle: “Its not a two piece, its my top and bottom!”

While dance number is going on, large movie screen behind dancers flash headlines:

- Local Couple Vow to Fight City Hall
- Area Doctors Implicated in Conspiracy
- Residents Reeling from MonmouthBeachGate Scandal
- Documents Discovered in Mayor’s House Point finger at Doctors
- Trial Set for this week!!

***Authors note:** check with Isabelle on music choice. May be problematic.*

SCENE 4:The night before the trial. Everyone is asleep at the Rosas. Dream sequence. Jean-Marie is visited by the *now-dead* clerk.

Clerk: “Fear not! I have a message for you. If you apply for my job you will have access to hidden documents...”

*****Lights go down

Act 3 synopsis

Front of courthouse: huge rambunctious crowd held back by police line. Jean-Marie and Tony, both looking fabulous, arrive in Volvo station wagon (the “new” one). Cameras flash as they make their way to entrance. Reporters try to question them, and they say ‘No Comment.’

Authors note: more time goes by... show Ian in background carrying growing potted plant, now a tree, teetering across stage

Then a tremendous bang as the courthouse doors open and reporters dressed in 40’s garb come rushing out. One wild-eyed reporter runs to the front of the stage and announces:

Reporter: “This is amazing!! What a scoop!!”

Big Finale. Song and dance number starting with paparazzi. Entire cast joins including Jean Marie tap dancing down the stairs (lessons at adult education pays off!!). Accompanying music and lyrics tell the story of the courtroom scene. Lyrics should leave audience guessing at the end.

Authors handwritten note: I like this cryptic ending. Good for post-show nite-cap discussions. Although I also like BIG final scenes. Here are some ideas for alternative endings:

- *The judge saying “Frankly my dear...”*
- *A hot air balloon descends and whisks Dr Joel off to parts unknown.*
- *A huge shark fin..., no wait , I think that’s been done...*
- *A UFO ends up hovering over Monmouth Beach. trying to make contact. Yes, this is good. The cement blocks turn out to be “Stonehenge” formations left by space visitors . This has potential... hmmm.. Here’s another idea... (end of transcript).*

Editors note: Unfortunately, the final page of the draft transcript was lost in a FAX machine which seems to happen every time we receive a fax here at the Paper. Alas. You will have to go see the play to find out how it all ends!!

Thanksgiving Dinner-time Activity

This year we are asking everyone to think about the previous year and recite their **“favorite quote”** from the past year. This might be something you heard from a family member or a friend perhaps, or something in the news, or in a book... but just a one -line quote that got your attention.

After reciting your quote you have three (3) options:

1. Do nothing. Pass to the next person
2. Quiz the group on your quote.. Who said it? and When?
3. Pontificate on why this quote is meaningful to you (highly discouraged)

Thanks for playing!

Your hosts

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