



Names

MARK SHANAHAN & MEREDITH GOLDSTEIN



Maria Stephanos is leaving Fox 25

Popular Fox 25 anchor **Maria Stephanos** is leaving. The station announced Thursday that Stephanos, who's been at Fox 25 for 18 years, is off to "pursue new professional endeavors." And it will not be a long farewell. Her last day is Friday. "I have decided it's time for me to embark on a new adventure," Stephanos said in a statement. "Working alongside this talented group of journalists has been a privilege for me, every day. I will miss working with this extraordinary team. . . . New England viewers are savvy and smart and I love them for that. Thank you for making me part of your family." Her bosses at the station were generous in their praise for the departing anchor. Said Fox 25 news director **Lee Rosenthal**: "Maria is one of the most engaging, passionate, and talented journalists you will ever find, and we will miss all that she contributes on a daily basis to our newsroom."

Stephen King among artists awarded medal

Maine writer **Stephen King** (below), chef **Alice Waters**, Oscar-winning actress **Sally Field**, and **Rebecca Newberger Goldstein**, a novelist/philosopher from Boston, were among 18 people (and three organizations) who received a National Medal of Arts or National Humanities Medal from President Obama at the White House Thursday.



JIM LO SCALZO/EPA

'From the Top' stars in 'Late Show' band

"The Late Show With **Stephen Colbert**," which premiered Tuesday, has local connections. The house band, Stay Human, features two alumni from the Boston-based program "From the Top," which highlights the work of young, classically trained musicians. (NPR's show "From the Top With Host **Christopher O'Riley**" launched in 2000.) The former "From the Top" stars who are now playing for Colbert are tubist **Ibanda Ruhumbika** and bassist **Michael Thurber**. Thurber is now a board member of the organization, and thanks to Ruhumbika, Stay Human,

with bandleader **Jon Batiste**, performed at "From the Top's" 2013 gala. "If you want to be a classically trained musician in the 21st century, you kind of need to know how the world of professional music works. . . . There are all these classically trained musicians out there, who are finding new ways to make careers," said "From the Top" radio and concert producer **David Balsom**, referencing the group as a successful example. "I have a feeling that . . . music is going to be a core element as [the show] goes forward." Other former "From the Top" musicians include concert pianist **George Li**, tubist **Carol Jantsch**, and cellist **Oliver Aldort**.



Culpo hosts Fashion Week event

Miss USA and Miss Universe 2012 (and former Rhode Islander and Boston University student) **Olivia Culpo** hosted the Supima Design Competition at New York Fashion Week on Thursday. The event highlights upcoming designers.



JIM DAVIS/GLOBE STAFF

Vermont's own **Grace Potter** sang the national anthem before Thursday night's game at Gillette Stadium.

Vermont singer shines at home opener

Gillette Stadium was all abuzz before the Patriots' home opener Thursday as fans, done for now with Deflategate, wanted to celebrate the Super Bowl XLIX title and cheer the unveiling of the Pats' fourth — that's right, *fourth* — championship banner in 14 years. The identity of the national anthem singer, guarded like a state secret in the days before the game, was only revealed when **Grace Potter** walked onto the field. . . . **Tom Brady's** wife, **Gisele Bundchen**, was there as well.

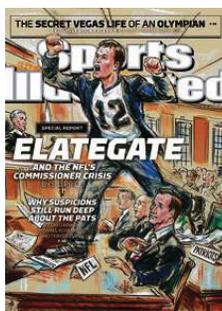
Market Basket doc at Boston Film fest

The Boston Film Festival, which kicks off Sept. 17, announced its slate of movies Thursday, and it includes a documentary that is likely to generate interest. Called "We the People: The Market Basket Effect," the doc narrated by **Michael Chiklis** (inset) tells the tale of what happened a year ago when the



board of directors of the Tewksbury-based supermarket chain voted to fire CEO and part-owner **Arthur T. Demoulas**. Let's just say that wasn't the end of the story. (Another local film screening at the festival is "Aside From That: A Film About Everyone's Least Favorite Topic," a meditation on mortality featuring philosophers, academics, and the great Boston comic **Stephen Wright**). Among those expected to attend are actors **Shaun Toub**, **Adrian Sparks**, **Annika Noelle**, **Robyn Coffin**, **Robert Cannon**, **James Molinari**, and **Justin Lee**.

Globe correspondent **Mallory Abreu** contributed. Read local celebrity news at www.bostonglobe.com/names. Names can be reached at names@globe.com or at 617-929-8253.



Another courtroom sketch of Tom Brady

There's a new courtroom sketch of **Tom Brady** that Patriots fans can over-analyze and pick to pieces. This one is on the cover of the new issue of Sports Illustrated, with the headline, "Elategate . . . and the NFL's Commissioner Crisis." **Jane Rosenberg**, the woman whose sketch of Brady during this summer's Deflategate generated so much discussion, is not responsible for this victorious illustration of the QB. The magazine hired another courtroom artist, **William J. Hennessy Jr.**, for the job. According to Hennessy's website, he attended TRIAD, and sketched the impeachment trial of former President **Bill Clinton**.

'Life is Good' brothers take to the road

Life is Good founders and brothers **John** and **Bert Jacobs** visited the Harvard Coop on Wednesday to talk about their new book, the aptly titled "Life is Good: The Book." Now the brothers will head on an eight-week tour to promote the release, visit with some people who've inspired their work, and stop by some big nonprofit events, including the LA Loves Alex's Lemonade festival in Los Angeles on Saturday. The Jacobs brothers, Needham natives who began selling their now-famous stick-figure T-shirts door-to-door in 1994, are now 47 and 50. Their book is categorized as self-help, but John explained, "It's more insights that we've learned over the years — personal stories from customers." Bert said, of the mission of the company, which gives 10 percent of its net profits to kids in need. "The general philosophy is that some people believe optimism is a soft philosophy and we don't — we believe it's a pragmatic strategy for living a happy and fulfilling life, and that's the basis of our company."

Blue

It was the worst professional experience of my life. It was the most emotionally destructive and difficult thing that I've ever had to deal with professionally.' **CHARLIE HUNNAM**, actor, talking about his decision to turn down the lead in 'Fifty Shades of Grey'



A spirited 'Ghost Quartet' from Malloy and company

By **Terry Byrne**
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE — "Ghost Quartet" unfolds with a subtly seductive allure. A theatricalized performance of the chamber music ensemble's self-titled release, the show, playing at Oberon through Saturday, is a collection of story-songs full of humor with a dash of horror, told by characters that emerge sharply into focus before fading again into the background.

Atmosphere and some stunning vocal and musical talents create an enchanting concert-musical. Members of the Ghost Quartet are positioned in the audience, which sits in a U facing the stage and central playing area. On the stage, **Brittain Ashford** and **Gelsey Bell** deliver some breathtaking harmonies as well as spine-tingling interpretations of songs, with **Ashford's** lush alto brimming with personality and **Bell's** clear soprano ringing out with

emotion and power.

Composer-lyricist and text writer **Dave Malloy** plays the piano, keyboard, ukulele, and percussion, while **Brent Arnold** sits at the opposite corner of the room on the cello, guitar, dulcimer, and the truly haunting two-stringed erhu.

Malloy offers up nearly two dozen songs, helpfully introducing the title and the track number for each one, and while references to ghosts, **Edgar Allan Poe**, **Stephen King**, "The Twilight Zone," **Neil Gaiman's** "Sandman," and **Grimms' Fairy Tales** all appear, you will also hear riffs from "Frozen" and **Stephen Sondheim's** "Into the Woods," among others. Two of the most evocative moments come with Malloy's nod to **Thelonius Monk's** "Ruby My Dear" and **Bell's** a cappella performance of "The Wind and Rain," described as a 17th-century English murder ballad.



RYAN JENSEN

Ghost Quartet composer-lyricist and text writer **Dave Malloy** plays piano, keyboard, ukulele, and more in the ensemble's performance.

In between the songs are mini-stories that set the tone for the music to come, introduce the array of odd characters who populate the story-songs, or invite us into moments between the characters. Always the tone

— among the performers and within the music — is one of unaffected sincerity. An awkward pas de deux between Malloy and Ashford is heart-breaking in its simplicity.

Director **Annie Tuppe** keeps the sto-

MUSIC REVIEW

GHOST QUARTET
Music, lyrics, and text by **Dave Malloy**. Developed and arranged by **Ghost Quartet**. Directed by **Annie Tuppe**. At Oberon, Cambridge, through Saturday.
Tickets: \$25-\$35, 617-496-8004, www.americanrepertorytheater.org

ries flowing with a stylish grace and an ease of movement that is so unpretentious you may find yourself eager to take up a percussion instrument if it's offered, or tilt a glass of whiskey (or cider) poured for everyone as the ensemble sings a tune about four different kinds of the liquor.

"Ghost Quartet," with its tight harmonies, compelling characters, and rich musicianship, draws us into a cozy world to explore our fascination with and connection to otherworldly spirits for a uniquely thrilling evening.

Terry Byrne can be reached at tbyrne@aol.com.