

SPOTLIGHT

ON *Back Bay*

by Clint Hamblin



Chef Joseph Bartel with son Christian

Chef in Training. You might say that Joseph Bartel's son is a chip off the old block. Fifteen-year-old Christian is a student in the Culinary Program at Cape Cod Technical High School and Dad is the executive chef for McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Christian recently spent the day with Dad learning everything about preparing seafood in one of the busiest kitchens in Boston, and there's nothing like on-the-job training especially when Dad is the instructor.

Christian hopes to some day take on a position like his dad but until he does, he'll be practicing with a special Father's Day dinner for his dad, Chef Joseph Bartel, one of the great chefs of Boston.

Omid and His Grandfather.

When thinking of Father's Day, Iranian born Maxi Omid tenderly remembers his grandfather and how his granddad's devotion and good planning changed and perhaps saved Maxi's life.



Omid Maxi from Safar Coiffures

"When I was a kid, my dad was assassinated by revolutionary guards and my grandfather knew that the children of a political leader would be subject to great danger if we remained in Iran," Omid said.

His grandfather arranged for his son's family to escape to England when Omid was 3 years old. He said goodbye to his grandfather and began his new life in London and Luxemburg. After being schooled in Paris for a period of time, Omid moved to the United States in 1988,

where he attended high school in Andover, Massachusetts and then Northeastern University. While attending school, Maxi worked as a receptionist at Safar Coiffures located at 235 Newbury Street where he developed an interest in the beauty industry.

"Serge Safar said that I needed to be a hairdresser, so I packed up and went to Los Angeles and studied with Vidal Sassoon," Omid remembered. After a stint with world famous José Eber and several other West Coast salons, Maxi started doing celebrity hair styling for Hollywood stars including Alicia Silverstone, Bonnie Hunt and Molly Sims.

Omid said that he owes his granddad a great deal. "He was not only my father figure, he also changed my life when he decided that I should leave Iran. Everything is very different from what it might have been had I continued living there. Now I'm the creative director and colorist at Safar. I love Boston, I love my life and I love the man who changed my destiny."

Sanding Down Dad on Father's Day. Is crusty old Dad leaving trails of dry skin all around the house? How about scraping him down and polishing him up from head to toe with one of the many great spa treatments available on Newbury Street?

Starting at the bottom, let's begin with a luxurious Caviar Pedicure from Emerge by Giuliano located at 275 Newbury Street. Hold the cream cheese and onions for this relaxing and reportedly beneficial procedure that will run you \$70. A relaxing sports massage, manicure or hydrotherapy session might be more appropriate (and less smelly) as we work our way to the top, but if you're really looking for maximum results, buy dad a non-surgical procedure designed to chisel away the years and make dad look more like his own son.

"Men from 30 to 70 are taking advantage of these procedures – both surgical and non-surgical," according to

Dr. William P. Adams, MD, FACS. "This includes wrinkle fillers, Botox, laser procedures designed to remove spider veins and even-out skin pigmentation, liposuction to reshape the body, breast implants, and the list goes on and on."

Together with Dr. Brooke R. Seckel, MD, FACS, the doctors offer non-surgical procedures at Emerge and at their Adams-Seckel Center located at 18 Newbury Street.

Procedures range in price, but isn't Dad worth every penny? The real question is, "Will Mom pay for it?"



A pedicure for Dad

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