

## 'Do you really want this kind of business in Johnston?'

### Voters set to decide whether to allow cannabis cultivation and retail sales in town

By RORY SCHULER

Johnston voters will decide whether recreational pot shops will open in town.

The local rules and regulations for cannabis use in Rhode Island are changing.

One pot ordinance prohibiting outdoor cannabis use in town recently passed Town Council, and the other measure, deciding whether to allow recreational pot sellers in town storefronts, will

be decided by a referendum on Johnston's General Election ballot in November.

"Chris had to remove someone ...," Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena told Town Council in August. He paused and turned to Johnston's Director of Recreational and Community Services, Christopher Correia, who replied: "Recently."

"Because he was in the park smoking pot,"

POT - PAGE 5

## 'The legend has retired'

### David Cournoyer thanked for years serving Johnston Schools

By PETE FONTAINE

"The legend has retired," read a decoration on countless cupcakes made by Lucia Conti at her husband-owned Emilio's Bakery in West Warwick.

There was another special slogan — "Retired: Under new management; see wife for more details."

Likewise, there were endless tributes, testimonials and tributes late last Thursday afternoon inside Pete Matteo's Bar 101 which was filled with people who wanted to honor — and thank — a marvelous man people concurred was "one of a kind" during a special surprise party sendoff.

That man was David Cournoyer, who worked for the Johnston School Department for the last 14 years as the highly valuable Director of Facilities and Transportation.

"Dave has been a highly valued and regarded fa-



**THE LEGEND:** At right, Dave Cournoyer is all smiles during last week's surprise retirement sendoff. He worked for the Johnston School Department for the last 14 years as the highly valuable Director of Facilities and Transportation. At left, a decoration on one of the cupcakes made by Lucia Conti at her husband-owned Emilio's Bakery in West Warwick, calls Cournoyer 'THE LEGEND.' (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

cilities director and always kept the best interests of the district at the forefront of all his work," said Johnston Schools Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr. "Dave was very skilled at getting the

best deals on purchases and services for the district. He saved the district a substantial amount of funds through his years. He made sure Johnston schools shined inside and out."

Cournoyer will be succeeded by Jerri Cantone, current Transportation Facilities Clerk who wanted it known: "It is hard to say goodbye to someone who became a part of your everyday

life. Thank you for everything you have taught me. You will be missed!"

Missed indeed, Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena emphasized, as he congratulated Cournoyer during the party.

"Dave will be missed. He was an asset to the school department and town. He always kept the taxpayers in mind when spending money. We wish him well."

LEGEND - PAGE 11

## RIHEBC closes on \$85 million bond for school upgrades

By RORY SCHULER

With an \$85 million bond in hand, Johnston's massive school renovation and new construction project will likely begin by spring.

"We are pleased that the \$85 million bond issue was approved," said Johnston Schools Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr. "Thank you to the voters, Mayor Polisena, the Johnston School Committee, Johnston Town Council and our town finance department for ushering the bond through."

On Sept. 29, the Rhode Island Health

and Educational Building Corporation (RIHEBC) closed on an \$85 million bond issue for the town of Johnston, funding district-wide school facility improvements, according to the state agency.

The bond will cover Phase 1 of Johnston's school capital improvement plan.

"RIHEBC is pleased to provide the Town of Johnston with bond financing for district-wide school facility repairs and upgrades," said Kim Mooers, Executive Director of RIHEBC. "This \$85 million bond issue was sold to investors at a premium of \$8.5 million, generating a total of \$93.5 million to pay for Phase 1

of Johnston's school facility improvement plan. The 30-year bond has an all-in cost to borrow of 4.63 percent."

Since 2006, RIHEBC has provided more than \$2 billion in bond financing for public school facilities projects across Rhode Island, according to the agency. For more than 50 years, RIHEBC — the largest financing agency of the state — has provided more than \$10 billion in tax exempt bonds to finance non-profit health and educational institutions in the state, and school projects in Ocean State municipalities.

"The architects are currently working

on the Phase III submission which substantially moves the design ideas forward," DiLullo said of Johnston's planned facilities upgrade. "They are proceeding with design adjustments as the building industry continues to be in a variable state."

Voters overwhelmingly approved the \$215 million school bond issue in early April.

With a Tax Stabilization Agreement now in place with Amazon, the town is expecting millions more in annual tax revenue over the next 20 years. School

BOND - PAGE 5



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**MAIN EVENT:** Above and below, this Friday night, Copperfield's Burger & Beer, at 678 Killingly St. in Johnston, is having a "Special Event" and paying tribute to Debra Coppola, lead vocalist for the band 2nd To None. (Submitted photos)

# Debra Coppola to be honored at Copperfield's 'special event'

By **JERY POTENZA**  
Special to the Sun Rise

**O**n Friday night, Oct 14, Copperfield's Burger & Beer, possibly Rhode Island's hottest night spot, located at 678 Killingly St. in Johnston, is having a "Special Event" and paying tribute to Debra Coppola, lead vocalist for the band 2nd To None.

Copperfield's will be dedicating and naming one of their prestige V.I.P. sections in honor of Coppola.

Owner Karim Menebhi and Copperfield's Music Consultant Bobby Nicholson have decided to do this Tribute to Debra in recognition of her 50+ years of "elite vocal talents." She has been performing since the young age of 15 years old, to the present, and has thrilled, inspired and touched countless people with her abilities.

Menebhi and Nicholson both agree that "every night that 2nd To None is here it's a party!"

Their Performances at Copperfield's are named "2nd To None Party in the Neighborhood," because every night the band is 100 percent energy from start to finish and engages with the crowd like "no other."

Also every time the band performs at Copperfield's, new faces are added to the crowds, from people Debra, K Love, Pops and Jery have performed for over the years. So make plans to be a part of this very special night as Copperfield's pays tribute and recognizes one of Rhode Island's most gifted singers.

The band 2nd To None is a high-energy four-piece performing group that's supported by current state of the art music technology. We combine our live vocal and performing talents with sequenced musical tracks, providing a full band sound.

We cover a wide range of music, including Motown and 60's, 70's Disco, the 80's, current and classic dance hits.

Debra Coppola (lead vocalist), provides her soulful singing style to create an electrifying musical experience, thrilling audiences and singing everything from dance hits to beautiful ballads. Debra was trained by the renowned Rhode Island tenor Arturo Coppola and has been highly regarded for many years. She developed her live performing skills in top cover bands throughout the 1980s and '90s, some of those including her talented family members. She opened for the Village People in the 80's and for Sister Sledge at Twin River Casino in early 2000.

Kenny (K) Love (lead vocals, guitar, bass guitar) is a soulful R&B style vocalist that captivates an audience and always keeps the dancers moving and grooving. Kenny has performed all over the country for many years. Back in the 90's he was the lead vocalist in one of the top-rated cover bands in the U.S. that also included Jery on guitar. Kenny is an accomplished funk guitarist and bassist himself.

Arnold "Pops" Mills (Lead vocals), has performed all over the East Coast for many years. He was most recently with LLOYD Parks and The New Blue Notes, and he was an original member of Coastline, a very popular Rhode Island based band. Arnold brings a genuine Motown style and sensibility to the band, and his lively interaction with the audience is "2nd To None."

Debra, Kenny, Arnold and Jery combine forces to lock into a groove that is truly "2nd To None."

**Editor's Note:** Jery Potenza plays guitar, saxophones, bass, keyboards, vocals for the band "2nd To None." He is a multi-faceted musician and figuratively the backbone of 2nd To None. Equally adept on all of his instruments, he contributes enormously to the live feel of the band, sometimes playing several different instruments in a single song. He submitted this piece hoping a large audience will come out to show their love for the band's lead singer, Debra Coppola.



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**REFRESHING ART:** Above and below, the Children's Paint and Lemonade Event at the Rosario Society hosted 18 children, and parents, and was presented by the Spirit of Hope nonprofit organization. (Submitted photos)

# Spirit of Hope sponsors Paint & Lemonade Event

By **LOUIS J. SPREMULLI**  
Special to the Sun Rise

The Children's Paint and Lemonade Event was held on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Rosario Society. There were 18 children with a parent or grandparent painting with them. Some families could not attend, due to the virus.

The event was designed for children in the community from all types of families. Some children were sponsored according to their situations.

The event began with Paul Orlando speaking regarding the Spirit of Hope, Non-Profit 501c3 organization on what they do and how they operate. Paul then introduced Louis Spremulli and Carol Thompson, the two teachers of the painting event.

The event entailed painting a landscape with a doghouse and Snoopy. There were raffle prizes and door prizes. All the children received gift bags; included was a painter's pallet, paint, paint brushes, candy, snacks, bracelets, pencils and erasers. The children had so much fun and were so excited, they were already asking about the next paint event!

This event brought so many partnerships together while trying to invite different types of children from all types of situations. We worked with A Wish Come True, Inc., Brain Injury Association of RI, and Tri Town Community Action Agency, and they all have their own programs as well.

Now, for everyone reading this article, why not join us as a volunteer or sponsor? We wish more people would get involved. We need funding to help those in need and hope that we can help the homeless especially. We also want to have a Mental Health Community Event. The time has come to address this problem to save more lives.

Committee people included Paul Orlando, Carol Thompson, Dr. David Coia, Lisa Ricci, Marilyn Buchanan, Pat and Daniela Simone and Louis and Carla Spremulli. The hall was donated by the Rosario Society.

Special thanks should be given to our major Sponsors to help cover costs, and they are: Atwood Pharmacy, Dr. David Coia, Orlando Contracting, Alert Security, Woodlawn Funeral Home, Quality Properties, D'Andrea Pool Service, Marc Scetta Web Design, and Susan Mansolillo.

We also had some individual donors to sponsor children for this event. Please consider being a sponsor and call us before our master banner is posted and advertised at La Salette Shrine in Attleboro, Massachusetts, which has 400,000 visitors a year.

**Editor's Note:** Louis J. Spremulli regularly submits stories and photos to the Johnston Sun Rise. Spremulli serves as President of the Johnston-based nonprofit group Spirit of Hope. You can contact him by calling 401-374-4590 or emailing [Lspremulli1@gmail.com](mailto:Lspremulli1@gmail.com).



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**STILL TOO MUCH:** Raymond DaQuila, of Johnston, gassed up at BJ's Wholesale Club on Hartford Avenue in Johnston on Monday. The price for a gallon of unleaded gasoline, for members, has finally fallen to \$3, and the traffic at the station has been heavy. "Me, myself, I'm pessimistic," DaQuila said. "I remember it at \$2 a gallon and I'd like to see it back to that price, or at least 50 cents cheaper. I used to pay \$30 to fill this tank with premium. Now it costs me about \$58." (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



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## Bond

(Continued from page 1)

officials have argued the time is right for a series of new school building projects. High state reimbursements for school building projects are also serving as a key motivator. School officials hope the state may cover close to half of the anticipated total \$215 million price tag.

The district hopes to build a new Early Childhood Center, a new Elementary School for all students in grades 1-4, and make major renovations at the Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School and Johnston High School.

The new Johnston Early Childhood Center (ECC) may be built on the current site of the Sarah E. Barnes Elementary School, for approximately 359 pre-K through Kindergarten students.

The new ECC will cost an estimated \$28,600,000, and is tentatively slated to open in the summer of 2024.

The school building proposal calls for closing, and then demolishing or selling the town's current elementary schools.

If approved, the Barnes Elementary School will be demolished to build the new Early Childhood Center.

The Graniteville ECC Annex, Brown Avenue, Thornton and Winsor Hill elementary schools will all be vacated, and could eventually be sold by the town, or torn down.

The large consolidated, new elementary school will be built to educate 1,100 students in grades 1-4. The proposal calls for building the new Johnston Elementary School on town property just north of the Johnston High School.

The elementary school will cost an estimated \$84,350,000, and is tentatively scheduled to open in late summer 2024.

The district will likely tackle the new ECC and elementary school first, and then move on to the high school renovation, and lastly, the middle school project, DiLullo said last year.

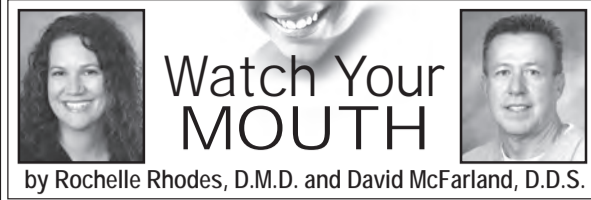
The SLAM Collaborative, the firm hired by the school district, has proposed more than \$39 million in renovations to the Ferri Middle School and a \$57 million facelift at the high school.

Planners hope to unveil the new middle school in late summer of 2025, and the modernized high school in late summer of 2024.

The middle school will be built to accommodate 1,066 students in grades 5-8. The high school will cover approximately 799 students in grades 9-12. The plans call for new heating, air conditioning, ventilation, science labs and more at both schools.

Last year, DiLullo said the current early childhood center, attached to the middle school, will eventually become a fifth grade academy, for the district's transitional-age students.

"The next step is obtaining permits for the sites and the building with the target of late spring to begin construction on the new building," DiLullo said on Tuesday.



## Watch Your MOUTH

by Rochelle Rhodes, D.M.D. and David McFarland, D.D.S.

### WAX ON, WAX OFF

Flossing is a critical part of a daily oral hygiene routine. Flossing cleans between the teeth and prevents plaque from forming into tartar, which helps prevent cavities and gum disease. Both waxed and unwaxed floss work equally well; the most important thing to keep in mind is that it should be used every day. When choosing between the two, it is simply a matter of personal preference. Which type is more comfortable may depend on the size and spacing of the teeth. Waxed floss is thicker and may be more difficult to maneuver between crowded teeth. However, it can also be more durable, so if unwaxed floss frays or breaks, waxed floss could be the better choice.

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tion ballot.

Joe Polisena Jr., and his father, Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena, fundamentally disagree on the blanket issue of recreational cannabis prohibition.

While Polisena Jr. supports the change in state law, Mayor Polisena has long opposed legalization.

"Obviously, I can speak from a position of strength," Polisena recalled recently. "In 1987, on duty as a fireman, I found my brother dead from an overdose and I saved his life."

Polisena was on duty one night when the bells tipped and he was dispatched to a familiar address, 51 Pinewood Ave.

"Oh crap, that's my parents' house," Polisena said to himself. "On my way down, I asked, 'What's the call?' They answered it was for an unresponsive male. I found my brother in the driveway; he had been dead several minutes. He had vomitus in his airway; I suctioned it out; defibrillated him."

Their mother was in the background yelling: "Do something! Do something!"

Finally, a heartbeat returned, but Mayor Polisena's brother spent about three months unconscious, struggling to survive.

"My mother prayed by his bedside," Polisena recalled. "Then he walked out of the hospital."

Although his brother didn't overdose on cannabis, Mayor Polisena firmly believes marijuana-use too often leads to the abuse of stronger narcotics.

"I believe it's a gateway drug," Polisena explained. "Many experts, people smarter than me, also state that it's a gateway drug."

The incident shaped Mayor Polisena's opinions on drug-use.

"I've never had a drink of alcohol, tried marijuana or smoked a cigarette," Polisena said. "I've had a lot of close friends who died from drug overdoses and

alcohol. We're finally doing something for the opioids, but we should be doing a hell of a lot more."

While Mayor Polisena has a well-known penchant for encouraging business development in town, he's staunchly against allowing purveyors of cannabis open up shop in Johnston. As Johnston's state senator, more than four mayoral terms ago, Polisena signed on as second co-sponsor of the Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act, which passed in 2006. That bill immediately legalized medical marijuana in the Ocean State.

"I have no problem with medical marijuana, but I have a major problem with recreational marijuana," he explained. "I feel like people will drive under the influence, and I believe that recreational marijuana can lead to other drugs. I don't want to see it in the center of town for a few dollars."

Cannabis businesses may target Johnston as next month's election nears.

"I'm sure these folks will start dumping money in," Polisena said. "I just don't believe in it, but the people will get to decide. That's why I love this country."

Polisena posed the same question voters will be asked on the Nov. 8 ballot.

"Do you really want this kind of business in Johnston?" He asked. "I just hope no innocent family ... becomes the victim of someone driving under the influence ... It's a little bit different (if) you're drunk and you injure or kill somebody; there are tests. With marijuana, there's nothing. Obviously youth can get a hold of alcohol. And obviously youth can get a hold of marijuana. I just hope no one gets maimed or killed ... But we'll go before the voters to let the voters decide. My opinion is we don't need that kind of business in town."

## Pot

(Continued from page 1)

Polisena continued.

Town officials had little recourse. There was no public pot smoking ban in place. But there is now.

Polisena has long been an opponent of cannabis legalization in Rhode Island.

However, Rhode Island Gov. Dan McKee signed legislation legalizing recreational marijuana use into law on May 25. Since then, 39 cities and towns have been left to define their local regulations on pot-use in their own communities.

Polisena's son, Town Council Vice President Joe Polisena Jr., introduced the outdoor ban ordinance at the Aug. 9 meeting. The two differ greatly on their cannabis prohibition views.

"This is just an ordinance that would just prohibit using marijuana on town property; just schools, ball fields," Joe Polisena Jr. said. "As someone who supports the legalization of marijuana, I think there's a huge difference between whether you do it in your house alone or that you irritate a bunch of people because of the smell. I don't think people want to smell it at the park."

The first ordinance, "Public Consumption Prohibited," "prohibits the consumption of Cannabis on Town Property including Parks, Recreational Facilities or any other Public Property or Building including but not limited to Public Schools."

The second ordinance, will answer the following question:

"Shall new Cannabis related licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use of Cannabis be issued in the Town?"

The resolution will be included on the Nov 8 General Elec-

# JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

## FAILURE TO STOP

Johnston Police charged Abraham M. Almall, of 10 Saddler St., North Providence, with Duty to Stop-Damage to an Attended Vehicle, following an incident around 8:14 a.m., Aug. 15. He was released with a Sept. 26 District Court date.

## LARCENY

Around 9:20 a.m., Nov. 28, 2021, a Johnston store reported a larceny that had just occurred, and the suspects fled in a red older model Ford F-150. Store loss prevention associates told police that a man, whom they allegedly recognized from a previous larceny, enter the business.

The employee then watched the man select several items, place them in a cart and exit the business at 9:35 a.m., passing all points of checkout without making any attempt to purchase the items. They told police the suspect fled in the pick-up truck and drove east toward Atwood Avenue. Employees described the suspect as "heavy set" and that "he walked with a limp." They provided the truck's license plate information.

Johnston Police Patrolman Derek Parascandolo checked the vehicle's registration information and matched the suspect from video surveillance with a mugshot of a man with 12 pre-

vious criminal charges. That suspect was "involved (passenger) with the suspected vehicle in the Town of Narragansett on" Sept. 24, 2020, according to the incident report. The case was forwarded to the Johnston Detective Division.

Johnston Police eventually filed an arrest warrant for Jason T. Brant, of 101 Homewood Ave., North Providence, for a misdemeanor charge for Shoplifting, according to the arrest narrative.

The Coventry Police Department had custody of Brant on Aug. 16, 2022, and turned him over to Johnston Police. Brant was charged with Larceny (Under \$1,500) and held pending arraignment, according to Johnston Police.

## NO CONTACT ORDER VIOLATION

Around 9:30 p.m., Aug. 22, Johnston Police Patrolman Thomas Santurri was at a fixed post at 2 Greenville Ave., when he observed a brown Hyundai Sonata drive past his location westbound, with "heavy window tint."

Santurri detained the vehicle near 632 Greenville Ave., and made contact with the driver. A passenger in the car was identified as Jamil Scott Skinner, of 200 Gordon Ave., Apt.

212, Providence, and police discovered he had an "active No Contact Order" that was the "result of Mr. Skinner's arrest by the Woonsocket Police Department" on Aug. 25. That incident resulted in the violation of a No Contact Order, Domestic Failure to Relinquish Telephone, and Obstruction.

Police confirmed the No Contact Order and Skinner was taken into custody, processed and held pending arraignment. Johnston Police checked cross agency files and discovered this was alleged Skinner's third or subsequent offense, "therefore the Violation-No Contact was charged as a felony."

## DUI

Around 7:50 p.m., Sept. 7, Warwick Police Officer David M. Gaulin responded to Ross-Simons Jewelry Store, at 136 Lambert Lind Highway, Warwick, to investigate a reported motor vehicle crash.

No injuries were reported and the involved vehicles had pulled off the roadway into the business parking lot.

A Toyota Rav 4 and a Nissan Altima were parked in the lot, with a man and a woman standing behind the Altima.

Both drivers said the vehicles were waiting to make a left onto Lambert Lind Highway, when the driver on the right veered into the vehicle in the left turning lane.

The driver of the car that allegedly caused the accident was identified as Kaitlyn E. Boutin, 31, of 9 Loxley Drive, Johnston. She told police she was on her way home from work and "thought there were two, left hand turn lanes," according to the arrest report. "Boutin stated that she was turning left and must have gotten too close to (the other) vehicle."

While collecting Boutin's license, registration and proof of insurance, Gaulin wrote that he "observed Boutin's eyes to be bloodshot and watery."

"I also observed Boutin's pupils appeared to be dilated," he wrote in the report. "I detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from her person."

Police said Boutin ultimately admitted to having "one glass of wine," according to the report.

She was asked if she took any prescription medication, and she told police that she was prescribed Xanax and took about "one and a half" prior to driving, police said.

Boutin consented to a series of standardized field sobriety tests. Following the tests Boutin was arrested and charged with DUI. She was trans-

ported to the Warwick Police Headquarters where she submitted to a chemical test. The first breath sample allegedly registered a blood alcohol content level of 0.366, and the second sample, 0.333, and a third sample, 0.335, according to the arrest report.

Boutin was charged with one count of DUI of Liquor (0.15 or greater, first offense) and transported to "Kent Hospital for detox, where she was left in the care and custody of hospital staff," according to police.

Boutin was also cited for a Manner of Turning at Intersection traffic offense.

## SHOPLIFTING

Around 1 p.m., Aug. 24, Johnston Police responded to a store town to investigate the report of a shoplifter in the custody of the store's loss prevention associates.

Police identified the suspect as Johnatan Josue Arevalo, of 69 Greenwood St., Worcester, Massachusetts. Store employees told police that Arevalo (also known as Josue Bonilla) allegedly walked past the point of sale with a shopping cart full of power tools that had not been paid for, according to the arrest report.

"It should be noted that there was a language barrier and that Johnatan spoke very little English," Johnston Police Patrolman Christopher Rotella wrote in the arrest report.

The shopping cart allegedly contained one Ryobi combo tool kit, two Rigid drywall screw guns, two Dewalt 3/8" drive corded screw guns, one quad bright light, one Makita corded grinder, two 47.75-inch roof shingle strippers and two 55-inch roof shingle strippers. The store provided video surveillance of the incident.

Arevalo was charged with misdemeanor Shoplifting and trespassed from the property. He was released with a District Court summons to appear on Oct. 17.

## VANDALISM

Around 4:15 p.m., Aug. 1, Johnston Police responded to a local address for the report of vandalism to a vehicle. The registered owner was the caller's younger brother, who left the vehicle there the previous day. The vehicle was vandalized with a blunt object. The front windshield and driver's side window were smashed. The caller also told police that she had been receiving "numerous" phone calls from a woman identified as Jazmin Montalvo, of 241 Rand St., Apt. 1, Central Falls. She identified Montalvo as an "ex-girlfriend" of an unnamed acquaintance.

■ POLICE - PAGE 7

# Not too much longer



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- Johnston SunRise **Monday noon**
- The Reminder **Thursday 10am**
- Warwick Beacon **Tuesday 10am**
- RI Newspaper Group **Thursday 10am**

### Classified Advertising:

- Cranston Herald, Johnston SunRise, Warwick Beacon **Monday 10am**
- The Reminder **Friday 4pm**

# Johnston man arrested after standoff, charged with buying booze for Warwick teens and assault

By RORY SCHULER

A pair of underage Warwick girls drove to Johnston for nip bottles and were allegedly assaulted by the man who they told police bought them alcohol.

Around 3:24 a.m., Aug. 13, Johnston Police responded to the Shell Gas Station at 1680 Hartford Ave. to investigate a possible assault that had allegedly occurred on Reservoir Avenue earlier in the evening. One of the alleged victims met police at the gas station and told them that she knew a man who lived on Reservoir Avenue who "could purchase some alcohol for her friend" and they drove from Warwick to meet up with the man at his Johnston home.

The victims arrived at the man's home and he entered their car and sat in the back seat. They told police that they drove to a store, where the man — who police identified as Joseph J. Starnino, of 107 Reservoir Ave., Johnston — allegedly bought "a package of 99 Root beer nips for the girls," Johnston Police Patrolman Thomas R. Hayden wrote in the incident report.

The victims told police that Starnino "jokingly" picked a steering wheel cover off the back floor and wrapped it around the front passenger's neck while he was sitting behind her.

"While he was laughing he began to choke (the victim)," Hayden wrote. "(A victim) stated that the two of them were yelling at him to stop which he eventually did. (They) told him to get out of the car immediately. Once he exited the vehicle she stated that Joseph threatened to kill both of them and blowup her vehicle. (They) then left the area and contacted us approximately 45 minutes later."

The other victim told police that "when they proceeded to drop him off after the purchase, he would not get out of the vehicle for approximately 20-30 minutes."

"During this time she advised that he proceeded to choke her with the steering wheel cover," Hayden wrote. "She stated that it was difficult to breath(e) as he was applying more and more pressure. She stated that he eventually stopped but she felt scared in the vehicle."

The victims (and a guardian) decided to pursue criminal charges against Starnino. Police photographed the "injuries the steering cover and nip bottles." Police confiscated the nips package. Starnino was charged with Simple Assault and Purchase/Procurement of Alcohol for Minor.

At 9:45 a.m., Aug. 23, Johnston Police responded to Starnino's home to locate him and serve the active JPD

arrest warrant.

"Upon my arrival, I observed a male party, who is known to me as Joseph Starnino Jr. standing on the front lawn holding a baseball bat," Johnston Patrolman Arthur Petteruti wrote in a supplemental narrative to the arrest report. "As I entered the driveway and exited my departmental cruiser, I gave Mr. Starnino Jr. several orders to drop the baseball bat. Mr. Starnino Jr. refused to listen to my commands and would not drop the baseball bat."

Starnino allegedly dropped the baseball bat and quickly removed a black firearm from "his lower back and pointed at me," Petteruti wrote.

Petteruti took cover behind the engine block of his cruiser, while aiming his department-issued firearm at Starnino. Petteruti reported the circumstances to dispatch.

"While Mr. Starnino Jr. was aiming a black firearm at me, he was yelling 'just shoot me,'" Petteruti wrote. Another occupant of the home ran from the house to stand between the officer and Starnino, yelling "it's not real, it's not real don't shoot."

Starnino eventually dropped the weapon on the ground, but put his hands in his pockets "giving me the impression he had additional weapons," Petteruti wrote.

"At this time, I removed my departmental Taser and discharged it striking Mr. Starnino Jr. in the upper body. (He) was able to pull both taser probes out of his chest while laughing. I then changed the taser cartridge and discharged it, striking (him) a second time. (He) once again removed the taser probes while laughing."

Police noted that Starnino was wearing "loose fitted clothing" and "it appeared the probes never penetrated his skin" and he "never showed any signs of being electrocuted by the taser."

Additional units responded to the scene and helped Petteruti secure Starnino on the ground, cuff him and place him in the rear of a cruiser.

"While on the scene, I located two additional firearms on the front stair, which was later determined to be BB guns," Petteruti wrote. "A further check on the firearm that was pointed at me revealed that it was also a BB gun, however had no orange muzzle."

A witness told police that Starnino "was waiting for our arrival and observed his son place numerous firearms outside the residence and stated he was ready for war," Petteruti wrote. Starnino was processed, allowed to make a phone call and secured in a cell pending arraignment.

## ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE:

C	A	E	N	A	C	H	E	D	E	D	D	A
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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 231-4000 EXT. 4189.

JOSEPH M. POLISENA MAYOR DONALD DELSIGNORE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

## Police

(Continued from page 6)

The caller told police that she called Montalvo "in an effort to stop the phone calls when (Montalvo allegedly) stated she was the one that vandalized said vehicle," Johnston Police Patrolman Steven Letterle wrote in the incident report.

Police ran a criminal background check on Montalvo and discovered that she had an active bench warrant for Second Degree Child Abuse. The case was turned over to Johnston Police detectives for further investigation.

Johnston Detective David T. Slinko Jr. spoke to Montalvo on the phone and then requested a warrant for Montalvo's arrest on a Vandalism Malicious Damage to Property charge. Slinko noted in the Aug. 10 supplementary report that Montalvo has "seven charges on her BCI and a Superior Court Full Bench Warrant issued" on July 28.

Pawtucket Police eventually arrested Montalvo on Aug. 27 for the active John-

ston Police warrant. They turned her custody over to Johnston Police. She was searched, processed and secured in a cell while awaiting arraignment. She was arraigned at 6:26 p.m., Aug. 27, and ordered to appear in District Court on Aug. 29.

"Montalvo was both a bail and probation violator and was remanded to the ACI," according to Johnston Police Detective Michael G. Edwards.

### EMBEZZLEMENT

At 5:30 p.m., July 8, Johnston Police responded to a business in town to investigate the report of a possible embezzlement from the store by an employee.

Johnston Police Patrolman Steven Letterle spoke to the store manager who told him that a new employee, identified as Niko A. Everson, of 20 Park St., Apt. 160, Johnston, started his first shift on July 8 and was allegedly seen, on video surveillance, approaching the rack of gift cards and placing several in his back pockets.

The manager told police that Everson "then scanned the cards with the register and placed them back into his pockets," around 3:02 p.m., according to the incident report.

The five gift cards were allegedly scanned totaling \$1,500 and the store's loss prevention officer was contacted and would give police additional evidence.

Everson allegedly went on his break around 4:20 p.m. and never returned. The manager told police that she was able to cancel the five gift cards at 5 p.m., however Everson had already allegedly purchased \$40 in "unknown merchandise" using the cards. The case was forwarded to Johnston Police Detectives for further investigation.

On Sept. 6, Everson was arraigned on a Johnston Police arrest warrant for Embezzlement. Bail was set at \$5,000 with surety. Everson was held without bail as a "46g bail violator," according to Johnston Police Assistant Detective Commander Megan E. Boulet.

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### PATCHED UP:

The Johnston Police Department has been presented with a police patch shadow box courtesy of Anthony Turchetta, who describes himself as "a proud supporter of police officers." The decorative case holds police patches from departments across the state. Johnston Police posted a thank you on their department Facebook page: "We appreciate Mr. Turchetta's efforts and look forward to proudly displaying the shadow box for the public." (Courtesy photo)



## AGING DISGRACEFULLY

DOREEN COLLINS & CHARLIE HALL'S MUSICAL COMICAL LOOK AT GETTIN' OLD



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Cranston



**Sun. October 16 - 12:30**  
Cranston



**Tues. October 18 - 6pm**  
Providence



**Sunday October 23 - 12:30**  
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**FOR RESERVATIONS, INFO & MORE DATES**  
**AGINGDISGRACEFULLY.NET**

# SUN RISE SCOOPS

## Sun Rise Staff Reports

### Faith & Blue

From 5 to 7 p.m., Oct. 7, at the Johnston Senior Center, located at 1291 Hartford Ave., the Johnston Police Department will take part in the National Faith & Blue Weekend. This family and children friendly event is open to the public, and there will be a bounce house and other activities for kids to enjoy.

National Faith & Blue Weekend is based on the premise that strong communities are built on mutual respect and understanding. Its goal is to facilitate safer, stronger, more just and unified communities that pair law enforcement and the community together through the connections of local faith-based organizations.

The JPD hopes "to see you and your family there!"

### Roadhouse Yard Sale

Anthony Ursillo and Timothy Kee, both members of the Johnston Historical Society (JHS), are hosting a "HUGE ANTIQUE YARD SALE at Shang Bailey's Roadhouse," 2737 Hartford Ave. (Route 6), Johnston, on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8 and 9 (rain date: Monday, Oct. 10), starting at 8 a.m. each morning.

"We are extending this opportunity to Johnstonians who wish to set up a table along with us on the back lawn," Ursillo said. "(For) those who wish to set up, one six-foot-long table only."

Interested vendors must contact Ursillo prior to Oct. 8 for details, through Facebook or by e-mail (aursillo401@gmail.com). Each spot will cost \$25 for two days, and proceeds will go directly to the Johnston Historical Society, a 301(c) non-profit organization.

"This antiques yard sale will take place the weekend of the Scituate Art Festival," Ursillo said. "Thousands of cars go directly by Shang Bailey's Roadhouse. We all look forward to an exciting and enjoyable weekend."

### Johnston Historical Society Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Johnston Historical Society Museum Barn, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston, and are free and open to the public. Events are subject to change.

Spooky Story Night: From 7-9 p.m., Oct. 13, the Johnston Historical Society will offer a fundraising event, in the form of an entertain-

ing, approximately 90-minute sharing of ghost stories, all believed (at one or another time) to be true!

This supernatural soiree presented in traditional, folksy style will take place within the Johnston Historical Society's headquarters. Those interested in active participation are encouraged to bring their own BOOS, and share their (at least partially factual) ghost story. Or, just sit back and enjoy! The program will conclude with a tour of the first level of historic Elijah Angell House, built circa 1825. Included will be simple refreshments, and (perhaps; cannot guarantee) the appearance of a special, "spectral" guest! RSVP; limited seating. Call 401-231-3380 or email johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com.

October General Meeting: At 7 p.m., Oct. 26, the Johnston Historical Society general meeting speaker will be author and historian Marty Podskoch, who will talk about his new travel book, "The Rhode Island 39 Club," that encourages people to visit all 39 towns and villages in Rhode Island.

November General Meeting: At 7 p.m., Nov. 30, local collector and Smith-Appleby House Museum Curator Sandra Achille will give a presentation on Esmond Mill blankets.

BY APPOINTMENT: Please note Both the Johnston Historical Society museum and the Elijah Angell House are open by appointment. The Johnston Historical Society always welcome visits by interested individuals or groups. Just shoot them an email at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, or leave a message at 401-231-3380 to set one up. To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

### Holidaze Harvest Bazaar & Craft Fair

The Holidaze Harvest Bazaar & Craft Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30, at Our Lady of Grace Church, 15 George Waterman Road in Johnston.

Events will include the "Penny Social, Food, Raffles, Sweet Treats, Crafts & More," according to organizers, who are also "calling all Vendors/Crafters." For additional information call Patricia Leoncavallo at 401-529-7592.

### JHS Class of '82 Reunion

The Johnston High School Class of 1982 will hold its 40th Reunion on Oct. 28 at the Alpine Country Club. For more information, email

johnstonclass82@gmail.com.

### Johnston Senior Center Events and Classes

The Johnston Senior Center is celebrating National Senior Center Month throughout September. This year's theme: "Senior Centers: Strengthening Community Connections."

**TAI CHI:** An eight-week Tai Chi Class began Tuesday, Sept. 20, with Master Deborah Leong. This is a "No Impact" Health Improvement Exercise Program. Master Leong is a sixth degree Black Belt in Martial Arts, and Certified in several types of Tai Chi. The cost is \$24 for the entire session. This is a great program for those with Arthritis, need Balance, and/or strengthening.

**MEMORY BOOK CLASS:** This is a six-week class that began Sept. 23. The class will meet Friday mornings, from 9:30-11 a.m. The total cost is \$6. Participants will be creating a Memory Book for yourself or to share with your family. They will enjoy working on family stories and scanning past family photos. No computer skills are needed. An assistant will be available to help.

**BASIC CONVERSATIONAL ITALIAN:** Have you ever wished you could speak Italian? The class began Sept. 13, and will be held on Tuesday afternoons, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Learn how to speak Italian phrases for your own interest or for when traveling. The cost is \$30 for the six-week session. Maria Libera Vallone, our new instructor, has her Master of Arts in Italian from Universitas di Firenze with Middlebury College. She is a two-time Fulbright Scholar to Italy, and taught Italian for 34 years in Newton, Massachusetts, where she initiated the first exchange program at an American high school and Italian high school, which is now in its 40th year.

**TAKE BETTER PIX:** On Tuesday, Sept. 20, Steve McGrath Photography began another five-week session. This has been a very popular class. It is structured for Beginners or Intermediate level (those who have taken prior classes). The session will consist of three classroom and two "on Location" classes. The class will meet on Tuesday mornings, from 9:30-11 a.m. The cost is \$50 for all five weeks.

**AGING DISGRACEFULLY:** The center presents Comedy Show "Aging Disgracefully" at the JSC on Thursday evening, Oct. 13. Contact the center for information and/or to register at 401-944-3343.

### More at Mohr Library

Grief Support Group for Loss of Child: On the first Wednesday of the month, starting Oct. 5, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Contact Tina Saker at esaker5128@cox.net, or call the Library at 401-231-4980.

Tree Stewards Education Course: On Tuesdays, Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25, from 6-8 p.m. Attend a "Planting Workshop" on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tree Biology & Identification, Planting & Pruning, Tree Health, Urban Forestry and Soil. RI Tree Members & OSL library cardholders \$50. (Non-Member price, \$75) Register online at www.ritree.org or by calling RI Tree at 401-764-5885.

Yoga Classes for Toddlers with Ms. Pauline: On Second Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., from September through December (remaining dates: Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14), children will be guided into gentle movement exercises using the power of their imagination. Transforming into cats, cows, dogs, dolphins will be a highlight of their story hour. They will also learn breathing techniques that calm and center them. It will be a time of joy, wonder and movement. Ms. Pauline is a certified yoga teacher practicing since she was 17 years old. A former school teacher, she began programs to bring yoga to children and teachers in schools throughout Rhode Island. This program is sponsored by The Tri-County Community Action Agency, Health Equity Zone. Register at mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php or by calling the Library at 401-231-4980 and pressing 5.

Storytime: On Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., through Dec. 7 (except for second Wednesdays when the library will have Yoga for Toddlers) stop by for stories, songs, rhymes, puppets and coloring for children ages 2 and up and their grown-ups. The remaining dates will include: Oct. 5, 19 & 26 (Halloween); Nov. 2, 16, 23 & 30; Dec. 7. Register at mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php or by calling the Library at 401-231-4980 and pressing 5.

Art Smart with Ms. Melyssa: Explore different art techniques and learn about the works of famous artists, at 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 5 through Nov. 2 (for children ages 8 to 12). Register at mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php or by calling the Library at 401-231-4980 and pressing 5.

Mohr Library offers special activities for middle-school and high-school age kids most afternoons. For more information

contact Young Adult Librarian Marissa Galonski at 401-231-4980 or email marissa@mohrlibrary.org.

Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library is now open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The library is located at 1 Memorial Avenue in Johnston. Visit their website: mohrlibrary.org.

### Neighborhood Watch

The 2022 season of Johnston's Neighborhood Watch has officially kicked off. This Neighborhood Watch brings together residents who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together with members of the police department. The program pairs residents with Johnston Police officers in an effort to open up communication, meet other neighbors and create partnerships that help build community resiliency.

### Go Birding this Fall

Join the Audubon this fall for morning bird walks. There will be a bird walk at Hunt's Mills in East Providence from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 9. The cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members and is for those ages 12 and older - advance registration is required. There will also be an annual Hawk Watching trip on Oct. 22 at Napatree Point. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members and is for teens and adults - advance registration is required. To register, visit asri.org and click on the event calendar.

### Cranston Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

The induction dinner for the Cranston Hall of Fame will be held on Oct. 14 at the Cranston Country Club. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Susan Socia at sue@alphaphysicaltherapy.com or log on to Eventbrite.com and go to TICKETS for the Cranston Hall of Fame event. Tickets are \$55 each, will not be sold at the door and should be purchased in advance.

**Editor's Note:** Send submissions to rorys@rhodybeat.com. Photos in jpg format are accepted and news can include community events, promotions, academic news and nonprofit events. Email today and see your news in our column in the Johnston Sun Rise. Please include a daytime telephone number in case we require any further information.

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# Opinion

EDITORIAL

## A costly toll for Rhode Island's roads, and the Ocean State's reputation

With a federal judge ruling that Rhode Island's truck tolling program — first switched on in 2018 and responsible for generating nearly \$100 million in revenue to the state since — was unconstitutional, we can't help but wonder what implications this has for the future of the state's crumbling transportation infrastructure.

The truck tolling program was struck down as discriminatory, at least in part, because it made specific concessions for certain types of large trucks, such as dump trucks and larger commercial vehicles, that benefited local companies engaging in intrastate traffic, while inordinately affecting interstate trucks traveling (mostly) through the I-95 corridor on their way elsewhere in the region.

Although state Republicans are gleefully using this ruling as an opportunity to gloat about how they warned of this possibility when the truck tolls were first being discussed, this is hardly an outcome worth celebrating. Taxpayers will be the ones to suffer the consequences of another legal debacle, and the fallout from the loss of a revenue stream that was intended to fix critical infrastructure that we all rely on — regardless of your political color.

While former Governor Gina Raimondo should have to face scrutiny for what the tolling program ultimately turned into, her original proposal did not include that discriminatory exemption which ultimately factored heavily into the judge's decision to strike down the program in its entirety. That was a General Assembly decision, undoubtedly one that was colored by the influence of powerful local contractors who did not want to bear the costs associated with their trucks traveling on tolled highways to get to jobs within the state.

As happens time and time again, our widespread unwillingness to pony up money to pay for the things we all need in order to live in a functional society has resulted in calamity. Why shouldn't large trucks — all trucks, local or otherwise — that drive on and cause the most damage to our roads have to contribute towards the continued maintenance and repair of those roads?

Rhode Island is far from the first state to propose using tolls to fund infrastructural maintenance, we just so happened to be (perhaps unsurprisingly) the first ones to try to do it in a way that so clearly favored political insiders and people of influence that it resulted in a Constitutional cease and desist from the federal government.

So where will money come from now to maintain our roads and bridges? Legislators have painted themselves into a corner where tolling passenger vehicles is out of the question. An appeal seems unlikely to reverse the decision already made. Perhaps a revised tolling policy, more equal in its distribution of fees, would cut the mustard — but seeing how unpopular such a concept was six years ago, combined with the recent ruling, we aren't holding our breath to see that happen either.

With no clear solution in sight, it's another unfortunate example of Rhode Island making national news for all the wrong reasons.

## ELIGIBLE RHODE ISLANDERS TO GET TAX REBATES OF \$250 PER CHILD



LETTER

## Leading the way to balanced policies to increase housing

If you're trying to purchase a home, currently rent, or are looking to remodel your existing home to adjust to today's new post-covid ways of living — with older parents moving in, kids staying longer, and work from home realities — housing and the policies surrounding it, are now major societal issues.

While all these issues come together to shape the "housing crisis" — as its now known to be — the leadership shown by Speaker Joe Shekarchi on this issue has been comprehensive, inclusive, detailed and focused on finding meaningful policy reforms. It's leadership that's not just about Rhode Island as it has the real potential to create a national example on how to effectively make balanced policies to increase housing supply.

So, what's occurring here? In motion at the State House are two major House commissions charged with finding solutions to current Land Use and Low / Moderate housing limitations in the market, there are new programs and

funding sources to expand infrastructure, new laws have been passed to promote accessory dwelling units (ADUs), expedite local decision-making processes, reform permitting, and expand housing opportunities, and yet it's still the beginning. A new way of looking at housing need, its connection to our communities and its importance in our economic health and well-being, is underway. An environmentally sound, strategic path is now possible with the leadership of the Speaker.

Lastly, to show you what is meant by comprehensive in this circumstance, the Speaker understands that solving the housing issue is more than just zoning and land use reforms. To change the trajectory and build more housing, you need a trained workforce, and with our industry losing its skilled tradesman at alarming rates, the industry needs continued training resources to develop skilled workers, inspectors, minority outreaches, and contractors to build its future and our State's future housing

needs. Recognized by the Speaker, he dedicated a solution to help maintain and develop the training resources needed to build more and balanced it to be inclusive and sustainable.

To summarize, leadership, well thought out policy, stakeholder investment, collaboration, and focus, represent what is occurring under Joe Shekarchi's watch and the residents of his district and of the City of Warwick should be rather proud that they are represented so well, and that their local district has sent someone of such determination and skill to lead our State at this time. So, we may indeed have a housing crisis, but we don't have a crisis in leadership and that is the difference, that is the asset that is leader Shekarchi.

Carol O'Donnell, President, RI Builders Association and John Marcantonio, Executive Officer, RI Builders Association



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# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local ♥ Adoptable ♥ Loveable



Photo credit: Rhode Home Rescue

## Tesla

Tesla is a beauty; you might say her beauty is electric! Do you love the snow? Then Tesla is the girl for you! She's a big girl with a big heart, she loves people. Tesla is a five-year-old Great Pyrenees mix who would love a big fenced in yard to run around in and roll in the snow when it comes! If you are a big dog lover contact Rhode Home Rescue via email: processors@rhodehomerescue.org. Tesla wants to be your one and only princess, she promises to fill your heart and home!

If you have been looking to adopt or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen at [animaltalk1920@gmail.com](mailto:animaltalk1920@gmail.com)



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**CELEBRATION CAKE:** Town Councilwoman Linda Folcarelli, who doubles as the JPD's Community Liaison Officer, enjoys cutting the special cake with Johnston Police Chief Joseph P. Razza during the recent season ending Walk with Cops event. (Submitted photos)

# They walked with cops, one last time in 2022

By PETE FONTAINE

It's a tradition unlike any other in Rhode Island. It's an exceptional event proudly presented by the Johnston Police Department with assistance from valuable volunteers as well as the town's parks and recreation department and is held picturesque War Memorial Park.

Moreover, it's a seasonal session held for a special audience that includes coffee, donuts we well as breakfast sandwiches served by everyone from JPD Chief Joseph P. Razza to ladies like Johnston Town Councilwoman Linda Folcarelli.

It's officially called "Walk with Cops" and began more than a quarter century ago under the leadership of former and now retired JPD Chief Richard S. Tamburini.

"The summer flew by," Razza said, calling it "another successful season of Walk with Cops. We all truly enjoyed another great number of walks and we're looking forward to next year."

As usual, Walk with Cops is held, weather permitting, and is a heart-warming scene of senior citizens

arriving by buses from adult assistant living residences throughout the town and sitting at covered tables set up on the park's road overlooking the pond.

From there, Folcarelli — who is the JPD liaison officer — her sister Donna and cousin Pat Giardina and some of their friends, began pouring then serving hot coffee the way every attendee likes it.

Likewise, many members of the JPD Command — along with volunteers like Councilman Robert Civetti — ask the seniors what type of donut and/or breakfast sandwich they'd like.

After a while, Razza issues a classic call — "Who wants to walk" — as many JPD officers assist their guests for a special walk around War Memorial Park that includes people like Deputy Chief Mark Vieira and Capt. Mike Babbitt, just to name a few, helping people with their walkers as well as pushing those in wheelchairs.

Even people who are talking their daily walk around the park will readily attest, "the event is heart-warming to say the least and a show of how much the JPD cares about its senior residents."

"Our last walk of the season was well-attended," said Razza. "We truly appreciate all the support, hard work and dedication by our valuable volunteers. I'd also like to thank the (many) community members who come by in support of this highly worthwhile program that strengthens community bonds and resiliency."

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Public Auction Legal Notice

To Robert Pearl 699 s main st apt3 Attleboro mass , Santander consumer 3000 kelleyway carolton, tx A PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 100 SOUTH ST JOHNSTON,RI ON OCTOBER 13, 2022 AT 900 AM. THE VEHICLE A 2020 VIN # 5NPEG4JA6LH053969 BELONGING TO THE ABOVE . THE AUCTION BEING HELD IS TO SATISFY TOWING AND STORAGE AND FEES

**10/6/22**

Notice is hereby given that PODS ENTERPRISES, LLC, located at 185 Compass Cir, North Kingstown, RI 02852 will sell or otherwise dispose of the contents of containers belonging to certain customers that owe PODS rent if payment is not received by October 28, 2022. Auction will be held online at [www.StorageTreasures.com](http://www.StorageTreasures.com) starting on November 23, 2022 and ending at 10AM EST on November 30, 2022. The following individuals and the respective amounts owed are as follows: James Melia, \$1,216.85.

**10/6, 10/13, 10/20/22**

**JOHNSTON ZONING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**  
Thursday, October 6th, 2022  
at 6:30 PM  
Johnston Senior Center  
1291 Hartford Avenue

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Review will hold a special meeting on October 6th, 2022 at 6:30 pm, at Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue. All persons interested in the following proposals are requested to be present at this time. The assembly facilities are accessible to the handicapped. Persons requiring special accommodations shall call the Zoning Office at least 48 hours in advance

of the meeting (401) 231-4000 ext 4117. Persons utilizing TDD equipment may contact the Town through "Relay Rhode Island" at 1-800-745-6675. The agenda for the evening will be as follows, subject to change:

### New Business

**File 2022-20 – Petition of the Town of Johnston**, Owner/Applicant for 1520 Atwood Ave, AP 53 Lot 178, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a Dimensional Variance Section 340-25 for the construction of an accessory use structure specifically a metal building for storage in excess of 150 square feet.

**File 2022-21 – Petition of the Town of Johnston**, Owner/Applicant for 1651 Atwood Ave, AP 47, Lot 9, zoned R-40. The petitioner is seeking a Dimensional Variance Section 340-25 for the construction of an accessory use structure specifically a metal building for storage in excess of 150 square feet.

**File 2022-22 – Petition of the Town of Johnston**, Owner/Applicant for 100 Irons Ave, AP 34, Lot 112 and Lot 530, zoned I. The petitioner is seeking a Dimensional Variance Section 340-25 for the construction of an accessory use structure specifically a metal building for storage in excess of 150 square feet.

**NOTE:** If a Case has not been called for a hearing by 10:30 p.m., the Board, at its discretion, may continue the Case to a subsequent or a special meeting. The Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town's web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Building Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.

Per order of the Zoning Board of Review  
Thomas Lopardo, Chairman  
**9/22, 9/29, 10/6/22**

### Hazel Campopiano

Campopiano, Hazel M., 94, formerly of Johnston and Bristol, passed away September 28, 2022 after a long illness. She was the wife of the late Remo Campopiano. Born in Providence, the middle daughter of the late Frank and Harriet (Arnold) Reedy. She was also preceded in death by her youngest son, David Campopiano.



She is survived by her two sons; Michael Campopiano and his wife Claudia of Bristol and Steven (Remo) Campopiano and his partner Beatrice Lee of Minneapolis, MN. She loved plants and flowers of all kinds. And she adored spending time with her grandchildren; Adam Campopiano and his wife Stephanie of North Scituate and Alyssa Williams and her partner William Hightower of Attleboro, MA and Sophie Meyers of Florida. She is also survived by two great grandchildren, Victoria Williams and Sean Williams of Lincoln, RI.

She was the beloved sister of Shirley Hurd of Greenville, RI. She was preceded in death by her brothers Richard (Dicky) Reedy and Raymond Reedy and her sister Marion (Reedy) Spice who everyone called Polly. She will be sorely missed by her loving nieces and nephews and their children.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer's Association of Rhode Island, 245 Waterman St. Suite 306, Providence, RI 02906 would be greatly appreciated.

Visitation will be held Friday October 7th from 10-11am with a funeral service to immediately follow at 11am in the Winfield & Sons Funeral Home, 571 West Greenville Road, Scituate. Burial will follow to Highland Memorial Park, Johnston.

# 'You will always be my hero!'

By PETE FONTAINE

So, Dave Cournoyer is retiring and was honored during a surprise and special sendoff retirement party unlike any other last Thursday afternoon at Bar 101 in Johnston.

While there was fantastic food, the jam-packed and popular watering hole was filled with well-wishers and people who brought everything from gift cards and letters as well as a pair of special socks for the beloved Director of Facilities and Transportation of Johnston Public Schools.

Although there was no speaking program, there were two glass vases Angela Brasil, Confidential Administrative Assistant to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr., filled with candy and heart-warming messages that further told how people felt about a man they "called a living legend who will be hard to replace."

Likewise, there was a special side to the fun-filled bash that impressed his wonderful wife Lisa and daughters Ashley and Nicole complied a multi-page black cover scrapbook they filled with messages from people expressing how they felt about a mighty man who always went out of his way to help others.

"I'm so thrilled Dave is retiring," said Lisa Cournoyer, Dave's wife. "His entire life, he has given all of himself to his family, friends and career. Anyone who knows him has probably been the recipient of his generous nature and willingness to help. It's now time for him to do something for himself and to spend time doing things that he enjoys. While I'm sure he will be missed in Johnston I feel so blessed to be able to have more time to spend with him in the days ahead."

Dave's daughter Ashley, a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) teacher at Ferri Middle School, said: "I am so happy that my father gets to retire. He has spent a

majority of his life providing our family and giving us the best life possible. It was an honor to work alongside him the last 10 years. I am proud of everything he accomplished, and I know he made the schools better for everyone that attended. Now he can enjoy and soak up some sun."

Nicole Cournoyer, the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation in Johnston, said: "I am so proud of my father and everything he has accomplished throughout his career. He made a difference in so many people's lives throughout the years. He took such pride in everything he did and always gave 110 percent. It brought me such joy to work with him during the past six years that I have been full time at the Park. It was an honor and inspiration to see his work ethic, pride devotion and passion for his job. Thank you for all you have done for our town and out family. You will always be my hero!"



**SPECIAL SUPPORTERS:** Dave Cournoyer is all smiles during last week's surprise retirement sendoff and is joined by his wife Lisa and daughters Ashley and Nicole.



**TOP TANDEM:** Jerri Cantone, who will succeed Dave Cournoyer upon his retirement last Friday from the Johnston School Department, enjoys a lighter moment with her boss during last Thursday's retirement party.

## Legend

(Continued from page 1)

Joseph Rotella, veteran Vice Chairman of the Johnston School Committee, offered during the fun-and-food filled retirement sendoff: "Dave's resourcefulness will be truly missed; you could always count on him to get the job done. Dave always found a way to make it happen."

Whenever there was an emergency, such as weather or mechanical issues, Cournoyer was out no matter what time of the day or night.

For example, during snowstorms as Dr. DiLullo added: "Dave was out examining road conditions at 3 a.m. After watching the snow fall all night to make sure our students and staff would get safely to school and back home, he and I would discuss conditions at 4 a.m. to decide on school cancellations. At the end of our conversations, he always offered to bring me a cup of coffee because that's who Dave Cournoyer was — diligent in his work and kindhearted to all."

With emotions ringing in his voice Dr. DiLullo added: "No matter who asked Dave for a favor or service he never said no. I will miss him in the school department, but I am glad he will be able to sleep all night, be with his family more maybe buy a few more Corvettes and just relax and enjoy life. He is one of a kind!"

Cournoyer headed what people called "a super staff" of 23 custodians and three other people on the maintenance staff, and was responsible for making sure six schools in Johnston were always "spic and span," as people said the other night, "regardless if one is 100 years old or the one built in 1964."

Meanwhile, Angela Brasil — Confidential Administrative Assistant to Dr. DiLullo and School Committee Secretary said: "Dave was always available when anyone needed him. He showed as much pride in our schools and Town of Johnston as a whole as if he were a town resident. He's a true man of action and we will miss him terribly. I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement."

It's a retirement that comes after a highly accomplished career, which began in part in 1996 and included excep-

tional experiences in wastewater management. His career was also filled with many impressive licenses and certificates following his graduation in 1979 from Woonsocket High School and Woonsocket Vocational School.

Perhaps what Cournoyer said when he entered the jam-packed Bar 101 and was obviously surprised when he and his wife Lisa — who first told Dave she had to make an appearance at a party — was further proof that Dave Cournoyer was a man of few words, but noted for his extraordinary love for his fellow man and women.

"I don't really like making speeches" Cournoyer said with his always special smile on his face. "I want to thank everyone who came out to wish me well on my retirement today. I was so surprised, this is wonderful. Thank you so much, I'm going to miss you all."

Thus, there were endless congratulatory wishes about a special man Ferri Middle School Principal Matthew Tsomas described as "one of a kind, hard-working and dedicated who loved his family."

Edda Carmadello, Director of Special Services wanted it known: "Dave always prioritized the needs of students in the district. He's worked closely with this office to ensure students with disabilities had specialized equipment, furniture and materials in their class. We are grateful for his promptness and urgency to assist those in need. He will be missed all students, teachers and staff."

Even Pete Matteo, proprietor of Bar 101, made sure Dave Cournoyer's retirement was special by serving a mouth-watering menu that included nine appetizers such as caprese and chicken skewers, stuffed mushrooms, assorted sliders and pizza, and penne ala vodka.

As several attendees pointed out while congratulating Matteo on his exceptional food presentations, "the sign on that mirror — keepin' it simple — is really appropriate for Dave Cournoyer."

Anyone connected with the Johnston School Department will tell you "he was a man of many talents, unique caring ways who enjoyed making people happy in many wonderful ways and always did so offering a thumbs up and super special smile."



**MAIN MAN:** Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena, joined by School Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo and School Committee Vice Chairman Joseph Rotella, congratulates Dave Cournoyer on his retirement from the School Department, where he served with dignity and respect for all. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

## STAFF SENDOFF:

Among the many people who helped make Dave Cournoyer's special retirement sendoff special were Martha Taylor, previous employee and one-time School Committee Secretary; Angela Brasil, administrative assistant to Dr. DiLullo and School Committee Member MarySue Andreozzi.



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Thomas Laughter, First Grade, Winsor Hill

Kenny Davila of Johnston watching the town pave the road before school



Santino Gauthier, Third Grade, Luke Ventura, Seventh Grade, Giovanni Gauthier, Seventh Grade, Gemma Gauthier, Second Grade

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Anthony Sevigny, 12th Grade, Johnston High School



Emily Cross, Fifth Grade, Sarah Dyer Barnes



Giavana Catullo, Fourth Grade

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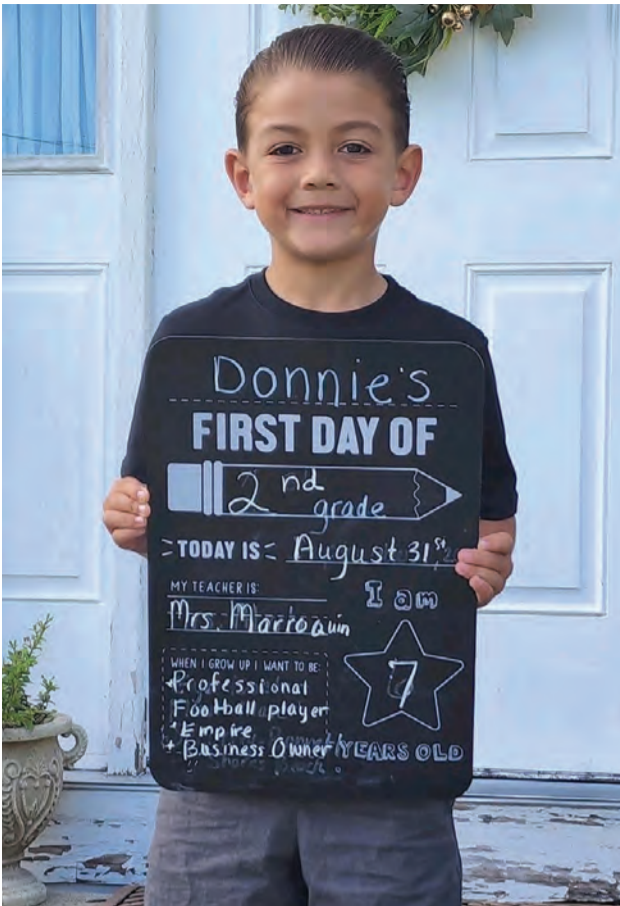


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- CHARTERCARE HOME HEALTH

# Johnston Goes Back to School



Donald Pagliaro, Second Grade

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**  
 Once again, the Johnston Sun Rise asked and our readers answered loudly. We urged parents to post their youngsters' first day of school photographs on our Facebook page, and more than 50 responded. We have a deep well of photos to publish, so check our pages for the next few weeks. We'll do our best to run each and every one, but it will take several editions. If you missed our online appeal, please feel free to email your photos to Sun Rise Editor Rory Schuler, rorys@rhodybeat.com. Don't forget a caption (please include your child's full name and grade).



Giabella Pagliaro, Eighth Grade



Devyn, 11th Grade, Chantelle, Ninth Grade, and Dominic Lacasse, Sixth Grade



Carly & Sean Frame, Third and First Grade, Brown Avenue School

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Julianna Stonis, Sixth Grade, Ferri Middle School



Jacob Stonis, Sixth Grade, Ferri Middle School

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Christian Ferranti, first day of High School, Ninth Grade



Isabella DeVecchis, Eighth Grade, Ferri Middle School



Mia Bekier, First Grade

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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64						65					66			
67						68					69			

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Bay Area humorist
  - Hurt
  - Icelandic poems
  - A taro corn
  - Metaphorical use of a word
  - It fears the hammer
  - Excessively quaint (British)
  - Laid-back California county
  - Cook in a microwave oven
  - Not late
  - Go from one place to another
  - Peoples living in the Congo
  - Popular pasta
  - Available engine power (abbr.)
  - Popular musician Charles
  - Angry
  - Spelling is one type
  - One who makes a living
  - Indicates location
  - Imperial Chinese dynasty
  - Small water buffaloes
  - Hungarian city
  - Fabric
  - Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
  - Precursor to the EU
  - Philly footballers
  - Female sibling
  - "When Harry Met Sally" actress
  - Magnetic tape of high quality
  - Insecticide
  - Apparatus to record and transmit
  - Some is considered "dog"
  - Israeli city \_\_\_ Aviv
  - Fencing sword
  - Ottoman military title
  - Wise people
  - Cold wind
  - Popular type of shoe
  - Administrative district
  - A way to reveal
  - Cooked meat cut into small pieces
  - Actress Zellweger
  - Romanian city
  - Confined condition (abbr.)
  - Swiss river
  - Small amount
  - Part of buildings
  - Vietnamese capital
  - Sailboats
  - Shelter
  - Terminated
  - Discharge
  - Snag
  - Partner to cheese
  - A container for coffee
  - Spend time dully
  - Satisfies
  - Snakelike fish
  - Consume
  - Type of student
  - Erase
  - Instruct
  - Girl's given name
  - Jewish spiritual leader
  - "To \_\_\_ his own"
  - North-central Indian city
  - Greek alphabet characters
  - Weapon
  - Amounts of time
  - American Nobel physicist vital to MRIs
  - Soviet Socialist Republic
  - Witness
- CLUES DOWN**
- Small town in Portugal
  - Site of famed Ethiopian battle
  - German river
  - Christmas carols
  - Cash machine
  - Rough and uneven
  - Rumanian round dance
  - Widespread occurrence of disease
  - A place to relax
  - Feeling of listlessness
  - Coat or smear a substance
  - Wild mango
  - Brews
  - Belgian city

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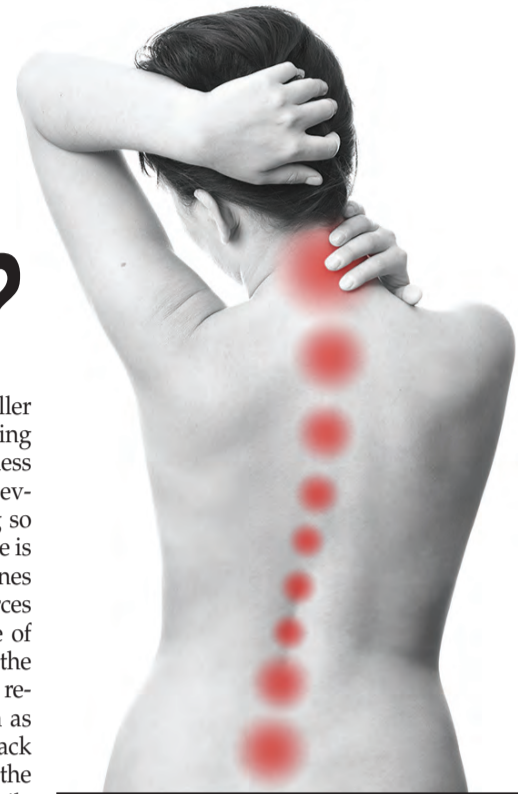
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# Rhody Health

## Are You Living With, OR Worried About Someone Suffering With Chronic Back Pain?



If you or a loved one suffer from chronic back pain - so bad that it can even stop you from walking - then reading this report may be the most important thing you do this year. It may unlock the agonizing mystery of your back pain and show you a way to get back to the life you deserve before back pain struck...

- A life where you can sleep at night without tossing and turning, hoping to find one position where the pain stops.
- A life where you can wake up in the morning and not take 20 minutes to get out of bed... and then another 20 minutes to put on your socks and shoes always restricted by a back so stiff and tight.
- A life where you can pick up and play with your kids without worrying when your back is going to "go out" and leave you crippled on the floor.
- A life where you can do and enjoy all the things you see so many others doing and enjoying but your bad back has kept you watching from the sidelines... Basically, a life without the curse of back pain.

### Back Pain "Truths" Finally Exposed

This report exposes how weekly (and costly) visits to a chiropractor are NOT always needed, and how pain medications and muscle relaxers might be just 'easy' for a doctor to prescribe, but may not necessarily be right for you in the long run...

### 9 Simple Tips To Ease Back Pain To Keep You Doing What You Love and Sleep Better At Night...WITHOUT Injections, Pain Medication, or Surgery

- 1. Take a Walk.** Research suggests one of the best ways to reduce your back pain is going for a walk. Generally, this needs to be an easy to brisk walk that gets you moving and your heart rate up just a little. Getting moving and walking not only brings blood flow to your back, but the increased blood flow warms up the muscles in the low back and that helps you to move a little easier. As you move easier the stiff joints start to loosen up and the overall motion at the joints can have a pain lessening effect. Shoot for thirty minutes a day of light to moderate walking.
- 2. Change positions.** The best posture is the next posture! Prolonged sitting is one of the worst things you can do for low back pain, but the same can be said for standing or other positions. Breaking up a sustained position and moving even for just a little bit can help to take the pressure off of the low back. If you sit all day, you can try to stand when you are



**JESSICA L. PAPA**  
PT, DPT  
OWNER OF  
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PHYSICAL THERAPY

on phone calls which can really help as well. If standing or walking all day, see if you can find ways to sit and rest while you complete a task. Once you get used to it, it is not nearly as much of a disruption of your day as you think it is.

**3. Watch Your Posture.** Closely tied with number 2 above we need to watch our posture. Since most people work behind a computer a large part of the day we tend to have a forward leaning and rounded neck and shoulders posture which can strain our low back. Making ourselves aware of our body position and self-correcting our posture can make a world of difference to our low back pain. One way to go about self-correcting your posture is to put a timer on your phone to go off every 20 minutes. When you hear the timer, you can self-correct your posture. A little slouching and other positions are fine, but that slouched position for hours at a time will cause issues in the long run.

**4. Lumbar Roll.** Related to sitting if you are having a hard time with posture you can buy a lumbar roll to help your low back stay in a good position. A lumbar roll is a small circular pillow that you put behind your low back and between the chair that can help you hold better posture and take pressure off of your low back. Using a lumbar roll when you have to sit for extended periods of time (although you should take frequent breaks as discussed in tip #3) behind your back can take some of the difficulty of holding good posture away making it easier for you to relieve your back pain.

**5. Improve Your Sleep.** Pain can be intensified by poor sleep. Improving the quality of your sleep can decrease your pain levels as well as increase your energy and activity levels. Both the quantity and quality of your sleep can affect your low back pain. Being able to sleep for longer and with better quality can help to relax the muscles and take pressure off of your back. After a refreshing deep sleep usually, you will notice your low back pain less the next day. Having a firm mattress to give your spine support is a good idea, but first try free methods like making your room darker, avoiding electronics for an hour before bedtime, and developing a sleep routine.

**6. Choose Sensible Footwear.** While shoes

with high heels may make you look taller and look more fashionable they are not doing your back any favors. Wearing shoes with less of a lift can improve your back pain. However, your shoes also need some cushioning so no flip flops either. When the back of a shoe is elevated it forces the heel and all of the bones in your leg to be elevated. This in turn forces your hips up and increases the curvature of your back which puts more pressure on the joints in the back and the muscles may respond by tightening up. With shoes such as flip flops there is no cushioning and the back will take all of the extra pressure and the joints and muscles may pay the price. While a slight lift in the back of the shoe is ok you shouldn't go overboard. Look for shoes with good cushioning and without too much of a lift in the back.

**7. Exercise.** This is one of the biggest things that everyone with low back pain is missing and doctors won't tell you. How many times have you heard just rest and it will go away. Or maybe you have been given pain meds to get rid of it. Well that obviously didn't work or you wouldn't be reading this. Exercise and movement are the best thing you can do to decrease your pain. Moving is the best way to get out of pain. While it is likely very scary you can just avoid the painful movements for right now, but you need to get moving somehow. If you can exercise with enough intensity you can get the "runner's high" which can release chemicals that act as natural painkillers, but even gentle movements should help to ease the tightness and pain. Start with movements you know you can do without causing pain. This is somewhat related to tip #1, but we also want to add some exercise that improves our mobility if possible. Some movements that cause light pain can be helpful, but it is very difficult to know if you should push through them. If you are not sure then check out tip #9.

**8. Watch Your Stress Levels.** Stress can be a big problem in your ability to get rid of back pain. Stress initiates the "fight or flight" response which can cause your muscles to tighten and stiffen up. By decreasing your stress, you can help your muscles relax which can allow you to move better and have less pain. While there are hundreds of ways to destress like meditation, mindfulness, yoga, and others I suggest to start simple. Find a quiet place and just focus on breathing. Take deep breaths and try to slow your breathing and your heart rate down. Think of your "happy place" while you are doing this. Start to take note of your body while doing this. Are your shoulders able to relax? Now your hips? Now your low back? Just like walking breathing should be easy and natural and is a great way to decrease your stress levels.

**9. Physical Therapy.** If you have tried the first 5 (\*SPOILER ALERT\* Try the next 3) and they don't help you, start physical therapy. I may be a bit biased but I believe this is the fastest method to resolving your back pain. Getting to see a hands-on specialist physical therapist means you're going to get very fast access to care that will soothe and relax those tight aching muscles, loosen and lubricate stiff, stuck and painful joints, and strengthen your body so that you can get back to the doing the activities you love.

*Dr. Jessica Papa is an Expert Physical Therapist, Educator, Author, and Founder of Arancia Physical Therapy. She is known as a leading spine and Postpartum Women's Health Specialist in Rhode Island.*

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# Fat Grafting



*Embraced by Celebrities, Enhancing Survivorship for Breast Cancer Survivors*

Every October, through press and programing, the public's attention is brought again to the fight that some of our citizens endure year-round. As we consider the treatment process that patients with breast cancer complete, it is helpful to consider what a successful treatment course looks like for some of these survivors.

The American Cancer Society estimates that nearly 3.8 million US women were living with a history of breast cancer as of January 2019. This includes patients who no longer have evidence of cancer, whereas others who may still be continuing through their treatment course for the disease. Approximately 13%, or 1 in 8 American women will be diagnosed with an invasive breast cancer in her lifetime. During the time period 2012-2016, the average age for breast cancer diagnosis was 62 years, meaning that approximately half the women in this country who developed breast cancer were younger than that age at the time of their diagnosis. At the same time, overall breast cancer death rates have decreased rapidly for a total decline of 40% through 2017, attributable to improvements in treatment and earlier detection.

While breast cancer remains one of the leading causes of cancer diagnosis and death in American women, the majority of patients will complete their treatment course and survive many years after diagnosis. Over 90% of patients are live 5 years or more after their diagnosis, with nearly 85% alive after 10 years and 80% after 15 years. For disease localized to the breast, surgery is still the mainstay of treatment, whether this be lumpectomy also known as partial mastectomy, or removal of the entire breast, i.e. mastectomy. However, any surgical procedure resulted in scarring and any surgical procedure removing tissue can often leave contour deformities, irregular shape, and asymmetries.

Many women who are cancer survivors have the sequelae of their surgical treatment to remind them of their fight with cancer. Often, these unfavorable scars or contour deformities are bothersome reminders of their life altering diagnosis. Life-saving treatments such as radiation, which unable many women to live long productive lives, can also make reconstruction more difficult, and cause problematic scarring of the

## Staying Healthy



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CHIEF, DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY, KENT HOSPITAL  
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&  
BENJAMIN CHRISTIAN, MD



breast tissues. Thus, many survivors of breast cancer deal with a daily reminder or unwelcome deformity resulting from their cancer removal.

Fatgraftingfor correction of breast contour deformities after breast cancer is becoming increasingly important

to help correct these deformities after breast surgery. In the 1990's Sydney Coleman, a plastic surgeon in New York City, described techniques for fat harvesting with liposuction, processing this fat, and reinjecting it to fill and correct contour deformities. This process has grown wildly in the US in the years since, with many Americans being familiar with this practice for lip filling procedures, or for gluteal augmentations (aka Brazilian butt lifts) in their favorite celebrities. Fat is a safe and long-lasting filler, is safe in the radiated or previously reconstructed breast, and has few downsides. One of these is that these patients do still require breast imaging (mammograms, ultrasounds) and if abnormalities are seen after fat grafting, may still require additional biopsies or studies.

Fat transfer procedures aren't just for celebrities these days, as breast cancer patients can benefit from these relatively minimally invasive procedures to even out asymmetries or fill dents in the breast. Most insurance companies cover these procedures when used to reconstruct the breast. This is one of the most sought-after procedures in our practice at Women & Infants and Kent Hospital's, since patients obtain liposuction of what they identify as their "problem areas", AND correction of the breast. These procedures are performed under general anesthesia or sedation, and typically take less than 1 hour. Patients are discharged comfortably the same day, without troublesome drains or breast incisions, and can shower the next morning. A common question is whether there is a "statute of limitations" on these procedures, or if they can be applied toward defects from years ago. These procedures work as well for defects from years ago as they do more recent deformities, and can even help with breast asymmetry, by making the smaller breast larger by a cup size or more.

As we celebrate our mothers, sisters, and friends in their journey and breast cancer survivorship this October, our practice is excited and proud to offer them improvements over their previous reconstructive results. This safe and effective, minimally invasive procedure can help restores quality of life and breast/body self-image in our breast cancer survivors, to allow them to proudly enjoy their cancer-free results.

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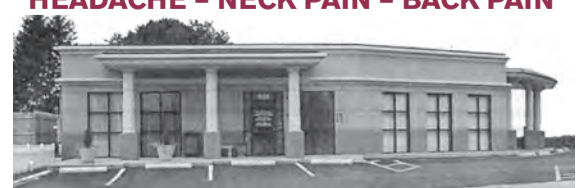
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# spotlight ON BUSINESS

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By JENNIFER COATES

We rely on our vehicles in every way ~ they provide us transportation to and from work, they allow us to tote our families along with us on vacations or just around town to complete errands! Our vehicles give us independence and freedom, but they can also be a burden and a hindrance when they experience problems. It is during these times that car and truck owners need a professional, affordable, and honest auto repair shop that they can depend on.

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The Broadway Tire "family" of repair shops first opened its doors nearly eight decades ago. The Hallenbeck family purchased this landmark business in 2014, retaining its brand name and pouring all the time, expertise, experience, and energy they had into it to make it the well-established business it remains to this day. At that time, Broadway Tire existed only at its 588 Broadway location in Pawtucket. Some years later, a second repair shop was opened on Warwick Avenue in Warwick, and recently, the Hallenbecks proudly announced that they have expanded yet again in our neck of the woods here in Johnston.

The goal of Broadway Tire is, and always has been, "to become the premier tire and auto repair facility in the state with state-of-the-art facilities." They are dedicated to giving their customers the very best auto repair and tire service, with a focus on upfront and honest quotes, timely responses to issues, and quality parts and products." These guiding principles are what have kept this business growing and prospering. Their mantra is "Done Once, Done Right."

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technicians, all of whom were hand-selected for their skill, their talent, their commitment to their work and their trustworthiness. These technicians are regularly trained and taught, and then implement this knowledge using the shop's sophisticated equipment. The Hallenbecks spared no expense when they invested in top-of-the-line computer diagnostic systems.

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and on. If you need a basic tune-up or to purchase new tires, you are all set! Need your vehicle inspection? You are in! (Vehicles of every make and model are serviced here).

Broadway Tire & Auto Repair is the former home of Midas Brakes on 1307 Hartford Avenue. To learn more, to get a quote, to check out their inventory of tires, to get helpful car care tips, and to schedule an appointment, visit them at their informative website [www.broadwaytirer.com](http://www.broadwaytirer.com). Call them at 401-450-0122. Hours are 7:30am ~ 5:00pm, Monday – Friday; 7:30am ~ 1:00pm on Saturdays.

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# Sports



**SCRAMBLE:** Johnston quarterback Neri Vasquez scrambling. (Photos by Mike Zawistoski)

## Head injuries still massive problem in football

Two weeks ago, Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa took a hard hit to the head during a game and left briefly to be looked at by doctors. When looking at the replays and his body language during the ensuing minutes, it was quite apparent that he sustained a concussion. Hard hit to the head, a little wobbly walking back to the sideline, dazed look on his face, the whole nine.

However, after a few minutes he returned to action, much to the surprise of everyone watching. He then turned around to play on Thursday night. In the second quarter of the game, he took another big hit, had his head slam the turf, and wound up being stretchered off and in the hospital. He was obviously diagnosed with a concussion later that night and will be out for the foreseeable future.

The NFL received a ton of heat, as did the Dolphins. For nearly two decades now, concussions have been one of the most controversial topics regarding pro football and the debate has since reached all the way to the youth level for all contact sports. Head injuries are no longer brushed off, they are no longer just referred to as "dingers" and shaken off. Head injuries are treated extremely carefully, as they should be.

Still, the NFL and its teams struggle to be consistent on this issue. When

### My pitch



by  
ALEX  
SPONSELLER  
SPORTS EDITOR  
ALEXS@  
RHODYBEAT.COM

saying that concussions are taken seriously, I meant compared to back in the day when concussions were treated as just a doink on the head. Although the protocols are as strict as they have ever been, there is still progress to be made and this whole Tagovailoa situation is a nightmare for the league.

I think that this serves as an important reminder for sports leagues everywhere, whether it be professional, college, high school or youth. The lesson in my opinion is, these teams and doctors need to know when to step in and simply tell the athlete "no".

Athletes, by nature, are competitive and passionate. They almost always want to play even if they do not feel 100 percent healthy in doing so. I am all for listening to your players and giving them the chance to be warriors, but at the same time, athletes need to be saved from themselves from time to time.

Now, with the Tagovailoa situation, it's time to be consistent on this issue. When

# Panthers looking to turn things around

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston football team fell to visiting Moses Brown 42-13 last week to drop to 0-4 this season. Quarterback Neri Vasquez had

a solid outing despite the loss, going 14-for-18 passing with a pair of touchdowns and an interception. Vasquez finished with 185 yards passing.

Dean Paris led the Panthers re-

ceiving with 92 yards and a touchdown while Noah Lavergne caught a touchdown as well. Paris also led the Johnston rushing attack with 31 yards. Paris and Lavergne also had

■ TURN - PAGE 21

## JMCE co-ed golf tourney raises nearly \$10k

By PETE FONTAINE

The 22 people who played their way to honors during the recent and highly successful JMCE (Johnston Memorial Cancer Events) 6th Annual Co-Ed Memorial Golf Tournament was only one-third of grand gifts that were part of a post-golf dinner raffle held inside the clubhouse at historic Gloucester Country Club.

The well-organized, fun-and-food-filled event featured upwards of 60 raffle prizes, all of which were donated by generous committee members as well as the closely-knit group of GCC members.

All of which, Co-Chairpersons Judi Graham and Linda LaFazia announced earlier this week resulted in yet another heart-warming total of \$9,700 which the JMCE will soon present to officials at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence.

"The JMCE is one of those once-in-a-lifetime non-profits," several golfers concurred during the pre-tee off luncheon. "It's nothing less than extraordinary what this group does for the Oncology and Hematology



**FINE FOURSOME:** The foursome of Seve and Cheryl Jason and Suzette and Bob Trahan were among golfers who helped raise \$9,700 for children battling cancer at Hasbro Hospital. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

■ JMCE - PAGE 20



**CART COUPLE:** Marcel and Michelle Dumas were among the 76-golfer field that played in the 6th Annual JMCE Co-Ed Memorial at Gloucester Country Club.

**JMCE**

(Continued from page 19)

Units to help countless children who are battling cancer."

Likewise, the JMCE has donated upwards of \$50,000 by way of its annual Co-Ed Memorial Golf Tournament that organizers announced "will return for 2023."

Yet another reason for the unique success is that GCC members headed by President Ed Duffy have adopted Hasbro Children's Hospital as its designated charity.

As Graham – who along with her husband David Graham own and operate Graham Builders of Smithfield who served as co-major sponsors this year with Velco Electric – has said time and

again "someday we hope there is a cure."

Thus, the JMCE record book now includes the 2022 low gross foursome of Troy Hewes, Judi DiOrio, Jesse and Mary Wiggins. Second low gross (65) went to Dewey and Tracy Uriati, Walter Geer and Michy Nanni.

First place Low Net (52) went to Bob Hughes Carolyn O'Keefe, Bill and Nancy Mende. Second place (55) went to Steve and Cheryl Jason, Walter and Robin McFadden. Tom Hebert won closest to the pin for men and Amy Warner was the women's winner.

Dewey Uriati and Tom Denomme won longest drive for men in handicaps 11 and 12, respectively, while winners for women went to Lisa Adler (handicap 27 and under) and Stacy Lamontagne-St. Cyr (handicap 28 and over).



**PREHY'S PAL:** GCC's popular President Ed Duffy (right) is joined by Club Pro Nick Maresca prior to tee-off of the recent Co-Ed Memorial Golf Tournament.

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■ Turn

(Continued from page 19)

big days on defense, each recording three tackles.

Johnston fell to Ponaganset in week three, 34-15. Vasquez finished with 97 yards passing and connected with Paris for a touchdown. Steven Finegan led Johnston receiving with 91 yards on six receptions, while also adding a rushing score in the loss.

Dylan Martins led the defense with five tackles, while Finegan and Logan

Horne each recovered Chieftain fumbles.

The Panthers' closest contest was in week two when they dropped a 25-24 heartbreaker to Rogers. Vasquez was sharp under center, going 10-for-16 with 169 yards and two touchdowns to go along with no picks.

Martins finished with 51 yards rushing and a score while Finegan picked up 82 yards and a touchdown on the ground. Martins also hauled in a touchdown pass along with Jahaziel Rodriguez.

Johnston will next face Mt. Hope on the road this Friday night for a 7 p.m. kickoff.



OPEN FIELD: Jacob Spinella picks up some yards last week.



KICKOFF RETURN: Jahaziel Rodriguez looks for space to return a kick.

■ Pitch

(Continued from page 19)

avilaoa situation, it is especially on the Dolphins because it seems that it was not as simple as them taking Tua at his word, but it seemed like they encouraged him to get back out there because they wanted to win. Maybe that is unfair of me to speculate, but that's just how it seemed on the surface as an outsider.

For our local doctors and coaches, I'd recommend using this debacle as a reminder that sometimes it is up to the powers at be to override the athlete. Even if the athlete insists that he or she is fine, that they can get back out there, if you suspect that they may have sustained an injury especially as significant as a concussion, don't even risk it. Missing a game or two is a far better solution than pushing through and exacerbating the ailment even worse.

I had the pleasure of covering Cranston West football take on visiting East Providence last Friday night for the team's homecoming celebration. It was a huge Division II matchup that certainly lived up to the hype.

I was excited for this one because I considered it to be a true measuring stick game for the Falcons.

West was a tough team to gauge through the first four weeks. The Falcons lost a tough one against Division III West Warwick, but then turned around to beat up Burrillville. Then, in week three, St. Ray's would get the better of the Falcons

in a shutout win.

East Providence was one of the most hyped teams heading into the season and got off to a solid start. West was considered the underdog heading into the matchup, but this was a winnable game and would serve as a real test for where it stood.

Well, the Falcons took a 28-0 lead at halftime and punched the Townies in the mouth. EP scored 22 unanswered points to make things interesting late in the game, but West would regroup and hold on to the win.

My biggest takeaway from this win is that West football is officially back.

Now, do I mean back as in it's the favorite to win the Division II Super Bowl? Not quite yet, but I do believe that West proved with that performance that it will have a chance to beat any Division II team it faces, and at the end of the day, that is all you can really ask from a team ... have a chance week in, week out.

I have been saying all season that Marcus Chung is the most underrated player in the entire state and he proved me right with a three-touchdown day. He may not be underrated much longer with that outing. Quarterback Kelan Cornell was sharp, as was running back Dimitri LeBlanc. The line dominated on both sides of the ball. It was a complete win for West.

The Falcons have a grueling schedule the rest of the way, starting with Hendricken this Friday night. West though, should feel great after that statement win. I have a feeling that the Falcons may finish the season as a true contender

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Friends Barry Fuller and Roger Tellier enjoy shellfishing for quahogs on, just as they have done for years.

# Top shellfishers share tips

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

Barry Fuller and Roger Tellier shared their shellfishing knowledge this week at a RI Saltwater Anglers Association seminar with over 100 interested fishermen in attendance. The two have been shellfishing recreationally for over 60 years, with Roger Tellier serving on the Shellfish Advisory Committee of the RI Marine Fisheries Council for several years.

All shellfish caught in the Narragansett Bay, Mt. Hope Bay, rivers and estuaries were touched upon but the focus of the night were quahogs.

Here are some highlights of the meeting:

Quahogs can live 400 to 500 years and it takes 2 1/2 to 3 years for a quahog to grow to legal size (over 1 inch in diameter).

The tools of the sport often include rakes, nylon bags, baskets, rubber tubes as well as tools to make it you more comfortable like rubber gloves and need pads for kneeling down in low water close to shore.

Use a rake that fits you and your needs. Many are angled on the stick to lay flat on bottom. Rakes have different lengths and different style basket all of which require you to turn the rake upward to hold your catch the basket as you bring it up.

Quahogs of different size appear at different depths. Bigger quahogs in deeper water and smaller ones closer to shore is often the cast but not necessarily true at each location. You have to get to know the characteristics of your fishing spots.

## Massachusetts to hold hearing on new tautog regulations

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) of the State of Massachusetts is taking public comment and holding a virtual public hearing on a series of proposed regulatory amendments affecting recreational and recreational fisheries. Full text of the regulations may be found on DMF's website along with additional relevant background information.

One of the proposals is about recreational tautog. Modeled after Rhode Island's new tautog regulation the proposal reads: Recreational Tautog Slot Limit and Trophy Fish. Adopt a 21-inch

maximum size limit for the recreational tautog fishery—making a 16 to 21-inch slot limit—with an allowance for an angler to retain one trophy fish exceeding the 21-inch limit per calendar day. This proposal matches a rule enacted in Rhode Island for 2022 and would ensure Massachusetts and Rhode Island consistently manage their recreational fisheries across jurisdictions, as recommended in the interstate plan.

DMF will host a virtual public hearing on November 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to take comment on the above described draft regulation as well as others. Register for the hearing at: <https://bit.ly/3SidZJv>.

## Where's the bite?

Striped bass, bluefish and false albacore. "The striped bass bite in Narragansett Bay has been strong. Before these storms earlier anglers were hooking up with slot size fish (28 to <35 inches) all over the Bay," said Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick.

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown said, "The breachway fished well this past week even through the worst of the storm. When it was too rough out at the end people were catching on jigs back in the channel. Mostly striped bass with the occasionally shad and bluefish mixed in.

There have also been some snapper blues in the breachway and salt pond chasing schools of peanut bunker."

East End Eddie Doherty, expert Cape Cod Canal angler and author said, "Last week the west end of the canal had large striped bass waiting in the hole under the railroad bridge to ambush disoriented baitfish flowing by in the fierce current. Several fish including a 49-inch striped bass were taken with soft plastic jigs."

Fluke, black sea bass and scup. Bob Bove of Warwick and his grandson Steve caught scup to 15 inches when tautog fishing in the General Rock area this weekend. Steven said, "The scup kept biting, one after another when using squid for bait."

Giddings of the Tackle Box, said, "Customers have been catching their limit of scup in just a couple of hours of fishing, and they are large scup too." So scup continues to be good particu-

larly in areas with structure and water movement i.e. ledges, bridge abutments, jetties, etc. However, the fluke bite is nearly nonexistent with anglers finding difficult to catch large size back sea bass keepers in the Bay and along the coast."

Tautog fishing picked up at the end of last week with the bite on in all the usual places still in fairly low water. I fished at General Rock area Friday in 17 feet of water with a charter and we caught three keepers with a one to three ratio, three keepers to every nine tautog caught. "The tautog bite came on strong at the end of last week with customers catching nice keeper size fish at India Point Park, Conimicut Light, off Tiverton and in North Kingstown. The keeper to short ratio was pretty good too."

There are new regulations for tautog fishing this year initiated by RISSA with the aim of preserving large females with great spawning potential. Anglers are allowed just one trophy fish, 21 inches or larger, the minimum size is still 16 inches and a ten fish boat limit applies for private recreational vessels. The spring season ran from April 1 to May 31 allowing for three fish/person/day, the season reopened August 1 to October 14 with a three fish/person/day limit and the limit then jumps to five fish from October 15 to December 31.

Freshwater fishing is improving. Jeff Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren said, "The largemouth bass bite has been outstanding in area ponds and lakes. Once I had them dialed in at my favorite pond I went back to the same place two or three times last week and the bite was still on."

Giddings of the Tackle Box said, "The largemouth and perch bite has been very good. We went catfishing last week and they were hammering our bait. Areas producing for customers include Warwick Lake and Gorton's Pond in Warwick."

Dave Monti holds a captain's master license and charter fishing license. He serves on a variety of boards and commissions and has a consulting business focusing on clean oceans, habitat preservation, conservation, renewable energy, and fisheries related issues and clients. Forward fishing news and photos to [dmontifish@verison.net](mailto:dmontifish@verison.net) or visit [www.noflukefishing.com](http://www.noflukefishing.com).

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## IS IT A CUTLASS, A PISTOL, OR BOTH? REVISIT



**By Joel Bohy**  
*Historic Arms & Militaria*  
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A few years ago, I wrote a blog about a very interesting antique firearm, The U.S. Navy Elgin Cutlass Pistol. A really crazy looking pistol with a blade that looks similar to a Bowie knife attached under the barrel. It came into use about 1838 though not in large numbers as only 150 were ever produced for the navy. There are some variants made for civilian use that are also extremely rare, but they do not hold the same value as the military version.

I recently came upon one of the civilian versions of this funky pistol/knife. It is still just as awkward as its larger brother, the navy pistol, but it's a little smaller

but called "medium" in form. The Elgin cutlass pistol was manufactured by two companies: C.B. Allen and Morrill, Mosman, and Blair. Each produced a variety of them, some very ornate with patriotic etchings on the blade. This example is completely unmarked; however, the style is that of Morrill, Mossman, and Blair, a manufacturing firm in Amherst, Massachusetts. It isn't known how many of these civilian versions were built. Given the amount of gun shows I go to a year, and how long I have been going, I have only seen a few. So at least based on that there probably were not a whole lot of them made that survive today.

It has a curved wooden one-piece pistol grip, long tangs on the side of the lock that extend down the sides of the grip, a round barrel, a .36 caliber rifled bore, and a one-piece knife blade with an integral pointy trigger guard bow. It has a percussion ignition system which was its first use by the United States military. It is quite a bit lighter than the navy version, and like that pistol

the weight of the blade on the front makes the gun a little nose heavy and hard to aim. That said, if I was to shoot one, I think it would be the civilian example. It just feels a little more comfortable and less awkward.

These would have come with a strange looking leather scabbard/holster with a German silver throat and tip, although this one doesn't have its holster. Having the original extremely rare holster adds significant value to the gun.

This rare survivor, along with other early pistols, muskets, swords, and bayonets will be featured in the December 10th Bruneau and Co. Historic Arms & Militaria auction.



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## Diving in



## Eight-year-old Cranston youth signs on with Brown University's water polo team

By EMMA BARTLETT

At least once a week, eight-year-old Shea Mathewson can be found at Brown University practicing with the Men's Water Polo team. Shea leads the team in stretches, joins the athletes for yoga and cheers on the team during games.

"I'll help Coach JJ by giving the boys weights or weighted belts, water bottles and goggles," said Shea.

Shea, a Cranston resident with cystic fibrosis, is a member of Team IMPACT – a national non-profit organization that's developed a multi-year program that matches children facing serious illness and disability with college athletic teams across the country. Based on a clinical model, Team IMPACT guides a symbiotic relationship between teams and children focused on socialization, empowerment and resilience.

Shea has been partnered with the Men's Water Polo team for the past year. Since the pandemic had put a hold on certain events, the team held an official signing for Shea – making him an official member of the team through Team IMPACT – on Sept. 10.

"We joked with our family that though many of us have college degrees he's our first Ivy Leaguer," said Jesse, Shea's mom.

Shea is number 16 on the team and shared that his parents, Jesse and Jimmy, his younger brother, Brett, and his grandmother were at the signing; he added that he wished his two bunnies and cat were able to come.

Athletes from the Men's and Women's teams dressed in their water polo attire for the event and athletes who graduated last year returned for the signing. Shea received a Brown University water polo t-shirt with his name and number on it, a sweatshirt, wristband, robe, swim cap and participated in pre-game ceremonies for the team's home game that day.

"We have been waiting for this for a while, with Covid interrupting some stuff, it was a really special day," said Felix Mercado, Head Coaching Chair for Water Polo. "My assistant coach JJ Addison did a great job of setting everything up. Having him do the signing and having him be a part of the introductions, I am super happy for Shea and everyone involved that we were able to make this happen."



**IT'S OFFICIAL:** Shea Mathewson signed on as a member of the Men's Water Polo team through Team IMPACT on Sept. 10. Men and women from Brown University's Water Polo team cheered him on at the event. (At top) Shea Mathewson hangs out in the pool with Assistant Coach JJ Addison. For the past year, Shea has been present at the team's games and practices. Whether he's receiving high-fives from athletes while they swim by or collecting balls for the team, Shea's favorite parts are swimming in the pool and watching the team win. (Submitted photos)

# Team

(Continued from page 25)

Connected with the team because of his love for swimming, Shea came in not knowing much about water polo; the 23-membered team and two coaches have helped him learn to be a better, stronger swimmer.

Mercado said Shea came to practice with a smile on his face; he's the first to jump in the pool and the first to grab the balls.

"We want him here as long as he wants to be here," Mercado said.

Shea has gotten to know the players – both athletes on the men's and women's teams – and coaches. Some of the players have sent Shea postcards over the summer. Shea even created a Spotify playlist of pump-up songs for the team, and Jesse said the coaches have asked what other activities Shea has so the team can come and support him.

Jesse said when Shea arrives at the pool, "He just leaves us [Jesse and Jimmy] and goes and hangs with the team. He's in his element.... They just take him in as their own."

Jesse said the family first heard of Team IMPACT at a Great Strides Cystic Fibrosis walk. Shea, who had been four years old at the time, was just shy of the age requirement, but Jesse left her name and was called six months later. Team IMPACT asked about Shea's interests, what was important for his health, what the family would like to see out of a partnership and where Shea would have the most fun. Jesse expressed how much Shea liked swimming which led to being teamed with Brown University.

"They [Men's Water Polo team] were really flexible and amazing with us," Jesse said. "He sits with the team during the games and they give him high fives in and out of the water – it's really awesome."

Team IMPACT also provides the family with a case manager who regularly contacts the family to make sure the partnership is going well and Shea is having fun.

"Team IMPACT is excited to see Shea officially join the Brown Bears," said Danielle Hardee, Regional Director of Programs, Northeast at Team IMPACT. "We are proud to work alongside Brown University, their athletic department and coaching staff to create lifelong bonds and life-changing outcomes between student-athletes and their Team IMPACT teammates."

Brown University has worked with Team IMPACT for the past eight years, matching 13 children with different sports.

Shea's favorite swim stroke is freestyle, and he recently passed the deep end test at the swim club his family belongs to.

"I can tread for two minutes," Shea said proudly.

Shea is a third grader at The Croft School in Providence. While snack time, recess and lunch make it at the top of his list for favorite things about school, the academic subject he enjoys the most is math. Shea is also a wolf scout, soccer player and enjoys jumping on the trampoline.

When he isn't swimming with athletes in the pool, he's cheering them on to watch them win.

Rhode Island universities and colleges partnering with Team IMPACT include Brown University (Co-ed track and field, Men's Lacrosse, Women's Lacrosse and Men's Water Polo), Johnson and Wales University (Baseball), Providence College (Men's Basketball, Men's Soccer, Men's Swimming, Women's Dance and Women's Soccer), and the University of Rhode Island (Ramettes).



**A NEW TEAMMATE:** Shea Mathewson with his parents, Jimmy and Jesse, at Brown University in their Team IMPACT shirts. Team IMPACT is a national non-profit organization that matches children facing serious illness and disability with college athletic teams across the country. Shea is a new member of the Men's Water Polo team. (Submitted photos)

**AT THE POOL:** Assistant Coach JJ Addison and Shea Mathewson at Brown University's pool.

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**fall events**

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**Ghost Party**  
 Join Jared the magician and mentalist on Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. at Sprague Mansion for the Cranston Historical Society's annual Charlie the Butler Ghost Party fundraising event. Costumes optional - no Halloween masks. Tickets \$20 for non-members and \$17 for Cranston Historical Society members. Have your tarot or psychic future read. Light refreshments. Checks can be sent to the historical society (1353 Cranston St., Cranston 02920) by Oct. 24. After Oct. 24, call 401-944-9226.

**Oktoberfest at Little Rhody Vasa Park**  
 Oktoberfest at Little Rhody Vasa Park, 10 Boswell Trail in Foster, RI on Oct. 16. Dinner served from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. with an accordion player (Dan Mackowiak) from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and German dancers at 2:30 p.m. The dinner (\$18 for adults and \$7 for children) is choice of Pork Schnitzel or Bratwurst and Knockwurst, German potato salad, Spaetzle, red cabbage, Sauerkraut, and apple cake. Warm pretzel bites with beer cheese can be ordered separately for \$7. Paid advanced reservations are required by Oct. 10. Checks made payable to Pioneer Lodge #506 VOA. Checks sent to: Linda Nelson, 950 Main Ave., Warwick, RI, 02886. Please call Linda with questions (401-737-0813).

**Halloween Touch a Truck**  
 The Rotary Club of Cranston will host its Halloween Touch a Truck event on Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Garden City Center. Come explore big trucks along with crafts, face painting, balloon animals and more. Halloween costumes are encouraged. \$10 donation per family.

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