

Cultivating life skills

The Autism Project cuts ribbon on new community garden

By RORY SCHULER

Tiny, growing peppers, eggplants, cucumbers and broccoli flowers hang from flexible green branches in the raised garden bed outside. A newly erected fence surrounds The Autism Project's backyard; a barrier of safety for the Unity Community members who frequent the organization's Atwood Avenue headquarters, now in its 25th year in Johnston.

Nicole Cadick, of Coventry, a Unity Community member, stood next to the planter, admiring the former seedlings that have just recently started to present their fruits, weeks into autumn.



SEEDING SUCCESS: From left to right, The Autism Project (TAP) Executive Director Joanne G. Quinn, Unity Community members Patrick Quinn and Nicole Cadick, and TAP lead facilitators Lore Gray and Lisa McKay, pose for a photo behind the elevated planters outside the organization's Atwood Avenue headquarters.

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LEADING THE CHARGE: At right, The Autism Project (TAP) Executive Director Joanne G. Quinn spoke to the audience gathered in the organization's Atwood Avenue headquarters last Wednesday, following a short film depicting the Unity Community's many successes and programs. The audience snacked and celebrated. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

Allan Fung surges in CD2 polls

By RORY SCHULER

Former Cranston Mayor Allan Fung, a Republican, has emerged as the frontrunner in the race for Rhode Island's second Congressional seat.

"People will vote their pocket books," said Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena. "The economy is paramount on people's minds."

Last week, Polisena appeared on-stage with Fung's opponent, Rhode Island General Treasurer Seth Magaziner, a Democrat, as he accepted an endorsement from the National Committee to Protect Social Security and Medicare Political Action Committee (NCPSSM PAC).

"I always said before, this is a cheap seat to get," Polisena said, referring to the Ocean State's Second Congressional District seat, which will soon be vacated by long-serving Democrat Rep. Jim Langevin. "The national people don't need to spend a lot of money, because Rhode Island is small. They don't have to spend a lot of money to get momentum here in Rhode Island."

The race has significant national importance, having been a solidly Democratic seat for decades, and could help sway the political balance within the U.S. House of Representatives. Langevin held the seat for 11 terms.



ON THE TRAIL: Allan Fung, center, and former U.S. Presidential candidate and ex-Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie, at left, campaigned around the Ocean State through the Columbus Day weekend, appearing on Federal Hill, and met with Rhode Island constituents at the Scituate Arts Festival, shown here. (Photo courtesy Allan Fung's campaign)



ENDORSED: Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena and RI General Treasurer Seth Magaziner joined NCPSSM PAC President Max Richtman (at the lectern) and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, to announce an endorsement of Magaziner's candidacy in the RI CD2 race against Republican opponent Allan Fung. (Photo courtesy Patricia Socarras, Magaziner's Director of Communications and External Affairs)

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FAITH & BLUE

JPD: 'Building bridges to more inclusive communities'

By PETE FONTAINE

Last Friday's Faith and Blue put the Town of Johnston and the Chief Joseph P. Razza-led Police Department on the national map and was yet another example of the JPD reinforcing the country-wide slogan: "Building bridges to more inclusive communities."

While the JPD holds seasonal events that bring many members of the town together for fun and sometimes food-filled social meetings, last Friday's Faith in Blue was perhaps the most impressive of all those events in recent years.

Likewise, Faith and Blue — which was inaugurated in 2020 by Movement Forward, Inc., working with the Office of Community of Oriented Police at the U.S. Department of Justice — the idea was a simple one: "the ties that bind officers and residents must be reinforced if we are to build neighborhoods where everyone feels safe and inclusive."

According to the event's sponsors: "Faith based organizations are key to building these bonds because they are not only the largest community resource in the country, with over 65 million people, but because we are a diverse nation."

Moreover, as Razza and people from Mayor Joseph Polisena and leaders of five Johnston-based churches noted: "The mission of Faith and Blue Weekend facilitates safer and stronger communities by engaging law enforcement officers and local residents through the connection of faith-based organizations."

FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVANTS: Among those JPD officers who helped make last Friday's Faith and Blue Gathering a huge success were, from left: Maj. Matt LeDuc, Sgt. Luca Lancellotta, Capt. Mike Babbitt, Deputy Chief Mark Vieira and Sgt. Rory Mendez.

(Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



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FAITH & BLUE

'We need more faith and prayer in our lives'

By PETE FONTAINE

People, praise and prayer! Those three words best describe the Johnston Police Department's highly impressive 2022 Faith and Blue event, which was held in the front parking lot of the nationally accredited Senior Center on Hartford Avenue.

For inside of two or so hours, the scene was little children scooting all over the lot as well as jumping up-and-down joyously in a bounce house and also being hugged and embraced by "Mickey Mouse the Cop" of Kathy Parente's Party Characters-fame, while their parents enjoyed pizza, calzones, stromboli, finger sandwiches, blue and white cupcakes that were part of Johnston's extra special National Faith and Blue Weekend.

The entire Faith and Blue celebration was organized by Johnston Police Capt. Mike Babbitt, Sgt. Luca Lancellotti and Patrolman Chuck Psilopoulos. Johnston Police Chief Joseph Razza praised his officers and said, "my hat goes off to these men; they did a tremendous job that was greatly appreciated by everyone that was here."

Razza also offered "special thanks" to Lori Anderson and Toni Mullane of the JPD staff for volunteering their time to hand out gift bags to all the children.

The chief then issued "a special thank you" to Rev. Father Peter J. Gower of Our Lady of Grace Church, Rev. Father Angelo N. Carusi of St. Rocco's Church, Rev. Father Richard Narciso of St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Rev. Dr. Chris Abhulime of King's Tabernacle Church and Rev. Thomas A. Fava of Trinity Assembly of God Church, who delivered awe-inspiring words of faith, beautiful prayers and praise for the police.

Razza, while speaking from his heart with obvious emotion during the faith-filled part of the event, said: "This year's Faith and Blue took on special meaning because we wanted to build from last year's event and make it more family oriented. I was very honored and deeply humbled by the turn-around; it was especially pleasing to see all the children and families interacting with one another and having fun."

He then offered a "HUGE THANK YOU" to Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena for his inspirational words and taking time out of his busy schedule to show support for this year's Faith and Blue.

"Good afternoon and welcome to everyone from the faith community," Polisena began. "I am proud, honored and humbled by your presence here today for this national Faith and Blue event. The key word is faith! No matter what one's faith is, we need more faith and prayer in our lives."

As the Mayor went on, he stated: "In a society where the progressive left is trying to attenuate/abolish our beliefs and trying to get the word 'God' out of our vocabulary, this is truly and important time and gathering. Your community respects you ... they trust you ... and they confide in you ... which makes it so important for you to be here today and let them know that the police are there for them. The police will protect them and their family and will put their life on the line for them ... complete strangers, too."

With emotion ringing in his voice, Polisena said: "99 percent of police officers are compassionate, caring and put their lives on the line every day protecting all of us. Yes, there is a small percent of bad officers that tend to disrespect citizens especially in the minority communities they are sworn to serve and protect. There is no place for those officers with racist tendencies."

Thus, as the mayor continued his moving keynote address, adding: "So, because of your leadership and your close relationships with the members of your faith followers, your word matters. Your word — to coin a phrase — is Gospel!"

The mayor, as he has said time and again while speaking about law enforcement, sternly stated: "As the progressive left tried to spread the phrase 'Defund the Police' that truly backfired on them as well as those politicians who led the charge to defund the police. Those elected officials have crawled back under the rock they came from."

Polisena then reiterated: "After those elected officials realized that defunding the police protects criminals — not law-abiding citizens — who want safe neighborhoods and safe schools."

Before he closed his remarks, all of which were followed by applause, Polisena issued a heartfelt "Thank You" for being here this afternoon supporting this important gathering. Please remember, our police officers serve and protect all of our citizens."

Perhaps Father Gower, who also serves as the JPD Chaplain, said it best as he concluded his remarks and moving prayer: "We are a people of God!"



FAITH FOLK: OLG's popular pastor Father Peter J. Gower holds Elvis Fellela, 17 months, as his grandmother RI State Rep. Deb Fellela (D-Johnston) joins the special speakers during last Friday's Faith and Blue gathering. The group includes Rev. Thomas A. Fava, Rev. Angelo N. Carusi, JPD Chief Joseph P. Razza, Rev. Richard Narciso, Mayor Joseph M. Polisena and Deputy Chief Mark Vieira. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



GOWER'S GROUP: Rev. Father Peter J. Gower from Our Lady of Grace Church is joined by the Gerbo family: Bill and Catherine, Seraphina, 10, Gabriella, 9, and Caius, 5, during Johnston's Faith and Blue celebration.

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CD2
(Continued from page 1)

A new Boston Globe/Suffolk University poll out this week (a survey of 422 likely voters) has Fung up by 8 points (at 45 percent, compared to his opponent, Magaziner, at 37 percent). Only 5 percent of likely voters told pollsters they're backing independent candidate William Gilbert.

Last week, a WPRI 12 News and Roger Williams University poll found a similar, 6-point gap between the candidates (with Fung in the lead).

"They've got a little under four weeks to get their message out there," Polisena said. "It's the economy, and the gas going up is not helping people at all."

Warwick Mayor Frank Picozzi said he wasn't surprised by the poll.

In fact, Picozzi said he's not surprised by anything this election season.

"It seems to be getting better and better," Picozzi said of Fung's poll performance.

Does that mean Picozzi, an independent, will be endorsing Fung?

"I don't support anyone," Picozzi answered.

Though that's not completely true. Reminded of his endorsement of House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi, Picozzi said that's his one exception, because Shekarchi reached out to him immediately after his election and became helpful in navigating state government.

Current Cranston Mayor Ken Hop-

kins, a Republican, hopes to see Fung emerge victorious.

"I have been a friend and colleague of Allan Fung for many years," Hopkins said in a written statement this week. "Allan is a quality individual and has proven to be talented and effective public servant. He will do a tremendous job in Washington for our City and State. I am most pleased that his message is being received so well by the voters of CD2 (Rhode Island's second Congressional seat)."

On Tuesday, Fung vowed to continue working in a "bi-partisan fashion."

"I'm positioned to win this race," Fung said. "I'm laser-focused on the issues that affect the people of Rhode Island."

Fung said his priorities will include getting cost of living increases "under control," energy independence and building strong and safe neighborhoods.

"I'll continue to be at the doors, at fairs and at festivals, constantly talking to them to," Fung promised. "I think people know my track record after 12 years as mayor."

Fung was elected as mayor of Cranston in 2008, and ran for Rhode Island governor in 2014, but was defeated by Democrat Gina Raimondo.

"I've worked with Democratic councils, and I've worked with Republican councils," Fung said. "More importantly, I put the people and their problems first."

Fung drew a distinction between his campaign and his opponent's.

"My opponent is out there lying about

me ... because he is desperate and he has no platform," Fung claimed. "(Magaziner) endorses the same policies from Washington DC that are failing people."

Last Wednesday, Oct. 5, Magaziner accepted the NCPSSM PAC endorsement from the organization's President Max Richtman.

The NCPSSM calls itself "the nation's leading advocacy group that fights to protect Social Security and Medicare," and says "an estimated 192,000 Rhode Islanders currently receive social security benefits and for many seniors, it is their only source of income."

"Kevin McCarthy and Republicans in Congress have made it clear that if they win control of the House, they intend to cut and privatize the Social Security and Medicare benefits that seniors have earned," Richtman said. "We are proud to endorse Seth Magaziner because he will fight to protect Social Security and Medicare and stand up to anyone who tries to cut these programs that allows millions of Americans to retire with dignity."

Voters will choose between Magaziner, Fung and Gilbert when early voting starts Oct. 19. Polls in the General Election open Nov. 8..

"Rhode Island seniors have paid into Social Security and Medicare — they earned the right to these benefits," Magaziner said last week. "In Congress, I will fight to protect Social Security and Medicare from extreme Republicans determined to cut these vital programs. Rhode Islanders cannot afford Allan

Fung enabling Kevin McCarthy's extremist agenda."

This week, Fung assured voters he would protect Social Security.

"I have a mom that's retired, who relies on Social Security; one of millions of moms and dads relying on Social Security," Fung said. "I'm never going to do something to hurt that system."

Fung and former U.S. Presidential candidate and ex-Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie campaigned around the Ocean State through the Columbus Day weekend.

"The governor and I were out on the campaign trail," Fung said. "I really appreciate him lending his name and his time to come out and campaign with me ... I'm so glad he was willing to stand by my side."

The pair was spotted at the Scituate Arts Festival and on Federal Hill for the Columbus Day Festival.

Christie said he may launch another run for President in 2024.

Polisena urged voters to hear both candidates out.

"First of all, polls don't vote," Polisena said. "Obviously Allan has been around a long time and Seth has been around a long time. It's a dog fight. It's interesting. Whoever gets their message out, gets their messages into the homes of the folks who come out and vote, will win."

Cranston Herald Editor Emma Bartlett and Warwick Beacon Editor John Howell contributed to this story.

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Sun Rise Staff Reports

Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Kids Run

The ninth annual 2022 Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kids Run, an annual event designed to bring honor and recognition to Veterans Day, will be held at Roger Williams Park on Friday, Nov. 11. Proceeds from the event will benefit programs for the school throughout the year and as a means of giving back to a worthwhile cause, Operation Stand Down RI.

The One Mile Kids Run will take place in the Park on a specially designed course. This race will begin at 8:30 a.m. The race is open to all elementary and middle school students. Cost for this race is \$10 (T-shirts to the first 50 entries for this race).

Start and finish of the 5k race at the Park Avenue entrance to Roger Williams Park across from Park View Middle School. The 5k starts at 9:30 a.m.

T-shirts to the first 500 entries for the 5k race. Post-race food and beverages will be served. Awards are given to the top male and female finisher. Awards to the top men and women in each division: 8th grade and under, high school division, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+.

Packet Pick up will be at the Park View Middle School Gym, Thursday, Nov. 10, from 3-5 p.m. Race day registration and pickup begins at 7 a.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Go online (<https://runsignup.com/Race/RI/2022/10/13/ParkViewVeteransDay5KRunWalk>) to register.

Johnston Senior Center Events and Classes

COMEDY SHOW: Friends of the Johnston Senior Center have received approval from Johnston Town Council (for a Special Class F Liquor License) to hold a Comedy Show at 6 p.m., Oct. 13, serving beer and wine, at the center, 1291 Hartford Ave.

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.

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 entertaining, 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 johnston-class82@gmail.com.

More at Mohr Library

Tree Stewards Education Course: On Tuesdays, Oct. 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. RITree Members & OSL library cardholders \$50. (Non-Member price, \$75) Register online at www.ritree.org or by calling RITree 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: 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. 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.

Johnston Parks & Rec Reminder

Just a general reminder to please follow all park rules, especially no smoking and no dogs are allowed at Johnston Memorial Park.

Rec department staff has "noticed an abundance of cigarette butts and dogs recently" and they are asking the public for help keeping the park clean. Signs with the complete list of park rules are posted at each entrance.

Dogs are allowed in the nature trail across the street from the parking lot. No smoking or tobacco use on park grounds. No bikes, scooters, skateboard, etc. are allowed on the walking track that surrounds the pond. They may be used on the center path of the park, Please do not feed the ducks, birds, or any wildlife.

Please keep the park clean by using the available trash barrels. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages are permitted on town property. No vehicles allowed in the park. No swimming or boating in the pond; No open flames or charcoal grills. Gas grills are permitted. Fireplace use is prohibited. For your safety, please do not climb trees or fences. The park closes at 10 p.m. No overnight parking. No foul language or loud music. Field use is by permit only.

Also, be mindful of parking. Please display a handicap placard if you park in a handicap space. The area behind the office is reserved for employees. If you have any questions, please call 401-272-3460.

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.

Consider donating blood

The Rhode Island Blood Center is in need of blood donations. Individuals wishing to donate must book an appointment at the donation center; walk-ins are only accepted if safe distancing allows at the person's time of arrival.

Nearby areas to donate include The Shops at Greenwood, which is located at 615 Greenwich Ave., in Warwick. Sign up by visiting www.ribc.org.

Caregivers

Are you caring for someone with dementia who exhibits difficult to manage behaviors? You may be eligible to participate in a research study seeking advice and feedback from caregivers about what types of supports are needed. Enrolled participants will be compensated for their time. The study will take place (video call) through Rhode Island Hospital's Neuropsychology Program. If interested, contact the study coordinator Dr. Kim Chapman at 401-829-4310.

Free Teacher Assistant Training Program

The Comprehensive Community Action Plan is holding a free, virtual teacher assistant training program from Oct. 17 to Oct. 27. Individuals must be 18 to 24 years old, have a high school diploma or GED and a clean BCI. The classes run from noon to 3 p.m. Individuals, if eligible, can get paid to attend class. There will be a paid internship after program completion. For more information, call 401-562-8325.




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Scoops

(Continued from page 6)

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 are optional - no Halloween masks. Tickets are \$20 for non-members and \$17 for Cranston Historical Society members. Individuals can have their tarot or psychic future read by fortune tellers for a separate fee. There will be 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 to inquire if seating is available.

OLLI Classes for Adults 50+

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Rhode Island continues its registration for the fall semester. OLLI at URI provides classes for adults aged 50 and better. Students can enjoy a variety of classes, in person and via ZOOM, simply for the joy of learning - no tests, no grades. Learn more about OLLI by visiting uri.edu/olli or call the office at 874-4197.

A few selections for the upcoming semester include Conversational Italian, Digital Photography, Broadway Musicals, and a special course, "Who Really Killed Michael Jordan's Father?" OLLI classes meet at 210 Flagg Road with ample parking right outside the door.

Governor Sprague Mansion Arts & Crafts Faire

There will be an arts and craft faire from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 23 at the Governor Sprague Mansion (1351 Cranston St., Cranston). Stop by for unique art and fine crafts by area artisans and learn about the artists and how they became interested in the style they represent. Parking is available in the back of the mansion and the faire's rain date is Oct. 29. The mansion has a call for artists and fine artists (pre-registration fee is \$40 per space). Inquires can be made to Joe Wallace at jwallace@cpsed.net. For more information, text 508-933-4233. Proceeds will benefit the Cranston Historical Society, Governor Sprague Mansion and Joy Homestead.

Craft and Vendor Show

St. Mary's Feast Society Ladies' Auxiliary will host its annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show from

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 12. There will be vendors, crafters, handmade items, baked goods, raffles, food and more.

Letters From Home

From January through May 2023, Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann will be traveling the entire country performing one show in each of the United States as the singing and dancing sensation called "Letters From Home."

McVinney Auditorium is going to be the host for the official Rhode Island stop of the tour, which will take place at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023.

"Letters From Home" was founded in 2010, featuring music from the soundtracks of WWII, Vietnam, and beyond. This vaudevillian-style singing & tap dancing duo has honored our veterans, active military heroes and their families, by uniting the nation through music.

The show's idea came from Pat Dearth, a veteran of the United States Coast Guard. Since its inception, "Letters From Home" has performed more than 900 shows across the country. A documentary on the group produced by "Our State" Television (David Hardy) won an Emmy award in 2015. In 2019, Erinn and Dan traveled to Normandy, France to perform during the 75th Anniversary of D-Day festivals where they sang the National Anthem on June 6th at sunset on Omaha Beach. "Letters From Home" returned to Europe in May to perform for WWII Veterans touring in The Netherlands and Belgium.

The task of a nationwide tour has always been a dream of founder, Erinn Dearth, and during the pandemic it became more of a calling than ever. "The show is high-energy and should make everyone smile," said Dearth, "but it's also a message of hope in a country that is a bit divided at the moment."

Dearth hopes that those who come to see the show will walk away with a song in their hearts and a new perspective on patriotism. Dan Beckmann, the other half of the pair, is also an accomplished professional photographer. He will be documenting the tour in a photo blog in addition to directing a documentary of the 50-States tour.

One of the tours sponsors is Footsteps Researchers, a global team of military researchers that help their clients retrace the footsteps of those who served in WWII. The founder of Footsteps Researchers, Myra Miller will serve as Tour Manager and is very excited, "to meet veterans across

the country and thank them for their service. We want to pack the venues with young and old alike to share the energetic and fun performances of 'Letters From Home!'"

All 50 venues across the United States have been secured for the tour and tickets are now available. To view the tour route or to purchase tickets in the state nearest you, visit www.LettersFrom-HomeSingers.com.

Veterans Day Parade

The City of Cranston will once again hold its Veterans Day Parade at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 11. The parade will kick off in front of Legion Bowl on Park Avenue, continue past City Hall up to Heyward Street and past Rolfe Street. A ceremony at the cannon memorial will immediately flood the parade. Any group/organization that wants to march can contact Paul McAuley at pmcauley@cranstonri.org.

14th Annual SENE Film Festival

The Artists' Exchange and Theatre 82 will host the Southeast New England (SENE) Film Festival from Oct. 13 to Oct. 15. For a list of film programs, times and ticket information, visit se-105638.square.site/.

Clouds Hill Museum Yard Sale

Clouds Hill Museum will host a yard sale on Oct. 22 from 8 a.m. to noon. There will be electronics, books, furniture, ceramics, frames, art and more. The event will occur rain or shine. The mansion is located at 4157 Post Road, Warwick.

Winter Market

Warwick Center for the Arts will hold "The Winter Market" from Nov. 26 to Dec. 17, Wednesday through Saturday - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 3259 Post Road., Warwick. This year's Winter Market features handmade items from over 20 local artists and represents the varied creativity that makes Rhode Island so special. In addition to handmade jewelry, toys, cards, ornaments, pottery and accessories, the Market will also sell affordable framed paintings, prints and other wall hangings in addition to WCFA gift certificates if you prefer to give the 'arts experience' as a holiday gift this year. The event is free to browse, but items are for sale. WCFA will be open one evening for our Winter Market on Dec. 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For further information, visit warwickcfa.org or call 401-737-0010.

\$1000 BONUS STIPEND PAID TO VENDORS UPON COMPLETION OF 2022-2023 WINTER SEASON. PLEASE CONTACT DPW DIRECTOR FOR DETAILS



THE TOWN OF JOHNSTON IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SNOW PLOWING AND SANDING SERVICES. INTERESTED PARTIES MAY PICK UP AN APPLICATION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, 100 IRONS AVENUE, JOHNSTON, RI 02919.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 231-4000 EXT. 4189.

JOSEPH M. POLISENA
MAYOR

DONALD DELSIGNORE
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



UPCOMING COMEDY SHOWS!
For info/reservations call 401-639-7726!

- 10/21 & 11/19: Boomerangs Roadhouse-West Warwick
- 10/27 & 12/15: Lemongrass-Warwick
- 10/30: Spumoni's-Pawtucket
- 11/13: Chelo's-Providence
- 11/19: Carriage Inn-North Kingstown
- 12/3: Factory Paintbar-West Warwick
- 12/4: Copperfields-Johnston
- 12/11: Pub on Park-Cranston
- 12/17: Knights of Columbus-Warwick
- 12/18: Chelo's-Warwick

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

DENTAL TREATMENT PAIN RELIEF OPTIONS

People often avoid necessary dental care because of anxiety about pain during procedures. Luckily, modern dentistry has very effective pain relief options. Topical and injected local anesthetics are commonly used for routine dental procedures. Local anesthesia can also be delivered electronically using a TENS (transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation) unit, which sends electrical impulses to numb the treatment area. Nitrous oxide is another common and effective option that is easily administered through a rubber face mask. Local anesthetics, TENS, anesthesia, and nitrous oxide all wear off quickly and allow the patient to drive home after a procedure. For advanced dental work, oral surgeries, or patients with extreme dental anxiety, intravenous or oral sedation and general anesthesia are all options.

What's been keeping you from visiting the dentist? If it's the fear of possible pain during dental treatment, we would like you to know we have calmed the anxieties of many patients at DENTAL ARTS GROUP over the years, with our relaxing atmosphere and friendly, compassionate staff. And because of the many advances in dentistry, the dental procedures we perform today are much less painful or even pain-free. We'll work together at 1136 Hartford Ave., Johnston, to ensure your appointments with us are comfortable, productive, and rewarding. You can reach us at 401-521-3661. P.S. Patients using general anesthesia for a dental procedure may need to undergo treatment in a hospital setting where their vital signs can be monitored.

www.dentalartsgroupri.com

SCOOPS - PAGE 8

BEACON COMMUNICATIONS

Advertising Deadlines:

Display Advertising:

- Cranston Herald **Monday noon**
- 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**



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AAA Northeast warns: Beware flood-damaged cars

By AAA Northeast
Special to the Sun Rise

The devastation caused by Hurricane Ian may have an additional consequence that reaches all the way into New England — the presence of flooded cars.

With a shortage of new and used cars, flooded cars from hurricane Ian may be making their way into the used car market. It has been reported by CarFax (vehicle history reports) that nearly 50 percent of flood damaged totaled vehicles return to the market as used cars.

Here are some tips from AAA Northeast on how to spot a flood-damaged vehicle:

Insurance companies often declare flood-damaged vehicles as total losses, and those cars are then sold to salvage companies. However, rather than being dismantled for parts, some of these vehicles are purchased by individuals who re-

store them to some degree of working order. AAA warns car buyers that water-damaged vehicles can be transported anywhere in for resale, and often continue to appear in the marketplace for many months following major floods.

Before purchasing a used vehicle, acquire a CARFAX Vehicle History Report. The report may reveal if the car has been in a flood or been issued a salvage title.

To determine if a used vehicle has been water damaged, look for these signs:

Damp or musty odors inside the vehicle.

Carpet or upholstery that has been replaced or recently shampooed. Pull back the carpet at different areas and look for mud, dirt, rust or water stains.

Mud and dirt on the underside of the dashboard. This area is hard to clean.

Rust on the underside of the vehicle. Corrosion is uncommon in newer vehicles and those that are owned and operated in

warmer climates.

Rust, mud, dirt or discoloration in body seams and small out-of-the-way crevices on the doors, under the hood and inside the trunk.

Open all doors, hood, and trunk to inspect for corrosion, mud and dirt or discoloration on the door frames, hinges and under the weather stripping. Pay special attention to small spaces and crevices that are difficult to clean.

Inspect the dashboard underside for signs of mud and dirt. This is a particularly hard area to clean.

Electrical components, such as lighting, the heater/AC fan, window motors and more that are not functioning properly.

Check all warning lights, window motors, and all electrical components to ensure they are working properly. While a non-working part alone does not mean the vehicle was flooded, it combined with

other difficulties is a cause for concern.

Get a pre-purchase inspection by a trusted mechanic. To locate a AAA Approved Auto Repair facility near you, visit AAA.com/autorepair.

Finally, if the price looks too good to be true, it probably is. The continued shortage of used car inventory coupled with increased buyer demand will continue to push up prices (already 30 percent higher than last year). History has shown us that less than honest dealers, wholesalers and even private party sellers will be offering these previously flooded cars to unsuspecting buyers.

Editor's Note: AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with 70 offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance, and auto-related services.

■ Scoops

(Continued from page 7)

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 Soscia 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.

Copperfield's 'special event'

On Friday night, from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m., Oct. 14, Copperfield's Burger & Beer, 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 nam-

ing 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 Coppola's 50+ years of "elite vocal talents."

RIMA Exhibit & Show

The Rhode Island Manufacturers Association (RIMA) is hosting its Exhibit and Show: Connect, Grow, Develop at the Crowne Plaza Warwick on Nov. 16. This event will allow attendees to gain access to industry trends along with federal and state legislative updates. This event will also enable attendees to connect and network with manufacturers throughout the state of Rhode Island.

The event will begin at 11 a.m. with the Exhibit and Lunch Networking Session. RIMA is offering free tickets to anyone who would like to walk through the exhibition hall and attend the workshops. The exposition will feature organizations with their products and services in Rhode Island and

will be open for the remainder of the event. The exposition creates a unique opportunity for manufacturing suppliers to connect with buyers as well as potential clients. Use of the supplemental event app provided through Whova will present attendees and manufacturers the ability to message and network directly with exhibitors as they navigate the floor. The Lunch Networking Session will also allow attendees to interact with company representatives.

There will be nine different workshops happening starting at 3 p.m. For a complete list of topics and speakers, please refer to the list below.

"Improving the Resiliency of Your Supply Chain" by Chris Cinieri and Ted Kennedy from Polaris MEP

"Legalized Marijuana: The Impact in the Workplace" by Mark Freel from Locke Lord

"Getting more out of your retirement plan: How New Comparability Profit Sharing Plans maximize Owners Contributions" by

Paul Cooney and Robert McElroy from Mutual of America

"R&D Tax Credits for the Manufacturing Industry" by Noel Hopkins and Mark Hall from Clifton Larson Allen

"The Benefits of Collaborative Robots" by Christian Gervin from Axis New England

"Review of the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation Business Incentives" by William Cox from Commerce Corporation

"Recession? Not for Manufacturers!" by Jay Jacobs from Paperless Parts

"Is your website 'Supply Chain Ready'?" by Mark Manuel from Industrial Marketing

"State Workforce Initiatives for Local Manufacturers" by Matt Weldon, Director of Department of Labor and Training and Alyssa Alvarado, Director for the RI Governor's Workforce Board

"3D Printing in the manufacturing world" by Justin Coutu, Charles Havens, and Jordan Novak from R&D Technologies, Inc.

The day will conclude with an Evening Reception and Networking Session from 6-8 p.m.

Register for the event or review the schedule, go to rimanufacturers.com/event/rima-exhibit-and-show-connect-grow-develop/.

RIMA is a 501(c)(6) organization formed in 1997 to serve as the unified voice of Rhode Island's manufacturers. As an advocate for strengthening and growing Rhode Island's manufacturing sector, RIMA engages with government leaders, academic institutions and likeminded organizations to improve the business climate, connect manufacturers with available resources, and facilitate opportunities to create new jobs and business opportunities in the Ocean State. For more information on RIMA, visit www.rimanufacturers.com.

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 non-profit 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.

Not too much longer



and you'll be seeing Rocky Point license plates

Thanks to legislation approved this year, the DMV is moving ahead with the production of Rocky Point plates. Pre and new orders will be filled with delivery expected this fall. For new orders visit the Rocky Point Foundation website at rockypointfoundation.org where you will find an order form to be returned to the DMV with payment. At this time, plates are available for passenger registrations only

Display your love and support of a place made for memories.

We're All EARS

Questions?
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Let us know how we're doing.

Your opinion is something we always want to hear.

Warwick Beacon

Cranston Herald

Johnston SunRise

BEACON
COMMUNICATIONS

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

A middle ground needed on early voting

The locked down election of 2020 provided a great proof of concept in regards to methods intended to make voting more accessible and convenient.

Early voting and mail-in voting are valuable tools, particularly during a period of crisis such as we experienced last election, and we're glad those measures were codified into law going forward to ease the burden on citizens to be able to vote in a way that works for their individual lives — democracy is the better for it.

However, with all new improvements, there is always room for some fine tuning going forward.

For example, we would argue that a 20-day window for early voting is excessive.

For one, it is an unnecessary financial burden to force cities and towns to staff polling workers at a central location for nearly a month, where a few people here and there might trickle in during those first couple weeks before the majority of people utilize the services closer to an election. In Warwick, for example, early voting costs the city around \$420 a day to staff four polling workers. Multiply that by 20 and you've got a \$8,400 hit that doesn't necessarily need to happen.

Second, there is the potential that such a large period of voting ahead of an actual election could be an unfair benefit to incumbents, considering challengers could theoretically sway voters after they have already cast a vote for the incumbent, perhaps thinking prematurely that their mind was made up. An incumbent could have a catastrophic gaffe at a late point in the campaign, but since many of the voters who might have changed their mind had already voted, it would soften the blow. It's a hypothetical theory, admittedly, but seems possible nonetheless.

We see no reason why the window for early voting couldn't be cut in half, to 10 days, which would still provide ample time for those unable to vote on Election Day and preserve the benefits we have found as a result of allowing for early voting, without the unnecessary costs and potential for unfair advantages.



Councilman Robert Civetti: 'Working for the People'

I am running for re-election to the Johnston Town Council, District 5, so that I can continue to work for, serve, and represent the residents in District 5 and throughout the Town of Johnston. Over my time in office, I have always stood side by side with the residents to represent their best interest and do what is best for OUR Town of Johnston. I do not have any hidden agendas or special interest groups that interfere with my objective of working for the people I serve. I work for you, the residents and taxpayers! My only concern is to do what is best for the residents of the Town of Johnston. Although it is impossible to always make everyone happy, I will always do what I believe is in the best interest of the Town of Johnston as a whole.

Over the past several years I have demonstrated my dedication and commitment to the residents of the Town of Johnston, and especially those in District 5, by standing with the residents to maintain the integrity of our neighborhoods. I have stood by the residents to protect the landscape of OUR Town by opposing condominium developments on Brown Avenue; opposing the rezoning from R-40 to R-20 in certain residential neighborhoods; and opposing large solar field developments in our residential neighborhoods.

The opposition of solar farms in residential neighborhoods could impact all neighborhoods throughout the Town of Johnston and not simply those proposed sites in District 5.

Since coming into office in January 2017, I have worked with the administration and my colleagues on the Town Council to ensure the stabilization of taxes to the residential taxpayers. We have worked together to increase the financial stability of the Town's General Operating Fund as evidenced by increasing the Fund Balance Reserves (Equity) from approximately \$19.5 Million at June 30, 2016 to approximately \$43.6 Million at June 30, 2021. During the current fiscal year (2022-23) the Administration and Town Council have agreed to utilize some of the reserves to improve infrastructure throughout the Town.

I have worked with the administration, and my colleagues on the



Robert J. Civetti

Town Council and School Committee to present to the residents a proposal for the \$215 Million construction project for new and improved schools.

The residents overwhelmingly approved this project which will impact every child that attends school (grades pre-K to grade 12) in the Town of Johnston. I look forward to continuing to work as a member of the School Building Committee to ensure that the promise we made to the children of the Town of Johnston comes to fruition at no cost to the residential taxpayers of OUR Town. In the coming months I will suggest that an Ordinance be presented to establish a Debt Service Reserve Fund in an attempt to restrict specific revenue for the repayment of the \$215 million school construction bond.

We have seen a lot of development and great things happen in the Town of Johnston throughout the term of the current Administration which contribute to the stabilization of tax-

es for the residents of OUR Town.

The Town Council along with the Administration implemented a (State approved) funding improvement plan for the Town police and fire pension plans which has significantly decreased the unfunded pension obligations of the Town. If re-elected, I will continue to work with my colleagues in government to ensure that the decisions that are made are in the best interest of the residents of OUR Town of Johnston. I also vow to continue to be available to all residents of the Town of Johnston, and to stand side by side with the residents to maintain the integrity of OUR Town.

For more information on my goals and objectives to continue to serve the residents of OUR Town of Johnston please visit my website at WWW.RobertCivetti.Com or you may contact me at 401-439-8945; CivettiDistrict5@Cox.Net.

Robert J. Civetti
Johnston Town Council,
District 5

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ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian


Local  Adoptable  Loveable



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

Freddie

Fun-loving Freddie is waiting to be your new best friend! October is "Adopt A Shelter Dog Month" and Freddie wants to be the one that you choose! He is a young Shepherd mix with a luxurious fluffy coat and those sparkling brown eyes will make you smile! If you are a Shepherd lover and have been in search of loving boy, please contact Heart of RI Animal Rescue League at 401-467-3670. You can also visit their website for more information at www.heartofri.org Freddie will be waiting to share his love with you!

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



Warwick Animal Shelter's 19th Annual Howlween Bash
Saturday October 29, 2022
 Knights of Columbus, 475 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI
 6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

Dinner! Dancing! DJ! Raffles! Costume Contest! Cash Bar!



Costumes Optional ~ Adults Only ~ No Pets
 Join Us for a Wicked Good Time!

Proceeds Benefit the Shelter's Animals
 Tickets \$25 each. Call 401-468-4377 or animal.shelter@warwickri.com

JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following police log information has been taken from public record police incident and arrest reports provided by the Johnston Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies.

INTENT TO DEFRAUD

At 2:53 a.m. on Oct. 9, Cranston Police arrested Vanessa Young, 49, of 88 Bishop Hill Road, Johnston, on charges of Obtaining Vehicles with Intent to Defraud and two Outstanding Superior Court Bench Warrants. The arrest was the result of the Warwick Police Department turning her over to our custody on an Arrest and Affidavit Warrant. Young awaited arraignment as a bail violator.

SHOPLIFTING

At 3:50 p.m. on Oct. 4, Cranston Police arrested Rosa Rodriguez, 24, of 33 Boundry Ave., Johnston, on charges of Shoplifting and a Third District Court Bench Warrant. The arrest was

the result of a call for service at Stop and Shop on Garfield Avenue. Rodriguez was arraigned by the Justice of the Peace.

UPDATE ON GIRL STRUCK BY WHEEL

Members of the Traffic Unit also concluded an investigation of a motor vehicle crash on Dyer Avenue that occurred on Sept. 27, 2022, at approximately 3:30 p.m. near Oxford Street. A vehicle, described as a 2003 Honda frontier pickup, driven by a 43-year-old male from Cranston, was traveling south on Dyer Avenue when the front driver's side became detached. The tire rolled in a southerly direction, crossing the road and striking a 13-year-old girl walking north on the sidewalk adjacent to Dyer Avenue and crossing Oxford Street. The force knocked the girl backward, resulting in serious injuries. She was transported to Hasbro Children's Hospital, where she was in the Intensive Care Unit. Her condition

has improved and she has since been transferred out of the ICU. Investigators noted that the lug nuts to the vehicle had come off and were found at the scene. It was learned that the driver had purchased the pickup from a private party earlier in the day and was returning to Cranston when the incident occurred. It appears the pickup had been stationary for some time and that the tire had recently been removed to perform a repair to a brake line. It is believed the lug nuts may have not been properly tightened when the tire was reinstalled. Based on the investigation, the operator of the pickup was cited for the following motor vehicle violations: Driving with an Expired License, Vehicles Without Required Equipment or Unsafe Condition, Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Evidence of Insurance (second offense), Improper Use/Evidence of Registration.



WATCH WALKERS: Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Neronha is joined by JPD Captain Mike Babbitt, Johnston School Committee member Dawn Aloisio and Johnston Police Chief Joseph P. Razza during the recent District 2 Neighborhood Watch walk. (Submitted photo)

Walking the watch

By PETE FONTAINE

Ever since Johnston Town Councilwoman Lauren Garzone initiated the now highly successful Neighborhood Watch in District 2, there have been some interesting sessions at different locations. However, on a recent Wednesday evening with the sun still shining there was what people like Johnston Police Chief Joseph P. Razza will tell you was an informative and interesting walk. First and foremost, as the Chief and others concur, the Neighborhood Watch has been an asset to the town as well as the JPD for a number of reasons. The recent walk, though, featured Rhode Island's "Top Cop" — Attorney General Peter F. Neronha — who headed the session and enjoyed meeting with neighbors in District 2 and exchanging pleasantries, including learning the history of Winsor Hill Elementary School. Part of that Winsor Hill story included Neronha

learning that three Johnston officials — Mayor Joseph Polisena, Chief Raza and Garzone — are all alumni of the well-maintained and award-winning school. Moreover, Neronha inquired about what he and the Attorney General's office could do to make communities safer and more resilient and that, as Garzone noted "was an impressive statement to our many residents in District 2." Said Garzone, who is proud to have established the first such group of its kind in Johnston: "This was truly a great opportunity for people to meet our Attorney General one-on-one and we thank him for taking the time out of this busy schedule to participate in our neighborhood watch group's walk." Likewise, Razza was accompanied by JPD Captain Mike Babbitt and Dawn Aloisio, a member of the Johnston School Committee, who also took part in the unique event, as did citizen Lou Spremulli and Ani Horoian, Neronha's Special Assistant.



PANTHER PRIDE: Johnston High School's national award-winning Panther Marching Band was again a huge hit during Sunday's Columbus Day Parade on Providence's jam-packed Federal Hill. (Photos courtesy Ron Cece)

Johnston well represented in Columbus Day festivities

Sun Rise Staff Reports

In keeping with a tradition that's as ageless as famous and highly-popular Columbus Day Parade, the line of march — as well as spectators — was filled with countless Johnstonians Sunday.

Headlining the list was the multi-talented and national award-winning Johnston High School Marching Panthers Band, under the leadership of Director Ron Lamoureux, that again received rave reviews from parade-goers — and participants — who lined Providence's Federal Hill to view the many proud Italian-American groups that again made up the 2022 parade.

"The people of Johnston should be proud of their high school (marching band)," is one of the countless comments from people along the parade route. "That's without question an extremely well-dressed band; their sound is equally impressive."

A number of Johnstonians also showcased their ageless automobiles that have always been a huge hit every year.

Enter Steve "Sheik" Mullane, who owns and operates Sheik Hair Design at 1216 Atwood Ave. in Johnston, brought his sparkling red 1966 Cadillac convertible that carried Richard DelFino Jr., his son Richard III, and grandsons Richard IV and Luca.

There were also many Johnstonians who were among the officers and members of the Rhode Island Italo-American Club who again had a pronounced presence in Sunday's parade.



CLASSIC CADY: Johnston's Steve "Sheik" Mullane is all smiles as are his passengers — Richard DelFino Jr., his son Richard and grandsons Richard IV and Luca and Thomas Norato of RI Italo-American Club fame rode along the parade route. (Photos courtesy Ron Cece)

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Auction Legal Notice

TO TYLER DEMENEZES 41 AUSDRA RD FRAMINGHAM, MA 01746 A PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 100 SOUTH ST JOHNSTON, RI ON OCTOBER 22, 2022 AT 900 AM. THE VEHICLE A 2016 HYUNDAI VIN # 5NPE24AF3GH324468 BELONGING TO THE ABOVE. THE AUCTION BEING HELD IS TO SATISFY TOWING AND STORAGE AND FEES

TO: THANIA VARGAS 71 VERMILYEA AVE 1A NEW YORK NY A PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 100 SOUTH ST JOHNSTON RI ON OCTOBER 22, 2022 AT 90 AM THE VEHICLE A 2012 JEEP VIN # 1C4RJFAG0CC332851 BELONGING TO THE ABOVE. THE AUCTION BEING HELD IS TO SATISFY TOWING AND STORAGE AND FEES.

10/13/22

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 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

Planning Board Meeting Tuesday November 1st, 2022; 6:00 P.M.

Johnston Senior Center
1291 Hartford Ave., Johnston, RI 02919

Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

III. OLD BUSINESS

PB 22-49 – Town Hall Plaza – Minor Land Development and Unified Development Review. Public Hearing of the proposed redevelopment of the existing plaza and the request for a Special Use Permit for a Drive Thru use. A.P. 20 Lots 77 and a portion of 209. 1515 Atwood Avenue. Applicant: 266 Putnam Ave. LLC

PB 22-21 – Balletto Condominiums – Public Meeting on a Preliminary Plan for a proposed 13 residential unit Major Land Development. Public Hearing was closed on May 3rd, 2022. Located at 280-282 Simmonsville Avenue AP 25 Lot 5 - Zoned: Planned Development. Applicant: Gary Balletto.

IV. NEW BUSINESS None

V. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Discussion PB 22- 57 The Johnston Comprehensive Plan – Presentation and discussion by/with Weston & Sampson, plan consultant.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT & SPECIAL ITEMS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- The Planning Board 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 Planning Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.
- Items not heard by 9:30 p.m. may be continued to the next Regular Meeting or a special meeting at the discretion of the Board.
- Facilities are handicap accessible. Interpreter services may be requested from TTD (401) 792-9642 at least 72 hours in advance.

10/13, 10/20, 10/27/22



Legal Notice Town of Johnston Notice of Abandonment

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 24-6-1 that a portion of Naples Avenue as described in Johnston Town Ordinance 2022-17 has ceased to be useful to the public and is hereby abandoned. Ordinance 2022-17 an Ordinance in abandonment of Naples Avenue was adopted at a public hearing at the September 14th, 2022 meeting of the Johnston Town Council and is available for review in the office of the Town Clerk.

Johnston Town Council
Robert V. Russo
President

Attest:
Vincent P. Baccari, Jr.
Town Clerk

10/13, 10/20, 10/27/22

OBITUARIES

George E. Corrente, Sr.

George E. Corrente, Sr. 85, of Johnston, RI died on September 20, 2022 at Rhode Island Hospital, surrounded by family.

George was the son of the late Francesco and Giovannina (Prete) Corrente, and brother of the late Francis Corrente Jr. and uncle of Frank Corrente III (Beverly Corrente).

He was also the devoted husband of Carmela (Carmie) K. (Andreozzi) Corrente. Cherished father of George E. Corrente, Jr. (the late Sandy Corrente), Keri-Lynn J. Edge (Bret Edge). Endearing Papa of Emily Rose Edge and Victoria Grace Edge, and father of Susan Jeschke and Karen Kittell.

George began his career in 1954 in the Survey Section of the RI Department of Transportation. In 1965 he became a Professional Land Surveyor and subsequently launched a private business as the Owner and President of George E. Corrente & Associates Land Surveying firm in Rhode Island. He retired from the State of Rhode Island as Chief of Survey. After retirement, he continued to hold positions such as Office President and The Board of Directors for the Professional Land Surveyors Society, Secretary and Chairman of the Johnston Town Planning Board. He also attained the position of Director of the Center for Surveying Education for Roger Williams University.

He went on to become the President of George E. Corrente PLS Consulting Firm and served as Secretary, Vice Chairman, and Chairman of the RI State Board of Registration for Professional Land Surveyors. His resume of experience also included Planning Coordinator/Planning Assistant and ultimately Director of Building Operations for the Town of Johnston. His final mark in the industry was when he served as the Executive Vice President for Cataldo Associates, Inc.-Civil Engineers & Professional Land Surveyors.

Aside from George's impressive career, he was the most humble, genuine, giving, loving, charismatic, and caring individual you would ever be blessed to know. He will be so profoundly missed by so many.

His funeral arrangements have already taken place. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to St. Robert Bellarmine Food Pantry, 1804 Atwood Ave., Johnston, RI 02919.

Visit NardolilloFH.com for online condolences.



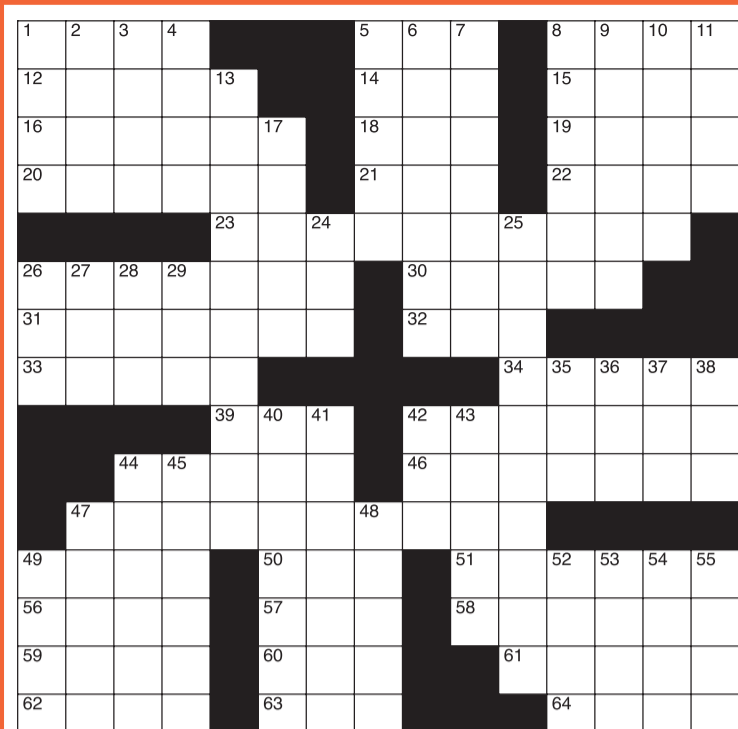
Obituaries

In your time of need, the *Johnston Sun Rise* will print your loved one's full obituary for a small charge. The paper also places the obituary on our website, johnstonsunrise.net.

Should you desire our services, kindly inform your funeral director, or call (401) 732-3100 or email AshleyM@rhodybeat.com for additional information. Obituary prices start at \$60. You may include the obituary in any of our other newspapers for half price.

– Thank you

**CROSSWORD
PUZZLE CORNER**



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Towards the mouth or oral region
- 5. A way to season
- 8. North-central Indian city
- 12. Emaciation
- 14. Actress de Armas
- 15. A way to score in basketball
- 16. Odd
- 18. Scripting languages on IBM machines
- 19. A right of local jurisdiction
- 20. Hard, colorless compound
- 21. Diving seabird
- 22. Wild goat of the mountains
- 23. Not shortened
- 26. Someone who learns from a teacher
- 30. Is inclined
- 31. Still asleep
- 32. Antidepressants (abbr.)
- 33. Town in Surrey, England
- 34. Indian music patterns
- 39. Birth control means
- 42. People tend to be on one
- 44. A way to keep meat moist
- 46. Home of the Crimson Tide
- 47. Pasta type

CLUES DOWN

- 49. Late 1990s rapper
- 50. One circuit of a track
- 51. Surrounded by water
- 56. Late "Growing Pains" actor Thicke
- 57. Married couples say it
- 58. Drool
- 59. Sicilian city
- 60. Airline worker perk (abbr.)
- 61. Grayish-black mixture
- 62. Systems, doctrines, theories
- 63. Midway between east and southeast
- 64. Athletes who get paid

CLUES DOWN

- 17. Founder of Sikhism
- 24. They ___
- 25. Where you find the milk
- 26. Institute legal proceedings against
- 27. The neural structure consisting of the brain and spinal cord
- 28. Expresses surprise
- 29. Have a debt to
- 35. Businessman
- 36. State on India's western coast
- 37. Practice of managing financial risks (abbr.)
- 38. Patty Hearst's captors
- 40. Put into service
- 41. 10-year periods
- 42. Crony
- 43. Surgical clamp
- 44. Leave unable to move due to lack of wind
- 45. Where rockers work
- 47. Valleys
- 48. Ancient lyric poem
- 49. Wise men
- 52. It lights a room
- 53. Assert
- 54. Fifth Roman Emperor
- 55. Ancient Greek city in Thrace



JHS hosts 'Pink Out'

By **BOBBI'SUE TRAHAN**

Friday, Oct. 14, is the Johnston Senior High School's yearly Pink-Out day! The students and staff take this day to honor Breast Cancer Awareness and all those who have personally experienced it.

Every year, at least 42,000 women and 500 men pass away due to breast cancer in the United States.

The Johnston High School's Student Council raises money for this fund to help support those with breast cancer and families of people battling breast

cancer every day. We as a school participate in dressing in all pink as a symbol of those battling breast cancer.

Officers go to each class's homeroom to gather the amount of students who participated in this Spirit Day, according to grade. We hope to see a lot of students showing off their pink pride for honoring those battling breast cancer!

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Bobbi'Sue Trahan serves as Sophomore Class Representative. The Johnston Sun Rise regularly publishes stories submitted by the Johnston High School Student Council.*

Unconventional backpack day caps September

By **JACKSON TROXELL**

The last week of September was filled with fun activities for JHS students.

On Tuesday, Sept. 27, JHS hosted a blood drive in the gym. There is a dire need for blood across the country, and JHS typically comes out near

the top for the amount of donations at a high school blood drive in the state. Students and staff were encouraged to donate blood during the school day. Donors not only helped hospitals and patients across the region, but students were also able to earn volunteer hours for their

time. There were 34 successful donations.

On Thursday, Sept. 29, the Student Council organized a movie night. Originally planned to take place on the field, but moved into the gym because of the temperature, the movie night featured one of the most popular movies from the summer, "Top Gun Maverick." Students enjoyed the film starring Tom Cruise and Miles Teller, while laying on blankets and air mattresses they brought from home and snacks sold by the Student Council.

Students looked forward to Friday, Sept. 30's "Anything But A Backpack Day." Students were encouraged to leave their backpacks at home and carry their school supplies in a less conventional vessel. This was one of the Student Council's many "Spirit Days" that can earn a class "Spirit Points."

Many students brought suitcases or guitar cases. Some brought baskets or coolers. Students were also seen carrying a kiddie pool, pushing a baby stroller, and even lugging around a fish tank, without any fish of course. One student tried to bring a boat to carry his things. Unfortunately, he was unsuccessful in his endeavor and had to leave his makeshift backpack in the upper library. He did however win the contest for best unconventional backpack, which was voted on by faculty and staff. The Senior Class won this Spirit Day, followed by the Juniors, then the Sophomores, and finally the Freshman.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Jackson Troxell serves as Senior Class Representative. The Johnston Sun Rise regularly publishes stories submitted by the Johnston High School Student Council.*

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IT TAKES ADJUSTMENTS: Brian Kiley adjusts the main sheet on his Laser between races Monday afternoon. (Sun Rise photos)

'Biggest little fleet' debuts at Stillhouse Cove

By JOHN HOWELL

It's the time of year when boaters plan for winter. There's lots to do in addition to hauling including winterizing the engine, removing and storing cushions to they don't become mildewy and if you're especially concerned, shrink wrapping the entire craft.

Don Wignall had some of those chores on his mind when he visited the Rhode Island Yacht Club Sunday and his Range Tug, a study vessel capable of sleeping six although, as Wignall puts it, the boat is designed for "six for cocktails, four for dinner and two to sleep aboard."

But he was also thinking of launching a boat. He's not alone. Wignall said 18 other club members are likewise ready to launch boats.

"This is going to be the biggest little fleet in the bay," says RIYC Commodore Rich Magnant. Maybe it's not the biggest fleet, but it is surely the newest fleet. And the boats are very small compared to vessels tied up or bobbing at moorings at RIYC.

In fact, the boats designed after the Laser, which are day sailors and often raced are hardly three feet long and when disassembled fit neatly in a zipper lined bag that a single person can easily carry. These Lasers are radio controlled. The radio controls two functions on the boat – the rudder for steering and the main sail that can be brought in or let out. The rest is left up

to the skipper.

Ready to sail the boats sell for less than \$400.

Sailing while standing on a dock was the challenge Monday afternoon as seven fleet members came together for the inaugural race. From the start it was apparent that Roland Aubin had been doing some practice sailing. And that stands to reason. Aubin came up with the idea of radio controlled sailboat racing and convinced Wignall, if not most of 19, that this would be fun and give them reason to be out and visit the club during the off season.

He was right about the fun. With the temperature bumping 70 and a gusty west wind, conditions were close to perfect for the Lasers that heeled – but didn't capsize – as they tacked upwind. Off the wind they accelerated with each puff.

Roland and his wife Nancy, who has the title of fleet captain, set up a triangular course that Roland estimated would take about five minutes to sail. That wasn't the case as skippers were unaccustomed to controls and, as it turned out, sought to identify which boat was theirs.

"I really admit I have very little idea of where it's going," said Brian Kiley who named his Laser Gambit, the same name of his much larger J 109 that he races in the club's summer series. By the third race, Gambit was finishing in the top half of the fleet and Kiley was getting the hang of it.

So far Linda Demaine is

the sole female skipper. Her #4 Laser headed for an offshore dock-like structure that has earned the name of Cormorant Island for the congregation of the prehistoric looking birds with their long necks and outstretched wings. For the longest time before the first race #4 was in "irons" and unable to move. Linda kept her cool and finally #4 was free of the island although Linda missed the start. She gained on the rest of the fleet but then questioned if she rounded the proper marks.

"I've been following the wrong boat the whole time," she said to the laughs of fellow skippers.

The race wasn't without mishaps.

Craig Forbes' yellow boat -- the only one of that color-- snagged a mooring line, stopping it dead. The boat flapped from side to side like a wounded bird. Craig waited for the race to finish before putting in a call to Sea Tow. That's Nancy Aubin who was ready with an inflatable for just such occasions. Then as boats crossed the finish line the yellow boat broke free. Nancy was off the hook.

There were adjustments and minor repairs to be made, such as a main sheet coming free resulting in the loss of sail control.

Nancy was ready to start another race when one of those of the dock declared, "fixing time," to which came the reply "it's a boat and there's always something to fix."

Wignall rigged his boat, but passed on the first races.

What had he learned from watching the fleet?

"You don't bet on these racers," he said.

A race day hasn't been established, but Roland thought it will most likely be Sundays about 11. It should be easy to spot the biggest little fleet from Stillhouse Cove.

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TAP

(Continued from page 1)

"I think we worked very hard together," she said. "I'm very proud."

Some of the Unity Community's members — now in their mid-to-late 20s — have been spending their days at The Autism Project since they were toddlers.

"Several members of the Unity Community ... have been with The Autism Project since they were 3, 4, 5 years old, and they are here," The Autism Project (TAP) Executive Director Joanne G. Quinn told the audience gathered for a ribbon-cutting last Wednesday morning. "I want to thank their parents for continuing to trust us with their children, and continuing to nudge us, asking, 'What's next? What's next?'"

A red fabric ribbon was snipped behind The Autism Project, signifying the start of a new community garden, and celebrating the installation of the new fence.

"The garden is built and maintained by our members of a new program for autistic adults called Unity Community," according to Quinn. "TAP will work with the URI (University of Rhode Island) Master Gardeners to expand the garden in 2023. The fencing of the yard is significant because it is now a safe place for some of our members at risk for elopement ... TAP services all of RI with our programming."

The gardens are slowly starting to produce vegetables. TAP staff and families hope the garden may eventually help to

provide fresh produce for local food banks. Elevated planters may eventually, hopefully, line the entire outdoor fence, generating a wide variety of edible plants.

"The Autism Project has evolved significantly since 1997, but our core identity remains the same: we are a collaboration of parents, professionals, and community members dedicated to providing high-quality and accessible support, training, and programming for children, their families, and the professionals who work with them," according to the organization's website. "Though we focus on children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), we've also learned over the years that many of the supports and strategies that work well for children with ASD can be beneficial for all. Today, (TAP) offers services and programs for children with ASD, developmental delays and disabilities, and social-emotional challenges, and their families and communities."

The Autism Project has slowly grown into the building it occupies at 1516 Atwood Ave., Johnston. A back storage area has been converted into a fitness room, with stationary bikes and stair climbers. Staff hope to reinvigorate a small greenhouse attached to the building's rear — an interesting detail in a previously constructed commercial space — fixing a rolling metal shutter, so that the Unity Community can garden year-round.

Originally known as The RI Autism Project, Inc., TAP "started with a group of special educators, therapists, and parents of children with ASDs, who came to-



RIBBON SPLIT: Longtime Unity Community member's mother, Maria DeSimone, snipped the red ribbon in half, and the TAP community garden was officially open. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

gether over a shared concern about the lack of resources and programming available to children with ASDs in Rhode Island," according to the organization's online history. "In response to this concern, in early 1997, The Autism Society of Rhode Island formed an ad hoc committee of parents, therapists, administrators,

autism specialists, union representatives, and members of the medical and Early Intervention communities. The result was a request for funding through the Rhode Island Department of Education's (RIDE) Office of Special Needs."

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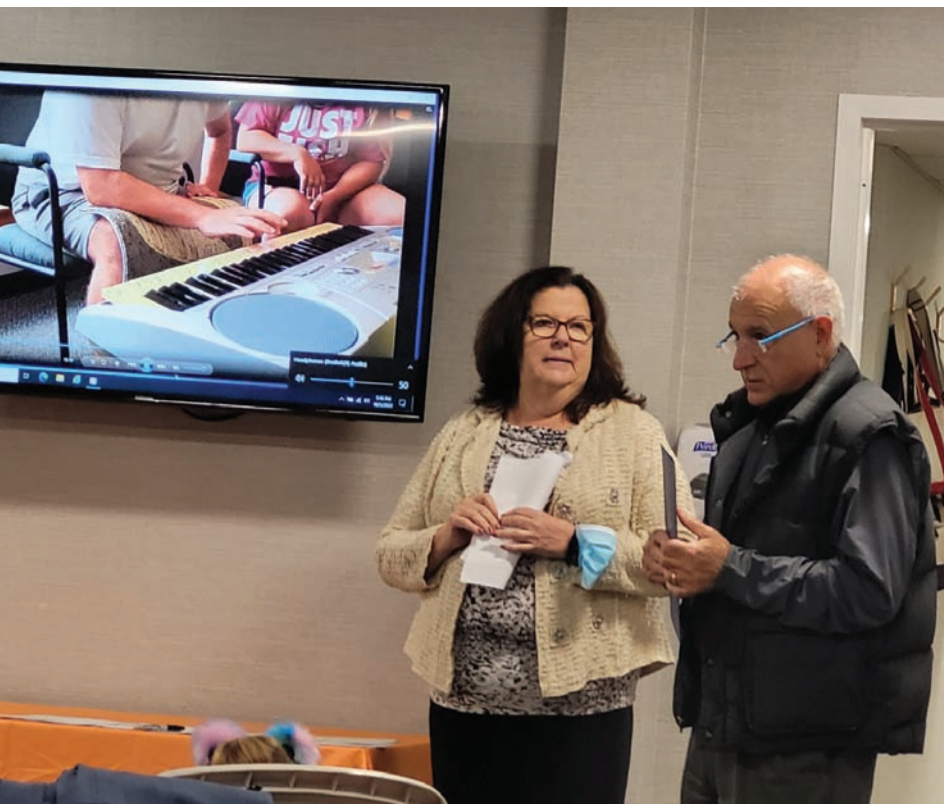
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RECOGNIZING TAP: The Autism Project (TAP) Executive Director Joanne G. Quinn welcomed Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena, who presented the nonprofit with an official town commendation. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



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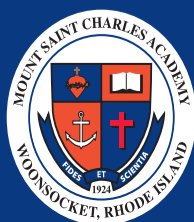


Middle school and high school students participate in 43 sports, 45 clubs, and more than 7,000 hours of volunteer community service each year.

The Class of 2022 gained acceptances to elite colleges, including Harvard, Brown, the University of California Berkeley, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

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TAP

(Continued from page 14)

RIDE awarded grants to TAP for several years, but soon it became clear the organization needed more diverse funding sources to support its rapid growth. In 2000, TAP incorporated and started to search for alternative funding sources. The non-profit hired Quinn in 2002, and she was tasked with growing the business into an independent organization.

Two decades later, TAP “has expanded to offer multiple levels of parent and professional training, social skills groups for all abilities, consultation and coaching for educators in public schools and community organizations, a summer camp, peer navigation and support, and advocacy.”

“Today our programming supports all children in their development of emotional regulation, problem-solving, executive function skills, resiliency and self-worth,” TAP touts on its website.

The Unity Community recently thinly sliced and baked some of their early eggplants, transforming them into super healthy and tasty eggplant chips.

Citizen’s Bank sent volunteers to help prepare the yard for gardening. The Jacavone Garden Center, just down the street at 1461 Atwood Ave., provided most of the young plants the community will be cultivating and eventually harvesting.

Quinn introduced Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena, noting that he previously worked as a nurse (the crowd applauded).

Polisena presented TAP with an official town commendation, recognizing the

group’s hard work, determination, and importance to the Johnston, and greater Ocean State, community.

“I want to thank all of you for what you do,” Polisena told them.

TAP has been introducing new programs like yoga and cooking.

“We are really also encouraging volunteering ... Thank you to all of our Unity Community members for all you do to help us,” Quinn told the audience last Wednesday. “We plan to expand this, add more, more participants, as we can ... We’re starting the night group for participants who are probably in the college level, or out in the work field ... because when we did our focus groups, regardless of where our children were, everybody came back (and said) I want a place I recognize, I want it to be safe, and I want to continue learning with my friends.”

Lead facilitators Lisa McCay and Lore Gray stood applauding, and shouted out an extra “thank you” to everyone in the room.

After snacking on apple cider and fall-themed cookies, the crowd moved outside to the garden. It had rained all morning, so the grass was still wet and the clouds were dark. It was late evening, and the early October sun was about to set.

A longtime Unity Community member’s mother, Maria DeSimone, was handed the ceremonial shears. With a booming final round of applause, she snipped the red ribbon in half, and the community garden was officially open. The entire community will anxiously await the resulting fruits of The Autism Project’s cultivation efforts.



FALL RECOGNITION: The audience snacked on apple cider and autumn-themed cookies – and some Unity Community members shot hoops – as they awaited The Autism Project’s community garden ribbon-cutting.

RhodyMoney

Checklist for Retirement PART 2



Jeffrey H. Massey
Certified Financial Planner™
Massey and Associates, Inc.

Hopefully, you read the Checklist for Retirement – Part I, which was my last article. This is a continuation of the Checklist for Retirement. If you missed the first part, simply contact our office, and we can email you a copy of the article.

The next topic in the checklist is very important and can be very confusing. Strategies to maximize your Social Security Benefits; it's important to know what your monthly Social Security retirement benefit amounts will be for you (and your spouse if applicable) at various ages.

We recommend setting up an account on the Social Security website, www.SSA.gov. It may take a little time to work through the challenge questions like knowing what bank financed your first automobile, etc., but once you get onto the site, it's worth it! Also, knowing that the Social Security Administration is trying to protect your identity by asking these questions should provide you with some comfort knowing that they are trying to protect your identity.

You should obtain your Social Security retirement benefit estimates for age 62, your Full Retirement Age (FRA), and Age 70. The FRA of 66 is for those born in 1954 or before. The system adds 2 months for each year of birth starting in 1955 up to 1960. For those born in 1960 or after, your full retirement age is 67.

These Social Security benefit amounts are estimates based on your earnings record over your work history that includes the highest 35 years of earnings projected out to the various retirement ages. If you do not have 35 years of earnings, you will have some zeros in your calculation which will reduce your benefit amounts.

Social Security inflation adjusts your older annual amounts to today's value then takes the highest 35 years of earnings to calculate your monthly benefit amount. Your last year of reported earnings is assumed to be continued until your retirement ages; 62, 66-67, or age 70, which may or may not be the case. It is important for you to know what your anticipated Social Security retirement monthly benefits will be as that is likely your foundation of

monthly income. Sadly, most people no longer have a pension from their private industry employer. (<https://www.ssa.gov/>, n.d.)

Once you know your Social Security monthly benefit amount, you can determine how much more you may need in your savings, investment, or retirement accounts to retire and cover your monthly living expenses.

In addition to your Social Security, you should total all expected income from all sources including monthly pension benefits if available, annuity payments or investment income expected from your portfolio. Determining a reasonable rate of drawdown is important for long-term sustainability of your investments. If you withdraw too much early in your retirement, you may run out of money before you pass away.

One major issue we often see when evaluating a prospective client's portfolio is excessive risk.

We often discuss the importance of reducing risk in your investments as you get closer to retirement. It is important to understand the level of risk that is in your investment portfolio and understand how that level of risk may affect the value of your retirement portfolio given increasing and decreasing market conditions. Identifying the level of risk in a portfolio is a key part of any good retirement plan. There are various software programs that we use to determine the extent of risk within your current portfolio.

As you get closer to your retirement date, it's important to understand that if the stock market goes way down, you may not recover in time to meet your original retirement date. It's more

important to hold onto what you have and get a "reasonable" return versus being too aggressive in the years just prior to retirement and risk losing too much.

If you would like to access a risk assessment tool, you can go to our website and click on the "What's your risk number?" box. That will take you to the software, where, in less than 5 minutes working through the questions, you will get a risk score.

That is a good starting point. The next step is to have your portfolio evaluated to determine the risk level of your portfolio. Then compare your score with the score of your portfolio to see how close they are. The closer the scores the better it is. If those two numbers are too far apart, then a portfolio adjustment would be prudent. Lastly, the software will identify if you are too risky relative to your proximity to retirement. If that is the case, again, an adjustment of risk would be prudent.

Needless to say this is a lot of information to absorb, so consider working with a professional advisor, preferably a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ Professional. You can find a local CFP® by going to www.cfp.net and click on the "find a CFP® professional" button in the upper right corner.

For more information contact Massey And Associates, Inc., Retirement Wealth Advisors at (401) 333-8000 and www.MasseyAndAssociates.com. The office is located at 250F Centerville Road in Warwick, RI.

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Is your wallet recession-proof?

StatePoint

As inflation continues to put a strain on budgets, talk of an upcoming recession has Americans worried about their finances. Prices on everyday items continue to rise and consumers are trying to find ways to make their dollar stretch further while safeguarding their money against the potential challenges a recession may bring. The future may be difficult to predict, but preparing now can help consumers protect their financial health during a recession.

A recent Experian survey found that two in three U.S. adults are concerned about a recession occurring in the United States. Consumers are most worried about the affordability of routine expenses, with 73% concerned that the price of everyday items like gas, groceries and rent will continue to rise to a level they can't afford. Meanwhile, 55% harbor supply chain concerns and 38% are stressed about the affordability of big, planned purchases such as a home or a car.

As recession worries grow, more Americans are sizing up their finances to see where they stand. Only 48% are confident that they can financially handle a recession, and two in five believe that they'll need to rely on credit to cover essential and unexpected expenses over the next three months. In fact, 27% have already increased their credit card debt within the past three months. This trend is accompanied by additional anxieties: two in three survey respondents are concerned to some degree that their credit score will negatively affect their ability to access credit in



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the next three months.

Being proactive is key to weathering financial storms, yet less than half of consumers have prepared for a recession when it comes to their finances and credit. Those who have are finding different ways to do so: 49% have cut non-essential expenses like entertainment and vacations, 45% have created a budget and 40% have paid down debt.

While these are effective actions, there are other steps consumers can take to under-

stand their credit history and safeguard their credit.

Consumers should check their credit report and credit score regularly to know exactly where they stand in the event that they need to apply for credit, or simply to be better informed as they prepare to pay down their debt ahead of an economic decline. They can get a free credit report and credit score from Experian (Spanish-language credit reports are also available) as well as access to free financial

tools, an auto insurance shopping service and credit card marketplace.

Those who need help increasing their credit score can sign up for Experian Boost. This free feature enables consumers to add their monthly payments for cell phone bills, utility bills, rent and video streaming services to their credit history to potentially increase their FICO Score instantly. To learn more, visit experian.com/boost.

"Inflation and recession

fears are putting pressure on consumer's finances, but proactively planning for the worst can help consumers make it through potential challenges. Many consumers are already taking great steps to prepare, like creating a budget and paying down their debt, and we encourage them to utilize other available resources and tools to help," says Rod Griffin, senior director of Public Education and Advocacy at Experian.

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spotlight ON BUSINESS

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By JENNIFER COATES

There is nothing more awe-inspiring than watching a young gymnast leap, flip, swirl, spring and bound off mats, bars, beams, pommel horses, vaults and rings! The confidence and skill that it takes to do these complicated maneuvers is not something that happens overnight. It takes a dose of natural talent, but it also takes commitment, dedication, practice and mostly, the help of equally talented and dedicated coaches. It also takes a heavy load of passion.

Watching a Ninja Warrior master a piece of daunting equipment is just as inspiring and impressive. It also requires practice and passion and guts! Like gymnasts, Ninja Warriors come in all ages and sizes ~ boys and girls alike.

For both gymnasts and Ninja Warriors, there is no better place than Dream Big Academy in Cranston to refine their skills, to stoke a passion for these sports and to be taught by the best coaches and instructors around.

One of those coaches is Shannon Cornicelli, the owner and founder of this long-standing academy in Cranston. Shannon is herself an accomplished gymnast whose love of the sport and lifetime of experience have made her uniquely qualified to lead a team of other coaches at this state-of-the-art gym. She has made this gym her life's work.

What sets Dream Big Academy apart from its competitors is its' objective that gymnastics are meant to be fun, unifying and growth-promoting. In addition to their individualized class lessons, they accomplish these goals through planned activities such as their popular Cartwheel and Pullover clinics (on Oct. 8th and Dec. 3rd at 2:00pm) and Back Handspring clinics (at 3:00pm). This provides these aspiring gymnasts a perfect opportunity to refine their skills.



A powerhouse team of coaches, including coach & owner Shannon Cornicelli, work with athletes just like these at Dream Big Academy in Cranston. Visit this state-of-the-art gym at their comprehensive website, www.dreambiggym.com.

There are even Parent's Nights Out for your child to attend while you head out for a night on the town. Parent's Nights Out are held from 5:00pm to 10:00pm once a month including next month on the night of October 2nd & November 19th.

Be sure to visit the gym's website to learn more about upcoming meets such as the Halloween Meet on the weekend of October 15th & 16th. The meet will be held at the gym. Come see as the gymnasts dress up in their best Halloween costumes to march out to this great event (best costume in each session gets a free leotard!)

On the weekends, why not host your child's birthday party at Dream Big Academy? These parties are the "best two-hour, fun-filled parties around." This includes an hour and a half of structured gymnastics or Ninja instruction as well as a half hour in the gym's party area. The gym supplies the festive tablecloths, balloons, and goody bags.

For more details about these events and to register for upcoming classes, check out their website at www.dreambiggym.com or call 401-228-8946. Dream Big Academy is located at 41 Comstock Parkway in Cranston.

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Sports



GOAL SCORER: Johnston's Marlon Soto tracks down the ball last week. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

Midseason takeaways for our football squads

We are officially in the second half of the high school football regular season, and it has been an interesting one, for sure.

So far, my biggest takeaway has been that I have loved the results of the realignment. I was skeptical at first, but have grown to be a fan considering Divisions 2-4 are all extremely competitive and have yet to see a true favorite emerge. The level of competition throughout has been tremendous.

Hard to believe that we only have three weeks remaining in the regular season. These three weeks will be massive when determining playoff seedings. This is my fifth football season in Rhode Island, and I would also consider it to be the most interesting so far.

Here are my thoughts on our six teams as we enter the home stretch:

Hendricken

The Hawks. I hate to be basic, but until the champs get dethroned, there is not much to chew on here.

Hendricken is unbeaten against state opponents and went 1-2 in its three out of state matchups. Not to toot my own horn, but so far, things have gone exactly as I predicted in my preseason predictions.

North Kingstown proved to be a real test for the Hawks, and Cranston West held a halftime lead last Friday. Hendricken

My pitch



by
ALEX
SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR
ALEXS@
RHODYBEAT.COM

has not been an unstoppable force despite being unbeaten.

However, if we recall last fall, it was around this time of the schedule that people started counting the Hawks out and predicted their downfall. Well, Hendricken continued to battle and wound up winning another title. Things seem to be going right on schedule for Hendricken.

Oscar Weah and Ronjai Francis have excelled rushing the ball behind the state's best offensive line. The defense has been fantastic as well.

Pilgrim

The Pats have had a tough go this fall season. Pilgrim was certainly bracing for a rebuild this season after graduating a large senior core which included its starting quarterback, running back and top receiver.

It has not been all bad for Pilgrim. The Pats beat Mt. Hope on the road for its lone win this year, but

■ PITCH - PAGE 21

Panthers earn first point, tie Kilties

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston boys soccer team came back to tie host Mt. Pleasant 3-3 last week. The Panthers were in

big need of points, entering the game with a 0-6 record. Although Johnston is still searching for its first victory, it was able to earn a point with the draw.

"The kids were excited and it was a relief. Obviously we wanted to win, but a tie still got us a point and we'll take it. The kids are start-

■ PANTHERS - PAGE 20

Hendricken renames football field in honor of Fracassa

By TERENCE FRACASSA

Bishop Hendricken has named its field and stadium after its legendary and Hall of Fame former football coach Edward Fracassa. The ceremony was held last Friday night at Hendricken's game versus Portsmouth.

Hendricken High School Football. The name is now synonymous with annual trips to the Super Bowl, dominance in the State's top football division, and a pilgrimage of graduates spreading their wings to NCAA Division I powerhouses and even the NFL.

But it all had to start somewhere. And in the early 1970s, Hendricken football was the complete opposite of the image that exists today.

It is hard to fathom where and what Bishop Hendricken High School and its football program were in the early 1970s. In 1970, Hendricken was on the verge of closing its doors. In 1971, the school's football team finished a Class B season with only one victory. And by 1972, Hendricken was competing in essentially the 4th division of Rhode Island high school football. In an era when the large public high schools dominated the football landscape in the state's top division, Hendricken was a small school petitioning the state to play in the lower football divisions to win a few games.

Enter Fracassa in 1973 (graduate of the United States Marine Corps, Pawtucket West - now Shea - High School,

■ FRACASSA - PAGE 21



MAN OF THE HOUR: Bishop Hendricken president Mark DeCiccio presents Ed Fracassa (right) with a plaque during the ceremony to rename the football field in his honor. (Photo by Alex Sponseller)

■ Panthers

(Continued from page 19)

ing to get more comfortable with one another. The next few games I think will be good ones," said Johnston coach John Sousa.

Mt. Pleasant came out hot in the first half and would mount a 3-0 lead by the break. The Panthers got rolling in the second and would score three unanswered goals to even things out and secure the tie.

Johnston's goals were scored by Mouhamadou Marone, Justin Espinal and Marlon Soto.

Sousa was thrilled to see that trio of players produce, especially considering they have not been primary goal scorers to this point.

"It was good to see those three guys score. They are guys that never thought they would score. They wanted to score, but never thought they would, so it was great to see. They were happy and it brings their morale up," Sousa said.

Halftime adjustments helped lead the Panthers to better looks in the second half, according to Sousa.

"At halftime we were able to strategize our opponent. We just had to move forward and focus on the center mid," said Sousa.

Johnston improved to 0-6-1 on the season and faced Middletown on Tuesday, but the results were not available at press time.

Sousa hopes that the tie will provide his club a boost as it enters the back half of its regular season schedule.

"Moving forward, we're going to keep this momentum and I think what is important is the kids staying focused and trusting one another," Sousa said.



GETTING THE POINT: Johnston's Mouhamadou Marone takes the ball up the field against Mt. Pleasant last week.

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■ Fracassa

(Continued from page 19)

and the University of Rhode Island).

After the Marines, Fracassa returned to Rhode Island – but he still did not have a high school degree or any work prospects. Through his experience with the Marine Corps, Fracassa turned to what had helped him most – education and athletics.

Fracassa started his career in the field of education as a physical education teacher in the Warwick School Department where he became Department Head at Aldrich Junior High School for over 20 years.

Fracassa was most drawn to coaching track and football – and he was most interested in challenging situations. Charles Shea's words of taking on challenges and elevating others were hardwired into his persona. One thing remained a constant, however, in his approach to coaching football. No matter how challenging the environment, Fracassa insisted that his programs never move down to or remain in lower divisions to compete. Instead, he insisted that that they move up to the top division and the highest levels of competition - no matter the school's enrollment or the football team's record. That mindset soon altered the trajectory of Hendricken football.

That desire led Fracassa to eventually becoming head coach of the football team at Johnston High

which had not a game in six years. In three short years, however, things changed with victories, development of the highest scoring players in the State, and – ironically – wins over Hendricken. In his two years as head coach, Fracassa produced the first winning seasons in Johnston's history.

Taking over in 1973, Fracassa led Hendricken to second place in Class B. True to the agreement between Fracassa and Principal Feerick, the school petitioned the interscholastic league to move up to the State's top division featuring powerhouses such as Cranston East and East Providence – schools with enrollments that dwarfed that of Hendricken, and schools that were annual favorites to win the State championship. The interscholastic league did not want to elevate Hendricken, however, and Fracassa and Brother Feerick had to fight and beg through the 1973-1974 year.

In that first 1974 season in top Class A play, Fracassa's Hawks with a 7-2 record only behind Super Bowl champion Cranston East. In 1975 in Class A, Hendricken only lost one game - to Super Bowl champion Pilgrim High School. By 1976 - only 2 years into top division play - Fracassa had Hendricken playing in the Class A Super Bowl at McCoy Stadium.

Fracassa had solidified Hendricken as an annual powerhouse, and an annual threat to reach and win the Super Bowl. For the first time ever in Rhode Is-

land high school football history, a team (Bishop Hendricken under Fracassa) appeared in 3 consecutive State Super Bowls (and, true to form, in the top division); Hendricken went through three regular seasons without a loss (1981 – 1983); Hendricken allowed the fewest point total ever in a single season that included games against both Rhode Island and out of state teams. In a short 10-year period starting in 1973 with Fracassa as head coach, Hendricken accumulated a 73-14 record (80-14 including out of state games and scrimmages). In that period and in the State's top football division, Fracassa's Hendricken teams notched: 5 Class A Championships; 3 runner-up squads; 4 Super Bowl births; 3 consecutive Super Bowl appearances (a State record at the time); 3 consecutive undefeated regular seasons with 25 consecutive wins in Class A and close to 30 including out of state and non-league contests (a State record at that time); a 1981 season in which only 3 touchdowns were scored against the Hawks and in which there were ten shut out victories including out of state and non-league games (a State record at that time).

Fracassa was joined by over 100 of his former players to celebrate the field dedication, and he took the podium to address the crowd prior to kickoff.

"I am both honored and humbled. All the players that played for me made this day possible and made lasting memories. I will never forget the memories of coaching you," said Fracassa.

■ Pitch

(Continued from page 19)

also went toe to toe with West Warwick, which has been arguably the best team in Division III to this point. Pilgrim was in position to win that game when it led at halftime, but the Wizards just did a little more down the stretch.

Since then, the Pats fell to Ponaganset and then just took a tough loss to Narragansett.

Where does Pilgrim go from here?

Well, luckily, the roster is very young. Quarterback Carter Clifton is a sophomore, while the receiving core and defensive secondary is filled with juniors and sophomores. The fact that Pilgrim has competed in a few of these games has actually been impressive considering how few seniors there are.

Although getting back into the championship mix will be tough this fall, Pilgrim's youngsters have gained some valuable experience and have tasted both success and failure. I know that moral victories are never satisfying, but the Pats have built a foundation this year and I believe that next year we will see a bounce back campaign, with the season after being even better.

Cranston West

The Falcons have been our most interesting team to this point, if you ask me anyway.

West was coming into this fall off two losing seasons, and this was supposed to be its comeback. After the first three weeks, it seemed like West was on the brink of another down season. West Warwick pulled off a huge comeback win in the opener, St. Ray's rolled to a 23-0 shut-out. The Falcons seemed to be behind schedule which was concerning.

Since then, West beat East Providence in a pivotal division matchup and then forced Hendricken to play all four quarters to beat them this past weekend. Hendricken has been the best team in the state for the past decade, and West nearly pulled off the upset and looked like it belonged from start to finish.

West is a contender in Division II, these last two weeks proved it. The Fal-

cons simply needed to gain some traction and to get the ball rolling, and it appears that they have done just that these past two weeks.

Kelan Cornell has been fantastic under center, Marcus Chung and Dimitri LeBlanc have been one of the best rushing duos in the state. The line has been improving, and West has been getting splash plays on defense and special teams. Hudson Carvalho just had a career day against the Hawks. West is clicking.

Cranston East

On the bright side, the Bolts have been competitive in nearly every game they've been in this season and nearly pulled off a win against a very tough Woonsocket team this past weekend. The downside is that East has yet to pull off a win.

The offense has been every bit as explosive as we expected with Da'Qwon Foster, Naz Milien and A'driahn Foreman. East put up 33 points against Barrington then 24 points against Woonsocket.

Defensively, East is still looking for answers, and it also needs to figure out how to close out games. The Bolts could have beat both Barrington and Woonsocket these past two weeks. Had East pulled it off, it would be in that mix of contenders in Division II.

Johnston

The Panthers were another team that was facing a rebuild after graduating its quarterback, top receiver and middle linebacker from last fall.

It has been a mixed bag for the Panthers. They have been blown out, lost close games, and they finally picked up their first win last weekend.

Johnston had a quarterback competition in the preseason and had a handful of positions that were being competed for beyond that. The roster was unsettled in week one and it seems like this season is one big tryout for the future. I don't hate that approach, especially when the reality is that you are not ready to compete for a championship. The team has been taking baby steps, but getting in the win column this past week was huge. Let's see how the Panthers finish.

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FLY FISHING: Expert fly fishing guide Ed Lombardo with a striped bass caught on Narrow River, Narragansett, RI with a Hot Pink Ed's Fly. (Submitted photo)

Ponds stocked with trout ... go fish

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

In Rhode Island, the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) stocked 24 waterways with rainbow and brook trout last week before the holiday. DEM is providing restocking updates via its website at dem.ri.gov/fishing. A 2022 fishing license is required for anglers 15 and older and a trout conservation stamp is required to keep or possess a trout. Fishing licenses can be purchased online on the DEM's Rhode Island Outdoors (RIO) portal.

Over 63,000 trout are being stocked across Massachusetts as pond and lake water temperatures start to cool down. As the stocking plans roll out locations will be updated daily on the map at www.mass.gov/service-details/trout-stocking-report. Don't forget your fishing license—buy online at MassFishHunt.

Learn how to toss a fly

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) Aquatic Education Program will be holding its annual "Introduction to Saltwater Fly-Fishing", Saturday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Sprague Bridge, Narrow River, Narragansett, RI.

DEM and fly-fishing instructors including expert fly guide and long-time program coordinator Ed Lombardo will review the equipment needed to get started, provide casting instruction and then all will fish the Narrow River.

Lombardo said, "Fly fishing equipment will be supplied including rods, reels, fly line and flies. However, all participants need to bring their own waders."

Cost of \$15 is for lunch. For additional information and registration contact Kimberly Sullivan in DEM's Aquatic Resource Education program at kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov.

Massachusetts considers new

tautog regulations for 2023
The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is taking public comment and holding a virtual public hearing on a series of proposed regulatory affecting commercial and recreational fisheries including recreational tautog. Full text of the regulations may be found on DMF's website along with additional relevant background information.

In addition to recreational tautog, Atlantic menhaden, Shortfin mako and groundfish regulations will be addressed.

A slot limit and trophy fish provision for recreational tautog are being proposed. The regulation would 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. The aim is to preserve more large female fish with great spawning potential.

The 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 the virtual public hearing on Nov. 1, 2022 at 6 p.m. to take comment on draft regulations. Register for the hearing at: <https://bit.ly/3SIdZjv>.

Where's the bite?

Striped bass, bluefish and false albacore. Fly fishing guide and instructor Ed Lombardo, said, "The hickory shad and striped bass have been plentiful now for the past few weeks, both in Narrow River and at Charlestown Breachway. Small bucktail streamer flies in colors of yellow, or black, over white with flash topping has been working very well for shad. The striped bass like flies in traditional white and olive, or white and chartreuse with some flash in the body. I have been getting

some very nice bass in the 24 to 39-inch class with my Hot Pink Ed's Fly."

Bass are everywhere in the Bay. We have so much Atlantic menhaden in the four to six inch range around that customer Albert Bettencourt of Riverside said they were four feet thick in the Warren River with slot size striped bass (28" to <35") and larger fish under them. So with all this bait in the water it was hard to get them to bite," said John Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle, Riverside.

East End Eddie Doherty, expert Cape Cod Canal angler and author said, "Peanut bunker, silversides, adult menhaden, mackerel and other baitfish remain in the Canal providing a top-notch meal plan for hungry predators! Vinny Rosata from Wareham caught several nice fish on the early east tide including a 41-inch striped bass with an Al Gags 5 ounce white soft plastic jig."

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, RI said, "Stripers have started to push to south county beaches. Chasing peanut bunker these fish are mostly school bass to decent sized slot fish. Fishing was also very good this past week in the breachways and salt ponds even when it was too rough to boat fish or fish out front along the beach. The ponds have been loaded with bait (silversides, mullet, peanut bunker, shad, juvenile scup, and seabass) and bass ranging from schoolie to over slot sized that are feeding heavily on all of the bait."

Fluke, black sea bass and scup. The fluke bite is nearly nonexistent with anglers finding it difficult to catch large black sea bass too in the Bay and in many places along the coast. However, the scup bit is still very strong anywhere there is structure and good water movement in particular. "Scup being caught are large, 15" or so, with anglers still limiting out (30 fish/angler/day, 10" minimum size)." said John Littlefield.

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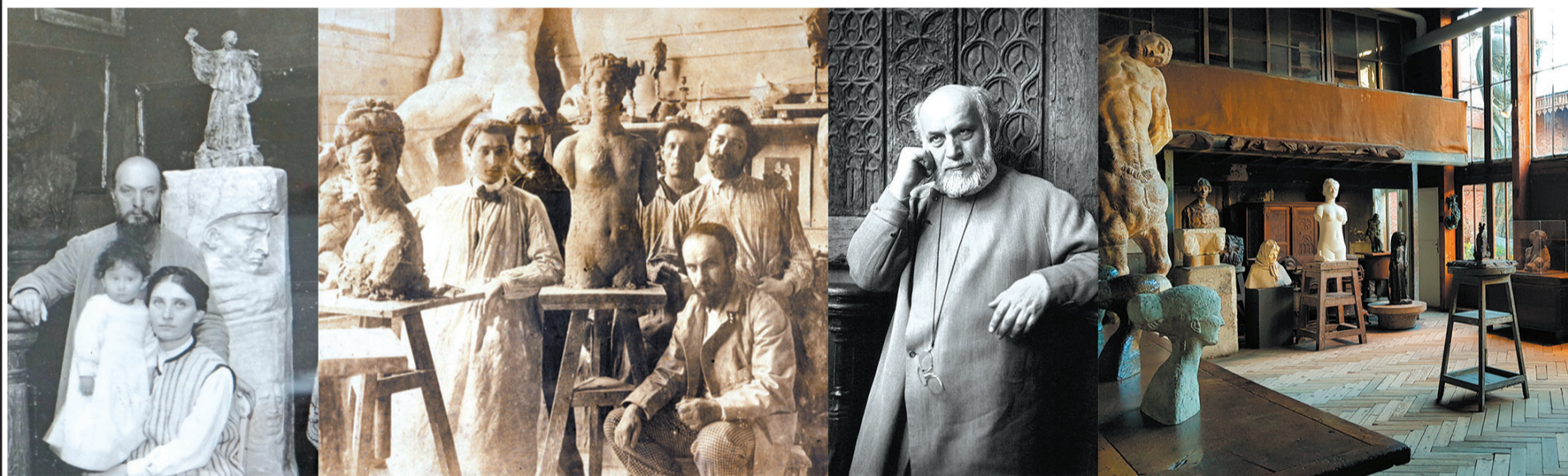
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COLLECTIBLES

MASTER SCULPTOR: Antoine Bourdelle



By Travis Landry
Auctioneer & Specialist
Bruneau & Co. Auctioneers
Cranston, RI

early years he received awards for his works and set up a studio in Paris, which is actually part of the Bourdelle Museum today.

During his lifetime, Bourdelle found inspiration from Beethoven and sculpted many busts of the composer. It is said both his wives and daughter also modeled for him and inspired his works. An assistant to famed sculptor Auguste Rodin for 15 years, Antoine Bourdelle's attention to the figural form is nearly unrivaled. He even became a teacher himself, one of his most notable students being none other than famous artist Henri Matisse.

A prominent artist in the Art Deco movement, Bourdelle led the way from the beaux-arts era that dominated the end of the 19th century into the modern styles of the 20th century. As his career progressed, he received larger commissions for monuments and architectural reliefs. Antoine Bourdelle left a legacy filled with Romanesque forms and mythological figures after his death in 1929. He was so influential that today, his work is on display in over a dozen museums worldwide.

article: An exquisite bronze by Bourdelle available in our upcoming Fall Fine & Decorative Art Auction. Titled "Le Jeu de Voile" or "Dance of the Veil," it stands at over two feet tall and depicts an art deco woman (his wife, perhaps?) dancing in a diaphanous dress with flowing fabric in her hands. In storage for decades, the bronze patina is in excellent condition and presents beautifully. A nearly identical version of this sculpture is actually on display in the Tokyo Museum of Western Art in Japan, and I'm a little envious one lucky bidder will get bring this museum quality piece home from Bruneau and Co. October 24th – will it be you?-

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Arts group to hold community group exhibit of small works

The Collaborative, a Warren-based arts nonprofit, has put out a call for submissions for their first ever community art exhibition.

Anyone practicing art in Rhode Island can submit up to four pieces of artwork, 8 inches or smaller, to this non-juried show. "All submissions will be accepted," said Sandy MacDonald, the Collaborative Gallery Coordinator, "as long as they fit the criteria. We're accepting 2D artworks of all mediums and 3D artwork in sculpture, ceramics and metal works that are 8 inches or smaller. All work must be non-functional and original by the submitting artist."

The registration deadline is Friday, November 18th. There is a submission fee, however, there will be no sales commission on any art sold during the exhibit; 100% of any sales goes back to the artist.

MacDonald sees this as a chance to reach out to artists of all ages who might not have the opportunities to get their work into other galleries. "The real goal of this is to create a sense of community," said MacDonald. "Artists, like myself, tend to work in silos, way apart from everyone else. So, this is a great opportunity to engage with other creative people in Rhode Island. We (The Collaborative) aim to truly build a community of working artists and this highlights that effort."

The work will be on exhibit December 1, 2022 through January 15, 2023 at The Collaborative Studio, 4 Market St, Warren, RI. The opening reception for the exhibit is scheduled for Thursday December 8th from 6-8pm.

For more information and to submit your work, please visit: www.thecollaborative02885.org/small-works-show



Kevin Kline and Sigourney Weaver in "The Good House." (Photo by Michael Tompkins/Courtesy of Roadside/Lionsgate)

WARWICK SHOWCASE

THE GOOD HOUSE
*** 1/2
(Romantic Drama)

Sigourney Weaver stars as Hildy Good, a realtor with a drinking problem.

Hildy sells expensive houses in her hometown on Massachusetts's North Shore where she competes with a former employee.

The 72-year-old woman is divorced but on friendly terms with her former husband. She still has a crush on the local character, Frank Getchell (Kevin Kline).

Hildy likes her wine and denies that she has a problem with it, even though everyone knows she does.

"The Good House" is a pleasant little adult love story with interesting characters that you care for.

Hildy is a lovable person who swears that she doesn't have a problem, even when her family attempts an intercession, and even when she is out of control.

But you still love her and hope she wises up and gets help.

"The Good House" is a rare movie about interesting people like the ones you find in small, close-knit communities. If you could afford it, you might enjoy living in the picturesque North Shore.

BROS

(Irritating, Badly Made Comedy)

"Not that there's anything wrong with it," Jerry Seinfeld would say when dealing with gay men.

Then why is "Bros" so bad?

Billed as the first Rom Com feature movie to deal with the subject of two men in love, "Bros" should have a wide open playing field for good comedy writers.

Billy Eichner plays Bobby Lieber a podcaster who is building a gay men's museum.

Reaching 40 and never been in love, he participates in the gay New York City dating scene, meeting a self-assured jock, with quite a different personality (Luke MacFarlane). The on and

See it at the **Movies** with Joyce & Don Fowler

off relationship plays like a heterosexual relationship.

The difference is twofold: The writing is sophomoric. A bad joke is a bad joke, no matter who says it.

But the spoiler is Eichner will get on your nerves from the opening scene and it will never let up.

Lots of dumb running gags, poorly edited vignettes, guest appearances by actors who are given dumb soliloquies and then disappear all drag the movie down.

Hopefully, someone will try again and make a better movie. It won't be hard to do.

AVONI WARWICK SHOWCASE

THE STORIED LIFE OF A. J. FIKRY
*** 1/2
(Romantic Tale)

When people gather under the marquee after an Avon film engaged in deep discussion, you know they have seen a good movie.

Taken from the New York Times best-selling novel, "... A. J. Fikry..." tells the sentimental tale of a bookstore owner who finds himself in a deep funk after the death of his wife.

A.J. runs the financially troubled book store on a small island off the coast of Massachusetts. He has lost interest in life and finds himself falling asleep every night inebriated from too much wine.

A mystery occurs when he awakes and finds his valuable possession of Poe's poems missing.

Two people enter and change his life dramatically: a two-year-old girl left among the book stacks and a young lady selling the new editions.

Add his writer friend, his wife, and the chief of police, and you have a nice little mystery that eventually comes together in a sentimental ending.

The folks under the marquee were praising the movie for being true to the book.

NETFLIX

MR. HARRINGTON'S PHONE

(Taken From Stephen King's Short Story)

Donald Sutherland gets better with age.

The great actor plays the title character, a wealthy businessman who has left the New York City rat race to retire in a remote mansion in Maine. (Where else? It's a Stephen King story.)

He hires a young boy to read to him three times a week. They bond. In fact, Craig (Jaeden Martell) is his only friend.

Mr. Harrington introduces Craig not only to wonderful novels, but to lessons he extracts from them.

Craig, in return, teaches his mentor everything there is to know about this new fad called the iPhone.

Craig is bullied at school. Harrington gives him advice on how to handle his situation, which is not quite in the "turn the other cheek" mode.

When something bad happens to the bully, the story takes a dark, Stephen Kingish turn.

Whether or not you like the ending largely depends on your King perspective.

I loved the relationship between the boy and the old man.

I did not care for the ending.

October in years past

By DON FOWLER

20 Years Ago

Angela Brazil, Timothy Crowe, Fred Sullivan Jr., Cynthia Strickland and Amy Van Nostrand starred in "Cloud Nine" by Caryl Churchill at Trinity.

Action star Jason Statham starred in "The Transporter" -- one of the better action movies of the time.

"Tuck Everlasting" was based on the novel by Rhode Island writer Natalie Babbitt and starred Sissy Spacek and William Hurt.

"A Wish Come True" held a "Swing With Sinatra" night (without Sinatra) at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet. The RI Philharmonic continued its Happy White family series with conductor Francisco Noya and narrator Bill Harley in a program titled "Build Me a Song," which included Beethoven's 5th and Dvorak's New World Symphony.

40 Years Ago

Peter Shaffer's "Amadeus" played the Ocean

State Theatre (Now PPAC). The theatre celebrated its 4th anniversary with Sergio Franchi and Dana Valery performing.

Peter O'Toole starred in one of the most critically acclaimed films of the year, "My Favorite Year."

Fanny's Fireside Inn at 651 Warwick Ave. featured 99-cent cocktails before 7 p.m. plus a 99-cent breakfast. Surf and turf was \$9.95 and liver and onions was \$2.95.

Two Guys From Italy at 1982 Warwick Ave. had stuffed shells and salad for \$3.25. Rumpelstiltskin's at 3301 Post Road offered a boiled dinner for \$4.50. Vallee's, near the airport, had Maine twin lobsters for \$10.50.

Island View Inn in Oakland Beach had fish and chips with chowder for \$3.95 and fried clams for \$6.25.

A small pepperoni pizza was \$2.50 at Cowesett's Excellent Pizza. All-you-can-eat fish and chips, chowder and clam cakes were \$3.75 at PJ's Kitchen in Buttonwoods.

Former Cranstonians Ralph Stokes and John Gilbert starred in "Equus" at Parish House Players.



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Jake Hunsinger & The Rock Bottom Band arrive with debut album

By ROB DUGUAY

Nearly two months ago, Providence based singer-songwriter and Cranston resident Jake Hunsinger proceeded to release his debut full-length, *Wrapped Around The Axle*, with The Rock Bottom Band in unique fashion. It started with "Bottoms Up At Dusk," a mini-festival taking place on August 14 at the heralded music venue Dusk located on 301 Harris Avenue in Providence to ring in the physical version of the album. Then they released the first single off of the album, "Lorelai," digitally a few days later on August 18. Hunsinger and the gang then followed that up while putting out *Wrapped Around The Axle* on various digital platforms on September 23 via the local label HoboCastle Records, marking its official release. Even though they went with an unconventional plan to put it out, the music that's within the record is abundant in quality and substance.

What will always set this country-rock band apart from others in the local music scene is the way Hunsinger relays his vocals. He sings in a way that harks back to classic country artists such as Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Merle Haggard and



Jake Hunsinger & The Rock Bottom Band (Submitted photo)

Hank Williams. The instrumentation from lead guitarist Andrew Donnelly, drummer Zack Wedge and bassist Jaime Doyle round this characteristic out with twangy guitars, steady rhythms and catchy harmonies. It gives a modern spin on the country style

that doesn't lean towards pop, which is a refreshing thing. The sound courtesy of Grammy nominated producer and engineer George Dussault via Galilee Productions in Cumberland is excellent as well.

The lead single is actually inspired by

Hunsinger watching the TV series *Gilmore Girls* with his mother, believe it or not. It has a very harmonious structure with his acoustic guitar leading the musical arrangements. "Black Eyeshadow Stomp" has Wedge exhibiting unique drumming with the lyrics having a way of sticking to the senses, especially during the chorus. Another track that has an emphatic vibe is "The Mess Around" with the song title describing the chaotic nature of the subject matter. Other highlights within the album include "Wild Horses of Wyoming," "The Day My Life Began" and "Moving Without Me."

Along with it being a stellar release, *Wrapped Around The Axle* also shows substantial growth for Hunsinger and his backing band. As musicians they've become more cohesive and the depth of the songwriting is very apparent. That's why this album is a great one and it's among the best records to come out of Rhode Island so far this year. To give it a listen, give the band name a search on your favorite streaming platform. To pick up a physical copy, keep track of the next time Jake Hunsinger & The Rock Bottom Band are performing live via their website at therockbottomband.com.

Did Cranston man have a treasure map, or was he a con artist?

James Brown of Cranston sat down and wrote a letter to John C. Newbury, the Collector of Customs. "I hope you will pardon the liberty I am taking in writing to you but I thought you were the best one to write to. I know that several expeditions have been fitted out from your place for the famous Cocos Island treasure. The last one, I believe, was the brig *Blakely*, which failed to find it," he penned. "The reason it cannot be found is because it is no longer on Cocos Island. It was there once but was later removed from there in the latter part of 1849 and planted on another Island of the South Pacific and I was one of the men who moved it and the only one living who now knows where it is. Will you be kind enough to show this letter to anyone whom you think would be interested? I want to start another expedition for the treasure and would be glad to communicate with anyone in the matter."

John Brown was born in 1834 and had taken to the seas as a teenager. Eventually he became a ship's captain after gaining enough experience. In 1849, when he was just barely 16 years old, he took a position as second mate to Captain Henry Smith who was taking his schooner *Sea Foam* on a pearl fishing expedition. After they were on the open sea, Smith allegedly confessed to Brown that it was not really pearls he was after; it was buried treasure.

According to the story Brown would later tell for the rest of his life, Smith's father had loaded a great deal of treasure onto the schooner *Black Witch* in 1822, after

helping to rob Spanish ships off the coast of Peru. The ships were said to be carrying diamonds, gold, rubies and valuable items from Peruvian churches. For a variety of reasons, he and his co-conspirators never went back for the loot and eventually he was the only member of the party remaining alive. Before his death, he told his son the story.

John Brown would forever swear that he and Smith located the treasure during that faux pearl-fishing trip, exhumed it and moved it to another tropical island. Brown supposedly made a detailed map at that time so that Smith could one day go back and claim the goods. But, before that could happen, Smith died, leaving Brown with a treasure map. The map documented the treasure being reburied in the Thousand Islands. He needed a crew to physically and financially assist him in going to claim the goods and, knowing that most people wouldn't believe the story, he started exhibiting the coins he had taken from the secret stash back in 1849. He also began writing letters to anyone who might help him make the right connections.

It was not until he left Cranston for a visit to San Francisco, however, that the ball got rolling. At the hotel in San Francisco, he met a man named George Luce, a doctor who was so enthralled by the idea of treasure-hunting that he took the reins and got a crew of investors gathered. Numerous people were greatly interested in partnering up with Brown for this once-in-a-lifetime quest for

Back in the Day



by KELLY SULLIVAN

riches. Wealthy, successful men freely invested their money in the expedition with the expectation of bringing back even more. More than fifty men invested anywhere from \$10 to \$2,000, bringing the total investment to \$25,000. An assemblage of 15 treasure hunters set out to sea from San Francisco aboard the schooner *Herman* on July 20, 1902 without any shadow of a doubt. Brown's tale was so detailed and his yellowed map of the South Seas, complete with exciting markings of where the fifty-million-dollar treasure lied, seemed to promise an easy windfall.

But nothing was easy. As they got underway, Brown decided it was not safe to go to the island at that time and they would all spend the winter in Sydney, Australia and set back out on their trip in the spring. There, they watched their trusty captain drain their hopes. One of the investors, G.W. Sutton, later said that Brown was constantly buying liquor and was almost always drunk. He and the others later recalled how Brown even attempted to sell the schooner and leave them all stranded there. Very

concerned over the state of things, the men contacted the American consul and asked for assistance. With their help, Sutton replaced Brown as captain and they sailed away from Sydney toward their original goal. Quite upset by the turn of events, Brown allegedly became violent and began beating on the investors and threatening to kill them. They even found poison aboard which they were certain he was going to attempt to end their lives with.

In reality, Brown was the only person who could lead them to the treasure, if there was one, so they begged him to please make good on his agreement to take them there. Brown reportedly laughed in response and told them the whole thing had been a joke. There was no other option, at that point, than to go ashore, sell the schooner, and go back to America, now financially strained. There was public outcry over Brown being a fraud and he was arrested. His defense was that the spirits of dead pirates had warned him that it was simply not a good time to unearth the treasure.

Brown's failed expedition would not be the first or last time a great deal of money was spent in seeking the Cocos Island loot. After the *Blakely* expedition produced nothing, the stock company which financed the trip fell into financial ruin and the owners were forced to sell the boat just to be able to pay the wages of the crew they'd hired.

Sir Henry Palliser, Admiral of the British Navy, put together his own costly expedition, using several hundred military personnel

to assist him aboard the cruiser *Amphion*. The crew located a huge iron-hinged trapdoor on Cocos Island, perfectly matching the description of a trapdoor leading to the treasure which Palliser had read about in an old Spanish document. Before they could get past the tunnel entrance, a massive tropical storm began to rage and buried the entrance over 100 feet deep. The public was so angered over Palliser utilizing the military for such nonsense that he soon retired from his position.

In Feb. of 1909, John Brown decided to try his luck again. He set out to get the treasure aboard the steamer *Mariposa*. The 75-year-old was determined to finally claim the loot before he died. It does not appear that he was successful. He died without riches in Maine during the winter of 1921.

Until it was officially named a National Park in 1978, hundreds of people continued sailing to Cocos Island in search of pirate booty. Over 300 known expeditions were unsuccessful. Located in the Pacific Ocean about 300 miles southwest of the Costa Rican mainland, the island's fabled treasures apparently remain safely embedded in the earth. And there may be yet another horde of riches in the Thousand Islands, allegedly transferred there by a Cranston man who was either a believable con artist or a determined sea captain with an authentic treasure map pointing to a financial windfall which has never been claimed.

Kelly Sullivan is a Rhode Island columnist, lecturer and author.

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fall events

Pumpkins at St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 Pumpkins arrive Oct. 8, and sales begin 9 a.m., Oct. 9 and continue until Oct. 31. Saturday and Sundays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Monday through Wednesday and Friday noon to 6 p.m. Thursdays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The church is located at 111 West Shore Road, Warwick. For more information, call 737-3127 or visit www.stmarkswarwick.org.

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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