

JOHNSTON Sun Rise

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COMPLIMENTARY

Thursday, June 16, 2022

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022



SENIORS NO MORE: Around 147 Johnston graduates flipped their tassels last Friday night. Look inside for a story and more photos. Above, the students await their diplomas. (Photo by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

ANTICIPATION: Below left, Johnston High's Class of 2022 celebrated commencement during a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. Below right, students peek through the doors before their procession. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



Division III Volleyball State Champs



FIRST IN THE OCEAN STATE: The Johnston boys volleyball team returned to the playoffs and beat Exeter-West Greenwich 3-1 to win the Division III Championship. It was the first title in the program's history. It was the school's first championship since 2018, when the girls basketball team won the DII title. See story on Page 18. Pictured is the team after winning the crown. (Photo by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

alzheimer's association



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Edward King House, 35 King St, Newport, RI

June 20 at 6 PM | South County Community Forum

Peacedale Library, 1057 Kingstown Rd, South Kingstown, RI

June 23 at 12 PM | Warwick Community Forum

Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI

June 27 at 12 PM | East Providence Community Forum

East Providence Public Library, 41 Grove Ave, East Providence, RI

To register, contact Annie Murphy at mmurphy@alz.org

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2022 GRADS: Around 147 Johnston graduates flipped their tassels last Friday night at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

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MAYORAL ADDRESS: Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisenia addressed this year's class.

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PACKED HOUSE: Proud families of Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 graduates packed the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence Friday night. Nearly 150 graduates received diplomas. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

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Thursday, June 30, 2022 at noon

Thursday, June 30, 2022 at noon

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ANXIOUS GRADS: Above and below, the Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 lined up in a hallway behind the scenes of the ceremony held Friday at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



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Johnston Senior High School Graduates

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Joseph Acciaro 🌟	Courtney Dias 🌟	Anthony Justiniano	Aliyah Ortiz 🌟	Dante Ricci	Jared Trotter 🌟
Amelia Akkaoui 🌟🌟	Julia Droukas 🌟🌟🌟🌟	Faith Khang 🌟	Edgar Pacheco-Ortiz	Raleigh Richard	Cameron Tum 🌟🌟
Abdullah Alam	Nathan Emory	Ava Khoury	Aliyah Pagliaro	AlexAndrea Rivera	Sophia Turchetti
Carlos Alfaia	Rudy Estrada	John Lapinski	Ava Palma 🌟🌟🌟🌟	Denise Robinson 🌟	Dariel Urena
Aliza Almonte 🌟	Alexia Evangelista 🌟	Christopher LaPlante	Alyssa Pascale 🌟🌟🌟	Gianna Robinson	Jeremy Urena
Samantha Amaral	Chase Fallon-Coates	Ayesha Laredo	Emily Patenaude 🌟🌟	Katie Rodriguez	Jacqueline Urizar 🌟🌟
Abigail Andres 🌟	Gezzelle Fernandez 🌟🌟🌟	Savannah Larivee 🌟	Hannah Patnaude	Hailey Rose	Kaylee Vanstone
Benjamin Annicelli 🌟🌟🌟	Jennelle Fernandez 🌟🌟🌟	Jian Carlos Lastor Rojas	Charlene Payne	Alaysia Royal 🌟	Kevin Veader III
Alana Aucone	Dominique Ferrazzano🌟	Isaiah Letran	Iris Perez	Giana Ruotolo	Victoria Venditelli
Ashlyn Banno 🌟	Maya Ferreira 🌟🌟🌟	Eric Luna	Daniel Peterson	Delya Sabet	Joseph Vento 🌟
Courtnei Beaulieu	Joseph Forte	Cassie Magnone 🌟	Mario Pi	Abigail Salas 🌟	Michael Vita
Victoria Butler 🌟	Victor Fragoso 🌟🌟🌟🌟	Katelyn Marandola	Allan Pineda 🌟🌟	Cameron Salois	Djocaelle Volcy
Brooklin Califano	Sarah Gasbarro 🌟	Ayden Martins	Shannon Pistocco 🌟	Lexianna Santos 🌟	Patrick Waldron 🌟
Joey Camara Jr.	Anthony Gawlik	Cameron Mattson 🌟	Emily Placella	Kasem Sasa 🌟🌟	Danielle Warren 🌟
Morgan Carrier	Dominic Gondreau	Alicia McCoy	Jenna Poland 🌟🌟	Ryan Schino 🌟	Hailey Weedon 🌟🌟
Janet Clements 🌟🌟	Jose Gonzalez	Samuel McLellan	Madison Proulx	Lily Scuncio 🌟	Victoria Winsor
Rebecca Clements 🌟🌟	Ashley Gruttadauria	Malvin Melicio	Alexander Quesada 🌟	Vena-Makaila Seyon 🌟	
David Collins	Kayla Gruttadauria	Jeremy Melise 🌟	Malakai Quiñones 🌟	Ariel Shelly	
Elyssa Collins	Felix Guilloty	Milana Melvin 🌟	Christopher Ragosta	Julia Sidoti 🌟	
Phillip Costantini	Mackenzie Hanna 🌟🌟🌟🌟	Manee Men 🌟	Joshua Ramos-Ortiz 🌟	Joseph Silvia 🌟🌟	
Glorianna Crichlow 🌟	Nicholas Harrington 🌟🌟🌟🌟	Jasella Mitsoulis	Candace Raposo 🌟	Collin Sonner	
Carprece Daigle	Shannon Hartley 🌟	Carlos Monteiro 🌟🌟	Alexis Rattray	Jake Souvannavong 🌟	
Kelly Dargy 🌟🌟	Charlene Hohlmaier 🌟	Desiree Morales	Hunter Remington	Ryan St. Lawrence	
Charley Davis	Emily Iannuccilli 🌟🌟🌟	Andrea Muriel	Noella Remington	Joseph Thomas 🌟🌟	
Alyson De la Roca 🌟	Rachel Ixcotoyac 🌟🌟	Jose Noriega, Jr.	Noé Reyes Estrada 🌟	Xavier Thomas	

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- 🌟 Medical Careers Academy
- 🌟 Art Academy
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PROUD PROCESSION: Around 147 Johnston graduates flipped their tassels last Friday night. The Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 celebrated commencement during a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

Watch Your MOUTH

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

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MUST REQUEST AN INTERVIEW THRU THE CHAIR, RICHARD J DELFINO JR, VIA EMAIL: RDELFINO87@COX.NET OR CELL: 401-230-7857

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS ARE SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY JUNE 22 AND WEDNESDAY JUNE 29. (FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED)

REQUESTS MUST BE MADE BY 4PM ON JUNE 29TH

RICHARD J DELFINO JR
CHAIRMAN JOHNSTON DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

Co-Valedictorians



TWO AT THE TOP: Co-Valedictorians Glorianna Crichlow, above, and Victor M. Fragoso, below, shared the “top of the class” title this year. Both students were named “valedictorian.” (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)



CLASS OF 2022

Dandelions & Terminators: Embracing the future



CAPTIVE AUDIENCE: The Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 listened intently as the Co-Valedictorians – Glorianna Crichlow and Victor M. Fragoso – delivered their commencement addresses. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

By RORY SCHULER

There was a time when a small mess of dandelions possessed the same potential as a patch of blooming roses.

As a little Winsor Hill Elementary School pupil, Glorianna Crichlow sat in the grass during recess, fascinated by a fluffy, expired dandelion — its seeds ready to spread on the next gust of wind.

"I plucked it out of the ground and began to blow the smaller flowers away, making a wish," said the Class of 2022's co-valedictorian. "I thought it was so cool to see the little flowers blowing away into the wind, symbolizing my hopes and dreams that would be carried away with it."

Crichlow wondered how something so beautiful can be seen so differently by different people.

"Many of us here have seen dandelions as that beacon of hope when we were little, something to make a wish on," she told the audience gathered for graduation on Friday, June 10. "We saw them as beautiful flowers, magical ones ... Of course the teacher on duty began to yell at me, telling me that those flowers were just weeds, and that spreading the seeds would only result in more weeds to grow."

The seeds were floating through the air, destined for soft soil and sidewalk cracks.

"I was upset, wondering why anyone would tell me that," Crichlow recalled. "They were such beautiful flowers, why couldn't I make a wish? She saw these beautiful flowers as weeds? It was so strange to me. And I think over time, after being told that they were weeds, I believed it. I mean now, when I see a dandelion, I feel the same way my teacher did. They're weeds, and blowing on them only brings more weeds."

But Crichlow detected a message beneath those soft dandelion pedals, its leaves tart, though edible.

"But no matter what, we must see the beauty in all things, in hopes, dreams, wishes," Crichlow told the audience. "In flowers and weeds ... We stay resilient, learn to grow in dark times, and remain strong when others tear us down. We continue to wish, because maybe if we do it hard enough, it will become true."

A small cardboard sign wobbled in the breeze in downtown Providence as Johnston teenagers dressed head-to-toe in blue or white caps and gowns scrambled into the theater. Long lines of well-dressed family followed. The air smelled of perfume and aftershave.

"You did it!" cheered the tiny sign, although it had been dropped in the grass by a graduate scrambling to pose for a photo. The sign had been stepped on and kicked off the curb into the parking lot. A man stopped to pick it up and pushed its flimsy stalk into a grassy strip next to the busy city road.

Nearly 150 Johnston graduates flipped their tassels last Friday night. The Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 celebrated commencement during a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence.

"On behalf of the Johnston School Department I would like to offer our congratulations on your successful completion of thirteen years of hard work and dedication," said Johnston Schools Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr. "This is a major milestone in your life and one that will have an impact on the rest of your life."

"I am proud of all your accomplishments as you have faced high school in probably some of the most difficult years you will ever experience and you did so with commitment and perseverance as you met all the graduation requirements honorably and successfully," he told the

graduating class. "That is something to be proud of and tonight is both your reward for your accomplishments and the gateway to your successful future."

DiLullo shared the stage with the Johnston School Committee, Mayor Joseph M. Polisenia, and Class of 2022 co-advisors Lisa Fresolone and Natasha Zito.

During his address, the superintendent passed on "some words of wisdom" that he hoped the latest crop of seniors would consider as they take their next steps into adulthood.

"First, always keep learning," he told them. "Please remember that the whole world is a classroom that will fill your mind with wonder and knowledge. Don't miss out on any challenge or opportunity. Second, always display patience, gratitude and forgiveness. If the world is to become a better place, we all must live by these virtues. Be thankful for the people who have been examples for you and strive to be a role model for others. Learn from the wisdom and experiences of others, especially parents, grandparents, family and valued friends, by paying close attention to their guidance. They have had the experience of becoming successful in their life and can help you navigate what is ahead of you."

"Never lose sight of the goal of being a moral adult," DiLullo said. "You were prepared to do great things in your future and I'm sure you will but whatever you do, do so honorably. Finally, always remember that no matter what, every person is unique based on their background, experiences, education, skills and beliefs. Respect that diversity in others and feel comfortable in your place in the world."

Co-Valedictorian Victor M. Fragoso took the audience for a tour of sci-fi cinema to teach his fellow graduates a few life lessons.

He time-traveled from director James Cameron's pre-Terminator days, to the most recent Marvel superhero blockbuster flop, "Morbius."

"Have any of you watched the 1984 Terminator movie?" Fragoso asked. "It's a very good movie about a robot who's sent back in time to kill some woman. Nowadays, multiple Terminator movies exist, and the original director, James Cameron, is very, very rich. However, things weren't always so great for Cameron."

"Before the release of the Terminator, he was quite frankly living on the brink," Fragoso explained. "He'd been in a cycle of firings and rehiring, he was unable to start production of the Terminator because one of the most important actors was working on something else, and essentially, James Cameron just had no money."

According to Fragoso, Cameron lived off McDonald's Big Macs, "with his mom sending him buy one get one free coupons in the mail."

"He'd buy one Big Mac, and then save the second, free Big Mac for the next day," Fragoso said. "It was quite dreadful. But of course, James Cameron made it through this difficult era, and now, he's one of the most popular people in Hollywood, having directed both Titanic and Avatar, which are two huge movies. And so, lesson 1 to you all is don't give up. Always keep pushing and you will succeed."

But do not fear failure, Fragoso warned.

To prove it, he shared a recent anecdote regarding a vampire villain who wanted to be a superhero in a film that a major studio wanted to be successful.

"And so did Morbius really live up to the hype?" Fragoso asked. "Well, no. And as it turns out, there had never been any hype. All the excitement had just been a big joke, and very few people actually went to see the movie. It did not make 'one morbillion dollars.' It flopped. Badly."

Each Kurt Vonnegut-esque pop culture metaphor offered by Fragoso revealed a kernel of truth and a bit of advise.

"And so, what's the lesson here?" he asked his classmates. "The lesson is that it's okay to fail. High school has been hard, and we've all had bad moments. And all that will continue. We're not always going to release Batman or Spider-Man movies, we're going to release a lot of 'Morbiuses.' That's just how people are. We fail constantly, and that's okay."

Prior to tossing their bedazzled caps into the air, DiLullo had some parting words for the Class of 2022.

"As we send you on your way, I want to thank you for becoming such fine young men and women," DiLullo told the class. "Thank you to your families for guiding you to a successful future by supporting you on your journey in life. And finally none of this would be possible without the support and skills of our administrators, educators and support staff who work hard day and night to provide you with the knowledge and skills to meet the demands of your future."

He wished them luck and many "Avatars" (not "Morbiuses") in the future.

"So Johnston High School class of 2022, I hope you are blessed with much success and happiness as you meet your future goals," DiLullo said. "We will miss you as you move on from Johnston but always remember that this is your home and are always welcome back. Congratulations to all of you on your success and best wishes for the future."

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'We fail constantly, and that's okay'

By Victor M. Fragoso
Co-Valedictorian

Good afternoon, students of JHS high school. There's a show that I really like, it's an animated show, where giant aliens invade earth, and so humanity makes giant robots to fight against them.

And there's a scene, I'm not sure when it happens, because I still haven't finished the show even though it's just one season and I started it about a year ago now. But I know there's this one scene where the main character is standing somewhere, and every other character is also there, saying congratulations to him. Every character, even this pet penguin that some lady had.

Well, I wish we could display that clip to everyone now. I think it truly captures what we need.

All of you have achieved something wonderful, and you each deserve a big moment of people clapping at you and saying congratulations.

Now this year has been quite tough, and lately, I've been of the belief that students should have their own appreciation week, just like teachers do.

It's true that teachers do a lot for us, more so than we may ever be able to thank them for, but students have to put up with quite a bit of nonsense as well.

Truly, we haven't had it easy. And so in light of that, I want to give you all, the students, a gift. And this gift will come in the form of three life lessons, which will be told through three historical fun facts.

Story 1:

Have any of you watched the 1984 Terminator movie? It's a very good movie about a robot who's sent back in time to kill some woman. Nowadays, multiple Terminator movies exist, and the original director, James Cameron, is very very rich. However, things weren't always so great for Cameron.

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He was living off of Big Macs, with his mom sending him buy one get one free coupons in the mail. He'd buy

one Big Mac, and then save the second, free Big Mac for the next day. It was quite dreadful.

But of course, James Cameron made it through this difficult era, and now, he's one of the most popular people in Hollywood, having directed both Titanic and Avatar, which are two huge movies.

And so, lesson 1 to you all is don't give up. Always keep pushing and you will succeed.

High school itself has been quite hard, but look at you now: you're sitting there, wearing your caps and gowns, moments away from receiving your diplomas.

The worst has passed, and every worry that you ever had about a test or about an assignment or about a class is now irrelevant. You surpassed it.

Life will bring you many dark eras, but there is always light at the end of the tunnel, and I know you're all strong enough to reach it. While one day, you may figuratively, or literally, be forced to survive off of day-old Big Macs, there will come a point when you'll have your big break. So don't worry.

Story number 2: does anyone know who the 23rd president of the United States was? Not many people do.

He served from 1889 to 1893. Not much is known about this guy, as truly, he wasn't that spectacular of a president. However, historical research has found that he was quite a scandalous man.

He was a married man, twice. But during his presidency, he apparently had an unnamed girlfriend. And this was completely unknown until decades later, when the family of the girlfriend came forward and revealed letters that had been exchanged between her and the president.

And, apparently, the president had had something of a nickname. One of the woman's letters read:

"My dearest, My Hero,

My heart rumbles when you are away, my happiness falls to zero. The demon of loneliness attacks me constantly, and only you are strong enough to slay it.

My three sisters, Maria, Rose, and Sina, tell me they've never seen me happier than I am when you are with me, and I know they are correct. Since you came into my life, I feel a happiness that I know no woman has ever felt. I long for your return, my Funny Valen-

tine."

The 23rd president liked being called "Funny Valentine." It's pretty crazy, and this little nickname is what inspired the 1937 Frank Sinatra song, "My Funny Valentine."

So, lesson 2:

Don't do bad things. Don't betray people's trust, cheat on people, etc., because no matter how sneaky you may think you are, eventually, eventually, your secret will come out.

And who knows? The universe might choose to punish you by turning your dirty little secret into the name of a song. So just be good, be honest, be humble.

And, ironically enough, this historical "fun fact" is not entirely historically accurate. Why did I lie to get across a lesson about the dangers of dishonesty? Just for comedic effect.

And now finally, story 3:

These past few months have shown us a plethora of amazing movies. The Batman, Everything Everywhere All At Once, Spider-Man No Way Home, etc.

However, there is one rather infamous movie that also came out recently, and that is of course the movie "Morbius."

Starring Jared Leto, this movie follows Michael Morbius, a man who can turn into a vampire, as he fights his evil vampire brother, Milo Morbius. Now, the movie sounds wonderful, but it really wasn't too anticipated at all. Jared Leto's kind of insane, and people just thought this movie would be mediocre.

That is until a movement online started to create excitement. People all of a sudden were going crazy, they WANTED to see this movie! They said the movie would outsell all others, making "one morbillion dollars."

The excitement got so out of hand that Sony even decided to release the movie in theaters a second time after its initial release.

And so did Morbius really live up to the hype?

Well, no. And as it turns out, there had never been any hype. All the excitement had just been a big joke, and very few people actually went to see the movie. It did not make "one morbillion dollars." It flopped.

FRAGOSO - PAGE 10

'No matter what, we must see the beauty in all things'

By Glorianna Crichlow
Co-Valedictorian

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, graduates, esteemed faculty, Dr. Dillullo, Mayor Polisena, and the school committee. Before I give my speech, there are a few people that I want to thank, because I would not be standing here today without them.

Firstly, a very special thank you and congratulations to the graduating class of 2022, many of whom are some of my very best friends. Thank you for your kindness and humor when I needed it, and thank you for the relationships we have formed. Next, I would like to thank my teachers for educating me, and all of the graduates, throughout a very tumultuous last couple of years. I would personally like to thank Mr. Russo, Ms. Ruggiero, Mrs. Herbert and my advisors for making my time here at JHS special and memorable. A thank you to the administration, namely Dr. Pennacchia, Mrs. Volante, and Mr. Bordieri for keeping the school in shape. I speak for most of the graduates when I say thank you for all of your hard work. Thank you to my family for the love and support you have given me throughout high school. And last, but most certainly not least, I would like to thank my mom, who I can already hear crying in the audience. Thank you for your nurture, kindness, and criticism

when it was needed. Thank you for your optimism and for being a shoulder to cry on. And lastly, thank you for being my best friend.

When I first started writing this speech, I thought back to my time at JHS, and in school in general. I started thinking about important memories and experiences to reflect back on. One that I remember is one at Winsor Hill Elementary School, where my journey started. I was sitting in the grass for recess and there was a dandelion. I plucked it out of the ground and began to blow the smaller flowers away, making a wish. I thought it was so cool to see the little flowers blowing away into the wind, symbolizing my hopes and dreams that would be carried away with it.

This is a memory not just that I would have. Many of us here have seen dandelions as that beacon of hope when we were little, something to make a wish on. We saw them as beautiful flowers, magical ones.

Of course, the teacher on duty began to yell at me, telling me that those flowers were just weeds, and that spreading the seeds would only result in more weeds to grow.

I was upset, wondering why anyone would tell me that. They were such beautiful flowers, why couldn't I make a wish? She saw these beautiful flowers as weeds? It was so strange to me.

And I think over time, after being told that they were weeds, I believed it. I mean now, when I see a dandelion, I feel the same way my teacher did. They're weeds, and blowing on them only brings more weeds.

It's so interesting to me how we lose the way we see the world. It wasn't that long ago where I had so much hope and love for the future, for the world. And I wouldn't say it's gone, but it's definitely nowhere near where it used to be. Dandelions to me represented more than just a flower, or weed, but as magic that made our heart's desires come true. When I look back on my high school experience, I see someone that worked very hard to get where she is. But I also see someone that lost a lot of herself in the process.

My point in giving this speech is not to make you feel bad for me, or to be depressing. My point is that we have changed so much since we started school. I mean of course we changed physically, and I thank God for that because I was an ugly kid, but we changed in more ways that we can count. We changed our beliefs, perspectives, and lost so many qualities that we once had. We have been hardened by the world we have experienced, and we're nowhere near done. In some ways, we just started. But no matter what, we must see the beauty in

all things, in hopes, dreams, wishes, in flowers and weeds. We stay resilient, learn to grow in dark times, and remain strong when others tear us down. We continue to wish, because maybe if we do it hard enough, it will become true.

Now that we're entering adulthood, people will tell us how serious we need to be. How we need to know everything about everything. But that's not true. There's never a reason to take life too seriously because we only live one. We only have one opportunity, and I don't want to regret anything that I didn't do because I thought it was too silly or childish. As a young woman, I know that dreams don't come true because of dandelions, but of hard work and dedication. But I also know to dream big, because you never know what could happen. This life is unpredictable, graduates. We never know what will happen or the kind of people that we will become. But the least we can do is try our best, yearn for the best, strive for the best.

So remember one thing, graduates. Gain back that childhood innocence, and sense of hope and dreams. And as we leave here, think of that resilience, that growth as we enter college, the workforce, or the military. Remember that where some may see a weed, you see hope, dreams, the future. Find your dandelion, and make a wish.

Helping Local Businesses Thrive & Survive

Thank You



for your continued loyalty



Call us at 732-3100 to advertise your business

SUN RISE SCOOPS

Apple Fest Scheduled

The 34th Annual Apple Festival has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sunday, Sept. 11. The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

The event will be held at the Johnston Memorial Park – 1583 Hartford Ave. in Johnston. Register: members.nrichamber.com/.../the-34th-annual-apple.

The annual Apple Festival has been called by many a “Time-Honored Community Tradition & Fun for Everyone.” As always, this year’s fest will feature its “Artisan Row” — filled with beautiful handcrafted items, Pony Rides, and more.

The Annual Apple Festival will run for two days at Johnston Memorial Park, 1583 Hartford Ave. The event is free and open to the Public.

Johnston Historical Society General Meetings

At 7 p.m., June 29, Johnston Historical Society will hold a General Meeting with guest speaker author and historian Marty Podskoch, who will talk about his new travel book, “The Rhode Island 39 Club,” that encourages people to visit all thirty-nine towns and villages in Rhode Island.

For July and August, a Summer Hiatus will begin, as Executive Board meetings and General meetings are suspended for the summer. Have fun everyone!

To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

The Johnston Historical Society’s museum barn is open Tuesdays, from 6 to 8 p.m., for those who would like to visit the museum or examine the society’s collection of printed materials. Both the museum and Elijah Angell House continue to be open by appointment — the 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.

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. For more information, call 401-231-3380.

Contact the Johnston Historical Society at 231-3380 or at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, www.johnstonhistorical.org or www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

Event at Joy Homestead

Celebrate the 241st anniversary of the March to Victory of General Rochambeau through Cranston, Scituate and Coventry on June 18, 1781, on his way to victory over the British at Yorktown, with tea, homemade biscuits and strawberries. At 6 p.m. on June 18, the Cranston Historical Society invites you to the Joy Homestead (156 Scituate Ave., Cranston) to enjoy an early evening of pleasures including celebrating the march of the French forces of King Louis XVI through Cranston to join General Washington to defeat the British. There will be a \$5 donation. Call 944-9226 or visit www.cranstonhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

Networking Event

Pat Cruz Events will host its June Networking Event on June 22 at the Park Theatre and Event Center. The ‘meet and greet’ style event will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Pat Cruz Networking Events were created for local business owners, entrepreneurs, executives, and career-minded professionals from all industries who want to build their network, find new job candidates, meet potential employers or simply get out and meet new people. You’ll find no lengthy speeches, sales pitches or expensive ticket prices — just a few valuable hours of connecting, communicating and collaborating with real people in a relaxed atmosphere.

There will be complimentary appetizers and cash bar. For those who’d like to update their business headshot, Onyx

Media will be onsite taking photos for a nominal fee. Limited vendor tables may be purchased in advance for those interested in specifically showcasing products and services at the venue.

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.

Pre-K Lottery

The RI State Pre-K lottery is now open. This lottery will run until July 6 so you know a child who would be 4 before Spt. 1 may qualify. To apply, visit www3.ride.gov/PKL.

Reminder from Johnston Parks & Rec

Just a reminder of some of the rules and regulations at Johnston Memorial Park. There are no dogs allowed in the park or walking tracks. Dogs are allowed in the nature trail across the street from the parking lot. No smoking or tobacco use. 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 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, please 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.

Driving for a Cure

Please join the Cranston Country Club for the Gregory Rubino Memorial Golf Tournament on June 25. The club is “Driving for a Cure” at Cranston Country Club, and all proceeds go to benefiting the Lung Cancer Research Foundation. Spots are filling up fast so please register now to secure yours. Learn more and register at grubinomemorialgolf.com.

Johnston Senior Center offers classes & services

At the Johnston Senior Center, all exercise classes have resumed, and new classes have been added too. Call the center for information.

If you need any help with heating, housing, etc., during this cold winter or humidity or any other time, contact the Johnston Senior Center Social Services Department by calling 944-3343. Madeline or Amy will be happy to help you.

Arts Scholarships for youth now open to register

Do you know a student aged 11 - 14 who loves to create and to perform? Encourage them to apply to our ARTS Scholarships 2022 program! Applications and guidelines are now available at ppacri.org/artsscholarships.

The ARTS Scholarships 2022 program, sponsored by the Textron Charitable Trust and the PPAC Annual Fund with support from WPRI 12 and Ocean State Charities Trust, offers young artists an opportunity to participate in local summer arts education program that will broaden their experience in their chosen area of study.

Qualified students must be aged 11 - 14 by June 1 of this year and reside in and attend school in Rhode Island.

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.

Walk and Talk at Rocky Point

Come join the “Rocky Point Pacers” for a walk around Rocky Point every Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m., weather permitting. They meet at the gate on Rocky Point Avenue. Get some sunshine and burn off some holiday pounds.

Prepare RI High School Internships Program

Calling all RI public high school juniors: The 2022 PrepareRI High school Internship Program is accepting applications to participate in on-site/in-person, PAID summer experiential learning internships with local employers across the state.

This program will help you earn, learn, and connect with employers across Rhode Island. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Visit www.skillsforri.com/prepareri for more information.

Free Virtual Family-To-Family

The “NAMI-RI: Free Virtual Family-To-Family” course begins June 15. The Rhode Island chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-RI) is now accepting registration for our Summer virtual Family-to-Family course which begins on Wednesday, June 15. This is a free, 8-session, educational program for family, significant others and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program, which means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition. NAMI-Rhode Island’s Family-to-Family course is taught by trained family members who have lived experience with a loved one, and includes presentations, discussions and interactive exercises.

For more information on the Family-to-Family curriculum and registration requirements, visit namirhodeisland.org, or call 401-331-3060, or email beth@namirhodeisland.org.

Library Summer Reading Program

This year’s Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library Summer Reading Program has been dedicated to Andrew Greene and begins on June 13. Library patrons can register on Beanstack, by going to mohrlibrary.beanstack.org.

The Library’s Children’s Librarian Meri Carney has provided a full summer schedule of events for children of all ages.

Animal Experiences: At 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 27, the library will host Dave Marchetti’s “Animal Experiences.” Guests can expect “hands-on fun with a variety of reptiles and some small mammals. You can meet, pet and even hold snakes, turtles, lizards, and more.” The event is for children ages 4 and up with a grown-up. Registration is required.

Animal Songs Sing ‘n Signing: At 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 29, Julie Garnett will perform “Animal Songs Sing ‘n Signing.” Julie Garnett, an award-winning songwriter, teacher and performer, will share original songs from her book, Animal Songs and will be available for book purchasing and signing. The event is for children ages 1 to 6 years old with a caregiver. Registration is required.

Read to Teddy: At 10:30 a.m., Thursdays, June 30, July 7, Aug. 4 and Aug. 11, the library’s Children’s Room will host “Read to Teddy.” “Our furry friend Teddy and his handler Ms. Pinto will join us to listen to stories read by children,” according to Carney. The event is for children age 3 and up with an adult. Registration is required.

tration is required.

Eat the Rainbow: At 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 6, Farm Fresh RI presents “Eat the Rainbow.” In this interactive experience families will learn about our local food sources through games, fun activities, and a hands-on cooking demo of assembling and tasting spring rolls. The event is for families with children ages 6 and up. Registration is required.

Fitness Adventure: At 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 11 (rain date July 18), youngsters 4 and up (with an adult) can stop by the Library for a “Fitness Adventure.” “Join Heather Sischo for an exciting 45 minutes of games and movement-based activities to energize the whole family,” Carney said. Registration is required.

Magic Show with Russ De Simone: At 6:30 p.m., Monday, July 25, library visitors can enjoy a “Magic Show with Russ De Simone.” Carney describes it as a “45-minute, high energy magic show which combines audience participation and comedy with good ole family fun!” The event is for children ages 4 and up with a grown-up. Registration is required.

Intro to Coding with Dash and Dot: The Children’s Room will host “Intro to Coding with Dash and Dot,” at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Aug 1. After a quick intro to Blockly, participants will try their new skills by coding the library’s robots — Dash and Dot — to move and talk. The event is for children ages 7 to 12. Registration is required.

Dancin’ with Hoops: At 6:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 15, the library will host “Dancin’ with Hoops.” Both demonstration and hands-on, this program is a blend of creative movement, dance, exercise, and cooperative play,” Carney wrote. “Hula hoops will be provided.” The event is for patrons of all ages (with an adult). Registration is required.

The library also hosts “Weekly Children’s Programs.”

Family Drop-in Crafts: From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays, June 27 to Aug. 15, and 2 to 5 p.m., Fridays, June 24 to Aug. 12, families can stop in for “Family Drop-in Crafts” — several self-guided projects for children and parents to do together. The event will be for ages 3 and up with a grown-up. There is no need to register.

Lego Club: The library will host Lego Club from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays, July 5 to Aug. 16. Play with the library’s Legos or bring your own. Bring a friend or make a new one. The Lego Club is for children ages 5 and up with a caregiver. No need to register.

Preschool Storytime: At 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays, July 13 to Aug. 10, the library will host “Preschool Storytime.” Attendees can expect “stories, songs, rhymes and puppets for toddlers and preschoolers and their grown-ups.” The Storytimes are for children ages 2 and up with a caregiver. Registration is required.

Art Smart: From 4 to 5 p.m., Wednesdays, July 6 to Aug. 3, visit and enjoy “Art Smart.” “Participants will explore the works of famous artists by doing hands-on projects with Ms. Melyssa.” The course is for children ages 8 to 12. Registration is required.

Read to Teddy: At 10:30 a.m., Thursdays, June 30 to Aug. 11, visitors can “Read to Teddy,” and various other programs for school-aged children with a grown-up. Registration is required.

Explorers: At 10:30 a.m., Thursday July 14, 21 & 28, “Explorers” offers stories, crafts and activities for children ages 6 and older. Caregivers must remain at the library for the duration of the program. For children ages 6 and up. Registration is required.

How the reading program works:

Starting on June 13, parents can sign up the whole family for Summer Reading on Beanstack. Beanstack is a web-based reading challenge. Children, Teens and Adults can track reading minutes, write reviews, and participate in fun activities to earn badges and digital raffle tickets.

Children who complete our reading



HAMMING IT UP: Seniors from the Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 lined up in a hallway behind the scenes of the ceremony held Friday at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. Students posed for photographs and relished the moment. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

■ Fragoso

(Continued from page 8)

Badly. And so, what's the lesson here? The lesson is that it's okay to fail. High school has been hard, and we've all had bad moments. And all that will continue. We're not always going to release Batman or Spider-Man movies, we're going to release a lot of Morbiuses. That's just how people are. We fail constantly, and that's okay. We can't ever be perfect, and we shouldn't try to be. Holding ourselves up to impossible standards will hurt us more than it will help, and we have to be okay with accepting that our best may not always be enough. We will fail. But that's not the end of the world. Sony failed horribly when they released Morbius, but the movie still showed people a good time thanks to all the online jokes.

While the reaction may not have been what Sony expected or wanted, it was still great in its own way, and so are people. We aren't perfect. But that doesn't make us bad. We're good. We're strong, but we're also flawed, and weak. We are Morbius, and that's okay, because Sony is still out there making movies, and people still like superheroes. In the face of disaster, the world keeps spinning. So don't despair. Have faith in yourself, always, even in the face of your mistakes. This school has introduced me to some of the most wonderful people I've ever met. The students, the teachers, all have such wonderful things to offer. The things you guys have done have changed my life for the better, and though I may not see some of you for a while, because you're moving or going to a different school, just know that you will truly continue existing in my mind, always. You're all wonderful, amazing, and don't

ever let anyone tell you otherwise. Whatever it is that you want in this life, you WILL have, even if it takes time to get it. I believe in you all. Never underestimate the things that you're capable of, or the impact that you may have had on someone's life. Thank you for being wonderful. And to the band and the chorus: I know most of you aren't seniors, but regardless, you all did an amazing job performing tonight. You're all incredible and talented people, and I know you'll all go on to achieve amazing things too. And one last thing: to Mr. Lamoureux and pretty much anyone I've interacted with this year, I'm sorry for being late so often. I know that's not good of me, and I'm truly trying to change. I promise that in the future, I will be the most punctual person in existence. All of you graduates are wonderful, and truly, congratulations.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Review will hold its monthly meeting on June 30th, 2022 at 6:30 pm, at Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue. All persons interested in the following proposals are requested to be present at this time. The assembly facilities are accessible to the handicapped. Persons requiring special accommodations shall call the Zoning Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting (401) 231-4000 ext 4117. Persons utilizing TDD equipment may contact the Town through "Relay Rhode Island" at 1-800-745-6675. The agenda for the evening will be as follows, subject to change:

Old Business
File 2022-9 – Petition of Off Course Properties, LLC, Applicant for Plainfield Street/Capitol Street, AP 26 Lot 1, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a Dimensional Variance & Use variance Section 340 for a proposed Single-Family Dwelling.

File 2019-34 – Petition of David Disanto, Owner/Applicant; 279 Scituate Avenue; AP 44 Lot 363 Industrial Zone, 40,510 Sq. Ft. Special Use Permit Section 340-138.1. Proposal of Compassion Center. The petitioner is seeking to add more time to act on the Special Use Permit.

New Business
File 2022-12 – Petition of Cranston Enameling, Inc./Dana Antonelli, Owner/Applicant for 1309 Plainfield Street, AP 3 Lot 225, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a Use variance Section 340 Subsection 9 - Kennel for Commercial Boarding of Pets for a Proposed Doggy Day Care.

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

Per order of the Zoning Board of Review
 Thomas Lopardo, Chairman

6/16, 6/23, 6/30/22

TOWN OF JOHNSTON
OFFICE OF THE
TAX COLLECTOR

COLLECTOR'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR TAXES DUE AND UNPAID
 Johnston Municipal Court
 1600 Atwood Avenue
 Johnston, RI 02919
 June 23, 2022

The undersigned, Finance Director/Collector of the Town of John-

ston, hereby gives notice that he will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Johnston Municipal Court, 1600 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island 02919, on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., the various parcels of real estate or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the taxes which constitute a lien thereon set forth in the original advertisement of May 26, 2022 in THE SUNRISE of that date to which reference is hereby made

Property upon which taxes have been paid since the advertisement first appeared, will not, of course, be included in the sale.

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 44-9-19, if the real estate in which you have a substantial interest is purchased by the Town of Johnston and has not been assigned, you may redeem the real estate by paying or tendering to the Treasurer of the Town of Johnston the sum for which the real estate was purchased, plus a ten percent (10%) penalty of the purchase price if redeemed within six (6) months after the date of the sale. Beginning with the seventh (7th) month forward, an additional one percent (1%) of the purchase price for each succeeding month will be added, together with all charges lawfully added for intervening taxes plus interest thereon at a rate of one percent (1%) per month and expenses assessed after the Collector's Sale.

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 44-9-21, if the real estate in which you have a substantial interest is purchased by someone other than the Town of Johnston, you may redeem the real estate by paying or tendering to the purchaser or his or her legal representatives, assigns or to the person or persons to whom assignment of the tax title has been made by the Town of Johnston, or the Treasurer, the original sum and any intervening taxes having been paid to the municipality plus interest thereon at a rate of one percent (1%) per month and costs, plus a penalty as provided in Rhode Island General Laws Section 44-9-19, or in the case of an assignee of a tax title from the Town of Johnston, the amount stated in the instrument of assignment, plus the above-mentioned penalty.

The right of redemption may be exercised only by those entitled to notice of the Sale pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 44-9-10 and Section 44-9-11, and may be exercised at any time prior to the entry of Final Judgment in an action to foreclose the right of redemption filed pursuant to Rhode Island General Law Section 44-9-25. You are encouraged to review Rhode Island General Laws pertaining to tax sales and/or consult with an attorney concerning your rights.

Joseph Chiodo
 Finance Collector/Director

6/2, 6/9, 6/16/22



Request for Proposals Town of Johnston

Entry Access System Johnston Police Department

Town of Johnston is requesting bids for Entry Access System-Police Department. Bid specifications are available at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office located at 1385 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919 beginning June 16th, 2022 weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Specs are also available on the Town's website at www.townofjohnstonri.com. A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for **June 22, 2022 at 9:00 am** at the Johnston Police Department located at 1651 Atwood Avenue, Johnston RI 02919. Sealed bids will be accepted until **10:00 am, June 28th, 2022** at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office at the above address and will be opened publicly at that time. The Town of Johnston reserves the right to reject any or all responses or parts thereof, to waive any informality in them, or accept any bid deemed in the best interest of the Town. The Town of Johnston will offer interpreters for the hearing impaired provided the request is at least three (3) days prior to scheduled bid opening by calling (401)553-8830.

Joseph Chiodo, CPA
 Finance Director

6/16/22



Request for Proposals Town of Johnston

Stair Tread Covering Johnston Police Department

Town of Johnston is requesting bids for Stair Tread Covering-Police Department. Bid specifications are available at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office located at 1385 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919 beginning June 16th, 2022 weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Specs are also available on the Town's website at www.townofjohnstonri.com. A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for **June 22, 2022 at 10:00 am** at the Johnston Police Department located at 1651 Atwood Avenue, Johnston RI 02919. Sealed bids will be accepted until **10:15 am, June 28th, 2022** at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office at the above address and will be opened publicly at that time. The Town of Johnston reserves the right to reject any or all responses or parts thereof, to waive any informality in them, or accept any bid deemed in the best interest of the Town. The Town of Johnston will offer interpreters for the hearing impaired provided the request is at least three (3) days prior to scheduled bid opening by calling (401)553-8830.

Joseph Chiodo, CPA
 Finance Director

6/16/22

Winsor Hill earns 'Kindness' certification

By PETE FONTAINE

Many people will tell you that Johnston's Winsor Hill Elementary School may have written "The Best Public School Story of the 2021-22 Academic Year."

As proof, Dr. Amy Burns — the always-smiling popular principal — along with Behavioral Director Briana Bielecki and Health-Physical Education Teacher Susan Parillo recently put up a huge and colorful banner in the cafeteria that proclaims Winsor Hill as a Kindness Certified School.

Back a few months, Winsor Hill held a highly-important two-part poster contest for students in Grades 1-2 and Grades 3-5 that centered around such topics as friendship as well as bullying.

Likewise, student artists produced an impressive "Kindness Tree" that was a focal point inside the well-maintained school's main entrance.

"The students in Grade 1 and 2 completed a unit on Friendship," Parillo explained. "Students shared the qualities of being a good friend."

And the first place winner was Finley Shavlier whose poster message was: "A good friend likes you just the way you are."

Owen Botelho (Grade 2) took second place while Noah Guimaraes (Grade 1) won third.

Meanwhile, the students in Grade 3-5 completed a unit on bullying to further understand what bullying is, how to recognize a bully, and how to help.

"They learned being an upstander is most important and not a bystander," Parillo added while noting the first place winner was Layla Gonsalves, whose impressive and colorful poster message read: "Bee a bigger person — don't bee a bully."

She then announced that Jacqueline Chevalier (Grade 5) was second in the Bully Poster event with Victoria Salois (Grade 5) taking third.

As many people will attest, the world can use some extra joy right now (following what recently happened in Evalde, Texas and Russia's senseless war on the Ukraine).

Thus, Winsor Hill became part of the 11th Annual Great Kindness Challenge and became a "Kindness Certified School" by Kids for Peace, which is a global non-profit that hosts the Great Kindness Challenge. School staff emphasized the certification is a positive and uplifting program that fosters connection, inclusion, appreciation and overall well-being.

The annual program has multiplied in enrollment each year, having grown to more than 18 million students in 36,000 schools and reaching across all 50 states and 115 countries.

While Burns was extraordinarily elated with Winsor Hill's prestigious designation and could not have been more proud of the faculty, staff and entire student body, Jill McManigal, co-founder and executive director of Kids for Peace, said "I'm thrilled to recognize Winsor Hill School's commitment to kindness."

To which Dr. Bernard DiLullo, the long-serving Superintendent of Schools in Johnston, offered: "The Winsor Hill community has consistently been one of social responsibility as well as academic excellence. The staff, students and families regularly come together to help others that are less fortunate. From the Principal to the faculty and staff and to the families and students, when here is a need — whether (it's) a financial need, emotional need or supply need, they are always there to fill the void."

And, as DiLullo continued with a wide smile on his face and appreciation ringing in his voice: "Kindness is such an important attribute and the students at Winsor Hill certainly have the role models to guide them. I thank all of the Winsor community for showing such caring!"



KIND KIDS: Winsor Hill students Owen Botelho (left), took second place in the school's Friendship Poster Contest while Finley Shavlier was first and Noah Guimaraes placed third. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



NATIONAL NICHE: Winsor Hill Principal Dr. Amy Burns (left), Behavioral Specialist Briana Bielecki and Health/Physical Education Teacher Susan Parillo are smiles after hanging the banner that designates the Johnston elementary school as a Certified Kindness School.



AWESOME ARTISTS: Layla Gonsalves (left) took first in Winsor Hill's Bully Poster contest while Jacqueline Chevalier was second and Victoria Salois was third.

Obituaries

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THE FLAG THAT UNITES US: Officers and members of Warwick's Tri-City Elks Lodge led songs and delivered readings during a Flag Day ritual held Tuesday for the members of the Johnston Senior Center. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

That Ragged Old Flag

By Johnny Cash

... I walked through a county courthouse square
 On a park bench an old man was sitting there
 I said, your old courthouse is kinda run down
 He said, naw, it'll do for our little town
 I said, your old flagpole has leaned a little bit
 And that's a ragged old flag you got hanging on it
 ... He said, have a seat, and I sat down
 Is this the first time you've been to our little town?
 I said, I think it is
 He said, I don't like to brag
 But we're kinda proud of that ragged old flag
 ... You see, we got a little hole in that flag there when
 Washington took it across the Delaware
 And it got powder-burned the night Francis Scott Key
 Sat watching it writing say can you see
 And it got a bad rip in New Orleans
 With Packingham and Jackson tuggin' at its seams
 ... And it almost fell at the Alamo
 Beside the Texas flag, but she waved on though
 She got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville
 And she got cut again at Shiloh Hill
 There was Robert E. Lee, Beauregard, and Bragg
 And the south wind blew hard on that ragged old flag
 ... On Flanders field in World War one
 She got a big hole from a Bertha gun
 She turned blood red in World War Two
 She hung limp and low a time or two
 She was in Korea and Vietnam
 She went where she was sent by Uncle Sam
 ... She waved from our ships upon the Briny foam
 And now they've about quit waving her back here at home
 In her own good land here she's been abused
 She's been burned, dishonored, denied, and refused
 ... And the government for which she stands
 Is scandalized throughout the land
 And she's getting threadbare and wearing thin
 But she's in good shape for the shape she's in
 'Cause she's been through the fire before
 And I believe she can take a whole lot more
 ... So we raise her up every morning
 We take her down every night
 We don't let her touch the ground and we fold her up right
 On second thought, I do like to brag
 'Cause I'm mighty proud of that ragged old flag



TO THE FLAG: The members of the Johnston Senior Center and the Tri-City Elks Lodge stood together to pledge allegiance.

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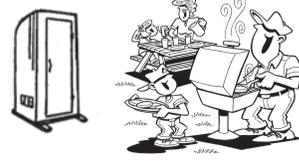
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2

Ventilation
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3

Masking
 Wear a high-quality mask in crowded indoor settings.



DETECT

4

Symptom screening
 Watch for symptoms after travel or indoor gatherings.

5

Testing
 Get tested if you have symptoms or are exposed.



TREAT

6

Isolation
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7

Treatment
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SUN RISE SCOOPS

■ Scoops

(Continued from page 9)

challenge by reading or listening to books, e-books, magazines, graphic novels or audio books throughout the summer and completing related activities will receive a free donated book and digital raffle tickets for various prizes donated by the Friends of the Library.

How do I sign up?

1. Go to mohrlibrary.beanstack.org or download the Beanstack app.
 2. Click on "Register an individual or a family".
 3. You can link several family members and access their accounts with one login.
 4. Log your minutes of reading, do fun activities and earn digital raffle tickets for a variety of prizes, donated by the Friends of the Mohr Library.
- Registration began on Monday, June 13.

More at Mohr Library

Flyers for children's summer programs are available at Mohr Library, which you can pick up at the library. Various kids' programs will include animals, a magician, dancing, fitness and computer coding.

The library will also have its annual summer reading programs for kids, teens and adults. Sign up beginning June 13 at mohrlibrary.beanstack.org. Library staff can help you sign up.

Mohr Library will host a book discussion of Anne Tyler's new novel, "French Braid," led by the Adult Services Librarian, TJ Heffers, on July 14 at 11 am. Contact TJ for a book soon.

Want to run your own book club? We can supply you with a bag of five copies

of "Fly Girl," the new memoir by best-selling author and Rhode Island resident Ann Hood.

Friday book discussion for adults who love YA books June 17 at 5 pm: "Lore Olympus," a contemporary retelling, in graphic novel form, of the myth of Hades and Persephone. Register by emailing or calling.

Mohr Library offers on-the-spot computer help and can schedule longer sessions for individuals needing more help. Librarians can also help you find classes at other locations.

There is a wealth of online services offered by Rhode Island libraries, like access to electronic versions of books, magazines and research journals, career and testing guides, self-improvement media and more. Library staff can help you navigate these resources.

Mohr Library offers use of computers, printers and scanners. The library will send faxes for \$1 a page, and has free Notary service evenings and Saturday mornings (call ahead).

The library book-drop is again out of service but a new one is expected by the end of June.

The book sale happens every day. Mohr Library posts hours, services and programs at mohrlibrary.org, where you can also sign up for updates. If you don't get them electronically, the library can mail you a newsletter.

For more information, email info@mohrlibrary.org or call 231-4980.

Editor's Note: Send submissions to ro-ris@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.

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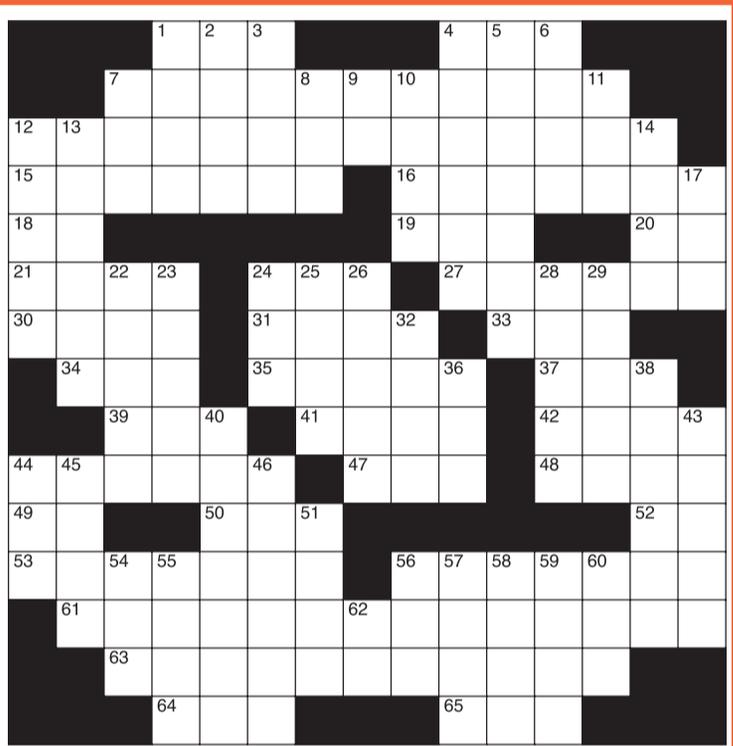
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4. Ocean temperature
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12. Irregular
15. Hairstyle
16. Indigestion fixer
18. Special therapy
19. Mock
20. Partner to Pa
21. Strays
24. Swedish currency (abbr.)
27. Desired
30. Soap product
31. Traditional fishing boat
33. No (Scottish)
34. Spy organization
35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
37. Married woman
39. Blood relation
41. German river
42. Genus of clams
44. Parts of a movie
47. Residue
48. Ethnic group of Laos and

CLUES DOWN

1. He played "Milton"
2. Elsa's sister
3. Digital wallet
4. About backbone
5. Type of weapon
6. ___ Turner, rock singer
7. Microgram
8. Hair product
9. Health care pro
10. Holy fire
11. Military ID (abbr.)
12. ___ the ante
13. Containing nitrogen
14. Green citrus fruit

17. Male parent
22. Bring up
23. Murdered
24. Soviet Socialist Republic
25. Supreme ruler Genghis
26. Social media hand gesture
28. Semitic Sun god
29. Land
32. Database management system
36. Similar
38. Nice to look at
40. Covered with mud
43. Simple dry fruit
44. Title of respect
45. Type of footwear
46. Most lucid
51. Exam
54. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
55. "Rule, Britannia" composer
56. Small Eurasian deer
57. "Within"
58. Insures bank's depositors
59. A pause for relaxation
60. Social insect
62. Expresses acidity



FUNDING EXPRESSION: State Rep. Deborah Fellela (D-Johnston) delivered a grant check for \$1,000 to Kerry Murphy, an art teacher at Johnston High School, for the JHS art department.

"I have been giving them a grant for several years now to help them with many projects that they can move forward with," Fellela said. Among other things, the grant may help fund the department's advanced digital art program. (Submitted photo)

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By JENNIFER COATES

When a family-owned business has grown from its original site to three locations in three major cities in less than ten years, you can safely assume that this business is doing something right, something that brings customers back time and time again.

This is the success story of Broadway Tire & Auto Repair, a repair shop which first opened its doors nearly eight decades ago. The Hallenbeck family purchased this long-standing business in 2014, retaining its brand name and pouring all the time, expertise, experience, and energy they had into it to make it the well-established business it remains to this day. At that time, Broadway Tire existed only at its 588 Broadway location in Pawtucket. Some years later, the second repair shop was opened in Warwick, and today, the Hallenbecks proudly announce that they have expanded yet again!

The residents of Johnston can now officially welcome Broadway Tire & Auto Repair to their city!

The reputation of Broadway Tire has grown over time largely because of this promise: "Our goal is to become the premier tire and auto repair facility in the state with state-of-the-art facilities. We are dedicated to giving you the very best auto repair and tire service, with a focus on upfront and honest quotes, timely responses to issues, and quality parts and products." These guiding principles are what have kept this business growing and prospering.

The success of all three Broadway Tires begins with their technicians, all of whom were hand-selected for their skill, their talent, their commitment to their work and their trustworthiness. In addition to these key team members, the Broadway Tire "extended family" includes some employees who have been with the company for over 30 years, office



Broadway Tire & Auto Repair on Hartford Avenue is home to state-of-the-art equipment and skilled technicians who pride themselves in their workmanship, honesty, reliability and affordability! Give them a call today for all your tire and auto repair needs.

manager Louise who has worked for Broadway Tire for 31 years and Dale, another manager, who has been with them since 1978. Their collective knowledge has contributed greatly to the longevity of a family-run company that has endured the test of time.

Today, Broadway Tire & Auto Repair is a one-stop destination for all your auto repair work, from tire rotations and installations to oil changes, brake repairs, wheel alignments, batteries, heating and A/C, belts & hoses, air filters ~ the list goes on and on. If you need a basic tune-up or to purchase new tires, you are all set! Vehicles of every

make and model are serviced here.

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

If you live in Pawtucket, you can find them at 588 Broadway (401-725-3535) or if you live in Warwick, visit them at 1184 Warwick Avenue (401-884-2211).



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How children can have memorable summer camp experiences



METRO

As hours of sunlight increase, thoughts may turn to summer vacation. For many children, summer vacation wouldn't be the same without camp. Adults may have their own fond memories of going to summer camp when they were children because of the opportunities it presented to be independent and meet new people. Campers often bond over shared experiences, whether they are planned activities or unexpected "disasters" like a rainstorm washing out a canoe trip. That is why so many parents choose to carry on the summer camp tradition when they have their own children.

However, some kids may not be ready to jump right into the summer camp lifestyle. Such youngsters may need extra reassurance and support to make the most of their time at camp. The following are some tips for making summer camp an enjoyable experience.

Plan ahead

Families can visit the camp in advance and get a lay of the land. Knowing what to expect in terms of facilities and activities can assuage some anxiety. It also will help campers hone in on what to pack and what to expect over the summer.

Try many new activities

Summer camp is about expanding boundaries and interests. Campers should sign up for many activities, including those that normally may be out of their wheelhouse. A camper may be pleased to learn that a new craft activity or a sports game piques his or her interest.

Connect with fellow campers in advance

If the camp has a social media presence, follow the camp's posts and connect with other like-minded campers even before they arrive. Talking with others who share similar interests can help campers feel more comfortable about meeting up once they arrive at camp.

Develop a rapport with camp counselors

The saying "you only get one chance to make a first impression" extends to campers meeting camp counselors. When campers interact with counselors for the first time, they should be outgoing, polite and open to new ideas. Counselors will appreciate easy-going campers and could be good resources of useful information, such as how to score an extra dessert at mealtime.

Follow the safety rules

While campers may spread their wings a bit at summer camp when not under the watchful eyes of parents, any mischief should not come at the expense of safety. Campers should stick to the safety protocol so that camp is not memorable for the wrong reasons.

Change another camper's experience

A camper who recognizes a fellow camper is reserved and shy can invite that person to come sit with other friends at meals or to participate in an activity. This can help build a lasting friendship and make camp that much more enjoyable for someone in need.

Summer camp season is on the horizon and campers can take several steps to foster memorable and fun experiences along the way. TF224908

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Kid-friendly staycation ideas

METRO

Adults may see staycations as great opportunities to catch up on summer reading and finish projects around the house. Children, however, may not always approach time off at home with that same enthusiasm. Parents confronted with the challenge of keeping kids happy and engaged during staycations can try these kid-friendly ideas to ensure everyone enjoys their time off, even if the bulk of it is spent at home.

- **Hit the carnival circuit.** Traveling carnivals are a staple of summer in many small communities. These special events feature rides, games and, of course, food. Families can make a night of it at a nearby carnival (one is no doubt within driving distance on just about any night in July and August). Budget-conscious staycationers can attend carnivals on bracelet nights, when both adults and kids can typically enjoy endless rides for one set price as opposed to having to purchase tickets for each individual ride.

- **Find a place to swim.** Whether it's a nearby lake or a day at the ocean, a

weekday afternoon spent swimming is a great way to remind the family that a staycation is still a vacation. If swimming in a lake or in the ocean is not possible and you don't have the luxury of a backyard pool, purchase an inflatable pool (or two) that the whole family can enjoy.

- **Embrace your inner artists.** Parents can visit a local arts and crafts store and spend a day painting or making projects with their children. Choose a theme, like making jewelry or painting a family portrait, and then exchange your masterpieces or create a family art exhibit when the session is over.

- **Go fishing.** Fishing can be a fun activity for the whole family and a great way to get out of the house without breaking the bank. Create a competition to see who can catch the most and/or the biggest fish. If you catch fish that you're allowed to take home, involve the whole family in making a delicious fish dinner that night. Staycations can be fun for the whole family, especially when parents take time to organize a host of kid-friendly activities. SL206015

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Sports

State Champs

Johnston volleyball team wins first title

By RYAN D. MURRAY

The second-seeded Panthers won their first-ever boys volleyball championship on Saturday evening, beating the No. 4 seeded Exeter - West Greenwich Co-op 3-1 (25-18), (23-25), (25-16), (25-17) at the Murray Center during the Division III Final.

EWG upset top-seeded Lincoln 3-2 during the semifinal round last Tuesday.

Johnston had swept EWG in each of its two prior meetings during the regular season, but lost both games they played against the Lions.

So, needless to say, Johnston was thrilled to see EWG oust Lincoln and was oozing at the opportunity to play EWG for the title.

"That night, we were excited as hell," Johnston junior middle hitter Josh Philbrick said. "They (EWG) played a great game, though. It's just a wonderful feeling that we actually ended up winning it."

But heading into the contest, Johnston wouldn't take EWG lightly, because they were coming with a vengeance.

"We played them in the early part of the second half of the season," Panthers head coach Greta Lalli said. "So, they've grown up so much. They are great. And we did watch the Lincoln game."



FINISHING THE JOB: Johnston's Josh Philbrick battles against Exeter-West Greenwich in the Division III State Championship at Rhode Island College last weekend. The Panthers won 3-1. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

● CHAMPS - PAGE 19

Panthers get it done, sorting out the rest

Add the Johnston boys volleyball team to the list of Beacon Communications state champions for this year, as it cruised past Exeter-West Greenwich 3-1 to claim the Division III title on Saturday at Rhode Island College.

Last year, the Panthers enjoyed a breakout campaign as they finished in first place in the regular season and reached the semifinals. Although they were thrilled to make the run that they did, they clearly felt that they possibly left a championship on the table as the top seed.

This year, the Panthers rolled from start to finish and took second place behind only undefeated Lincoln. In fact, the Panthers' only losses this spring were at the hands of the Lions.

Luckily, EWG did the division a favor and pulled off the year's biggest volleyball upset when it came back from two sets down to beat Lincoln in the semis, setting the Panthers up with a great matchup. Johnston beat EWG twice during the regular season by a combined score of 6-0. Am I saying they would not have been able to beat Lin-

My pitch



by
ALEX
SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR
ALEXS@
RHODYBEAT.COM

coln? No, EWG proved that the Lions weren't unstoppable, but I am sure the Panthers breathed

a sigh of relief when they saw the final result.

Johnston had a tough matchup in the semis against St. Ray's, who had reached the Division III finals in back-to-back seasons and winning once. The Saints gave them everything they could handle, but the Panthers would take the 3-2 win.

This was the first volleyball championship in school history, and the senior core took the long way there as it only won one game while they were freshmen. Then, of course, there was the lost year with COVID,

these Panthers really came a long way.

Congrats to the Panthers on making history this past weekend.

The Cranston East boys volleyball team fell to top-seeded North Kingstown 3-0 last week to end its season. The Skippers were the state's best team and went on to win the Division I title on Saturday as well.

East had a fantastic year. The Bolts had a new coach in Jhamal Diggs, Jordan Bou emerged as

● PITCH - PAGE 20

EYE ON THE BALL: Anthony Gawlik tracks the ball down on the other side of the net.



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**Johnston
Sun Rise**



BOUNCE BACK: Nick Harrington returns a shot on Saturday.

Champs

(Continued from page 18)

And my boys did not come out here thinking this was going to be an easy win. Absolutely not. We practiced right up until yesterday. We weren't letting it go. So, they want to work. They aren't like 'let's cut practice in half.' No, they will stay until the very last minute. They love it. They just love it."

Last year, Johnston was the first-seed and made it to the semifinal round before falling to fifth-seeded St. Rays 3-2.

This year, the Panthers went 14-2 overall.

"The effort has been 100 percent from start to finish," Lalli explained. "From the start of the season until the end of the season. They never gave up. Even when Lincoln beat us in six games. They still wanted to go back for more. They wanted to have that redemption.

They wanted to go back. They had this in their sights last year and when they came back the first day at practice they were ready. They called it the 'revenge tour'. And they needed this."

"And they needed to lose last year to know how bad they wanted it this year," assistant coach Margaret Guilmette added.

"When they lost to Lincoln, it was kind of like a wakeup call and that's what brought us here," Lalli said.

The start of the game was delayed by one hour and 30 minutes.

"It was a good game," Lalli said. The delay in the game, with an hour and a half wait, we were scared, but they pulled it together and they did such a great job. I could not be happier."

"They never lose their focus and they never lose their positivity," Lalli concluded. "And they just really enjoy playing together."

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AT THE NET: Jacob Muller returns a shot against EWG in the title match. (Photo by Ryan D. Murray)



GETTING THE WIN: James Guilmette works the ball over the net last weekend.

■ Pitch

(Continued from page 18)

one of the state's elite players, everything came together as East returned to the play-offs and got a win over Hendricken.

After losing longtime coach Meg McGonagle over the winter, it was far from a guarantee that this team would be ready to go this spring. It certainly was, and East should be right in the middle of the playoff picture next year.

We are down to our final baseball team as Hendricken is slated to take on North Kingstown in the state championship this week. This is a razor close matchup, as both teams are No. 1 seeds, have been dominant from start to finish, and have all the pieces to win. They have not played each other either, so we really have nothing to base predictions on from this season.

The Hawks rolled past South Kingstown in the semifinals. The Rebels were the underdogs, but the way the Hawks flew by them was impressive. Neither game was really competitive, it seems like Hendricken turned the corner and is primed for this next series.

Admittedly, I have not covered North Kingstown this spring so I can't give you much insight on what they've got. I will say though, I like the Hawks' chances against any team and will predict a Hendricken win. Will it be a dominant, two-game sweep like the semis? I can't imagine that is the case, but I do think the Hawks will get it done.

Between Brandyn Durand, Alex Clemmey, Jack LaRose, Griffin Crain, the Hawks are loaded. It is never wise to pick against Hendricken, but in this case, I would say that would be very unwise.

Lastly, we are down to our final softball team.

Toll Gate had a stellar year and the ultimate nightmare occurred: It was bit by the injury bug at the end of the season. Freshman phenom pitcher Emma Harrold was enjoying perhaps the best season in the circle in Division II this spring, but would be forced out of playoff action due to an injury.

Although the Toll Gate bats stepped up and the Titans were able to find some quality outings on the mound, it is hard not to think "what if?"

Still, Toll Gate reached the losers bracket finals and nearly won it. Had the Titans held on for the win, who knows what would have happened in the championship against Prout? It took Prout extra innings to beat Toll Gate last week in the playoffs, so point being, the Titans were as good as any team in Division II. It came down to three teams, but unfortunately, only one can be a champion.

I was shocked to also see that Toll Gate is only losing three seniors. Although those players all served key roles, the Titans should be right back in the thick of things next season.

Pilgrim eliminated West in the losers bracket final on Monday afternoon to end the Falcons' run.

I must say, the West team was super likeable and fun to watch. The girls got off to a choppy start this spring and things looked to be spiraling when they were mercied by Smithfield late in the regular season.

Instead of folding, though, the Falcons turned up the heat and finished the regular season strong and made a legitimate run at a state championship. It was the furthest the program has ever gone in Division I.

No one was betting on West, not even as a dark horse. I would always say, "Don't count them out," but not because I thought they had a real shot ... but just because crazier things have happened.

Going into Monday's game against Pilgrim with a title shot on the line, no one was counting them out, and everyone in the state was on notice. The team came so close too; they fell by just one run.

The Falcons are another team that will return most of its lineup. This could be the start of something special moving forward.

Lastly, the Pats, who punched their ticket to the state final against Coventry.

Pilgrim remains one of the premier teams in the state, despite losing a big senior core last year. After the state championship loss last year, coach Carlos Rodas essentially told me that this would be a rebuilding year ... he said that they would be competitive, but would have to dig deep to return to this point.

Fast forward to now, they have not skipped a beat and have a real shot at this thing.

What a spring, what a playoff season.

**MULTI SPECIES TOUR-
NAMENT:** The Block Is-
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nament will include fluke,
black sea bass, striped
bass, bluefish, boat, shore,
fly fishing, youth, team and
wind farm photo divisions.
(Submitted photo)



Get ready for the Block Island Inshore Fishing Tournament

By **CAPT. DAVE MONTI**

"This year we added a fly fishing division to the Block Island Inshore Fishing Tournament," said Capt. Chris Willi of Block Island Fish Works, a bait & tackle shop and charter fishing business located on Block Island, Rhode Island. The Tournament will include summer flounder (fluke), black sea bass, striped bass and bluefish with boat, shore, fly fishing, youth, team and photo divisions.

The tournament starts at 5:30 a.m., Saturday, July 23 and ends Sunday, July 24, 12 noon. There will be an After Party at Capt. Nick's Rock & Roll Bar, Block Island on Sunday, July 24 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. with a brief Tournament awards ceremony.

"It is not necessary to attend the After Party to receive your Tournament prize. Winners will be posted online. Entries will be made electronically through use of the tournament smartphone app. Limited dockage may be available after the tournament for four to five hours in Old Harbor at the Town Dock. Contact the Dockmaster on Ch12. Those attending the After Party will get a chance to win one of twenty \$100 tackle shop gift cards."

Tournament entry fees are \$100 per boat for up to four anglers, \$25/person for additional anglers; and \$25/shore angler. Capt. Willi said, "Thanks to the Block Island Wind Farm and Ørsted Tournament sponsorship we are able to donate 100 percent of Tournament entry fees to the Block Island Fire Department and Rescue."

Tournament highlights include: cash cards/swag/and sponsor prizes totaling \$10,000 and take a photo with the Block Island Wind Farm shown and you can enter three photo categories each with \$200 prize ... most scenic, best fish photo and best team photo.

Anglers can pick up participant bags at one of five locations including Block Island Fish Works, Block Island; Ocean State Tackle, Providence; The Saltwater Edge, Middletown; Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown; and Watch Hill Outfit-

ters, Westerly.

Register online at <https://www.sandypointco.com/bi-inshore-tourney>. For additional information contact Block Island Fish Works at bifishworks@msn.com or 401.742.3992.

Fluke bite improving

The inshore summer flounder (fluke) bite is improving off the Sakonnet River, in mid Narragansett Bay at Warwick Light, along the coastal shore and at Block Island if you can stay away from the dog fish.

We picked up several fluke at Warwick Light Saturday. Angler Eric Duda and underwater recreational fish videographer Eric Duda said Sunday, "Headed out fishing for fluke at the end of the Sakonnet River. Our first drop, nice 20-inch fluke on! Fishing was hot or cold. Some spots really good, other drifts were not. A bunch of smaller size black sea bass caught, and one huge blue. We caught 12 keeper size fish and released about 15 short fluke. Bucktail jigs with squid seemed to work the best."

See a short video that Eric took Sunday of a bucktail dragging with fluke after it at <https://youtu.be/rUMlvG0daZ0>.

Where's the bite?

Striped bass and bluefish. Mark Tracey of Barrington caught a 34-inch bass with a 9-inch Saltwater Doc surface plug last Friday on the outgoing tide in the Providence River in front of the wind mills.

Tracey, said, "We made five or six drifts with lots of action and near misses until this one got a good hold of it. I remove the front hook on the lure and fish it only with one at the back for easier release."

Mike Curran hooked up with bass in the Providence River this weekend using chucks and live lining Atlantic menhaden. Mike said, "I fished upper bay on Friday and caught four keeper stripers to 35 inches, two on live pogies and two on fresh chunks drifting with 20 boats around me. A good number of fish caught by other boats also around the pogies. My

friend went back to the same area on Saturday morning and got three fish."

East End Eddie Doherty, said, "Last week Cape Cod Canal Rat Bill Prodouz landed a 40-inch linesider that fell for a white buck tail bounced along the bottom on an early east tide and the weekend west tide gave up more than one 40 pounder at first light."

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence said, "Monday Capt. Mike Littlefield of Archangel Charters, Newport, caught a 55-pound striped bass." Declan O'Donnell of Misquamicut Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "Nice striped bass being caught in the salt ponds and out in front on the reefs. There seems to be more bait moving into the ponds and there are still a few worm hatches going off. Some bigger bass, including fish into the 30-pound class, were reported out front and at Block Island this past week. Bluefish remain thick in the area and are taking many variations of lures."

Jeff Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren said, "We caught some huge bluefish (their largest looked to be in the mid 30-inch range) Monday in front of Narragansett Beach."

Summer flounder/black sea bass. Declan O'Donnell of Misquamicut Bait & Tackle, said, "Fluke fishing has been pretty good at Block Island and decent along the beaches. Most people who are trying for fluke are at least getting a few fish for their effort. Still a lot of shorts along the south shore beaches with a few decent sized mixed in. Black sea bass fishing is improving with more keeper sized fish around." Anglers are reminded that the minimum size for black sea bass is now 16 inches. The bite continues to be good in Buzzards Bay, Narragansett Bay and off the coastal shore with anglers catching good sized keepers mixed in with a lot of undersized fish. Reports of fluke now being caught off the Sakonnet River, at Warwick Light in Rhode Island and in lower and mid-Narragansett Bay areas. Angler Peter Johnson said, "We cancelled our Block Island fluke trip last

week as the fluke grounds south of the Island were loaded with dog fish."

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



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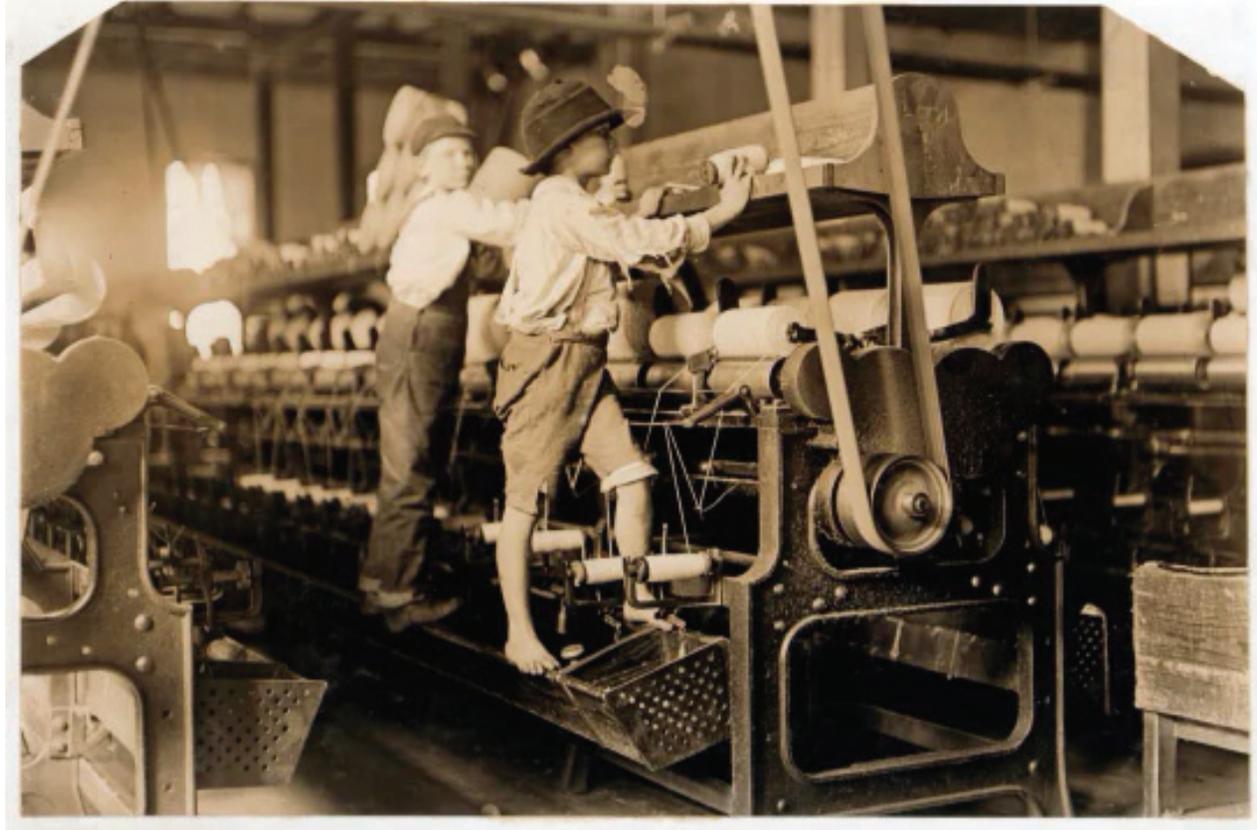
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Children hard at work in a mill. (Photo by Lewis Hines)

Johnston child labor

The children of the 19th century had little time for play. Most did not even have time for an education. The sons and daughters of farmers were expected to toil upon the land. The offspring of mill workers were expected to gain employment, helping the head of the family to pay rent and put food on the table.

On Sept 1, 1916, the Child-Labor Act was passed, going into effect the following month. The act provided that no children under the age of 16 could legally be employed in any mine or quarry, and that no child under the age of 14 could legally be employed in any mill, cannery, workshop, factory or manufacturing establishment.

The act went on to state that no child between the ages of 14 and 16 could legally be employed for more than eight hours per day, more than six days per week, before 8 o'clock in the morning, or after 8 o'clock at night.

Penalties for employers not abiding by the new laws would amount to a maximum of \$200 for the first conviction. Subsequent convictions would cost them between \$100 and \$1,000 in fines, imprisonment for a maximum of three months, or both the imprisonment and the fine.

Employers were directed to require certain information from children seeking employment. This included seeing certification of their age, their name, their place and date of birth and evidence from a child's physician attesting to that child's gender and color. Employers also

Back in the Day



by
KELLY SULLIVAN

needed to obtain the child's signature and the address of the child's parent or guardian.

Different types of certification were acceptable in proving facts about the child seeking employment. These included birth certificates, baptism certificates, a record of the child's birth in a family Bible, a passport, a certificate of arrival in the United States or a life insurance policy for the child.

It was hoped the new laws would bring down the number of children killed in mills annually, as well as reduce the number of children growing into adults who were unable to read or write or benefit from all that an education allowed.

In 1870, the cotton and thread mills of Johnston employed six children who were 10 years old, six children who were nine years old, and two eight-year-old children; William Dority and Mary McAvoy.

In 1880, the mills of that town employed 18 children who were ten years of age. John Cappell, age eight, was also a local mill worker.

Some Rhode Island children, toiling in the sweat and dust of the factories for hours each day, never got the chance to grow into adulthood. On Sept. 19, 1870, 10-year-old Jean Manew lost his life at a mill in Warwick. The boy was the son of Pasco and Lenore (Mason) Manew.

On Jan. 1, 1872, John Daniel Demsey was killed at Arctic Mill. The son of John and Margaret Demsey, he was only 12 years old.

On Sept. 12, 1873, Andy Smith was killed in the Print Works. The 14-year-old was the son of Edward and Bridget Smith.

In May of 1881, 12-year-old John Coleman, while attempting to entertain himself by sliding down the stair rail at Atlantic Mill in Olneyville, lost his balance and fell to floor 35 feet below, sustaining a serious head injury.

Little toes and fingers were crushed as children were assigned tasks which they could perform in the tight spots the adults could not fit their hands into, hair was caught in machinery, young lungs breathed in the unwholesome air, and what should have been the carefree days of childhood were lost among the twisting and turning of dangerous contraptions.

The new law caused Rhode Island mill owners to lose valuable employees but it returned childhood, which had been stolen from so many, for so long, without concern.

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

Wright's Farm celebrates 50 years

By DON FOWLER

Chicken. Salad. Pasta. French fries. Rolls. That's the menu. Has been for 50 years. Don't like chicken? For \$11.25 more you can order a 14-oz choice sirloin steak. You don't see too many steaks at the 1,200-seat restaurant.

People go to Wright's Farm in North Smithfield for the family style chicken dinner. The restaurant serves 10,000 to 12,000 pounds of chicken each week – that's around 5,500 whole chickens baked in their kitchen in one of 75 ovens.

The two head chefs have been there for more than 30 years. Wright's hires approximately 155 employees, some of whom have been there more than 48 years.

Their French fries come from a potato farm in Colorado. The Italian salad dressing was created by the original chef more than 50 years ago. The pasta sauce is cooked in 60-gallon kettles from a recipe handed down

more than five decades ago. After dinner, many customers head for the gift shop to buy the salad dressing, pasta sauce, frozen chicken pies and fudge.

50 year anniversary

Wright's Farm is currently celebrating its 50th anniversary, offering several contests with special prizes. Nominate a special couple celebrating their 50th anniversary – the winner will receive a dinner for 10.

Frank and Joyce Galleshaw purchased Wright's Farm Restaurant in 1972 and grew it to be the Rhode Island landmark it is today.

Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and a variety of special events have been celebrated over the years in one of the six dining rooms and private banquet facilities.

The Greater Woonsocket Chamber of Commerce held their annual banquet there every year when I served as their Executive Director.

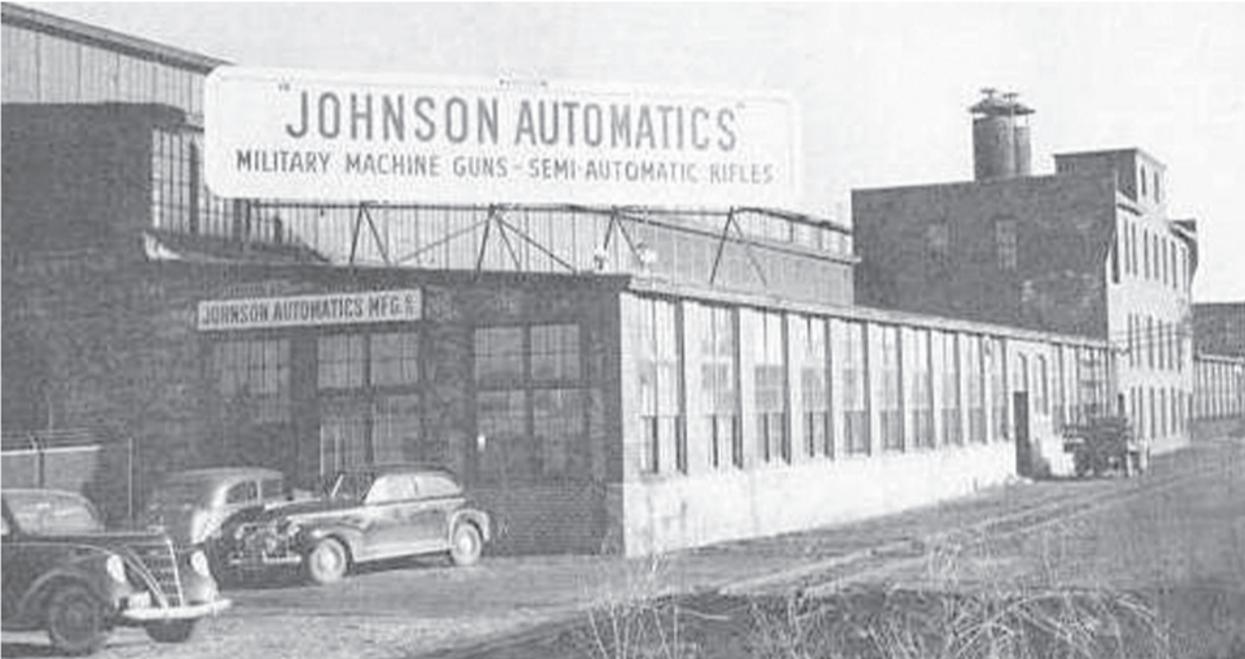
COLLECTIBLES



An Interesting Gun Made in Rhode Island



By Joel Bohy
Historic Arms & Militaria
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jam, and not as easily stripped in the field for cleaning and maintenance by the common soldier. It was accepted into service in limited numbers and used by the Marine Corps to some degree in the Pacific Theater of operations.

The Johnson rifle was built in a company called "Universal Windings" of Providence, Rhode Island. They then set up production in Cranston, RI, with the company name of "Cranston Arms Co. inc." - just around the corner from our gallery.

The rifle was slated to be sold to other countries but not many were ever shipped. I read an estimate that stated only about 30,000 of them were ever built but the records don't exist to really know for sure. At the end of World War II, the arms issued to the Marines were turned in and Johnson bought them back and sold them privately through American Rifleman magazine.

Sadly, Johnson died of a heart attack on a business trip to New York City in 1965. He was only 55 years old.

Given the production numbers of the Johnson Model 1941 rifle and their interesting story, it is no wonder that these are highly collected today by those that want to have all of the examples of the arms used during World War II.

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Today when we think of some of the interesting or iconic arms of World War II certain examples come to mind. The German G41, G43, STG44, the Russian SVT-38 and 40. In the United States we might think of the Thompson Sub Machine Gun, the Browning Automatic Rifle, and the M1 Garand, sometimes called "the gun that won World War II." But there is one odd duck out there that isn't as well-known but interesting in its own right, the Model 1941 Johnson rifle.

Melvin Johnson was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1909. He joined the Marine Corps Reserve and in 1933 he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant,

and by 1934 had graduated Harvard Law School. In 1935 he was an observer for the Marine's at Springfield Armory just as the U.S. Army was looking for a semi-automatic rifle to adopt and Johnson had a design in mind. At the same time, John C. Garand had designed the M1 Garand rifle which was accepted into service in 1936. That didn't stop Johnson from working on his design. He continued on designing and building a weapon he felt had some superiority over the Garand. It had a larger magazine capacity at ten rounds and could be easily loaded with a stripper clip in use with the U.S. Model 1903 bolt-action rifle. But the gun was a little more complex, prone to

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The Great Race starts Saturday

This is a Rhode Island first in the 39-year history of the race

From Staff Reports

Today's high cost of gasoline won't deter 120 of the world's finest antique automobiles from revving their engines this Saturday at Rocky Point as they set off on a 9-day, 2,300 mile race to Fargo, North Dakota.

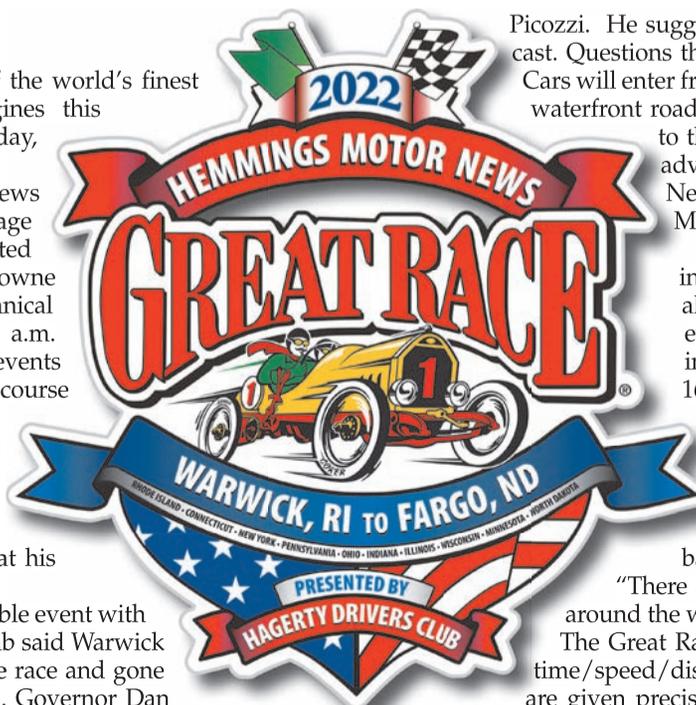
The 10:30 a.m. start of the 2022 Hemmings Motor News Great Race isn't the only opportunity to view these vintage vehicles from five countries. Competing teams started arriving at the Crowne Plaza earlier this week. The Crowne is not only the rendezvous for the event but where technical inspections of the cars will take place beginning at 7 a.m. Thursday and ending that evening at 6:15. A series of events is planned for the competitors from a rally school and course instructions to a mandatory general meeting.

The City of Warwick and automobile enthusiasts have made sure to extend the red carpet. Dick Shappy is set to hold an open house at his Vintage Auto Sales Wednesday in Providence and is scheduled to host the teams to a social hour and reception that evening at his Warwick Neck home.

Event director Jeff Stumb promises it will be a memorable event with cars lining the lawn overlooking Narragansett Bay. Stumb said Warwick and Mayor Frank Picozzi have graciously welcomed the race and gone to lengths to ensure the start comes off without a hitch. Governor Dan McKee will be lowering the starting flag on Saturday.

"In the 39-year history of the Great Race, the event has made its way east and west and north and south through 46 of the 48 contiguous United States," Stumb said in a release. "In 2022, the Great Race will finally be able to add the last two states to the list - Rhode Island and North Dakota."

Initially race organizers planned to start the race in Providence until they met Mayor



Picozzi. He suggested Rocky Point and after visiting the park the die was cast. Questions then focused on routes to use going to and from the park. Cars will enter from Palmer Avenue. Competitors will be lined up along the waterfront road and walkway leading to the Rocky Point Road entrance to the former amusement park. On leaving Rhode Island the adventure will travel to 19 cities in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota.

"We are excited to start the 2022 Great Race to Warwick, and in the days leading up to the start the participants will travel all over the Rhode Island," Stumb said. "We have multiple events planned, including a tour of a private car collection in Providence as well as 'Newport Day' on Thursday, June 16. We will be able to enjoy that city and its rich car culture, including the Audrain Automobile Museum and the Newport Car Museum."

Teams and cars from England, France, Germany, Australia, Canada, and every corner of the United States, will converge with vintage automobiles dating back as far as 1916.

"There are more than 500 people just in our entourage from all around the world," Stumb said.

The Great Race, which began 39 years ago, is not a speed race, but a time/speed/distance rally. The vehicles, each with a driver and navigator, are given precise instructions each day that detail every move down to the second. They are scored at secret check points along the way and are penalized one second for each second either early or late. As in golf, the lowest score wins.

Cars start - and hopefully finish - one minute apart if all goes according to plan. The biggest part of the challenge other than staying on time and following the instructions is getting an old car to the finish line each day, organizers say.

ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local  Adoptable  Loveable



Photo credit: Laurel Leaf Photography

■ Race (Continued from page 25)

Each stop on the Great Race is free to the public and spectators will be able to visit with the participants and to look at the cars for several hours. It is common for kids to climb in the cars for a first-hand look.

Cars built in 1974 and earlier are eligible, with most entries having been manufactured before World War II. In the 2021 Great Race a 1932 Ford won the event from San Antonio, Texas, to Greenville, S.C. The 2022 winners will receive \$50,000 of the \$150,000 total purse.

A 1916 Hudson Pikes Peak Hillclimber, a 1917 American LaFrance and a 1917 Peerless racer are the oldest cars scheduled to be in the 2022 Great Race.

Over the decades, the Great Race has stopped in hundreds of cities big and small, from tiny Austin, Nev., to New York City.

"When the Great Race pulls into a city it becomes an instant festival," Stumb said. "Last year we had several overnight stops with more than 10,000 spectators on our way to having 250,000 people see the Great Race during the event."

The event was started in 1983 by Tom McRae and it takes its name from

the 1965 movie, *The Great Race*, which starred Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, Natalie Wood and Peter Falk. The movie is a comedy based on the real life 1908 automobile race from New York to Paris. In 2004, Tony Curtis was the guest of the Great Race and rode in his car from the movie, the Leslie Special.

The Great Race gained a huge following from late night showings on ESPN when the network was just starting out in the early 1980s. The first entrant, Curtis Graf of Irving, Texas, is still a participant today.

The event's main sponsors are Hemmings Motor News, Hagerty Drivers Club and Coker Tire.



BACK AGAIN: This 1938 Riley built in Great Britain is one of more than 120 cars entered in the race. Owned by a couple from St. Louis, the Riley is a veteran of the race.

Teamwork key to winning the Great Race

By ANNEISE DEMERS

Tim and Marlene Mangan from Bend, Oregon were getting ready to enter their 9th Great Race competition Tuesday morning at the Crowne Plaza parking lot. To them, the competition isn't just about speed. It's about precision, persistence, and having fun. Tim first competed in the Great Race back in 2013, his son, Bradley Mangan, served as the navigator. They were both bitten by The Great Race bug and haven't stopped since. His son started driving his own car with his wife Jamie in 2016 competing against his father. Tim's wife Marlene stepped up to be his navigator. Mangan is driving his father's 1965 red Ford Fairlane.

"The key is communication," said Mangan. "She will tell me 35mph for 12 minutes and I'll repeat it back to her." In this race being one second off at a checkpoint can mean losing a point.

Each car has a team of two, a driver, and a navigator. The navigator is given a set of instructions each day. The team must follow these instructions exactly to the second to stay on course and hit their checkpoints. There are no road names given, and no use of odometers, maps, or calculators. The navigator is in charge of making sure the team stays on track and calculating the time traveled compared to how fast the car is driving.

"It's like doing high school calculus in your head," said Tim.

The teams use a stopwatch along with the new instructions they are given daily to find the checkpoints. They must meet the checkpoints at the exact time, not a second late or early. If they do that they get an "ace." The Mangans have more than ten aces sticker on their car.

Tim said, "The secret is to follow the instructions specifically."

He originally drove a vintage convertible in 2013 but his wife was not so fond of the idea of not having a roof during the journey. Rain or shine the race will go on. Some drivers in open-top vehicles choose to wear swimsuits when rain is expected. Tim and Marlene last year finished in the top 12 percent of racers. During last year's race, they made one little addition mistake and took a wrong turn but they weren't going to let that stop them.

"You just need to keep going," said Tim, and that's what they did and eventually found themselves back on track.

While they hope to one day finish in the top 10 percent to Tim it's not all about the numbers but the adventure of it all.



TEAM MANGAN: Marlene Mangan, the navigator, and her husband Tim from Bend, Oregon have done the race nine times. Their son, Bradley and his wife Jamie are also in the race. The Mangans had their 1955 Ford Fairlane shipped to Fargo, ND where they drove it to Warwick from there. (Beacon Communications photos)

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Bryce Dallas Howard and Chris Pratt return for Jurassic World: Dominion. (Photo by Giles Keytel/Universal Pictures)

WARWICK SHOWCASE

JURASSIC WORLD: DOMINION

(Exciting Sequel)

We first met the dinosaurs 29 years ago, along with Laura Dern, Sam Neill and Jeff Goldblum.

“Jurassic Park” was a classic movie, filled with adventure and an interesting concept about creating a theme park for the creatures.

“Jurassic World” followed in 2018 with “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom”; it was not nearly as good, but set the structure for the exciting and innovative third movie in the series.

Most of the characters are back, aged a lot, and joined by some younger folks to make a great ensemble.

The latest technology makes the dinosaurs look and act so real that you quickly become immersed in the action, aided by Showcase’s big screen and terrific sound system.

Owen and Claire (Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard) have adopted Maisie, the girl who was cloned

in the last movie. They have retreated to the Sierra Nevada to protect Maisie from the nasty folks at Biosyn who want to experiment on her.

Allie and Alan (Dern and Neill) team up, join Owen and Claire (Pratt and Howard), plus a few other new characters, and head out to save the kidnapped Maisie and shut down the sinister operation at Biosyn where its evil director (Campbell Scott) has assembled a variety of dinosaurs whose names I can’t pronounce.

Biosyn has also assembled giant locusts that are more frightening than the dinosaurs.

The movie is pure adventure, filled with narrow escapes, clever situations, humor and a bit of nostalgia.

The team is aided by a feisty pilot, a Biosyn employee and the aging scientist Ian Malcolm (Jeff Goldblum) who seems to be losing it a bit, but rallies to help their cause.

“Jurassic World: Dominion” is pure escapism, leaving you cheering for the good guys and the dinosaurs and even leaving it open for another sequel.

This is a great family movie. It may be a bit intense for some, but if you explain that it is “make believe”, and you don’t hide under your seat, everyone should enjoy it. Rated PG-13.

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Movies

NETFLIX

HUSTLE

(Basketball Movie)

Adam Sandler stars as Stanley Sugarman, a Phillies scout who is tired of living out of a suitcase and wants to be an NBA coach.

His understanding wife (Queen Latifa) and teenage daughter supported him through all the troubles and injuries that ruined his playing career.

Stanley discovers a street player in Spain who hustles games on local playground courts and promises him a career in America if he works hard.

The seven foot phenomenon works hard to finesse his skills, but when he is ready for the Draft Combine, Stanley’s boss shuts him out.

Stanley works hard and uses every trick at his disposal, including the internet and cashing in old favors, to get him another chance to be seen by those who make the big decisions.

The story takes us right up to the big game where we hope there will be a happy ending.

Corny? Yes, but basketball fans should enjoy the inside look at how players are promoted, scrutinized and eventually selected in the draft.

The movie is loaded with past and present NBA stars, including Dr. J Allen Iverson, Brad Stevens, Magic Johnson, Stephen Curry, Shaquille O’Neal and a host of others.



Adam Sandler stars in Hustle. (Photo courtesy of Netflix)

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Echoes through time



MEMOIRS

by SUSAN DEAN

I'm sitting here on the second floor of Rough Point, the gilded age mansion that I work in as a tour guide. It is quiet and peaceful, as no visitors have made their way upstairs yet.

Built in 1887, Rough Point is filled with works by the masters. From my vantage point, I see a Renoir, an Anthony van Dyck, and a Joshua Reynolds. There are paintings by John Hoppner and Thomas Gainsborough gracing the walls of the rooms below me on the first floor.

These artists from the 1600s, 1700s, and 1800s were well-known in their time, and produced portraits and detailed paintings that we can still appreciate today. I often wonder what their lives were like and I try to imagine what they might have been thinking as they faced their large blank canvases and getting ready to apply the first strokes of color that would endure for centuries. Did they know that their creations would be admired by people living two hundred, three hundred, or even four hundred years in the future?

I am surrounded by many other works of art created by unknown artisans and talented craftsmen who lived so long ago. Furniture carved and built in the 1600s, and tapestries even older - hand-woven in the 1500s. Porcelains from the Ming Dynasty - seven hundred years old. All are only steps away from where I am sitting.

Everything I can see is crafted with meticulous attention to detail. The furniture is busy with a million shapes and swirls and curves, and even whole scenes of daily life carved into the ancient and worn wood. The giant tapestries cover the walls, depicting scenes of betrothal, a king's coronation, entire villages and battle scenes - in breath-taking and mind-boggling detail. People of all ages elaborately dressed and moving in all directions, surrounded by horses, dogs, birds, and shadows. There is depth and perspective - trees with a million tiny leaves, some lightly lit as if facing an unseen sun, others darkened as if they've been blown by an unfelt breeze. Grasses and flowers swaying - everything in motion as if caught by a camera in a moment of time. Vases and jars fired and glazed seven centuries ago - depicting dragons, lions, horses, birds, flowers, and people - full scenes of action carved and painted to depict the stories of those ancient times.

How did people create these masterpieces - these intricate carvings, weavings, paintings, and ceramics in exquisite and minute detail without our modern conveniences? Not just the lack of power tools and computers and all the assistance we have in this digital age, but everything that makes life easier, such as electricity, microwaves, and washing machines, and all of our modern appliances that we take for granted. Daily living was much, much harder for these artisans living centuries ago. How many productive years did they have without the benefits of modern medicine and health care?

What motivated them to spend so much of their precious time creating such detailed and labor-intensive work? Work so well-crafted that it has lasted for centuries beyond the final knife cut, glazing, paint stroke, and stitch.

Sitting here and listening to the silence of these masterpieces surrounding me, I'm almost sensing the presence of these creative souls - whispers of the artisans and artists peeking out from behind their works, or strolling invisibly by, admiring their creations, taking pride in their work.

I'm sensing movement and sound - ghosts of ancient workshops buzzing with activity, silently speaking a language of their time, now a language of our time - beauty, pride in a job well done, and an appreciation for creating works of art that can speak to succeeding generations.

I hear voices, laughter, and footsteps approaching. The first visitors of the day are making their way up to the second floor. I rise up out of my chair as the ghosts recede, going into hiding again until the next time that I can pause and reflect and have a quiet moment in their presence.

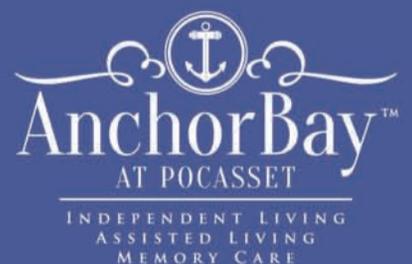
I greet the visitors and begin to tell the stories of the souls who spent their lives creating beauty. Beauty that began with their minds, hearts, and hands and reaching through the ages, now touches our hearts and fills us with awe and wonder. For now, I am the voice of these silent souls, who speak through the works that they've given to the world. And it is a privilege and an honor to be a part of this timeless sharing.

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IMMERSE

The Latest Buzzword



ACCORDING TO DON

by DON FOWLER

The Van Gogh exhibit at the Providence Convention Center has been billed as an IMMERSIVE experience.

With wall-to-wall paintings that fill the room, fading in and out while showing the brush strokes and unique style of the artist, the ad folks use the word IMMERSE to describe the experience.

“Top Gun: Maverick” is showing in Warwick Showcase’s new X Plus theatre. With its wall-to-wall giant screen and wrap around stereo sound, promoters also call the new techniques an immersive experience.

I recently reviewed a play at Wilbury Theatre and used the word in describing the production.

According to Google (We used to say Webster) IMMERSE is described as “Involving oneself deeply in a particular activity or interest” and IMMERSION as “Deep

mental involvement”.

The use of the word became popular during the pandemic, as we all looked for new ways to cope, avoid boredom and isolation, and IMMERSE ourselves in a new activity or interest. Some turned to daytime TV, while others turned to reading those books they never had time to read.

New hobbies, jigsaw and crossword puzzles, gardening, knitting, walking and exercising, and cooking are but a few of the activities that people, especially seniors, have turned to replace social activities involving large groups of people.

My wife has immersed herself in puzzles in magazines and on the internet, while I have immersed myself in Netflix.

Hopefully, Covid will be conquered, and social immersion may become the norm once again.

Picking & Cutting Watermelon

Watermelon is a summertime staple. Each summer, stores and farm stands have an abundance of watermelons on display, and many people feel no picnic or barbecue is complete without watermelon.

Watermelon is a refreshing option on hot days. It’s ideal sliced and served, or can be included in fruit salads, smoothies or even ‘spiked’ cocktails. The key to a tasty watermelon is knowing how to pick one that is ripe, while serving watermelon comes down to understanding some easy cutting strategies.

- Choose a watermelon that has a firm, symmetrical shape. Avoid melons with bumps, dents or cuts.

- Watermelons should be relatively heavy. They’re 92 percent water, and that juiciness should be reflected in a substantial weight for the melon’s size.

- Watermelon.org advises looking for a creamy yellow spot on the underside of the watermelon. This is called the ‘ground spot.’ It indicates where the melon sat on the ground and ripened in the sun. Once cut from the vine, a watermelon has about three to four weeks to be consumed.

- All parts of the watermelon are edible, including the seeds and rind. The rind can be pickled or cut up to use in stir-fry dishes.

When bringing watermelon to an event, it is a courtesy to bring it already sliced or cut up. This ensures the host or hostess does not have to tackle what can sometimes be a chore. Here are three techniques to cut a watermelon easily.

Cubes

1. Cut both ends off of the watermelon.
2. Stand the watermelon on one sliced end. Use the knife to slice down and cut off the rind.
3. After removing the rind from all sides of the melon, cut into discs about 1/2-inch in thickness.
4. Then cut those discs into cubes.

Slices

1. Cut the watermelon in half lengthwise.
2. Take one cut half and place it cut-side down.
3. Cut the watermelon into slices.
4. Repeat for the other cut half.

Strips

1. Cut the watermelon as you would with the slices. Rather than leaving it in large slices, turn the watermelon and cut the same size slices in the opposite direction. This creates strips that are easy for kids to grab and maneuver.
2. Repeat with the other half of the watermelon in the same manner. TF227141

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Sexual Misappropriation

The *NY Times* published an article recently about a new trend: men wearing women's sexy lingerie. We're not talking Tim Robbins wearing Susan Sarandon's garter belts playing baseball in the movie *Bull Durham*. We're talking full on Frederick's of Hollywood teddies with provocative cutouts and mesh inserts. And we're not talking just queer identity, non-binary and transvestites, although those segments are driving the bus.

One company makes boxers of sheer lace that are so popular that they now have a wait list for their orders. Suddenly, it seems like men are willing to do anything to get into women's pants. And sadly not just metaphorically. "Men's lingerie is one small part of a bigger movement," said Francesca Muston, V.P. of a trend forecasting company. "You've got a whole generation... embracing the inclusivity and diversity within gender." Well, I guess that's one way to describe it.

The trend might have begun with Spanx, but men have legitimate functional reasons to wear those. Here are some companies that are hopping on this. Leak NYC is a men's lingerie brand that makes sexy bodysuits from fishnet and other see-through materials. They purport to have the marketing savvy to allow ample room up front. This of course has me wondering if "ample" comes in sizes, the way women's bra cups do. Then there's Cosabella, an Italian lingerie brand. They began selling lacy men's briefs, semi-sheer thongs and colorful G-strings on their website last year.



RETIREMENT SPARKS by ELAINE M. DECKER

Some men with more traditional tastes are also becoming enamored with the new lingerie. Steven Green, a photographer and plus-size model from Kansas City, had a gig walking the runway in the 2020 Savage x Fenty show. He claims that he never thought of lingerie for men until he worked with them. Before, he only wore briefs by Calvin Klein or Polo Ralph Lauren, but he has since expanded his undergarment wardrobe. I wonder if "expanded" means he selects styles that have "ample room up front." I appreciate that tighy-whities can be boring but that's no excuse for full on misappropriation.

OK. Enough about the sexual misappropriation of women's lingerie. There are other far more serious areas where men are misappropriating issues that should be exclusively the domain of women. I'm talking about a woman's right to control her own body.

Women are now at risk of having mostly male justices decide whether *Roe v. Wade* remains the law of the land. I'm not taking a position here on what decision a woman should make about continuing her own pregnancy. That's personal and it should be private. I'm simply saying that what that decision is should be hers to make, not that of a

group of men who know nothing about her. That includes the predominantly male legislators who make the laws of our states that regulate what a woman can or can't do with her own body.

The men who believe they have a right to make those decisions for us are as guilty of sexual misappropriation as the ones who are now wearing lacey teddies and see-through thongs. If men could get pregnant, they would likely have a different opinion about a lot of these issues. If they want to appropriate parts of the birthing process, how about they start with developing birth control pills for men. (We're still waiting for that.) Here's a novel idea: sperm wranglers. (Like cats, but even more squirrely.) It's one way to have men help prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Women have to live with the consequences of all these decisions, so they have the right to be the sole deciders. Until men are forced to live with similar consequences, they haven't earned the right to be a party to those decisions, no matter how sexy they feel wearing our lingerie.

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Elaine M. Decker's books include Retirement Downsizing—A Humorous Guide, Retirement Sparks, Retirement Sparks Again, Retirement Sparks Redux and CANCER: A Coping Guide. Her essays appear in the anthologies: 80 Things To Do When You Turn 80 and 70 Things To Do When You Turn 70. All are available on Amazon.com. Contact her at: emdecker@ix.netcom.com

A Tale of Three Backyards

Crossing the I-Way Bridge heading home from Barrington, I was looking forward to spending a relaxing late spring afternoon on the backyard patio of our North Providence home. Turning right onto the Point Street exit, I caught a glimpse of an expansive, nearly empty asphalt lot on Hospital Street. Across from that forlorn and forgotten tract of land was a smaller patch of vacant ground.

In the mid-1960s, before demolition of the few remaining structures to complete the rerouting of Route 95 fronting the Lifespan/Rhode Island Hospital campuses, my family had lived on the second floor of a three-decker tenement located on that patch of ground. Ironically, we had moved to Hospital Street from nearby Crary Street when most of THAT neighborhood was bulldozed for the initial construction of Route 95. The fleeting moments spent passing those ghostly parcels illustrated the stark contrast between my childhood inner city backyards and my backyard at home.

On Crary Street, concrete slabs leading to a three-car garage in disrepair formed the backyard. Only one of the stalls was used as a car garage. The other two stalls held secrets that remain a mystery to me. For some unknown reason, my father did not park the family car in that garage. He rented a garage on Lockwood Street (across from the Jane Brown Hospital). I recall joining him many nights when he parked our car in the garage and we walked home side by side. Although most Crary Street families were related



MY SIDE OF THINGS by LARRY GRIMALDI

in one way or another, living in adjoining houses or across the street from ours, I don't remember that backyard ever being used as a gathering spot for family and friends.

Our Hospital Street tenement was located across from the original Coro Building, housing a company that became a giant in the jewelry trade. Opened for business in 1929, Coro anchored the thriving Providence Jewelry District. For more than five decades, millions and millions of costume jewelry baubles, bangles, and beads manufactured by Coro and other large plants and small job shops that sprung up in the District were shipped to locations spanning the globe. The Coro property has since been renovated and expanded and serves as a Lifespan medical and clinical research facilities.

The Hospital Street backyard was a small patch of hardscrabble dirt, interspersed with tufts of scraggly grass. We didn't need a lawn mower. Every now and then my father would fire up a small charcoal grill and we would have an urban picnic. Aunt Rose and her family always seemed to live in the same tenement with us or across the street. Later, she moved to a house next door to us. We would gather on this dusty backyard

and the adults discussed the latest family news, rumors and gossip. Invoking some ancient tradition, they instinctively switched to Italian when they didn't want us kids to understand what they were talking about.

Our backyard here at home bears no resemblance to those of my South Providence tenements. Across from the patio, where the outside furniture and umbrellas provide shade and comfort, my wife claims a section of the lawn to plant her flower garden. Starting in late spring, a dazzling array of black-eyed susan, day lilies, stella dora, poppies, daisies, lupines, clematis, phlox, echinacea, morning glories, and iris bloom in a canvas of bright colors. The garden is decorated with hanging bird houses, birdbath, a sundial, a family of porcelain ducks, and assorted bucolic knick-knacks. It's illuminated each night by solar lights. Next to the flower garden and along the stockade fence, my wife plants an herb patch of basil and oregano. In the vegetable gardens running along the side of the garage and in the corner of the lawn, we cultivate different varieties tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, cucumbers, and garlic.

We also own the adjacent lot. When our children were growing up, the lot

was often a popular sun bathing spot; whiffle ball park; football field; bocce, croquet, volleyball, badminton, or (more recently) a cornhole court (dutifully monogrammed with the Grimaldi name); and, most recently, a rubber duck toss game area for our younger grandchildren. Over the years, I have spent countless joyful hours with my grandchildren filling our bird feeders and watching the birds stop by for a bit to eat.

In a 34-year span, we have hosted birthdays, christenings, First Communion, graduations and other events too numerous to remember in our backyard. We have enjoyed countless cookouts with family and friends. During prime picking season in June, many of these feasts are topped off with freshly baked shortcake featuring bounty gathered by my wife and grandchildren on their annual strawberry harvesting quest and topped with whipped cream.

In the summer we often eat supper on the patio. Other time, we just sit and talk or read while enjoying the peace and quiet of the neighborhood. Passing the vacant lots of my old South Providence neighborhoods renewed my appreciation for our little slice of country in our urban oasis. The distance may be but a few miles, but our North Providence backyard is a world away from those of my childhood.

Larry Grimaldi is a freelance writer from North Providence. Comments can be e-mailed to lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com.

Check out Larry Grimaldi's new publication, *Wandering Across America* at Amazon.com. or Stillwaterpress.com

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ACCORDING TO DON

by DON FOWLER

How's The Weather?

More than politics, health and family, weather ranks number one on the list of topics discussed by seniors.

Visitors to home-bound and hospitalized seniors are asked "How's the weather outside?" even before they are asked "How are you?"

The late Doug White once told me that surveys listed the weather as the number one reason people gave for watching TV news.

There are 24-hour weather channels, weather blogs, and on-line sites.

There are dedicated weather watchers in every corner of the globe.

There are irritating television anchors who steal the professional meteorologists time and thunder, sharing their thoughts on the weather, and chastising them

if the weather is bad, like it's their fault.

There are more weather reporters on the local news shows than news reporters.

What's the big deal?

All you need to do is look out the window to see if it is raining or snowing.

Check to see if you lost any tree limbs or garbage cans and you'll know if it is windy.

Listen for snow blowers and you'll know if it is snowing.

Find your dog or cat in bed with you and you'll know if it is thundering and lightning.

Boy Scouts have the best way for telling the weather: The Weather Rock.

They tie a rock to a hanging branch.

If the rock is wet, it's raining.

If it is swinging back and forth,

it's windy.

If covered with snow, it's snowing. If dry and warm, it's warm and sunny.

My father had his own method. When a storm was brewing, his lumbago acted up.

Rhode Island's motto-*Hope*- is derived from "Hope the weather changes tomorrow."

And it will, because the follow up line is,

"If you don't like the weather just wait until tomorrow"...when it will go from the forties to the seventies.

More and more college students are choosing meteorology as their major, hoping to land a job standing in front of a blue screen, pointing out the weather on a non-existent map.

Now, if the anchors would only shut up and let them do their job.

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the beach.

NSYUN

Five empty boxes for the word scramble puzzle.

Answer: Sunny

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in Kentucky on June 9, 1963. I dreamt of being a rock musician and dropped out of school to perform. But it was acting that nabbed my interest and soon I was a rising star on TV. I'm known best for my quirky characters, including a bumbling pirate.

Answer: Johnny Depp

AT THE SEA WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing letters for finding beach-related words.

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

- Words to find in the word search: BAY, BEACHES, BOARDWALK, CONCH, COVER UP, CRAB, CURRENT, DOCK, DRIFTWOOD, DUNES, FLIP-FLOPS, ISLAND, JELLYFISH, KITES, LIFEGUARD, OCEAN, PIER, SANDBAR, SAND CASTLE, SCUBA, SEAGULL, SHELLS, SHORE, SNORKLE, STARFISH, SUNGLASSES, SUNSCREEN, SURFBOARD, SWIM, SWIMSUIT, TAFFY, TAN, TIDAL, TOWELS, VOLLEYBALL, WAVES.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

by CHERYL TUDINO
SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Five Social Security resources that can protect elders against scams

June is World Elder Abuse Awareness month. On this day, communities, seniors, caregivers, governments, organizations, and the private sector unite to prevent the mistreatment of and violence against older people.

Social Security scams are widespread across the United States. Scammers use sophisticated tactics to deceive you into providing sensitive information or money. They target everyone – especially the elderly – and their tactics continue to evolve.

Here are five easy-to-use resources to prevent Social Security fraud:

- Check out our Fraud Prevention and Reporting page to learn about Social Security fraud – and how we fight scammers at www.ssa.gov/fraud.
- Read our Scam Alert fact sheet to learn what tactics scammers use and how to protect yourself at www.ssa.gov/fraud/assets/materials/EN-05-10597.pdf.
- Create your own personal my Social

Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to stay one step ahead of scammers. Please read our blog post at blog.ssa.gov/my-social-security-what-to-know-about-signing-up-or-signing-in for more information about creating or signing in to your personal my Social Security account.

- Learn about other types of fraud on our Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) Scam Awareness page at oig.ssa.gov/scam-awareness/scam-alert. You'll also see how to report these scams to our OIG and other government agencies.

- Read our blog post to learn how to guard your Social Security card – and protect your personal information at blog.ssa.gov/guard-your-card-protect-whats-important-to-you/.

Please share this information with your friends and family to help spread awareness about Social Security imposter scams.

Faster processing of disability claims for people with Alzheimer's disease

Currently, more than five million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease. Since the onset of Alzheimer's can occur in people before they retire, it may strike during an individual's working years, preventing gainful employment as the disease progresses.

As a result, people with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers must figure out how they'll pay for care. Our benefits and services are vital to people with early-onset Alzheimer's who are unable to work and have no other source of income.

For more than a decade, Social Security has included early-onset Alzheimer's disease in our list of Compassionate Allowances program. The program identifies

debilitating diseases and medical conditions so severe they meet our disability standards. Compassionate Allowances allow for faster processing of disability claims for individuals with early-onset Alzheimer's disease and several other neurodegenerative disorders.

You can read more about our Compassionate Allowances program at www.ssa.gov/compassionateallowances. To learn more about how Social Security disability insurance works and to apply for benefits, visit our disability page at www.ssa.gov/disability. Please share these resources with friends and family.

Elder Abuse Awareness Month

One out of every 10 people over the age of 60, who live at home, report being abused.

If someone is in immediate danger call 911.

Elder abuse can happen to anyone – you, your family, friends or neighbors. Elder Abuse is any knowing, intentional or negligent act that causes harm (or a serious risk of harm) to a vulnerable adult perpetrated by a family member, caregiver or trusted friend.

It doesn't matter if you are rich or poor. Elder abuse happens in all cultures and races. It can happen in your home, in a nursing home, assisted living facility, or in a hospital.

The abuser may be a family member such as a spouse or adult child who is a caregiver.

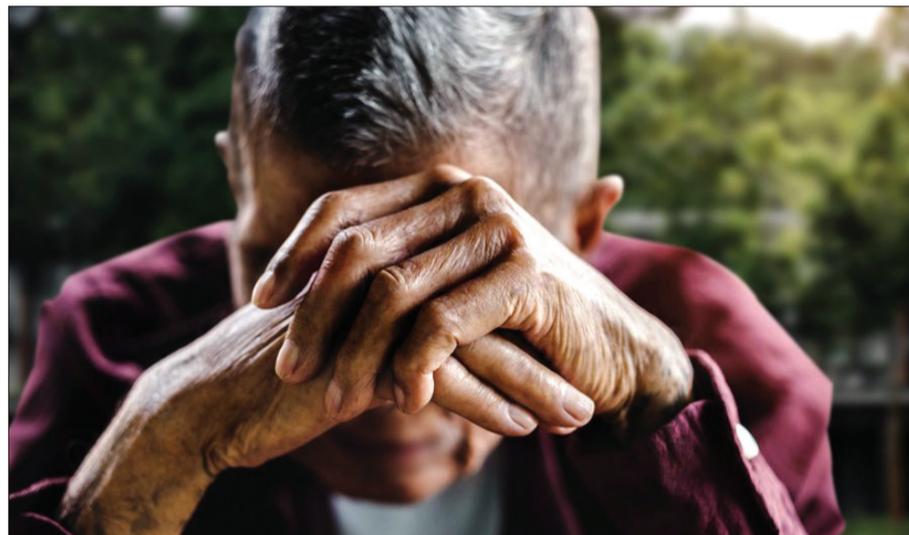
Some of the risk factors for Elder abuse include:

- A diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or related dementia
- History of mental illness or substance abuse by the victim or abuser or both
- Social isolation
- Poor physical health

If you think a Senior is not safe, Rhode Island law requires you to report your suspicions.

The Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs Adult Protective Services Unit is responsible for investigating complaints of abuse of Rhode Islanders 60 years of age and older by a family member, caregiver, or person with a duty to care for the elder.

Division of Elderly Affairs Adult Protective Services, 401-462-0555, 462-3000



DID YOU KNOW? Socialization in midlife can have a profound impact on individuals as they approach their golden years. A 2019 study led by researchers at University College London found that being more socially active in your 50s and 60s predicts a lower risk of developing dementia later in life. The study used data from a previous study that tracked more than 10,000 participants between 1985 and 2013. Participants in the study completed cognitive testing from 1997 onwards. Researchers found that someone who saw friends almost daily at age 60 was 12 percent less likely to develop dementia than someone who only saw one or two friends every month. Strong associations between social contact at age 50 and subsequent dementia were also uncovered. The study supports the idea that remaining socially active in one's 50s and 60s can benefit long-term cognitive health. LP227090



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Grilled Buttermilk Chicken

Recipe courtesy of Lori Yates of Foxes Love Lemons on behalf of Milk Means More

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 16 minutes

Servings: 4

- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk
- 1 tablespoon mustard powder
- 1 tablespoon Sriracha
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 2 teaspoons paprika
- 4 chicken drumsticks, bone in, skin on
- 4 chicken thighs, bone in, skin on
- vegetable oil, for grill
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

1 lemon, cut into wedges (optional)

In medium bowl, whisk buttermilk, mustard powder, Sriracha, garlic and paprika.

Place chicken in large zip-top bag; pour buttermilk mixture over chicken. Seal bag and refrigerate 2 hours or overnight.

Heat outdoor grill for direct grilling over medium heat. Remove chicken from marinade, shaking off excess; discard marinade. Lightly oil grill grates. Transfer chicken to grill and cook, turning occasionally, 16-18 minutes, or until internal temperature reaches 165 F.

Transfer chicken to serving platter. Sprinkle with parsley and serve with lemon wedges, if desired.

Keep Cool on the Grill

Refreshing, dairy-infused dishes for warm days

Grilled Pizza with Arugula Pesto, Corn and Ham

Recipe courtesy of Rachel Gurk of Rachel Cooks on behalf of Milk Means More

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 6

Arugula Pesto:

- 2 cups fresh arugula, tightly packed
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- pinch red pepper flakes, (optional)
- 1/3 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

Grilled Pizza:

- 2 tablespoons flour, divided
- 1 pound pizza crust dough (at room temperature if using refrigerated dough)
- vegetable oil, for grill
- 1/2 cup Arugula Pesto
- 1/2 cup part-skim ricotta cheese

- 1/2 cup diced deli ham
- 1/2-3/4 cup fresh corn kernels (about 1 cob)
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

Heat grill to medium heat (350-400 F).

To make Arugula Pesto: In food processor, combine arugula, garlic, lemon juice, red pepper flakes and Parmesan. Pulse until combined then, with food processor on, drizzle in olive oil until pesto forms, scraping down sides as needed. Taste and season with salt and pepper, to taste.

To make Grilled Pizza: Flour pizza dough lightly and stretch or roll to about 1/2-inch thickness (14-16-inch diameter).

Sprinkle remaining flour on large rimless baking sheet, pizza peel or pizza stone. Transfer dough to baking surface.

Clean grill grate and grease with oil-soaked paper towel and tongs. Slide dough off baking surface onto grill. Cover and cook until dough is bubbling on top and golden brown on bottom, 2-3 minutes.

Carefully flip dough over using peel or tongs. Remove crust from grill to add toppings. Spread Arugula Pesto over dough. Top with ricotta, ham, corn kernels, onion and Parmesan. Return pizza to grill, cover and cook until toppings are heated through and bottom of crust is crispy, 5-7 minutes.

Remove from grill, slice and serve.



FAMILY FEATURES

Kee your kitchen cool and comfortable with grilled meals that banish the heat to the outdoors. Crisp, fresh greens and a perfect blend of spices and savory ingredients make each of these refreshing dishes perfect solutions for toasty days.

Featuring ingredients across the food groups, these dairy-fueled recipes from Milk Means More are ideal for well-rounded meals filled with nutritious

flavor. Zesty mustard, spicy Sriracha and rich buttermilk lend a marinated flavor upgrade to traditional grilled chicken, while homemade pesto, fresh corn and ham create a perfect harmony for a cheesy grilled pizza. Or make a salad the star of your dinner table with a simply seasoned sirloin steak, plenty of veggies and a tart twist on a creamy dressing made with yogurt and milk.

Find more refreshing meal solutions at milkmeansmore.org.



Grilled Steak Salad with Chive Yogurt Dressing

Recipe courtesy of Kirsten Kubert of Comfortably Domestic on behalf of Milk Means More

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 6

Dressing:

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice (3 small limes)
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives
- 1 clove garlic, peeled and minced
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Steak:

- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 20 ounces boneless petite sirloin steak

Salad:

- 3 cups baby spinach
- 3 cups chopped romaine lettuce hearts

- 1/2 cup sweet red pepper rings
- 1/2 cup sweet yellow pepper rings
- 1 cup avocado chunks
- 1/4 cup thinly shaved red onion

To make dressing: In blender, combine yogurt, lime juice, milk, chives, garlic, salt and pepper. Blend on low until smooth consistency forms and chives are completely incorporated. Transfer dressing to jar with tight-fitting lid and refrigerate until serving.

Heat grill to medium.

To prepare steak: Combine kosher salt, black pepper and granulated garlic to create rub. Sprinkle half of seasoning mix over one side of steak, pressing it into meat. Repeat with remaining seasoning on opposite side of steak.

Grill steak over direct medium heat to desired level of doneness, approximately 4-5 minutes per side for medium pink center. Remove steak from grill and let rest 7-10 minutes on cutting board.

To make salad: Toss spinach and romaine on large platter. Scatter red and yellow peppers, avocado and onion over greens. Slice grilled sirloin thinly against grain. Arrange meat slices along center of salad.

Drizzle dressing over salad just prior to serving.



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How to build friendships in your golden years

Making friends as a child or even as a parent to school-aged children is relatively easy. Classrooms and school functions facilitate the building of friendships. Even as one gets older and enters the workforce, it's not uncommon for people to become friends with their coworkers.

As people near retirement age, their situations may have changed considerably. Children have moved out, careers are coming to an end and friendships may be hard to maintain due to people relocating or traveling. Older adults may aspire to make new friends, but they may not know how.

According to Irene S Levine, Ph.D., The Friendship Doctor and contributor to Psychology Today, it is not unique for seniors to want to make new friends. Age can be a barrier because there are stereotypes that pigeonhole people of certain ages. But Levine notes that state of mind and physical ability is not directly tied to chronological age. Making friends is possible at any age. These guidelines can help along the way.

- Explore online connections. A 2016 study published in the Journal of Gerontology found seniors (even those in their 80s) who stay connected with friends and family using social media report feeling less lonely and better overall. Connected seniors also demonstrated higher executive reasoning skills. There are plenty of ways to meet new people online by joining social media groups that cater to your interests. In person meetings in particular cities or regions of the country also can make for great ways to make new friends. Exercise caution when meeting people in person after contacting them online. Bring another person along, whether it's a spouse or an adult child, to ensure that you are safe.

- Volunteer your time. One way to meet new people is to get involved with causes or activities you love. This serves the double benefit of getting you outside and active and puts you in touch with people who share your passions and interests.

- Attend alumni events. If you have an interest getting in touch with someone from your past and reconnecting, make the time to attend school reunions and other alumni activities. It can be fun to reconnect with friends from high school or college.

- Join a gym. The local gym isn't just a great place to get physically fit. Group exercise classes also can be ideal places to meet other people who enjoy working out. Strike up a conversation with another class participant you see on a regular basis. Once you develop a rapport, schedule lunch dates so your friendship grows outside of the gym.

Making friends is not just for the young. Men and women over 50 also can find ways to build new friendships. LP213753

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Helping All The Lonely People

A large part of what we do at AARP is advocate for communities to become Age-Friendly and make progress in eight areas – what the World Health Organization calls the Eight Domains of Livability. These are the areas that people of all ages need to have in place in order to thrive.

What is stunning to note is that two of these domains have to do with social connection: Social Participation and Social Inclusion & Respect. Four more of the domains – Civic Engagement & Employment, Transportation, Communication & Information, and Outdoor Spaces & Buildings – are areas that support our ability to connect with our community.

(The final two are Health Care & Community Supports, and Housing – chief areas of advocacy on behalf of older adults but only 25 per cent of what we need to lead a whole and healthy life!)

The reason that AARP and WHO focus so intently on our social well-being is that chronic social isolation and loneliness have serious negative effects on health. Indeed, one study found that the health risks of prolonged isolation are equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

To raise awareness, AARP Rhode Island recently sponsored a screening of *All The Lonely People*, a 2021 documentary that explores loneliness and isolation experienced by people in different parts of the world -- including the United Kingdom, which deemed the problem of loneliness



AARP - RHODE ISLAND

by CATHERINE TAYLOR

so critical that it appointed a Minister of Loneliness to solve it.

One of the film's creators, Joe Applebaum, told me that while loneliness is a problem everywhere, there also are solutions available. "Some are institutional solutions. But there are – we call them 'life hack' solutions – that are small things people can do on a daily basis to abate isolation in their lives. It's not complicated.

"Loneliness," he added, "can affect everybody. When it becomes chronic, that's the difference of feeling lonely and loneliness."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, as Joe said, most of us have experienced profound loneliness. And there are other isolating factors that can heighten our risk: Living alone. Mobility impairments, frailty, even a fear of falling that keeps us from venturing outside our homes. Untreated hearing loss. Caring for a loved one. All can cause us to become detached from our social and support networks. Our networks also shrink naturally as we age and outlive peers.

Attending to your "social health" is as important as taking care of your heart

health or quitting smoking. It can be really hard to know where to start, but AARP can help.

AARP works hard to give people tools to climb out of their loneliness.

For people longing for a good chat on the phone, AARP Friendly Voice might be the answer. Call 1-888-281-0145 to leave your name and number and a trained AARP Friendly Voice volunteer will call you back to say hello.

Caregivers need special resources that are available on their own schedule. The AARP Family Caregivers Discussion Group on Facebook can be a way to feel less isolated.

AARP Rhode Island is using technology and local resources to foster connection through a rich array of online programming, from cooking to gardening to dance to informational webinars. During the pandemic, this really caught hold. Please explore these free virtual experiences at www.aarp.org/RIEvents. Need help with your computer? Find classes at AARP partner Senior Planet at www.seniorplanet.org.

There is no greater cure for loneliness

than volunteering, and AARP Rhode Island has a host of opportunities for you to help others and to meet some terrific people along the way. Our volunteers advocate on Smith Hill, produce virtual programming, staff our Speakers Bureau, share AARP resources at community events, work to make municipalities more age-friendly, make outreach phone calls, and so much more. Connect with us at aarp.org/RIVolunteers.

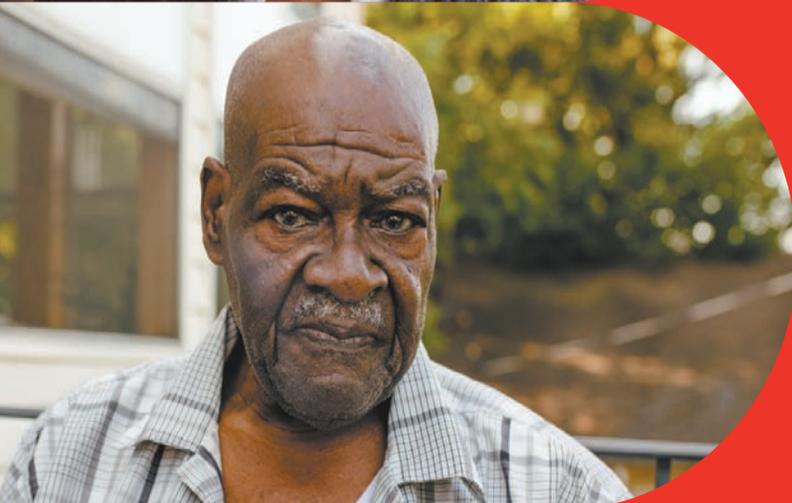
Joe Applebaum mentioned "life hacks" that subjects of "All The Lonely

People" discover. My very favorite is the "Happy To Chat" bench, where folks who are open to a conversation with a new person can sit down next to the "Happy To Chat" sign. No fancy program or investment. Just an inviting sign – so simple, and yet so profound.

AARP is on a mission to end social isolation and loneliness by building the social connections that we older adults need to thrive. We're here for you – and you can pitch in too. Next time you pick up the phone to call a friend you haven't talked to in a while, or put a card in the mail, or share some kind words with the person behind you in the grocery check-out line, you are doing your part to help All The Lonely People. And maybe yourself as well.

Catherine Taylor is AARP Rhode Island State Director.

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Voting is your most important right. It gives you the power to decide what our future looks like. But you have to be in the know to vote. Election laws and voting places can change. That's why AARP Rhode Island has collected all the most up-to-date election information to make sure that the voices of voters 50-plus are heard. Make sure you know how to register to vote, where to vote in person, what the rules are for absentee or early voting, and all the key voting deadlines. Get the latest voting information for Rhode Island at aarp.org/Rlvotes

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