

‘Promise of a cure one day’ Yet again, Johnston Memorial Cancer Events help Hasbro heal

By PETE FONTAINE

The words — “Johnston Memorial Cancer Events” — are prominently printed at several locations inside Hasbro Children’s Hospital, which recently completed a full renovation from top-to-bottom by way of extraordi-

nary philanthropic support that raised \$25 million for the project.

Michele P. Brannigan, Senior Gifts Officer/Campaign Manager, explained that “the hospital is fully modernized with bright and beautiful public areas and patient’s rooms because of the JMCE’s generosity and their gifts that went towards

renovations over the last few years.”

Moreover, the JMCE’s work is under glass — and in lights — on the new and impressive “Wall of Gratitude” located in the lobby. The display also features the Johnston-based Goodfellas Motorcycle Club, recognizing the group for its “extraordinary efforts” in recent years.

The JMCE is also prominently displayed on a donor sign as people enter the fifth floor and in honor of the unique non-profit there’s a special wall plaque next to the highly acclaimed pediatric oncology unit.

The plaque reads: “In grateful recognition of Johnston Memorial Cancer Events, In Honor of Sal Gelsomino, Anna Mazzulla, Laura DeAngelis, Raymond Johnson, John Furia and Frances Grasso,” in whose memory all funds are raised.

Brannigan, while speaking on behalf of the hospital, offered: “The Johnston Memorial Cancer Events’ strong commitment to the families we serve is an inspiration to all of us. The fact that they completed

HASBRO - PAGE 4

UNDEFEATED



SUPER BOWLERS: The Johnston Youth Panthers took home an 8-0 win over North Smithfield Xpress on Sunday to claim the Rhode Island Junior Varsity State Championship and to finish the season with a perfect record. See more photos and a recap in sports, starting on Page 15.

GUEST OPINION

Too many Rhode Islanders are hungry

By ANDREW SCHIFF
Special to the Sun Rise

RI Community
Food Bank CEO:
‘Nearly one in
three households
can’t afford
adequate food’

It’s time for Thanksgiving. A time when we express gratitude for all the good things in our lives, including the food on our plates. We remember those who aren’t as lucky by donating food and contributing money to local agencies. But as we welcome the holiday season and experience the inherent joy in giving to others, the latest statistics on the prevalence of hunger should give us pause. This week, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank released its annual Status Report on Hunger. The findings in the report are shocking: nearly one in three households can’t afford adequate food.



GREAT NEED: Andrew Schiff serves as CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. (Photo courtesy the Rhode Island Community Food Bank)

FOOD - PAGE 6



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HAVE YOU SEEN THESE THREE? Johnston Police want to know the identity of the three shoppers in these surveillance photos. If you know them, call the Johnston Police Department at 401-231-4210. *(Photos courtesy Johnston Police)*

JPD: Have you seen these three shoppers?

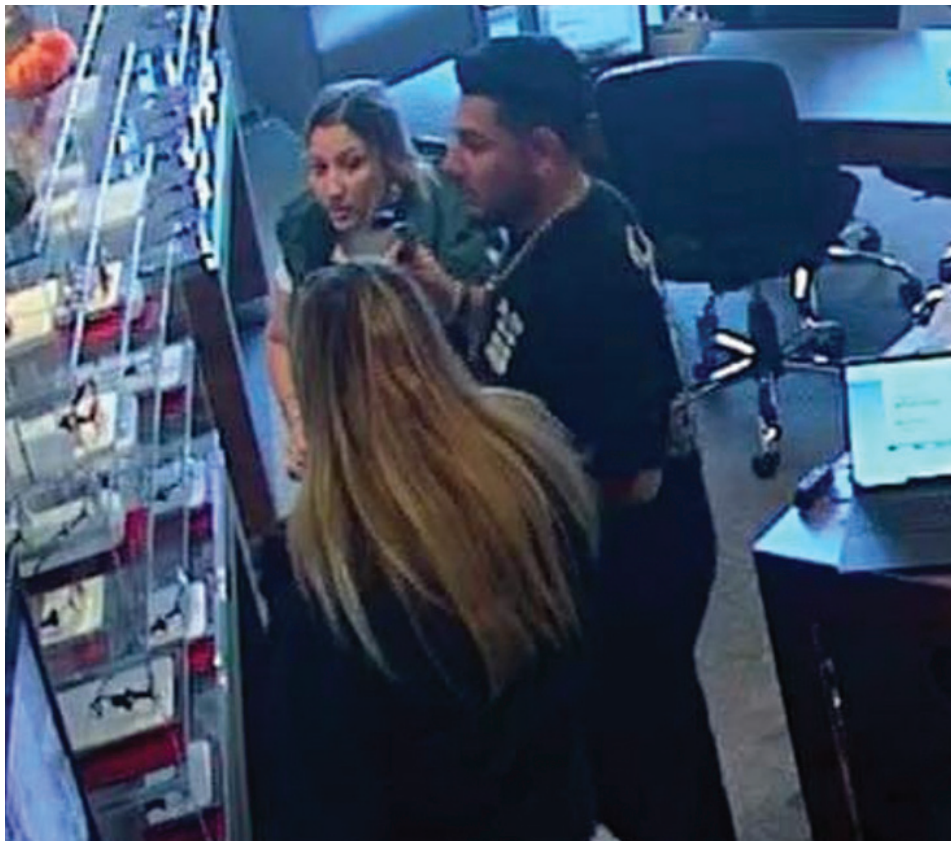
Johnston Police are looking for a trio of alleged shade thieves.

Around 1:15 p.m., Nov. 8, Johnston Police responded to a local business to investigate a reported designer sunglasses theft.


According to Johnston Police, “an unknown male suspect along with two unknown female suspects entered Optx RI,” at 1277 Hartford Ave.

“While the suspects were in the store, two pairs of Cartier sunglasses were taken from a display case,” according to police. “The suspects then fled scene in a black Honda Odyssey with an unknown registration.”

Anyone with information regarding identity of the suspects is urged to contact the Johnston Police Department at 401-231-4210.





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PROUD PANTHERS: The JHS students above again upheld a terrific helping collect no n perishable food items that will help needy families. The group includes Derek Salvatore, Josh Philbrick Nicki Aucone, Dylan Robbins, Marilyn Macateer, Jillian Olivia-Garcia, Emily Klein, Michelina Irons, Sierra Jeetan, Hailey Brown, Talia LaFlamme, Arianna Medeiros and Ava Mello. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

JHS SADD group helps stock parish food pantry shelves

By PETE FONTAINE

SADD (Students Against Dangerous Decisions) made sure the Parish Food Shelves at St. Robert Bellarmine Roman Catholic Church are again full.

Johnston High School undergrads like Emily Klein, Nicki Aucone and Michelina Irons realized they have a lot to be thankful for today.

The same scenario holds true for the always giving and generous JHS family, which includes countless students, staff and caring members of the faculty.

For five days, from Nov. 14-18, SADD held what wound up being a “fantastic collection” of non-perishable foods that officers and fellow students personally delivered to the church last Friday morning.

Likewise, there was also Dress Down Day on Cherry Hill and faculty and staff helped make the drive extra special by also donating non-perishable foods.

The unique food drive that SADD students conducted under the leadership of Greg Russo, the JHS Science Department chairman and faculty advisor, will again benefit local families in need of food during the holiday season.

“I’m again very proud of all our students and everyone that made a donation,” Russo said. “Each day the items are brought to the lower lobby to be counted by SADD officers and numbers are recorded for each homeroom.”

Of course, students in each of those JHS rooms had an extra incentive, as Russo explained: “There’s a friendly competition as the homeroom that collected the most food items will be treated to a breakfast at a local restaurant.”

Thus, let it be known that Mrs. Forgetta’s senior home room 109 took first place, while the runner-up was Room 124 and those students will receive a bagel breakfast. Room 113 placed third and those students will soon enjoy a donut breakfast.

As it has through the years, the SADD Food Drive is bolstered by faulty and staff who are also asked to donate non-perishable food items that will again help keep the St. Robert Bellarmine Food Shelves full and eventually be given to families in need.

“This is always a special scene,” Russo observed as 13 students carried box-upon-box of food. They loaded the food into two SUVs, for the short trek up Atwood Avenue to St. Robert Bellarmine.

Meanwhile, Russo repeated with a wide smile on his face: “Thank you to all the students and staff that took the time and made the effort to help those in need!”

SUPER SUPORTERS:

Among those officers of the JHS Chapter of SADD (Students Against Dangerous Decisions) and their classmates who made the annual Food Drive a special success are from left: Dylan Robbins, Vice President Nicki Aucone, Hailey Brown, Secretary Michelina Irons, President Emily Klein and Faculty Advisor Greg Russo. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)



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GENEROUS GIVERS: Deb Johnson, a member of the award-winning JMCE, presents the non-profit's latest gift of \$30,000 to Dr. Rishi Lulla, Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Hasbro Children's Hospital. Also taking part in the ceremony were Judi Graham, Phyliss Gelsomino, Dewey Uriati, Cheryl Johnson, Vin LaFazia, Linda LaFazia, Julianne DeAngelis, Ernie DeAngelis, Ray Johnson, Michele Capraro and Michele Branigan look on. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

■ Hasbro

(Continued from page 1)

their \$100,000 pledge to help modernize the hospital a full year ahead of schedule speaks volumes about the community they've built and strength of their mission to help children living with cancer."

She paused, then with sincerity ringing in her voice, went on: "Their new commitment in support of pediatric cancer research is so exciting and points to the hope we all feel for the discovery of new treatments and, hopefully, the promise of a cure one day."

Perhaps Dr. Rishi Lulla, Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, was the most excited all the people who attended the JMCE's recent presentation of another \$30,000.

Dr. Lulla, in fact, attended the celebration which was held inside the well-appointed Izzy Room located on the fifth floor and named in honor of Isabelle "Izzy" Wohlrab.

As a dozen JMCE members enjoyed coffee, bagels and muffins, prior to what has become an annual check presentation, Brannigan explained that the room is "supported

by the Izzy Foundation and provides respite and resources to families with children being cared for on the fifth floor including those children with cancer."

"We have a fantastic team here," Dr. Lulla said of everyone at Hasbro. "Thank you — again — for all you have done for us through the years; your commitment to our patients and raising money to support pediatric cancer research."

Under Dr. Lulla's leadership Hasbro Children's Hospital's pediatric cancer research enterprise has grown and as Brannigan explained: "Today our patients have access to all the latest therapeutics and research trials. The gift from the JMCE will support the work being done in pediatric cancer research."

Deb Johnson presented Dr. Lulla with the check for \$30,000, which drove the JMCE's total donations to Hasbro Children's Hospital in the past 11 years to nearly \$300,000, with more money promised in 2023.

The close-knit group of friends who make up "TEAM JMCE" were on hand, including Judi Graham, Phyliss Gelsomino, Dewey Uriati, Cheryl Jason, Vin LaFazia, Linda LaFazia, Julianne DeAngelis, Ernie DeAngelis and Michele Capraro.

TERRIFIC TRIBUTE: JMCE members Julianne DeAngelis, Ernie DeAngelis, Michele Capraro, Deb and Ray Johnson — are standing beside the special plaque affixed to a wall at Hasbro Children's Hospital that reads: "In grateful recognition of Johnston Memorial Cancer Events in honor of Sal Gelsomino, Anna Mazzulla, Laura DeAngelis, Raymond Johnston, John Furia and Frances Grasso." (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

johnstonsunrise.net

Pawtucket man sentenced for violent Johnston home invasion

By RORY SCHULER

A Pawtucket man has been sentenced to 15 years behind bars in connection to a 2021 violent home invasion in Johnston. His alleged accomplice has never been identified.

Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Neronha announced Tuesday that Deven Guernon, 25, of Pawtucket, was sentenced in Providence County Superior Court to serve 15 years at the Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI).

Guernon pleaded to participating in the violent home invasion on Atwood Avenue in which a 30-year-old man was shot and stabbed several times, according to a press release from Neronha's office.

"Detectives from the Johnston Police Department worked very diligently with the members of the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office to ensure that the defendant was brought to justice," said Johnston Police Chief Joseph P. Razza. "I am very grateful for the work of the Attorney General's office in

prosecuting this matter and particularly proud of the work done by the detectives who worked to identify and arrest this criminal. The conviction and sentence will help to restore the sense safety once again."

Guernon "entered a plea of nolo contendere to one count of assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to rob, one count of first-degree robbery, and two counts of conspiracy," according to the press release.

He was sentenced at a hearing on Nov. 4, before Superior Court Justice Robert D. Krause. Guernon was sentenced "to 30 years, with 15 years to serve at the ACI, and a 15-year suspended sentence with 30 years of probation," according to Neronha's office.

"When every Rhode Islander comes home and shuts the door behind them, their entirely reasonable expectation is that they are safe, and that any visitors, even the unexpected, will arrive with only good intentions," Neronha said. "The defendant here flouted that principle, and to the extreme. To invade another's

home, armed with gun and knife, with the intent to steal the property of the homeowner, is simply outrageous. Such conduct deserves a heavy prison sentence, and I am grateful that the Court handed one down today. I am also grateful to the men and women of Johnston Police Department for their outstanding work during the investigation of this case."

Johnston Police Detectives Anthony Sasso, John Deangelis, and Mark Bairos investigated the case, and Assistant Attorney General John Perrotta led the investigation and prosecution.

Had the case proceeded to trial, the prosecution "was prepared to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that during the early morning hours of Jan. 10, 2021, the defendant, along with an unidentified co-conspirator, broke into a residence in Johnston, where they shot and stabbed a 30-year-old male occupant before fleeing," according to the press release.

Around 3:45 a.m., "the defendant and the unidentified co-conspirator broke into a

residence on Atwood Avenue, in an attempt to steal marijuana and cash," according to the Attorney General's office. "During the robbery, they encountered the lone occupant and fought with him, slashing the victim several times with a knife in the chest, arm, and face. The fight ended abruptly when the co-conspirator shot the victim in his left thigh with a .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun, causing serious injuries that later required surgery. The defendants stole approximately \$1,000 in cash and a cell phone from the residence before fleeing. The firearm used in the shooting was never recovered."

According to Neronha's office, following an investigation, Johnston Police Detectives identified Guernon as a suspect.

Later that month, he was arrested in Denver, Colorado and then extradited back to Rhode Island for prosecution.

In June, the Statewide Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Guernon with many more charges: one count of assault with a dangerous weapon in a dwelling

with the intent to rob, one count of burglary, one count of first-degree robbery, one count of discharging a firearm when committing a crime of violence (burglary, robbery, and assault with a dangerous weapon) resulting in injury, one count of possession of a pistol without a license, one count of conspiracy to commit assault with a dangerous weapon in a dwelling with the intent to rob, one count of conspiracy to commit a burglary, one count of conspiracy to commit a robbery, one count of conspiracy to discharge a firearm during crimes of violence, and one count of conspiracy to possess a pistol without a license.

Police are still searching for Guernon's alleged accomplice.

"We and other agencies are still actively looking for an accomplice and if the public has any information to aid our investigation they are encouraged to call us," Razza said.

If you have any information for police, regarding the unidentified suspect, call the Johnston Police Department at 401-231-4210.

Sons of Italy host Memorial Mass on Veterans Day; honors lost members

By Louis Spremulli
Special to the Sun Rise

The Sons of Italy-Piave Lodge No. 364 hosted Memorial Mass on Veterans Day.

The event was held Friday, Nov. 11, on Veterans Day, starting with a mass at St. Bartholomew's Church, Laurel Hill Avenue, Providence, and then a breakfast at Tomaselli's at Rosario.

The event was put together by Robert DiMaio. He seems to be the new Italian organizer in multiple organizations. He really dedicates a lot of time for our Italian community.

There were about 40 people and the food was excellent. The president is Gary DiSarro.

There was one special soldier present who used to work for the City of Providence. Bill Petschke, with 21 years of service, was stationed in the DMZ Korea. He suffered with Agent Orange while defending our country. He seemed to be in real good shape and proud of being part of the military. I was proud to listen to him speak.

Each year statues of St. Joseph are given out to the families of members who passed away.

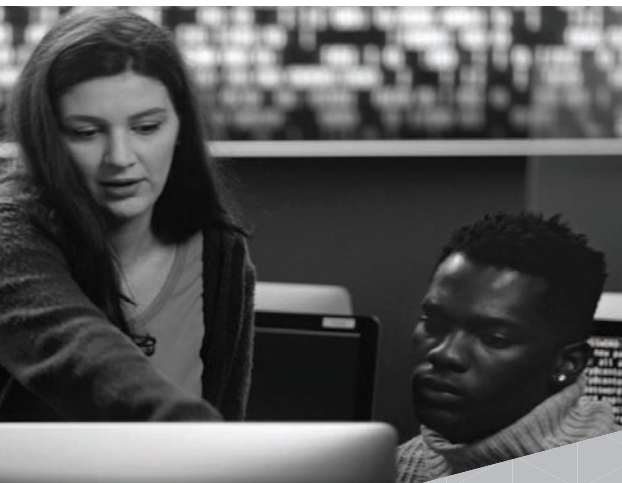
This past year's members lost were Angelo Lauro (Babbo), 89, of Bellini Jewelers, and Joseph Spremulli, 90, both of Johnston.

Both members poured their hearts and soul into this organization. Just another example of great local citizens promoting Italian heritage throughout their community. Both their sons — Mike Lauro and Lou Spremulli — attended and received their awards with respect and gratitude.


Editor's Note: Louis J. Spremulli regularly submits stories and photos from local Italian heritage events to the Johnston Sun Rise. Spremulli also serves as President of the Johnston-based nonprofit group Spirit of Hope. You can contact him by emailing Lspremulli1@gmail.com.



LOST BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: The Sons of Italy-Piave Lodge No. 364 honored the members they lost over the past year: Angelo Lauro (Babbo), 89, of Bellini Jewelers, and Joseph Spremulli, 90, both of Johnston. Both their sons — Mike Lauro and Lou Spremulli — attended last Friday's Veterans Day Memorial Mass to accept their awards. (Photo courtesy Lou Spremulli)



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Watch Your MOUTH

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

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HUNGRY RHODE ISLANDERS: The Food Bank, below, has been serving 63,000 people per month, an increase of 20% over last year. This year's Status Report on Hunger indicates nearly one in three households can't afford adequate food and the rate of food insecurity is even higher for families with children and in communities of color. *(Photo courtesy the Rhode Island Community Food Bank)*

■ **Food**
(Continued from page 1)

The rate of food insecurity is even higher for families with children and in communities of color.

For all households in Rhode Island, food insecurity is three times more prevalent than before the pandemic. The number of people seeking food assistance has grown dramatically this year. Now over 60,000 Rhode Islanders are served each month at food pantries and meal sites.

The combination of raging inflation and the end of Covid-19 relief programs has depleted the household budgets of low-in-

come families. Incomes that used to feed the family now only cover expenses through the third week of the month when there's no food left and no money to buy more.

This is a crisis that requires a collective response, far beyond our individual efforts, no matter how well-intentioned. We need long-term, sustainable solutions to the problem of hunger.

Fortunately, we know what works. After the outbreak of Covid-19 in 2020, Congress enacted several programs that were effective at reducing food insecurity and preventing hunger. Low-income families benefitted from higher SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, free school

meals, and an expanded Child Tax Credit.

Created as temporary measures in response to the health emergency, all of these programs should be reauthorized or made permanent now.

The same holiday spirit that inspires us to donate should embolden us to advocate. It's time to urge our political leaders to make ending hunger a priority. With the right programs and policies in place, we can all sit down at the holiday table together and give thanks.

Editor's Note: Andrew Schiff serves as CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. For a related editorial, turn to Page 7.



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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Give thanks, and a little more

As you pass the stuffing this year, be grateful. Yes, your stuffing cost more this year. Your puny turkey cost more, and it was harder to find. The natural gas (or oil) keeping your dining room warm costs more. Those lights hung over the table cost more to keep lit than ever before. The wine's more expensive. The cranberries! Don't mention the gas, in the tanks of all your relatives' vehicles that brought them from all over the east coast to this Thanksgiving feast. We're all feeling the pinch of rising inflation. But at least you're eating. At least you have a home. At least there's a table in your home bearing the burden of a gluttonous celebratory feast. Remember, as you listen to the mumble of voices gathered around the holiday bird, so many of your neighbors have only the sound of rumbling stomachs ringing in their ears. Some families are struggling to keep warm in a vehicle; or under the sagging canopy of a makeshift tent. Too many Ocean State residents are hungry this year, as evidenced by the Rhode Island Food Bank's 2022 Status Report on Hunger.

"While the state's economy rebounded this year, the effects of inflation have left many Rhode Islanders in a state of greater food insecurity than before the pandemic," according to a press release accompanying the report. The Food Bank's trying to sound the alarm. They've noted "that 31% of Rhode Island households — one in three — are unable to meet their basic food needs. And for families with children and people of color, the number is even higher."

"The current rate of food insecurity in our state is deeply concerning," says Andrew Schiff, chief executive officer of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. "The COVID-19 relief benefits that served as a cushion for Rhode Island's most vulnerable residents during the pandemic have ended just as inflation has raised prices across the board. It's an untenable situation for so many families."

The 2022 Status Report on Hunger found that, "from July 2021 to July 2022, food costs in Rhode Island went up by 13%" and "home heating oil costs are up by 43%."

"We've heard guests say they're skipping meals to make sure their kids don't have to," said Denise Greene, executive director at West End Community Center in Providence, one of the Food Bank's member agencies. "And their SNAP benefits are used up long before the month is over."

Last fiscal year, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank distributed 15 million pounds of food — including 2.7 million pounds of fresh produce — through its 140 member agencies across Rhode Island.

"Currently, the Food Bank serves 63,000 people per month, an increase of 20% over the previous year — a result of increased costs and the end of many Federal pandemic benefits that kept many families afloat," according to the agency.

The Food Bank has provided a few simple steps that an everyday, well-fed Rhode Islander can take to help ensure their neighbors' food security.

"Urge Rhode Island's Congressional Delegation to reinstate the expanded Child Tax Credit and increase SNAP benefit levels in the upcoming Farm Bill," the Food Bank urges citizens. "Call on the Governor to use state funds to make school lunch and school breakfast free for all students. Thank legislators in the General Assembly who voted this year to enact the state Child Tax Credit, fund SNAP incentives, and boost funding for the Food Bank."

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!



Can new leadership deal with familiar problems?

STORY OF THE WEEK:

Every now and then, the tectonic plates of Rhode Island politics shift, as campaign season fades and a fresh batch of leaders takes on new roles. We're seeing that to some degree heading into 2023, with Gov. Dan McKee having won a term in his own right, Seth Magaziner landing the job as the new congressman in CD2, Sen. Ryan Pearson moving up as RI Senate majority leader, Brett Smiley getting set to be mayor of Providence, Gregg Amore and James Diossa signing on, respectively, as secretary of state and general treasurer, and Xaykham "Xay" Kham-syvoravong ascending as mayor of Newport. Some of these folks have been on the scene for a long time — ranging from McKee as the former mayor of Cumberland to Kham-syvoravong as a precocious campaign manager for Frank Caprio in 2006. The approach of a new year nonetheless brings the prospect of potential renewal and opportunity. It also raises the question of whether Rhode Island's leadership can make more progress than their predecessors on the state's thorniest issues — the related challenges of sparking broader economic growth and improving under-performing public schools. The good news is how the state, amid national uncertainty on the economy, is heading into 2023 with a \$610 million projected budget surplus. But if Rhode Island's top challenges were easy to address, more progress would have been made by now. After the holiday lull, the calendar will turn to January, and the current leadership class will face the task of moving

TALKING POLITICS



by
IAN
DONNIS

the ball forward during an era of declining confidence in government.

MEGABUCKS:

The big surplus gives Gov. McKee a lot of latitude for his next budget release in January. Here are initial reactions, via statement, to the windfall. House Speaker Joe Shekarchi: "I am proud of our record of thoughtful, long term strategies for improving the lives of all Rhode Islanders and remain mindful of the need to address current economic realities with a close eye on the looming recession." Senate President Dominick Ruggerio: "The report of a significant surplus for the current budget year is welcome, and I am encouraged that the downturn that had been forecast has been slower to take hold than anticipated. Nevertheless, out-year growth is modest, inflation is a major concern, and economic advisors caution that a recession remains likely. As we did with our federal stimulus funding and prior surpluses, I believe that one-time investments in areas such as infrastructure, addressing learning loss, mental health and human capital, and other urgent needs should be our priority for

surplus revenues."

BUDDING PROSPECTS:

While the merger between Lifespan and Care New England was flatly rejected by Attorney General Peter Neronha earlier this year, RI's two biggest hospital groups have found other ways to pursue increased collaboration with each other and Brown University. This week, the three entities announced the signing of an agreement to align their research operations. Under the agreement, according to a joint statement, "the health systems agreed to align their research operations with Brown's Division of Biology and Medicine, which includes the Warren Alpert Medical School, and the Brown University School of Public Health in a unified enterprise that will leverage the distinctive strengths of each institution. The agreement will help Brown, Lifespan and Care New England compete for larger funding opportunities by combining strengths in state-of-the-art research infrastructure, core facilities and specialized equipment. And that cooperative strength will provide new opportunities for clinical trials, allowing Rhode Islanders more access to cutting-edge therapies locally." This is the latest example of how Brown has steadily ramped up its commitment to research under President Christina Paxson. In related news, Christian Cowan has been appointed as the first full-time executive director of the University of Rhode Island Research Foundation. (In other Lifespan news, John Fernandez was announced as its new

president/CEO, starting in early 2023. He is currently president of Mass Eye and Ear and Mass General Brigham Integrated Care in Boston.)

STATE OF THE NATION:

Developer Jerry Zarrella, who co-chaired Trump's RI campaign in 2020, announced this week that he's leaving the RI GOP to become an independent — a measure of the fatigue surrounding former President Donald Trump. Zarrella shared the news in an email to state GOP Chairwoman Sue Cienki: "After a few days of thinking over my political support and ambitions and after 50 years of being in politics and making friends on both the Democratic and Republican sides and working hard to get the candidates I have supported elected, I find the current state of local and national politics to be in total disarray. The Democratic Party is way too left and the Republican Party is going way too right ... I would like to consider myself old school who is forced to accept the new way of doing things. Way back when, when we ran and lost we did not blame it on anybody ... My thought process is you make your political enemies your friends but it seems today people are making their political friends their enemies ... It was a pleasure to host both President Clinton and President Trump in Rhode Island. Those memories will always be with me."

JOHNSTON Sun Rise

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Sun Rise Scoops

SUN RISE SCOOPS
Sun Rise Staff Reports

CELEBRATE THE SEASON
Holly Fair
The 11th annual Johnston PTSO Holly Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 at Johnston High School. Admission is free and there will be plenty of parking at Johnston High School for people who want to do some early Christmas shopping.
The Fair will host 40 local vendors of various handmade crafts and novel gift items. The event will take place in the spacious JHS cafeteria, but vendors will also be set up in the hallways.

OS Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food Drive
Jingle all the way to the Ocean State Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food drive on Nov. 25 to 27. Down at the Cowesett Corners Shopping Center, 300 Quaker Lane, Warwick. Bring along a canned good or non-perishable item and receive \$1 off the admission fee. Follow the snowman and find the perfect Holiday gifts.

Breakfast with Santa
The Children’s Dyslexia Center of Rhode Island presents Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 3 at 2115 Broad St., Cranston. Celebrate the season with Santa and his “special green friend.” Enjoy a breakfast buffet while watching The Polar Express and each child gets a personal visit with Santa. Pictures will be available for purchase and all proceeds go back to the charity. There are two seating times, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Register for tickets ahead of time to reserve your seat. 8:30 a.m. (Seating link: [eventbrite.com/e/452529687477](#); 10:30 a.m. seating link: [eventbrite.com/e/452610619547](#).) Make reservations by Nov. 26. Admission will be \$15 per person. Kids 3 and under are free.

Warwick Rotary 5k Turkey Trot
Come together at the Warwick City Park Ball Fields on Thanksgiving Day to benefit the Kent Hospital Employee Emergency Fund. Race registration begins at 7:15 a.m. and the trot begins at 8 a.m. There will also be a costume contest! Prizes will be awarded to the best costume, most original, and best dressed family/group. Please bring one non-perishable food item per person plus \$20 for adults, \$15 for students (ages 6-18), kids 5 and under no charge with a paid adult, \$50 for family (2 adults & 2 students), \$20 for virtual runners. All participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt (will only be guaranteed for registrations received and paid

by Oct. 31) Visit: [WarwickRotaryRI.com](#) to register. Entries are non-refundable.

REMEMBERING LOCAL VETERANS YEAR-ROUND
OSDRI November Fundraising Event
Happy November! Check the remaining fundraising events we have going on for Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI) this month!
Giving Tuesday will be held virtually on Tuesday, Nov. 29. To become a peer-to-peer fundraiser visit: [osdri.charityproud.org](#).
Don't forget the OSDRI Holiday Food Drive.
OSDRI is putting out a call to action to the local community in the days leading up to Veterans Day, and beyond. On Friday, Oct. 21, OSDRI began seeking support from the local community to help stock the OSDRI food pantry shelves in time for the Holiday Season.
Individuals and organizations looking to contribute are invited to drop off Gift Cards and food items between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
OSDRI is seeking the following food items: canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing mix, boxed dessert, and gift cards to local supermarkets. OSDRI headquarters is located at 1010 Hartford Ave., Johnston.

MISCELLANEOUS
Explore the ‘Woony’
You can “Join the Woony Team!” “Please donate to the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council to help us continue to restore the Woonasquatucket River and Greenway,” the organization asks. “Your donations also provide cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities for youth, adults, and families. Thank you!”
Pre-registration is required for the hikes. The Explore the Woonasquatucket Recreation Series is made possible with support from REI Co-op.
More hikes have been planned for future months:
Hike Wolf Hill at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 3. This long, rocky, north-south ridge runs through the middle of the town of Smithfield, east of the Woonasquatucket Reservoir (Stump Pond).They'll follow a gently rolling trail that's about 4 miles round trip, leading to Mercer Look-out, where you can see views of the Providence skyline and beyond.
Hike Powder Mill Ledges at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 17. This site, headquarters of the RI Audubon Society, is home to 100 acres of habitat graced with deep wood-

lands and interesting rock outcroppings. These 2.5 miles of trails are home to many species of birds and the site is the headquarters of the Audubon Society of RI.
Hike the Stillwater Scenic Trail at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan 7: This roughly 2 mile round trip walk will follow along sections of the Woonasquatucket, including Stillwater Pond. You'll see some of the buildings remaining from Stillwater Village, some remnants of the railroad spur that served the mill complex, and pass by dams that created these ponds – reminders of RI's thriving industrial past.
Hike Olivia's Forest Hike at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 21: This is a short, 0.7 mile hike, but it is delightful and has some tricky spots to traverse. So, wear your hiking boots and get ready to enjoy the serenity of this quiet, peaceful, lovely path.
Hike Steere Hill Conservation Area at 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Join them on this a casual 3-mile hike through the woods and meadows of the Steere Hill Farm Conservation Area in Glocester.
Hike Fort Wildlife Refuge in North Smithfield at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 4. Located near Primrose Pond, this 3 mile hike is very near the northernmost part of the Woonasquatucket River Watershed. This loop trail is part of an Audubon site, so wildlife abounds.
Hike Heritage Park Conservation Area at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 18: This is a lovely, wide path with rolling hills. On the walk through this section of the Gloucester Land Trust's 447 acre property, the group will amble through beautiful forest land, pass majestic rock ledges and loop up and around Steere Hill before heading back.
Hike Connors Farm Conservation Area at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 1. Located in Smithfield, Connors Farm is a 2.9 mile loop trail that passes by cranberry bogs, small brooks and ponds and features a picnic area at the top of a look-out spot. It's a beautiful rocky terrain, with ups and downs — there will be some uphill traversing on rocks.
For more details and to register, visit [WRWC.ORG/EVENTS](#).


Johnston Historical Society Events
Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Johnston Historical Society Museum Barn, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston, and are free and open to the public. Events are subject to change.
November General Meeting: At 7 p.m., Nov. 30, local collector and Smith-Appleby House Museum Curator Sandra Achille will give a presentation on Esmond Mill blankets.
BY APPOINTEMENT: Please note Both the Johnston Historical Society museum and the Elijah Angell House are open by appointment. The Johnston Historical Society always welcome visits by interested individuals or groups. Just shoot them an email at [johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com](#), or leave a message at 401-231-3380 to set one up. To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical](#).

More at Mohr Library
Yoga Classes for Toddlers with Ms. Pauline: On Second Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., from September through December (remaining date: Dec. 14), children will be guided into gentle movement exercises using the power of their imagination. Transforming into cats, cows, dogs, dolphins will be a highlight of their story hour. They will also learn breathing techniques that calm and center them. It will be a time of joy, wonder and movement. Ms. Pauline is a certified yoga teacher practicing since she was 17 years old. A former school teacher, she began programs to bring yoga to children and teachers in schools throughout Rhode Island. This program is sponsored by The Tri-County Community Action Agency, Health Equity Zone. Register at [mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php](#) or by calling the Library at 401-231-4980 and pressing 5.
Storytime: On Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., through Dec. 7 (except for second Wednesdays when the library will have Yoga for Toddlers) stop by for stories, songs, rhymes, puppets and coloring for children ages 2 and up and their grown-ups. The remaining dates: Nov. 2, 16, 23 & 30; Dec. 7. Register at [mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php](#) or by calling the Library at 401-231-4980 and pressing 5.
Mohr Library offers special activities for middle-school and high-school age kids most afternoons. For more information contact Young Adult Librarian Marissa Galonski at 401-231-4980 or email [marissa@mohrlibrary.org](#).
Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library is now open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Monday through Thursday from 9a.m. to 8 p.m. The library is located at 1 Memorial Avenue in Johnston. Visit their website: [mohrlibrary.org](#).

Neighborhood Watch
The 2022 season of Johnston's Neighborhood Watch has officially kicked off. This Neighborhood Watch brings together residents who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together with members of the police department. The program pairs residents with Johnston Police officers in an effort to open up communication, meet other neighbors and create partnerships that help build community resiliency.
St. Paul's School Religious Book Sale
St. Paul's School of Edgewood is holding a Religious Book Sale after all Masses on Nov. 19 and Nov. 20. The sale, in Msgr. Canning Hall (behind the school on Warwick Avenue), will run from 5:30 -6:30 p.m. Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday. Masses are held in St. Paul Church at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, and 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 on Sunday.
There will be inspiring and uplifting books for adults and children in the areas of Theology, Philosophy, Lives of Saints, Bible Stories, Family Fun & Education and Prayer Books. It will be a good opportunity to stock up on Christmas gifts and books to curl up with this winter. A Social Sunday coffee hour will be held after 9:30 Mass.
This sale is one of several activities commemorating 100 years of St. Paul's School, located at 1789 Broad Street in Cranston. The Roman Catholic elementary school, grades PreK-8th, opened in Fall 1922 and graduated its first class the following spring. Upcoming events include an Anniversary Dinner on April 22, 2023, at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet, with registration details to be announced soon.

RI Landfill hosts ‘Recycling Right’ event
During a “special holiday event” sponsored by the state’s landfill, Rhode Island Resource Recovery Inc., you will not only learn how to Recycle Right here in RI, but you will have all of your holiday recycling questions answered!
You recycle, right? But do you recycle right? Join them at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 15, for a virtual presentation to learn the basics of RI’s mixed recycling program to be a great recycler!
If you’ve ever wondered what the recycling symbol means on different products, how to properly dispose of used pizza boxes, or what actually happens to your recycling when it leaves the curb, you’ll have these questions and more answered during Recycling Right in Rhode Island... and Going Beyond the Bin! Register online for this free presentation.

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



Legal Notice

Town of Johnston

Adopted Ordinances

At a recent meeting of The Johnston Town Council, the Council did adopt the following Ordinance effective immediately:

Ordinance 2022-19
An Ordinance Amending Article XVII, Chapter 220, Section 90 of the Town of Johnston Code of Ordinances entitled “Through Trucking” Said Ordinance prohibits Through Trucking on Pine Hill Avenue at all times.

Said Ordinance is on file and available for review in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Johnston Town Council
Robert V. Russo
President

Attest:
Vincent P. Baccari, Jr.
Town Clerk

11/24/22

LEGAL NOTICES			
Johnston Planning Board Meeting Tuesday December 6th, 2022; 6:00 P.M. <div>Johnston Senior Center 1291 Hartford Ave., Johnston, RI 02919</div> Agenda			
I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL			
II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES			
III. OLD BUSINESS			
PB 17-36 – Residences at Hopkins Pond – Request to Modify Final Approval of a Major Land Development. Public Meeting to discuss the request of the Association to modify the Final plan by eliminate and/or relocating guest parking. A.P. 44 Lot 26 located between 620 Central Avenue and I-295. Applicant: Residences at Hopkins Pond condominium Association.		PB 21-47 – Central Avenue Solar/ Residential – A Public Hearing on a Preliminary Plan application to create seven road frontage lots for residential development and one larger lot for a solar field. The property is located at 1252 – 1262 Central Avenue AP 43 Lots 70 & 95 - Zoned: R-40. Applicant: Revity Energy LLC.	
		PB 21-30 – Hartford Ave Self Storage I - Public Hearing for a proposed Major Land Development and Unified Development Review for a self-storage facility. Located behind 1357 Hartford Avenue AP 20 Lot 25. Property is zoned - B-2. Applicant: National Development Group. The Applicant is seeking a Special Use Permit to allow the self-storage facility, dimensional variances to the yard requirements and possibly other variances.	
		PB 21-44 – Hartford Ave Self Storage II - Public Hearing for a proposed Major Land Development and Unified Development Review for a self-storage facility. Located behind 1347 Hartford Avenue AP 20 Lot 81. Property is zoned - B-2. Applicant: Commonwealth Investments Group LLC The Applicant is seeking a Special Use Permit to allow the self-storage facility and may seek dimensional variances to the yard requirements and possibly other variances.	
		IV. NEW BUSINESS	
		PB 22-60 – Bird’s Eye Vue – Public Meeting on a Master Plan submission for a Major Subdivision creating 8 lots. Located westerly of 17 Wynchwood Place AP 38 Lots 310 & 338. Property is zoned R-10 and R-15. Applicant: Robert E Moll.	
		PB 22-59 – Advisory Opinion to the Town Council on the Petition of Robert Cardillo to rezone 180 & 184 Shun Pike from R-40 to Industrial. Council Petition 2022-	
		CP-167. Assessor’s Plat 33 Lots 27 and 84.	
		V. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Discussion PB 22- 57 The Johnston Comprehensive Plan – Presentation and discussion by/with Weston & Sampson, plan consultant.	
		VI.ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT & SPECIAL ITEMS	
		VI. ADJOURNMENT	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Planning Board Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town’s web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Planning Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.• Items not heard by 9:30 p.m. may be continued to the next Regular Meeting or a special meeting at the discretion of the Board.• Facilities are handicap accessible. Interpreter services may be requested from TTD (401) 792-9642 at least 72 hours in advance.	
		11/17, 11/24, 12/1/22	

JHS Q1 HONOR ROLL

High Honors

Melissa Aguilar 2025
Amelia Almonte 2024
Lucas Anderson 2025
Allison Benoit 2023
Kevin Biscelli 2024
Trinity Blondin 2024
Gianna Brodeur 2023
Hailey Brown 2023
Olivia Bryant 2026
Tyler Buote 2025
Samuel Cambranes 2023
Kylie Caroselli 2023
Michael Cepeda 2023
Vincent Chan 2023
Haley Connors 2023
Destinee Costa 2023
Giuseppe Cucinotta 2025
Enajiah De La Cruz 2023
Alexia DiLorenzo 2024
Linda Echeverria 2023
Willson El Hage 2023
Vanessa Febus 2026
Cameron Ferrara 2024
Abigail Ferri 2026
Joshua Galeas 2023
Riley Guenette 2024
Jonathan Guilmette 2024
Lauren Hill 2023
Emma Homenick 2023
Aliyah Hunt 2023
Michelina Irons 2023
Siera Jeetan 2023
Emily Klein 2023
Alyssa Kleinberg 2026
Fujyi Kue 2023
Talia Laflamme 2023
Brenton Lang 2025
Gavin Lapan-Brayall 2023
Jaylin Loeum 2024
Dylan Lussier 2024
Neko Mahony 2025
Channsophon Mam 2025
Chelsea Maranhao 2024
Samantha Marcotte 2024
Logan Martins 2025
Maylin McAteer 2023
Bennett McClish 2026
Peyton McClish 2024
Ava Melo 2023
Jaylen Molina 2023
Dylan Moore 2023
Jacob Muller 2023
Eliyahna Negron 2024
Brendon Norris 2024
Janelle Nunez 2025
Ayomide Olagundoye 2023
Lilian Oliva Garcia 2023
Sebastian Orozco 2024
Nicole Patenaude 2025
Noelle Patenaude 2025
Joshua Philbrick 2023
Genesis Pineda 2025
Emily Pistocco 2023
Skyla Prata 2025
Fallon Provoyeur 2026
Tyler Renaud 2023
Nicholas Rianna 2023
Isabella Ricci 2026
Anthony Rini 2023
Hollan Rodgers 2026
Steffi Rotella 2023
Phoenix Russell 2023
Derek Salvatore 2023
Camila Sanchez Lamarche 2025
Raylin Santos 2024
Caitlyn Savard 2023
Makayla Scuncio 2023
Shane Simeone 2023
Lucas Simpson 2026
Aiden Soto 2025
Jayden Testa 2024
Abraham Tillet 2025
Jackson Troxell 2023
Cameron Vanstone 2023
Cameron Veitch 2026
Nicolas Viau 2023
Nathen Zalisk 2023
Catrina Zinni 2023
Total High Honors: 88

1st Honors

David Allan 2023
Skyla Almeida 2026
Jenna Aucone 2024
Kaitlyn Barbosa 2026
Camani Batista 2023
Logan Brennan 2024
Emily Buddenhagen 2024
Hannah Calabro 2023
Andrew Cardullo 2026
Joseph Centeno-Gonzalez 2023
Christopher Civetti 2024
Matthew Clements 2025
Elise Connors 2024
Evan Correia 2023
Anthony Corsinetti 2023
Elliot Cortesi 2025
Jazmin Cuello-Pineda 2025
Nolan Cummiskey 2023
Charles Curci 2023
Timothy Davis 2024
Gianna Ferranti 2026
Olivia Forgetta 2026
Naomy Garcia Ore 2026
Kiniya Glenn 2025
Serenity Gonzalez 2024
Joseph Grenier 2026
Caleb Guimaraes 2023
Carlos Gutierrez Deleon 2025
Gianna Halliwell 2024
Jared Lee 2025
Timothy Liang 2026
Katelyn Loffler 2025
Angelica Maddaline 2026
Dylan Martins 2023
Ernesto Mercado Anez 2026
Alexandra Musa 2026
Gianna Orozco 2025
Gregory Panarello 2024
Alexis (Alex) Pannone 2024
Loren Pastore 2025
Ariana Perron 2026
Alessandra Pesare 2024
Caroline Pesenecker 2025
Brea Pezzullo 2026
Kaylee Poole 2024
Taylor Powell 2023
Danny Quinn 2024
Gianna Ricci 2025
Alexis Rivera 2026
Justin Rogala 2023
Jayanah Rollins 2024
Rayven Russell 2026
Lana Salamone 2024
Selina Santanelli 2025
Jason Schino 2026
Shanna Scopelliti 2024
Andrew Sia 2024
Nathaniel Smith 2024
Christian Sonner 2024
Marlon Soto 2023
Parker Sylvia 2023
Sunny Sysomphou 2023
Luke Taglianetti 2025
Branden Testa 2024
Alejandra Torres Morales 2023
Bobbi'Sue Trahan 2025
Isabella Vargas 2026
Anghelina Vejarano 2023
Anthony Vendetti 2026
Dominic Whitten 2023
Total 1st Honors: 70

2nd Honors

Marvin Abban-Saah 2026
Jacob Abbruzzi 2023
Ferlandi Aguilar Lopez 2023
Santiago Aguilar 2024
Logan Hayden Akins 2025
Irais Alcorta-Franco 2024
Katlyn Allen 2026
Vincent Allen 2026
Anayeli Almonte 2026
Elizabeth Almonte 2023
Tala Alsheikh Kassem 2026
Christopher Alves 2025
Emily Anderson 2023
Gabriella Barata 2026
Isabella Barata 2025
Samantha Bayona 2023
Benjamin Bejnar 2025

Nicholas Benoit 2026
Morgan Bernier 2023
Kalina Bonetti 2024
Kara Bonetti 2026
Haley Boudreau 2026
Jack Bremer 2025
Mark Brouwer 2023
I'daizha Brown 2026
Macenzie Buddenhagen 2024
Gerson Cabrera 2024
Erick Cabrera-Noriega 2026
Dylan Calabro 2026
Melanie Capraro 2023
Ryan Capraro 2026
Janeudy Cardella 2026
Kayla Carpentier 2024
Jacob Carr 2024
Dariana Carrascoza 2023
Autumn Cartwright 2026
Ryan Carvalho 2025
Lorenzo Catanzaro 2026
Dylan Cerio 2025
Henri Chan 2025
Michael Chavier 2024
Sofia China 2024
Raymond Cimino 2024
Davon Cole 2023
Nevaeh Cole 2023
Henock Constant 2023
Juliana Correia 2023
Jonathan Cruz Granados 2026
Angel Cruz 2025
Michael Cucca 2026
Arianna Dandy 2025
Anthony Daya 2026
Armando DeCosta 2023
Antonio DeFalco 2023
Chantal DeJesus 2025
Yarielis DeJesus 2026
Hunter D'Elia 2026
Devin DelSanto 2024
Edison Diaz Gomez 2026
Franger Diaz Pena 2026
Fernando Diaz 2026
Anthony DiBiasio 2025
Michael DiIorio 2025
Samantha DiMaio 2023
Ava DiNobile 2026
Adrianna Dinucci 2025
Tyler Diodati 2025
Jada DiRaimo 2026
Santo DiRaimo 2025
Lauren Dixon 2025
Sam Dominique 2023
James Estrada 2025
Regan Estrella 2024
Emily Fashjian 2026
Landon Faucher 2024
Emily Feinstein 2023
Isabella Ferri 2023
Zachary Ferry 2023
Robert Franchini 2025
Haileigh-Rose (Alister) Fredette 2026
Deanna Funches 2026
Ayberson Garcia Cruz 2025
Stanley Garcia 2023
Hannah Gervais 2023
Annabella Gesualdi 2026
Amanda Giron Caballero 2025
Kyle Glode 2023
Angela Gonzalez 2023
Omar Grullon 2024
Dylan Guernon 2024
Fabian Guerrero 2023
Jasmin Guerrero 2024
James Guilmette 2023
Juan Gutierrez Deleon 2023
Brandon Hall 2023
Victoria Hansen 2026
Angelina (Theodore) Hasch 2025
Jake Hicks 2023
Dylan Hill 2024
Walter Homenick 2026
Malikai Hopp 2025
Susana Huerdo 2023
Dineishka Hunt 2024
Olivia Iafrate 2026
Ariana Iasimone 2024
Jada Irons 2023
Vanessa Javery 2025
Emily Joseph 2026
Hayden Judd 2026
Hannah Kelly 2024
Devin Kent 2023
Lucio La Terra Bellina 2024

Ashley Lainez Natareno 2025
Nina Lautieri 2024
Noah Lavergne 2023
Thadeus Leomensah 2023
Karla Liriano 2023
Joseph Lopez Tavares 2025
Isabella Maggiacomo 2024
Jayla Mainey 2024
Gabriella Manchester 2023
Analese Marcano 2026
Samantha Marcotte 2023
Elana Marfeo-Bellini 2023
Balla Marone 2025
Joseph Matteo 2024
Jake McCaffrey 2025
Aidan McGarry 2023
Quinn McGarry 2026
Autumn McIntyre 2025
Ariana Medeiros 2023
Isabella Mejia 2024
Ava Mello 2026
Rachael Mendoza 2026
Gabriela Mercado 2024
Jiana Mitsoulis 2024
Jaden Mollock 2026
Benjamin Monahan 2024
Melissa Emely Monteiro 2026
Alan Montenegro 2025
Ashley Morales 2025
Karissa Morales 2025
Jeremy Morataya 2025
Hector Munoz-Lopez 2024
Diana Naser 2023
Neriah Nhar-Matko 2025
Connor Niles 2025
Mia (Ryo) Nilsson 2025
Jayden Noble 2025
Daniela Noriega Garcia 2024
Davian Nunez 2024
Elijah Odhiambo 2023
Daniel Ordonez-Flores 2026
Randy Ortega 2025
McKayla Osinger 2023
Jeremy Ovalles 2025
David Pagliarini 2024
Lexie Palma 2024
Gabriella Pascale 2025
James Pastore 2024
Abigail Patnaude 2024
Alvin Pena 2026
Jianilda Perez Figueroa 2023
Sheyla Perez Sosa 2025
Michael Perugino 2024
Jacob Pettit 2026
Kaylee Phillips 2026
Jaqueline Pinto Lopez 2023
Juliana Pires 2023
Xavier Pol 2024
Matthew Ponte 2025
Jonathan Prata 2026
Catherine Privitera 2025
Hailee Quinn 2024
Donavin Quinones 2024
Isabella Ragosta 2023
Joseph Ramos Cardoza 2026
Michelle Recinos 2024
Tzivya Reyes 2026
Daisy Rickett 2026
Alan Rietwijk 2023
Alayath Rietwijk 2025
Danielson Rivas 2025
Gino Rizzo 2023
Dylan Robbins 2023
Johan Rodas Cruz 2024
Brissya Rodriguez 2026
Yandery Rodriguez 2024
Leandro Roquez 2026
Diana Rosales 2024
Aiven Rua 2025
Lilianna (Warren) Salois 2025
Leah Sanchez Perez 2026
Celeste Santanelli 2025
Jesse Santillan 2025
Jaselle Santos 2023
Christian Sarmiento 2025
Anthony Sevigny 2023
Victoria Sical 2024
Athena Sin 2023
Kenneth Smith 2024
Ricsa Soth 2023
Shylah Soto 2024
Brandon Souza 2025
Ariana Stoepker 2025
Alexander Subirana 2026
Alik Symoungkoun 2026
Carl Taglianetti 2024

Gianna Useria 2025
Leanna Vargas 2026
Marques Vasquez 2025
Ronald Vento 2026
Lia Vidal Roman 2026
Victoria Villafane 2026
Nicholas Villani 2023
William Vizcaino 2023
Cameron Walker 2024
Ava Waterman 2024
Jordan (Fae) Weston 2025
Austin Wheeler 2025
Nicholas Williams 2025
Janelle Yeomans 2026
Syeda Zainab 2024
Malanya Zanni 2024
Total 2nd Honors: 224

3rd Honors

Jayvin Adamo 2026
Saad Alam 2025
Aubree Allen 2024
Willow Andrews 2024
Marco Aucone 2026
Mia Audino 2026
Gabriel Bandoma 2024
Marlice Baptista 2026
Jayden Benitez 2025
Annabella Brennan 2025
Jayden Cabreja 2024
Georgiana Cardullo 2024
Michael Carlino 2024
Jaiden Cordero 2026
Yohani Cortez 2023
Landon Costello 2024
Nathan Della Morte 2026
Gino DeSimone 2026
Sophia DiBiase 2023
Charisma (Sal) Doherty 2025
Summer Evans 2024
John Ford 2023
Kalyn Foster 2025
Jesse Geyer 2026
Julianna Girard 2026
Robert Graham 2025
Isabella Grimshaw 2026
Yadier Grullon 2026
Adam Heywood 2026
Logan Home 2024
Marcel Johnson Goncalves 2025
Hailee Joyal Weiss 2025
Karissa Kopka 2026
Devyn Lacasse 2024
Karen Lastor Rojas 2024
Sebastiana Lux Hernandez 2026
Anthony Madden-Vinacco 2026
Cidalia Major 2026
Joel Martinez 2024
Liliana Martinez 2023
Kameron Martins 2024
Janina Mazzulla 2023
Hailee McDaniel 2025
Olivia Medeiros 2026
Evan Melvin 2025
Jonathan Morris 2025
Max Mousseau 2026
Natalia Munoz 2023
Matthew Penafiel 2025
Miliani Peralta 2025
Anthony Perito 2026
Miguel Quintanilla 2023
Sydney Raposo 2025
Victoria Repollet 2026
Faith Rosadio 2026
Kiara Sanchez 2026
Joshua Sanford 2024
Miguel Santamaria Romero 2025
Kimberly Sibilia 2025
Brandon Simonelli 2025
Skyley Soto 2025
Jacob Spinella 2024
Michael Stone 2025
Emmerson Sylvia 2024
Ariana Torres Morales 2024
Lena Torti 2024
Jaliyah (Ronnie) Vanstone 2026
Jasmine Vasquez 2026
NeAri Vasquez 2024
Jaiden Weston 2026
Jenna Whitman 2023
Logan Woodall 2025
Total 3rd Honors: 72



ON YOUR MARK: The racers take off running as the 9th Annual Park View 5k begins. The event benefits Operation Stand Down Rhode Island, an organization based in Johnston. (Photos courtesy Jennifer L. Cowart, Cranston Public Schools Communications Specialist)

On their marks for Operation Stand Down RI




GREETINGS ON BEHALF OF CRANSTON: Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins, a Johnston native, brought greetings to the racers, volunteers and spectators on behalf of the City, thanking the veterans for their service.



ON BEHALF OF OSDRI: Retired Air Force Capt. Erik Wallin, OSDRI Executive Director, thanks the community and all who participated in the race for their continued support of Operation Stand Down Rhode Island.

Elves for Elders



A program coordinated by Seniors Rule to obtain gifts for seniors in facilities across RI who may not receive a gift for the Holidays

The tree located at customer service has stars with a senior's first name, gift request and size

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♥ Nov 1 – Dec 11 ♥

Ocean State’s best bocce players honored by RI league

By Louis Spremulli
Special to the Sun Rise

The Rhode Island Bocce League held its annual banquet on Friday, Nov. 11 at the Prata Society in Cranston. There were about 175 guys representing 24 teams from the North and South Divisions of the state. They had a full course meal provided by Ralph’s Catering. The league started in 1935 and the present president is Jim Egcoff, who’s not Italian at all. The night was full of stories and conversations between teammates and friends. Before desert was the issuing of about eight trophies and each team came forward for their awards. The big trophy was for the winners of the entire state. This team was the Terminators from the Prata Society. They were managed by Gaetano Cozzi and their record was 61 wins and 5 losses (66 total games played). One of the best players and hitter is Gaetano Barbelli, who’s 89 years old. This man can hit a ball out of the way about 90 percent of the time.

Editor’s Note: Louis J. Spremulli regularly submits stories and photos from local Italian heritage events to the Johnston Sun Rise and Cranston Herald. Spremulli also serves as President of the Johnston-based nonprofit group Spirit of Hope. You can contact him by emailing Lspremulli1@gmail.com.



OCEAN STATE BOCCI LEADERS: The night’s big bocce trophy was for the Rhode Island statewide winners. The Terminators from the Prata Society, managed by Gaetano Cozzi, also included players Raf-faele Laurenza, Gaetano Babelli, Angelo Riccio, and Frank DiLanna. (Photo courtesy Louis Spremulli)

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Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 2PM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 5:30PM
Thurs. Dec. 1st @ 10AM
Fri. Dec. 2nd @ 1PM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 2:30PM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 5:30PM

EAST GREENWICH, RI
East Greenwich Public Library
82 Pierce Street
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 10AM

JAMESTOWN, RI
Lionel Champlin Guest House
20 Lincoln Street
Wed. Nov. 30th @ 12PM

LINCOLN, RI
Atria Lincoln Place
612 George Washington Hwy
Tues. Nov. 29th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 12:30PM

MIDDLETOWN, RI
Middletown Public Library
700 West Main Road
Mon. Nov. 28th @ 11AM

NORTH PROVIDENCE, RI
North Providence Mancini Center
2 Atlantic Boulevard
Tues. Nov. 29th @ 1PM

RUMFORD, RI
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Tues. Nov. 29th @ 11AM

WOONSOCKET, RI
Chelo's Woonsocket
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Thurs. Dec. 1st @ 11AM

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	69							70						

CLUES ACROSS

- India's "City of Lakes"
- Large marine mammals
- Used to carry belongings when traveling
- Rechristens
- Equally
- Heavy plant-eating mammals
- Millihenry
- Japanese immigrant to N. America
- Deep, red-brown sea bream
- Norse gods
- Peppermint and pekoe are two
- Auguste __, founder of positivism
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- High-resolution microscope (abbr.)
- Wide metal vessel used in cooking
- V-shaped open trough
- People of southern Benin
- People of southern Ghana
- It's a significant creed
- Period between eclipses
- Furies
- Emerged
- Philippine Island
- Where wrestlers battle
- Unhappy
- Central European river

CLUES DOWN

- Beloved hound
- Equal to 100 grams
- S-shaped moldings
- Hawaiian cliff
- Everyone has one
- Subatomic particle
- Ghost
- Adult female bird
- Greek temple pillars
- Emits coherent radiation
- Measures the width of printed matter
- Musical interval

- Language
- Semitransparent gemstone
- Forming in a bottom layer
- Distinct region
- Broad blades
- Leavened bread
- Influential cosmetics exec
- Exclamation of surprise
- Era free of war
- One who helps professors
- Idealistic
- Ornamental plants
- Grouped
- Kids love this street

- Tantalizes
- Places of worship
- An unskilled actor who overacts
- One who volunteers to help
- Precaution
- Beverage holder
- Very long period of time
- Bullfighting maneuvers
- More critical
- Sends packing in a boxing match
- Taxi
- Decorative Russian tea urn
- North American Great Plains natives
- Seize
- A passage with access only at one end
- Cut a rug
- Devil rays
- Bubble up
- Veranda
- Outcast
- Car mechanics group
- Realm
- A place to get off your feet
- Popular music awards show
- Consumed
- A way to make cooler
- Thus
- Indicates it's been registered

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POLAR PLANNERS: Lance Niles, president of the JHS PTSSO, is joined by Tiffany DiBiasio, Jenn Irons, Tanya Martins, Rachel Salvatore and Debbie McHale, who are planning what they hope will be the biggest and best Holly Fair in the event's 11-year history. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

Holiday flare promised at PTSSO's Holly Fair

By PETE FONTAINE

It's important, interesting and impressive. It supports the students and faculty at Johnston High School. It's called the Holly Fair and the Dec. 3 event is one of two major fundraising activities of the Johnston Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSSO) (the other is the February Calendar Raffle). Proceeds from the

Holly Fair also fund scholarship awards each year for two deserving graduating seniors as well as a gift for each graduating senior.

"We are all excited about our annual Holly Fair and we are proud to serve the Johnston High school community," said Lance Niles, who is in his second year as president after succeeding Melissa Patron. "We've received lots of interest from many, many vendors who will be on hand Saturday, Dec. 3 at Johnston High School from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m."

Admission is, as always, free and there will be plenty of parking at Johnston High School for people who want to do some early Christmas shopping.

Niles announced, "We will be hosting 40 local vendors of various handmade crafts and novel gift items and we invite everyone to bring the family and either start and/or finish your holiday shopping."

Although much of the event will take place in the spacious JHS cafeteria, vendors will also be set up in the corridors to allow vendors to better showcase their wares and offer shoppers a chance to view

the many, many items on sale.

Meanwhile, ladies like Tiffany DiBiasio, Jenn Irons, Tanya Martins, Rachel Salvatore and Debbie McHale — who make up the all-volunteer presenting committee — will tell you the Holly Fair is the perfect place to purchase the perfect present.

"The Holly Fair will have plenty of varieties to chooses from," Niles said. "If you need a gift for a teacher, co-worker, mail carrier, family member of just something special for yourself, the Holly Fair will be able fill all your needs."

In keeping with the Holly Fair's storied tradition, the cafeteria will be decked out with holiday decorations and there will be food and refreshments from chicken wings to coffee and snacks.

"Rumor has it we will get a very special visit from our favorite friend who will be coming to Johnston from his home in the North Pole," Niles said. "Yes, you guessed it: Santa Claus and a few of his friends will make a special guest appearance in Johnston that will make our 11th annual Holly Fair even more special."

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PHOTO OP: Jeffrey Ferrara holds daughter Kiana as he and his wife Allison pose with Associate Justice Elizabeth Ortiz following the adoption proceedings.

A COURTROOM SELFIE: Wanda Smith gabs a selfie of her daughter Leia, Marilee Smith and Lillybelly Brown on arriving in the courtroom Saturday.

COURTROOM CAT: Marilee Smith prowls the courthouse on her adoption day.



By
**KRISTEN
ROY**

Thanksgiving came early this year for seven families and nine children.

Kent County Courthouse was a scene of joy and happiness Saturday morning with face-painted children, balloon animals, and treats from Dunkin Donuts. The usually quiet and somber hallways were roamed by Cookie Monster and Elsa from Disney's Frozen who posed with children and their families. It was a day of jubilee as families were created at the 19th annual National Adoption Day celebration.

"It takes a village to raise a child" Associate Justice Elizabeth Ortiz said to a packed courtroom. Alison and Jeffrey Ferrara listened with their hearts filled with joy. Ortiz had just granted their adoption of their daughter Kiana Elizabeth.

Warwick residents Jeffrey and Allison Ferrara had always considered fostering a child. When they were unable to conceive biologically, they contacted DCYF to participate in its foster program. Five days after contacting DCYF they met one-year-old Kiana and felt a connection. "She is the coolest kid I ever met. We are the lucky ones" Jeffrey beamed as he spoke about Kiana. Jeffrey and Allison fostered Kiana for one and a half years before becoming her adoptive parents.

spotlight on BUSINESS

The Preserve at Briarcliffe

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By JENNIFER COATES

There are times in life when you know you are at the right place at the right time. As we are about to embark on a new year ~ and perhaps a new season of life ~ many may be asking, are we indeed “at the right place, at the right time?” For residents of The Preserve at Briarcliffe, the answer to this question can be answered in a resounding “yes”!

The Preserve at Briarcliffe is a vibrant, active, and supportive independent and assisted living community whose residents enjoy a life of catered amenities, safe and comfortable living quarters, engaging and interesting activities, and ongoing opportunities to build meaningful relationships. As part of the Briarcliffe campus in Johnston, it is the latest addition to this family of residences to offer the ultimate in senior living.

Akshay Talwar, the founder and director of Briarcliffe and The Preserve at Briarcliffe, admonishes us think of this time of life as a time of “renewal, rebirth and rejuvenation!” If you or a loved one is wondering if you are at the right place at this time in your life, now is the time to visit The Preserve to see how you can change that narrative. Talwar explains “it is time to leave behind feelings of depression, isolation and cold” and to come home to The Preserve to “make new friends” and be “surrounded by warmth, good health, compassion and safety.”

As soon as you cross the threshold from the chilly outdoors and in to the warm and inviting lobby of The Preserve, it feels as though all the cares of the day just slide off your shoulders. There is an immediate “sense of arrival” ~ a feeling of tranquility and calm. Every detail of this senior living community was intentionally designed to make residents and guests alike feel at home, right from that first impression.



Imagine yourself living in this comfortable and welcoming senior living residence in Johnston, The Preserve at Briarcliffe. Call 401-944-2450 to schedule your in-person tour today

The Preserve at Briarcliffe is composed of sixty-six apartments which were created to meet the specific needs of those who are either completely independent or those who require assistance with such basic needs as medication management or help with simple activities of daily living. The apartments come in six different floor plans from studio-size to one-bedroom units. Each apartment has a kitchenette, “European-style” bathroom for safe and easy, barrier-free access, wheelchair-width doors for those with mobility challenges, and large windows that let in plenty of natural light. The two-story building has two elevators, wide hallways

bookended by plate-glass windows and lined with sturdy handrails.

Residents of The Preserve enjoy an array of highly personalized amenities and services such as restaurant-style dining, weekly housekeeping, laundry and linen services, state-of-the-art call and monitoring systems, scheduled transportation to appointments and outings, and so much more.

To arrange for your in-person tour, call 401.944.2450 or visit Briarcliffe online at www.briarclifferi.com. The Preserve at Briarcliffe on 54 Old Pocasset Road in Johnston.



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Sports

Panthers take home AYF title

SPECIAL TO THE
SUN RISE

On a cold, blustery late fall Sunday afternoon, with a raucous crowd, the Johnston Youth Panther JV football team won the 2022 state championship 8-0 over perennial powerhouse North Smithfield Xpress.

Laylo Harrison, playing with a heavy heart after the recent passing of his cousin, Isaiah Rivas (to whom the game was dedicated to), broke loose on a 25-yard scamper to break a scoreless tie. Harrison then converted the two-point conversion to complete the game's scoring.

Both squads filled the air and sun-splashed afternoon with great plays and hard hitting, much to the delight and cheers of a boisterous Johnston Panther crowd. Max Pilkington, a tough, hard-nosed linebacker came up with some hits and stops, including three quarterback sacks.

Because of strong wind conditions, both teams



HUDDLE UP: Members of the JYF JV Panthers huddle up in the state championship this past Sunday. *(Submitted photos)*



AWARD WINNER: Johnston native Bianca Robbins, who was just named the CCC's Offensive Player of the Year for Roger Williams. *(Photo courtesy of Bodie Ibrahim)*

Robbins earns CCC award

By ALEX SPONSELLER

For the second straight fall season, Johnston native and Roger Williams soccer player Bianca Robbins was named the Commonwealth Coast Conference's Offensive Player of the Year.

Robbins led the team with 17 goals to go along with two assists to earn the award. She was the only player in the conference to notch double-digit goals and was 11 ahead of the next closest.

Although Robbins had another stellar campaign

Rams finally get over hump

Well, it finally happened. For the first time, I covered a Bishop Hendricken football loss when the rival La Salle Rams ran away with a 38-29 victory at Cranston Stadium.

It was the first championship for the Rams since they beat the Hawks in 2017, which was the season prior to my arrival. The Hawks, as you know, had won every time since.

I was at the point where I was not going to

My pitch



by
ALEX SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR

ALEXS@
RHODYBEAT.COM

pick against Hendricken when it faced a Rhode



Fall Ball Champs

The RI Solar baseball team won the Johnston Little League Fall Ball Championship. Pictured is the club, which included: Domenic Corona, Brandon Simonelli, Anthony Vinacco, Ryan Waterman, Alex Amaral, Christopher Dipanni, Will Ferrara, Jayvin Adamo, Christopher Benell and Juan Brache. Coaches; John Amaral, Marc Waterman & Mike Ferrara. *(Submitted photo)*

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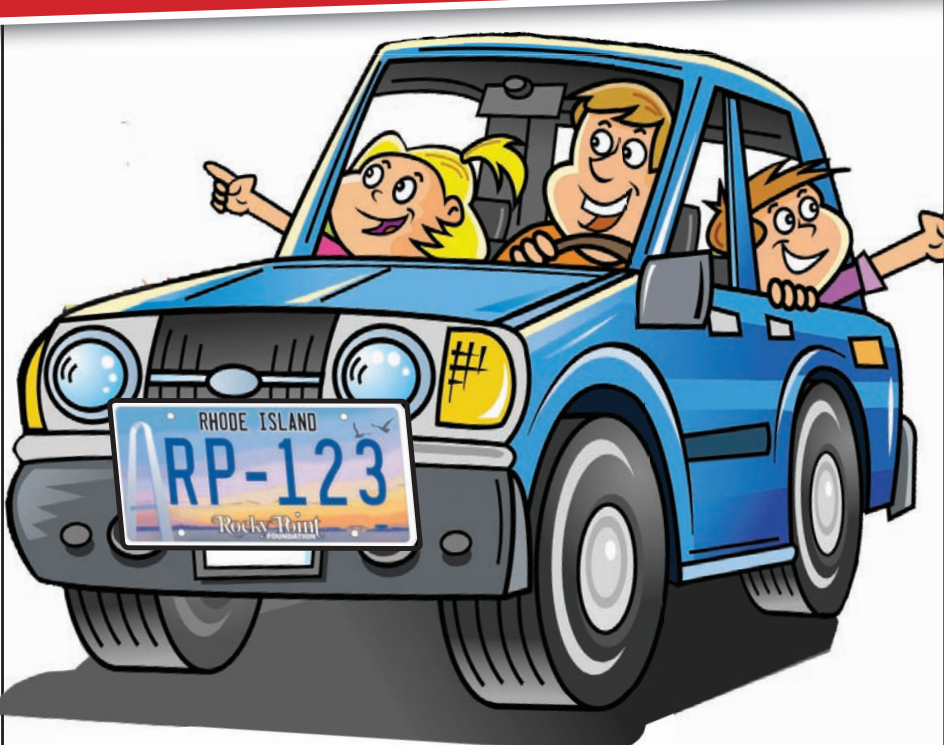
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■ Pitch

(Continued from page 15)

Island opponent. We hadn't seen it in years, and heading into the Sunday, the Hawks were the favorite to get the win again.

It's not like I thought I would never see the day that Hendricken lost, La Salle nearly won in the regular season and had a great team. It was just one of those things that you never expected each week, but of course, every team has its day.

The biggest difference in this one was the Rams' offense, which proved to be the best in the state. La Salle had the quarterback, the running backs, the pass catchers, they were just attacking the Hawks all over the field. Although Hendricken's defense came up big in the regular season, it just could not keep up in the second half as the Rams pulled away with the win.

You also have to give much credit to the La Salle defense.

It was no secret how the Hawks won games on offense ... they blocked well up front and relied on running backs Oscar Weah and Ronjai Francis. Obviously stopping those two guys in much easier said than done, but the Rams were on those two from start to finish. Each had their moments, but not enough to keep up with the explosive Rams offense.

It was a really well played football game. Each team made big plays, each team played clean football. There were more penalties than the usual for these teams, but none were back breakers. The Rams won the game, plain and simple.

So, where do the Hawks go from here? Luckily, the Hawks will be returning much of their lineup. The roster turnover will be less than years past.

Quarterback Jayden Falcone will be back as well as both Weah and Francis. Joel Felix will return, as will Rushaune Villane. Hendricken isn't going anywhere.

I think the key will be for the pass catchers to emerge. Although guys like Devin Lynch had solid years, it seemed like the Hawks never really had a way to exploit the secondary. It was Falcone's first year as a starter, so I am sure that was part of it, but next year he will be a senior and a few young receivers will be back in the fold. The rushing attack will continue to be the best in the state, but I think the biggest thing will be finding more playmakers in the passing game.

As for the defense, it was a solid group and held the Rams in check for six of the eight quarters the two teams played this year, but I think this is also a young group that will be better with

■ Robbins

(Continued from page 15)

and helped guide RWU back to the playoffs, she did face some adversity early on which forced her to miss nearly the entire preseason. Robbins ruptured her quad muscle last fall and played injured and elected to have offseason surgery to repair it. Doctors told her that the success rate of the operation was 50 percent, and should it fail, she would not be able to play soccer ever again.

The surgery was a success, but it required a grueling and lengthy recovery process that kept her out of action until the week before the start of the regular season.

"It felt good (to get the award), especially considering I was coming off of a big injury from last year. It felt good to be on my game and I also would not have been able to get the award without my teammates. They played a big role. Overall it felt good," said Robbins. "The recovery process was long. It was two weeks of being on and off crutches, I couldn't lift anything, my family helped me tremendously. I couldn't walk, I could put pressure on it, I couldn't go swimming, I couldn't do anything for the first six weeks."

Robbins would return to action and hit the ground running, emerging as the conference's most dynamic scorer for

experience. Villane's return will be huge.

It was one of those days that reminded me why sports are so fun. You never truly know who is going to win and there are times when a team just has the right stuff. I was also curious to see the reaction of the Hawks after the tough loss. The kids were devastated as you could imagine, but they ultimately handled it with grace, as did the coaching staff. Heck, can you really be bitter when you've won the last four championships and will enter the next season as a top-two team?

Alright, time for more football. It's Thanksgiving week which means we have two more games to cover. Pilgrim vs. Toll Gate and Cranston East vs. Cranston West.

Here are my thoughts and predictions.

As for the Warwick rivalry, I have to go with Pilgrim. Neither the Pats or Titans had great seasons, but the Pats did at least get a couple wins and were competitive in most of the games they played. They're a young, rebuilding group.

The Titans will return to the action after dropping out of last year's Beacon Bowl. The Titans had a tough season, going winless and not being very competitive. This program is in the thick of a total rebuild from top to bottom.

Pilgrim has a few more answers at this point on both sides of the ball. With guys like Matt Santos, Dylan Roberts, Jack Coffey, I think Pilgrim will win this one. Toll Gate will be motivated so I am not expecting a 40-point thrashing like the last time they squared off, but I think heading into the fourth quarter we will know the result.

Prediction: Pilgrim 34, Toll Gate 13

West is coming off a tough loss in the Division II Semifinals against Portsmouth and will be hungry to finish its season off the right way. East on the other hand went winless in league play. It did win its consolation game and played Woonsocket and Barrington tough, so my point is that the Bolts' record is not a true reflection of where they're at.

I have to go with West. The Falcons had the better year and although the Bolts answered a few questions down the stretch, it's just hard to pick against the team that nearly reached the Super Bowl.

I will say, though, I do expect this to be a close one. These teams are always competitive and last year was no different. I just think that Kelan Cornell, Marcus Chung and Dimitri LeBlanc will be too much as the game wears on. D'Qwon Foster, Romeo Cordero and Peyton Ginnolfi are playmakers, too, but I'm taking West.

Prediction: West 28, East 18

the second fall in a row. Robbins also had a familiar face helping her, as her younger sister Julia joined the team as a freshman and scored three goals and five assists. Julia was named to the CCC's Third Team. She played her high school soccer at Cranston West.

"One of my favorite games ever was when my sister assisted on one of my goals and I assisted her. It was amazing since she is a freshman and I am a senior. It was one of those games that stood out to me that my surgery worked and I could play college soccer with my sister, I was really looking forward to playing with her," said Bianca. "It was amazing, I love playing with her and she's my best friend. It brought tears to my mom and dad's eyes because they were excited for it and they had seen how we grew up. Seeing her play and seeing her get her first award as a freshman is amazing because I know she worked so hard."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bianca is eligible for a fifth season and will be returning next year along with Julia. Bianca hopes to see the team return to the postseason and take the next step forward and win a conference title.

"We have a lot of potential. We are losing some key seniors but are returning a lot of good underclassmen. As long as we work hard and play with this momentum then we will have a shot to win a championship," said Bianca.



GETTING THE WIN: The Panthers celebrate after making a play.

Title

(Continued from page 15)

were faced with tough field position throughout the entire game until Evan Perron hit Jonny Costa with a 40-yard pass to change the momentum of the game.

The Panther victory was a total team effort that showcased an unblemished 11-0 record with a defensive unit that was allowing only six points per contest going into the championship game. After the final whistle sounded, the players, Johnston coaching staff , cheerleaders, team moms and loyal Johnston crowd celebrated with great enthusiasm that rocked North Kingston stadium. The team was awarded the 2022 Junior Varsity State Championship trophy and Harrison received the game ball.

Head Coach Jon Costa praised the ef-

forts of the entire Panther team for their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

Team players/coaches included: Ethan Archambeault, Arnaud Casimir, Michael Chounlamany, Jonny Costa, Adrien Costantini, Joseph Defeo, Grayson Desmarais, Greyson Diogo, Brody Dutilly, Noel Gamez, Lyalo Harrison, Jermaine Johnson, Logan Leblanc, Ricky Levesque, Noah Lopez, Alexander Mancini, Adonijah Martin, Biagio Micheletti, Ryan Morin, Devenyn Nova, Cody Parmentier, James Parris, William Parsons, Evan Perron, Max Pilkington, Enzo Pistacchio, Mason Provoyeur, Lucca Ricci, Hyron Ruffner, Derek Simas, Donovan Tiernan, John Tsonos, Alizer Velez and Luke Ventura. Coaches included Head Coach and assistants Jon Costa, Gary Simas, Bob Dutilly, Phil Morin and Student Coach Alex Morin. Team Moms were: Lauren Perron and Danielle Tiernan.



TAKE THIS ROSE: Members of the football Panthers gave roses as a thanks to the cheerleaders for rooting them on this season.

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Thankful for the fish

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

It's the Holidays. Time to be thankful for the fish, take stock and assess the fishing for the year as we look forward to 2023.

First, I am thankful for the privilege to fish and take people fishing, get paid for it as a charter captain and then write about it. For me it does not get any better.

And, this year, like most years, some fish species were hot and others were not.

The fall tautog bite was outstanding again this year just as it has been good for the past three years. Not only was the tautog fishing good with anglers catching their limit, but the fish were very large too.

Scup fishing was good too. With 15-inch fish and larger being caught in our Bays, along the coast and offshore just about anywhere there was structure and water movement. And, the striped bass bite was good this year just about everywhere for school baas, slot fish (28" to <35"), and above slot size fish.

Climate change is impacting our fishing. A climate related impact we have experienced in Rhode Island and Massachusetts for the past three years is an excellent inshore tuna bite. The bait or forage tuna like to eat i.e. mackerel, herring, Atlantic menhaden, squid, bluefish, butterfish, false albacore and a host of others have been in our area in great abundance due in part to warming water. So the bluefin and yellowfin tuna have been here dining on these robust bait profiles along with large pods (hundreds) of porpoise and dolphin this summer.

This year the giant bluefin tuna bite was strong and close to shore. For example, 30 bluefin giants were caught on Sunday, Sept. 11 off Newport and at Scarborough Beach, Narragansett.

The two disappointments this year were black sea bass and summer flounder (fluke). It was difficult to catch keeper black sea bass in the Bays and along the costal shore with a fair bite for large fish offshore. And once again this year, like last year, the summer flounder fishing was sporadic at best.

Looking forward to a great 2023 fishing season.

Meeting on wind farm export cable to Quonset Point

At press time, the RI Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) was schedule to meet Tuesday night to discuss export cables connecting the Rev-

TAUTOG BITE: Kevin Harrington of Portsmouth, RI with the 24-inch, 8.3-pound tautog he caught last week fishing at the mouth of the Sakonnet River with Greg Spier.. (Submitted photo)

olution Wind Farm with Quonset Point. The CRMC staff filed a report on its recommendations to the Council concerning the cable run.

Here are some highlights of the testimony I planned to give on Tuesday.

We need the Revolution Wind Farm and this cable run to the mainland to help stem the tide on climate impacts.

However, should we allow it to be built without doing everything in our power to protect fish and habitat? In the very place that thousands of Rhode Islanders and visitors fish each year.

We need all the safeguards, and all the research conducted before, during and after construction to make sure this cable run is having no unexpected impacts of fish and habitat.

Anglers are concerned about possible negative impacts of Electromagnetic Fields (EMF). They are concerned about fish and habitat rebounding after the disturbances created by submarine cable installation, and they are concerned about a research and monitoring plan to make sure submarine cables stay buried and do no harm.

Cables are not new to the West Passage. In fact surveys have revealed a number of places were the submarine cable will rise to avoid existing cables so we need a plan to bury them as they rise with enhanced structure on top.

We do not have any idea how EMF may or may not impact the fish in the West Page. The science we do have at the Block Island Wind Farm via a seven year trawl survey conducted before, during and after construction had no negative impacts of fish abundance. In fact there was a greater abundance of cod

and black sea bass in the wind farm compared to two control areas outside the wind farm. This enhanced abundance occurred right where the cables were laid and the study had trawls going over the cables weekly at Block Island.

I was pleased to see mitigation and safe guards in CRMC's staff report, particularly the "recommended stipulations" section.

Stipulations including a cable burial work plan, construction schedule and time of year restrictions to avoid peak fishing, a cable burial plan and secondary cable protections for when the cable needs to rise, a plan to monitor possible EMF, a boulder relocation plan, as well as an environmental monitoring program that all contribute to a staff recommendation that the developer will engage.

Moving forward I believe that CRMC should approve this cable installation plan with all the stipulation measures noted by staff.

I believe there will be no long term impacts on fishing and habitat if this project is built responsibly as outlined. I believe there will be no negative impacts on recreational fishing.

Thank you for the fine work the Council and staff have done on this project and all offshore wind projects. And thanks for the opportunity to comment.

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

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COLLECTIBLES



BLACKHAWK AND THE COLLECTION OF ANDY YANCHUS



By Travis Landry
Auctioneer & Specialist
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If you've been following my articles over the last few months, you know I've been busy with the sizeable collection of the late Andy Yanchus, who was a Marvel colorist for almost two decades. Handling a collection such as this is an intimate process; you really get to know someone by

the treasures they kept and left behind. It is an honor that provides true insight into the major influences in someone's life – whether they be personal or global. In preparation for our upcoming auction featuring Andy's comic book collection, I see many titles and characters he was a fan of, but one stands out in particular: Blackhawk.

Andy was born in 1944 before the end of WWII, so obviously memories of the war and the reality of the post-war era dominated his early childhood. That's where the Blackhawks, which originated from Quality Comics in 1941 with Military Comics issue #1 begins to tie in with Andy's life. The story focuses on a group of flying aces hellbent on destroying Nazis (a popular theme of the time) led by a vaguely Polish-American pilot named Blackhawk. Similar to modern day Robin Hoods, the Blackhawks were a mix of stereotypical (an unfortunate theme of the time) characters from different nations who teamed up to fight evil for the benefit of all mankind. While the original Blackhawks did not have the superpowers we see in big-name superheroes of today, war heroes were the heroes of the era. By the time Andy was born, the Blackhawks rivaled Captain America, The Flash and Batman in newsstand sales. As the 40s progressed into the 50s, the influence of the war was fading and in

1945, the books were renamed Modern Comics from Military Comics until the original run was cancelled in 1950.

In the 1950s Blackhawk took a fresher direction with a nod towards the ever-growing popularity of science fiction and future technologies. Nazis and Communists were replaced with mad scientists and alien invaders. Andy was a huge fan of sci-fi themes growing up (as was evident from his huge scale model collection), so naturally he gravitated to these newer ideas in the comic books, as well. His collection spans from 1946 to 2000, and if you're a Blackhawk fan and grew up in the same era as Andy, you probably have the same appreciation for these books that he did!

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Marie Osmond will perform with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra at her Christmas concert “A Symphonic Christmas” on Dec. 22 at 7:30pm. Navigant Credit Union is the sponsor of “A Symphonic Christmas.”

“I am thrilled to be performing my Christmas concert ‘A Symphonic Christmas’ at the majestic Providence Performing Arts Center and to be joined on stage with the renowned Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra,” said Marie Osmond. “The Christmas season has always been one of my favorite times of the year. We need a little Christmas right now, more than ever!”

Tickets are on sale now at the PPAC Box Office (220 Weybosset Street in downtown Providence), online at ppacri.org and by phone at 401.421.ARTS (2787). Box office window and phone hours are Monday through Thursday: 10A – 5P, Saturday: 10am – 2pm and two hours prior to curtain time(s) on show days.



Wilbury’s ‘The Humans’ tugs at your emotions

Theatre Review by DON FOWLER

Stephen Karam’s Tony Award winning one-act play, “The Humans,” is given a powerful, emotional presentation by the Wilbury Theatre Group at their Waterplace Center space under the brilliant direction of Josh Short.

The Blake family has driven from Scranton to New York City’s Chinatown to celebrate Thanksgiving with daughter Brigid (Jessie March) and her significant other, Richard (Dave Rabinow).

Grandmother “Momo” (Carol Varden) has Alzheimer’s, and older daughter Aimee (Rachel Dulude) is dealing with ulcerative colitis.

Short has enlisted Actor’s Equity members Jim O’Brien and Jeanine Kane to play the parents, Erik and Deidre Blake, two veteran actors who have played together in several local productions and have a profound connection that creates a believable bond between them.

Monica Shinn has designed a two-tier set that depicts the rundown duplex and provides for a couple of scenes that may rattle you. In one, the man next to me literally jumped off his seat.

After the usual greetings and catching up, past incidents, fears, differences and problems creep to the forefront.

The children’s philosophies, lifestyles and attitudes have drifted from their upbringing.

Hidden resentments come to the surface.

Late in the evening Erik reveals a secret that disrupts everything.

“Humans” deals with situations that occur in many human relationships. Religion, rejection, disappointments, misunderstandings and lies occur in most families – especially this one. Some are made light of, some are passed off as funny stories and others hurt deeply and affect our lives.

“Humans” deals with all of the above.

Handled by amateurs, it could be disastrous, but these six actors come together as an ensemble – a family -- in perfect synchrony to make you care for them in spite of all their flaws.

“The Humans” is a play for our times. See it.

At Wilbury through Dec. 11. Check thewilburygroup.org for tickets.

■ Adoption (Continued from page 13)

“We’re going to give her a life she deserves” he promised. Now that the adoption is finalized Jeffrey feels a peace of mind that his family is complete. “Kiana is a definite part of our family now.” Jeffrey and Allison are hosting a pre-Thanksgiving play date with Kiana and her 15- year- old biological sister who continues to be a part of her life. Jeffrey advised those who are considering adopting to “be prepared. It is an emotional roller coaster” but the, “outcome is rewarding no matter what.”

Following the Ferrara adoption, Ortiz’s courtroom refilled with the family and friends of East Providence resident Lillybelly Brown to witness her adopting her 3- year-old Marilee Smith. At eight months old Smith’s biological mother was unable to provide for her. Brown who is Smith’s great-aunt came forward and fostered the child. Brown believes it is important to keep families together.

Having grown up in foster care, Brown said she “never felt wanted.”

She wants to provide her daughter with a better life than she had and praises those who adopt as “doing a wonderful thing.”

Now that the adoption is complete, Brown feels a sense of security with her daughter. She no longer worries that someone will take her and she is free to travel with her daughter without court approval. Brown is planning an extra special Thanksgiving this year with her wife Wanda, their four other adopted children as well as her two biological daughters to celebrate her family’s completion.

During this year’s celebration of National Adoption Day, nine children were adopted by seven families. Presiding over this year’s adoptions were Associate Justice Elizabeth Ortiz and Magistrate Paul T. Jones. This annual event was started by former Chief Judge of the Rhode Island Family Court Jeremiah S. Jeremiah with the collaboration of Chief of Staff Ronald J. Pagliarini.

Founded by a coalition of national partners (The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Alliance for Children’s Rights and Children’s Action Network), National Adoption Day’s first national celebration was held on Nov 18 2000.Events are held in 400 cities across the United States. More than 75,000 children in foster care have been adopted on National Adoption Day.

In Rhode Island there are currently 2,509 children in foster care with 382 waiting for adoptive families and 1,190 Rhode Island children have been adopted this year.

This year’s celebration began with Chief Judge Michael B. Forte of the Rhode Island Family Court welcoming families and thanking sponsors of the event. He told the audience that he is “thrilled and honored to find homes for disadvantaged children.” When asked why National Adoption Day is so important to him, Forte said “it gives us the ability to show the public what we’re doing. It shows the public this process in going on. There are a lot of kids who need homes.” He is especially inspired when disabled children are adopted. “People are doing God’s work” he proclaimed.

Ron and Pete Cardi, initial sponsors of the event, said their late brother Nick would have wanted

to have participated in the celebration. Judge Forte presented the “Hope Award” in memory of Nick Cardi to David DiMaio the director of Friends of RI CASA. CASA is a national organization that provides court-appointed volunteer advocates to help children and youth who have experienced abuse or neglect.

Tara Simoni described her experience adopting her son. “It was more challenging than I thought. You have to advocate harder for your child than others have to” she said. She also provided a positive outlook on her experience saying it is “amazing, exciting, silly and fun.”

Families of the celebration were able to pose for complimentary portraits provided by Bettencourt Photography. Every family also received gifts bags filled with stuffed animals, toys, books, gloves, picture frames and gift cards from those who sponsored the event.

This year’s National Adoption Day was sponsored by Adoption RI, The Atomic Salon, Brewed Awakenings Coffee House, Cardi’s Furniture and Mattresses, Deb Bettencourt Photography, Dunkin’, Hasbro, Henry’s Tree Farm, Kay Jewelers, Local 2203 of Council 94, Massage Envy, Meritage/Chardonay’s Restaurants, Pepsi Beverages Company, Prestige Dance and Fitness Studio, Providence Children’s Museum, T’s Restaurant, Uncle Tony’s Pizza and Pasta Restaurant and the Lynch Family, in Memory of Dennis M. Lynch, Sr.

Darlene Allen the CEO of Adoption RI was proud to sponsor and attend this year’s event. She says she “feels, hopeful, happy and encouraged we can do this after Covid. This event brings awareness to foster kids.”

ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local♥Adoptable♥Loveable



Photo credit: Hotel for Homeless Dogs

Joey

Joey’s light green eyes will melt your heart! Joey loves the ladies so ladies if you’ve been looking for a loyal, loving companion...Joey is your guy! He is young, handsome, smart and eager to please. Joey is a three-year-old mixed breed with long supermodel legs and weighs about 60lbs. He is in search of a home with a fenced in yard where he can run and play, he also loves the water! For more information about Joey, you can reach out to Shelter to Sofa via email: sheltertosofari@gmail.com or contact Hotel for Homeless Dogs via email: contact@hotelforhomelessdogs.com

Joey is hoping that you will be the one to change his life, he has been patiently waiting, maybe he is waiting for you?

If you have been thinking of adopting or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at **animaltalk1920@gmail.com**

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Keeping it safe

With Winter's ice, snow and cold upon us, there will be increased opportunities for injuries around the home.

Let's talk about some home safety hazards, how we can try to prevent them, and what to do if it happens.

Falls are one of the most common safety hazards around the home.

From babies falling off high places, or toppling as they learn to walk, to seniors who may be unsteady on their feet or tripping on unsafe paths throughout the home.

There are several things we can do to reduce the hazard.

Buckle babies up whenever possible. They can be quick little movers and it takes that one second for something bad to occur when you're reaching for something or looking away.

As toddlers begin to walk, they usually start out with the unbalanced run. Although they are as cute as can be doing so, they are running for danger towards that furniture corner and will get hurt.

Pad those hard pointed surfaces and remove whatever they can trip over until they are no longer a threat to child safety.

Remove the pretty glass décor and dangerous items that kids can grab and injure themselves, let alone ruin on you. All the things that make the home beautiful can come back when the child understands the hazard. Some learn quicker than others, hopefully not through experience. Install safety gates at dangerous areas and stairs.

When reprimanding the child of what not to do or touch, do so with a stern voice and tell them why. They understand more than we think sometimes. When they listen, give them credit for it, showing them how you notice they listened and how proud you are.

Take a walk around the home and identify safety hazards.

As we age our vision and balance isn't what it used to be.

Falls occur when we're trying to be the quick movers we used to be (ha, yes, I'm including myself in this category and from the voice of experience). Those steps going up or down are our enemy. Taking your time and holding on is a good start. If we shouldn't be using the stairs, then wait for help and don't be too shy or proud to ask for it. It's better than needing help with the potential injuries incurred, right?

Area rugs are such trip hazards for everyone but



Donna DeLauro
Senior Real Estate Specialist
RE/MAX Real Estate Center
Founder of Mature Matters

more so for seniors. They can be slippery as well.

Remove any rugs that can pose a problem and use slip proof backings.

Use that cane or walker if needed even for short trips from one room to another.

If you are thinking about climbing on that ladder, think again... Only Clarke Griswold can survive a ladder accident without landing in the ER with injuries. The rest of us will have broken something or worse as you can imagine

If the ground appears slippery, don't take any chances. If there is no opportunity to salt the area, and your shoes are not slip proof, avoid the hazard. Wait for help.

We may have loved to shovel snow for exercise and the need to get out of the driveway, however that is a recipe for trouble as we age. Falling and exerting the heart can lead to a trip to the hospital.

It can be frustrating to have to wait for help and costly to hire someone, however a wise decision for the most part.

Wear an alert item or carry the phone with you should you need help in an emergency.

Fire is another top hazard around the home.

Thinking about selling or buying a home?

Let's discuss your specific goals

Donna DeLauro
Realtor with RE/MAX

Dedicated to providing quality service
Also proud founder of Mature Matters
Senior Real Estate Specialist



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Be sure to have smoke and carbon detectors around the home and change those batteries occasionally.

If you can't manage this yourself, contact your local fire department and ask for assistance.

Medication management can be a challenging task as a senior. Over taking is as dangerous as not taking meds properly as prescribed. There are methods and help to organizing your daily medications.

Contact your doctor's office or pharmacy for assistance.

Choking is also one of the most dangerous causes of injury and death to both children and seniors.

Choking on food or items children put in their mouth can be avoided in some part.

Cutting up food is best. Inspect toys with small or removable parts. Is it just instinct for babies to put everything and anything in their mouth? Every child in my experience has done that.

As little as they may be we have to sternly tell them not to put everything in their mouth and again why it is dangerous.

Seniors may not have the tooth strength to chew food totally or have throat issues and end up in a choking situation.

Keeping food moist and cut in small portions can help.

Learning CPR can potentially save a life.

Household tools can become hazards if not used safely or maintained properly.

Keep sharp tools safely stored away from children's reach.

If you think it's not wise to trim those shrubs or cut that branch that's beyond your reach, let it be until you are not alone and again, ask for help.

Pool drowning can happen even after Summer is over.

Beyond keeping the typical pool safety rules in swimming season, it is also dangerous in the off season when the pool is covered. Educate the children of the dangers of going near the covered pool and keep the area lit so it can be seen in the mostly dark hours of Winter.

As these hazards are particularly popular causes of injury, consider having talks with loved ones of safety precautions and how to react when something happens.

Many times awareness is a good start to keeping it safe around the home.

Donna DeLauro is a Realtor at RE/MAX Real Estate Center in Coventry. She is also a Senior Real Estate Specialist and the Proud Founder of Mature Matters.

Be Ready for Winter Weather

5 tips to prep your home for cold, wet conditions



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

FAMILY FEATURES

Americans should brace for a potentially cold and wet winter, according to NOAA and this year’s Farmer’s Almanac Winter Outlook. That means now is a perfect opportunity to think about preparing your family and home for the colder months ahead.

From heating homes with a high-performing furnace or fireplace to keeping children warm and comfortable on school buses, propane can help keep families cozy this winter.

Relying on a diverse energy mix – including propane, solar and wind – can help ensure you’re prepared for whatever winter brings and reduce the strain on the fragile electric grid. Plus, propane is a stable energy source that is stored on-site and can keep homes operating during severe weather or utility power interruptions. Using propane also produces 43% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than an equivalent amount of electricity generated from the grid.

Get winter-ready with these tips from the experts at the Propane Education & Research Council:

Have Your Furnace Serviced. Proactively think about ways you can reduce the demand on your heating system. In addition to scheduling routine maintenance by a trained professional, there are a few things homeowners can do. First, open all air vents and make sure they are uncovered as blocked airflow forces the furnace to work harder.

Check the thermostat to ensure it’s working properly by increasing the temperature by 5 F

and waiting to hear the furnace turn on. Consider setting the thermostat a couple degrees cooler than what might feel comfortable as doing so not only saves money but lessens the load from your furnace. Keep thermostats at 65 F during the day and 55 F at night, closing off rooms that don’t need to be heated.

Using a programmable thermostat can save homeowners as much as 10% per year on heating costs, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. It’s also a good idea to replace air filters every 1-3 months to help keep your furnace working efficiently and effectively.

Upgrade Your Furnace. If it’s time to upgrade your home’s climate control system, it’s a smart idea to do your homework and explore your options. There are several state and federal incentive programs to help homeowners upgrade their current systems to a clean energy option like propane. Propane is an affordable, comfortable, reliable and efficient energy source. It’s also a clean, low-carbon option. What’s more, propane-powered furnaces last 50% longer than electric heat pumps, which means a lower lifetime investment. Propane furnaces also provide warmer air than other heat sources (115-125 F), are less impacted by outdoor temperatures and produce 50% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than electric furnaces and 12% less than fuel oil furnaces.

Rethink Your Boiler System. For a home that runs on a boiler system, you can make upgrades that improve performance while providing space savings and the versatility to provide heating, hot

water and even snow melt. High-efficiency propane boilers can last up to 30 years and have significantly lower emissions than those fueled by heating oil.

Take Advantage of Your Fireplace. The warm glow of a fire isn’t only comforting; it can be a practical and effective way to increase the heat inside your home. Not only do propane fireplaces offer 5-6 times the heating capacity of electric fireplaces, they’re also more energy efficient, environmentally friendly, convenient to use and easier to install than woodburning models. They also emit less soot and other emissions.

Be Efficient with Water Heating. Water heating can be a large expense, accounting for 14-18% of home utility bills, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Set your water heater no higher than 120 F and install low-flow shower heads or temperature-sensitive shower valves to reduce energy consumption. High-performance propane tankless water heaters can reduce a home’s energy consumption because it only heats the water when you need it, ultimately saving you money.

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Pride in Performance

Rams upset Hawks in state championship

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The La Salle Academy football team pulled off a 38-29 upset win over the four-time defending state champion Bishop Hendricken Hawks on Sunday afternoon at Cranston Stadium.

The Hawks jumped on the Rams early when John Erickson recovered a botched La Salle punt in the end zone to make it 7-0, but the Rams would respond and kept finding answers from there on to get the win. The two clubs met earlier this fall and Hendricken would get the comeback victory, but the Rams played with confidence, shook off the rough start, and watched the state's best offense go to work.

"(La Salle's) got a big senior class that has been playing together for a long time. Their offense just had a few too many answers for us today, you can't stop everything. We would stop something but they'd answer with something else. They've got a lot of talented players on that team and obviously they have

seniors at quarterback, running back and receiver. They're a handful. Our kids battled, but they just made a few more plays than we did," said Hendricken head coach Keith Croft.

The Rams would take their first lead in the second quarter when quarterback Dean Varrecchione connected with Brady Fisher on a 23-yard touchdown, which came on a fourth-and-20 situation.

The Rams never looked back despite the Hawks keeping things close. Hendricken never regained the lead.

Hendricken kicker Matt Brock drilled a 41-yard field goal just before halftime to make it 12-10 at the break. The two teams traded a pair of touchdowns in the third to make it 25-23 in favor of La Salle heading into the final 12 minutes, but the Rams would go up two scores when Terrence Campbell rushed for a touchdown with 1:41 remaining in regulation.

La Salle's Justin Denson returned an interception 84 yards for a touchdown to ice the game with 17 seconds left. Hendricken's Ronjai Francis scored a touch-

down as the clock hit zero and also rushed for a touchdown in the third. Quarterback Jayden Falcone also rushed for a touchdown in the third quarter.

Despite the loss, the Hendricken special teams unit had itself a day and was a major part in keeping the Hawks within striking distance. Between the touchdown in the first quarter and two blocked PAT's, Croft was happy with the unit making a difference.

"We knew we needed (our special teams to step up) to remain in a battle with them. I figured we wouldn't be able to keep up scoring with them so we needed that. We put up some points but needed a couple more scores and couldn't get them," said Croft, who was also surprised by La Salle's production in the passing game given the high wind. "In these conditions, we had them in the wind a couple times and I didn't think they would be able to throw it, but they kept throwing it. They did what they had to do to win."

This is the first in-state defeat for the

Hawks since the loss to La Salle in 2017. Croft is not worried about his team moving forward and expects it to grow from it.

"We were in this situation five years ago. We'll come back, we'll be hungry and stronger. At the end of the day, we got beat in one game. I can't look back and think 'we should have done this.' They made more plays than we did. It's a stinky feeling, but we've got to do what we've got to do to get better," said Croft.

The Hawks will return many key players including Falcone, Francis, Oscar Weah and Rushaune Villane next season. Croft was proud of the senior class that will be graduating in the spring.

"This was a phenomenal senior class and they were different than the last few senior classes we had. They may not have been as athletic, but they were great leaders on and off the field," Croft said. "They were hard workers and had a great season in which they reached the championship."

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