Vol. 26, Number 21 · 20 Pages

**COMPLIMENTARY** 

### Murder charged in '22 Johnston killing

Serial domestic abuser allegedly killed wife day after violating protection from abuse order

In March 2022, a Cranston man was sentenced to attend Batterers Intervention two months after he allegedly killed his wife.

Johnston Police responded to an early morning call on George Waterman Road in mid-January of last year. A woman was dead at 35 years old. Following an 18-month investigation, a Johnston man and his son are now facing charges connected to her killing.

Around 5:25 a.m., on Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, a caller reported a "deceased female" at 454 George Waterman Road. The day before, her husband was arrested for a third violation of a protective order, disorderly

**MURDER - PAGE 7** 



BARS: William M. Bailey's booking photo. (Courtesy Rhode Island Department of Correc-



have been making noise as they eye a shot at the upcoming state tournament. Check out the sports section for updates and photos of some of the teams in action. Pictured is Gian Negris in a recent game. (Photo by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

### Schools and mayor reach 'takeover' compromise

By RORY SCHULER

The chairman calls it a compromise, not a reversal. On Tuesday night, the Johnston School Committee voted unanimously to pass a resolution "to collaborate and cooperate with the Town of Johnston regarding Johnston School Department finances."

The committee tweaked and voted on the resolution during a 45-minute closed-door executive session to start Tuesday night's meeting.

"I want to thank the School Committee and superintendent for agreeing with the council and passing the resolution for Town oversight unanimously," said Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena Jr. "Now it's time for the hard work to get done.'

Three weeks earlier, on June 22, School Committee Chairman Robert LaFazia read a statement into the record, vowing to resist the mayor's proposed interim "takeover" of school finances, following the revelation the school budget will again end the year with a size-

"Last week, Mayor Polisena Jr. announced a misguided effort to take over the Johnston School Department," LaFazia said in late June. "Let me be clear: under no circumstances will we agree to allow the Mayor to 'take over' the District.'

On Tuesday, LaFazia struck a different tone. When asked if the resolution passed unanimously by the School Committee was a reversal of his previous pledge, LaFazia said, "No, it's a compromise. We all just want what's best for the students.

"The Johnston School Department (JSD) ended the fiscal year 2021-22 with an \$871,996 deficit," LaFazia read from the resolution during Tuesday night's meeting. "As deficits are prohibited under state law, the town of Johnston has agreed to loan funds to the school department to cover said deficit. And whereas, the (JSD) is projected to end the fiscal year 2022-23 budget with a deficit, as deficits are prohibited under state law, the town of Johnston has agreed once again to loan funds to the school department once the fiscal year closes to cover the projected over \$1 million defi-

Polisena attended Tuesday's meeting, and sat with Town Council members Linda Folcarelli and Lauren Garzone

**SCHOOLS - PAGE 11** 

### RAID: Johnston man arrested, federal firearm charges filed

By RORY SCHULER

On June 14, at JFK International Airport in New York, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspected and seized a package shipped from China and destined for a Johnston address.

"Upon inspecting the parcel for entry into the United States, CBP officers found the parcel contained a device

deemed a machinegun which was (1) AR-15 'lightning link' auto sear switch (a device used to turn a semi-automatic rifle into an automatic weapon)," according to a criminal complaint filed July 6 in US District Court by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agent Brendan Jaffe.

The package led police to eventually execute a search warrant at 11 Ever-

bloom Drive in Johnston.

That search — and the seizure of two firearm silencers, one attached to a rifle, and a "lightning link" —have resulted in federal charges filed against a man residing at that address.

Alessio Dandrea, 27, has now been charged by federal prosecutors, with possession of an unregistered firearm

Police, feds seize silencers & device to convert semis into automatic weapons

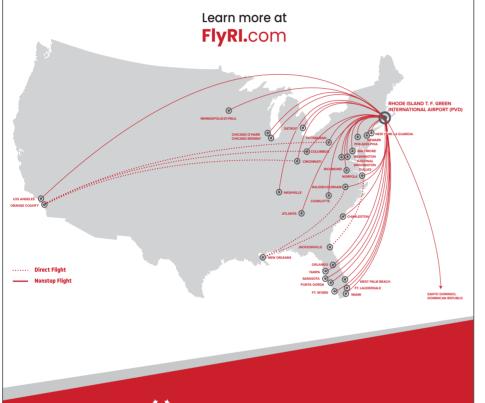
RAID - PAGE 6

Johnston Sun Rise Thursday, July 13, 2023



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### 'Senior Spotlite'



Algeria Vaughn-Bailey

### Chicago transplant enjoys 13 years as JSC member

By RICHARD J. DELFINO JR. Special to the Sun Rise

The Johnston Senior Center Spotlite this week shines on Algeria Vaughn-Bailey, who has been a member of the center for the past 13 years.

Algeria visits the center 4 days per week, where she participates in arts and crafts, Tai Chi, chair exercises and yoga. Algeria enjoys a complimentary cup of coffee and pastry each morning, where she can be found reading the newspaper and chatting with others in our cafe.

Algeria, who holds a Bachelors and Masters Degree from Chicago State University, as well as a PHD from the University of Chicago, relocated from Chicago to Johnston in 2010. She was an elementary and high school teacher for 42 years in some of Chicago's most challenging inner city schools.

She confronted violence and gang activity on a daily basis. Algeria says "education was her calling" which even brought her to teaching in the city's juvenile detention centers. Algeria now enjoys her experience here at the Johnston Senior Center, going on trips, speaking with members and staff, and generally sharing her "life's learning" with others.

**Editor's Note:** Richard J. DelFino Jr. serves as Executive Director of the Johnston Senior Center, at 1291 Hartford Ave., Johnston. The Johnston Sun Rise regularly publishes a senior profile, called "Senior Spotlite," submitted by the senior center.

Say you saw it in the

### Johnston SunRise

#### **MEALS ON WHEELS OF RI**



#### **THIRSTY**

**PHILANTHROPY:** Meals on Wheels of RI board member, Phanida Phivilay, left, a Johnston resident and Senior Community Outreach Representative at UnitedHealthcare, recently brought her daughter and the neighborhood kids by to meet the rest of the board. The kids held a lemonade stand and donated the sales to Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island. At right is MOWRI Executive Director Meghan Grady. (Photos courtesy Rebecca Keister, External Affairs & Mission Advancement Director for Meals on Wheels of RI)

### Developing a thirst for philanthropy

LITTLE LEMONADE PEDDLERS: "My neighbors' kids are raising money for Meals on Wheels," Phivilay said. "They raised money by having an ice-cream stand and a lemonade stand, and raised over \$100 so far. I drove by this afternoon, and saw the kids out there, and said, 'What's this for?' They said, 'Meals on Wheels fundraiser!' This is so amazing, and warms my heart." (Submitted photos)





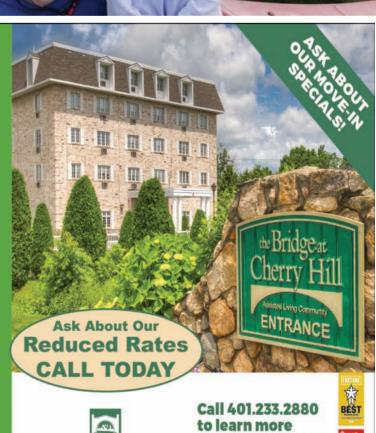
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#### SIGNS OF CHANGE



SPECIAL SIGN: This is the new JSC sign that was recently installed on the digital messaging center and is supported by steel beams that are anchored by impressive brick work which was built courtesy of M. DiSandro & Sons Masonry, Inc. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

### **Johnston Senior Center** erects new welcome sign

By PETE FONTAINE

The nationally accredited Johnston Senior Center has again broadened its welcome message. Just last week, in fact, the JSC replaced its former Community Policing Headquarters sign with a specially built 4-by-4-foot sign that was made with special all-weather material by Bori Graphics in

The new sign welcomes new members and provides the center's telephone number (401-944-3343), along with an important invitation that reads "Volunteers Welcomed."

Even though the JSC was closed last week for the Fourth of July, the sign caught the eye of several ladies who expressed interest in becoming a member as well as inquiring about sewing classes and other programs that

'They say a picture says a thousand words, but our new signage says a whole lot more and compliments the electronic messaging board that brings special attention to the JSC's efforts of recruiting new members and our appreciation for anyone wishing to volunteer," said Executive Director Richard J. DelFino Jr.
In keeping with his promise to make the JSC "a second home for seniors," DelFino emphasized "first we

want families to know what a great center we have (at 1291 Hartford Ave.) and the JSC is a place where older adults can benefit by group exercise, socializing, become educated on so many pertinent subjects along with providing a place where they can enjoy complimentary coffee and pastry, read a newspaper as well as getting a balanced and delicious lunch five days a week."

DelFino says the new sign also highlights the need for volunteers.

"So many people have time and talents in so many areas and will be so rewarded by sharing those areas of expertise with our population which is always so grateful and loves welcoming new faces," he said.

DelFino predicted "our new signage will help get out message out that we went the JSC to be a place where you can explore those experiences that will brighten your day whether you're a member or volunteer."

Anyone who would like to join, or volunteer, should call (401-944-3343) or simply stop by the JSC where you'll find a myriad of activities from bocce, pool, knitting classes and more.

#### **COMEDY LUNCH/DINNER SHOWS**



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Sat. Aug. 12-BELLA, Glendale

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Say you saw it in the JOHNSTON SUN RISE

### **Opinion**

**EDITORIAL** 

#### The Gaspee hunt continues

Nobody said it was going to be easy.

With the commencement of a bonafide hunt for the Gaspee off Namquid Point last year to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the burning of the British schooner, excitement was generated like never before to see exactly what, if anything, remains of the ship in the shallow waters just off our shores.

The legend of the Gaspee, and the prospect that anything of the ill-fated vessel could be remain to be found, has been a subject of intrigue and (for some) obsession for many years. And although last summer didn't reveal an immediate, jaw-dropping revelation, sometimes it is that enthusiasm and public interest which can provide the boost (emotionally, and financially) that is so beneficial towards archeologists being able to continue the search.

This search should never be seen as anything besides a process. Professional and amateur team members must take painstaking precautions not to potentially damage artifacts while combing over huge swaths of ocean floor, making use of strategic a rare tide cycles, all the while realizing that the search may come up empty handed. Nonetheless, it is a search that is worth the effort, time, and funding, as it is a search that seeks a sort of resolution to one of our nation's earliest significant acts of rebellion, and one of the sparks of our eventual Revolu-

The team, led by Dr. Kathy Abbass, deserves commendation for their methodical, skeptical, and thorough approach to this undertaking, which could easily be overtaken by unwarranted hype and wishful emotions. If you've talked with Dr. Abbass, you know that isn't go-

ing to happen on her watch.

If you have the opportunity to go out and watch the team conduct their field work, we ask that you do so respectfully, but we would also recommend it. So often the field of archaeology is relegated to over-dramatized portrayals in film and print (Nicholas Cage, we're looking at you). But the actual work of archaeology is far less exciting and far more what we're seeing unfold in Warwick right now. It's a slow, careful, and often times uneventful process. But that necessary caution may yet unfold something extraordinary, and that makes the whole thing pretty special to behold, especially so close to home.

Mysteries and discoveries yet unknown still exist out there, and with any luck, we'll be delighted to report on something truly incredible some time in the not-so-distant future.



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LETTERS

#### **JRTC** endorses Raymond McKay for US Senate

The Johnston Republican Town Committee (JRTC) recently announced their endorsement of Raymond T. McKay for US Senate. Mr. McKay plans to run against the incumbent Sheldon Whitehouse in November 2024.

"We take great care in choosing candidates to support in elections," said JRTC chair Sandra Taylor. "Mr. McKay is a constitutional conservative and wants to protect our social security, our borders, and reduce our overall D.C. spending.

Ms. Taylor referred to Mr. McKay's website:

"Right Direction Right Now - It's a bold call to action. It restores the promise of the Constitution and reclaims our unalienable rights of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit

"It applies common sense solutions to the uncommon challenges we face as a nation, so we do not squander the opportunities we have and those we create in the future.

"Representing Rhode Island, whose motto is 'HOPE, Right Direction Right Now unifies diverse voices behind a common, optimistic vision to move forward, securing freedom, values, and prosperity for every Rhode Islander, every American.

Ms. Taylor said Mr. McKay has always been supportive of the JRTC and their grass roots efforts in the community. Committee members said they are honored to stand with Raymond McKay for U.S. Senate.

For information on the JRTC, please visit www.john-

Voters seeking more information about Raymond McKay and his platform should visit www.mckayforsenate.com.

Johnston Republican Town Committee

#### Honor Flight was truly inspirational

I want to talk about one of the most inspirational time-honored days of my life.

On Monday, June 19, I had the opportunity to join the RI Fire Chiefs on their Veterans' Honor Flight that they organize. This is a full day starting at 4:30 a.m. at the RI TF Green airport where they hosted roughly 50 WWII, Korean and Vietnam War Veterans. We took the flight to Washington, DC visiting the Air Force Memorial, Iwo Jima, WWII Memorial, Korea, Vietnam & Lincoln Memorials, and the Arlington Cemetery. I served as a guardian for a WWII Army Veteran. Talk about inspirational, this decorated soldier is 98 years old and participated wearing his 78 year old uniform and he did not miss a beat.

To say the meticulous detail of this event organized by the RI Fire Chiefs was nothing short of magnificent, is an understatement. The ultimate honor of the day for both this 98 year old veteran and myself was participating in the placing of the wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, an experience that will never, ever be

The RIFC led by Chief George Farrell needs to be held in the highest regard and respect. To witness this respect and recognition in my opinion is most deserving. For this day of events to be named an Honor Flight, is indeed appropriate.

My only suggestion and request, is that if you know of a veteran that would enjoy the opportunity to be honored with this trip of a lifetime, or would like to sponsor a veteran or contribute to this program, I ask you to please reach out to: Chief George S. Farrell (retired), Founder – Chairman RI Fire Chiefs Honor Flight Hub, PO Box 28132, Providence, RI 02908, rifirechiefshonorflight@gmail.com.

North Providence Mayor Charles A. Lombardi

#### remain history Let history

Along with additional forts and other military installations, the federal government is in the process of changing the names of Forts Bragg and Bennington. Given that these are named after generals in the Confederacy, at first glance, it seems the right thing to do. That said, however, the naming was based upon the concept of reconciliation. Plain and simple, the Civil War was devastating to both sides. It would seem, then, to make sense that the intent in 1865 was in keeping with Lincoln's immortal Second Inaugural's words, '...with malice toward none, and with charity for

What doesn't make sense now, over 150 years later, is the estimated cost, upwards of \$21 million, that renaming entails. (The decision was the result of a defense bill amendment proposed in 2020.) Considering the fact

that the Veterans Administration has been notoriously lax in providing quality assistance to physically and mentally disabled veterans, shouldn't these millions be better allocated to improved medical and hospital care?

We have managed to reconcile with Germany and Japan. Why not accept the reconciliation effort post-Civil War? Rather than worrying that the Confederate generals be dishonored by changing the forts' names, why not honor ALL our veterans with the acknowledgment that their well-being is our priority?

Let our history remain our history. Let's do the right

Joan Foley Warwick Johnston Sun Rise Thursday, July 13, 2023

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#### JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

#### SIMPLE ASSAULT

Around 5:30 p.m., May 17, Johnston Police Patrolman Patrick Gendreau spotted a vehicle traveling south on George Waterman Road, past Strings Bar and Grill. The male driver was allegedly not wearing his seatbelt. When police ran a background check, they discovered the driver had an outstanding warrant.

Gendreau initiated a traffic stop.

He confirmed the warrant, which was for Simple Assault, with the Cranston Police Department.

The driver was identified as Matthew J. Foss, 39, of 424 Central Ave., Second Floor Apartment, Johnston. He was taken into custody, searched and his vehicle was towed from the scene. He was held until Cranston Police took custody.

#### **EMBEZZLEMENT**

Around 1:45 p.m., Feb. 20, Johnston Police Patrolman Nick J. Bordieri responded to a business in

town to investigate a report of an employee allegedly embezzling money.

The store manager has alleged that the employee, identified as Lynette Aponte, 31, of Kenyon Ave., Pawtucket, has been stealing money from the cash deposits when she worked alone, according to the Johnston Police incident report.

"Aponte was the only person to handle the money and the deposit slip and was trusted to deposit the money every night after shift for the business and not for her own use," Bordieri wrote in the report.

The store management presented a list of transactions to police, from January through February, 2022. The manager has alleged Aponte shorted deposits and stealing money totaling approximately \$35,000.

On May 2, Johnston Police responded to the Kenyon Avenue apartment building where Aponte lives. The found Aponte in her apartment and made a positive identification. She was taken into custody.

"Upon questioning her

she immediately began to cry and stated that she was in a 'dark place' regarding the fact that she did what she did," Johnston Police Detective Derek Parascandolo wrote in the arrest report. Aponte "openly admitted" the embezzlement scheme, according to police.

"She then explained that she was the 'socalled' manager and that she was responsible for making the cash deposits," Parascandolo wrote. "Upon asking her to give me an example of how she would make a nightly deposit she stated she would take the cash sales for the day, take an unknown amount of money from the total sales to pay for whatever bills she had, make out the deposit slip to match the money in the deposit bag then fill out the Brinks deposit

Then Aponte told police she wanted a lawyer.

Lynette was later arraigned on a felony charge of Embezzlement and Fraudulent Conversion, arraigned and released with a Sixth District Court date in July.

#### SUSPENDED LICENSE

Around 1 p.m. June 1, Warwick Police Sgt. Jason P. Brodeur was at a fixed traffic post near the intersection of Bald Hill and College Hill roads.

College Hill roads.

He spotted a green
Lamborghini and noticed
the driver wasn't wearing
a seatbelt.

Brodeur initiated a traffic stop and identified the driver as Joseph T. Goodrich, 31, of 25 Belfield Drive, Johnston.

After a background check, police determined Goodrich had a suspended drivers license and had also been previously convicted of his third offense for Driving Without a License. He was charged with Driving with a Suspended License (fourth offense).

The vehicle was towed from the scene and Goodrich was released with a district court summons.

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

#### ■ Raid

(Continued from page 1)

silencer and unlicensed importation/ transportation of a machine gun from foreign commerce, according to a press release from US Attorney Zachary A. Cunha's office.

"Firearm silencers and machine gun conversion devices pose a significant threat to public safety and the law enforcement community," Johnston Police Chief Mark A. Vieira said following the raid

Investigators determined, via Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF) databases, that Dandrea was "not a licensed firearms dealer authorized to deal, import, manufacture, or collect firearms."

Dandrea lives at 11 Everbloom Drive with his parents. On June 30, HSI Special Agent Nicholas Conforti applied for and received a search warrant for the home. It was executed on the morning of July 6.

According to the criminal complaint, law enforcement officers found approximately 27 firearms, consisting of rifles, pistols, and shotguns inside the residence.

"The defendant was initially present in the residence during the execution of search warrant and was later moved outside to the rear patio of the residence while the search was conducted," Jaffe wrote. "In addition to these firearms, two devices consistent in appearance with firearm silencers. One of these devices was attached to the barrel of a semi-automatic rifle inside the residence, while another was found in a weapon storage case."

The alleged silencers "were black and cylindrical in appearance with no markings, and a visual inspection of the device's bore revealed that the inside of these devices contained baffles, akin to a firearm silencer." They were sent for testing and laboratory analysis.

According to the criminal complaint, a "lightning link" device is designed to modify the semiautomatic function/capability of an AR-15 rifle and can be installed in a matter of seconds.

"Generally speaking, in order to fire an AR-15, the shooter is required to pull the trigger of the firearm every time to fire a round or a bullet," Jaffe wrote. "Once the device (Lightning Link Auto Sear) is installed the trigger no longer has to be pulled every time to fire a round, the

trigger only needs to be pulled once to initiate a continuous burst of fire."

HSI officers, ATF agents and Johnston Police all helped execute the search warrant. According to Cunha's office, the search "resulted in the seizure of six firearms and two firearm silencers" (although around 27 guns were found, only six were seized).

"An investigation into Dandrea re-

vealed that the two silencers were not registered to him, rendering their possession illegal under federal law," according to Cunha's office. During the search, Dandrea's father

arrived and spoke with investigators, helping to identify which of the firearms found in the residence were his, and which belonged to his son, according to the criminal complaint.

"Dandrea's father identified the three AR-style rifles (which are compatible with a lightning link auto sear) and the two suspected firearm silencers as belonging to Dandrea," Jaffe wrote.

Investigators also completed a "cursory review" of Dandrea's phone.

They allegedly found a "photograph of the three AR-style rifles, one of which had the suspected suppressor attached to it" and an image "of the tracking number for the subject parcel for the seized parcel containing the lightning link."

"The seized (lightning link) is classified as a machine gun by the ATF and is designed to modify the semi-automatic function/capability of an AR-15, rendering it capable of firing as an automatic weapon," according to Cunha's press release. "The possession or transfer of an unregistered drop-in auto sear is prohibited by the National Firearms Act."

Assistant U.S. Attorney G. Michael Seaman will prosecute the case, which was the result of a combined local and federal law enforcement effort. HSI worked with the US Postal Inspection Service, ATF agents, and also assistance from the Johnston, Warwick, Providence, Central Falls, and Pawtucket Police departments as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program.

"In this case, federal law enforcement agencies led a coordinated response partnering with local law enforcement to remove these dangerous firearm devices from our community," Vieira said. "This case demonstrates how strong partnerships among all levels of law enforcement are effective in combating illegal firearm possession and preventing gun

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#### MOTHER, SISTER, DAUGHTER LOST:

The victim, Sara
Ann Unkuri
(Tefft), a Westerly native, had
two children and
six sisters. She
was found dead
in Johnston on
Jan. 17, 2022.
Her husband,
William M. Bailey, has been
charged with her
murder.
(Obituary photo)



#### ■ Murder

(Continued from page 1)

conduct and resisting ar-

"Upon arrival, the decedent was identified as Sara A. Unkuri, age 35," Johnston Police Chief Mark A. Vieira said last week, following the announcement of a pair of indictments in the case. "The scene was secured and a suspicious death investigation was initiated in conjunction with members of the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office."

The victim, Sara Ann Unkuri (Tefft), a Westerly native, had two children and six sisters.

"Sara was a beautiful person with such a kind heart and will be deeply missed by those who love her," according to her obit-

Police started their investigation by talking to the man who lived at 454 George Waterman Road, and his son, the victim's

and his son, the victim's husband.

"Two persons of interest were identified and later interviewed by members of the Johnston Police Department's Investigative Division," Vieira said. "The persons of interest were Ms. Unkuri's husband, identified as William M. Bailey, age 37, of 97 Victoria St., Cranston, and Mr. Bailey's father, identified as William

Cranston, and Mr. Bailey's father, identified as William Link, age 58, of 454 George Waterman Road, Johnston. After an extensive investigation, the case was forwarded for formal review by the Office of the Attor-

ney General."

On Friday, June 30, the Providence County Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Bailey with one count of murder, according to Rhode Island Attorney General's Office spokesman Brian Hodge. The Grand Jury also returned an indictment charging Link with one count of misprision of a felony ("misprision of a felony" can be charged if a suspect allegedly knows a felony has occurred, but does not tell the authorities).

Both men were arraigned in Providence County Superior Court on Friday, July 7. Bailey pleaded not guilty and was held without bail on a Domestic Violence, first-degree murder charge and as an alleged habitual offender.

His father, Link, also entered a not guilty plea. Judge McBurney set his bond at \$100,000 surety.

Ater discovering his wife's body, Johnston Police charged Bailey with four counts of Domestic Violence-Criminal Violation of No Contact Order (3rd+ or subsequent offense), Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Arrest, according to court records.

"The Johnston Police Department discovered Mr. Bailey violated the no-contact order in the course of investigating Ms. Unkuri's death," Vieira explained. "The Johnston Police Department did not have any previous contacts with Bailey prior to investigating the death. Bailey was arrested by the Johnston Police Department on (Jan. 17) around 1:45 p.m. and was subsequently charged with Violation of a No Contact order.'

Two months later, Bailey entered a no contest plea on one count of violating a no contact order. Magistrate John F. McBurney III dismissed the other three counts and the disorderly conduct charge. The judge sentenced Bailey to eight years (five years behind bars with a three-year suspended sentence, eight years of probation and credit for time served). Bailey had another suspended year (and another year of probation) tacked on for the resisting arrest charge.

The judge also ordered Bailey to attend Batterers Intervention, as the AG's Office and Johnston Detectives were examining the case of his murdered wife.

During that hearing, Bailey answered for a long list of previous domestic violence-related charges. It was far from Bailey's first Domestic Violence-related

In September 2021, Pawtucket Police arrested Bailey for Domestic Violence-Simple Assault and/or Battery (3rd+ offense), Criminal Violation of No Contact Order (3rd+ Offense), Dis-

orderly Conduct and Obstructing Officer in Execution of Duty. (Bailey pleaded no contest to the first two charges, and the second, lesser offenses were dismissed.)

In October 2021, Pawtucket Police arrested and charged Bailey with two counts of Domestic Assault by Strangulation, Felony Assault and/or Battery, Domestic Violence-Simple Assault and/or Battery (1st Offense), Resisting Arrest, Disorderly Conduct and Domestic Violence-Refusal Relinquish/Damage/Obstruct Telephone (1st Offense). Ultimately, Bailey was convicted on the assault charges, but most of the other charges were dismissed.

In March 2022, Bailey had so many domestic violence charges filed against him at once that they were all — the September and October 2021 charges from Pawtucket, and the January 2022 charges from Johnston — handled during the same hearing.

He has been held behind bars since his January 2022 arrest.

Bailey also had earlier domestic violence arrests: Sept. 2, 2021; July 19, 2021; June 28, 2021. Bailey's lengthy criminal history stretches back years, and includes robbery arrests and other assault charges.

Johnston Police made no public announcements after they were first called to the crime scene in 2022.

No cause of death has been made public, and few case details have been released. Johnston Police will not release the incident or arrest reports.

"I am unable to provide you with the reports you are requesting as the disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with the ongoing criminal investigation or with enforcement proceedings," Vieira said earlier this week.



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### **Obituaries**

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

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

- Thank you

**Johnston Sun Rise** Thursday, July 13, 2023

### Local Adoptable Love able



BONDED PAIR!! This adorable duo is thought to be Mother & Son or Grandmother & Grandson, either way they are both beautiful! Frenchie (left) female is about 7-8 years young and Hunter (right) male is about 2-3 years young. They are both very shy because they came from a hoarding situation and were never properly socialized. They need lots of love, time and patience! You will need to visit with them multiple times at the shelter to be sure that you are their perfect match. For more information, please contact Warwick Animal Shelter at 401-468-4377. They are hoping that someone sees their photo and falls in love with them also that they will give them a quiet, loving home!

If you have been thinking of adopting or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at

#### animaltalk1920@gmail.com



Hey tuxedo lovers, visit Pawswatch at The Community Cat care Center in Johnston, RI. They have so many beautiful cats! This handsome boy is Petra! He is a stunning Tuxedo with golden eyes that will steal your heart! He is just under a year old. Petra likes other cats so if you are looking to add another cat to your home, maybe he's the one for you? Please contact the shelter at 401-285-9800 Petra is hoping you fall in love with him!

#### SUN RISE SCOOPS

#### **Sun Rise Staff Reports**

July 22 The Prout School Class of 1973 Reunion

Saturday, July 22, at 12 p.m., The Prout School Class of 1973 will hold its 50th reunion at The Prout School, 4640 Tower Hill Road in South Kingstown. All 1973 graduates are cordially invited to attend. For further information, 1973 graduate alumni are asked to join the Facebook Group "Prout Class of 1973," or contact Mary Paolino at mary. paolino@yahoo.com.

July 30

#### Warwick Veterans/TollGate High School Class of 1973 Reunion

Sunday, July 30 at 6 p.m., Warwick Veterans Memorial High School/ TollGate High School Class of 1973 will hold its 50th Year Reunion at the Valley Country Club, 251 New London Ave, Warwick. Cocktails 6 p.m., Dinner 7 p.m. \$50 per person. Checks payable to "VetsTollGate Class of 1973" can be sent to Ms. Judy Snow, 29 Oberlin Dr. Warwick. Contact us at ClassOf73VetsTollgate@gmail. com with any questions.

Sept. 11 The Comedy Course Monday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m., The

Comedy Course is returning for a 6th year, every Monday night for 6 weeks. Three instructors, with over 100 years of combined stage experience, will guide you on a 6-week journey from writing your first joke to performing your debut comedy routine. You will learn the dos and don'ts of standup comedy and have fun doing it. The course is \$200 per person. The place: TBD. Instructors include: Joe Hebert, Coleen Galvin and John Perrotta. Class size is limited. Call John Perrotta at 401-639-7726 to reserve your seat, now. Payment options are available.

**SCOOPS - PAGE 9** 

#### SCOOP OF THE WEEK

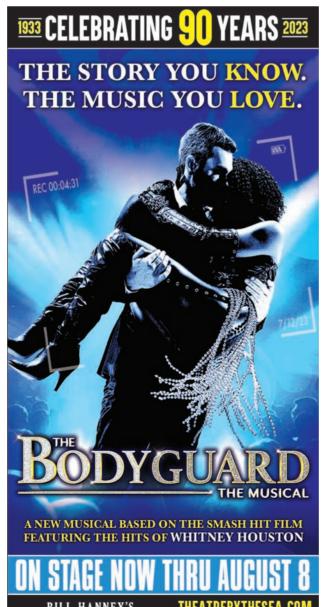


#### **Explore the Woonasquatucket**

On Wednesday, July 19, Paddle & Swim at Georgiaville Pond. Join the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council for an early evening paddle on Georgiaville Pond in Smithfield. They will launch from the historic Smith-Appleby House and make their way to the town beach, where participants are invited to take a refresh-

ing swim or just unwind. With the setting sun, the return paddle is sure to be a lovely summer experience as well. This trip is always the highlight of the paddle season, come along and see why! Pre-registration is required, and space is limited. Launch is at 6:30 p.m. (arrive 15 minutes early). There is a fee, both for bringing your own boat and using one of the WRWC's boats (WRWC kayaks had already sold out by Tuesday, though some WRWC canoes were still available).

The WRWC also offers Free Community Paddle trips on Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. You can canoe with the experienced WRWC Paddle Team. The WRWC will offer FREE canoe rides on the river on Thursday evenings throughout the summer at Providence's popular Riverside Park in Olneyville. Launched in 2020, the WRWC's Summer Community Paddle series shares the joy of a paddle on the Woonasquatucket River with 300+ central Providence riverfront residents every summer. All participants must wear a PFD, which will be provided, and sign a WRWC waiver before paddling. Spread the word to your friends in the neighborhood!



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The Johnston Senior Center is better than ever. We are offering more exercise programs and trips every week. We also have a book Club on the last Tuesday once a month. A Social worker/Medicare Counselor/ Ship Counselor is also provided 5 days a week. Contact Madeline Ravenelle at 944-3343 Please come for a tour of our facil-

The Senior Center Club meets the last Tuesday of the month. There is no charge for Senior Center activities. They offer Bingo on Thursday and Friday. Lunch is served daily at 12 p.m. (with a suggested donation of \$3).

#### Weekly Events

- Monday Arts and Crafts
- Monday & Wednesday Hi Lo Jack
- Tuesday Quilting

- Wednesday Poker
- Thursday Mar Jong
- Friday & Saturday Bingo

Offering more programs and trips every week:

#### **Events**

- Thursday, July 13: "Stiletto & Saxman" Whites of Westport, at 10:30 a.m., \$79pp
- Wednesday, July 26: Mystery Lunch at 11 a.m., \$10pp
- Tuesday, Aug. 8 and 30: Newport Playhouse, "Norman is That You?" 10:30 a.m. Lobster Fest \$95pp

Please note: Ballroom Dancing will not return until September.

Thursday, Sept. 14: "The Carpenters" Whites of Westport, 10:30 a.m., \$79.00pp

Monday- Wednesday, Sept. 17-19: "Atlantic City Gambling Tour to the Tropicana Casino Resort," \$299pp DO (single add \$130) \$50 Meal Credits/\$30 Slot Play TBA

Thursday, Oct. 5: "Aidan Keene Tribute Legends," 10:30 a.m., \$79pp

- Monday, Oct. 16: Maine (Portland) \$429pp DO. See Beautiful Historic Waterfront, Lighthouse, Quaint Kennebunkport. 2 nights lodging, 4 Meals \$95.00pp Tuesday, Oct. 17: Newport
- Playhouse, "Ghost of a Chance" Lobster Fest, 10:30 a.m. (no price)
- Tuesday-Thursday, Nov. 7-9: "Turning Stone Resort Casino" \$339pp DO (single \$479) \$80 Casino Free Play or Bingo Bucks \$30 Meal Credits

#### **Events at Mohr Library**

Registration is ongoing for a variety of summer programs and events at the Mohr Library, 1 Memorial Ave, Johnston. In addition, all ages can report on their summer reading and enter to win prizes donated by our Friends of the Library:

#### July 14

#### Gained in Transition

Friday, July 14 at 6:30 p.m., we will host "Gained in Translation," a Rhode Island group playing music from many parts of the world, mostly familiar to an English-speaking audience. The songs represent different styles and rhythms of the world drawing from bossa-nova, gypsy, French chansons, Portuguese fado, and American jazz and pop. This program is sponsored by the Rhode Island Office

of Library and Information Services (OLIS) with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services

#### **Regular Classes**

Tuesday: Yoga for Adults at 6:30 p.m., with Instructor Pauline Genest, sponsored by the Tri-County Health Equity Zone (HEZ).

Wednesday: Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday: Drawing club for adults gathers at 3 p.m. Friday: Knitting and cro-

cheting at 10 a.m. There is still time to regis-

ter for the 11 a.m. session of Art Smart Jr. for ages 5 to 7.

Afternoons: Programs for teens take place several afternoons. See our website or contact Marissa for more information.

#### Scoops

(Continued from page 8)

Sept. 30 Pilgrim High School Class of 1983

Saturday, Sept. 30, Pilgrim High School Class of 1983 will hold its 40th Reunion at Quonset Tavern by the Green, 615 Callahan Road, North Kingstown. For more information, please email pilgrimclass1983@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page Pilgrim High School Class of 1983. Hold the date!

#### Oct. 15

Central Falls High School Class of 1963 Reunion

Sunday, Oct. 15, from 12 – 4 p.m., Central Falls High School Class of 1963, will hold a 60th Class Reunion at Chelo's Banquet Hall, 2225 Post Rd., Warwick. Tickets: \$60 for buffet and dancing. Please send checks to: Patricia (Guillette) Mannix, 111 Col. John Gardner Rd., Narragansett. Please include maiden name and phone number on check. For more information email or call Patricia Mannix patriciagmannix@gmail.com - 401-789-0451; or Nancy Dube Brazeau nancybraz@gmail.com - 401-789-

#### Nov. 7 - 9Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City

From Tuesday to Thursday, Nov. 7-9, AARP Chapter 2210 will offer a trip to Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City. The tour includes 2 nights' accommodation, 2 meal credits (up to \$20 value each) & \$20 slot play. Bus pickup from Exit 19 Park & Ride on Hopkins Hill Road at 7 a.m., return time is approximately 6 p.m. Cost is \$299/person (double occupancy), \$279/person (triple occupancy) or \$399/person (single occupancy). For more information call Maureen at 401-828-5188. Final payment is due by

#### Amenity Aid Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers that would like to help us plan and staff community events, organize hygiene product collection drives and raise funds for Amenity Aid. If you are interested in doing any of the above or would like to be a member of our Community Outreach Committee, please contact Stacey Silva, Community Outreach Chair at Stacey@AmenityAid.org.

Amenity Aid's mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable populations by creating access to essential hygiene products. Serving all of Rhode Island, we distribute toiletry necessities to those most vulnerable through our network of direct service agen-

Soul of '71 Scholarship Fund

The Johnston High School Class of 1971 is raising donations for The Soul of '71 Scholarship Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation. A generous donor has offered a \$4,000 challenge! The donor will match all gifts to the Fund up to a total of \$4,000. The Class of 1971 initiated the fund on the occasion of its 50th reunion in 2021. Each year a scholarship will be awarded to a Johnston High School Senior planning to attend a college, university, trade or technical school. Donations are tax deductible according to your filing status. To donate, go to the following website: www.rifoundation.org/funds/soul-of-1971-scholarship-fund.

#### Low-Income Home Energy Assistance

More than 1 in 4 US households struggle with their home energy bills. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help keep the heat on. The Tri-County LIHEAP Program helps to cover the cost of home heating bills for those that qualify.

Visit www.tricountyri.com for more information about the LIHEAP program, and other weatherization programs that can help to reduce your home energy

bills. To apply for LIHEAP, or to see if you qualify, contact them at 401-519-1913. The Tri-County LIHEAP program has locations in North Providence and North Kingstown.

#### 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 collaborating 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.

Help OSDRI restock their pantry!

Operation Stand Down Rhode Island needs your help. Their food pantry needs a major restocking. See a list of needed nonperishable items in the photo.

Like many people, OSDRI's clients have been faced with some real obstacles these past couple of years. With your help, they pledge to always be there to give a hand up for veterans and their families in need.

Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at OSDRI's main office, 1010 Hartford Ave., Johnston. If you have any questions or would like more information, call the OSDRI office at 401-383-

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

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### Be a part of our special Atwood Avenue pages

In the Cranston Herald and Johnston SunRise on August 9th and September 13th. Learn more by contacting Chris at (401) 732-3100 / (401) 714-5699 / chrisp@rhodybeat.com

#### **GRAND RE-OPENINGS:**

The Town of Johnston and Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. celebrated a dual-grand opening on Friday, honoring the Atwood Pharmacy and new building tenants, Taste of Italy, according to a post on the town's Facebook page. "Atwood Pharmacy is a family owned business that proudly serves our community with healthcare services, prescription needs, and quality patient care," according to the post. "Taste of Italy opened in May, and offers your favorite Italian classics, along with a welcoming family atmosphere. We're honored and excited to have these two businesses in our community!" (Photos courtesy Town of John-







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SOUND OF COMPROMISE: School Committee Chairman Robert LaFazia (center and below right) read a freshly drafted resolution into the public record on Tuesday night, pledging to work with the town to stabilize the school department budget. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

#### **Schools**

(Continued from page 1)

"Within a few weeks, the Town will bring in an independent financial expert to go through the school department's financials so we can get a grasp as to what's going on over there," Polisena said early Wednesday morning. "We need to start working now to prepare for (the fiscal year 2024-25) budget and ensure it's balanced."

Polisena hired former Cranston Mayor Allan Fung, a past Republican candidate for Congress and governor, as the town's attorney. Fung also attended Tuesday's meeting.

"Allan Fung will be spearheading the effort," Polisena explained. "The reason I brought him on board is not only the success he had as mayor in Cranston, but similar to the situation now, when he first took office he inherited a structural deficit on the school department side which he ultimately rectified. It makes all the sense in the world to use someone who's been in the same situation with a department that is actually larger in size than Johnston.'

The school department also hired outside counsel. However, last night's School Committee resolution may make litigation less likely

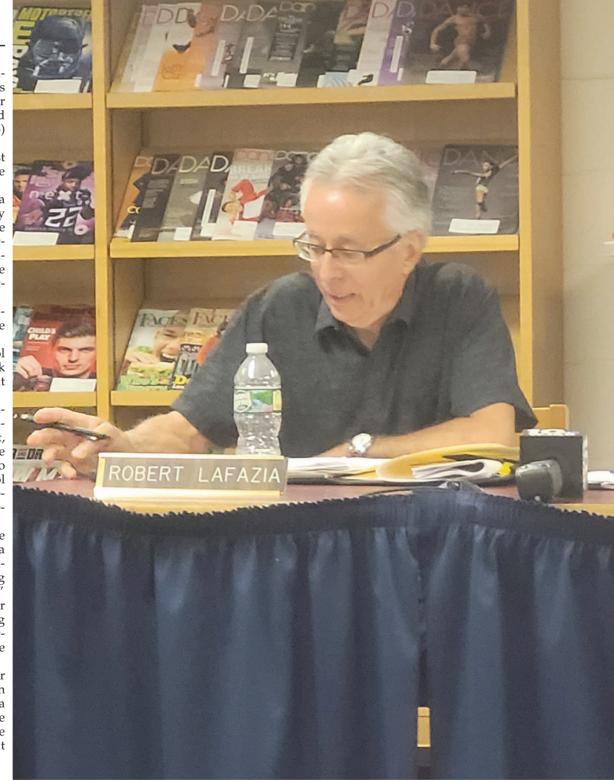
Projecting yet another deficit in the upcoming school year, the School Committee Tuesday night pledged to work with a town-led finance team to trim the budget and cut

"The (JSD) has requested a significant multi-million dollar increase for the fiscal year 2023-24 school budget," LaFazia read from the resolution. "After reviewing said request, (to assure) that the students of Johnston continue to receive a high quality education the town of Johnston has agreed to allocate \$2.15 million in local appropriations to the school department for the 2023-24 fiscal year. This amount represents the largest local allocation to support the school department in the town's history.'

The School Committee promised they will work with the town to "implement a deficit reduction plan as well as a corrective action plan that will improve operational and financial efficiencies of the school district while maintaining the high quality education the Johnston students deserve.

In March, town council authorized the mayor to enter into an agreement with a Pennsylvania-based auditing firm, to take a close look at the school department's finances. The School Committee has also agreed to consider the firm's recommendations once the audit is complete.

The town and school department will now work together to "implement a deficit reduction and corrective action plan so that the school district is no longer operating with a deficit," concludes the resolution. "The (JSD) will keep the Khode Island Department of Education and the office of the Auditor General of Rhode Island apprised of said deficit reduction and corrective action plan.'





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#### By JENNIFER COATES

Next to her family, there are two things that Chris Peabody loves more than anything: the people of Rhode Island and a good holiday theme!

If you want to know what is happening in our little jewel of a state, then just ask this enthusiastic supporter of small businesses and now, the newest sales representative at Beacon Communications. Chris just lights up when talking about her experiences working with, advocating for and shopping at the local businesses throughout her designated areas of Johnston and Cranston. As a lifelong Rhode Islander, she has a deep respect and appreciation for the businesses of these towns, but also for the residents who patronize them. It is now her privilege to give them a visible presence in these longstanding local

Chris Peabody might go all out on a fun holiday theme, but she is serious about her work every other day of the year. An avid gardener, golfer, Patriots fan, Rhode Island Special Olympics volunteer, wife and mother, Chris is always out meeting people, diverse exploring the neighborhoods of the West Bay, and cheering on the people and places that make Rhode Island so unique.

Chris came to the Johnston SunRise and Cranston Herald in March of this year following the retirement of her predecessor, Natalie Payette. She has come in with a bang, drawing upon a long career in customer relations in the news media and marketing. She is full of energy, ideas, and personality ~ and is eager to

get to know small business owners from every corner of these towns and cities. As she says: "I want to help businesses succeed!"

If you are a business owner in Johnston or Cranston, a great place to start is to look at newspapers such as the Herald and the SunRise. They have a broad readership and an online presence. They tell the stories of the towns' residents and of the many services they provide and products they sell. They are the heartbeat of our communities, acting like the "town crier" of days past but with photographs and updated stories of the day-to-day lives of their inhabitants.

Chris can help you get the word out about your business ~ no matter what your line of work or business is. There is an advertisement space for you here. Chris will help you get the most from your advertising dollars, knowing that every penny counts in these tough economic

If you work or live in the towns of Johnston or Cranston, give Chris a call at 401-732-3100 or her cell at 401-714-5699. You can the day to get started!



also email her at chrisp@ Meet the newest sales representative at the Cranston Herald and the Johnston rhodybeat.com. Today is SunRise, Chris Peabody ~ coming to meet you where you are, ready to get your business seen!

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### Sports

#### JLL All-Stars battling in district tournaments

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston Little League All-Stars had a busy week as they contine to battle in the District I playoffs. Here is a look at how some of the JLL teams fared.

The JLL 12's won their first game in a 15-0 thumping of Elmwood. Ryder Calabro propelled the JLL bats by hitting a grand slam while Nico Capobianco added a bases-clearing triple. Pitchers Jordan Diclo and Eric Ferrerra combined to shut out Elmwood on the mound.

The 12's then went on to face Cranston Western and fell 8-0. Johnston was held to only two hits in the loss.

Despite the defeat, the 12's would bounce back to roll past North Providence in a 9-1 decision to remain in the hunt.

Brody Staplins would get things going at the plate with a home run while Ferrerra had two hits. Michael DeAngelis also had a pair of hits and an RBI while Liam Shields added a two-run single. JLL's offense exploded for all nine of its runs in the third inning. Calabro, Ferrerra and DeAngelis held the NPLL bats in check on

JLL - PAGE 14





ALL-STAR ACTION: Mason Poole (left) and Michael lafrate last week. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)



STATE TOURNAMENT RUN: The JLL senior team walks off the field one last time. (Submitted photo)

#### Senior team falls in state tourney

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Johnston Little League senior team fell in the state tournament adter winning the Distrcit I title last week. JLL finished the state tournament with a 2-2 record.

Burrillville 4, Johnston 2

Johnston was in a quick hole 2-0, however Johnston bats woke and tied the score in the fifth in-

**SENIOR -** PAGE 15

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SUMMER BALL: JLL shortstop Eric Ferrera makes a play.

# 24

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Database management system
- 5. Medical procedures
- Clapton, musician
- 12. Defender
- 16. Exert oneself
- 17. Indicates position
- 18. Prevents river overflow 19. Atrocities
- 24. Mister 25. Ends
- 26. Slope or tilt
- 27. Taxi
- 28. The very ends
- 29. Actor Sean 30. Japanese persimmon
- 31. Sours
- 33. Beneficiary
- 34. Baseball official
- 38. Muddy, boggy ground 39. Not worldly
- 40. Actress Lathan
- 43. Soil
- 45. Asleep
- \_ Angeles
- 50. Give birth to a child

- 51. Beach shelter

- 53. Commercial 54. Taste property
- 56. Local jurisdictions
- 58. It cools your home
- 59. Dismounted from a horse

- 64. Spoke
- 65. Famed garden
- 1. Draw a scene
- 6. Saw

- 13. Early multimedia

- 20. Of I
- 23. A place to stay

- 27. Town in Galilee
- 29. Aronofsky film 30. Klingon character, "Star Trek"

- 60. Charge with a crime
- 63. Close in

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 2. Its sultan is famous
- 3. Unlucky accident
- 4. A way to ski
- 5. Abba \_\_\_, Israeli politician
- 7. "Westworld" actor Harris
- 8. Belonging to me
- 9. Shoelace tube
- 10. Takes to court
- 14. In a way, produces
- 21. Equally
- 22. Gets some sun
- 47. All 48. Ohio city
  - 50. More abject 51. A radio band
    - 52. Controversial tech product (abbr.)
    - Monetary unit
    - 55. Passed with flying colors

31. Equal to 100 square meters

35. A distinctive odor that is

32. Atomic #58

34. Loosen grip

36. Membranes

38. Partner to Pa

42. Sodium

45. Lighted

46. Took off

33. Arrived extinct

unpleasant

37. Some is poisonous

40. Small brown gray rail

44. Military official (abbr.)

41. A salt or ester of acetic acid

- 57. A way to win a boxing match
- 61. The Golden State 62. Home of the Longhorns



JLL

(Continued from page 13)

the mound for JLL. The JLL 11's most recently fell to Cranston Western in a 4-0 no hitter. Mike Orsini pitched five innings for JLL and recorded five strikeouts. The 11's started off the tournament

with a 9-2 loss to North Providence but rebounded to beat Elmwood 5-4. JLL then would beat Fox Point, 16-6.







(Cont. from page 13)

ning making it 2-2.

Logan Martins started on the mound for Johnston, pitched well and left game after five strong innings. Manny Rios relieved him pitching the sixth and seventh.

Burrillville quickly regained the lead in the sixth making it 4-2. The Johnston bats were silenced for the remainder of the game.

"Pitching was definitely good enough to win tonight however the bats were shut down. I told the team not to worry, all this means is more games to play to get to the finals," said JLL manager Gary Ri-

#### Johnston 7, Pineview 0

"We thought this through and came up with a path to get to the finals," said Rianna. The path worked for

Johnston. Jacob Pettit started throwing 2 1/3 innings, then Ronnie Vento jumped in to take the next 4-1/3 innings, and then Anthony Vendetti closed it in the seventh retiring the final batter on three pitches. Dean Paris and Nick Testa lead the way with the offensive power. Johnston's bats woke

up and stuck early and often. Big hits up and down the lineup and key spots kept the offensive pressure on Pineview all night.
"We had a plan and it

was followed. Jacob got it started on the mound in the right direction and Vento totally shut them down and ate up innings. Defensively I couldn't be more happy with the play out there and the bats started to pick up the pace, which was nice to see," Rianna said.

#### Johnston 15, **Burrillville 5**

(vve) just revved up the bats even more, seeking revenge on the team that beat them a couple nights ago. Started Jacob again, and again he answered the call. The bats were non stop and scoring was relentless today, the boys want a little pay back (and) safe to say they got it," said Rianna. "Dean Paris, Nick Testa, Manny Rios, Jayvin Adamo, and everyone up and down lineup contributed with the offensive onslaught."

#### South Kingstown 16, Johnston 10

SK jumped out to early lead but Johnston battled back to tie it and then take an early lead scoring eight runs in the third inning.

Unfortunately they couldn't hold back the SK team much longer and finally succumbed to the strong offense and defense of SK.

"We got to the place we wanted to be at, unfortunately ran out of gas. This team fought every inning, every pitch and never gave up. Couldn't be proud," said Rianna."Its always tough to come out of losers bracket especially after losing the first game but these boys put it together, worked hard and got there. Yes, its disappointing but that's baseball."

Kianna had one last message for his team prior to departing for the remainder of the summer.

'We've had a great deal of success lately. (The) last six years we have won five district championships and two RI state championships. I want to thank the parents, the players and coaches, Erik Martins & Bob Civetti, none of this happens without them. I also want to thank some of my explayers for stepping in and helping at practices. Zach Rianna, Chris Civetti and Bobby Civetti. It's always a privilege to coach an All-Star team and it's something I don't take for



DOING BATTLE: JLL 12's Emmanual Herrera leaps to make a play last week (far left) while pitcher Jordan Diclo delivers. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

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### Water heating up fast

#### Fifty percent of ocean may experience heatwaves by Sept.

#### By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

As scientists around the world sound the alarm about record sea surface temperatures, a new experimental NOAA forecast system predicts that half of the global ocean may experience marine heatwave conditions by the end of summer.

The surface temperatures of about 40 percent of the global ocean are already high enough to meet the criteria for a marine heatwave — a period of persistent anomalously warm ocean temperatures — which can have significant impacts on marine life as well as coastal communities and economies. We already see the impact on fish and habitat every day we fish our bays, coastal shores and ocean. The new forecast at Marine Heatwaves: NOAA Physical Sciences Laboratory (PSL) projects that it will increase to 50% by September, and it could stay that way through the end of the year.

"No doubt, we're in hot water," said Dillon Amaya, a PSL research scientist and a co-lead of NOAA's June 2023 marine heatwave experimental outlook. "In our 32-year record, we have never seen such widespread marine heatwave conditions."

"Normally we might expect only about 10 percent of the world's oceans to be 'hot enough' to be considered a marine heatwave, so it's remarkable to reach 40 or 50 percent, even with long-term warming," Amaya said.

Marine heatwaves can disrupt ocean ecosystems and the coastal communities that rely upon them. Weeks, months, or years of unusually warm waters can cause mass die-offs of fish, marine mammals, and seabirds, disrupt food webs and fisheries, bleach corals, spur harmful algal blooms and wipe out seaweeds.

For additional information visit Global ocean roiled by marine heatwaves, with more on the way - NO-AA Research.

#### Where's the bite?

Tuna. "We have a strong tuna bite at Tuna Ridge. All along the north line of the Dump anglers caught both yellowfin and bluefin tuna this past week," said Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown. "The tuna bite is exceptional, both school tuna and giant bluefin tuna. We have sold quite a few spreader bars that allow even center consoles to troll multiple spreads without outriggers getting their spreads outside the wash on both sides of the vessel," said Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence. Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "Tuna reports were strong last week with most bites coming on the troll. SE direction off Block Island."

Summer flounder (fluke), black sea bass and scup. Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, said, "Areas from 35-55 feet of water with some structure seem to be producing well for fluke. Fluke are also chasing sand eels so try using some chartreuse colored baits and showing smaller presentations to match. Fishing for black sea bass seems to be picking up with more keepers moving in along the shoreline and there are plenty of scup

around." "Fluke fishing has been very frustrating for anglers in the Bay. They have not been able to hook up with

keeper fish in the Warwick Light area as well as around the Newport and Jamestown Bridges. However, the scup bite remains strong in the Bay," said John Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle, Riverside.

Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor Marina, said, "Fluke fishing south of Block Island is outstanding with a strong bite holding along the southern coastal shore. Dillion Conti, my five year old nephew (Matt Conti's son) caught a five pound fluke fishing off the Center Wall at the Harbor of Refuge with his Dad. We have a good bite at the Block Island Wind Farm and the Hooter Buoy (off Point Judith) for black sea bass with keepers being caught off the West Wall of the Harbor of Refuge this weekend."

"Fluke fishing is now in deeper/ cooler water with a 30-inch fish caught this weekend by John Lee off Pt. Judith. And the scup fishing remains strong in the Bay and along the coast," said Dave Henault of Ocean State

"Striped bass fishing in Providence and Pawtucket is slow, however, anglers fishing at night are catching keeper fish. And, at the Cape Cod Canal customer Garry Morin caught above slot sized fish three days in a row with soft plastic lures by Al Gags," said Henault of Ocean State Tackle.

"Fishing continues to be outstanding at the Island, however, it is hard to catch a slot fish there (28 to less than 31 inches). So, if it is a keeper you want, anglers are catching them off Pt. Judith or along the costal shore and off the breachways. The back ponds hill of Snug Harbor.

"On Saturday angler Albert Bettencourt and his son targeted striped bass off Newport and left as over 30 boats were fishing the area. They did catch two fish over slot and one slot fish in the Beavertail/Dutch Island area as a large school of bass were feeding on the surface gorging themselves on flies that were on the surface. They were finicky, not going for much and then turned on when the tide turned," said Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle.

O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, said, "The breachways and shore spots have been producing some fish but boaters have a bit of an edge fishing live eels out on deeper structure and out at Block Island. There is a better shore bite early of late in the day. Bass and blues have been seen blitzing on sand eels along the beaches and in the salt ponds."

Blue crabs have been abundant at 100 Acre Cove, Barrington, said Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle. And this weekend in Apponaug Cove, Warwick, where I keep my boat, blue crabs were abundant clinging to dock piles just below the surface.

"Freshwater fishing for largemouth bass continues to be good. Most anglers are using shiners with success. Waterman Lake, Greenville, is producing for customers. Now the freshwater bite is in cooler water... shaded areas or deeper water," said Henault at Ocean State Tackle.

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.noflukefishing.



FLOUNDER: Capt. John Lee of JL Charters with a 30-inch summer flounder (fluke) caught off Pt. Judith this weekend. (Submitted photo)

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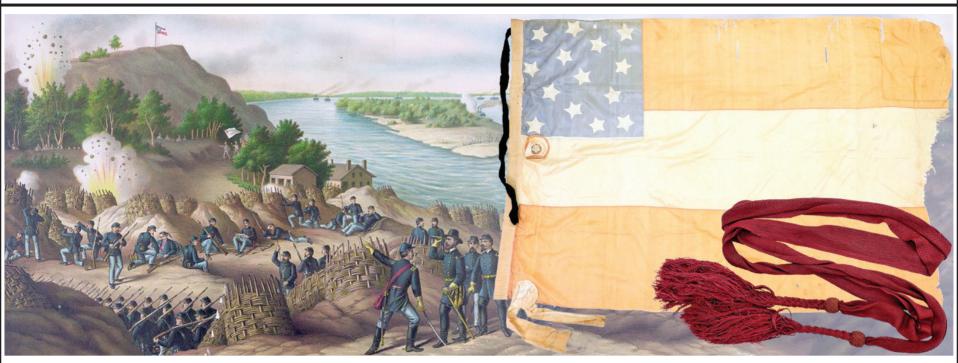
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The original owner of the flag was Russell B. Caples who was born on December 23, 1841, near Weston, Missouri, the son of a minister of the gospel. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the Confederate army as a private in Searcy's Sharpshooters, a company in the 16th Missouri infantry. He fought in the western theater early on under General Earl Van Dorn then General Sterling Price and fought in many battles until he was wounded at the Battle of Vicksburg and evacuated to



**By Joel Bohy** Historic Arms & Militaria Bruneau & Co. Auctioneers Cranston, RI

Louisiana. After he recovered from his wounds, he returned to the regiment and was given the rank of Brevet Lieutenant. In April 1865, what was left of his regiment surrendered at Shreveport, Louisiana and he returned home to Glasgow, Missouri. He wrote "Returning to Glasgow, I kept my sash and the flag under which I had fought so many battles."







died. He had no job, no money, and had two half-sisters to take care of. Caples gave up farming to become a lawyer and in the early 1870s he was admitted to the bar. He married Miss Agnes Belden Watts in 1877 and had six children. Although having been a democrat, he switched to the Republican party as he said, "the Republican party was the party that did things-from the abolishing of slavery to the building of the Panama Canal." Later in life he was a well-respected judge as well as an advocate of the soldiers who had fought during the war as well as those younger folks now serving in the military. He died on October 26, 1915. The flag he brought home is of the first national pattern made of red and white silk with a blue silk can-

He returned home to find out his father had been mor-

tally wounded during the Battle of Glasgow and had

ton which contains 14 stars. It is entirely hand sewn and has a piece of black crepe attached as well as two succession cockades. It is slightly faded and has some wear from age and use but is in overall good condition. Along with the flag came his crimson silk sash he had worn as a lieutenant as mentioned above. Two important reminders of when he was a young soldier fighting in the Civil War that survive to this day.



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onsumers can never let their guard down when it comes to identity theft. Personal information is much more accessible in an increasingly digital world. Consequently, instances of identity theft and consumer fraud continue to grow.

• The Identity Theft Research Center (ITRC) reported a record number of data compromises in the United States in 2021, amounting to a 68 percent increase over 2020.

- The Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network received more than 5.7 million reports of fraud and identity theft in 2021.
- In Canada, there are 12 victims of identity theft per every 100,000 residents and 52 victims of ID fraud.
- Many North Americans have been victims of COVID-19-related fraud, including scams involving fake testing, vaccines and treatments, and charities.

The FTC says identity theft is when someone uses your personal or financial information without your consent. Commonly stolen data includes addresses, credit card numbers, bank account information, Social Security numbers, or medical insurance numbers.

Though thieves can gather information by intercepting it through digital channels or simply by stealing mail or going through trash, many times people inadvertently share personal information with scammers themselves. Here's a look at five common scams.

#### 1. Phone scams

Phone scams may involve telemarketers trying to sell you something in exchange for personal information given over the phone, as well as people impersonating government agencies or credit card companies. "Please confirm account information" or "We'll need your financial information to process" are some of the phrases these scams utilize. Never give out personal information over the phone unless you've confirmed the individual you're speaking to is legitimate.

#### 2. Text links

The Pew Research Center says 81 percent of adult mobile phone users use text messages regularly. Scammers utilize text messages to try to gain information. The text includes a link to a site that will request personal information. Do not respond to such texts and avoid clicking on the links.

#### 3. Phishing emails

Phishing emails look like they are coming from legitimate sources, but they often contain malware that can infiltrate computers and other devices to steal identity data. Phishing increased during the COVID-19 lockdowns as more people were working from home, according to the ITRC.

#### 4. Medicare card verification

Older individuals long have been targets of criminals. Seniors are now being called, emailed or even visited in person by scammers claiming to represent Medicare. Perpetrators

of this scam offer new services or new chipped Medicare cards in exchange for verification of Medicare identification numbers. Medicare numbers should be carefully guarded, and seniors should keep in mind it's highly unlikely Medicare representatives will contact them in this way.

#### 5. Data breaches

It's not just a home computer or phone breach you need to worry about. According to ARAG Legal, security experts indicate many major companies are being breached. By the time it's discovered that data was stolen, your personal information, which usually includes credit card numbers, email addresses and home addresses, has been circulating for some time. While it's impossible for private citizens to prevent this type of data breach, a credit monitoring service can alert consumers if their information shows up where it seemingly doesn't belong.

Identity theft is an ever-present threat and consumers must exercise due diligence to protect their personal infor-

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