

## Senior Center Board expired

### Advisory committee now has no members, hasn't met for years

By RORY SCHULER

The last Johnston Senior Center Advisory Board appointment attempt died without a second.

All the appointments' terms have expired.

The board was established by town ordinance. It should have seven-members, helping to guide the direction of the Johnston senior community hub.

"I am a proponent of having the advisory board established and I'm anxious to get working with them," said Richard J. DelFino Jr., who was named Johnston

Senior Center Executive Director as Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. took office.

The Johnston Senior Center, at 1291 Hartford Ave., now has "close to 3,000 members," according to DelFino. He said he can run the center without the board, but the community would benefit from a full and functioning advisory committee.

"The Johnston Senior Center Advisory Board is advisory in nature, but it's an opportunity for members

SENIOR - PAGE 5

## Winning the food fight

### Bami Farm harvests help sustain community

By WILL STEINFELD  
Special to the Sun Rise

It's only two miles from the farmers market at Memorial Park to Bami Farm. Talk about farm to table.

If you buy Bami Produce, your food will likely have never left Johnston. Even so, it's no surprise if you haven't heard of Bami.

The farm itself is easy to miss. It was established in 2019. There's a little turnoff from Route 6 into Snake Den State Park, with a welcome sign for the farm, but it's just around a bend in the road. You only see it when you've just about passed the turn.

In addition, the 6-acre plot is long but skinny. From the road you don't see sweeping fields, just a white farm house — locked up because of asbestos — and a gated dirt road. Look closely and you may see the top of the farm's high tunnel, which is like a semi-greenhouse, and bunches of daisies tangled throughout the fences, bringing pollinators to the crops.



**BAMI VISIT:** Above, on May 19, U.S. Sen. Jack Reed visited Johnston's Bami Farm, where 15 farmers grow food to feed families and produce specialty crops to be sold at local farms. (Photo courtesy U.S. Sen. Jack Reed's office)

#### HIDDEN FROM VIEW:

At right, Bami Farm is nondescript, shielded from the road by a lawn and a line of broad trees. For those who want to see what it's like on the inside, anyone can sign up to volunteer on the Bami Farm website. (Sun Rise photo by Will Steinfeld)



FARM - PAGE 12

## Johnston missing from Gov's affordable housing list

By RORY SCHULER

Some Ocean State communities have made affordable housing a priority.

Rhode Island Gov. Dan McKee recently posted a list of the state's municipalities, where, "right now, affordable housing is under construction. And we're just getting started."

The list, disseminated via Twitter, included 19 of the state's 37 cities and towns. Johnston did not make the list.

The list included (in alphabetical order) Bristol, Coventry, Cranston, Cumberland, East Greenwich, East Providence, Exeter, Middletown, Newport, North Smithfield, North Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, South Kingstown, Tiverton,

Warwick, Warren, West Warwick and Woonsocket.

"I can't speak to the information used by the Governor to compile this list and what constitutes 'affordable housing,'" explained Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. "The problem is many people are locked into pre-COVID, low interest rate mortgages and have little

**MAYOR POLISENA:**

**'I do not support multi-family, low-income housing projects in Johnston'**

HOUSING - PAGE 5





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# 'Senior Spotlight'



**QUEEN OF HEARTS:** Celia Ricci is known affectionately as the Johnston Senior Center's "Queen of Hearts." (Photo courtesy Richard J. DelFino Jr.)

## Johnston Senior Center's 'Queen of Hearts'

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

The Johnston Senior Center 'Spotlite' this week shines on longtime member Celia Ricci.

Celia has been visiting our center for the past 18 years, and has been called the "Queen of Hearts," by many, due to her commitment to playing Hi-Lo Jack twice per week for all these years.

Somehow this "Queen of Hearts" description might be more appropriately applied to the fact that the mention of Celia's name brings a cheerful smile to the faces of visitors and staff who describe her as "gracious, loving and lovely, and always having a kind word to offer."

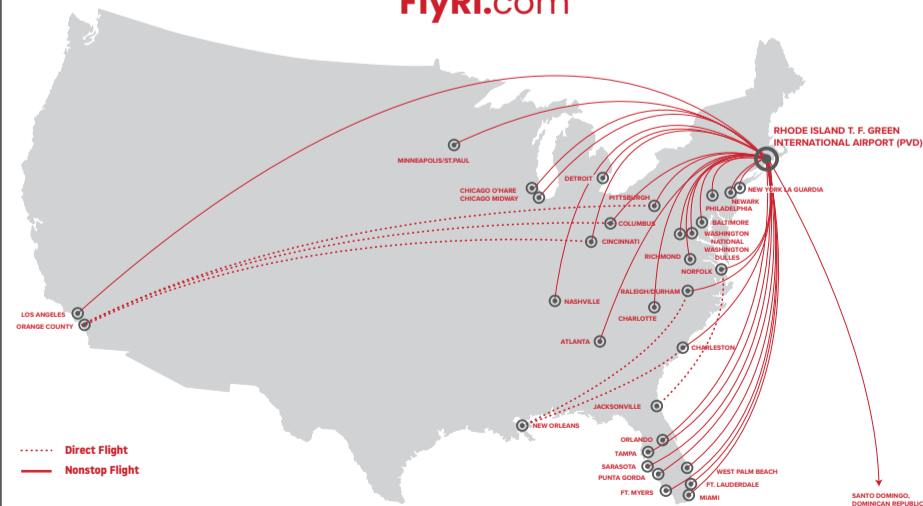
Celia comes to the center regularly to enjoy socializing with many friends and staff, and enjoys the "fellowship" enjoyed here. Celia says her "faith" guides her through life, and those who know her and that familiar smile, say "it's the goodness in her heart that is a blessing to all of us."

**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 Spotlight," submitted by the senior center.

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# 2023 SPAAMFAA NATIONAL CONVENTION



**JFD WINS:** The Johnston Fire Department accepted SPAAMFAA's prestigious National Preservation Award from Richard Quetta, a North Providence resident and president of the Rhode Island Antique Fire Apparatus Society last week at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick. (Photos courtesy Jonathan Pistacchio)

## JFD wins National Preservation Award

By PETE FONTAINE

Of the 108 vintage vehicles that were recently on display at The Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA) 2023's National Convention recently held in Warwick, the Johnston Fire Department and Local 1950 Association of Firefighters were in the spotlight.

JFD Chief David Iannuccilli and former Chief Alan Zambarano accepted SPAAMFAA's prestigious National Preservation Award from Richard Quetta, a North Providence resident and president of the Rhode Island Antique Fire Apparatus Society that hosted the impressive four-day convention/muster that concluded with an awards banquet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick.

"We are thrilled for the Johnston Fire Department and Local 1950 Association of Firefighters," Quetta said. "Johnston was one of three Rhode Island Departments that have fulfilled this task and kept firefighting history alive."

It was the JFD's extremely well-maintained 1936 Maxim Pumper that received the coveted national award that was graciously accepted by Iannuccilli and Zambarano as well as Local 1950's Executive Board, headed by President Keith Calci, Vice President Jon Pistacchio, Secretary Joe Pingitore and members Don Roberts, Chris DeFino and Sal Martira.

"Thank you to SPAAMFAA and the Rhode Island Antique Fire Apparatus Society for this tremendous honor," said Pistacchio. "Everyone in the JFD and Local 1950 really appreciates this nationally coveted honor."

Moreover, Quetta said that many of the 275 registered guests who viewed all 108 antique fire trucks that were on display outside the Crowne Plaza Hotel and 200 people who attended the awards banquet were "tremendously impressed" with the JFD/Local 1950's 1936 Maxim Pumper.

History has it that that the Johnston Hose Company No. 1 ran the 1936 Maxim Model YASC-3 as an engine out of the Willow Street Station located in the Thornton section of town. It was placed in service in March of 1937 and served the Town of Johnston until it was taken out of service in October of 1973 when the department transitioned to a fully paid unit.

Engine 13 remained in reserve status for several years after which it was refurbished by the Johnston Volunteers and maintained by the late Johnston Hose 1 President Mike Placella and Zambarano.

Recently, last November in fact, the 1936 Maxim Pumper was gifted to the Johnston Firefighters Union Local 1950. The truck now serves the JFD and Local 1950 as their Honor Guard Truck and is also utilized for parades such as the JHS Homecoming, shows and even funerals.



**NATIONAL NICHE:** Richard Quetta, president of the Rhode Island Antique Fire Apparatus Society, presents the prestigious SPAAMFAA National Preservation Award to JFD Chief David Iannuccilli and former Chief Alan Zambarano at last week's awards dinner in Warwick. **For more photos turn to Page 4.**

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**PRESERVING HISTORY:** Above, the 1936 Maxim Pumper was gifted to the Johnston Firefighters Union Local 1950. The truck now serves the JFD and Local 1950 as their Honor Guard Truck. (Photos courtesy Jonathan Pistacchio)

Catch this wave.



**PRIZE POSSESSION:** Local 1950 President Keith Calci and Vice President Jonathan Pistacchio hold the prestigious SPAAMFA National Preservation Award with union members Don Roberts, Chris DeFino, Dave Pingitore and Sal Martira at a recent awards dinner in Warwick. (JFD Local 1950 photos)

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**MIGHTY MOMENT:** Former JFD Chief Alan Zambarano and his wife are holding the national Preservation Award in front of the JFD's 1936 Maxim Pumper that is still housed in the Thornton section of Johnston.



■ **Senior**  
(Continued from page 1)

and the community to be informed," DelFino said. "The previous appointments have expired. Right now there is no board."

The town's Code of Ordinances established the advisory committee, and stipulates each town council member make an appointment. Appointments should be serving staggered terms.

The mayor also makes two appointments, for a two-year and a three-year term.

"All of those appointments had expired," DelFino said, so he recently notified Town Clerk Vincent P. Baccari Jr. that the "process to replace" those members should begin.

Town Councilman Robert Civetti attempted to make his appointment to the board at the July 10 monthly Town Council meeting. Town Council President Robert V. Russo wasn't at the meeting, but the other three members sat silently after Civetti named his appointment — Stephen Macchioni, a former member of Town Council.

"I nominated Stephen Macchioni for appointment to the Senior Center Board after speaking with Mr. Macchioni and Director Richard DelFino," Civetti wrote via email following the meeting. "Mr. Macchioni is a long-time resident of the Town of Johnston and a former councilman. Mr. Macchioni has been active in the Town of Johnston and other local communities for years."

Town Council members Linda Folcarelli, Lauren Garzone and Alfred T. Carnevale have not responded to multiple requests for comment. They all sat silently during the meeting; they gave no reason for their refusal to support Macchioni's appointment.

"I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Macchioni in the Johnston Little League and I know that he would be an asset to the Board of the Johnston Senior Center," Civetti said. "Director DelFino expressed that he looked forward to having the opportunity to work with Mr. Macchioni and appreciated my consideration of nominating Mr. Macchioni to that position."

The mayor has also been silent on Macchioni's nomination to the board. Polisena has not responded to emailed requests for comment regarding Town Council's failure to endorse his appointment.

"The board is strictly an advisory board," DelFino said. "But since it is a board ... established by ordinance, it's required ... It falls under the Open Meeting Laws."

The pandemic possibly helped to evaporate the board, but the body has long been defunct.

"I don't believe the board ever met during the COVID pandemic," DelFino said. "Once board is together, I will coordinate the meetings in conjunction with the town clerk."

DelFino explained that doesn't "need the board to function."

"But I need the board to be an advocate in the community and provide ideas," he said earlier this week. "The

mayor appoints the senior center director; but we are like most senior centers in the state — nonprofit but we rely on municipal funds to survive."

The Johnston Senior Center is a town-owned building.

"He should have a board," Civetti said on Tuesday. "I think immediate action is necessary. There should be some governance over the center. You have a very competent director, but he needs a board for general oversight."

Since the Town Council and mayor appointed the seven-member board, Civetti argues the town "has financial control to an extent."

"Without having an audit done, without a board, who knows what shape its in?" Civetti asked.

Town Council members also considered each others' appointments to the newly created Charter Review Committee.

Nominations by Folcarelli, Garzone and Carnevale all passed easily. Civetti voted for them. He seconded a few. One of Civetti's nominations, Ronald Bianchi, was approved. But when it came time to make his second appointment, he was once again met by silence.

Civetti recommended local attorney Andrew Dimitri for appointment to the Charter Review Committee.

"As for attorney Andrew Dimitri, having a young attorney that's interested in the development of the community, be part of the (charter) review commission would have been a great asset to that committee. I would love to know why my colleagues rejected these two individuals."

Civetti hoped Dimitri could "bring youth and his experience to the committee."

"Attorney Dimitri has been a lifelong resident of the Town of Johnston and is interested in getting involved in the community," Civetti wrote via email. "Andrew currently works in the family practice managed by his dad, Judge William Dimitri. The firm currently provides legal services to municipal entities in the State of Rhode Island and I believe that his and the firms experience would be of great help as the committee reviews the Town Charter provisions for Johnston."

Folcarelli, Garzone and Carnevale were also silent on the Dimitri appointment. They would not second a motion on his appointment, so no vote was taken. The three did not respond to phone calls or emailed requests for comment.

"Getting some fresh ideas and exploiting the talents/expertise of our residents is something that can only help guide the Town of Johnston in the future," Civetti said. "Once again I believe that Attorney Andrew Dimitri would have brought some terrific ideas and valuable input to the Charter Review Committee and am very disappointed that my colleagues would not allow (him) to join Ronald Bianchi in representing District 5 on the Charter Review Commission. Mr. Bianchi and Attorney Dimitri would have worked well together and been great representation for the residents in District 5."

Polisena also did not respond to requests for comment on Town Council's failure to appoint Dimitri.

■ **Housing**  
(Continued from page 1)

desire to give up their low rate and exchange it for a current 6% rate."

Town officials have often stated that very little space for development remains untouched in Johnston. And the stock of available housing is limited by homeowners who don't want to move.

"This means currently constructed homes won't be on the market as frequently as they were before," Polisena wrote via email. "Therefore, the only way to make single-family homes more affordable to prospective buyers looking to move, whether they are a first time home buyers or looking to down-size/size up is to increase the supply with new stock."

Polisena has often argued against certain types of developments.

"Building low-income multi-family cluster units doesn't accomplish that," Polisena argues. "I support building more market rate, single-family homes in Johnston, if in the appropriate location. My administration has met with numerous developers who are interested in building single-family homes in Johnston. We will guide them through the appropriate processes and procedures to see if their developments meet current neighborhood standards."

Polisena repeated his opposition to the type of residence construction many municipalities consider quintessential "affordable housing."

"I do not support multi-family, low-income housing projects in Johnston," Polisena reiterated.



**Governor Dan McKee** @Gov... · 3m  
Right now, affordable housing is under construction in:

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- Coventry
- Cranston
- Cumberland
- E. Greenwich
- E. Prov
- Exeter
- Middletown
- Newport
- N. Smithfield
- N. Prov
- Pawtucket
- PVD
- S. Kingstown
- Tiverton
- Warwick
- Warren
- W. Warwick
- Woonsocket

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**THE TWEET:**  
Gov. Dan McKee posted this list on Twitter earlier this week. (Screen shot)

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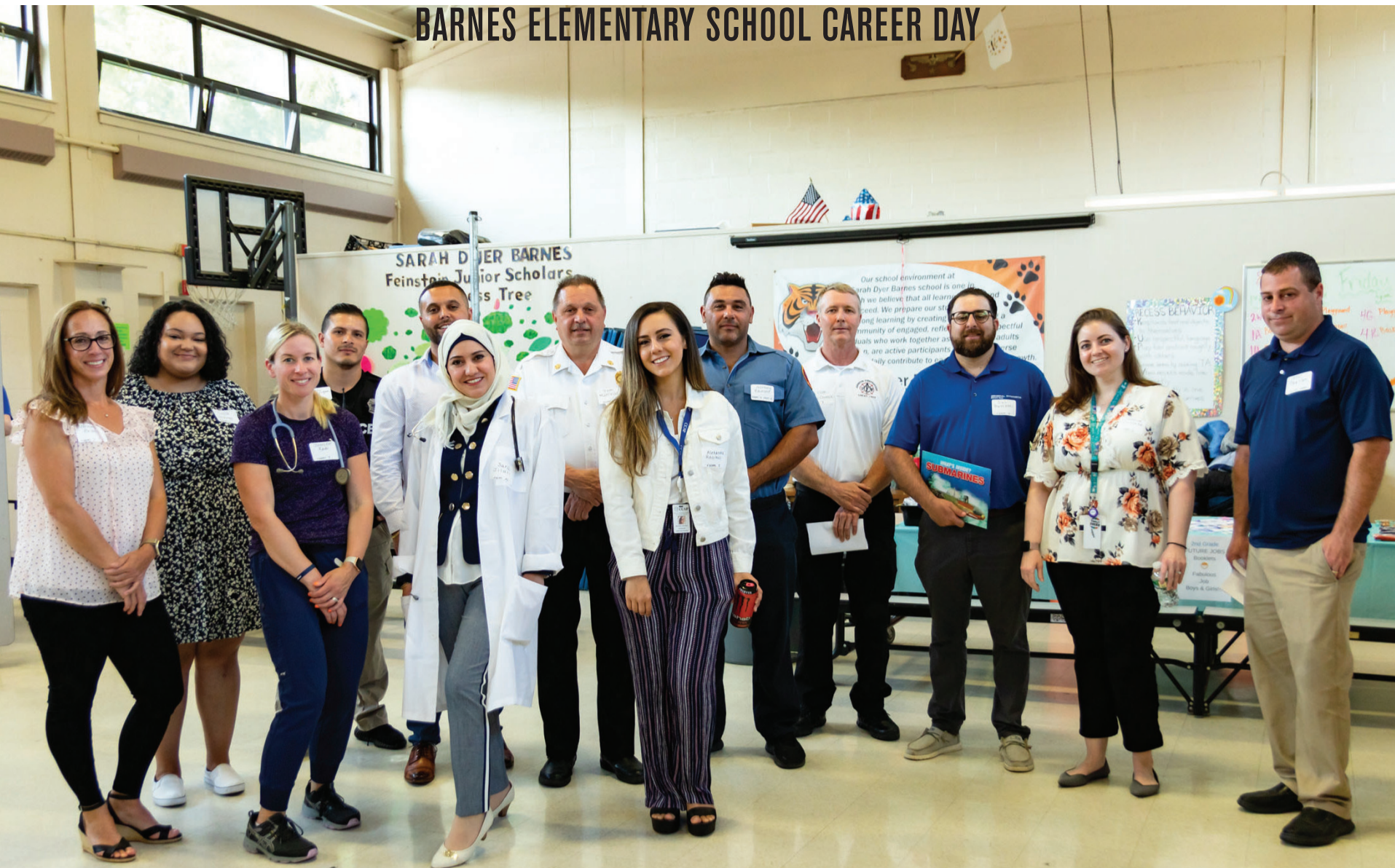
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# BARNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAREER DAY



## Who they may want to be when they grow up ...

**CAREER DAY:** Above, Tom Marcello (Johnston Fire Marshall), Sara Jilati (Physician), Lindsay Elgin (Photographer), Sal Buscemi (Engineer) Anthony Rainone (Fire Fighter), Lauren Rotundo (Veterinarian), Tom McCormick (Fire Chief), Angela Brasil (Administrative Assistant, Human Resources) Trevor Moss (Arborist) Candice Motta (Nurse) Eric Paulson (Accountant), Saam Kheradi (Public Adjuster), Rosemary Puleo (Insurance), Jennifer Rado (Cardiac Exercise Physiologist), Teresa Gonsalves (Town Assessor), Jeanne Paradiso (Photographer), Joseph Polisen (Mayor), Lou Marroquin (Police Officer/Investigator), Jessica Corrente (Oncology Nurse), Alexandra Rocchio (Nutritionist) and Anthony Pezzillo (Mastery Martial Arts) – all helped make the Sarah Dyer Barnes Elementary School's first Career Day a success.

Johnston's Sarah Dyer Barnes Elementary School hosted a Career Day near the end of the school year.

Principal Jill Souza helped to guide the school's inaugural Career Day, organized by Amie Annino, School Counselor and April Marroquin, a second grade teacher.

The event was a huge success and enjoyed by students and staff. The school's first Career Day highlighted the community of Johnston. "The volunteers were amazing and really helped students to see the connection between academic success and their future!" Annino said. "Their futures are looking bright!"

**MAYORAL GUIDANCE:**  
At right, Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisen was one of Career Day's guests of honor.



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**OPEN DOORS:** Lou Marroquin, a police officer and investigator, posed for a photo with Gianni Ball.



**DESIGNING FOR THE FUTURE:** Layla Jennings, a Graphic Designer, posed for a photo with fifth grade student Kamille Jennings.

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# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local  Adoptable  Loveable



**Giacomo**

Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

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## GOLDEN BARITONE



**GRAND GREETING:** Michael Mangasarian welcomes Broadway Baritone sensation James Michael to The Bridge at Cherry Hill for Friday night's summer concert series opener.

# Bridge at Cherry Hill opens 2023 Summer Concert Series

By PETE FONTAINE

The Bridge at Cherry Hill opened its 2023 Summer Concert Series Friday night with a rather unique trip down memory lane.

Although the threat of rain forced the concert indoors, James Michael treated an appreciative audience to a magical musical tour that was filled with songs of yesteryear, history and clever wit from the well-traveled entertainer.

"Our residents really related to James and his songs," said Joan Stanzione, the Activities Director at the Johnston-based Century Park property who is James' friend and arranged the concert. "We'll be having him back in September."

There were many parts to the extraordinary evening of music, as well as the story about why James takes a brief break for pineapple juice.

Known as the Broadway Baritone, James met the legendary Robert Goulet — who became his mentor — when he was performing on Broadway.

The two became friends and as James said Friday night: "Robert told me to drink pineapple juice during performances and you won't lose your voice."

That's why James' performance of Goulet's signature song "If Ever I Would Leave You" brought smiles to the faces of The Bridge residents last Friday night just as it has wherever he's performing.

"What a talent!" exclaimed Michael Mangasarian, the Sales/Community Relations Director at The Bridge. "His special stories are endless; his singing is incredible, and he gave our residents a night to remember."

A night that began with a special tribute to the late and legendary Tony Bennett concluded with his signature song "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

Residents filled the classy sitting room with applause. James shared many musical memories, ranging from recanting the days of the former Hit Parade, which filled the radio and television airways from 1935 to 1950 and was sponsored by Lucky Strike Cigarettes, to singing selections from the songbooks of music icons Frank Sinatra and Louis Armstrong.

Among James' countless credits are starring roles in "Camelot" and "Les Misérables."

"James started singing at age 5 (now 67) and has performed on Broadway for 44 years," Stanzione said. "In the last 10 years he has been entertaining in retirement living centers and since 2012, James has done 5,000 concerts in Senior Living, Senior Centers and headlined at hotels."

As Mangasarian assessed: "It's no wonder James is the most sought-after entertainer for Classical Broadway Music in the Senior Community throughout the country."

So, James Michael, who Stanzione labeled "a phenomenal baritone with an engaging performance style and wonderful spirit" will be back at The Bridge in September to present a super show titled "The Golden Era of the Baritone" — and there's no charge.

Next up the Jazz Trio with Al Testa will be at The Bridge and on Tuesday, Aug. 29 Kalifornia Karl will perform classic country and blues songs. Admission is free and the concerts begin at 6 p.m.



**HAPPY HOST:** Joan Stanzione (center) joins residents Gerri Giarusso and Gloria Sofra during last Friday night's Summer Concert Series opening at The Bridge at Cherry Hill.



**POPULAR POOCH:** Maire D'Orior and her special friend were among residents who enjoyed Friday night's "Now and Then," James Michael's musical show at The Bridge at Cherry Hill in Johnston. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



# Opinion

EDITORIAL

## Creativity can save lives

Whether you've been swept off your feet by a knee-deep river while hiking or found yourself caught in a rip tide, anyone with such an experience can attest to the exceptionally frightening power of fast-moving water.

Incidents like the one that happened off Conimicut Point two years ago, where a young girl was swept away by the tide, and a heroic man who tried to save her, both perished, happen every day along our world's coastlines. They've happened at Conimicut six times total since 2008. And while we may not be able to prevent them from happening altogether, we can certainly do more to prevent the next one.

• WHERE TO WRITE:  
1944 Warwick Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02889  
RoryS@RhodyBeat.com

This is why we're giving a tip of the cap and a shout out to the efforts coming from Warwick, and its mayor, Frank Picozzi, to conceptualize and build a novel but (hopefully) effective means to warn swimmers, anglers, and all who might find themselves walking along sections of beach they might not realize are dangerous about impending tidal changes that could threaten their safety.

Events like what happened off Conimicut Point are the kinds of tragedies that, regardless of your level of political cynicism, must weigh heaviest on the minds of any public official; but particularly a mayor, who is in effect charged with maintaining and ensuring the safety as best as possible of all the residents who reside in the municipality which they oversee. It seems to hold true for Picozzi, who was on the scene that particularly horrible day.

But rather than dwell on the what-ifs and mourn, he got to thinking creatively about how the situation could be made safer. Known well before becoming mayor for his elaborate Christmas light displays that pair with audio from speakers, he wondered if there was a way to craft an alert system of sorts that could warn people of incoming tidal shifts in addition to the signs erected in the wake of the tragedy.

With some help from city information systems manager Phil Carlucci, and from some components taken from an old police car, that MacGyver-ed system will hopefully be installed in the next couple of weeks, complete with lighting components and speakers to provide warnings in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

It's a commendable, low-priced, and hopefully effective means to make one of our popular shores a bit safer, and it's an invention you could imagine being replicated in other seaside communities, or even patented to turn into a profitable product.

But this prototypical piece of safety equipment was never intended to make money, rather just to hopefully one day spare a life that may otherwise have been lost. And that's worth more than anything.

The scandal continues...



LETTER

## Johnston tax rate story informative but missing a key fact for seniors

I read your story on Johnston's Tax Rate. It was very informative.

The headline said the residential tax rate was going down by 34% ("Polisena's first proposed town budget cuts residential property tax rate by 34%," Page 1, June 22 edition).

There was no mention that the Homestead Act was only going up by 20%.

If the tax rate is going down by 34%, the senior exemption is going down by 34%, with the current senior exemption.

At 40K, this means the senior exemption goes from \$929.60 to \$612.00, which equals a \$317.60 tax increase for senior taxpayers that other taxpayers are not subject to.

Most seniors are on a fixed income and to have a tax increase higher (than) others just doesn't seem right and it would have been nice if it was mentioned in your article.

I've always enjoyed reading the Johnston Sun Rise.

Keep up the excellent work.

Dave Barney, Johnston

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?



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CHARLIE HALL



# SUN RISE SCOOPS

## Sun Rise Staff Reports

Aug. 13

### Rock N Jock for FARA

On Sunday, Aug. 13, it's time again for Rock N Jock Charities' 23rd annual two-day event at the Crowne Plaza, Warwick.

The organization helps raise money to fight illnesses, including Friedreich's Ataxia, an illness battled by beloved Johnston resident Matthew DiIorio, who's family has pledged to keep up the good fight.

"In his 40 years of living, Matt literally inspired thousands in whatever he was involved but no more so than getting people to participate in raising funds and awareness and making the need to find a treatment and a cure for Friedreich's Ataxia a priority," according to the organizers of the Race for Matt & Grace. "Through each challenge Matt encountered during his 27-year battle with FA, he always managed to find the good in it, and it was Matt's mission to help others with FA experience the benefits of the FARA community, which has converted an FA diagnosis from a lonely place of uncertainty into one full of hope and optimism."

The beloved son of Sallyann and Jack DiIorio and big brother to twins Andrew and Nicholas, Matt passed away on the Fourth of July 2021, due to complications from FA.

Attending the Rock N Jock Charities 23rd annual two-day event is yet another way to show support for Matt's family and the cause he believed in.

A Golf Tournament has also been scheduled for the following day, Monday, Aug. 14, at Potowomut Golf Course.

"They have been supporting FARA and A Wish Come True for the last few years, last year they were able to give each organization \$14,000," said Matt's father, Jack DiIorio.

For more details or to purchase tickets go to [www.rocknjockcharities.com](http://www.rocknjockcharities.com).

The 2023 Rock N Jock Charities entertainment line up for our 23rd Night of Entertainment is now official. The event will feature Neal & the Vipers, who will return as the show-opener. As always Steve Smith and the Naked's will perform. Renowned Latin percussionist Tito Puente Jr. will be joining the lineup.

"We dare anyone to stay in their seat for his performance!" Declares the Rock N Jock organizers. "We are thrilled to announce that Rhode Island's own Billy Gilman has confirmed he will perform for us this year."

Tickets are available now. There's also an update on the annual Race for Matt & Grace (partially named for Johnston's Matt DiIorio).

The race was started in September of 2010 by Katie Hopkins and her brother Patrick in honor of their cousin Grace Hopkins who was diagnosed with FA September of 2008. The race was called "The Race For Grace" with about 70 participants, according to the event's website. At the after party for the race in 2012, Ka-

tie and Patrick announced they were changing the name of the race to "The Race for Matt and Grace" to honor the fight of both families.

"We invite you to join the families of FA patients Matt DiIorio, Grace Hopkins, and Alex Fielding on Sept. 23, 2023, at Rhode Island College in Providence for the 13th Annual Race for Matt & Grace," declares Matt's friends and family. "This daylong event features a 5K, 1.5 Mile Fun Walk and an after-party with food and live entertainment."

You can sign up at their website: <https://give.curefa.org/event/fara-5k-or-race-for-matt-and-grace-2023/e489319>.

Race registration runs from 8:30-9:30 a.m., followed by a speaking program and the race fires off at 10 a.m.

Aug. 29

### Food Truck Tuesday

On Tuesday evening, Aug. 29, Johnston's War Memorial Park will once again fill with food trucks.

Partnering with PVD Food Truck events, June's inaugural event was followed by another on Tuesday, and a third on Tuesday, Aug. 29. The fun starts at 5 p.m. and runs through sunset.

The night's entertainment featured Super Chief Duo. The pair played to a packed lawn following an event introduction by Eric Weiner, founder of PVD Food Truck Events.

Past vendors peddling cuisine-on-the-go included A Mano Pizza, BBQ y Mas, Big Dog Eats, Blount Clam Shack Food Truck, Chicked Out Nuggz, Cultro, Friskie Fries, Gonzalez Food Truck, La Guaguita Del Sabor, Mac N Cheese Please, Pit Stop, The Grub Guru, Del's, Jerry's Food Concessions, Kona Ice, Poppin Minis RI, and the night's featured truck, Shishkaberrys of New England.

PVD Food Trucks counted 835 people at June's first Food Truck Tuesday.

Sept. 7-10

### Our Lady of Grace Feast & Festival

Our Lady of Grace Church in Johnston has set the dates for it's the annual Italian Feast and Festival 2023 in honor of La Madonna Della DiFesa.

The 2023 festival will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 6 with a 6 p.m. mass followed by a candlelight procession and rosary. He said the carnival rides on Rockwell Amusement's Midway along with games and all food booths will open Thursday, Sept. 7 at 5 p.m. Known as one of Rhode Island's most popular summertime events the Italian Feast and Festival will continue through Sunday, Sept. 10, with a grand raffle drawing for \$7,000 in prizes.

"Admission is always free," Father Gower said. "We're bringing back the Big Top and all events will be held rain or shine."

Also, the 2023 Fest and Festival will have a first on Sunday, Sept. 10, when The Most Rev. Richard D, Henning, D.D., S.T.D., Bishop of Providence, will be the main celebrant and homilist at

the 10:30 a.m. mass with Father Gower serving as Celebrant.

Sept. 11

### Square Dancing

On Monday, Sept. 11, Swing Squares is hosting a free, first class on square dancing from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Oaklawn Community Baptist Church (in the hall at the back of the church), 229 Wilbur Ave., Cranston. Swing Squares is also seeking new members. No partner, special clothing or experience required. Contact: Lisa Breault (401) 524-7610 for more information. Great way to stay in shape, make friends and have fun!

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.

Sept. 19

### The Ocean State Toastmasters Open House

On Tuesday, September 19, from 6 - 8 p.m., The Ocean State Toastmasters will hold an open house at the Proclamation Brewery, 298 Kilvert Street, Warwick. Come and find out why the Ocean State Toastmaster's Club (OSTM) is a place to learn, grow, have fun and practice leadership, problem solving, storytelling and public speaking skills. RSVP - Please. For more information call 401-359-3197, go to [oceanstate.toastmastersclubs.org](http://oceanstate.toastmastersclubs.org) or email [oceanstatetm.20@gmail.com](mailto:oceanstatetm.20@gmail.com).

The Warwick-based Ocean State Toastmasters, 99 James P. Murphy Industrial Highway, Warwick, meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 7 p.m. there is informal networking and from 7 - 8:30 p.m., the Toastmaster meeting begins which includes testimonials, presentations, conflict resolution, blog post.

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 Road, Warwick. Tickets: \$60 for buffet and dancing. Please send checks to: Patricia (Guillette) Mannix, 111 Col. John Gardner Road, Narragansett. Please include maiden name and phone number on check. For more information email or call Patricia Mannix [patriciamannix@](mailto:patriciamannix@)

Nov. 7 - 9

### Resorts 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 Sept. 21.

### 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](mailto: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 agencies.

### 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](http://www.rifoundation.org/funds/soul-of-1971-scholarship-fund).

### 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.

SCOOPS - PAGE 11

## LEGAL NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE

DISH Wireless L.L.C. is proposing to install new wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing monopole located at 1520 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, Providence County, RI 02919. The new facility will consist of the collocation of antennas at approximately 161ft above ground level (measured to the centerline of the antennas) on the 180 ft tall monopole (measured to highest appurtenance). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6123005218 - CR EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at (978) 877-3493.

## More 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:

### 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 crocheting at 10 a.m.

There is still time to register 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.







# SCOOP OF THE WEEK

## Aug. 1 Cricket Field Cleanup

**CRICKET CLEAN-UP:** On Tuesday, Aug. 1, 5 to 7 p.m., you can register to join the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council for a quick and cool evening cleanup at Cricket Field in Johnston. Volunteers will gather to do “some much needed invasive species management and sprucing up this beautiful park,” according to the WRWC. “We’ll have summer snacks and refreshments to keep us energized.” Register at the WRWC. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

### ■ Scoops (Continued from page 10)

**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 401-383-4730.

**BankRI Food Drive**  
Now through Aug. 18  
With the issue of hunger in Rhode Island on the rise in recent months as

a result of the end of pandemic-related emergency benefits and increased costs, BankRI has kicked off a month-long food drive at all 21 of its branches. The collection will continue through Friday, Aug. 18.  
In Johnston, the bank’s local branch is collecting food to benefit the emergency food program at Tri-County Community Action Agency, which serves residents of Johnston, North Providence, and Smithfield.  
According to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, the organization’s network of member food pantries served 80,000 people per month in March, April, and May, compared to 66,000 people in February — an increase of 21 percent.  
Throughout the BankRI food drive, all branches feature collection bins in their lobbies for donations of nonperishable food items. Among the foods needed most by pantries are soups and stews, pasta, nutritious breakfast cereal, peanut butter, canned fish and meat, tomato products, and canned fruits and vegetables. The Food Bank and its network also seek culturally relevant foods

like jasmine, yellow, and basmati rice, dried black, kidney, and fava beans, and items such as sofrito, fish sauce, coconut milk, and adobo. Any donations of sauces or spices must be in plastic bottles or cans only – no glass.  
All BankRI branches have partnered with a pantry that serves its community to ensure the food it collects stays local to feed area residents. In total, 14 pantries are benefiting from the Bank’s food drive, and all are members of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank’s network.

**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 non-profit events. Email today and see your news in our column in the Johnston Sun Rise. Please include a daytime telephone number in case we require any further information.

## Johnston Senior Center Highlights

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 facility.  
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**
- 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.
- Trips**
- Thursday, Sept. 14: “The Carpenters” Whites of Westport, 10:30 a.m., \$79 pp
  - Monday- Wednesday, Sept. 17-19: “Atlantic City Gam-

- bling Tour to the Tropicana Casino Resort,” \$299 pp DO (single add \$130) \$50 Meal Credits/\$30 Slot Play TBA
- Thursday, Oct. 5: “Aidan Keene Tribute Legends,” 10:30 a.m., \$79 pp
- Monday, Oct. 16: Maine (Portland) \$429 pp DO. See Beautiful Historic Waterfront, Lighthouse, Quaint Kennebunkport. 2 nights lodging, 4 Meals \$95 pp
- 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” \$339 pp DO (single \$479) \$80 Casino Free Play or Bingo Bucks \$30 Meal Credits

## Obituaries

**80th Birthday Remembrance**  
**Pasquale Gallucci**  
JULY 27, 1943



You never said “I’m leaving,”  
You never said, “good-bye.”  
You were gone before I knew it,  
And only God knew why.  
A million times I needed you.  
A million times I cried.  
If love alone could have saved you,  
You never would have died.  
In life I loved you dearly.  
In death I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a place  
That no one else can fill.  
It broke my heart to lose you,  
But you didn’t go alone.  
For part of me went with you,  
The day God took you home.

Love,  
Your Wife, Theresa

**80th Birthday Remembrance**  
**Pasquale Gallucci**  
JULY 27, 1943



Happy birthday memories, Dad,  
Fill our hearts today,  
With all the warmth  
We’ve missed so much  
Since you went away.

We knew that we could turn to you  
If ever things went wrong,  
And you’d be there to help us,  
Gentle, kind and strong.

And when we stop and think about  
The lovely times we had,  
We long to thank you once again  
For being a perfect Dad.

You guided us and  
Brought us strength.  
You filled each day with love,  
And now you send us courage  
From your resting place above.

Love, Donna, Carol,  
Anthony and Paula

**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](mailto: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



■ **Farm**  
(Continued from page 1)

**The Old Ways**

You won't see tractors or complicated machinery, and the farming techniques, which lean on manual knowledge, like combination planting and hand-tilling, look a lot like farms might have looked long ago, throughout Johnston's long agricultural history. It is a return, in some ways, to tradition. But for Julius Kolawole, founder of the Rhode Island African Alliance, the organization running the farm, the harvest is about looking forward and fighting for the future.

"Food is medicine," Kolawole often says. "But food has become a weapon."

Food is something powerful, a power often wielded, according to Kolawole.

For Bami Farm, farmers markets are not just about taste or health — though both of those are important pieces of the puzzle. The broader umbrella that encompasses both of these things — the African Alliance uses food to connect people, to each other, to other communities, to healthy lifestyles and to the land.

"The powers that be have done a number on us" Kolawole says, deliberately, tapping a finger down for emphasis. "We can let big industrial food suppliers do what they do, or we can take ownership."

The African Alliance was founded in 2009 as a support system for recent immigrants and refugees from a wide range of countries in Africa. The name Bami is from Swahili and Zulu, meaning "mine."

Kolawole, who immigrated to the United States decades ago for school, described how isolating life as a new arrival is.

"You get your key to your apartment and then you don't leave," he said.

**Outside 'The Ethnic Isle'**

Ameenah Shabazz, who partners with Bami Farm through Food Solutions New England, gives an example of even minor, day-to-day difficulties an immigrant may face: "I talk to recent immigrants, who are in the supermarket looking for the types of rice they're used to eating, but they speak limited English and the rice will be in the so-called ethnic aisle." ("Just put rice with the other rice!" Shabazz added.)

The African Alliance began by establishing a number of community farms around Providence. Many of the refugees and immigrants had agricultural knowledge from either farming or gardening in their home countries, and so the gardens were a natural foothold through which to start working and earning money as they settled into a new place.

As the gardens were built up, each benefit led to a new benefit. First, growing food was employment, which also served to produce hard-to-find vegetables that were fresh, accessible, and not stuck on the back shelf of the "ethnic foods" aisle. Then, the act of growing the food led to connections that, in addition to friendship, facilitated access to essential services beyond just food.

For instance, a grower at Bami Farm will almost certainly meet Archie Johnson, who volunteers his skills as a videographer for the farm, and also sets up both live and recorded music at the farmers markets. Johnson participates in and runs a whole swath of community assistance organizations.

"I get those calls every single day," Johnson says. "I can't pay the rent, I haven't eaten." So I call this person, that

person, put people in touch with people. Folks gathering, caring for one another — that's what community is."

**Food Fight**

Johnson endorses Kolawole's description of the community garden mission, to get immigrants out of their apartments and into communities — illustrating "food as medicine" and "food as a way to build and heal."

But as he said earlier, Kolawole also describes food as a weapon. Since 2009, the African Alliance has expanded beyond just serving recent arrivals to the country, because food access can be limited not just by years spent in a new place, but also by zip code.

The USDA maintains a database of food access, and when mapping low-income census tracts where at least 100 households do not have a vehicle and live more than a half-mile from the nearest supermarket, much of Providence lights up.

The list includes much of the city south of Route 6 — South Elmwood, Elmwood, Washington Park, much of Upper South Providence, Silver Lake. Meanwhile, on the East Side, residents take their pick of the multiple supermarkets vying for higher-income clientele.

For residents who may have to take multi-leg public-transportation trips to access a large supermarket, it's more affordable — in time and money — to go to a corner store or small market. These food sources are less likely to have fresh produce and non-processed food. Then, because healthy food access is limited, kids are less likely to develop healthy habits or food-origin awareness.

Shabazz teaches kids about just that, and she describes a trip to a school where she held up a tomato and asked where it came from, and the first response was "McDonalds."

"It's a conveyor belt to CVS, to the pharmacy, to the doctor's office," Kolawole says. "We've been sold that this is good for you, when we actually have no choice."

**The Green Stuff**

There's a strong awareness from everyone involved with Bami Farm of food as a commodity. "Billion dollar industry" is an oft-repeated phrase.

Kolawole describes recent interactions with government officials, ostensibly there to help, who often still display signs of bias. One official, from the Department of Health, recently asked him, "So you bring produce to unconventional places?"

Bami Farm's ethos is that no one and no place should be "unconventional," in relation to vegetables.

To distribute their produce, Bami and the African Alliance partner with Farm Fresh (which Kolawole calls their "Rolls Royce" signifying how valuable they are to the operation) to reach farmers markets throughout the greater Providence area. The markets fill in the gaps, distributing fresh vegetables even in places where large supermarkets are not as accessible.

It may seem odd to address food access with farmers markets, which are often associated with somewhat-impractical, highbrow food. Bami produce indeed may be a few cents more expensive per pound than a supermarket chain's. According to a 2020 study, the average price of a pound of potatoes in Rhode Island was \$1.80 at small farmers market stalls, \$1.33 for organic at Whole Foods, and \$0.80 for non-organic Stop and Shop.



**KEEPING IT GROWING:** Alex is an employee of the farm, and his job includes laying and maintaining the irrigation system. The water is pumped from a holding pond at the top of the hill, which a beaver helped build. (Sun Rise photos by Will Steinfeld)



**AN EASY INTRODUCTION:** Learning plots like this one allow people who have no experience with gardening or farming start to grow their own food. It's hard work weeding and clearing the land. Many with learning plots feel this makes the food taste even better.



**ALL ABUZZ:** Each field has daisies and sunflowers interspersed with the produce being grown. The flowers attract pollinators like the bee and the wasp pictured here.

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**6 CLAM CAKES**  
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**\$1 Littlenecks**

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**FIGHTING FOR FOOD:** On May 19, U.S. Sen. Jack Reed visited Johnston's Bami Farm. Julius Kolawole, founder of the Rhode Island African Alliance, considers Reed an ally in the global and local food fight. (Photo courtesy U.S. Sen. Jack Reed's office)

■ **Farm**

(Continued from page 12)

A bag of greens will cost about the same, organic from Whole Foods or the farmers markets, and a dollar more than Stop and Shop's. Onions were \$2.50 for farmers markets and \$1.33 for organic Whole Foods.

While the differences are significant, Farm Fresh farmers markets provide so-called "bonus bucks" to customers who receive SNAP benefits, which serves to halve the cost, as they receive a dollar of market credit for each real dollar spent. And, of course, buying from Bami stalls means the proceeds are staying within the community.

While money and spatial access are tangible barriers to healthy eating, Bami's work always comes back to the people.

"We know our roadblocks, we know our needs" Shabazz says.

**Plant Early**

Their boots on the ground strategy is about "getting kids in the dirt early," as Shabazz puts it, and for Kolawole, "getting the young generation to think about what they eat."

This means providing education about cooking and agriculture, but also just bringing young people out to the farm to see how things work. While some may just volunteer, Bami also currently has six learning plots, which are each about the size of a very large backyard garden.

People like Samuel Dapper, who is in his mid-20's, can rent them out, even with no prior experience. Farm staff will provide tools and walk them through the full growing process. Dapper, who cleared and tilled the whole plot with a friend, says that when he first became interested in healthy eating, it meant organic, and shopping at Whole Foods.

That approach was "burning a hole in his wallet." Now, with cucumbers, squash, and garden eggs all growing strong, he has his own produce to eat. It's tough with a full-time job, and it might not be strictly cheaper than Whole Foods, all things considered. But, it's important to him, beyond nutritional facts and price.

"It's ancestral knowledge," he said. Again and again, no one associated with Bami talks about food or health without talking about community. Community is what makes the operation possible, and community is the reason to fight. A healthy meal may be about the ingredients, but also from where you get it and with whom you eat it.

As Shabazz puts it, "food is not just consumption and finding a belly. It connects people to their culture, their language. Food is a remedy of happiness. There's that release of emotion when you eat."

When asked for a definition of "community," the

farmers' answers were always broad.

Just as food access is denied along broad, spatial swaths, the African Alliance is trying to build a network inclusive of everyone included in their area of operation.

"African Americans, Latinos, Africans — all 54 countries — Southeast Asians," Kolawole says. "I'm not interested in specifics. All of us are here."

The community is centered around food.

Kolawole points to, as an example, corn: "All of us eat this. We can use this to know each other. That is an opportunity."

**Visibility Vital**

The network is primarily comprised of "ordinary people" working with other "ordinary people." But it also includes local politicians, like U.S. Sen. Jack Reed, who posted photos of himself online in May with his sleeves rolled up, boat shoes in the dirt, planting a seedling at Bami Farm.

While Kolawole works to fill the gaps left by the political system ("Nothing has changed going back to Cianci," he says), he describes politicians like Reed as "champions" for the farm.

"Langevin came, Whitehouse came, Reed came, the Governor came," Kolawole recalled (referring to now retired Rep. James Langevin, U.S. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse and Gov. Dan McKee). "They can open doors that we are not allowed into. I think that's very important."

Even just a two photo, one sentence Tweet, Kolawole says, can be a boon: "Everybody reads what Sen. Reed says. So if there's a picture of us with him at the farm — the more visibility these politicians can give us — that's a big plus for us."

Ocean State politicians have brought Bami and its partners some tangible gains.

Reed, in 2021, delivered \$1.6 million in grants to Farm Fresh RI, which helped fund the Bonus Bucks program. Measures like these help develop alternative food networks, but may not address the root causes limiting healthy food access by neighborhood.

Kolawole emphasizes that there are two separate worlds.

"Getting food to the local communities, that's boots on the ground," he said. "It's different — very different — from main street activities."

Working with "champions" who can deliver funding and visibility helps Bami succeed in its mission, despite the many obstacles.

Growers from Bami Farm will be at Johnston Memorial Park for a farmers market from 9 to 12 a.m. on Aug. 26.

"I live by a saying I learned from my father when he was alive," Johnson said. "I want for my brother that what I want for myself. I can't be your neighbor if I live well and you don't live well. That, for me, is community."

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## GET PICKED TO GET PICKED

ALL SIGNS POINT TO ANOTHER GREAT SEASON



### American Pickers searching for Ocean State hoarders and collectors

By RORY SCHULER

**M**ike Wolfe and Frank Fritz drove down Simonsville Avenue in Johnston and pulled into Paul Ruotolo's property eager to dig for treasure.

"They bought a lot of stuff," Ruotolo told the Johnston Sun Rise in 2010. "They filled up a U-Haul."

Now, 13 years later, the American Pickers want to return to the Ocean State.

The legendary reality TV screen antique hunters and peddlers — sans Fritz — are back on the road and looking for junk (or treasure) hoarders (or collectors).

"One of the things I like about picking is discovering things, finding things, digging them up myself," Wolfe said while touring Ruotolo's barns in Johnston. "And that was a great pick for that."

Most of the junk had been gathered by Paul's late father Thomas "Okee" Ruotolo. The collection included carnival pieces, motorcycles, pinball machines and a vintage mechanical horse-racing game.

Although Fritz has left the show, Wolfe plans to return to Rhode Island in August, and the Pickers are looking for locations to pick and shoot a new episode.

"We love the rich history and stories that are tied to the people of Rhode Island," said Joshua Kerlin, Associate Producer for American Pickers. "We've had great success in New England in the past so we've very excited to be coming back through."

■ PICKERS - PAGE 15



**JUNK EDUCATION:** American Picker Mike Wolfe likes to learn about the history behind each collection. (Photo courtesy American Pickers, History Channel)

**AMERICAN PICKERS:** Mike Wolfe and Danielle Colby are looking for Ocean State collectors who want to show off their collections and shed a few items. According to the show's producers, the "American Pickers are looking for large, rare collections and things they've never seen before." (Photo courtesy American Pickers, History Channel)



# Pickers

(Continued from page 14)

A lot of fans have been missing Frank on the show's most recent episodes.

"Frank is no longer with us and we wish him well," Kerlin said via email, when asked who's on the current American Pickers roster. "The Pickers now are Mike and his brother Robbie, as well as Danielle."

The show's producers sent out a press release earlier this month, calling all collectors:

"The American Pickers are excited to return to Rhode Island! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout your area in August 2023."

Wolfe and Fritz bought an Evel Knievel pinball machine from Ruotolo. They also dug a wooden horse-racing game from the back of a barn.

Ruotolo told them his father likely stored the broken down relic back in the 1970s.

"I put that stuff in there with my father when I was a kid," Ruotolo told Wolfe during the July 2010 taping. "It kind of brought back memories for me."

"This is the kind of stuff that we live for," Fritz said to the camera. "Old barns — stuff that's been out of sight (and) hasn't been seen for 15 years."

Wolfe balked at Ruotolo's \$300 opening price for the horse-racing game. Ruotolo said he always had aspirations of restoring the item.

"Some things I budged on, no problem," Ruotolo told Wolfe.

"I had a feeling about this piece," Wolfe told the camera. "I needed to have it."

Wolfe offered \$200. Ruotolo stood firm. Wolfe countered with \$250. Ruotolo didn't budge.

Wolfe blinked and scooped it up for \$300. On a later episode, following an expert appraisal, the item was valued at far more than the pickers paid.

"This place turned out to be a real honey hole," Wolfe said to end the segment. "It was amazing to go through this stuff, climbing over, getting under things ... It was a great pick."

Typically, before a visit to the state, the American Pickers' production staff starts searching for collectors, so the show's stars won't have to "freestyle" their way through Rhode Island.

"We're looking for leads throughout the state, specifically interesting characters with fascinating items," Kerlin wrote to local media outlets. "The way we find people and collections for our show is through spreading the word far and wide so that people know we're coming to town."

"I hope I see them again," Ruotolo said after bidding the pickers farewell. "I hope they come by and even if we're not buying and selling we'll just go for a beer."

"The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure," according to the show's producers. "If you or someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell ... we would love to hear from you."

The American Pickers made later, subsequent trips to Rhode Island, picking a Newport Mansion for a 2014 episode and buying a motorcycle in Pawtucket while filming a 2016 episode.

The producers warn that the American Pickers have a rule against picking "stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public."

If interested there's still time to send them "your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com" or call 646-493-2184 (or via Facebook @GotAPick).

"I'm junk drunk right now," Wolfe told the TV audience, following the 2010 Johnston episode titled "What's in the Box?" (Season 3, Episode 3). "That was an awesome pick."

**AMERICAN PICKERS**

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**RHODE ISLAND PICKERS:** The American Pickers visited the Ocean State at least three times in the past. They stopped by Johnston in 2010, and filmed a 2014 episode in Newport and a 2016 episode in Pawtucket. They're looking for new stops for their planned August return to Rhode Island. (Screen capture)



**JOHNSTON HONEY HOLE:** In July 2010, the American Pickers stopped by a Simonsville Avenue property and found a "honey hole." As they arrived, they shook hands with Johnston resident Paul Ruotolo. (Screen capture)

# Philharmonic tribute to The Movie Maestro at Roger Williams Park on Aug. 2

The Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra presents its Summer Pops 2023 Series – The Movie Maestro: A Tribute to John Williams with Troy Quinn, conductor. The Summer Pops honors John Williams, the iconic film composer with 53 Oscar Award nominations – he is the second most-nominated individual behind Walt Disney. Remaining concerts in the series are at Roger Williams Park in Providence (August 2) and Slater Park in Pawtucket (September 9).

The concert features some of John Williams' most memorable music including the "Imperial March" from Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back and the theme from Jurassic Park. Williams, in a career spanning five decades, has become one of America's most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage. He has served as music director and laureate conductor of one of the country's treasured musical institutions, the Boston Pops Orchestra, and he maintains thriving artistic relationships with many of the world's great orchestras, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Mr. Williams has received a variety of prestigious awards, including the National Medal of Arts, the Kennedy Center Honor, the Olympic Order, and numerous Academy Awards, Grammy Awards, Emmy Awards and Golden Globe Awards. He remains one of our nation's most distinguished and contributive musical voices.

"John Williams' music is especially accessible as multiple generations connect with films like Star Wars, Harry Potter, and E.T.: The Extra-terrestrial and we are so excited to share it with our Summer Pops audience," said David Beauchesne, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School. "We are also thrilled to welcome back Troy Quinn for his third year conducting our Summer Pops concert series. This series is one of our favorites as we are able to travel all around Rhode Island bringing free music to residents of all ages. We look forward to creating magical moments together as our audiences enjoy a live orchestra under the stars."

For more information visit [riphil.org/summer-pops](http://riphil.org/summer-pops)

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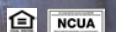


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# 5 bands & musicians you can't miss at this year's Newport Folk Festival

By **ROB DUGUAY**

This weekend from July 28 - 30, one of the prime events of the summer will be taking place at Fort Adams in Newport. It's the Newport Folk Festival and it'll be once again happening in one of the most idyllic settings in Rhode Island with a stacked bill of music occurring on numerous stages. This is one of the many reasons why it's one of the hottest tickets you can get during the music festival season and you never know who is going to show up. For example, both Paul Simon and Joni Mitchell made surprise appearances during last year's edition of the festival and people are still talking about it a year later. For the ones who are guaranteed to make an appearance, here are five of them that shouldn't be overlooked.

tival. Once you check out their stellar recordings, I'm willing to bet that you'll feel a similar way.

**The Hold Steady**  
**July 29 @ Quad Stage**  
**2:50 - 3:40pm**

Another band taking part in Newport Folk that released a new album this year is The Hold Steady from Brooklyn, who released "The Price of Progress" on March 31. Their upcoming set is probably going to piss off a few "folk purists", and part of me can't believe those people still exist, due to Craig Finn and the crew having a rock & roll sound. Regardless, what these guys bring on Saturday should be something special.

**Aimee Mann**  
**July 29 @ Harbor Stage**  
**5:05 - 6:05pm**

Aimee Mann has had a unique journey with her music career ever since she started out in Boston while attending the Berklee College of Music during the '80s. She was in the alt-rock act The Young Snakes, then briefly with the industrial metal icons Ministry before co-founding the new wave band Til' Tuesday and releasing a top ten single with "Voices Carry". She's been a prolific songwriter and collaborator since those days and it'll be cool seeing her exhibit her pure acoustic essence as a musician when she performs on Saturday.

**Dan Blakeslee**  
**July 30 @ Fort Stage**  
**11:25 - 11:55am**

Kicking off the last day on the biggest stage is Dan Blakeslee, who is an absolute New England treasure. Chances are that you've seen the South Berwick, Maine native busking at the entrance and exit of the festival grounds over the years and it's going to be awesome seeing him perform in such a big setting. Rumor has it that his backing band known as The Calabash Club will be joining him, but the only way to find out is by showing up and checking his set out.

**Eastern Medicine Singers**  
**July 28 @ Fort Stage**  
**12:25 - 1:20pm**

A local Algonquin Drum Group from both Providence and Woonsocket, the Eastern Medicine Singers are a musical entity that's dedicated to maintaining the American Indian culture of the eastern woodlands and keeping it intact. They sing and drum in the language of Massachusetts and Wampanoag dialect while often making the audience move around in a vibrant fashion. This is bound to be an extraordinary experience to witness on the festival's biggest stage, especially with guitar phenom Yonatan Gat and Lee Ranaldo from New York City noise rock pioneers Sonic Youth joining in on their performance.

**Nickel Creek**  
**July 28 @ Quad Stage**  
**4:10 - 5:10pm**

Nickel Creek's latest album "Celebrants" that came out on March 24 is the first release from the trio of mandolinist Chris Thile, fiddle player Sara Witkins and her brother on Sean on guitar in nearly a decade, and in my opinion it's one of the best records to come out so far this year. This is why I'm personally excited to see them play during the first day of the fes-

Eastern Medicine Singers (Submitted photo)



Nickel Creek (Photo by Josh Goleman)



The Hold Steady (Photo by Shervin Lainez)



Aimee Mann (Photo by Scott Kowalchyk)



Dan Blakeslee (Photo by Melody Matters)



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By JENNIFER COATES

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# Sports

## JMCE co-ed golf outing returns

By PETE FONTAINE

It's one of the state's most unique sporting events.

It's held at a picturesque and historic venues and begins with lunch and concludes with a delicious dinner.

It's entitled the JMCE Hasbro Children's Golf Event and is played in memory of the late Raymond Johnson, John Furia, Frances Grasso, Sal Gelsomino, Anna Mazzulla and Laura DeAngelis.

More importantly the JMCE Co-Ed Memorial Golf Tournament, as it's also known, will benefit the extraordinary Hematology/Oncology Departments at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence.

There are many reasons why the tournament, which will tee off on Sunday, September 24, is unique because the host historic Gloucester Country Club makes it possible for ALL proceeds to be donated to the nationally acclaimed Hasbro Children's Hospital.

A few years back, you see, the membership at GCC adopted Hasbro Children's Hospital as its designed charity and thus waves all playing fees for the tournament, as many members of the lakeside layout in Chepachet are



**TOURNEY TROUPE:** Among those JMCE and GCC members who are organizing the September 24 Hasbro Children's Hospital Golf Event are Kay Kernan, David and Judi Graham, Vinny and Linda LaFazia, Dewey and Tracy Uriati. Missing is Greg Kernan. (Submitted photo)

JMCE - PAGE 21



**NEW KIDS IN TOWN:** The Johnston Little League 8-U tournament team. (Submitted photo)

## JLL introduces new tournament team

By ALEX SPONSELLER

Johnston Little League added a new team to its summer roster this year as it reintroduced its 8-U tournament club after multiple seasons away.

The JLL 8-U team has been competing against various other 8-U clubs in the region and got its first taste of success last week when it won its first game of the season.

As more Little Leagues in the state have begun to introduce these 8-U tournament teams, Johnston was excited to get on board to keep pace with some of the other local organizations. The goal is to establish an even stronger feeder system within the town while also giving kids even more opportunity to learn the game and have fun during the summer months.

"Our board, directed by (JLL president) Joe Splendorio and myself, are determined to make this league a model league in the state," said JLL vice president Mike Orsini. "These kids are the future of our league and we understand that to be a contender at 12 (years old), these kids need to start playing together early."

The team has been managed by minor league commissioner Joe Micheletti and a team of volunteers behind him.

Orsini credits Micheletti for continuing to develop the town's young talent while establishing a culture of fun and camaraderie.

"Joe Micheletti, our minor league commissioner, has been doing a fantastic job and our coaching staff is all volunteer. They are also buying into the idea of developing these kids while keeping it fun and memorable. We are so proud of our coaches and kids," said Orsini.

Members of the new JLL 8-U tournament team include: Angelo Serapiglia, Antonio Micheletti, Bryce Parenteau, Cristiano Travisono, Efrain Herrera, Evan Young, Jack Kelly, Jeremiah Seitz, Liam Heywood, Luca Orsini, Lucas Proulx, Max Batista, Nolan Rego and Zack Whiting.





**FUN FIELD:** These are the players who paired in twos for the first-ever Oakland Beach Firemen's Club Cornhole Tournament. (Warwick Beacon photos by Pete Fontaine)

# OBVF cornhole tourney raises over \$3k for charity

By PETE FONTAINE

It's called Cornhole and is played everywhere; even televised on national networks such as ESPN, college campuses, neighborhood bars, social and fraternal clubs and in people's backyards, just to name a few.

Last Saturday, the Oakland Beach Volunteer Firemen's Club held its first-ever cornhole tournament that was a smash success and will benefit two important charities – the Gianna Cirella Memorial Foundation and PAN-CAN – and featured 16 two-player teams, 42 raffle prizes, a chicken dinner and turned into an extraordinary event that will be back again next year.

"Everybody had F-U-N!" exclaimed chairman Bob "Bubba" Hazelwood who also coordinated the OBVF's popular 8-week Wednesday Night summer league. "We had lots of support, and we took in \$3,100 that will benefit the Gianna Cirella Memorial Foundation and PAN-CAN (Pancreatic Cancer organization) will receive \$1,500 each."

From the time people checked in inside the 100-year-old plus Fire Barn and enjoyed fun-filled competition as well as a Chicken Dinner cooked by Chef Merrill Leveillee, his father Moe and Rosa David, people's generosity rang loud and clear whether it was placing raffle tickets into bags in hopes of winning valuable prizes, buying 50/50 tickets at a table manned by Marie Cavanaugh or enjoying a "pause for the cause" at the OBVF's tiki bar.

When asked about the 42 raffle prizes – and two cornhole boards featuring the OBVF logo – ladies like Louis DeGaetano and Holly Swift emphasized: "We put the call out to our members, and they responded. We also had support from some of the distributors." Perhaps what was even more impressive, Hazelwood and many OBVF members explained, all 42 raffle prizes donated.

Which people like President Ron Manfredo, Jeff Swift, John "Diggs" DeGaetano, Hazelwood will tell you, "Has always been

commonplace at the camaraderie filled club on Oakland Beach Avenue in Warwick."

"We had a GREAT day," said Hazelwood while announcing that Jay Almeida and Manny Saliva defeated DJ Kowalik and Christian Bica in the finals. Meanwhile, Hazelwood's wife Kim and their son Bob finished third. "But everyone was a winner and helped support two important charities."

The first was the award-winning Gianna Cirella Memorial Fund, named in honor the daughter of Stanley "Skip" Cirella and his wife Tara who succumbed to a battle with Sepsis at age 16 and PAN-CAN in honor of Denise Cahoon Mattox, sister of OBVF member Deb Cahoon who lost a battle with Pancreatic Center.

Thus, "Team OBVF" recorded yet another super special success to its storied tradition such as the heartwarming and hospitality filled dinner that's served at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter as well as its Friday Food Nights.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Bonus materials
- 7. Formal names
- 13. Free from restraints
- 14. One who scrapes away
- 16. Type of device
- 17. Skin cancers
- 19. The Show Me State
- 20. Plate glasses
- 22. Red-brown sea bream
- 23. Small (Fr.)
- 25. Flightless Australian birds
- 26. High IQ group
- 28. Stiff structures
- 29. Revolutions per minute
- 30. Where a bachelor lives
- 31. Licensed for Wall Street
- 33. A place to park
- 34. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 36. An important creed in Catholic Church
- 38. 18-year astronomical period
- 40. Furies
- 41. Removes from the record
- 43. Noted child psychiatrist
- 44. Feline
- 45. High schoolers' test
- 47. Not happy

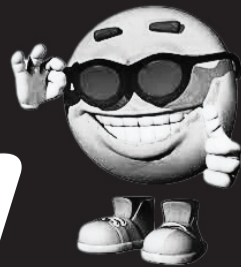
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Settle in tents
- 2. Big
- 3. Books
- 4. Masses of eggs in fish
- 5. Language
- 6. Not standing
- 7. Chinese philosophy
- 8. Computer giant
- 9. A device to catch
- 10. Emits coherent radiation
- 11. Actor O'Neill
- 12. Smallest interval in western music
- 13. Not lower
- 15. Revolves
- 18. Leavened bread
- 21. Number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Cable
- 26. Adult male
- 27. Airborne (abbr.)
- 30. Bullfighting maneuvers
- 32. Broadcast
- 35. \_\_\_ Angeles
- 37. Vehicle
- 38. Not religious
- 39. North American peoples
- 42. A baglike structure
- 43. Body art (slang)
- 46. Picked for a role
- 47. Actress Tomei
- 49. Former hoopster "Big Country"
- 50. Icelandic poems
- 52. More pleasant
- 54. It can add flavor to meat
- 55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 57. Expression of annoyance
- 59. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Body part
- 66. Thus
- 68. In reply (abbr.)



**TERRIFIC TEAM:** Among the members of the Oakland Beach Firemen's Club who helped make Saturday's first-ever Cornhole Tournament an overwhelming success were: Ron Manfredo, Lisa Levasseur, Angel Legault, Holly Swift, Robin Sweeney, Kim Hazelwood, Marie Cavanaugh, Pam Burnstein, Robin Bellows, Deb Cahoon, Lois DeGaetano and Dave Desplaines.

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to be kind





# Block Island Inshore Fishing Tournament big success

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

The Block Island Inshore Fishing Tournament ended Sunday, July 23 with a winning striped bass measuring 48 inches caught by team "Frayed Knot" led by Capt. Richard Lipsitz of North Kingstown with the Best Scenic Photo in the Block Island Wind Farm going to Dariusz Kolodziejczak of Johnston.

The First Place Team category saw a three way tie between team Tightlined led by Taylor Ingraham of Norwalk, CT; Defiant led by Eugene Burger of Cutchogue, NY; and team Grateful 5 including Rick Black, Dustin James as well as Flynn, Hayes and Tucker Jansen who were also awarded the Best Team photo in the Block Island Wind Farm area.

Angler Colin Mansfield of Medford, MA dominated the shore division with a 29-inch striped bass and a 33-inch bluefish taking first place for both shore division species.

Twenty-five teams participated in the two day event. Capt. Chris Willi of Block Island Fishworks, tournament host, said, "We increased participation by a third for a total of 122 anglers and we were able to make a \$6,000 contribution to the Block Island Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department."

Capt. Willi said, "Thanks to Ørsted (owners of the Block Island Wind Farm) and their sponsorship of the Tournament we were able to donate 100 percent of Tournament fees to the Fire & Rescue Department along with a gift from Capt. Nick's Rock & Roll Bar where the Tournament awards ceremony was held."

Over \$10,000 in prizes, gift cards and tournament

swag were awarded at the "After Party" on Sunday at 2 p.m.

The Tournament included shore, fly fishing, youth and boat divisions. Striped bass and bluefish for all divisions plus black sea bass and fluke for boat and youth divisions. Also, a team prize with photo division prizes taken with the Block Island Wind Farm in background were awarded for best fish, best scenic and best team photos.

Tournament co-sponsors were Whalers Brewing, South Kingstown; Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle, North Kingstown; The Saltwater Edge, Middletown; Ocean State Tackle, Providence; Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown; and Watch Hill Outfitters, Westerly.

Visit [www.SandyPoint-Co.com/bi-inshore-tourney](http://www.SandyPoint-Co.com/bi-inshore-tourney) for full Tournament results once they become available.

### Where's the bite?

Tuna. "Customers are hooking up with school bluefin tuna about seven miles south of Beavertail. A customer was reeling up to heavy up on her jig when their first bluefin hit," said Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick.

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "Off-shore reports have been very good with bluefin, and yellowfin tuna being caught south of the island. Most of the action has been on the troll but a few fish are being caught jigging."

Summer flounder (fluke), black sea bass and scup. O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, said, "The fluke bite in local waters has been good still a lot of shorts but some nice fish mixed in (7-8lb). A new batch of



**BEST TEAM PHOTO:** Best Team Photo in Block Island Tournament was awarded to team 'Defiant' for this photo taken in the Block Island Wind Farm with some nice fluke caught by young anglers.

squid just moved in with plenty of other bait in the water to keep them satisfied. A trick while targeting fluke when the tide is slow or slack is to cast out, let your bucktail sink to the bottom, and then retrieve."

Last week angler Shaina Boyle of Smithfield caught a 27-inch fluke drifting north of the Newport Bridge with an incoming tide.

John Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle, Riverside, said "Fluke fishing and black sea bass fishing

have not been good. Anglers are catching both species in the Bay but mostly shorts. The scup bite remains strong in the Bay."

"The scup bite is very strong with 14 to 16 inch fish being caught at the Newport and Jamestown Bridges. Anglers are killing it at Rocky Point Pier catching large scup, with the Greenwich Bay area yielding some nice squeeteague at Sally Rock and anglers are catching keeper fluke at Warwick Light," said Giddings of the Tackle Box.

Striped bass. Littlefield of Archie's said, "The striped bass bite in the Providence River is not

good. The water is very warm. Last week it was 82 degrees."

The bass bite at Block Island on the Southwest Ledge remains strong with multiple bass in the 40 to 50 inch range being taken. O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, said, "Striped bass fishing is still very good but, as the water continues to warm the bite is better earlier in the morning or at night. Also try live eels on deeper pieces of structure to try to lure the fish out. The ponds have been coming alive on the incoming tides with stripers coming airborne after sand eels."

Greg Vespe of Tiverton

caught his personal best last week, a 51-inch, 52-pound striped bass he caught off Newport free swimming an eel with Capt. Mike Littlefield of ArchAngel Charters.

Freshwater fishing for largemouth bass continues to be good early morning and at dusk when things cool off or when anglers target shaded areas under trees. "Little Pond behind Warwick Vets is yielding largemouth bass in the four pound range, and we are just starting to hear that customers are catching Pike at Gorton's Pond in the Apponaug, Warwick," said Giddings of the Tackle Box.

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**FAMILY FISHING:** Shaina Boyle and her father Gary Vandemoortele both of Smithfield, RI with the 27-inch summer flounder Shaina caught fishing the Newport Bridge area last week. (Submitted photo)



# Bergeron an understated great

Tuesday was a whopper of a news day for Boston sports which is unusual in the summer. Although I had a few topics to touch on, there was just too much national news to chew on that broke.

Here are a few thoughts on all of the news that unfolded:

In my opinion, the biggest story to break was Patrice Bergeron. The Bruins' captain and longtime standout center announced his retirement after 19 historic seasons and in my eyes, he should be considered one of the best athletes to come to Boston.

Bergeron was the model of consistency both on and off the ice. Sure, he was never the best player in the league, but he was always above average and finished his career as the all-time leader in Selke Awards. Not many players can say that they were above average for 19 seasons, but he is one of the few that can say that.

He was the best two-way player ever, arguably, and was a leader early in his career. Although Zdeno Chara wore the "C" for much of Bergeron's tenure, everyone in the city knew that it was just as much Bergeron's team as it was Chara's. One of the most satisfying feelings was the first time Bergeron skated on the ice with the "C" a few years back after Chara left. It was a longtime coming and a title that he earned years earlier.

It is a shame that Bergeron walks away with just one championship ring. For the player that he was and some of the talented rosters behind him, it just feels like even just

## My pitch



by  
ALEX  
SPONSELLER  
SPORTS EDITOR

ALEXS@  
RHODYBEAT.COM

one more could have happened. They lost in the Stanley Cup Finals twice and each of them burned because we all knew that the Bruins could have won. If Bergeron added just one more title to his resume, I truly believe he'd have a case as the franchise's best player of all time, even above Bobby Orr.

It is what it is, though, and either way, Bergeron is an all-time Bruin and an all-time player. It will be interesting if the NHL Hall of Fame recognizes him as such considering he never won an MVP, but I do believe the Selke Awards should absolutely be enough to get him in. In fact, I'd say to exclude him would be a gigantic oversight. It would be inexcusable.

Next up is the Boston Celtics extending Jaylen Brown and giving him a super max deal that exceeds \$300 million in value. It is an overpayment, but the reality in professional sports these days is that if you want the player, you need to cough up more than what should be necessary.

I like Brown as a player, I do. He's talented, experienced and plays with an edge that the rest of the Celtics roster has lacked over the past few years. This team continues to be a perennial playoff

squad but is missing that x-factor. Although Brown has come up short, I do believe he is a worthy piece to keep in the building.

It is an overpayment, though, don't let my compliments fool you. He is now the highest-paid player in the history of the league which is absurd.

Again, anytime a big player gets a new deal it reestablishes the market just as this contract extension did. Brown is a very good player, but not a guy that will lead a team to a championship as its best asset. Most people refer to him as a No. 2, when in my eyes, he's a No. 3 on a championship team. A valuable player that is top, say, 30 in the league, but certainly closer to 30 than 1.

Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum are one of the best young duos in the league and locking Brown down will now give the Celtics a chance at a title every year. I don't like their mental makeups, but physically, they're as good as a 1-2 punch as any. I like the signing, but don't love it.

The third item that broke, well items, were the returns of Jack Jones and Lawrence Guy to the Patriots just in time for training camp, which started on Wednesday.

Jones was arrested at Logan Airport back in June for carrying multiple, loaded firearms in his carry on luggage. Guy skipped OTA's in May and June over a contract dispute. No one was sure if they'd be back in the building in time for camp, so it was a relief to see them report.

Guy has been a model citizen for the Patriots since joining the team a few years ago

and is one of the most underrated players at his position. It sounds like cooler heads will prevail when it comes to his contract which is important.

As for Jones, he is due back in court in August. Not sure how the legal process will play out, but if he misses time this season, and he could potentially be facing significant jail time, that would be a massive blow to the defense. Having him in the building is a positive sign, but Patriots fans should be holding their collective breaths as the weeks go on.

## JMCE

(Continued from page 18)

long-standing officials/organizers for the storied Johnston Memorial Cancer Events, a 501c3 non-profit.

Also, the 18-hole scramble format tourney is open only to 16 foursomes and will tee off at 1 o'clock after players enjoy the JMCE's special lunch.

In addition to golf, the fun-filled event also benefits from memorial and business tee signs that even non-golfers have purchased for the now 8-year-old tournament. They're for \$75 and \$60 respectively.

"We're hoping for great weather and another sell-out," said Judi Graham, a GCC member/tournament founder. "There's nothing like playing golf on a sunny September afternoon, having lunch/dinner with your friends and helping children who have sadly been stricken by and battling cancer."

If you'd like to enter a foursome, please call Graham at 401-497-2952 or by email at judi@graham-builders.com. Also, entries may be sent to Linda LaFazia, yet another JMCE officer who is part of the close-knit group of friends who continue to raise money for Hasbro Children's Hospital. LaFazia may be reached at 401-233-2564 or fazigilly54@gmail.com.

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# RIC athletes named to LEC All-Academic squad

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

Fifteen Rhode Island College student-athletes were named to the 2023 Little East Conference Spring All-Academic team as announced by the league office.

Student-athletes earned recognition on the all-academic teams based on the following criteria: at least a sophomore in academic and athletic standing and a minimum cumulative grade point average of a 3.3. The conference office honored student-athletes in the following sports that RIC sponsors: baseball, women's lacrosse, softball and men's outdoor track & field.

**BASEBALL:** Junior David Iannucilli (Johnston, R.I.), junior Cal Parrillo (Greenville, R.I.), sophomore Lucas Pierce (Chepachet, R.I.), sophomore Joseph Pitrone III (Smithfield, R.I.) and senior Cole Podedworny (Wakefield, R.I.).

**WOMEN'S LACROSSE:** Sophomore Hannah Marley (Tiverton, R.I.), senior Shannon O'Connell (Narragansett, R.I.) and senior Ashley Rewers (Oakdale, Conn.).

**SOFTBALL:** Junior Katelyn Ashe (Colchester, Conn.), senior Alexis Boyce (Wolcott, Conn.), sophomore Abby Clesas (Johnston, R.I.), sophomore Amanda Conti (Lincoln, R.I.), junior Avery Katz (Brookfield, Conn.) and senior Shannon McDonald (Saunderstown, R.I.).

**MEN'S TRACK & FIELD:** Junior Christopher McCarthy (Cranston, R.I.).

**Former All-American Sears Picked by Detroit Tigers in MLB Draft**

Former All-American pitcher Andrew Sears (West Warwick, R.I.) was picked by the Detroit Tigers in the 10th Round (290th overall) of the 2023 Major League Baseball Draft.

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# African American elections in Warwick

## Back in the Day



by  
KELLY  
SULLIVAN

Located at the junction of Sheldon Avenue and Shirley Street is a 25-by-25-foot burial lot enclosed with iron posts and chains. Within the boundaries lay the remains of at least 11 individuals; 10 beneath etched stones and one beneath a simple fieldstone. In 1891, the area was visited by historian James Arnold, who meticulously recorded cemeteries around the state, and he noted "We are told these are colored people."

The RI Historic Cemetery Commission mentions on their website that the area around this Warwick cemetery had once been known as 'New Guinea' due to the number of African-Americans who settled there after slavery was abolished in RI.

By the mid-20th century, this cemetery, with its slate stones dating from 1760 to 1861, was hidden within tall grasses, the ground neglected and the stones falling and sinking into the ground. Known as Warwick Cemetery No. 105, the 'Lippitt/Spywood Lot', the individuals known to be buried there are:

Hannah Spywood, who died in 1760. The RIHCC notes that Hannah was mentioned in the diary of Samuel Tillinghast and was referred to as an "Indian woman."

William Lippitt (1763-1836), who was born into slavery and had been owned by Moses Lippitt; and his wife Patience (East) Lippitt (1768-1851). They had been married by Elder Abraham Lippitt in 1786.

The sons of William and Patience; James Lippitt (1791-1826) and Joseph Lippitt (1800-1829).

The daughter of William and Patience, Nancy (Lippitt) Spywood (1788-1844) and her husband James Spywood (1777-1846) who had been married by Elder Samuel Littlefield on Aug. 30, 1804. Their daughter Ann Eliza Spywood (1812-1833) is also buried there along with Charles Spywood (1804-1863).

Rhoda Arnold (1734-1829), the daughter of Thomas Arnold, and Patty Cheese (1786-1861), the daughter of Pero and Violet Lippitt.

Old records of Warwick identify those with the surname 'Spywood' as 'Indian', 'black' or 'mulatto', which means of mixed African and European genes. In 1750, a child named Elisaberg Spywood was identified as an "Indian" and bound out to Samuel Stafford. In 1774, the home

of Samson Spywood contained 'six Indians.' And in 1782, the 'Master' of 14-year-old Samuel Spywood was contracted to teach him to read but not to write.

At one time, Diadami Spywood's three-year-old daughter Lucy was deemed likely to become a charge on the Town of Warwick so was bound out to William Burton of Cranston. He agreed to raise her until the age of 18, providing room, board and clothing in exchange for payment of nine pounds.

George Spywood, who was born in 1801 to a Narragansett father and a Mashpee mother, was bound out to white residents as a child. At the age of 15, he witnessed his first Methodist service. As an adult, he went to sea but returned to Warwick and became a Methodist minister.

Members of the Spywood family of Warwick are mentioned frequently in the papers of Benoni Waterman who owned a shipping business. The document collection is housed at the RI Historical Society.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, African-American slaves and servants across America began staging their own "Elections" each June. The event involved eating, drinking, fiddling, dancing and fighting. The men dressed in their best clothes while the woman almost always wore white.

The earliest known African-American elections in RI happened in Newport in 1756 and included over 1,300 people, most of them slaves. Records state that, after witnessing the pride and ambition of Europeans during elections, they wanted to have their own. That June, the votes went into a ballot box as each voter was called up by name. After the votes were counted, the elected man, referred to as the Governor, was escorted to the large tree at the head of Thames Street. The celebration included singing in African and English as well as music provided by fiddles, tambourines, banjos and drums.

Those who attended "The Colored Church on the Plains" gathered in Apponaug for their 19th-century elections. Elections were also held in the old Arnold Tavern where a large hall had been built on the east end with a spring floor for dancing. By 10:00 on the morning of the event, the fiddlers would be there tuning their instruments and putting rosin on their bows.

The election always included a great dinner. Usually, a whole pig would be roasted and put on a large platter, posed to stand on its feet with a lemon in its mouth. Rounding out the meal would often be roast turkey, chicken pie, mince pie, apple pie, cheese pie, oranges and cake.

The purpose of the elections was for African-Americans to have the opportunity to run, campaign and vote for those whom they wanted to represent their rights and interests, among themselves. Two men would then face off against each other. Each would stand with his supporters behind him, in two single lines which often stretched from the tavern to nearly as far as the schoolhouse on the hill. Whoever had the longest line was declared to be Governor over the other African-Americans in their vicinity. Duties included settling arguments between those in the African-American community and making arrangements for the next year's elections.

After the winner was announced, the card-playing, dice-rolling, dancing and drinking began. Those who liked to gamble could step up to the two barrels holding a board, a game of chance in which pennies could be placed in desired spots. The tavern's barroom was located under the hall and, typically, two or three bartenders would be working on the day of an elections to fill the beverage orders which came in from both sexes. As the day went on and attendees began showing signs of intoxication, the bartenders simply watered the drinks down to assure the celebration could continue. The dancing usually went

on all night and everyone returned to their homes the next morning.

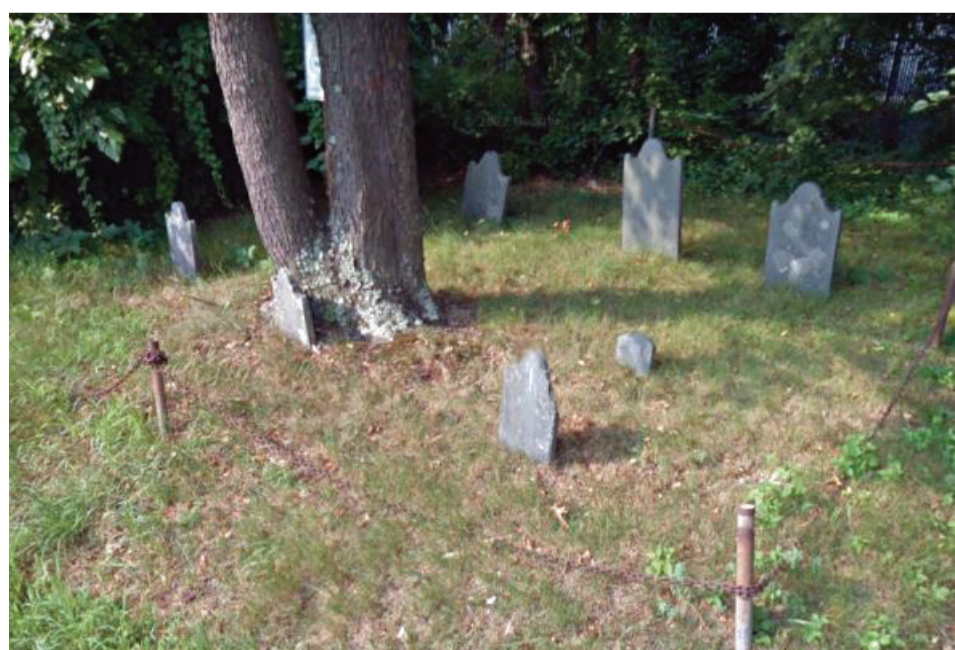
The line of chosen Governors at those tavern elections included Cato Holden and George Eldridge. One man who always attended was a rum-lover named Bill Bliss. Each year, he brought a whip to the event and showed off, cracking it loudly. Everyone knew, however, that although Bill could afford a whip, he couldn't afford a team of horses.

A lot of attention centered on Bill Bliss during each election, because of the cracking whip as well as other reasons. He had been born with an abnormally large mouth and tongue. To the amusement of everyone, he would stick his tongue in his left ear, then his right.

Another regular at the tavern elections was a butcher named Joe Prophet, also known as "Uncle Joe." Hovering over the crowd as the tallest man there, his face was said to never be without a smile. Prime Perry, a small, slender man with a very dark complexion greatly enjoyed the dancing at the elections. Peter Rosser, a large man who worked as a teamster for a manufacturing company, seemed to be there simply for the intoxicants. Eventually he would get drunk and engage in violent fights with those in his company.

The white men around the country who owned or employed the African-Americans who took part in the elections of the 18th and 19th century, collectively approved of the event. Most felt it was beneficial to have African-Americans governing among themselves, making each other abide by rules and condemning such things as larceny and immorality. Eventually, the elections ceased and many believed it was because the church and the Lord had been powerful enough to turn African-Americans toward sobriety and away from alcohol-fueled celebrations.

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



**AFRICAN-AMERICAN CEMETERY:** The Lippitt-Spywood Cemetery in Warwick as provided by Mark Brown, who serves on the Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries as well as the Warwick Historical Society.



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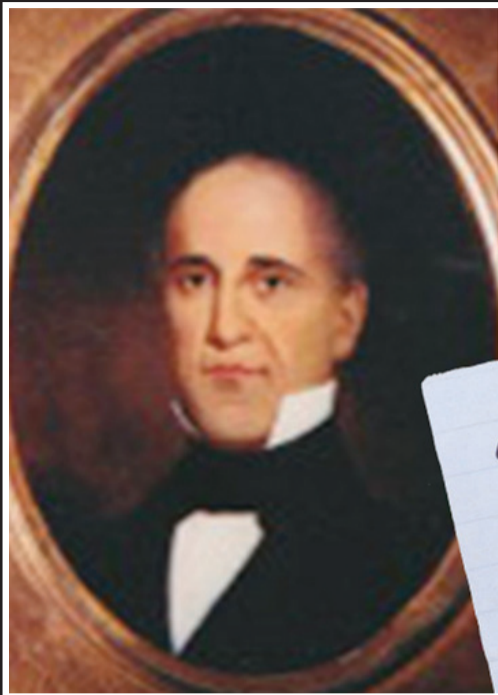
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## An Identified Confederate Officer's Uniform



**By Joel Bohy**  
*Historic Arms & Militaria*  
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 Cranston, RI

Military clothing has always fascinated me. Thirty years ago, I began studying Civil War uniforms and reproducing some of them for historical interpretation. Surviving Confederate uniforms are fairly rare, and when they are identified it adds a great human element to them.

I received a uniform from a museum who had deaccessioned it as it was not related to their mission. The records as well as the name written in the back of the coat and the pocket of the trousers identify it as belonging to Johnston De Lagnel. He was born in New York in 1831 to a military family. His father, Julius Adolphus De Lagnel was an army ordnance officer who died in 1840. In his youth, Johnston ended up in Alexandria, Virginia with his brother, Julius Adolphus De Lagnel. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, both brothers joined the Confederacy.

Johnston was a captain in the 20th Battalion Virginia Artillery and manned heavy guns around Yorktown, Virginia in 1861 and 1862. By late 1863, he was stationed in Charleston, South Carolina. While there, he had C.D. Carr, a tailor on Broad Street, make him this

uniform as the original receipt was still in the pocket. There are a handful of surviving uniforms made by Carr and they have some distinct features. Sadly, De Lagnel didn't have much of a chance to wear his new uniform as he died on April 7, 1864, of pneumonia and his body was shipped by steamer back to Alexandria.

The coat is made from cadet gray superfine broadcloth with bright red superfine broadcloth collar, cuffs, and piping. The cut of the front around the chest is a Carr signature. The coat has some Confederate staff buttons; however, someone stole some of the buttons off the front when it was being displayed at some point. The lining is green wool/silk blend, and the sleeves are plain woven white cotton. The collar has another Carr feature: gold embroidery to denote a captain. The sleeves are adorned with two rows of gold galloon. The trousers are made from the same cadet gray with bright red welts set into the out seams. The cotton watch pocket is marked on the outside "Capt. J De Lagnel" and has the inseam and waist measurements on the back side of the bag.

One of the very cool things about this uniform is the original receipt for its purchase from C.D. Carr. It is dated January 20, 1864, and he was charged \$200.00 Confederate for making and trimming the coat, and \$30.00 for the trousers. Although the uniform could be attributed to Carr, the receipt is the icing on the cake.

It does need a little conservation work and some replaced buttons, but it is still a wonderful piece of Civil War history that has survived the ravages of time ... and the moths.



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## Building Your Dream Home Anytime, Anywhere



Photo courtesy of Laurey Glenn and Paragon Building Group

## 5 TIPS TO CREATE A COMFORTABLE FOREVER HOME

### FAMILY FEATURES

For most homebuyers, their dream homes are not something they're likely to find already on the market. With a unique vision of your dream home's look, location and features, building a custom home is generally the easiest way to make that dream a reality.

To keep things moving as smoothly as possible amid what can be a complicated process, consider these tips as you embark on the journey.

### Set a Realistic Budget

You'll need to start by determining how much you can spend on your house. Typically, the cost of building a home is around \$100-\$200 per square foot, according to research from HomeAdvisor. You'll also need to account for the lot price as well as design fees, taxes, permits, materials and labor. Materials and labor should make up about 75% of the total amount spent, but it's wise to build in a buffer for price changes and overages.



Matt Blashaw

While building your budget, consider what items and features are "must-haves" and things that should only be included if your budget allows.

### Identify the Perfect Location

Think about where you'd like to live and research comparable lots and properties in those areas, which can give you a better idea of costs. Because the features of many dream homes require a wider footprint, you may need to build outside of city limits, which can make natural gas more difficult to access. Consider propane instead, which can do everything natural gas can and go where natural gas cannot or where it is cost prohibitive to run a natural gas line. Propane also reduces dependence on the electrical grid, and a propane standby generator can safeguard your family if there is a power outage.

"As a real estate agent and builder, I have the pleasure of helping families select their dream homes," said Matt Blashaw, residential contractor, licensed real estate agent and host of HGTV's "Build it Forward." "The homes we design and build are frequently in propane country, or off the natural gas grid. Propane makes it possible to build an affordable and comfortable, high-performing indoor living spaces and dynamic outdoor entertaining areas."

■ BUILDING - NEXT PAGE



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**Summer 2023 Real Estate market shows continued challenges**

Supply of single family, multi family and condominium opportunities remain low while demand is high resulting in price hikes, although at a slower rate than previous months.

Interest rate increases are keeping homeowners in their current homes.

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## ■ Building

(Continued from previous page)

### Keep Universal Design Principles in Mind

Many homebuyers want to ensure their space is accessible to family members and guests both now and for decades to come. As the housing market slows and mortgage rates rise, buyers may look to incorporate features that allow them to age in place. Incorporating principles of universal design – the ability of a space to be understood, accessed and used by people regardless of their age or ability – can make it possible to still enjoy your home even if mobility, vision or other challenges arise as you age.

For example, the entryway could have a ramp or sloped concrete walkway leading to a front door wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair with a barrier-free threshold. Inside, wider hallways and doorways, strategic lighting and appliances installed at lower heights are mainstays of universal design. Counters of varying heights, drop-down cabinet racks and roll-under sinks in kitchens and zero-entry showers, slip-resistant flooring and grab bars in bathrooms offer enhanced accessibility.

### Consider Alternative Energy Sources

With today's electric grid, more than two-thirds of the energy is wasted; it never reaches homes. Unlike electricity, propane is stored in a large tank either above or below ground on the property. A 500-gallon tank can hold enough propane to meet the annual energy needs of an average single-family home – enough to power major systems in a home.

Propane pairs well with other energy sources, including grid electricity and on-site solar, which makes it a viable option for dual-energy homes. Like



Photo courtesy of Laurey Glenn and Paragon Building Group

natural gas, propane can power major appliances such as your furnace, water heater, clothes dryer, fireplace, range and standby generator. Often, propane works more efficiently with fewer greenhouse gas emissions

than electricity, meaning your home is cleaner for the environment.

Propane can even power a whole-home standby generator, which is often a big selling point. When a homeowner purchases a standby generator, a licensed electrician installs the unit outside the home and wires it to the home's circuit breaker. When a power outage occurs, the generator automatically senses the disruption of service and starts the generator's engine, which then delivers power to the home. From the warm, comfortable heat of a propane furnace to the peace of mind offered by a propane standby generator, many homeowners trust propane to provide a safe, efficient, whole-home energy solution.

### Build a Team of Experts

Hiring the right people can make the process of turning your dream into reality go much smoother. Start by researching reputable builders, paying special attention to the types of homes they build to find a style that matches what you're looking for as well as price ranges for past homes they've built. Consider how long the builders have been in business and if they're licensed and insured.

Depending on your builder's capabilities, you may also need to hire an architect or designer. In addition to your real estate agent to assist with purchasing the lot and selling your previous home, you may need assistance from other professionals, such as a real estate attorney, landscape architect and propane supplier. A local propane supplier can work with the builder to install a properly sized propane storage tank either above or below ground and connect appliances.

Find more ideas for building your dream home at Propane.com.

# Propane-Powered Appliances

You may be surprised to learn propane can power major appliances, which can increase the value of a home because of their high performance, efficiency and reduced dependence on the electrical grid.

### Furnace

A propane-powered furnace has a 50% longer lifespan than an electric heat pump, reducing its overall lifetime costs. Propane-powered residential furnaces also emit up to 50% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than electric furnaces and 12% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than furnaces running on oil-based fuels.

### Boiler

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### Standby Generator

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### Clothes Dryer

Propane-powered clothes dryers generate up to 42% fewer greenhouse gas emissions compared to electric dryers. They also dry clothes faster, which can reduce energy use and cost.

### Range

With up to 15% fewer greenhouse gas emissions compared to electric ranges, propane-powered ranges also allow for greater control of heat levels. Plus, their instant flame turnoff capabilities help them cool faster.

### Tankless Water Heater

Propane tankless water heaters have the lowest annual cost of ownership in mixed and cold United States climates when compared with electric water heaters, heat pump water heaters and oil-fueled water heaters. They also only heat water when it is needed, reducing standby losses that come with storage tank water heaters.



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\* Conditions May Apply





**FISH & CHIPS**  
**\$16<sup>99</sup>** *Largest & Freshest in the State*  
 Cole Slaw, Lemon & Tartar Sauce

☆ **AWARD WINNING** ☆  
**CLAM CAKES & CHOWDER**  
**\$8<sup>50</sup>** *WOW!*  
 Red / White RI Clear Loaded with Clams!!  
 An order With Bisque Add \$2.00

**LIVE MUSIC FRI. - SAT. - SUN.** **CUSTOMER APPRECIATION WEEKEND**

**TOMMY'S TRIO**  
 3 Clam Cakes | Cup of Chowder  
 Red-White-RI Clear  
**¾ Lobster Roll**  
 Loaded with 100% Real Lobster  
**\$23<sup>99</sup>**  
 With Bisque Add \$2.00

**SHRIMP BASKET**  
 1/2 lb. Shrimp, Lemon, Cocktail Sauce  
**\$12<sup>99</sup>**

**SHRIMP TEMPURA**  
 Lemon, Orange Ginger Sauce  
**\$9<sup>99</sup>** 5 Ct.

**HOT LOBSTER ROLL**  
 ½ lb. "Fresh" Grilled Brioche  
**WOW! \$29<sup>99</sup>** each  
 With Drawn Butter

**COLD LOBSTER ROLL**  
 ½ lb. 100% Real Lobster  
**WORLD FAMOUS! \$26<sup>99</sup>** each

**KIDS ONLY** Grilled Cheese, Burger, Hot Dog, Chicken Tenders  
**\$5<sup>99</sup>**

*TOMMY'S WORLD FAMOUS*  
**SNAIL SALAD** **\$9<sup>99</sup>**  
 Thinly Sliced Marinated to Perfection

**TACOS**  
**MAHI-MAHI OR SHRIMP**  
 With Lettuce, Pico de Gallo, Spicy Tartar Sauce  
**\$13<sup>99</sup>** 2 Ct.

**LOBSTER BISQUE**  
 With Real Lobster Meat & Sherry  
 Cup **\$7<sup>50</sup>**  
 Pint **\$12<sup>50</sup>**  
 Quart **\$16<sup>50</sup>**

**PT. JUDITH CALAMARI**  
**\$13<sup>99</sup>**  
 Ala Mama, Sticky, Balsamic or Buffalo

**FRIED CLAMS**  
 FRESH WHOLE BELLIES **\$22<sup>99</sup>**  
 JUMBO TENDER STRIPS **\$17<sup>99</sup>**  
*Ipswich Sweet & Tender*

**PET FRIENDLY NEW DAWG MENU**  
 Grilled Hot Dawg **\$3<sup>00</sup>**  
 Hamburger **\$3<sup>00</sup>**  
 Grilled Chicken **\$3<sup>00</sup>**  
 Served with A Dog Biscuit

*TOMMY'S WORLD FAMOUS*  
**"1 LB"** **\$54<sup>99</sup>** each  
**LOBSTER ROLL**  
 1 lb. Fresh 100% Lobster Meat Grilled Brioche Roll & Drawn Butter

**100% NORWEGIAN WILD SALMON BURGER OR HALIBUT BURGER**  
 With Lettuce, Tomato, Remoulade Sauce Grilled Perfectly on Brioche Roll  
**\$14<sup>99</sup>** each

**LOCAL NATIVE SWEET CORN** **\$2<sup>00</sup>** ear

**Sea Something You Like?**  
 Friday thru Sunday 2 PM to Close  
**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STEAMED MUSSELS**  
**WOW! \$9<sup>99</sup>** each  
 With Drawn Butter & Lemon

**STEAMERS**  
 Triple Washed Maine Drawn Butter, Broth & Lemon  
**\$16<sup>99</sup>** 2 lb. pail

**TOMMY'S FAMOUS NEW ENGLAND CLAM BOIL**  
 Steamers, Chorizo, Native Corn, Saugy, Potato, Onion, Piece of Fish  
**\$22<sup>99</sup>** each

**ICE COLD BEER AVAILABLE**  
 Domestic **\$3<sup>00</sup>** Imports **\$4<sup>00</sup>**

**CHOWDER & STARTERS**

- RED, WHITE, or R.I. CLEAR** Cup: **\$5.00** Pt: **\$8.00** Qt: **\$13.99**
- Chowder & Cakes** **\$8.50**
- Pint & Cakes** **\$11.50**
- Bisque & Cakes** **\$11.99**
- Clam Cakes** 1/2 DZ. **\$7.50** 1 DZ. **\$12.50**
- Lobster Bisque** Cup: **\$7.50** Pt: **\$12.50** Qt: **\$16.50**
- Stuffed Quahogs** (ea.) **\$3.99**
- Portuguese Stuff** **\$4.99**
- Shrimp Basket** 1/2lb. **\$13.99**
- Shrimp Tempura** (5) **\$9.99**
- Fried Calamari** **\$13.99** *alla mama, sticky, buffalo*
- Fried Smelts** **\$13.99**
- Crab Cakes** (2) **\$14.99**
- Mozzarella Sticks** (6) **\$7.99**
- Chicken Tenders** (5) **\$7.99**
- Onion Rings** Large! **\$6.99**
- Cheesy Bacon Fries** **\$8.99**
- Fried Double Stuffed Oreo Cookies** (5) **\$7.99**

- SIDES**
- Coleslaw** **\$3.00**
  - Piece of Fish** **\$12.99** **LEMON & TARTAR**
  - Red Bliss Potato Salad** **\$3.00**
  - Fries** Sm: **\$3.00** Lg: **\$4.00**

**ENTREES**  
*All served w/ Fries & Cole Slaw*

- Fish & Chips** **\$16.99** *LARGEST PORTION IN RHODEY!*
- Fried Clams**  
 Whole Bellies **\$22.99**  
 Jumbo Tender Strips **\$17.99**
- Fried Scallops** *Sweet & Succulent!* **\$16.99**  
 Tender Bay Scallops **\$16.99**  
 Deep Sea Scallops **\$22.99**
- Fried Shrimp** **\$16.99**
- Fried Seafood Platter** **\$24.99**  
 Fish, Shrimp, Clams, & Scallops
- Fish Bites** **\$14.99**

**OVEN BAKED**  
*Served with Potato Salad Cole Slaw, & Lemon*

- Baked Stuffed Shrimp** (5) **\$22.99**
- Baked Bay Scallops** **\$22.99**
- Stuffed Sole** (2) **\$22.99**
- Baked / Blackened Cod** **\$17.99**

**FOR THE KIDS**

- Grilled Cheese** **\$5.99** w/ Fries
- Hot Dog w/ Fries** **\$5.99**
- Burger & Fries** **\$5.99**
- Chicken Tenders** **\$5.99** w/ Fries & Sauce  
*Kids Meals come with a Loli-Pop*

**SANDWICHES**

- Hot Lobster Roll** **\$29.99** *1/2 lbs. Fresh! grilled brioche & drawn butter*
- Lobster Roll** **\$26.99** *World Famous 100% Real Lobster*
- Hamburger** **\$8.49** *6oz. black angus*
- Cheeseburger** **\$9.49**
- Tommy Burger** **\$10.49** *w/ lettuce, tomato, cheese, bacon, & 1000 Island*
- Filet of Fish** **\$13.99** *w/ lettuce, tomato, tarter, & lemon*
- Clam Roll**  
 Whole Bellies **\$21.99**  
 Tender Strips **\$16.99**  
 Scallop Roll **\$15.99** *Bay Scallops*
- Fish Tacos** (2) Mahi-Mahi **\$13.99** *w/ lettuce, pico de gallo, spicy tartar*
- Shrimp Tacos** (2) **\$13.99** *w/ lettuce, pico de gallo, spicy tartar*
- Fried Shrimp Roll** **\$14.99**
- Salmon Burger** **\$14.99** *w/ lettuce, tomato, remoulade sauce*
- Marinated Grilled Chicken** **\$8.99** *w/ lettuce, tomato*
- Crispy Chicken Sandwich** **\$8.99** *w/ smoky honey sauce & pickles*
- 2 Ball Park Hot Dogs** **\$8.99** *All beef*

**Extras: 75¢ each**  
 Onions - Lettuce/Tomato - Bacon - Cheese

**OPEN 11:30 AM - 8 PM**  
 WEATHER PERMITTING

CONSUMER ADVISORY WARNING FOR RAW FOODS: IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WE ADVISE THAT EATING RAW OR UNDERCOOKED MEAT, POULTRY, OR SEAFOOD POSES A RISK TO YOUR HEALTH. REVISED 6/23/23 PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. 8% RI SALES TAX NOT INCLUDED.