

Appoint or elect the school committee?

By RORY SCHULER

In Johnston, and in most Rhode Island municipalities, residents choose their representatives on the School Committee by casting ballots on Election Day.

A quiet movement to end that process, and appoint School Committee members rather than elect them, has

started bubbling up in a handful of communities.

The Pawtucket Charter Review Commission, for example, briefly considered putting the question before the voters as early as this fall (earlier this week, however, they decided to delay the decision and continue prolonged discussions on the possible switch).

In response to an online post

by a Boston Globe reporter about Pawtucket's debate over an appointed or elected School Committee, Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena Jr. voiced his support for the idea.

The journalist posted a link to the paper's story, "Amid controversies, Pawtucket could scrap elected school committee," on the social networking app formerly known as Twitter

(now dubbed "X" by owner Elon Musk). She quoted one of the city's current committee members who called the proposal "political retribution."

Polisena responded with the question: "How is it political retribution if voters approve changes?"

"Schools get majority funding from local municipalities, yet munis have no say in how

it's spent," Polisena wrote Tuesday afternoon's post, several hours before Johnston's School Committee met for their regular monthly meeting. "Schools can also go over budget and municipalities are forced to pick up the debt. I've seen it firsthand."

Since becoming mayor eight months ago, Polisena has

■ APPOINT - PAGE 10

When life hands you lemons . . .



Squeeze them, sell them and go to Six Flags

THIRSTY FOR PROFIT: The Vasconcelos kids held their first ever lemonade stand recently. Taking turns handing out thirst-quenching beverages, Emma and Ava Vasconcelos, seen here, raised enough money to go to Six Flags. For more photos from the lemonade venture, turn to page 8. (Submitted photos)

Johnston & Cranston join RI Infrastructure Bank's Municipal Resilience Program

By RORY SCHULER

Mayoral administrations in Johnston and Cranston are welcoming the news that the neighboring communities will be joining Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank's Municipal Resilience Program (MRP).

"Enrolling Johnston in the Municipal Resilience Program was something I ran on last summer," said Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. "The MRP allows us to work with leaders around the state to combat the effects of the severe weather we've seen in recent years."

Earlier this week, the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank announced three municipalities — the City of Cranston and towns of Johnston and West Warwick — have been selected to participate in the MRP.

"Cranston and Johnston join West Warwick, who was accepted earlier this year, as the three newest participants to be welcomed into the MRP through the Bank's new rolling MRP participation application process," according to a press release from the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. "Communities participating in the MRP complete a workshop process designed to identify priority projects and strategies to improve the municipality's resilience to natural and climate-related hazards. Communities completing the MRP process are then eligible for action grants to implement resilient infrastructure solutions."

The program may help Johnston prepare for future catastrophic events.

"Here in Johnston, that seems to primarily be flooding," Polisena explained. "The MRP will help us identify ways we can mitigate flooding throughout the town. Perhaps most importantly, enrolling in the MRP allows us to apply for grant funding for these projects."

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RIBBON SNIPPED: North Providence Mayor Charles Lombardi cut the ribbon on the newly opened Tri-Town Animal Shelter at 900 Smithfield Road in North Providence, Rhode Island

Tri-town animal shelter opens

By RORY SCHULER

Former Mayor Joseph M. Polisena pitched the idea to the town council.

The proposal: help to build a state-of-the-art animal shelter in a neighboring town, share expenses and space.

"Quite frankly, if we had to build a building, it would probably cost at least a million and a half or more, by the time we found the land," former Mayor Polisena told Town Council at its December 2021 meeting. "Guess where we have to go looking for the land. Probably near the landfill. You can't put this in a neighborhood obviously. And the land up there is not cheap. That's for sure."

A year and a half later, the shelter has been constructed and now it's ready to house the estranged domestic pets of three Ocean State towns.

■ SHELTER - PAGE 10



VISION FRUITION: Former Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena and his son, the current mayor of Johnston, Joseph Polisena Jr., were in attendance. (Screen shots from video posted online by the Town of Johnston)

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'Senior Spotlight'



ALL WELCOME AT THE JSC: Although the Schiano family – Anthony Schiano, his wife Patricia, and his sister Maria Narni – reside in Cranston, they enjoy socializing a couple of days a week at the Johnston Senior Center. (Photo courtesy Richard J. DelFino Jr.)

Schiano family becomes advocates and recruiters for the Johnston Senior Center

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

This week's Johnston's Senior Center Spotlight shines on the Schiano family: Anthony Schiano, his wife Patricia, and his sister Maria Narni.

Although they reside in Cranston, they enjoy socializing a couple of days a week here at the Johnston Senior Center.

Patricia, who has been participating in exercise classes for about 12 years, had invited her sister-in-law Maria to join her in those classes.

About six months ago, Anthony started coming to the Center, where his first order of business is to secure a table for lunch for up to 10 friends depending on any given day. Anthony then enjoys a complimentary cup of coffee and a muffin, and reads the daily papers available here at the Center. He also enjoys spending time in the Center's library, where he enjoys reading an assortment of books.

The three then reunite at noon, where they join others for lunch and lively conversation.

Recently, Anthony, Patricia, and Maria began taking the many "Day Trips" the Center is becoming known for organizing, like a visit to Watch Hill and the Sunflower Farm. All three, have been "Advocates" and "Recruiters" to the Johnston Senior Center so others can enjoy all that the JSC has to offer.

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.

Say you saw it in the
Johnston SunRise

St. Rocco's Feast gets bigger, but its prices stay small

By PETE FONTAINE

What has 700 prizes plus, more than 100,000 straws, some of the best homemade Italian food this side of Boston's famed North End, super special sweets, excellent entertainment and fun for the whole family?

It's the St. Rocco's Feast, which will make its 83rd annual appearance on Thursday, Aug. 17, through Sunday, Aug. 20, at the Roman Catholic Church's new-look grounds at 927 Atwood Ave. in Johnston.

"We're ready, and excited, to welcome thousands of guests to our annual feast," said Richard Montella, the long-time general chairman. "With construction completed on all of the parish and school parking lots, we're looking to welcoming back our many loyal visitors."

Perhaps an even more impressive fact, as Montella emphasized, "we pride ourselves on being the most affordable feast in the region. While food prices have sky-rocketed in recent years, we have not increased our prices on many family-friendly items."

For example, an all-beef hot dog will cost \$1 and just \$2 for a hamburger/cheeseburger. Soft drinks are only \$1 and those prices, as Montella noted with a smile, "are the same price they were a decade ago."

Of course, no visit to the St. Rocco's Feast would be the same without the Italian sandwiches that are all on priced the same no matter what toppings you want. Montella continued, "We work very hard to shop for the best prices of our supplies and pass those savings onto the families that attend the feast."

In keeping with tradition, there will be many Italian offerings, including the famed sausage and pepper sandwiches served on fresh-made rolls from neighboring The Original Italian Bakery. The bakery's owner Don DePetrillo, will again make St. Rocco's famed doughboys every day of the feast.

"Don and his team provide us with nearly a ton of dough for the doughboys that people top with everything from traditional domino sugar or a local favorite with freshly made gravy and pecorino Romano cheese. We sell so many doughboys that our cooks need to have one ready every 15 seconds of the feast."

The folks in the crowd with what Montella called "a sweet tooth," will need to pay a visit to the St. Rocco's Bakery that will have many delicious delights including Italian cookies and biscotti. Lisa Ciunci and her



FEAST FOLK: General Chairman Richard Montella (left) and Rev. Father Angelo N. Carusi are joined by 2023 Feast committee members Brianna Blanchard and Joseph Lembo at the St. Rocco's statue that surrounded by the newly paved parking area at the Johnston-based Roman Catholic Church at 927 Atwood Ave. in Johnston. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

team have been baking all summer for the four-day fun and food fest.

Meanwhile, the Women's Guild, headed by Arlene Troai have worked tirelessly rolling more than 100,000 straws people can purchase (10 for only \$1) to win one of many valuable prizes.

St. Rocco's Feast will again have an impressive religious flavor side and feast-goers can purchase many items as well as chat with Sister Donna.

The fun, food and games will be preceded by St. Rocco's Triduum of masses beginning Monday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m. and celebrated by Rev. Patrick Ryan who was recently ordained this past July and was a Seminarian at St. Rocco's in 2020.

Montella said the Very Rev. Christopher Murphy from Our Lady of Providence Seminary will celebrate Tuesday's mass and Rev. Jeremy Rodrigues will host Wednesday's mass that will be followed by the annual candlelight procession.

The annual St. Rocco's Feast Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, Aug. 20 at 11 a.m., and Montella said "this year we will welcome Bishop Richard G. Henning and we encourage people to join us and meet him throughout the annual procession following mass."

There will be live entertainment throughout the feast, which will again be highlighted by Harold Ferrara's famed Rockwell Amusements, offering rides and games for children and adults of all ages.

The Bridge at Cherry Hill throws luau, with Hawaiiin dinner and dancing, for residents

By PETE FONTAINE

Although Hawaii is many miles from Johnston, there was a good old fashioned Luau last Wednesday at The Bridge at Cherry Hill featuring a day long list of events, a mouth-watering menu and hula dancer.

The Luau was organized by Joan Stanzione, popular Lifestyles Director at the award-winning Century Park Community facility, which was decked out in glorious and cheerful Hawaiian colors and glass vase centerpieces on tabletops filled with flowers and palm tree leaves.

Executive Chef Marvin Carter and his talented kitchen crew know how to please people's palates whether it's a Hawaiian menu, Italian or just a breakfast.

Likewise, Century Park Chief Operation Officer/Executive Vice President Esmeralda Lee, Regional Director of Operations Any Blalock and Director of Care Services Mary Beth Ryans were tremendously impressed with every part of the luau and enjoyed lunch with Maryann Grace, long-serving Executive Director at The Bridge.

As noted, Chef Carter created yet another special menu that included Sweet-N-Sour Chicken, Hawaiian Kallia BBQ Pork Ribs, his own Island Shrimp, Pineapple Scented Rice, Sweet Potato Casserole, Ginger-Soy Broccoli and Confetti cake with Coconut Walnut frosting for dessert.

The day began at 9 a.m. with 10 fun-filled events — including lunch — ranging from Around Town Shopping, Tropical Move and Groove, Beach Ball Hockey, Escape to the Tropics, Gone Fishin' Game, Hula Show by Sarah Ann McGinnis, Tropical Social and Piñata, Pineapple Bingo and Blue Hawaii with Elvis Presley.

"Joan did her usual fantastic job creating this entire event," offered Michael Mangasarian, The Bridge's Sales/Community Relations specialist. "She ALWAYS puts her heart, soul, talent and clever creativity into all our events."

Even McGinnis had as much fun performing as the residents did watching her.

"She also does character performances, plays the harp and is a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild," Stanzione offered "The costumes she uses are all authentic from Hawaii and Tahiti or handmade by her."

Stanzione then added: "Sarah fell in love with hula dancing after watching a movie 'Lilo and Stitch' then found there was a hula dancing class starting near her apartment. From there she studied with Kumu Hula (hula Masters) and teachers in the Ocean State, Boston, NYC and Chicago."

So, last week she brought her many talents and enhanced yet another extraordinary event that The Bridge at Cherry Hill.



PROLIFIC PERFORMER: Sarah Ann McGinnis, an accomplished hula dancer and member of the Screen Actors Guild, is all smiles during her appearance at The Bridge's Hawaiian Luau last week. (Submitted photo)

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EAGER READERS: Members of the Johnston Senior Center Book Club pose for a group photo. In the back row, from left to right, Mary Rawson, Barbara Kuras, and Beverly Martone Deware. In the front, from left to right, Susan Stahowiak, Anice O'conner and Lucille Casali. (Photo courtesy Richard J. DelFino Jr.)

The Conservancy at Winsor

NEW HOME LOTS STARTING AT \$209,000!

The Conservancy At Winsor is a new sub division located in Johnston - bordering the Smithfield town line on Orchard Avenue. In keeping with the rural character of the area, 52 acres of abutting land will be earmarked as *Open Space Conservation Land*.

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Johnston Senior Center Book Club more than a decade strong, looking for new members

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

The Johnston Senior Center Book Club has been meeting at the center monthly, for the past 10 years. The club members enjoy discussing all aspects of the chosen book of the month. Mary Rawson, has been the club coordinator since its inception, and now wants to invite anyone interested to join the group. They hope to increase participation by soliciting local, regional, and national authors to the JSC to discuss those books they have written. One such author, Michele Fishpaw, will be featured Tuesday, Aug. 29 at 10 a.m. She's expected to discuss her book, "Claire's Voice." The book chronicles Claire's journey, as she survives "Shaken Child Syndrome," and her parents' inspirational quest to provide their daughter with a beautiful life, filled with hope and compassion. The club hopes this event, like others to follow, will generate interest in the "Book Club." If you need more information, please call the center at 944-3343.

Johnston Senior Center Highlights

From the staff ...

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 the 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). A Notary (Algeria Vaughn-Bayley) will be on the premises, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday, free of charge.

Offering more programs and trips every week: Please note: Ballroom Dancing will not return until September.

Trips

- Thursday, Sept. 14: "The Carpenters" Whites of Westport, 10:30 a.m., \$79.00pp
- Monday- Wednesday, Sept. 17-19: "Atlantic City Gambling Tour to the Tropicana Casino Resort," \$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) \$429pp DO. See Beautiful Historic Waterfront, Lighthouse, Quaint Kennebunkport. 2 nights lodging, 4 Meals \$95 pp

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- Monday — Arts and Crafts
- Monday & Wednesday — Hi Lo Jack
- Tuesday — Quilting
- Wednesday — Poker
- Thursday — Mar Jong
- Thursday & Friday — Bingo

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JPD thanks Patrolwoman Brooke Ardito for 18 years

Johnston Police honored one of their own recently, following nearly two decades of service to the town of Johnston.

"The Johnston Police Department would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Patrolwoman Brooke Ardito for her distinguished service to our community during the last 18 years, following her retirement announcement today," Johnston Police posted online over the weekend.

Ardito is known across the town, and throughout the schools, for her service record.

"For the past eight years, Patrolwoman Ardito served as the School Resource Officer at Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School, where she was not only dedicated but served as an exceptional role model for students," police wrote on their JPD Facebook page. "Additionally, with great pride, we also would like to acknowledge her retirement from the Rhode Island Army National Guard after 23 years of honorable service."

"Patrolwoman Ardito has been an invaluable resource to our department, and we thank her for her unwavering commitment," police wrote. "On behalf of the men and women of the Johnston Police, we wish her all the best in her future endeavors. Congratulations on your retirement, Patrolwoman Ardito."



SCHOOL GUARDIAN: Johnston Police Patrolwoman Brooke Ardito served as the School Resource Officer at Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School for the past eight years. Johnston Police Chief Mark A. Vieira presented Ardito with an plaque thanking her for 18 years of combined JPD service. (Photo courtesy Johnston Police)



TIME SERVED: Johnston Police Chief Mark A. Vieira presented to Patrolwoman Brooke Ardito with a plaque commemorating her distinguished service to the community over the past 18 years. (Photo courtesy Johnston Police)



HIGHWAY SAFETY CHAMPION: Johnston Police recently announced Officer Edward Gonzalez was recognized today by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation with a highway safety champion award for his outstanding work in traffic speed enforcement. "Officer Gonzalez's recognition is a testament to his dedication and commitment to ensuring the safety of drivers and pedestrians on our community's roads," according to Johnston Police. "Please join us in congratulating Officer Gonzalez on this well-deserved award." (Photo courtesy Johnston Police)

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JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

SHOPLIFTING

Around noon on July 22, Johnston Police responded to Home Depot at 200 Stone Hill Drive in reference to a shoplifting report. Loss prevention employees spoke to police and told them they had a man detained at the store.

Police identified the detained alleged shoplifter as Damani Sydney Francis, 23, of 339 Angell St., Apt. 2, Providence.

Loss prevention told police that they watched Francis enter the store 20 minutes earlier with a black shopping bag. He walked to the Makita tool section, grabbed a sander and electric inflator, valued around \$268 total, and walked to the back of the store placing the tools in the bag.

Francis then allegedly walked past all points of purchase without attempting to pay for the item, according to the ar-

rest report.

Loss prevention recovered both items after detaining Francis.

Store representatives told police they wanted to press charges. Francis received a No Trespass Order from the store by police.

The arrest was captured on Johnston Police Patrolman Bryan Yepes' body-worn camera.

Francis was charged with misdemeanor Shoplifting. He was arraigned later that day as a bail and probation violator.

Francis was on one-year probation for a Willful Trespass charge from Jan. 19, according to a supplemental narrative filed by Johnston Police Lt. David J. Loffler. He was also out on \$3,000 surety bail (with \$50,000 Personal Recognizance) for Domestic Disorderly Conduct, Domestic Refusal to Relinquish/Damage/Obstruct Telephone (first offense) and Willful Trespass charges from April 31 and May 1.

"Mr. Francis had been found to be in violation of his bail by Special Assistant Attorney General Lindsay Grizzard," according to Johnston Police Lt. Dana Gousie.

He was taken to the ACI.

DUI

At 1:13 a.m., June 10, Warwick Police Officer Michael J. Rosa was dispatched to the area of 205 Lambert Lind Highway for the report of a motor vehicle crash. Warwick Rescue also responded to the scene to evaluate all the parties involved, and found no injuries.

Police identified one of the drivers involved as Ryan M. Yankee, 24, of 5 Cady St., Johnston.

"While speaking with Yankee, I could detect the strong odor of alcoholic beverages emanating from his breath while he spoke, his eyes to be moderately blood shot and his state of mind to be disoriented," Rosa wrote in the arrest report. "When requesting Yankee's proof of insurance, he appeared confused, going back to his vehicle several times and returning with different documents that were not his insurance. I asked what insurance company Yankee had during one of our many conversations which he replied 'Blue Cross Blue Shield.'"

Yankee allegedly told police that he was coming from a friend's house where he had 5 to 6 beers and stopped drinking around 45 minutes prior to the crash, according to the arrest report.

Police asked Yankee to consent to a series of standardized field sobriety tests. Following the tests, he was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence (BAC unknown, first offense), and received citations for Due Care by Drivers, Interval Between Vehicles, No Insurance, and Refusal to Submit to Chemical

Test (first offense).

FRAUD

On July 23, Johnston Police took custody of a Warwick man wanted on fraud-related charges.

Around 7:40 p.m., June 1, a woman walked into Johnston Police Headquarters in reference to a fraud complaint. She had recently filed a police report in North Providence, because her "nephew's friend" had allegedly "stolen her bank card from her purse and used it without her permission," according to the arrest report.

The victim also recently discovered that her Home Depot credit card was also missing from her wallet.

"At that time (the victim) contacted the Home Depot located ... at 100 Stone Hill Drive (Johnston) to inquire about charges on her account," wrote Johnston Patrolman Thomas Pederzani.

The store notified her of around \$4,000 in charges. The latest charge on the account occurred May 19, for \$1,631.55 for an air-conditioning unit.

The victim told police she wanted to pursue a criminal complaint. The case was forwarded to the Johnston Police Detective Division for further investigation.

Johnston Police Detective Michael A. Protano reviewed the case and spoke to the victim.

Police tracked the card to another incident and eventually discovered store surveillance footage of the incident. They also determined the suspect may be using an accomplice. Police eventually obtained a photograph of the suspect and posted it on their Facebook page. They later received an anonymous tip identifying the suspect.

JPD issued an arrest warrant — for charges of Obtaining Property By False Pretenses, Fraudulent Use of Credit Card and Conspiracy — for the suspect, who they identified as Michael Alex Gonzalez, 32, of 122 Central St., Warwick.

On July 23, Providence Police arrested Gonzalez and transferred the prisoner to Johnston Police.

DRUG ARREST

Around 6 p.m., June 10, Warwick Police Officer Derek J. Hagopian was on routine patrol in an unmarked cruiser traveling south on Post Road near the intersection with Airport Road when he spotted a vehicle change lanes illegally.

"Based on the laned roadway violation observed, I conducted a check of the Nissan SUV's registration plate using the MDT (Mobile Data Terminal) in my patrol unit," Hagopian wrote. "Upon doing so, I observed that the registration plate affixed to the rear was registered to a red 2006 Dodge. The registration plates affixed to

the rear of the yellow Nissan SUV did not match DMV data."

Hagopian followed the SUV south and then initiated a traffic stop.

He spoke to the man driving the SUV; a woman was in the passenger seat.

"After this, the female began to murmur and began speaking erratically in an apparent attempt to explain the ownership and status of the yellow Nissan in question," Hagopian wrote in the arrest report.

She gave police the name of a man she claimed was the owner, but said she didn't know to whom the registration plates belonged.

The driver sat "nearly silent during the initial encounter."

"The female was speaking rapidly and her thoughts were disorganized," Hagopian wrote. "I also observed that her upper lip had noticeable scarring. Based on my training and experience, I know that this is a possible sign that an individual utilizes a glass pipe to smoke narcotics."

Police identified the driver as Harold D. Nicholson, 57, of Providence, and the passenger as Melissa Lyn Rathier, 36, of 150 Greenville Ave., Apt. 110, Johnston.

Nicholson told police that he did not have a valid driver's license.

Hagopian requested a second police unit on the scene to assist.

Police discovered the SUV registration was cancelled.

"I also discovered that Rathier has a previous recent arrest for Possession of a Schedule I through V Controlled Substance," Hagopian wrote. "Nicholson also had several possession charges in his RI BCI."

Police asked the driver to take the keys out of the ignition and step out of the vehicle. He complied.

Nicholson allegedly told police that he knew nothing about the vehicle and was behind the wheel because he was just "driving her."

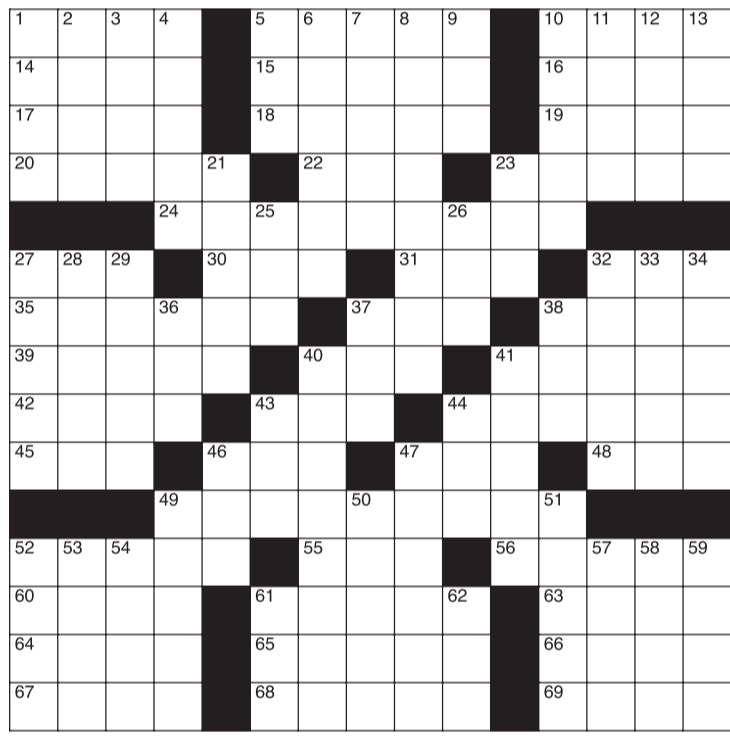
"I asked Nicholson where he and Rathier were coming from, to which he began looking around and did not initially provide a clear answer," Hagopian wrote.

"Based on my training and experience, I believed that Nicholson was stalling and attempting to avoid giving an answer." Ultimately the driver told police that they were coming from Johnston.

"I asked where exactly in Johnston," Hagopian said. "Nicholson did not seem to know. He began looking around and shrugging his shoulders, then hesitantly stated 'Greenville Ave.'"

Police asked the driver if there were any drugs in the car. He allegedly answered: "I just drove I have no idea."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



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1. A way to pick up
5. Presents
10. Type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Creative
17. Harness
19. Weight unit
19. You better call him
20. Utterly devoted
22. Male cat
23. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
24. Risk-taker
27. A team's best pitcher
30. Cool!
31. Women's ___ movement
32. Georgia rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. The princess could detect its presence
38. Type of truck
39. Butterhead lettuces
40. Angry people see it

41. Lines where two fabrics are sewn together
42. Soviet city
43. Carpet
44. Traveled all over
45. Thin, straight bar
46. Body art (slang)
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Breaks apart
52. Arabic name
55. Ballplayer's tool
56. Type of sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bract of grass floret
63. Italian Seaport
64. Ancient Syrian city
65. Shoelace tube
66. The Miami mascot is one
67. South American nation
68. Popular video game "Max ___"
69. Body part

CLUES DOWN

1. German courtesy title
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Ancient Hebrew calendar month
4. Long-legged frog family
5. Photo
6. Delivered a speech
7. Lute in classical Indian music
8. Decorated
9. Take a seat
10. Belonging to a bottom layer
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Part of a ticket
13. Defunct Guinean money
21. Challenges
23. Popular BBQ food
25. Subway dweller
26. By way of
27. Shady garden alcove
28. Egyptian city
29. Partner to "flowed"

32. Widens
33. Old Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. European pipeline
37. Al Bundy's wife
38. Ocean
40. Root eaten as a vegetable
41. Sound units
43. Style of music
44. A way to drench
46. Hot beverage
47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
49. Rumanian city
50. Urge to action
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. "Perry Mason" actor Raymond
57. Small fry
58. ___ Clapton, musician
59. Take a chance
61. Bland food
62. Consumed

KINDNESS

is free



cherry hill manor nursing & rehabilitation center

Police
(Continued from page 6)

Police asked the passenger if she had any drugs. She allegedly answered: "I don't think so."

Police searched Rathier and discovered a "white crystallized substance on her person, which was seized and suspected to be illegal narcotics."

She was handcuffed and taken into custody.

Warwick Police Officer Jessica L. Masso said a crack pipe was found under the passenger seat where Rathier was sitting.

"Rathier advised she had marijuana tucked in her breast," Masso wrote in her supplemental narrative to the arrest report. "Rathier then said marijuana is legal. I asked why she would hide marijuana in her bra since it was legal. Rathier said she uses marijuana for her anxiety and always keeps it there."

Rathier allegedly handed two plastic baggies to police; one containing a green leafy substance with a white crystallized substance spread throughout, and another

with two with crystal "rock" formations inside. Police suspected the white substance was likely crack cocaine or crystal methamphetamine (it eventually tested positive for crack and weighed 1 gram, according to police).

Police determined Rathier would be charged with Possession of a Schedule I through V Controlled Substance. She was transported to Warwick Police headquarters.

Police searched the vehicle and say they found "numerous drug paraphernalia items." The vehicle was towed from the scene.

Police discovered the driver had previously been convicted of Driving with an Expired (or Without) License on three prior occasions, so he was taken into custody and transported back to Warwick Police headquarters.

The bag containing the "suspected mixture of marijuana and crack cocaine" was sent out for a toxicology report and testing.

BENCH WARRANT

Around 6:30 p.m., June 24, Johnston Police Patrolman Nicholas A. Crowe was at a fixed traf-

fic post along George Waterman Road when he spotted a Honda Accord with "heavy tint" pass by.

Crowe initiated a traffic stop and identified the driver as Jason Ruiz, 25, of 16 Lucas St., Apt. 1, Pawtucket.

A background check revealed Ruiz had an inactive permit and an active Sixth District Court warrant for failing to appear at a pretrial hearing, according to the arrest report.

A check on the registration showed it had been suspended.

Ruiz was asked to step out of the vehicle, handcuffed, searched and transported to Johnston Police Headquarters.

He received citations for Driving Without a License, Operation of Vehicle when Registration is Suspended and Unlawful Install of Windshield and Window.

"Due to the vehicle being detained on private (property), a family member arrived on scene and arranged for a private tow to take custody of the vehicle," Crowe wrote.

NO SEATBELT

Around 7 p.m., May 26, while on routine patrol along Plainfield Street, Johnston Police Patrol-

man Thomas Santurri spotted the driver of a white Volkswagen Passat driving without a seat-belt. He initiated a traffic stop and identified the driver as Stephanie E. Mendez De Sidler, 25, of 154 River Ave., Apt. 1, Providence.

A background check revealed Sidler had an active arrest warrant out of the Central Falls Police Department for Domestic Vandalism. She was taken into custody and later transported back to police headquarters and turned over to a member of the Central Falls PD. Her car was towed from the scene.

Sidler was also cited for No Seat Belt-Operator.

COUNTERFEIT BILLS

Around 3 p.m., May 30, Johnston Police responded to a redacted address in reference to a Pawtucket man with an active Pawtucket Police Department warrant for Passing Counterfeit Bills.

The man, identified as Edilson Cardoso Mendes Tavarez, 28, of 105 Lonsdale Ave., Apt. 2, Pawtucket, was brought to police and taken into custody. He was processed and held pending pick up by Pawtucket Police.

AG: Rhode Island men charged with fentanyl trafficking, possessing large-capacity magazines and stolen firearm

The RISP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration executed search warrants at two Ocean State homes and a Scituate business, leading to drug and gun charges.

Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Neronha announced in a press release last week that a Pawtucket man and an East Providence man have been charged in Providence County Superior Court with 29 counts of drug trafficking and gun-related offenses following their arrest by the Rhode Island State Police (RISP) on Jan. 19.

On July 18, the Office of the Attorney General charged Kevon Lassiter, 32, and Odell Lora, 31, each with five counts of possession of 1oz to 1kg of a controlled substance (cocaine, fentanyl, xylazine, acetyl fentanyl, and para-fluorofentanyl), five counts of possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance (cocaine, fentanyl, xylazine, acetyl fentanyl, and para-fluorofentanyl), five counts of conspiracy to possess 1oz to 1kg of a controlled substance (cocaine, fentanyl, xyla-

zine, acetyl fentanyl, and para-fluorofentanyl), five counts of conspiracy to possess with intent to deliver 1oz to 1kg of a controlled substance (cocaine, fentanyl, xylazine, acetyl fentanyl, and para-fluorofentanyl), and two counts of maintaining a common nuisance.

Additionally, Lassiter was charged with two counts of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, two counts of possession of a large-capacity magazine, one count of possession of a stolen firearm, and one count of possession of a firearm while delivering cocaine and/or fentanyl.

As alleged by prosecutors, beginning in October 2022, the HIDTA Task Force and the Providence District of the DEA began investigating the co-defendants, who they suspected to be involved in drug distribution in Rhode Island. Investigators conducted controlled purchases and surveillance to identify from where the co-defendants were distributing drugs, and then applied for and obtained search warrants for Odell Lora's East Providence residence, a Scituate business asso-

ciated with him, and Kevon Lassiter's Pawtucket residence, according to the AG press release.

As further alleged, around 10 a.m. on a January morning, members of the HIDTA Task Force and DEA executed search warrants on both residences and the Scituate business, arresting both defendants. "It is alleged investigators found and seized significant quantities of fentanyl, cocaine, and crack cocaine, as well as a stolen Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver, a Glock 22 .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun, two large capacity magazines, including a 29-round magazine containing ammunition, approximately \$50,000 in cash, and other paraphernalia indicative of drug trafficking," according to the AG's office. "It is alleged that the State Forensic Chemistry lab confirmed the presence of fentanyl and fentanyl analogues, as well as cocaine and xylazine in the drugs seized from the search."

Both defendants are scheduled for a pre-trial conference on Sept. 19 in Providence County Superior Court.

AG: Scituate man charged with maliciously wounding pet beagle

Rhode Island Attorney General Peter F. Neronha announced in a press release that a Scituate man has been charged in Providence County Superior Court with multiple animal cruelty offenses stemming from his alleged mistreatment of a pet beagle that was left in his care in August and September 2022.

On July 26, the AG charged Robert Nolette, 23, of Scituate, with three counts of maliciously wounding an animal.

"As alleged in the criminal information, on Sept. 20, 2022, the owner of an eight-year-old female beagle mix named Coco, brought the dog to a local animal hospital after returning to her home in Scituate and discovering that Coco was having difficulty breathing and had lacerations on her body," according to the press release. "It is alleged that following an examination, a veterinarian diagnosed Coco with multiple rib fractures, subcutaneous emphysema, and multiple lacerations and abrasions that required emergency veterinary care to stabilize her.

According to prosecutors, the veterinarian said "her injuries appeared to be the result of intentional trauma."

"It is alleged that later that day, members of the Scituate Police Department and the Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals (RISPCA) initiated an investigation into the alleged mistreatment of Coco and learned that Coco was in the care of the owners then boyfriend, the defendant, at the time when she sustained her injuries," according to the press release. "It is alleged that investigators learned that Coco had also been brought to an animal hospital in August for emergency treatment for rib fractures after Coco was left alone in the care of the defendant.

On Sept. 22, 2022, a Sixth Division District Court Judge granted investigators' request for an arrest warrant for the defendant, who surrendered himself four days later.

"It is alleged that during a follow up care visit, a veterinarian diagnosed that Coco's lacerations were second- and third-degree thermal burns covering approximately 40% of her body," according to the press release.

Nolette is scheduled for a pre-trial conference on Oct. 11 in Providence County Superior Court.

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LEMON-FINANCIAL-AID: The Vasconcelos kids held their first ever lemonade stan, taking turns passing out thirst-quenching beverages. Emma and Ava Vasconcelos, seen here and below, raised enough money to go to Six Flags. For more photos from the lemonade venture. (Submitted photos)

The lemon peddlers



TEAM EFFORT: Emma and Ava Vasconcelos, joined efforts with Aiden Vasconcelos and Mason Cabral to corner the local lemonade market.



LOYAL LEMON LOVERS: Professionals from all over town stopped for a refreshing beverage. Police officers, left, utility workers, above, postal workers and many more, helped make the Vasconcelos kids' first lemonade stand a success.

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

A sign that change is needed

Although the dust has somewhat settled (for now) on the signature scandal of this political season, involving an investigation into fraudulent nomination signatures obtained through the course of Lt. Governor Sabina Matos's campaign to get on the ballot for November's special election, it is worth examining how this issue happened and what can be done to secure the process moving forward.

First, to establish how this scandal even occurred, we must look at the process overseen by the Rhode Island Board of Elections for qualifying for a Congressional race in the state. In all likelihood, before this scandal, few people probably had any interest in this process or the board and process that oversees it.

Candidates need 500 signatures to qualify. Those signatures can come from anywhere in the district they're seeking to represent, but signatures must be certified by local boards of canvassers in the communities where signers reside. This means that each list of signatures being obtained for the same candidate are actually being inspected and certified by many different individual elections workers in multiple different town and city halls.

And this is where there's some good and bad news. To their credit, it was local officials in Jamestown who initially blew the whistle that something was off with their submitted signatures, which triggered an avalanche of media scrutiny and, eventually, other local officials in other municipalities double checking and finding inconsistencies among their own signature sheets. Was it not for Jamestown throwing up a red flag, it is reasonable to wonder if the scandal would have ever gotten off the ground in the first place.

Clearly, there are some local canvassers and employees within town clerks offices who were on the ball, and did the difficult work of carefully inspecting signatures and matching them with voter ID cards, noting any inconsistencies and scrapping those signatures from the certified list. Others, however, seem to have failed in that effort; at least initially.

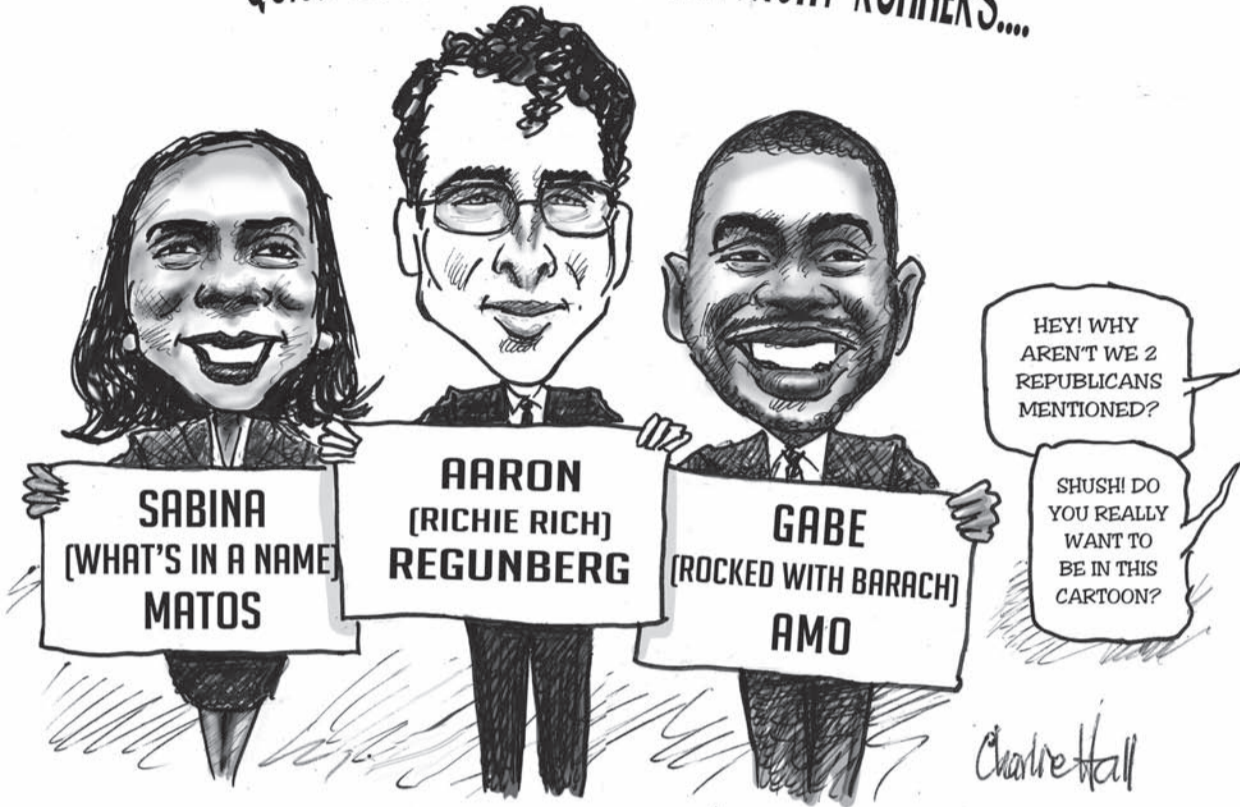
The next weak rung in the ladder appears to be the Board of Elections itself. Charged, supposedly, overseeing the process, they initiated no action on fraudulent signatures and actually certified Matos's nomination prior to the scandal breaking, opting not to act on an official challenge of the papers because a representative of that challenge did not appear at their meeting. Only after the scandal erupted did they move the process along to the Attorney General's office for an investigation.

The Board's public relations following the emergence of the scandal could only be described as amateur as well, staying mostly silent save for a couple of press releases; only one of which included any attributable information from an actual Board representative, with others coming from a contracted PR firm. Much of the information provided by them seemed more purposeful in absolving themselves of accountability rather than helping secure confidence in the nomination process; another blunder.

To their credit, the Board's most recent public statement acknowledged one change they hope to implement — expanding the window between signatures being due to them for certification and those signatures being due to the Secretary of State. This is a reasonable, considering the Board only has a matter of a couple days to certify the thousands of signatures they receive prior to handing them over.

In accordance with more emphasized training provided to local officials charged with certifying signatures, hopefully this most unfortunate incident can serve as a valuable learning opportunity and chance to improve the integrity of our electoral process going forward.

FOR THOSE NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO THE CD 1 RACE, HERE'S A QUICK LOOK AT SOME OF THE FRONT RUNNERS....



LETTER

If you pay by check, Newport-Pell Bridge may cost you \$92 to get across

We drove over the bridge and back in one day. We then got a bill in the mail for \$12.

We paid by check and mailed. We then got a late bill for \$92 for not paying.

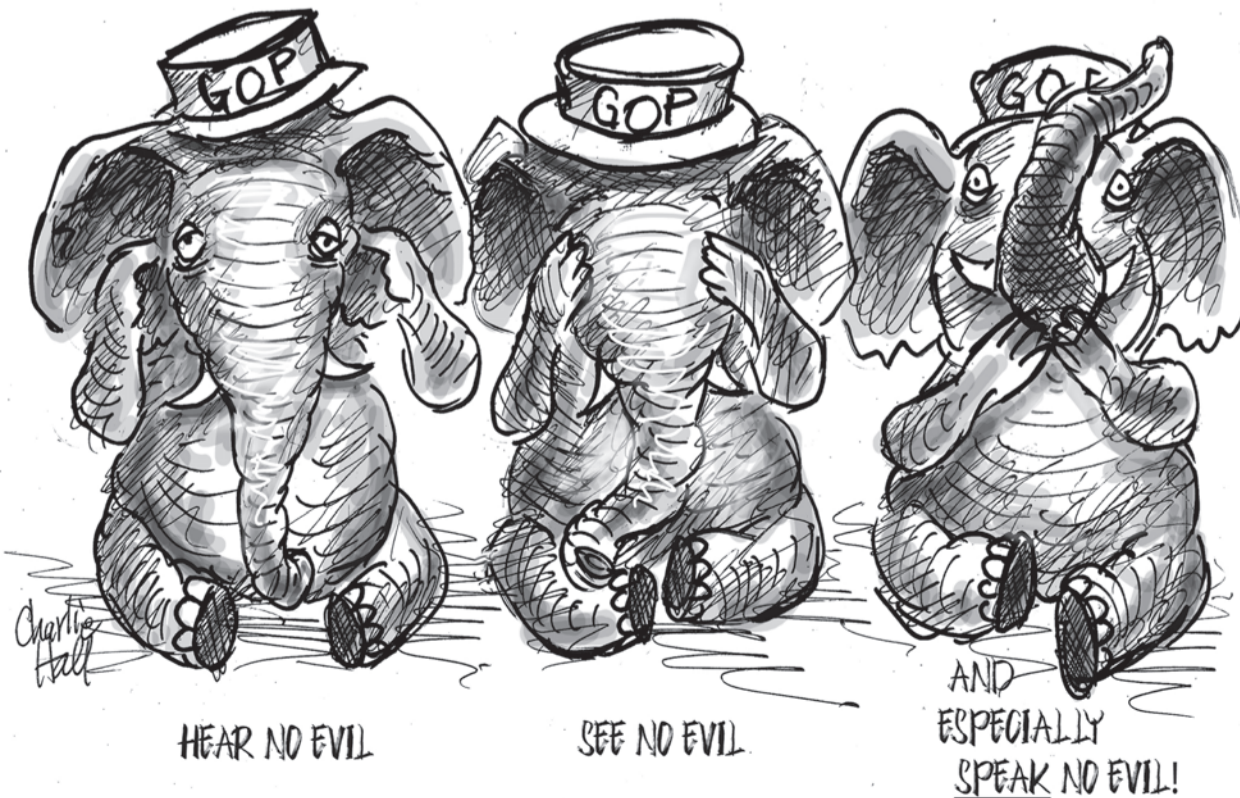
The bridge authority mails you a bill and you have to mail your check all within 30 days. There is no certified mail in this process. The penalty is \$40 each way for being late.

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

I would like to know who came up with this fee? The gentleman on the phone was very understanding and we worked out things. Is this any way to treat drivers in Rhode Island? Maybe we can use some of this funding for pension reform.

Louis Spremulli
Johnston

REACTIONS TO DONALD TRUMP'S INDICTMENTS ARE STILL COMING IN...



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■ Appoint

(Continued from page 1)

sparred with the town's school committee. He proposed a "takeover" of school finances in response to a string of school budget deficits. Now, the town's finance director will lead his administration's effort to comb the school district's books, which are also under examination by a town-hired auditing firm.

On June 22, in response to the takeover bid, School Committee Chairman Robert LaFazia vowed to resist the "takeover."

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

Both the town and the schools hired their own attorneys to handle potential litigation.

Polisena enlisted former Cranston mayor and unsuccessful gubernatorial and congressional candidate, Republican Allan Fung, to represent the town.

Soon after, LaFazia and the School Committee took a more conciliatory tone, promising to work with auditors and fiscal examiners.

The long-serving chairman

bristled at the idea of an appointed school committee.

"I'll be honest with you, I'd be totally against that," LaFazia said Tuesday night, after the meeting, in response to Polisena's public online post. "I don't think it's a good idea."

LaFazia took a closer look at the mayor's words.

"The people of the district," LaFazia said, pausing, upset by the proposal. "(This) would take that vote away from them. I believe it's up to the individuals in the district to vote on their School Committee person. If he's going to do that, then he might as well do away with the (town) council too."

Johnston's Town Charter, like Pawtucket's, is about to be altered, updated and edited by a Charter Review Commission, which is currently taking shape.

Last month, Town Council members started naming their appointments to the commission. And on Tuesday night, the Johnston School Committee unanimously appointed one of their own to serve on the review commission, Susan Mansolillo.

Mansolillo survived a challenge to her seat on the School Committee during the same election that gave Polisena the mayor's office following his father's forced departure (the senior Polisena served four four-year terms, reaching the term

limit he himself had established). "Elected school committee members represent the people from the district," Mansolillo said Tuesday after the meeting. "Appointed school committee members do the mayor's bidding. That's just how I feel. We're here to represent the people and do what's best for the children."

Mansolillo said she expects the topic to come up once the Johnston Charter Review Commission holds its first meeting.

Reached by email later Tuesday night, Polisena expanded on the idea of an appointed (rather than elected) school committee.

"I don't have the power to propose or institute this, it must be approved by the voters," Polisena wrote. "However, I think every municipality needs to have some say in their own school districts, as the municipality provides the school department the majority of its funding with municipal property taxes."

Polisena thinks the entire state should rethink its approach to school governance. He provided examples from other New England states.

"The current model in Rhode Island simply isn't working, both from a financial standpoint and an educational standpoint," Polisena explained. "In Massachusetts, typically the chair of

the school committee is the mayor/municipal leader. In New Hampshire, while all members are elected, they have a separate statewide education property tax (SWEPT) which is sent directly to school departments. Local property taxes are used to only fund non-educational municipal services. In Maine, while boards are elected, school districts are legally barred from exceeding spending beyond their budget allotment (this is not the case in Rhode Island). In districts in Connecticut, the board is split between appointed and elected members. In Vermont, local voters decide whether to pass school budgets which all come from a single source revenue stream, the statewide education fund."

Johnston schools ended 2022 with a nearly \$1 million deficit. The district ended 2023 with a "multi-million dollar deficit," according to Polisena, and he has voiced concerns the district may face another deficit "by the end of the upcoming 2024 fiscal year as well, which would amount to three consecutive deficits."

"Rhode Island is the only state in New England where almost all school departments are fully independent from municipalities in decision-making yet totally dependent on municipalities for funding," Polisena

wrote Tuesday. "To make matters worse, school departments have the legal authority to exceed their annual budget and the municipalities in Rhode Island are forced to pay for the debt. This means raising property taxes despite none of that new revenue going to municipal services. Either take the school department out of municipal budgets and let them send out their own tax bill, similar to certain fire districts, or keep them on one tax bill but give the members of municipal government a say in operations."

Polisena questioned the Ocean State's educational status quo.

"Lastly, can anyone point to metrics, whether educational or financial, that show the current structure is working for our students here in Rhode Island?" The mayor asked. "We always seem to be trying to emulate Massachusetts when it comes to education, in both standards and scores, yet we cannot do so until the foundation of our own educational system in Rhode Island is changed. Investing in children is the greatest investment we can make as a society. It's time for everyone to get serious about reforming education in Rhode Island put our kids in position to achieve their true potential."

■ Bank

(Continued from page 1)

I'm glad Mayor Hopkins and I have both enrolled in the program."

Following Johnston and Cranston's selections, 35 out of 39 Ocean State municipalities have now signed up for the MRP.

"With help from the Nature Conservancy, 33 have completed Community Resilience Building workshops and developed prioritized lists of actionable re-

silience plans and projects," according to the bank. "Municipalities are then eligible to submit applications for MRP Action Grants with a 25% local match requirement. To date, the Bank has awarded more than \$7 million in MRP Action Grants to 16 municipalities across the state. In 2022, Rhode Island voters approved the Question 3 Green Bond, including \$16 million for MRP Action Grants."

Mayor Ken Hopkins learned a lesson from recent storms.

"Cranston is excited to work collabora-

tively with fellow municipalities in RI Infrastructure Bank's Municipal Resilience Program," Hopkins said earlier this week. "The urban flash-flooding events of this summer are a perfect example of hazards facing our city that have been greatly exacerbated by climate change. By participating in RMP, Cranston will be better equipped to identify and address challenges of today, and tomorrow, as soon as possible."

The MRP process is intended to help Cranston, Johnston, and West Warwick "identify resilience priorities and qualify for grant funding to implement infrastructure solutions."

"As we have seen with recent extreme rainfall and flooding events, Rhode Island's infrastructure needs to be made more resilient to the impacts of climate change," said Jeffrey R. Diehl, CEO of Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. "That is what the Bank's Municipal Resilience

Program is all about, helping our municipal partners identify key resilience challenges, plan solutions, and qualify for grant funding to implement resilient infrastructure solutions. We look forward to working with Cranston, Johnston, and West Warwick as they participate in the Municipal Resilience Program process."

The Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank considers itself "Rhode Island's central hub for financing infrastructure improvements for municipalities, businesses, and homeowners."

"Rhode Island's cities and towns are already feeling the impacts of climate change — from increased damage from storms to rising sea levels," said Sue AnderBois, The Nature Conservancy's Climate and Energy Program Manager. "The Nature Conservancy is proud to partner with the Infrastructure Bank to bring these resilience planning workshops to Cranston, Johnston, and West Warwick."

■ Shelter

(Continued from page 1)

Last Thursday, Polisena and his son, the current mayor of Johnston, Joseph M. Polisena Jr., attended a ribbon-cutting for the new facility at 900 Smithfield Road in North Providence.

"All three municipalities contributed \$456,000, and will each equally contribute one-third of the expenses," Polisena explained earlier this week. "This is a great opportunity for Johnston to fully utilize a state-of-the-art facility while only paying one-third of the costs."

Johnston's Animal Control Division is part of the Johnston Police Department's Special Services Bureau and staffed by two Animal Control Officers (ACO), Richard Starnino and Richard Sousa.

"The state of the art facility is home to Johnston, Smithfield, and North Providence Animal Control officers," according to an online post on the town's official social media accounts. "These ACOs designed the facility after visiting several shelters across the state."

Town and department websites have been updated to reflect the recent changes.

"The Town of Johnston does not maintain a local, full-time, Animal Shelter however it shares ... North Providence's facility ... (401-719-1516)," according to a message signed by Starnino and Sousa. "Please call the facility for any other inquiries."

Johnston's ACOs handle "all issues regarding only Domesticated Animals," the message continues.

Residents are instructed to send "all

wild Animal calls ... to the RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM, 401-222-6800, www.dem.ri.gov) and all rodent calls must be made to your private rodent removal company."

"If you suspect a domesticated and/or wild animal may be rabid, you may contact the Johnston Police Department to assess the potential public safety concern (401-231-8100)."

The spirit of sharing may also bolster Johnston's ability to respond to animal control issues in town during a wider scope of hours.

"Not only will we share in expenses Johnston residential will also now be covered by Smithfield and North Providence Animal Control Officers, so we anticipate services being even better," Polisena explained. "Most importantly, animals brought to the shelter will be in better conditions than they were previously. This is a new venture for all three municipalities so I'm sure there will be a learning curve and adjustments that need to be made, however, all three municipalities are fully bought in to this plan so I expect it to go very well."

To conclude Johnston's official statement on the animal shelter, Polisena's administration thanked Johnston's "council members for their assistance and support, as well as former Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Sr., North Providence Mayor Charles Lombardi, Smithfield Town Manager Randy Rossi, and each community's police departments."

Each town will be responsible for a third of the overhead costs, including monthly utility payments.

"You split it three ways," the elder Polisena said in 2021. "I think it's a win-win."



We want to hear from you!
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SUN RISE SCOOPS

Sun Rise Staff Reports

Aug. 13 Rock N Jock for FARA & Golf Tournament

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.

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 Sept. 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, Katie 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: give.curefa.org/event/fara-5k-or-race-for-matt-and-grace-2023/e489319.

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 Tues. 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 Tues., 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, Pop-pin 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 Wed., 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 Thurs., 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 Sun., Sept. 10, with a grand raffle drawing for \$7,000 in prizes.

Admission is free and events are rain or shine. Also, the 2023 Fest and Festival will have a first on Sun., 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.

SCOOP OF THE WEEK

Johnston Youth Soccer opens 2023 registration

Registration has opened for Johnston Youth Soccer's 2023 fall season (which runs from the end of August through the beginning of November). The league is now accepting registrations, according to a flyer posted by the Johnston Recreation Department.

The price includes a jersey, socks and insurance (\$75 for an individual 4-year-old clinic, \$60 for each additional sibling; \$85 for U6-U14 individual, \$75 for each additional sibling).

The 4-year-old clinic will be held on Saturday mornings. Under 6 co-ed will hold practice on Tuesday and games on Saturday. The U9 Boys and Girls will practice on Wednesday and play games on Saturday. The U12, U14 Boys and Girls will practice Thursday with Saturday games (ages as of Sept. 1, 2023).

"Please help spread the word and refer friends to play," organizers ask Johnston residents. "If we do not have enough players for an age group, we will need to make a co-ed league."

You can register in person at the Johnston Recreation Office in Memorial Park, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (or mail forms and check to 1385 Hartford Ave., Johnston RI, Attn: Johnston Recreation Department).

Sponsors and volunteer coaches are still needed.

Johnston Recreation Department

YOUTH SOCCER 2023

League Runs from End of August - Beginning of November

NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS!

**4 yr. old clinic \$75.00 individual | \$60.00 each additional sibling
u6-u14: \$85.00 individual | \$75.00 each additional sibling**

(Check or Money Order accepted only)

Price Includes Jersey, Socks, and Insurance

League Structure

4 yr. old coed clinic: Saturday mornings

u6 coed: Tuesday (practice) & Saturday (games)

u9 Boys & Girls: Wednesday (practices) & Saturday (games)

u12 , u14 Boys & Girls: Thursday (practices) & Saturday (games)

*Age as of September 1, 2023

PLEASE NOTE...

Please help spread the word and refer friends to play. If we do not have enough players for an age group, we will need to make a co-ed league.

Register in person at the Johnston Recreation Office located at Johnston Memorial Park- Monday-Friday from 8:30am - 4:30pm or mail form(s) and check to 1385 Hartford Ave., Johnston, RI (Attn Johnston Recreation Department)

SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED

www.johnstonrec.com



LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is given that on or soon after August 25, 2023 a 2007 Toyota Camry sedan vin #4T1BE46K47U513521 that is in After Hours Towing LLC storage yard located at 7148 Highway 101 N GRAY COURT SC 29645; Ph.8644495378 / 8643861366, will be sold at auction. Anyone with interest to this vehicle can contact After Hours Towing LLC at number above.

8/10, 8/17, 8/24/23

Obituaries

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

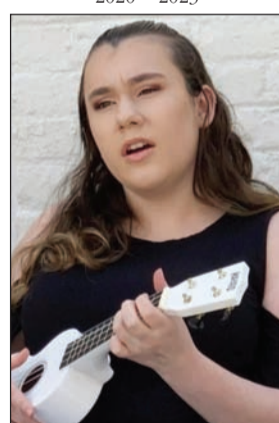
Should you desire our services, kindly inform your funeral director, or call **(401) 732-3100** or email Obits@rhodybeat.com for additional information. Obituary prices start at \$60. You may include the obituary in any of our other newspapers for half price.

— Thank you

Obituaries

Third Anniversary Maryann Vita

2020 - 2023



Of all the gifts in life,
However great or small
To have you as my Daughter
Was the greatest gift of all.

A silent thought,
A secret tear
Keeps your memory
Ever near.

In my heart forever
Death leaves a heartache
No one can heal.
Love leaves a memory
No one can steal.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Michael

Third Anniversary Maryann Vita

2020 - 2023



I still miss the sound of your voice,
the happiness of your laugh,
and your presence that glowed.

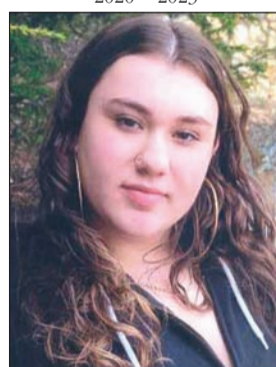
Time changes nothing,
because I miss you as I did
the day you left.

"Rest in Peace,
Little Miss Sunshine."

Love, Grandma Elaine

Third Anniversary Maryann Vita

2020 - 2023



You were very special
And that's why I mourn,
A wonderful Granddaughter
Who from the day that you were born
Were such a shining light,
A gift, so precious too,
Amazing in many ways
You brightened my world, it's true.
And it seems it is unfair
You had so much to give,
You would have grown and blossomed
You had your life to live.
And I was blessed to know you
And now that you have gone,
I'll hold onto your memory
And my love for you goes on.

Love and miss you so much,
Grandma Gallucci

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Johnston Sun Rise

ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE:

H	E	A	R	P	O	S	E	S	B	A	S	S
E	L	B	A	I	R	A	N	I	A	R	T	Y
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P	E	R	U	P	A	Y	N	E	N	E	C	K

JHS '23 Senior Honor Awards Night

EDITOR'S NOTE:
 On pages 12-15, Sun Rise readers will find a flashback to last school year as un-graduated students prepare to return to school later this month. Turn to Page 15 for a full list of awards. On Thursday, May 18, the Johnston High School hosted its Senior Honor Awards Night, handing out recognitions to a long list of 2023 graduates. Here are some photos from the evening and a list of winners. Watch out for tireless school coverage in the Johnston Sun Rise during the 2023-24 school year. If you have photos to submit or news tips to share, email Sun Rise Editor Rory Schuler at rorys@rhodybeat.com. (Photos courtesy JHS)



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**15-Month CD Special: Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 7/24/2023. To obtain the Premium APY you must maintain a Personal Premium Checking or a Personal Premium Money Market Account (collectively "Deposit Account") to qualify. If your Deposit Account is closed, the interest rate and APY will default to the regular 15 Month CD Special APY in effect at the time of account opening. The regular 15 Month CD Special APY is 4.50%. New Money Only. New Money is defined as money not on deposit at Centreville Bank within the last 30 days. Minimum opening deposit is \$1,000.00. You may choose to make a one-time, penalty free withdrawal of up to half the original principal balance during the original 15-month term of the account. A penalty will be imposed for any subsequent early withdrawals. Fees may reduce earnings. This is a limited time offer and can be withdrawn at any time.

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Johnston High School 2023 Senior Honor Awards Night

Recognitions

- Salutatorian Award: Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye (Presented by Principal Matthew Velino)
- Valedictorian Award: Catrina Zinni (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Principal's Leadership Award: Charles Curci (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Senior Student Council President Award: Charles Curci (Presented by Anna Herbert, Math Department Chair)
- Senior Class President Award: Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye (Presented by Margaret Guilmette, Class Advisor)
- Aspiring Educators Award: Gianna Brodeur, Stephanie Bruno, Lauren Hill, Michelina Irons, Siera Jeetan, Emily Klein, Derek Salvatore, Jackson Troxell/Siera Troxell (Presented by Susan Parillo, JPS District Teacher of the Year)

Departmental Awards Senior Awards for Excellence

- Excellence in Art Award: Steffi Rotella (Presented by Kerry Murphy, Art Department Chair)
- Excellence in Business Award: Parker Sylvia (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Excellence in Technology Award: Dominic Whitten (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Excellence in Computer Science Award: Vincent Chan (Presented by Christopher Grogan, Computer Science Teacher)
- Excellence in English Award: Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye (Presented by Natasha Zito, Climate & Culture Coordinator)
- Excellence in Physical Education & Health Award: Jaylen Molina, Derek Salvatore (Presented by Margaret Guilmette, Physical Education & Health Teacher)
- Excellence in Math Award: Tyler Renaud (Presented by Anna Herbert, Math Department Chair)
- Excellence in Science Award: Catrina Zinni (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Excellence in Social Studies Award: Emma Homenick (Presented by Erik Bryson, Social Studies Department Chair)
- Excellence in Spanish Award: Dariana Carrascoza (Presented by Emilia Ruggiero, World Languages Department Chair)
- John Philip Souza Band Award: Risca Soth (Presented by Ronald Lamoureux, Music Director)
- National School Choral Award: Destinee Costa (Presented by Matthew Gingras, Choral Director)

Awards

- The Herbert and Claiborne Pell Medal Award for Excellence in United States History: Charles Curci (Presented by Erik Bryson, Social Studies Department Chair)
- Lieutenant Governor Leadership Award: Charles Curci (Presented by Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr.)
- Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Award: Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Rhode Island College Book Award: Emily Klein (Presented by Principal Velino)
- American Mathematical Society Award: Catrina Zinni (Presented by Anna Herbert, Math Department Chair)

Scholarships

- Janice D. Mele Memorial Scholarship: Talia Laflamme (Presented by School Committee Chairman Robert LaFazia and Vice Chairman Joseph Rotella, and members Dawn Aloisio, Susan Mansolillo and Marysue Andreozzi)
- The Mayor and Town Council Scholarship: Elizabeth Almonte, Dariana Carrascoza, Willson El Hage, Stanley Garcia, Kyle Iannuccillo, Jada Irons, Fujyi Kue, Talia Laflamme, Mouhamadou Marone, Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye, Makayla Scuncio, Marlon Soto, Sheyla Soto, Alejandra Torres Morales, Anghelina Vejarano, Makayla Vejarano (Presented by Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr.)
- The Michael E. and Lida M. Contillo Scholarship: Charles Curci, Siera Jeetan, Emma Homenick, Michelina Irons, Lilian Oliva Garcia, Isabella Ragosta, Derek Salvatore, Jackson Troxell, Catrina Zinni, Isabella Zinni (Presented by Deborah Licciardi, Guidance Department Chair)
- The Chief Richard S. Tamburini Criminal Justice Scholarship: Caleb Guimaraes and Nicholas Rianna (Presented by Johnston Police Detective James Seymore, IBPO Local 307, and School Resource Officer Louis Cotoia)
- The Thomas L. Ucci, Sr., Memorial Scholarship: Charles Curci (Presented by Pamela DelPonte, Susan Mansolillo, and Stephen Ucci)
- Bennie Zanni Scholarship: Joshua Philbrick (Presented by Vilma Zanni and Bernie Zanni)
- Bennie Zanni Scholarship: Tyler Renaud (Presented by Marysue Andreozzi, Johnston School Committee)
- Gary Mazzie Memorial Health Sciences Scholarship: Catrina Zinni (Presented by Dr. Brian Kwetkowski)
- Paul & Ann Marie Pursche Scholarship: Emma Homenick and Mouhamadou Marone (Presented by Natarcia Pursche, School Counselor)
- Soul of 1971 Scholarship Fund: Julianna Pires (Presented by Harold Hemberger)
- Carcieri/Webber Family Scholarship: Michelina Irons (Presented by Emily Webber and Rebecca Webber)
- The DiIorio Family Scholarship: Charles Curci and Nicholas Rianna (Presented by Ryan Sukaskas, Class President of the Class of 1999)
- Portuguese/American Scholarship: Charles Curci (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Picerne Family Scholarship: Charles Curci, Michelina Irons, Joshua Philbrick, Derek Salvatore, Jackson Troxell (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Ryan Massesmini Memorial Scholarship: Athena Sin (Presented by Deborah Licciardi, Guidance Department Chair)
- Chad M. Mancuso Scholarship: James Guilmette (Presented by Deborah Licciardi, Guidance Department Chair)
- Kenneth Skitt Memorial Scholarship: Derek Salvatore (Presented by Lianne Denham)
- Hopkins Family Memorial Scholarship: Charles Curci and Catrina Zinni (Presented by Chris Hopkins)
- Gary V. Mazzie Memorial Scholarship: Talia Laflamme and Derek Salvatore (Presented by Lee Mazzie and Samantha Mazzie-Brown)
- Johnston Federation of Teachers Scholarship: Emma Homenick, Lilian Olivia Garcia (Presented by Kathleen Kandzierski, Johnston Federation of Teachers President)
- Johnston School Music Association Scholarship: Melanie Capraro, Destinee Costa, Willson El Hage, Susana Huezo, Jackson Troxell (Presented by Melissa Loffler, Johnston School Music Association)
- Rachel E. Carson Scholarship: Dariana Carrascoza, Jackson Troxell (Presented by Matthew Gingras, Choral Director)
- David S. Francazio, Esq. Jurisprudence Scholarship: Charles Curci (Presented by Nicole M. Corbin)
- Johnston Senior High School Student Council "Students in Government" Scholarship: Charles Curci, James Guilmette, Michelina Irons, Talia Laflamme, Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye and Jackson Troxell (Presented by Anna Herbert, Math Department Chair)
- Anthony DeAngelis Wrestling Scholarship: Dylan Martins (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Sabrina Conti Memorial Scholarship: Emily Klein (Presented by Natarcia Pursche, School Counselor)
- The Oszejca Family Scholarship: Michelina Irons and Jackson Troxell (Presented by Robert Oszejca)
- Timothy Westell Memorial Scholarship: Steffi Rotella (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Chester Welch Memorial Scholarship Fund: Michelina Irons (Presented by Principal Velino)
- FM Global Scholarship: Michael Cepeda and Dylan Martins (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Johnston Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition - Chris' Memorial Scholarship Fund: Jaylen Molina (Presented by Priscilla DiMaio)
- Johnston Senior High School Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) Scholarship: Charles Curci and Catrina Zinni (Presented by Lance Niles, PTSO President)
- Richard Salzillo Memorial Scholarship: Allison Benoit, Vincent Chan, Anthony Corsinetti, Madison Dacosta, Siera Jeetan, Jaylen Molina, Derek Salvatore, Makayla Scuncio (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Horatio Alger National Scholarship: Ayomide Josephine Olagundoye (Presented by Principal Velino)
- Honey Dew Donuts Scholarship: Jackson Troxell (Presented by Principal Velino)



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By JENNIFER COATES



Meet Kaushal Jain, co-owner of Jain's Laundry ~ a fully-equipped laundromat on Route 44 where customers can do their own wash or take advantage of Kaushal's meticulous wash/dry and fold services.

There is going to come a time when you can no longer avoid it. That pile of laundry in the corner, growing every day while you find excuses to ignore it. But it is not going away, and eventually, it will take over your room or leave you without a single clean garment to wear. Laundry is like that – it is never-ending. Now, there is a possibility for escape! Why labor ONE MORE MINUTE this summer tackling the inevitable chore of endless laundry when you have the willing and able hands of Kaushal Jain of Jain's Laundry to rescue you?

For an incredible .69/pound, Kaushal will wash, soften, dry, and even fold your laundry – all in one day - at this user-friendly, clean and efficient laundromat in Johnston. Besides the convenience of this great service, this blockbuster price also covers the cost of the softener, bleach, soap and hangers! The math is simple enough – ten pounds of dirty clothes, dropped off in the morning and ready to go by day's end – all for \$6.90. Fifteen pounds of dirty clothes, dropped off on the way to work and ready to go by dinner – all for \$10.35. What a bargain!

For the most competitive prices in the area, you will find both the wash-fold, same-day service offered by Kaushal here at Jain's Laundry as well as a room full of coin-operated washers and dryers for the "do-it-yourselfers". If you don't have enough quarters, no worries ~ there is a change machine that accepts up to a \$20.00 bill available here.

There are large capacity machines available for all size loads, from 25 pounds to 65 pounds. The top loading machines are available here for only \$2.00 per

load compared to \$2.50 in most other places. There are state-of-the-art dryers which are incredibly efficient, rotating both clockwise and counter-clockwise to prevent the bunching and twisting that can make drying uneven in conventional dryers.

Vending machines are also on-site if you need to re-stock your supply of detergent, softener or laundry bags. There is never a need to wait because there are rows and rows of machines ready to go at any given time. Everything you need is right here at Jain's Laundry.

There is plenty of parking and a friendly, helpful staff

here, ready to meet the needs of both residential and commercial customers. You can stay in their clean waiting area between cycles or leave and return between loads. There is even a Dunkin' Donuts next door if you want a cup of brew while you wait.

Jain's Laundry is found in the Plaza 44 shopping plaza on 39 Putnam Pike. It is open seven days each week - from 8 am to 9 pm, Monday through Friday, and 7 am to 8 pm on Saturday and Sunday. For more information about their services, call 401-231-7019.

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Accumulate

The first, and one of the most challenging steps, is saving for your future while covering basic expenses. Establishing and working toward defined financial goals in the short-, medium- and long-term is a good place to start. Also, understanding your money mindset can help you identify opportunities to create healthier spending and saving habits.

Over time, it's important for you to position yourself to take advantage of opportunities to raise your income. Consider discussing a raise with your current employer, taking a job opportunity with higher pay or starting a side business to supplement your income. You should also begin to build an emergency fund, which will better position you to weather unexpected financial emergencies. In general, you should save enough in this fund to cover three to six months of your typical monthly expenses.

In addition, if you are financially prepared for it, purchasing a home can help you build wealth in ways that renting cannot.



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Preserve

Once you've begun to accumulate wealth, the next step is preserving it. You can accomplish this by protecting and growing your money over time.

Managing your debts and expenses is paramount. Pay down debts in high-interest accounts and prioritize other expenses that require immediate attention.

when working with lenders, as well as provide a host of other long-term benefits.

Protect

Lastly, you should have a plan in place to eventually transfer the wealth you've built to family and loved ones.

CNBC reports that an estimated \$68 trillion will be passed down from the baby boomer generation between 2019 and 2044. Having an estate plan can give you peace of mind that your assets will be allocated according to your wishes when the time comes.

In the meantime, you should also protect your assets from the unexpected. In addition to taking steps to safeguard your property from natural disasters, you should invest in a comprehensive renter or homeowner insurance policy. And always be mindful of the wide variety of scammers and hackers looking to access your resources.

Education has power. As you begin your journey, you can build your financial savviness with Freddie Mac CreditSmart Essentials, a suite of free education tools and information covering topics like how to buy a home or car, how to improve credit and how to build wealth. To learn more, visit creditsmart.freddie.mac.com.

Building wealth doesn't happen overnight. With consistency and commitment, and the right knowledge and mindset, you can create a stable future for you and your loved ones.

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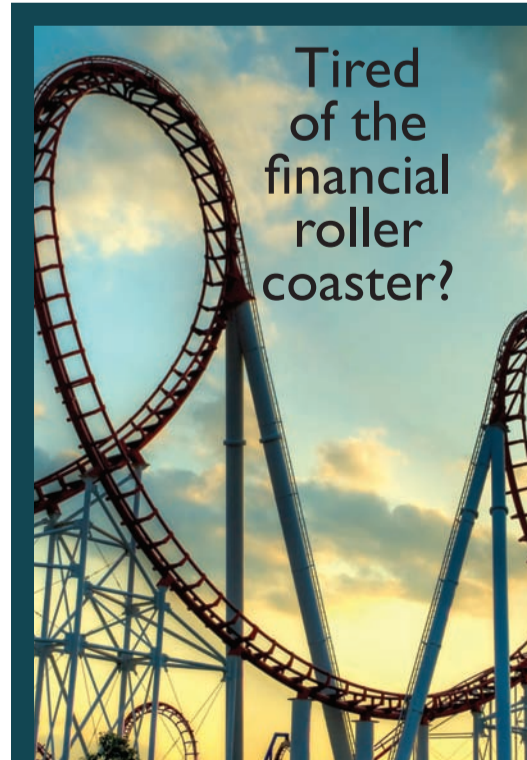
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Sports



TRACKING IT DOWN: Gershkoff's Gianni Santo chases down a fly ball last week during the regional tournament at McCarthy Field in West Warwick. Gershkoff dropped its first two games to wrap up its summer season. The club won the state championship the week prior. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

Gershkoff's model could open doors

This summer, the Gershkoff Auto Body American Legion baseball program fielded three teams that included a senior team, and junior team, and a new 13-U showcase squad. Although the senior unit had a down summer, the junior team won the state title and the showcase youngsters went toe to toe with some of the best teams in New England as it traveled throughout the region.

When speaking to the coaching staff in the Gershkoff program, they were thrilled at the results and are motivated to make the team more than just a local Legion squad, but a regional powerhouse that boasts success with strictly homegrown talent. It's a great idea and inspiring when you really think about it.

Typically, Legion teams are made up of local rosters and the only time they are really talked about outside of the hometown papers is when they reach the regional level. Gershkoff sent their teams all throughout the Northeast this summer to get a taste of the high level of competition and although there is work to be done, it was a nice step forward and will help them achieve their ultimate goal of being recognized by states outside of just Rhode Island.

Personally, I have always been an advocate for inter-state play. Sure, there are AAU teams that offer that. It's not as if no other team has done it, but the fact that Gershkoff is looking to compete with those teams while compiling rosters of Cranston-John-

My pitch



by
ALEX
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SPORTS EDITOR
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ston kids exclusively is admirable, and this year shows that it may not be farfetched to think that the talent pool between those two communities will be enough to compete with the larger draws.

In the past I have mentioned that I believe at the high school level, there should be New England championships in every sport. Individual sports like cross country, track, wrestling, along with a couple others compete in regional championships. However, imagine if we got to watch all sports do just that? Imagine if there was an established body that oversaw regional championships and worked with all six states for each sport?

That would be a blast and if handled properly, would only require perhaps one additional week to each sports season. Perhaps we should shorten each season by a week to accommodate the adjusted schedule. High school is different than summer baseball, but the message is the same in each. It's fun and beneficial for the athletes to compete against others outside of their own back yard.

Not to mention the fact

Gershkoff juniors fall in regionals

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Gershkoff Auto American Legion junior team fell in two games to wrap up its summer season last weekend at McCarthy Field in West Warwick.

Gershkoff fell to New Hampshire in a heartbreaking 3-2 decision in the opening round. Gershkoff had the bases loaded in the sixth and then the tying run on second base in the seventh, but New Hampshire would escape

each jam to walk away with the victory.

Adam Stoloff and David Cavaloro would knock in the team's runs in the sixth inning to get into striking distance. Angelo Silvestri

■ GERSHKOFF - PAGE 19

■ PITCH - PAGE 19

Cranston Card Show to host outdoor event

By PETE FONTAINE

Mike Mangasarian is hoping there's sparkling sunshine and no humid temperatures Saturday.

That's because the Cranston Sports Card Show, which was founded by the late Tom McDonough back in 1976 and has been among the best events of its kind in New England, is about to rewrite its tradition-rich history book.

"All eyes will be on Wickford Saturday," Mangasarian, who is now the show's promoter, predicted. "We're taking our show outside."

What is believed to be the first-ever outdoor sports card and collectors show in the state will make its debut this Saturday, August 12, on the grounds of historic Wickford Middle School which is located at 250 Tower Hill Road in North Kingstown.

The unique event will open at 8 a.m. and run until



FAMILIAR FACES: Long-time collector and former Cranston Mayor Allan Fung is all smiles with promoter Mike Mangasarian at a past Cranston Sports Card Show.



POP FLY: Gershkoff infielder Jack Fontaine hauls in a pop fly last week in the American Legion New England tournament in West Warwick.

■ Gershkoff

(Continued from page 18)

and Nick DiLorenzo combined to pitch six innings and finished with two strikeouts each.

"We played a very good team and it was a very good baseball game. When you get to that level, you're going to be playing very good baseball teams and the game comes down to a couple plays here and there. It was indicative of our entire season, very good, competitive baseball. We got great pitching from Angelo and Nick," said Gershkoff manager John Fontaine.

Gershkoff then lost to Connecticut the following game, 6-1. Derek LaFazia knocked in the team's lone run in the fifth inning to make it 2-1, but Connecticut would open things up with four runs in the bottom half of the inning to run away with the victory.

As the team flips the page toward next summer, Fontaine was thrilled with the players' performance and felt it accomplished its goal which is to improve each day and focus on the

future.

"The biggest thing with all these players is development. The reason you play the summer tournaments is to improve your skill set and face good competition to get better," said Fontaine. "Every single kid developed their game in some way, shape or form. The name of the game is to develop, improve your high school game for the next year and to get college looks."

After winning the state championship and seeing the 13-U club have a strong inaugural season, Fontaine and Gershkoff head coach Dave Schiappa are excited to see what the future holds as they look to build the region's top American Legion program.

"It's incredible. There's no other region program around that has this, to have a program that competes in state and regional tournaments. A lot of travel teams are pulling kids from all over. Most travel teams pull kids that live two and a half hours apart. These kids live two and half miles away from each other," said Fontaine. "The future is bright for these kids and our program."

■ Pitch

(Cont. from page 18)

that not all kids can afford AAU or these other travel programs. The cost is rising each year and many families simply cannot afford to keep up. To create more of these opportunities would open doors for these kids to continue to play against some of the best in the region and continue to build their games on the field, regardless of the sport.

Gershkoff is playing its hand correctly and this summer was an important first step toward the future. The junior team and the showcase club proved that they could hang in there with any team they faced in New England, and with a couple of tweaks and improvements, could maybe beat any of those teams next summer. It's an overlooked story that should be paid attention to moving forward and although my high school idea may be a tough one to pull off,

I hope others are in agreement and would welcome the possibility even if it is a small one.

Football season is right around the corner and NFL training camps are underway. There was a storyline that got my attention this week that made me shake my head and sigh.

Washington Commanders head coach Ron Rivera admitted in an interview that his players are "concerned" about new assistant head coach Eric Bieniemy's intensity as he tries to establish himself as a leader of his new team. When reading the details, it sounds like Bieniemy has simply been strict. An enforcer.

If there was ever a sport in which I thought hearing reports like these would never happen, it would have been football. Football requires toughness both mentally and physically. Unless new reports emerge in which we find out that Bieniemy's approach crosses the line,

I have to say that I'm disappointed to see that this is where we are with this new generation of players.

To be frank, athletes are softer across all sports. There is flopping in basketball, declining fighting numbers in hockey, fewer brash characters in baseball. Apparently, football players are now turned off by being coached hard.

That is why Bill Belichick has struggled to reach his players these past few years. Sure, losing the best player in NFL history would make any coach look average, but I definitely feel that there has been a little bit of a disconnect at times.

Football is not a sport that should be taken lightly. It is a physical sport that needs to be played with a mean streak. It just has to. We'll see how the Commanders look as the season begins in a few short weeks, but I have a feeling that things could get ugly fast if the players continue to reject tough coaching.

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VALUABLE VINTAGE: Sports card and collectors will find old-time memorabilia and sports equipment at Saturday's first-ever outdoor show. (Submitted photos)

■ Card

(Continued from page 18)

at sunset and there's a small admission charge of \$3 a person and \$5 for two people. Dealers are welcome and may have up to 15 tables and there's a dealer participation fee of \$200.

Mangasarian said dealers may begin setting up their displays as early as 5:30 a.m. and there's a portion of the facility that's shaded by trees. Sunday, August

13 is the rain date.

Sports card and collectible fans will see everything from modern and vintage cards along with old time sport equipment, graded cards, Pokémon, pennants, non-sports and tobacco cards, wax boxes and packs, hobby supplies, photos, yearbooks and programs, just to name a few.

"We are anticipating the weather cooperating for this to be a collectible experience like none other previously offered," Mangasarian went on. For more please call him at (401) 601-5703.

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New lobster gear will come with a price tag

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has completed the second phase of a two-year project to develop an evaluation model on the operational costs of on-demand fishing gear technology for lobster fishermen.

On-demand fishing gear, commonly known as ropeless fishing gear, replaces traditional vertical buoy lines, which can result in entanglements with marine mammals including North Atlantic right whales, with new gear retrieval and marking methods. Most on-demand fishing gear systems consist of submerged buoyancy devices that are activated using time-release mechanisms or acoustic signals transmitted from the surface.

The report, Estimating the Costs of Using On-Demand Gear in Massachusetts Lobster Fisheries, examines the financial impacts of using the gear onboard lobster fishing vessels. The report model can be used to estimate operational costs, providing information that will assist in the consideration of fishery management scenarios involving entanglement risk-reducing fishing gear.

Because some types of on-demand gear require significantly more time to operate than traditional vertical line gear, the costs of using it were shown to be as high as the purchase price of the gear itself.

For information about on-demand gear research programs visit Conservation of Protected Marine Species | Mass.gov.

Fishing the dog days of summer

Last week the water temperature in Narragansett Bay was 76.2 degrees Fahrenheit compared to the ten year August average of 72.1 degrees. With unprecedented warming water like this you can expect two things.

First, pelagic fish such as tuna, mahi, bonito, cobia, Wahoo and shark species come close enough to shore so anglers can target and catch them. For example, on just one day, Sunday, Sept. 10, 2022 over twenty-four giant bluefin tuna were caught just two to three miles off Scarborough Beach, Narragansett and Newport.

The warm water has brought robust bait profiles close to shore that these animals (including whales and dolphin) love to eat. Bait includes mackerel of all types, silver-sides, sand eels, squid, peanut bucker, Atlantic menhaden to name a few. We have had these baits around before but due to warming water, a climate change impact, these baits are here in abundance, often all at the same time.

The second thing that happens when water warms in that bait and fin fish leave our bays, coves and estuaries for cooler deeper water.

So when the water temperature heats up you need to change your fishing strategy too.

The key to fishing the dog days of summer is water movement. You need to fish an area that gets flushed often or has structure such as under or near bridges, rock clusters, jetties, pylons, outcrops, points, ledges or peninsulas on land and wrecks.

The Cape Cod Canal pushes water, bait and fish, at high velocity often up to five knots. Also, the shipping channel in the East Passage of the Narragansett Bay from the southern tip of Prudence Island to Providence serves as a "fish highway" flushing that side of the Bay bringing bait and fish into the Bay. Places such as Warwick Neck; Providence Point, Sandy Point and the T-Wharf on Prudence Island; Poppasquash Point, Bristol; Sally's Rock, Greenwich Bay; and Quonset

Point, North Kingstown all serve as natural structure that can whip water around them along with bait fish and fin fish. The Jamestown, Mt. Hope and Newport Bridges serve as manmade fish magnets, funneling water, bait and fish.

So when the water is warm you have to take advantage of structure and fish where the fish are.

Where's the bite?

Tuna. "The school tuna bite for bluefin and yellow fin has been good with a lot of small giant bluefin tuna being caught too. Some fish are now on the surface so anglers are using poppers to catch them as well as trolling and jigs when the fish are down," said Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence.

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, RI, said, "Call the shop to find out current information as to where anglers are catching tuna. Fishing is good with most fish being caught with jigs or by trolling."

Summer flounder (fluke), black sea bass and scup. "Fishing for fluke has been pretty good right here in the Bay at the red bell in front of Warwick light with some weakfish being caught there too," said Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick. "Fluke fishing has been good along the coastal shore with a lot of shorts but also reports of limit catches including fish into the 7- to 8-pound range. Fishing for black sea bass has also been picking up locally with more keepers being reported," said O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle. Henault of Ocean State Tackle, said, "Anglers are catching fluke and squeteague in front of Warwick Neck with a strong scup bite throughout the Bay. Black sea bass fishing has improved in the lower Bay."

Striped bass and bluefish. "Striped bass are being caught in the Bay at night with anglers chunking Atlantic menhaden. While large bluefish are popping up in the Bay. The Newport bite is still yielding large striped bass with some anglers catching bonito of Newport," said Henault of Ocean State Tackle. "Schools of bluefish keep popping up in the Bay with the striped bass bite fairly strong off Newport where we have heard reports of some false albacore out in front too," said Giddings of the Tackle Box.

"With this warm water anglers can still catch striped bass fishing live bait out in deeper water or fishing the shallower water and ponds after dark," said O'Donnell. Kayak angler Tom Houde of West Warwick, said, "We are still catching some great bass at Brenton Reef, Newport trolling tube & worm where I caught a 39-inch fish last weekend. I lost a good one that ran straight to a lobster pot and wrapped around it."

Freshwater fishing for largemouth bass continues to be better early morning and at dusk when things cool off. Giddings of the tackle Box said, "Freshwater fishing remains strong in the city and region. Fish are still ducking the heat fishing deeper water and shaded area is a good idea." "Carbuncle Pond (Coventry) and Stump Pond (Smithfield) are producing largemouth bass for customers. The bite is still primarily with shiners," said Henault of Ocean State Tackle.

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



DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: Capt. Dave Monti with a summer flounder (fluke) caught during the dog days of summer at Austin Hollow, a 70' underwater valley on the west side of Beavertail, Jamestown. (Submitted photos)



STRIPED BASS BITE STILL STRONG: Tom Houde of West Warwick with the 39-inch striped bass he caught trolling tube & worm with his kayak off Newport at Brenton Reef.



FAMILY FUN: Proud parents Barbara and John Cullen, embracing their daughter Rebecca, celebrate her 17th Save the Bay swim. (Sun Rise photos)



LOCAL LEGEND: Olympic medalist and Rhode Island's own, Elizabeth Beisel, who placed second in the Save the Bay swim, greets fellow swimmers at the after party.



FAMILIAR FACE: United States Secretary of Commerce, and former RI Governor, Gina Raimondo, kayaked for her husband, Andy Moffit, on his third Save the Bay swim.

Stormy night gives way to perfect day for Save the Bay swim

By ERIN O'BRIEN

It was a dark and stormy night... uncertainty hung heavily in the air. Would the Save the Bay swim go on as planned the following morning? Lightning illuminated the house and thunder rattled the windows. An early morning storm on the horizon threatened to cancel the July 15th swim.

I woke at the crack of dawn, and with a slice of toast in hand, was on the road at 6:30AM, headed for the finish line. Presumably the swimmers were already gathered, waiting for the go-ahead as dark clouds loomed.

Frantic texts had come in on my phone beginning at 5:10 AM: Event probably canceled. Don't leave yet. Event is on! At least for now. Yay! Everyone gathering.

From my perspective on the sand, the bay was still. Hopeful streaks of sunlight pierced the sky under a dark cloud, as silhouetted fishermen cast their lines from a craggy point. This was the spot where the 231 swimmers would first appear as they swam around the bend, after following the span of the Newport Bridge, from the Naval War College to Jamestown's Potter's Cove.

For friends Chris Withers, 64, and Dave Czerwonka, 60 next month, it was their first Save the Bay swim.

New to open-water swimming, Chris went heavy on the carbs for

dinner the night before, with generous helpings of lasagna, sweet potato, and potato salad to prepare for the event.

His friend Dave, a former Massachusetts lifeguard who recently returned to open water swimming, reveled at the opportunity to swim the bay, temporarily closed to the ever-present boats.

John and Barbara Cullen plopped their chairs down next to me, to wait for a glimpse of their daughter, Rebecca Doran of Lincoln, RI.

This would be Rebecca's 17th Save the Bay swim; her first in 1989 was as a high school junior. Her photograph on her dad's t-shirt was taken that day, at this very place, 34 years ago. When Rebecca began swimming for Save the Bay, a kayaker or rowboat lookout was required for each participant, John explained.

Gina Raimondo, United States Secretary of Commerce, and former governor of Rhode Island, was there, kayaking for her husband, Andy Moffit, on his third Save the Bay swim.

Shouts rippled through the crowd when the first swimmers appeared in the distance. The first wave of participants were assigned grey swim caps, their arms slicing through the water. Those of us gathered on the beach erupted into spontaneous applause as the first swimmers reached the final stretch.

Some time later, a colorful regatta of kayakers escorting the second wave of swimmers made its way towards the shore.

When Chris finally had land un-

der him, his first words were, "How did Beisel do?"

Elizabeth Beisel, Olympian, and Ambassador for Rhode Island for Save the Bay, had taken second place, to much applause. There would be time to visit with her at the after party. Of her Olympic swimming events, the "400 IM" (individual medley) and "200 back" (back stroke) she would explain modestly, "It was what I was good at," adding with a grin, "It made me tough!" Tough enough to place second, as she graciously posed with first place swimmer, Stuart Cromarty.

Interim Executive Director of Save the Bay, Topher Hamblett, congratulated the swimmers as they emerged from the water and were adorned with their medals. A line of volunteers, waiting in waist-high water at the finish line, met the participants as they swam in.

The rip current around the point was overhead in the swimmers' conversations, causing some to feel as if they were swimming in place for a time. But much of the talk was of congratulations, and renewing acquaintances from previous competitions.

It's said it's not a race, but a fundraiser. The swimmers strive for their best time in their category, or to reach a personal best. As an on-looker, watching from terra firma, rooting for these brave and fit men and women athletes on their near two-mile swim, it sure felt like a race, and a thrilling one!

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257 S Main St	Andrews, Linda E and Us Bank TNa	Alpha Holdings LLC	7/21	\$154,000
1804 Village Green Cir Lot 1804	Michaud, Pierre and Michaud, Kelly	Credit, Donna	7/21	\$405,000
1990 New London Tpke	Sprague, Stephen and Selwyn, Madelyn	Gardner, Jennifer G and Gardner, Graham	7/20	\$385,000
CRANSTON				
11 Ivanhoe St	Lyford, Kailey E	Laplante, Michele and Etchells, Matthew	7/13	\$350,000
15 W Hill Cir	Criscione Relt and Criscione, Mary	Bajakian, Eliza V	7/14	\$375,000
16 E View Ave	Walter King Enterprises L	Quality Investments LLC	7/21	\$290,000
16 E View Ave	Rhode Island Housing & Mo	Walter King Enterprises L	7/21	\$264,000
20 Selma St	Morra, Mark V	Acosta, Vinisis J	7/20	\$406,000
23 Gray Coach W	Inaganti, Dharmatej and Ancha, Mamatha J	Herring, James L and Herring, Soojeong L	7/17	\$649,900
26 Haven Ave	Cairo, Kim A	Coppolino, Mark and Coppolino, Philip C	7/19	\$380,000
29 Blackamore Ave	River Bridge Real Estate	Mardavich, Audrey and Wilkerson, James M	7/14	\$515,000
30 Cornell St	Whitted, Charlee M	Hogan, Regina T	7/14	\$426,500
39 Meadow Ave	Aronne, Victoria J	Contreras, Daisy	7/21	\$3,300,000
40-42 June Ave	Carosi, Melissa L	Supreme Enterprises LLC	7/17	\$290,000
50 Bethel St	White, Michelle K	Thompson, Jeffrey J and Thompson, Danielle	7/14	\$405,000
59 Harwood St	Genereux, Kenneth S and Genereux, Eugenie M	Walker, Katherine	7/18	\$370,000
62 Old Spring Rd	Ned Stevens Inc	Barden Ft	7/20	\$1
66 Oak St	Three Kids LLC	Jackson, Alicia J	7/17	\$353,000
71 Bain St	Two Js LLC	Dobson, Jimmy M	7/14	\$353,000
76 Harmon Ave	Johnson, John and Johnson, Catherine	Lomba, Mariana C	7/17	\$290,000
78 Apple Blossom Ln	Regine, Matthew	Phillips, Kyle	7/21	\$410,000
81 Wheeler Ave Lot 2	Lapenta, Catherine M	Rioux, Jeffrey B	7/17	\$285,000
86 B St	B Street Holdings LLC	James, Dean P and Bowen, Simone A	7/19	\$355,000
95 Pippin St	Mattera, Hanne	Pacesetter Properties LLC	7/14	\$240,000
100 Norman Ave	Santagata Sandra A Est and King, Melissa	Torrijo, Rosario E	7/14	\$340,000
101 Fordson Ave	Soscia, Michael J and Soscia, Stephanie F	Rwr Real Estate Investmen	7/21	\$265,000
106 Norwood Ave Lot 1	Locarno, Kathleen A	Brennan, Kelly	7/19	\$315,000
112 Arnold Ave	Nakadate, Laurel K and Moody 3rd, Hiram F	Derecola, Christopher M and Derecola, Melissa B	7/21	\$820,000
131 Fordson Ave Lot 5	Cole, Esther B	Dibiasio, Anthony and Medeiros, Joana O	7/13	\$225,000
271 Smith St	Hernandez, Altagracia A	Wang, Chen	7/18	\$335,000
271 Smith St	Hernandez, Altagracia A	Wang, Cheng	7/14	\$335,000
298 Pontiac Ave	Ancris LLC	Arch Properties LLC	7/14	\$439,000
327 Beckwith St	Cunha Joyce Est and Cunha, Mark	Toc, Jessica and Godinez, Alexandra	7/18	\$350,000
417 Pontiac Ave	Phillips, Kyle	Pourshoustari, David K and Cherry, Callin B	7/21	\$380,000
593 Oaklawn Ave	Kattan, Mokhtar Y	Joseph, Roodolph	7/14	\$423,500
634 Natick Ave	Larson, Tara M	Karwal, Arun S and Mcteague, Shaylyn	7/20	\$626,000
730 Pontiac Ave	Vieira, Judith	Zelano, Anthony	7/14	\$300,000
1994 Cranston St	Saccoccio, Michael J and Ronzio, Samantha D	Mendez-Lewis, Elena and Lewis-Johnson, Nicola	7/17	\$362,000
EAST GREENWICH				
5 Harwood Rd	Florence, Michael	Fain, Michael	7/19	\$985,000
42 5th St	Img Investments LLC	Marcus, Adrienne L	7/20	\$560,000
155 Hunters Xing	Persaud, Parmanand and Persaud, Chandra	Florence, Michael	7/19	\$1,175,000
EXETER				
Howard Allen Liberty Hts Lot A1	Brown, Cynthia J and Brown, Donald P	Clark, Bryan W and Bertrand, Ashley N	7/13	\$551,000
5 Oak Hill Dr	Gale, Cheryl J	Martin, Brittany and Pitera, Steven	7/20	\$450,000
5 S County Trl	Arnold Daryl P Est and Arnold, Nicholas	Aelo Realty LLC	7/19	\$282,000
29 Lantern Ln	Dennerlein, George and Dennerlein, Nina S	Decesare, Craig A	7/20	\$590,000
389 Widow Sweets Rd	Albro Richard E Est and Albro, Wayne N	Albro 3rd, Richard E	7/14	\$300,000
716-A S County Trl	Dambra Const Company Inc	Gillette, Timothy	7/20	\$80,000
JOHNSTON				
9 Tall Oaks Ct	Jonoso Company LLC	J Investments LLC	7/14	\$275,000
15 Steere St	Stepinski Leokadia Est and Stepinski, Richard J	Laurendeau, Claire	7/21	\$328,500
34 Tartaglia St	Jerez, Erin and Jerez, Luis	Houlihan, Kelsey L and Marchand, Ross	7/14	\$410,000
36 Pleasant Ave	Botelho, Edwin D and Botelho, Stephanie M	Ohnemus, Gregory and Sorice, Brittany	7/18	\$400,000
49 Belvedere St	Fiori, Barbara and Fiori Sr, Frank	Sisters Faithful Comapnio	7/14	\$400,000
119 Pine Hill Ave	Pari, Frank M and Pari, Frank L	Diaz, Narvaez and Andrea, Carla	7/13	\$335,000
139 Scituate Ave	Sciacca Ft and Sciacca, Elvio	Martins, Kevin K and Martins, Michelle T	7/21	\$782,000
868 Greenville Ave	Gelinas, Christopher and Pagano, Jason	Brule, Jonathan E	7/14	\$420,000
1145 Hartford Ave Lot 3B	Dowling Jr, Patrick and Read 2nd, Arthur M	Watkinson T and Watkinson, Craig J	7/19	\$185,000
WARWICK				
11 Sea Breeze Ter	Ntwali, Gonzalves	Wood, Kevin and Pettis, Pamela J	7/19	\$725,000
17 Bowman Dr	Nardolillo John Est and Nardolillo, John J	Clift, Stephanie M	7/20	\$345,000
32 Damon Ave	Corkins, Gerald S	Demeulenaere, Kyle E and Demeulenaere, Brittany N	7/19	\$410,000
32 Shore Ave	Knight, John	Mazzarelli, Marc F and Takeshita, Hiroko M	7/20	\$393,000
36 Tarawa Dr	Lsf9 Master Participation and Us Bank TNa	Corkins, Gerald S	7/19	\$390,000
44 Johnson Ave	Campbell, Douglas A	Richardson, Tanya C and Richardson, Christopher R	7/17	\$335,000
44 Mckay Ct	Wood, Kevin M	Constantine, Jonathan M and Priest, Chelsea	7/19	\$460,000
53 Waverly St	Giglio Schaub Fret and Giglio, Armand M	Manocchio, Daniel R	7/18	\$259,000
79 Welfare Ave	Ntwali, Gonzalves	Xiong, Yeng and Xiong, Zeb	7/20	\$395,000
111 Randall Ave	Robert & Pauline Choquett and Choquette, Christopher M	Gionet, Michael and Gionet, Adesholla	7/20	\$417,777
118 Howie Ave	Quinton, Keith F	Dowding, Robert and Dowding, Christine	7/18	\$405,000
129 Atlantic Ave	Denson, Ronald W and Denson, Kimberly E	Denson Jr, Ronald W	7/20	\$570,500
130 Corona St	Vitali, Colleen A	Christiansen 2nd, Raymond W and Christiansen, Tara A	7/20	\$187,500
315 Greenwood Ave	Pettis, Pamela	Branch, Steven W and Branch, Pamela V	7/17	\$439,900
400 Narragansett Pkwy Lot SC12	Gonzalez, Steven and Sweetman, Jill	Silvia, Mary L	7/18	\$285,000
771 Oakland Beach Ave	Lake Life LLC	Sousas Houses to Homes LL	7/18	\$267,500
1120 Narragansett Pkwy	Odowd, Janice M	Cordeiro, Brian S	7/18	\$405,000
2131 Warwick Ave	Porcaro, Gregory A and Porcaro, Becky A	Pichardo, Junior C	7/19	\$325,000
WEST GREENWICH				
40 Henry Brown Rd	Lee, Kang and Lee, Amanda	Susan Margaret Schepici R and Schepici, Susan M	7/19	\$739,000
390 Henry Brown Rd	Desmarais, Heather	Jose L Romeiro T	7/21	\$550,000
WEST WARWICK				
4 Grove St	Pacheco, Concepcion	Rocha, Ryan F and Rocha, Juri	7/24	\$322,000
12 Pauline St	Austin, Brooks A	Lewis, Cristina and Lewis, Matthew	7/21	\$387,000
13 Tampa St	Cottle, Carl	Babb, Michael J and Christian, Jeremy J	7/20	\$378,000
16 Scenic Dr Lot 16	Wheaton, Rhonda L	Harrington, Edward and Harrington, Kathleen	7/21	\$301,000
18 Loggers Run	Creasia, Joetta L	Equity TCompany	7/24	\$97,000
27-37 Washington St Lot 5	Washington Cap Invs LLC	Hall, Joseph M	7/24	\$324,900
57 Harley St	Amy Realty Rigg	Inman, Kenneth W	7/21	\$1
88 Lenox Ave	Legault, Richard G and Cayouette, Diane J	Guillen, Jorge and Guillen, Maritza	7/25	\$395,000
316 Washington St	Ledoux, Austin K	Dermarderosian, Timothy	7/20	\$385,000
565 Quaker Ln Lot 122	Erin M Groppe RET and Groppe, Erin M	Kabra, Madhusudan and Rathi, Payal S	7/21	\$281,000

Rhody TREASURES

ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • CONSIGNMENTS • ESTATES • VINTAGE

An Interesting Gun Made in Rhode Island



Redux



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

While back I wrote a blog about the U.S. Model 1941 semi-automatic rifle that was manufactured by Cranston Arms Company not far from the location of our auction gallery. A brief recap is in order, I guess.

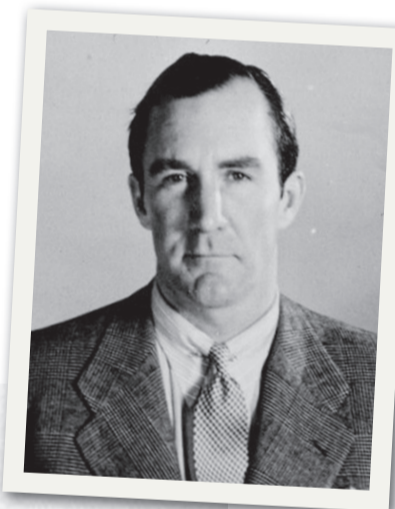
Melvin Johnson was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1909. He joined the Marine Corps Reserve and in 1933 he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, and by 1934 had graduated Harvard Law School. In 1935 he was an observer for the Marine's at Springfield Armory just as the U.S. Army was looking for a semi-automatic rifle to adopt and Johnson had a design in mind. At the same time, John C. Garand had designed the M1 Garand rifle which was accepted

into service in 1936. That didn't stop Johnson from working on his design. He continued designing and building a weapon he felt had some superiority over the Garand. It had a larger magazine capacity at ten rounds and could be easily loaded with a stripper clip in use with the U.S. Model 1903 bolt-action rifle. But the gun was a little more complex, prone to jam, and not as easily stripped in the field for cleaning and maintenance by the common soldier. It was accepted into service in limited numbers and used by the Marine Corps to some degree in the Pacific Theater of operations. It was manufactured and issued in limited numbers, and it is believed a total of around 30,000 were made.

Recently, I received a call from a person who's relative had passed away and there were guns in the house that they wanted to be sold at auc-

tion. I took a trip over and went through each of the arms with them, what they were, and what they were not. They had a few cool things, a Smith carbine, Sharps, Spencer, all Civil War-era guns. There were some earlier flintlocks also of interest, and a few German K98 Mausers and other miscellaneous things including a Model 1941 Johnson rifle. After a nice chat with the consignors, I packed up and headed back to the office.

After unpacking at the gallery, I picked up the Johnson and looked it over. It has some very light wear, a few light dings, nicks, and stains on the stock, but it was in really nice condition. Then I looked at the serial number, S-10. I have seen Johnson's with no prefix, as well as A and B. But never an S. I had to do a little snooping around, but it seems there are a few known starting with S-1 and ending with S-6. Since there has never been one found with a higher number, it was thought these are tool room samples and possibly the first made at the Cranston manufactory - making it a super rare piece of Rhode Island



military history!

I texted a few of my historic arms collector friends and my phone began to ring with questions like "Is it for sale now?" and "Can I buy it?" The answer is yes, you can - when it comes up for sale at our next Historic Arms & Militaria auction!



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Stuffing it to retirement... gracefully

Cranston native honors mother by cooking up her legacy

By ED KDONIAN

When most people look toward retirement they think of relaxing, taking some time for themselves, and maybe even finding a warmer place to spend the Winter months.

Cheryl Ursillo on the other hand decided to start her own business.

Born and raised in Cranston, Ursillo still remembers the praise her mother's stuffies recipe garnered from friends and family during the holiday season. Having lost her mother, Grace, in 2007, less than a year before her own retirement, Ursillo soon found herself retired, without purpose and remembering the drive forward she had found in her youth that had led her down a long career in education.

"You're left with a lot of time and not anything right in front of you to do. I guess, maybe as part of being an educator, I liked learning," she said of the experience of taking her mother's stuffies recipe from her own past to your kitchen. "This has been fun because it's something I didn't know but now have gotten to know. I like to think I'm a quick study and, kind of, a people person."

Her progress would agree. Now available in every Fresh Shore's Markets in Cranston and North Providence, the Market Basket stores in Warwick and Johnston, Confreda Farms, Monroe Dairy and more, Grace's Stuffies can even be found in some stores in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Grace's Stuffies have officially been put on sale in three states since the business began in 2018.

"I was in a hotel room watching the 'Today Show,'" she recalled. "Donny Deutsch, who's on CNN as a contributor a lot, was talking about his dad owning an advertising agency. He had written a book. He was on television to promote it. It was called 'The Big Idea.' I still have the copy that I read."



ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local  Adoptable  Loveable



Honey

Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

Sweeten up your life by adding a little Honey! This sweet, lovable six year old girl is really as sweet as her name says! Honey is looking for a home where she will be your one and only princess. She loves being a couch potato, eating yummy snacks and just being with you! If you've been looking for a loving companion and a pup that will make you smile everyday, then go meet Honey at the Cranston Animal Shelter. You can call 401-464-8700 or email ttorres@aspectsinc.com to set up a time to go meet her in person outside of the cage where she truly shines!

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

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■ Stuffies

(Continued from page 25)

The book, Ursillo explained, wasn't exactly a motivational book, rather it was a resource for those looking to undertake a project. Free websites and resources for all manner of things were put in front of her, along with stories of people who achieved tremendous success in their dreams, and the idea was born. She was going to start a business selling her mother's stuffies to the world.

Who would have thought, as a young girl attending Cranston High School West, that this is where things would lead. I don't think Ursillo would have seen it coming herself as she graduated from West to attend Keuka College in upstate New York for a degree in elementary education.

A degree that led her to an entire life before retiring and beginning this new venture into selling deliciously made seafood that follows her mother's traditions and brings a taste of her own childhood to others. To think that she would go from undergraduate studies at Keuka, to pursuing a Master's degree in special education at Boston College. Ursillo talked about her time at Boston College and how much she loved the campus and her time there before moving on to an internship at the Meeting Street School, founded by Margaret "Peggy" Langdon and Dr. Eric Denhoff based on the belief that all children have a right to high-quality education and a developmental support system in order to reach their full potential.

Knowing of Dr. Denhoff, who founded the school, Ursillo chose to train under the best of the time when choosing the Meeting Street School as part of her graduate program. In fact, Ursillo said, Dr. Denhoff had actually been her pediatrician years before giving her a personal connection to her work there and bringing her journey full circle.

Be on time

Having earned her graduate degree in special education, Ursillo sought a teaching position in her



home state of Rhode Island. One of the initial places she applied was Barrington School. It would be in her interview there that she learned one of the most influential lessons of her adult life; be on time.

"Whoever had the interview ahead of me was late, and he took me first because I was there," Ursillo said. "He interviewed me, and by the time I got home I was offered the job. I always wondered what might have happened if I hadn't been early, or if the other person had been on time. I'd say it was my privilege and my pleasure to work there."

She would spend the next 28 years holding a variety of positions in the Barrington School District. One of the reasons she felt her time in the district was such a privilege was the opportunities her employment there gave her to grow professionally.

Working as a resource teacher, Ursillo had the chance to work with small groups of children outside of a regular classroom, inside a traditional classroom, co-teaching with other teachers and experiencing the

teaching environment of special self-contained classrooms with unique programs. As she gained experience in a variety of teaching methods Ursillo found herself becoming, as she called it, a "quasi-administrator."

Over time she was given more and more administrative responsibilities, and it was this slow change that led her to move down the road out of the classroom and into administration. Taking on more and more of the responsibilities over the course of five years, a friend asked why she was doing everything a director would but without the compensation. A light bulb went off in her mind, and Ursillo decided to take the leap. In order to do so, she would need to go back to school, even if not for long.

"I needed three more courses, but I also hadn't been in a classroom for over 25 years at that point," said Ursillo as she re-lived that moment of her life. "So, I went to Providence College and did the three courses. My father had just passed. I kept thinking it may not have been the best time to do that, but maybe it had been. It gave me something else to focus on. I got through it, and I got my first real job in administration."

Switch in career was daunting

However, it wasn't just a simple switch of careers, This was a whole new world, and in many ways it was daunting.

Ursillo laughed as she remembered how her first years as an administrator had gone. Despite not being a "deer in the headlights," as she said, she "had only had a little taste of that at this point. I learned that you have to serve a lot of masters. There's the public, students, your colleagues, other administrators and then supervisors. That's a whole big plate of people to make happy on a daily basis."

Despite her initial fears and concerns, Ursillo thrived at her new career. For the next 36 years she would work in administration until her eventual retirement, which, as we now know, was only a stepping stone to the next chapter in her life, one that would prove to be only the beginning.

To learn more about Ursillo, her story and her delicious stuffies check out her website gracesstuffies.com, or pick up a pack at your local market today.



CHERYL URSILLO

When Irish nomads camped in Johnston

Back in the Day



by
KELLY
SULLIVAN

Neutaconkanut Hill, which was once a part of Johnston, served for many years as the winter quarters for a band of traveling nomads. Together, they would remain camped there on the hill until April, when they would discuss their individual summer plans and then go on their separate ways. Each fall, they would come together again on the hill.

The Nomads hailed from Roscommon, Ireland and their surnames were Riley, Burke and Mitchel; three families related by blood. William Riley, born in Nov. of 1862, was a horse trader. During the summer, he would move on to a rental house in Ohio where his wife Perstella (Broadway) was from. The couple had married in 1889 and had had seven children;

Matilda, Laura, Marilla, Charlot, John, Emma and another child who died young. William died in Toledo in the autumn of 1930 and his wife followed nine years later.

John Burke was regarded as the "king" of their specific band. He was born in 1854 and married Catherine Riley, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Riley, when they were both seventeen years old. They had a son, John Joseph Burke, born in 1885.

John had come to America in 1878 and, at that time, resided in a nomad camp in Sayre, Penn. with his wife's three brothers and their families; Michael, Edward and Patrick. John was a basket-maker by trade and lived to the age of 69. His son died in 1947.

Nothing is known of the Mitchell family other than the fact they would split up during the summer with some going to Canada and the others to Conn. The Riley family always went to Ohio and the Burkes to New York.

The nomads were regarded as wonderful neighbors. While the men worked as dog breeders, horse traders, basket-makers or boiler menders, the women walked the streets offering to tell fortunes. Referring to themselves as 'Pavees' or 'Minceirs', the nomads were able to speak

English but sometimes used a language specific to travelers, a combination of English and Irish, known as 'Shelta.'

Most of the Irish nomads here in America were Roman Catholic and not genetically related to the more well-known Romani bands who hailed from Southern Asia. Several theories exist as to what began their nomadic lifestyle. Some believe they descend from a community in Ireland where those not wealthy enough to own land had to remain mobile. Others theorize their ancestors were those made homeless due to war, famine or eviction. As self-supporting people, however they became that way, they learned the finer points of many trades and honed incredible skills in craftsmanship such as jewelry production and metal work.

It was common for female Irish nomads to marry at the age of 17 and boys at the age of 18. Of those who attended public school, about 28% dropped out prior to the age of 13. With a high mortality rate, many did not live past the age of 39. Driving fatalities, suicide, accidents and congenital issues were most often the cause of early death. Eighty percent of Irish nomads died before the age of 65, according to Ireland's Department of Health and Children. And



despite a very high birth rate, 10 percent of Irish nomad infants died before the age of two.

Referring to those not of their blood as 'buffers', the Irish nomads roamed and traveled, pitching their 'home' where the seasons carried them. Every April, before and just after the turn of the 20th century, the Rileys, Burkes and Mitchells would clear their belongings from Neutaconkanut Hill, pack up their colorfully painted

wagons, kiss each other goodbye and call out wishes for good luck as each drove away toward their individual summer destinations. In the fall, they would reunite there on the hill. Between 10,000 and 40,000 people in the United States are descended from Irish nomads.

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

Viana Valentine gets introspective with 'Fever Dream'



VIANA VALENTINE

By **ROB DUGUAY**

The power of creativity comes in numerous forms while being rooted in a variety of driving forces. It can serve as a way to alleviate boredom or just to pass the time, but it can also be a form of catharsis for what the person behind the project is going through. There are questions that need answers and emotions that need to be released with whatever is being made becoming the solving and channeling mechanism, whether it's a painting, a drawing, a film or a song. For Providence alt-pop artist Viana Valentine, her debut album "Fever Dream" that came out on June 2 is an example of how music can be a soothing medium along with being an enjoyable experience. This is conveyed through a piano being the foundation for most of the songs while electronic beats weave themselves in and out and Valentine's stellar vocals have a consistent presence.

From start to finish, there's a wide range of structures, arrangements and techniques being present within the tracks. Some songs lean toward being a ballad while others are danceable bangers and they all encompass a full gamut of feelings. I think that's what makes this album stand out from other local releases, you can really get a sense that Valentine is shedding her inhibitions with each note and lyric. At the same

time, she's embracing her own individuality as a musician. It's something to be admired and respected, especially since a lot of other musicians are still trying to put their own stamp on their creative output.

"Would You Love Me" is an excellent example of that emotional shedding I just mentioned. It's one of those ballads that's purely honest and genuine while showing truth to the fact that there's a lot more going on with a person than what's on the surface. As an ode to her home city, "PVD" tells a bit of a story about Valentine's interactions in Providence. I think it puts a light on this quasi post-COVID life we're all in, but you'd have to ask her about that. I really like the title track as well and other highlights within the album include "Hella Depressed" and "Evergreen".

Pop music these days can often come off as formulaic and bland, but Valentine defeats this notion with her originality. She isn't impersonating anyone or ripping anyone off, she stays true to herself and her craft while keeping it real. That's why "Fever Dream" is a great album and I highly suggest giving it a listen. The best way to do so is by logging on to Valentine's Bandcamp page at vianavalentine.bandcamp.com. It's ideal for anyone who enjoys the Top 40 but is down to check out something that's a bit different from the norm.

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