

# Cranston Herald

Thursday, May 22, 2025

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## At Hunter's Garage site, mixed-use plan gets initial OK

By JOHN HOWELL  
Warwick Beacon Editor

The future of the former Hunter's Garage property next to the bridge in Pawtuxet is a step closer to coming into focus with Planning Board approval last Wednesday night of a plan to build two adjoined buildings with six housing units and 1,510 square feet of commercial space.

"I'm very pleased with the outcome," said Anthony Albanese Jr., who with his father acquired the property four years ago. This is their third proposal for the site. The first two plans, a restaurant with six dwelling units and a second with 12 residential units, met heavy community resistance for being too big for the historical community and lacking adequate parking. Neither of those plans gained Planning Board approval, nor were they pursued.

The latest proposal, as Albanese described for a story prior to the Planning Board hearing, is "self contained," meaning apart from variance of side-lot restrictions and a



The Warwick Planning Board gave master-plan approval last Wednesday to the proposed development of two connected buildings with six residential units and 1,510 square feet of commercial space on the site of the former Hunter's Garage in Pawtuxet.

rezoning allowing the mixed use of the property, it does not require exceptions to parking and density requirements. Plans show parking for 22 vehicles, two more than required for the six units and commercial uses.

The development, however, met objections from neighbors who see it as encroaching on the residential character of the village. An argument made before the hearing by Ginny Leslie, a board member of the Pawtuxet Village Association who lives two houses west of the former garage on Post Road, is that rather than looking to build to the maximum by gaining zoning variances and exceptions, developers look to build with what they have.

Albanese called Planning Board approval "one small step in the right direction." He noted that the plan needs to get a variety of approvals before he can proceed with demolition of the garage and commencement of construction. He expects his next step will be to come before the

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Kids line up for the 1K fun run. Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus.

School fundraiser draws 370, a feat of the feet Edwards S. Rhodes Elementary School held its annual fundraiser, It Takes a Village 5K and 1K Fun Run, last Friday at Pawtuxet Park.

Families and friends came out to support and participate in the activities. Music from local adult and kid bands at You Rock School of Music (16 bands) played throughout the day, keeping the energy up and feet moving on the grass.

There were more than 30+ local businesses and sponsors for the race. The free T-shirts and drawstring bags were thanks to one of the sponsors, Coastal Cabinets. And for the first time, both of Edgewood's public elementary

schools, Rhodes and Edgewood Highland Elementary School, partnered for the fundraiser.

According to the director of the race, Geoff Decker, the idea started back in March when the Rhodes Parent Teacher Association and the Edgewood-Highland Parent Teacher Organization wanted to find a way to work together.

He said the hope and expectation is that the event will get even stronger through this collaboration next year and beyond.

Final count for entries was at 370 sign-ups for both races, well above last year's total of 290.

● MORE 5K PHOTOS page 8

## Off to the races!

## Council president seeks to expand bipartisanship

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS  
Beacon Media Staff Writer

After five years on City Council, Cranston's first female council president, Jessica Marino, says for the first time she finds a true effort of bipartisanship and teamwork.

Against the backdrop of an ever-edgier political climate, Marino says, the current council has managed to avoid what she calls "petty politics" games.

She says she hopes to continue in the same spirit as the year unfolds, citing the recent budget process for the fiscal year that begins July 1 as an example of bipartisanship among council members and the mayor's office.

Calls for continued collaboration are reminiscent of a similar message from Marino during her inaugural address in January.

"What's been different is there's a genuine willingness to collaborate across party lines," Marino said. "And it's just the natural inclination of the council members to conduct themselves that way."

"This doesn't mean council members always agree, she says, but there is a refreshing effort to hear the thoughts and preferences of a ward council member on issues that may affect their ward.

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## Their words gave them away

Seniors, students find each other easily at pen pals' first meet-up

By BARBARA POLICHETTI  
Beacon Media Staff Writer

They had never met, but they 'recognized' each other very quickly.

Last week, students from Cranston High School West who have been corresponding with members of the Cranston Senior Center got to meet their pen pals in person for the first time. To test how well they'd come to know each other through pen and paper, they played a quick game of questions-and-answers to see if they could pick out who they had been writing to. And to make it even trickier, the students knew their senior pals only by the pen names they had been using — such as Minnie Mouse, Cheeta and Taylor Swift.

Still, their weeks of writing to each other made the students very good detectives as they made their way around a room at the Senior Center that had been festooned with decorations for their face-to-face meeting. "Do you have grandchildren?" they queried some of the adults. "Do you like to travel? Did you meet your husband in California?"

These were just of the few details that the young and older writers had come to know about each other, and most knew right away when they found their pal. They greeted



Cranston West student Guilianna Johnson (left) says her pen pal, Cythina Marzullo, is a "cool person," and they plan to stay in touch. Beacon Media photo by Barbara Polichetti

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Retired Cranston sergeant who teaches criminal law, Ray Angell, represented Sgt. Nelson Carreiro (seated) during the mock trial. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*

# Role playing exercise gives recruits real sense of courtroom

By **JOHN HOWELL**  
*Beacon Media Editor*

Warwick Police Sergeant Nelson Carreiro was acting on the hot seat Thursday afternoon. He was before Municipal Court Justice Kelly McElroy on a mock DUI charge. She was watching his every move as were the prosecution and defense and 15 of the 17 police recruits who started the Warwick Police Academy on Valentine's Day and will conclude with graduation ceremonies June 16 at City Hall.

The background of the mock arrest was quickly established by recruit Andrew Persechino who took the stand under the questioning of city solicitor Kerry Raffanelli, acting as the prosecutor. Persechino played the role of the first officer at the scene describing how he approached a black Silverado stopped in the area of Strawberry Field Road with its engine running and lights on. It was about 4:20 p.m. Persechino stepped through what occurred from there.

As he approached the car to see if he could be of assistance, the man who was identified as Carreiro shut off the engine. Persechino said there was an odor of alcohol and Carreiro's eyes were blood shot and speech slurred. He suspected he had been drinking.

Carreiro is one of many instructors working with recruits. The academy is run by Warwick Captain Robert Hart, Lt. Matthew Higgins and Sgt. Justin Martin.

The program is run out of the New England Institute of Technology Criminal Justice Building on Access Road in Warwick as well as the former Cooper Armory on Sandy Lane. Recruits also train at other city facilities including the gun range.

In the DUI scenario, Recruit Corbin Pereira was the

second officer to arrive at the scene. Pereira looked to take a seat next to Persechino who was on the stand but was quickly instructed to leave the room. He would be called next, and it was apparent that attorney Ray Angell, a retired Cranston sergeant who teaches criminal law, wanted to catch any inconsistencies between the two testimonies.

Pereira is a Pilgrim High graduate who lives in Cowesett with his wife and two children. Their youngest was born recently and the other, a toddler, loves having a sister.

Pereira left a significantly better paying job at the ACI to come to Warwick. He said after eight years of virtually the same routine behind locked doors he is looking forward to doing police work in the community where he lives.

Raffanelli quizzed Persechino on how he concluded Carreiro was "intoxicated" by demonstrating the tests he put the suspect through. These actions were closely watched by the defense, who asked the recruit to repeat the steps. Angell noted Persechino performed the test slightly differently.

He also sought to poke holes in Persechino's testimony, but didn't get far.

Throughout Persechino answered Raffanelli and McElroy respectfully using "sir" and "your honor." That was part of what Carreiro hoped the recruits would get to see.

Apart from witnessing court procedures, Carreiro wanted recruits to understand the importance of speaking clearly and confidently under oath and court etiquette. Also, he was looking to understand "the importance of writing reports and how inconsistencies or what is not included can be challenged."

When all was said and done, Judge McElroy ruled Carreiro guilty as charged, and the class was done for the day.

## Police Log

### FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE

On May 19 at 2:32 p.m., officers arrested Robert Hayward, 43, of 201 West 14th St., Bronx, New York, as a Fugitive From Justice. The arrest was the result of a call for service at 777 Cranston St. Hayward was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and remanded to the ACI.

### DUI

On May 18 at 12:58 a.m., officers arrested Daniel J McGowan, 43, of 63 Hemlock Ave., for DUI 1st Offense BAC Unknown and Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test. The arrest was the result of a motor vehicle stop in the area of Hayward St. and Norfolk St. McGowan was held for arraignment.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

On May 17 at 4:49 p.m., officers arrested Felix Diaz, 41, of 17 Orchard St Cranston, for (1) count Domestic Violence- Vandalism and (1) count Domestic Violence - Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a disturbance call for service at 17 Orchard St. Diaz was arraigned by Bail Commissioner TOT ACI (bail violator).

### CRANK OR OBSCENE PHONE CALLS

On May 15 at 6 p.m., officer(s) arrested Moraima Ortiz Rivera, 53, of 160 Broad St. Providence, RI for Crank or Obscene Phone Calls and a 6th District Court bench warrant. The arrest was the result of East Greenwich PD turning her over on an arrest and affidavit warrant out of this department. Rivera was arraigned and transported to Women's Intake.

### POSSESSION WITH INTENT

On May 15 at 6:30 p.m., officer(s) arrested Fredrick Malay, 22, of 15 Knight St., for Manufac/Poss/Deliv w/ intent Schedule I/II (Fentanyl), Manufac/Poss/Deliv w/ intent Schedule I/II (Crack-Cocaine), Driving on Suspended License 4th/Greater, and a 3rd District Court bench warrant. The arrest was the result of a motor vehicle stop in the area of 364 Wellington Ave. Malay was awaiting arraignment.

### ARSON

On May 15 at 9:24 p.m., officer(s) arrested Nicholas Lombardi, 64, of 22 Bergen St. Providence, for Arson-5th

Degree. The arrest was the result of Warwick PD turning him over on an arrest and affidavit warrant out of this department. Lombardi was arraigned by the Justice of the Peace at Kent Hospital.

### POSSESSION OF DRUGS

On May 15 at 11:14 a.m., officer(s) arrested Nicolette Tiberi, 39, of 145 Pleasant St., for Possession of Schedule I/II (cocaine) less than 10g., Resisting Legal or Illegal Arrest, and Obstructing Officer in Execution of Duty. The arrest was the result of a motor vehicle stop in the area of 16 Hornbine St. Tiberi was awaiting arraignment.

*Editor's Note: The preceding arrest log information has been taken from online arrest log reports posted by the Cranston Police Department.*

# Cranston Herald

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# City battles litter on bike path

Also, splash pad to replace basketball court

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS  
BeaconMedia Staff Writer

At last Thursday's public works committee meeting, Parks and Recreation Director Steven Piscopiello addressed concerns over litter on the Cranston bike path.

Piscopiello told the committee that the department is out there at least two to three times a week picking up litter to keep the path clean for residents.

He said the litter often picked up is not always the basic discards such as food wrappers and cigarette butts. Instead, he says crews are also picking up larger items like mattresses, tires, recreational barrels and sometimes tents.

With the larger or more troublesome items, which he says sometimes includes hateful graffiti and drug paraphernalia, they try to remove it asap.

Piscopiello said the department will purchase a new trash truck when the new fiscal year starts on July 1, an expenditure approved under the city's capital budget and improvement program.

He said this will help crews with keeping the path and the department's trash cans clean, which is becoming a more demanding task.

Noting an increasing issue with residents using the department's trash cans for their residential refuse, Piscopiello says it is a full-time job to manage.

"We're doing the best we can with the resources that we have," he said.

Piscopiello said residents are free to reach to him and his office if they have any questions or concerns. His phone number at City Hall is 401-780-6169.

Another matter that bubbled to the surface Thursday night was siting of the recently proposed splash pad for this summer.



A rendering of the proposed splash pad tentatively set to open by mid-July to early August. Submitted photo

Piscopiello, who updated the committee on the splash pad, said the project will be built on one of the basketball courts at Doric Avenue. Concerns were raised by committee members about the impact of losing a basketball court.

Piscopiello said basketball courts at Davenport Elementary School, Park View Middle School and Cranston Stadium will all be redone. A tentative completion date

is set for end of July to early August.

Piscopiello said the cost of the splash pad will fall between \$250,000 and \$290,000. He said the equipment was ordered at a cost of \$117,000. He put the delivery date for the equipment in mid-June.

During the meeting, Piscopiello said the splash pad will include features such as spinning wheels, kites and workstations.

The site will use fresh water instead of a

recirculating system, which he says is more cost effective for the city.

Piscopiello explained that a recirculating system would have to be monitored daily to maintain the correct pH and chlorine levels. A freshwater system requires none of that.

Piscopiello said seven or eight contractors are being reviewed by for the project by Department of Public Works Director Frank Corrao.

## Cranston Chatter

**May 21: Staying Healthy & Fit through Diet & Exercise:** Offered Wednesday at 10 a.m., at the Cranston Senior Center, 1070 Cranston St.

**May 22: Making Social Security Secure:** a presentation will be offered Thursday at 10 a.m., at the Cranston Senior Center.

**May 23: Gaspee Days & Memorial Day Block Party:** Come join us on Friday at Pawtuxet Park in Warwick, for a night of drinks, music, and neighborhood fun from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 per person and limited to individuals 21 years of age and older. Children, pets and outside beverages not allowed.

**May 24: Crafternoon for Adults: Friends of the Cranston Public Library** will host a watercolor craft-ernoon with local artist Ren Mercer on Saturday from 2-4 p.m. at the Central Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd. Program is 18+ and registration is required. Cost is a \$25 donation, visit the Cranston Public Library website to register.

**May 24: Community Box-**

**ing Day:** Haven Box in collaboration with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints invites you to help pack 500 comfort boxes, college care kits and survivor bundles for those impacted by sexual violence. Happening on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at 1000 Narragansett Parkway Warwick. For more information email hello@havenbox.org or jenni.mouritsen@gmail.com.

**May 24-26: Arts and Crafts Festival: The Gaspee Days Arts & Crafts Festival** is a free, fun, and family-friendly experience that showcases over 100 fine artisans, community groups, and non-profits where you will find one-of-a-kind art and delicious craft fair eats. It will be at Pawtuxet Park in Warwick. May 24 and 25, event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 26 event runs from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**May 25: Oakland Beach FireBarn Drag Brunch:** Oakland Beach FireBarn will hold its 3rd Annual Drag Brunch with The Queens, on Sunday, at 645 Oakland Beach Ave., Warwick. Tickets are \$40 per person. Doors open at 12:30

p.m. For tickets and more information: 401-737-4786.

**May 27: Cavalcade of Bands:** The Providence Federation of Musicians is proud to announce the spring edition of the Cavalcade of Bands on Tuesday at 60 Rhodes Place, Rhodes on the Pawtuxet. Doors open at 5:15 and tickets are \$20 in advance. \$25 at the door. For table reservations, call 401-780-6887/6889 or email info@promusicri.org.

**May 28: Diabetes Chat (3 Part Series):** Join the Cranston Senior Center on Wednesday, to discuss challenges of diabetes, how prevent and/or manage. Presentations are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Sign up now call 401-780-6000.

**May 28: Healthy Foods Cooking Demonstration:** Chef Kevin Millonzi will present a free cooking demonstration discussing healthy options for meals. Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield RI, this event will be on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Space is limited, registration is required. Call now 401-780-6000.

**May 31: Edgewood Gar-**

**den Club: Plant & Yard Sale** on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Shriner's Parking Lot, 2115 Broad St. Locally grown plants from members' garden will be sold, along with gently used garden tools, decorative items and household goods.

**May 31: Spring Fashion Show:** the Open Table of Christ United Methodist Church will host a spring fashion show from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at 1520 Broad Street, Providence. \$10 admission includes lunch and door prizes. Tickets are available at the Open Closet resale shop or email marykathaleencurtain@gmail.com. Tickets will also be available at the door. The Open Closet shop will be open after the show.

**Beginning May 5, ending June 13: Walk with Ease:** Need relief from arthritis pain or just want to be active? Join the Cranston Senior Center's "Walk with Ease" with a twist: you walk alone or with friends three times a week for six weeks as far and as long as you are comfortable. All you need to do is keep a log of the days that you walk. Register

by calling 401-780-6000.

**June 1, Hike for Hope:** The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP - RI) will gather for its first annual hike at Kent County YMCA Camp at 2 p.m. Registration and activities will begin at 1PM. For more details and to register, visit [www.afsp.org/rico](http://www.afsp.org/rico) construction. Walk-up registration is also welcomed.

**June 1: American Girl Doll Tea ~ Grand Ballroom:** Young folks can bring an American Girl doll or favorite doll along with an adult at the Sprague Mansion from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Reservation Only: call 944-9226. \$22 per person. Send check payable by May 26 to Attn: Doll Tea Cranston Historical Society, 1351 Cranston St. Call 944-9226 to volunteer. [www.facebook.com/cranstonhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/cranstonhistoricalsociety).

**June 7: Defenders of Animals' Party** Characters of Rhode Island: Come have your photo taken with Batman. Defenders of Animals' Inc. a fundraiser on Saturday from 10-11 a.m., at the Pet Supplies Plus store at

171 Sockanosset Cross Rd. Contact Person: Dennis Tabella, 401-461-1922.

**June 14: Rummage Sale: The Phillips Memorial Baptist Church** will host a sale of nice, slightly used items at low prices on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at 565 Pontiac Ave. The church is handicap accessible.

**June 18: Rochambeau Strawberry Biscuit Tea:** The Cranston Historical Society will host an evening of pleasantries and tea with biscuits on Sunday at 6 p.m., at the Joy Homestead, 156 Scituate Ave. \$5 donation. Call (401) 944-9226 for more information or visit [www.facebook.com/cranstonhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/cranstonhistoricalsociety).

**June 25: Coping With Triggers (Diabetes Chat):** Join the Cranston Senior Center to discuss challenges of diabetes, how prevent and/or manage. Presentations are from 10-11 Sign up now call 401-780-6000.

**June 27: Governor Sprague Mansion Spring Grounds Beautification:**

● CHATTER to page 4



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● CHATTER from page 3

the Cranston Historical Society requests volunteer participation on Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 1351 Cranston St., the Governor Sprague Mansion. Wear outdoor clothing and bring gloves and a rake. Call to signup/register: 944-9226.

**June 27: Early Evening Tour with Tea at Sprague Mansion:** Enjoy a relaxing evening tea & special sweet served in the Sprague dining room at 6 p.m. Must RSVP by June 22/limited seating. Call 944-9226. \$18 nonmembers; \$16 members. ATTN: June Tea Payable Cranston Historical Society, 1351 Cranston St. Accessible entrance and parking behind the Mansion.

**July 30: Shop, Cook, & Eat to Prevent/Manage Diabetes (Diabetes Chat):** Join the Cranston Senior Center to discuss challenges of diabetes, how prevent and/or manage. Presentations are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Sign up now call 401-780-6000.

**Convenient Ways to Declutter & Give Back:** Drop off at the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island (BBBSRI) Cranston Donation Center, 993 Oaklawn Ave. Open Monday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bins available 24/7. BBBSRI accepts unwanted clothing, linens, and small housewares—even if they’re ripped, stained, or mismatched as they’ll be recycled. No time to drop off? Schedule a FREE home pick-up at DonateRI.org or call 401-921-2434 #2. Questions? Email donations@bigsri.org

**Lunch at the Cranston Senior Center:** Mondays through Fridays – 11:30 a.m. Suggested Donation: \$3. Don’t miss lunch time fun and a delicious full course meal. Good friends and good food. Check out our daily menus in our newsletter or by going to cranstonseiorcenter.com. Make reservations by calling 401-780-6134.

**Applications open for Cranston Hall of Fame:** If you would like to honor a Cranston Alum, fill out an application online at cpsd.net. Contact csoccio@cox.net for more information.

**Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island** Call for Volunteers: to apply you can visit rimeals.org/volunteer.

**Cranston Tree Program is now accepting applications for its spring planting.** Seven- to eight-foot-tall trees, planted by a nursery, are available to homeowners for free. Residents living near highways are urged to apply. Applications can be downloaded at westbaylandtrust.org/cranstontree, by emailing cranstontree@gmail.com or calling 941-1264.

**Every Monday through Friday: Virtual Dementia Caregiver Support Groups** are specifically designed for people caring for loved ones with Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia. Monday, 3:30- 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 3-4:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 5-6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10-11:30 a.m. Information and registration, call 401-415-4664; or email: info@HopeDementia.org. Follow us on Facebook @HopeHealth.

**Every Monday: The Gaspee Celtic Jam** meets at the Pawtuxet Village Baptist Church, 2157 Broad St., Mondays from 7-9 p.m. All skill levels welcome. Visit www.gaspeecelticjam.org for more info (including the current tune list/tune book) or to send us any questions. No specific Celtic music experience is required.

**Every Monday: Cranston Senior Center Book Club** meets from 9-10 a.m. For more information call Sky at 401-780-6216.

**Every Monday, Thursday and Friday: Cranston Senior Center** provides chair exercise classes from 9:45-10:15 a.m. This free exercise class can strengthen everything from the core muscles and the glutes to the lower and upper back, legs and arms.

**Every Monday through Thursday: Cranston Senior Center** offers Tech Help from 12:30-2 p.m. Whether you are having computer questions or experiencing issues with your phone, iPad, etc. Need help with your health care portals or need to order free Covid test kits? They can assist with that as well.

**Every Tuesday and Thursday: Cranston Senior Center** provides medication reviews from 9 a.m.-noon. Mary McKenna, our CVS pharmacist, is available to review and discuss your medications with you. Stop by or call for an appointment 401-780-6210.

**Every First and Third Monday: Rhode Island Active Toastmasters meets,** serving both Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts. Rhode Island Active Toastmasters holds its meetings at New England Institute of Technology in East Greenwich, in Room N214 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, please contact us Rhode Island Active Toastmasters. All are welcome!

**Every Tuesday: Chair Yoga at the Cranston Senior Center** from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Fee is \$3.00.

**Every Tuesday: ASL Interpreted RI AA Meeting** will be held at Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, 565 Pontiac Ave., from 7-8 p.m.

**Every Tuesday: Cranston Senior Center** offers computer assistance at 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Every Tuesday, Bingo: Cranston Senior Center** from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., the center will host night bingo.

**Every Tuesday – Cranston Senior Center** will be offering a balance, strength and flexibility class at 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. You will learn how to move the body in a healthy way to reduce pain and improve body awareness. Fee: \$3.

**Every Tuesday: Cranston Senior Center** will be offering a build better balance class from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Fee: \$3.00 Classes are with or without the use of a chair.

**Every Second and Fourth Tuesday, the Fall River Toastmasters Meet,** serving both Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts, the Fall River Toastmasters holds its meetings. Doors open at 6 p.m. and meeting is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us at The Chamber, 200 Pocasset St., Fall River, Massachusetts, second floor, call Sean DaCosta at (508) 840-6621. All are welcome!

**Every Wednesday: Cranston Senior Center** offers Tai Chi classes from 10-11 a.m. with a \$3 fee.

**First Wednesday of every month: The Caregiver’s Support Group** meets at 2 p.m. at the Cranston Senior Center. It will encourage caregivers to care for them-

selves and provide productive strategies. For more information call Jennifer at 401-780-6254.

**Every Thursday, Get-a-Job-Thursdays:** We Make RI, an organization that provides free manufacturing training, hosts a series of job fairs every Thursday from 11 a.m.- noon, 200 First Ave., For more information about this event or other training opportunities, visit www.wemakeri.com/get-a-job-thursday or contact Mike at (401) 232-0077 x109.

**Every Thursday, BINGO:** The Cranston Senior Center hosts bingo every Thursday from 1-2:30 p.m. Snacks provided, and cash prizes will be available.

**Exercise Classes at the Cranston Senior Center:** You choose what works for you. Some include but are not limited to: Aerobics, Balance, Strength & Flexibility Class, Tai Chi, Zumba, Ballroom Dancing and Line Dancing Lessons. For more information call 780-6000.

**PSA Free Gun Locks at Cranston and Warwick Public Libraries:** Secure storage of weapons is now the law in Rhode Island. A free gun lock and securing weapons safely information is now available at two locations: Cranston Central Library Reference Desk, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd. Cranston; Warwick Central Library Reference desk, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick. Residents from all RI communities are welcome. This event is not endorsed by or affiliated with the Cranston Public Library.

**The Oaklawn Grange Used Clothing Donation Shed** needs used clothing items, 24 Searle Ave., Cranston. Accepted items include only: used clothing, shoes, belts, purses, linens, pillowcases, blankets, curtains and stuffed animals. All items must be in use-


able condition. Your donations will be distributed as whole garments locally and worldwide. Contact oaklawngrangeinfo@gmail.com for more information.

**NAMI-RI Offers Family Support Groups:** The RI chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness offers free support groups for families and friends of loved ones struggling with mental health. Groups are led by trained facilitators with experience with family members. Meetings last 90 minutes and everyone gets a chance to share. Group members offer help and resources, when appropriate, based on their experiences. More information and full schedule can be found at namirhodeisland.org or call 401-331-3060. No pre-registration for these monthly groups is necessary.

**Cranston Senior Center is looking for your recipes:** For the next few months, they will be collecting recipes from anyone who would like to share and see their favorite recipes in a future Cranston Senior Center Cookbook. Please drop off or mail your recipe to Sky Marcus at the Cranston Senior Center, 1070 Cranston St.

**Christmas in July Sale:** Tabernacle Baptist Church, Hope (Scituate), is looking for donations of Christmas items for its Christmas in July sale. Call Barbara: 401-827-8054

*Editor’s Note: To submit your news to The Chatter, send information and photos to Rosegalie at rosegalie@beaconmediari.com by Friday at 3 p.m. to appear in the following week’s edition. Items can include community and school event announcements and calls for volunteers. Submissions may be edited for space and are not guaranteed to run. To guarantee space, please call 401-732-3100 and ask to place an advertisement.*



**CITY OF CRANSTON  
CORRECTION OF NOTICE  
OF PUBLIC MEETING  
“Vaughn Lane”  
Residential Planned Development**

The Cranston City Plan Commission will hold a public hearing to review the **Master Plan** for a proposed Residential Planned District development entitled “**Vaughn Lane**”. This public hearing will be held on **Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.** in the **James T. Giles Community Room of the Central Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd.** At this public hearing, plans will be presented for public comment and City Plan Commission review and consideration.

Zoom webinar information for remote participation:  
<https://zoom.us/j/95471701340?pwd=qRZ9XccflrwtAx14Xe7wvTi2LlcN60.1>  
 Passcode: 090994  
 Or One tap mobile: +16465588656,,95471701340# US (New York)  
 Or Telephone:  
 +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
 Webinar ID: 954 7170 1340  
 International numbers available:  
<https://zoom.us/u/ad01GSPpNv>

The meeting of the City Plan Commission will be live streamed on the City’s YouTube channel. You will only be able to watch the proceedings on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofcranston>

The subject parcel is located on 0/99 Vaughn Lane designated as Lot No. 83, 84, 85 & 258 on Assessor’s Plat No. 30. The owner and applicant is 777 Main Street LLC. The lots proposed for development contain 91 +/- acres. The proposal is to extend Wini Street and Vaugh Lane and create 44 lots for single-family use while preserving 56.0 +/- acres of open space. The parcels are zoned A-20 and A-80 Residential. The project will be serviced by public water and sewer. The proposed Residential Planned District development is a use allowed by-right within the Cranston Zoning Code.

The full Site Plan, staff reports, and additional details on this application will be posted to the City’s website and can be found on the City Planning Department’s webpage at <https://www.cranstonri.com/departments/planning/>. If you are unable to access the internet, you can contact the City Planning Department directly at 780-3138 for access to meeting materials. The application may be reviewed prior to the meeting in the City Planning Department, Room 309, Cranston City Hall, during regular office hours, 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Pursuant to the Cranston Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, the proposed plan may be revised by the City Plan Commission as a result of further study or because of views expressed at this meeting. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired should contact the Planning Department at 780-3138, seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting date.

Steven Frias  
*President*

5/15/25

Beth E. Ashman, MCP, AIC  
*City Planning Director*

**SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing will be held before the Safety Services & Licenses Committee on **Monday, June 2, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Cranston City Council Chambers, City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, City Hall, Cranston, R.I. in accordance with Title 3, Chapter 7 of the R.I. Gen. Laws, 1956, as amended, for the purpose of considering the application listed below. Remote participation is also available by using the logon information provided below as posted on the City’s website at [www.cranstonri.gov](http://www.cranstonri.gov) and the Secretary of State’s website at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov).

When: Jun 2, 2025 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Topic: Safety Services & Licenses Committee  
Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/92622262471?pwd=2ySjpl.wza7xS2nglbelbcFFyziOclm.1>  
Passcode:854034  
Phone one-tap:  
+16469313860,,92622262471# US  
+13017158592,,92622262471# US (Washington DC)

Join via audio:  
+1 646 931 3860 US

**Permanent Expansion of Premise**  
Tabor Franchi Canteen, Inc.  
170 Randall St.

Kristen Haroian, Chair  
Safety Services & Licenses Committee

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC  
City Clerk

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the deaf or hard of hearing must notify the City Clerk’s Office at 461-1000 ext. 3194 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.”

**5/22, 5/29/25**

**SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE**

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Passcode:854034

Phone one-tap:  
+16469313860,,92622262471# US  
+13017158592,,92622262471# US (Washington DC)

Join via audio:  
+1 646 931 3860 US

**New Class BVL Liquor License**  
401 WingZ, Inc.  
800 Oaklawn Ave, C3  
Mon-Sun 11am-9pm

Kristen Haroian, Chair  
Safety Services & Licenses Committee

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC  
City Clerk

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**5/22, 5/29/25**

**SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE**

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Passcode:854034

d/b/a Taco Bell  
1102 Cranston St.  
Monday-Sunday 7am-4am

Kristen Haroian, Chair  
Safety Services & Licenses Committee

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC  
City Clerk

**New Class BVL Liquor License**  
Olneyville Opco, LLC  
d/b/a Olneyville NY System  
1012 Reservoir Ave.  
Mon-Sun 11am-10pm

Kristen Haroian, Chair  
Safety Services & Licenses Committee

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**5/22, 5/29/25**

**SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing will be held before the Safety Services & Licenses Committee on **Monday, June 2, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Cranston City Council Chambers, City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, City Hall, Cranston, R.I. in accordance with Title 5, Chapter 24 of the R.I. Gen. Laws, 1956, as amended for the purpose of considering the application listed below. Remote participation is also available by using the logon information provided below as posted on the City’s website at [www.cranstonri.gov](http://www.cranstonri.gov) and the Secretary of State’s website at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov).

When: Jun 2, 2025 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Topic: Safety Services & Licenses Committee

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Passcode:854034

Phone one-tap:  
+16469313860,,92622262471# US  
+13017158592,,92622262471# US (Washington DC)

Join via audio:  
+1 646 931 3860 US

**Additional Hours Virtualing License**  
DDO New England, LLC

d/b/a Taco Bell  
1102 Cranston St.  
Monday-Sunday 7am-4am

Kristen Haroian, Chair  
Safety Services & Licenses Committee

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC  
City Clerk

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**5/15, 5/22, 5/29/25**

**REVISED  
City of Cranston  
Collector’s Sale of Estates  
For Taxes and/or  
Assessments Due and Unpaid  
CHANGE OF TIME TO  
MAY 22, 2025 AT 3:00 PM**

Please note that this tax sale was originally advertised on May 1, 2025 to be held in the Cranston City Council Chambers, 869 Park Ave. Cranston RI on Thursday, May, 22, 2025 at 8:30 am. Due to a scheduling conflict, **we have moved the start time of the tax sale to 3:00 pm on Thursday, May 22, 2025** at Cranston City Council Chambers, 869 Park Ave. Cranston RI 02910.

Accordingly, the undersigned Treasurer of the City of Cranston hereby gives revised notice that he will now sell at public auction to the highest bidder in the Cranston City Council Chambers, 869 Park Ave. Cranston, RI on **Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 3:00 pm** the various parcels of real estate or so much as may be necessary to pay the taxes and assessments which constitute a lien thereon as set forth in the original advertisement in the May 1, 2025 issue of the Cranston Herald, to which reference is hereby made.

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

Terms: Certified Funds - **No Cash Will Be Accepted.** Payments must be delivered to Cranston City Hall 869 Park Ave. Tax Collections, Room 206 Cranston, RI 02910 between 8:30 am and 12:00 pm on Friday, May 23, 2025.

David A. Capuano  
City Treasurer

**5/15, 5/22/25**



Valedictorian Jarod Cournoyer reminds his fellow nursing students of their commitment to help others.



Top of his class. Valedictorian Jarod Cournoyer of Warwick gets ready to lead the class processional.

# CCRI nursing grads bask in Nightengale's glow

By **BARBARA POLICETTI**  
Beacon Media Staff  
Writer

Mounds of white roses lined a table near the stage in the Athletics Field House at the Community College of Rhode Island's Flanagan Campus in Lincoln last week.

The occasion was the pinning ceremony for about 170 nursing graduates who are now ready to fill much-needed positions in health care.

Jarod R. Cournoyer of Warwick was the valedictorian, and he urged his fellow nursing graduates to go forward and fulfill their pledge to care for others.

"Like some others in the program, Cournoyer, who was graduating with a 3.99 grade-point average, came to nursing after another career. The 37-year-old is a civil engineer, but said he went back to school for nursing because he had always felt the calling to help others.

"It was something I had to do," he said before the ceremony.

The pinning ceremony, held one night before the community college's com-

mencement, was both solemn and joyous. Proud families cheered loudly throughout much of the evening, but the field house became silent during the entrance processional. Dressed in white nursing scrubs, the nursing students filed in carrying ceramic lamps in the shape of old-fashioned oil lamps – a classic symbol of Florence Nightengale, who is recognized as the founder of modern nursing.

The lamp, which CCRI faculty referred to as the "lamp of learning," is often used to recognize Nightengale's important role in nursing. It is a reference to the lamp she used to check on patients throughout long nights during the Crimean War and a reminder that her work and commitment to study and healing brought light to many during a dark time.

After Cournoyer's speech, he and his fellow nursing students crossed the stage in groups of three to receive their gold and green pins, with each student receiving a single white rose. Before and after the ceremony, friends and families waved colorful bouquets as they searched



We made it! Millie Ramos (front) and classmate Stacie Wheeler make sure their families see them before the formal pinning ceremony began.

the crowd to congratulate their particular graduate.

Ryan DiGiulio, an East Providence firefighter who lives in Warwick, held two bouquets as he kept an eye out for his girlfriend, Nina DiBenedetto of Warwick. He said he is extremely proud of her becoming a nurse and that she has already been hired to work at Rhode Island Hospital.

# Farmers' market plants a seed at Garden City



Bring in the May flowers! Warwick resident Lainie Larrivee buys two new coleus plants from Ann Stamp, fifth-generation owner of Cranston-based Stamp Farms. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*

Garden City saw a huge crowd turn out for its first-ever farmers' market on Sunday.

With the sun high in the sky and a light breeze, people enjoyed great weather and cooled off the summer heat with a cup of a Rhode Island favorite, Del's lemonade. From fresh veggies to the sweet aroma of pretty flowers and even a booth with mysterious books hidden behind a nicely decorated front cover, the market had something for everyone!

The market's manager, Lupe Aguilar, said one booth sold out of its sourdough bread in 20 minutes, and fresh vegetables across the market were selling out quickly, too.

Aguilar said he is happy to see people out and about, mingling and being social.

The Garden City Farmer's Market will continue every Sunday this summer from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Ocean State Juice sold out an hour after they set up shop! *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*



Seraphina Mukagatare and Lillian Uwimana of the local community garden organization, Southside Community Land Trust, sell fresh vegetables such as eggplants and scallions. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*

**FOR SALE**  
33' Holiday destination - Completely self contained  
\*5 Solar panels \*5 Lithium high storage batteries  
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\*Self contained enclosed head \*Wickford mooring available  
**Call 401-862-8620**  
for more info and to arrange a viewing

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**UPCOMING COMEDY SHOWS:**

For info or reservations call the Comedy Factory Hotline at **401-639-7726!**

- 5/25 Pub on Park-Cranston**  
7pm \$20pp
- 6/14 39 West Restaurant & Lounge-Cranston. Buffet**  
6:30 pm Show 7:30pm. DJ follows show. \$60pp includes buffet, coffee & dessert, show, tax, & tip.  
**John Perrotta's book How Comedy Saved My Life** will be available to purchase & have signed before & after the show!
- 6/15 Boomerangs Roadhouse West Warwick**  
6 pm \$10pp
- 6/21 Bella Restaurant-Glendale**  
Family style dinner 7pm. Show follows. \$60pp includes dinner, coffee & dessert, show, tax, & tip.
- 6/22 Chelo's-Warwick**  
Afternoon Dinner-Comedy Show! Buffet 12:30pm. Show 1:30pm. \$50pp includes buffet, coffee & dessert, show, tax, & tip
- 6/26 Lemongrass-Warwick**  
Special appearance by Boston comedy legend Steve Sweeney! Buffet 6:15pm. Show 7:30pm. \$55pp includes buffet, show, tax, & tip.

**COMING ON OCTOBER 3RD**  
Special appearance by Boston comedy legend **LENNY CLARKE**  
**AT THE EVENT FACTORY KITCHEN & STAGE!**  
Reservations now being accepted!

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Suits sizes 6 to 32  
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106 ROLFE ST., CRANSTON, RI  
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**Voted "Best of Rhode Island" RI Monthly**

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**2003 HARLEY-DAVIDSON 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FAT BOY**

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Recently serviced, always done at the Harley dealership.

Like new condition. 3200 miles.

**\$7500**  
**Call 401.500.6854**



**2025 SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS**

June 23 - August 8

Ages 7 - 15


- BASKETBALL • BASEBALL
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- VOLLEYBALL • TENNIS
- LACROSSE
- GYMNASTICS

Camp Brochure & Registration Forms available at:  
[www.GoAnchormen.com](http://www.GoAnchormen.com)  
or by calling (401) 456-8098

Rhode Island College • 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave. • Providence, R.I. • 02908

## Clayville Assembly

7 Plainfield Pike • Foster, Rhode Island



**Pastor James Gallagher**  
**SUNDAY MEETINGS**  
Morning Worship... 10:00 AM  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY**  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study via Zoom.... 7:00 PM

• CALVINIST • KJV • SEPARATIST •

PO Box 222, Foster, RI 02825 • [www.clayvilleassembly.com](http://www.clayvilleassembly.com)  
email: [info@clayvilleassembly.com](mailto:info@clayvilleassembly.com)

### The Victory Hour

Radio: WARV 1590 AM Sunday 4-5 PM (Sermon Edition)

YouTube Channel: [Clayville Assembly \(official\) Posted every Monday & Thursday NOW: ISRAEL OF GOD SERIES](#)

Sermonaudio.com: Search Clayville Assembly

Podcast: Search Clayville Assembly

**IN CHRIST<sup>a</sup> BY FAITH<sup>b</sup>**  
**WE<sup>c</sup> ARE ABRAHAM'S SEED<sup>d</sup>**  
**AND ARE GRAFTED INTO<sup>e</sup>**  
**AN HOLY NATION<sup>f</sup>**  
**THE ISRAEL OF GOD<sup>g</sup>**

a. 2 Cor. 5:17 c. John 3:3 e. Rom. 11:17 g. Gal. 6:16  
b. Gal. 3:7 d. Gal. 3:29 f. 1 Peter 2:9 Heb. 8:10

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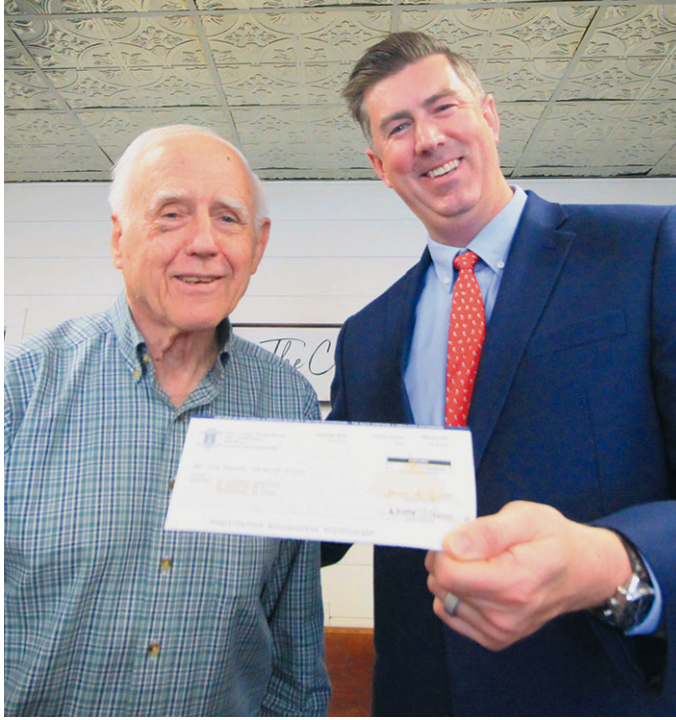
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## Police captain recognized for impact on YMCA

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS  
Beacon Media Staff Writer

The YMCA is a hub for families to find community support and resources. It is there that a Cranston resident and one of this year's honorees of the Y Heroes awards finds himself dedicated to strengthening the community and helping those in need.

Police Capt. Justin Dutra is the community outreach and special projects director for the Cranston Police Department. In that role, he supports different charities, fundraisers and helps address the needs of the community he serves.

Working with the Cranston YMCA branch brings that same mission to Dutra, but outside the frame of his work in policing.

"It's great to step outside of the Police Department and meet other people that are working in the community," Dutra said in a video that was played during the annual awards ceremony. "All the events that we do are great opportunities to interact with the people and the citizens of Cranston in a relaxed social setting."

Dutra said his nomination for the Y Heroes award came as a surprise.

The Y Heroes award honors a group of individuals and organizations who have gone above and beyond to uplift the Greater Providence YMCA community. The 2025 Y Heroes honorees were honored at the annual Y Heroes event last Tuesday at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick.

According to Karen Santilli, CEO of the GPYMCA, each honoree played a role in strengthening the community and making a difference in the lives of those they serve.

Dutra has helped with a lot of initiatives at the YMCA. He is also a member of the Cranston Y Advisory Council. He says a lot of the money raised at the spring festivals hosted by police departments goes toward initiatives at the Y.

"Our Y Heroes represent the very best of what makes this community strong," Santilli said during the ceremony. "They are mentors, advocates, public servants and partners who lead with heart and purpose. Each one has used their voice or their actions to make sure others feel seen, supported and empowered – and that's exactly what the Y is all about."

Dutra seems to embody those values through his work leading mentorship and youth-safety initiatives. He also

## Coffee and a check

The Coffee Grinder in Gov. Francis Shopping Plaza was the spot where State Sen. Matthew LaMountain, right, met John Howell, president of the RI Academic Decathlon to present a \$5,000 legislative grant for the organization that has conducted a statewide academic decathlon for the past 42 years. The state, corporate supporters, and individual donors make the program aimed at promoting and recognizing academic achievement possible. Warwick's three high schools, Cranston's two high schools, and Johnston Senior High School fielded teams in the competition held March 2 at Bryant University. The Wheeler School won the state event and went on to the nationals held earlier this month in Des Moines, Iowa. Photo courtesy of Jeff Taylor



Dutra accepts his award from Santilli. He said although the award came as a surprise, he is glad of the work he's done, which he says has been a team effort with fellow officers. Submitted photo.

furnished childcare spaces, developed a teen mentorship program and donated bike helmets for the Race 4 Chase initiative.

"They're (the YMCA) a great resource for our low-income residents and provide a lot of opportunity," Dutra said. "Whether in the gym or aquatics, they offer [a lot] for people of all ages."

Other honorees for the 2025 Y Heroes are: Rhode Island Foundation President and CEO David Cicilline, the Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation, Rylee Kelly, Mike Montecalvo and The Yan Family.

Dutra said he was shocked and humbled to be included with his fellow honorees and see himself in that company.

"Everything I've done to help the Y has been a team effort," Dutra said. "It wasn't just me; it was a team effort with the people I work with."

## Western Hills Middle School Q3 Honor Roll

### Grade 8 HIGH Honors

Jaedon Aquino, Brendan Bacon, Natalie Borrayo, Michael Caniglia, Sophia Dunphy, Chloe Floody, Christopher Foley, Addison Guisti, James Heaney, Aiden Jiang, Emma LaFazia, Mason LaRue, Anysa Layton, Chloe Lei, Zoe Li, Gianna Melo, Damian Minyetti Saldana, Owen Morrissey, Alyssa Muschiano, Nala Rico, Mina Romano, Anna Ruan, Jenna Ruan, Zoe Sampang, Ellery Shugrue, Zoe White, Rosalee Yin, Anna Yon, Angela Zhang

### Grade 8 Honors

Olivia Adams, Sarah Alnahas, Amro Aly, Brayden Anderson, Mason Andrade, Shane Aul-Branch, Nicolina Barboza, Drew Barron, Nathaniel Beatty, Erika Benson, Kasen Bento, Ioannis Bernazani, Maya Blair, Addison Blais, Abigail Bober, Olivia Borges, Shaydeline Cabrera Perez, London Cadet, Anrew Cai, Nevaeh Carello, Giuliana Carley, Asiah Champagne-Carpenter, Ranvel Chiongson, Angel Correa, Aviana Costantino, Christian Daravikchay, Ethan Decosta, Ricky DeFusco, Jeremy DiResto, Suzanna Dolarian, Sophia Donabedian, Abigail Evers, Max Fineberg, James Forsyth-Sears, Abigail Frias, Sophia M. Garcia, Drea Gaulin, Sienna Geremia, Avery Grabowski, Raelynn Guatieri, Shery Hidalgo Trochez, Jayden Holguin, Jada Jean-Baptiste, Arden Jimenez, Elliana Johnson, Elizabeth Joyce, Rebecca Kasden, Angelina King, Aria Koenig, Stefan Leaman, Trevor LePage, Angelo Loffredo, Florina Mallay, Declan Mangiantine, Isabella Marcano, Samuel Markarov, Donny Nunez Jr., Isabella Olivieri, Gianna Olivo, Annabella Olobri, Aimey Ortiz Quinones, Madison Perez, Michelle Phothisane, Benjamin Pine, Xan-

der Prak, Ava Procaccianti, Kayleigh Radtke, Elena Ramos, Mackenna Rebello, Lena Reilly, Lexie Reuter, Jiovanny Reyes Jr., John Henry Rose, Alessio Saccoccio, Joseph Salimeno Jr., Sophia Santucci, Sydney Scully, Molly Slinko-Gosetti, Andrea Stackhouse, Hailee Stinson, Tristen Thach, Amanda Tierney, Jilliani Tiguila, Caleb Tindall, Julia Tsang, Elena Verdi, Domenic Voccio, Madison Whalen.

### Grade 7 HIGH Honors

Shah Bano, Lana Bianchi, Aria Breedon, Harrison Caito, Valentina Colon, Addison Costa, Vivian Coughlin, Gavin Danna, Luca DuPree, Skylar Falola, Natasha Figueroa Sotomayor, Jeylin Garcia Garcia, Isabella Gould, Chelsea Hallidri, Sean Hanlon, Isabella Harpin, Alexis Hoard, Bianca Izzi, Katherine Kennedy, Joseph Marcheseault, Nina Mitchell, Ava Palumbo, Alex Pires, Jireh Reyes, Zachary Roberts, Charles Saba, Charistianna Sarty, Rebecca Sjoval, Shayla Son, Ronald Ucci, Alexandra Velino, Jakob Villari, Andrew Zhang, Annie Zhang, Yuchen Zheng.

### Grade 7 Honors

Vicente Amaro, Victoria Androozzi, Juliana Ansaldi, Ayden Barron, Francesca Beland, Leila Berrios, Angelina Bianco, Zachary Boudreau, Mila Bovay, Blake Brooks, Adam Bukai, Grace Bullock, Caylynn Cameron, Sofia Clemente, Olivia Cole, Tyler Corrente, Sean D'Amico, Kaylee Danna, Anthony DeCesaris, Nicholas DeIngenis, Bradford Dempsey, Michael D'Ercole, Joseph Dickie, Taliah Emmons, Joseph Ezyk Jr., Anaya Felix, Mela Figueroa, Nayomi Granados, Caleb Guglietti, Cate Harris, Tayla Higham, Amy Huang, Yeng Houa Kue,

Andrew Licon, Sophia Lin, Anna Lovenbury, Layla Mancini, Ava Manzi, Oliver Markarov, Audrey McBurnie, Hannah McNally, Lily Melino, Emmett Mills, Venika Nelaturi, Jacklyn Newbury, William Newton, Olivia Nimblett, Raquel Nippo-Minchez, Viktoria Olivieri, Isaiah Ortega, Isabella Perrino, Andrew Pimentel, Russell Pine, Alaina Radtke, Paul Reis, III Isis Rivera, Emma Rowlinson, Emma Ryan, Roman San Antonio, Amaya Santos, Gavin Santos, Adelaide Shaw, Fiona Sisson, Gaige Smith, Paige Souza, Lealah Switzer, Mia Tantimonaco, Gabriella Vargas Perez, Victoria Wikiel, Jeremy Yau, Veasna Yuong.

### Grade 6 HIGH Honors

Vanshika Aggarwal, Valentina Angeli, Jordan Aquino, Ricardo Arevalo, Shahen Atarian, John Romeo Aung, Jack Bartolo, Evelyn Bennet, Brooklyn Butler, Victor Caldaron, Rothkyan Chhun, Lannamarie Confident, Vladimir Cronin, Antonia Klarese Dache, Katia Delima, Logan DiCola, Iyla Giblin, Isabella Gomes, Emma Gomez, Abby Grabowski, Nina Graziano, Kendall Hennessey, Madison Iasimone, Aria Johnson, Kelan Kayata, Aidan Keenan, Ethan Knowles, Zechariah Kue, Pasquale Lanni, Kaylin Lao, Brayden Leveillee, Chase Lindquist, Logan Lo, Michael Louro, Emma MacDonald, Sadie MacLellan, Emma Mendoza Deriz, Halleigh Millard, Tumelo Mokgadi, Eli Morales-Rodriguez, William Moretta, Michaela Morrissey, Edwin Ozuna, Olivia Phok, Zoe Pimentel, Jaxson Pineda, Michael Reynoso, Jordyn Robinson, Sweekrata Sahoo, Saanvi Shrestha, Emily Tan, Nora Thorne, Tracen Toczko, Adam Tonkover, Brian Tran, Brielle Vendettoli,

Rachel Verrocchio, Vishvanie Vipakaran, Emily Walker, Chloe Whittenberger, Oyrarn Zobinou

### Grade 6 Honors

Gelila Amanuel, Lena Ameen, Nevaeh Andrade, McKenzie Bowry, Zain Bukai, Allyanna Burbo, Lyric Burt, Alyssa Carlson, Ethan Carlucci, Yixin Chen, Iylah Chum, Jenna Ray Cusack-Kennard, Michael Davison, Juliana D'Ercole, Noah Diaz Duque, Alec Dion, Giuliana Foley, Lacie Fortes, Evelyn Fredette, Westcott Frome, Sophia Gaglione, Hailie Gomez, Hailey Goodinson, Zachary Greene, Olivia Grenier, Abraham Gutierrez, Niyah Harris, Milania Hart, Blake Hathaway, Jacob Heng, Jason Heroux, Jr., Adrianna Hunt, Gwenyth Iacobucci, Avery Ihrig, T'siah Isom, Ailani Jones, Venkata Rithwik Sai Katta, Gwenn LaFlamme, Pierce Lee, Lily LePage, Silas Leukhardt, Lillian Lin, Sean Logan, Elliot Luna, Thomas Lynch, Brayden Martinez, Byron Montepeque Arevalo, Dante Morsilli, Ethan Narcisse, Makenzie O'Conner, Messiah Outland, John Paesano, Giulio Papitto, Allison Paquette, Brycen Patterson, Madeleine Perrotta, Adrianna Pinheiro, Yelissa Quezada Pascual, Crimzel Ramos, Sebastian Rauseo Linares, Nevaeh Rihani, Kyah Robinson, Lucas Santana, Kylie Sauro, Juliana Sepulveda, Lucas Silva, Liam Sisson, Sera Sorvillo, Abigail Spitznagel, Emaline Stevens, Malaki Stevens, Malak Tatari, Gabriel Tomasso, Emelynn Torres, Zachary Trask, Andrew Tsang, Georgia Vincent, Visaagan Vipakaran, Addy Ward, Aiden Watkins-Wong, Lanna Woods, Brooklyn Woolfolk, Laisha Zuniga

# 1,000 cross stage in 60th CCRI commencement

The Community College of Rhode Island celebrated a milestone achievement on May 15 with its 60th Commencement Ceremony.

Held at the Amica Mutual Pavilion, the event marked the culmination of CCRI's year-long diamond anniversary celebration and was a stirring tribute to six decades of transformation, opportunity and achievement for Rhode Islanders.

More than 1,000 graduates crossed the stage to receive their degrees and certificates, cheered on by over 5,000 family members, friends, faculty and alumni in a day filled with pride, emotion and inspiration.

This year's commencement was especially meaningful, as it was presided over by CCRI Interim President Rosemary Costigan, a 1978 alumna and the only first-generation college student to lead the college. Drawing on her own experience and the enduring spirit of the college, Costigan delivered an address anchored in the words of Nelson Mandela: "It always seems impossible until it's done."

"This moment – the cap, the gown, the walk across the stage – might have once felt out of reach," Costigan told the Class of 2025. "But today, you've done it. And it's more than a personal victory – it's proof of your perseverance, your strength and your belief in something better."

Throughout her remarks, Costigan honored the diversity, resilience and promise of CCRI students, highlight-

ing several whose stories reflect the college's mission:

- Jalen Rodriguez, who is blind and the first in his family to graduate from college, representing the determination of first-generation students.

- Kelly Grace, a returning adult learner who made the honor roll and was recently accepted to Brown University.

- Luke St. Goddard, an RI Promise student who earned his degree debt-free and will transfer to URI this fall.

To each and to the entire graduating class, Costigan said, "You belong. You belong in rooms where decisions are made. You belong at tables where change begins. And you belong in every space where leadership, imagination and compassion are needed."

The celebration included remarks from Gov. Dan McKee, who praised the college's impact on Rhode Island's educational and workforce landscape. Distinguished guests included CCRI alumni Lt. Gov. Sabrina Matos, General Treasurer James Diossa, state Rep. Cherie Cruz and Council on Postsecondary Education Chair David Caprio.

In a heartfelt moment, two members of CCRI's first graduating class, Sondra (Ahlijian) Pitts and Anne Riccitelli, participated in the ceremony. Both women graduated in 1966, when the college was known as Rhode Island Junior College. Riccitelli, now based in New York, went on to a successful career in television and public relations and has served on international advisory boards

and studied peacebuilding at the United Nations.

The student commencement speakers, Aileth Castillo Ramos and Pasquale Camastro, added emotional depth and authenticity to the program.

Ramos, who emigrated from the Dominican Republic in 2023 and joined CCRI through its Accelerate dual-enrollment program, spoke of perseverance and writing her own story. "I applied. I was accepted. And today, I stand before you as a proud graduate," she said.

Camastro, a former All-State football player who struggled with dyslexia, reflected on his personal growth and renewed purpose at CCRI. "Though I now recognize this curiosity had always been a part of me, it was CCRI that brought it to light," said Camastro, who will continue his studies at George Washington University.

In closing the ceremony, Costigan reminded graduates: "This isn't just a celebration – it's a legacy. You are the 60th graduating class of the Community College of Rhode Island. You carry with you not just a degree, but the heart of this college, the strength of your journey and the power to shape what comes next."

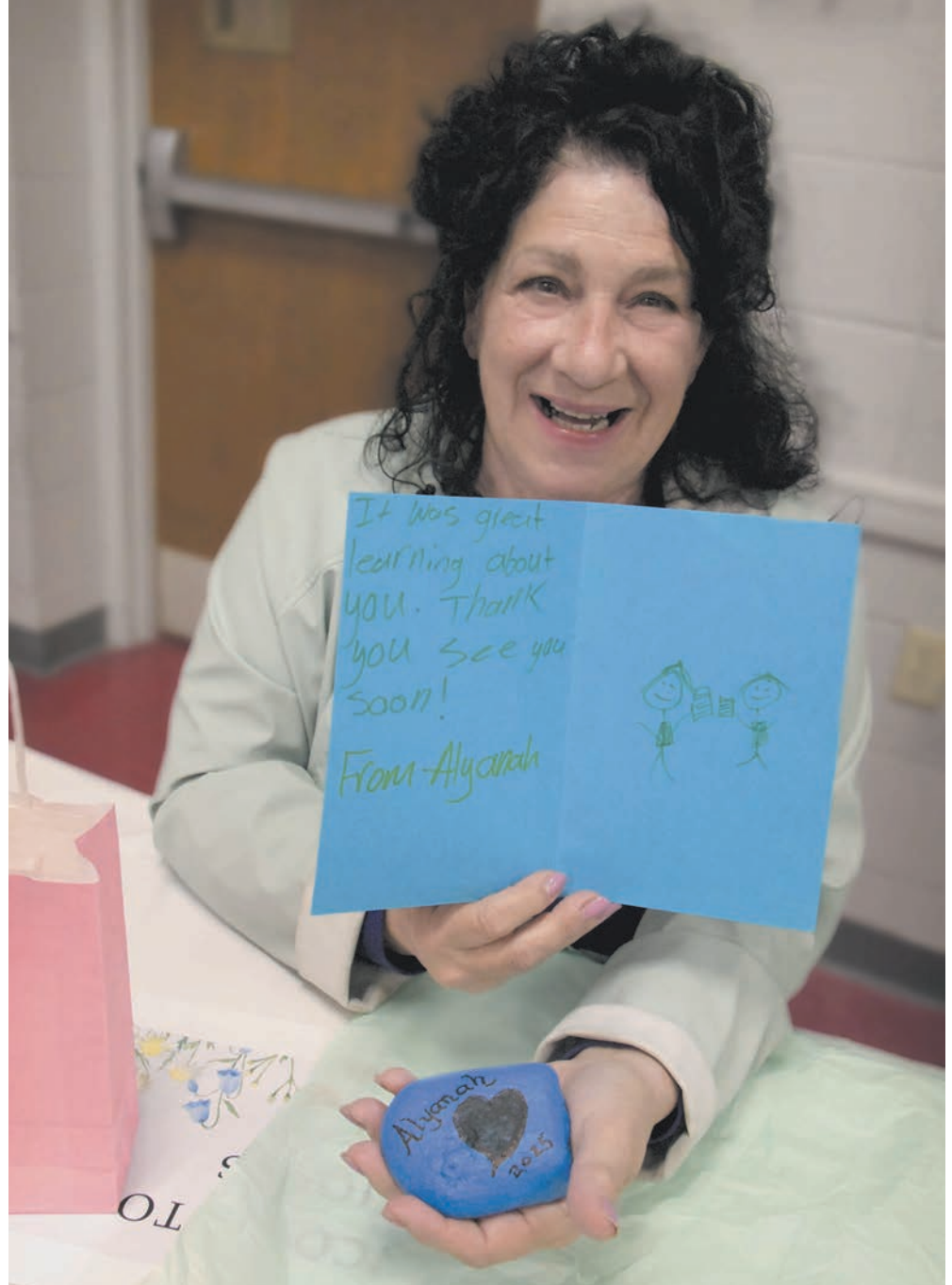
The event concluded with the formal conferring of degrees and a welcome from Jeffrey Wright, president of the CCRI Alumni Association and a 2008 graduate, who invited the newest alumni to join a proud community of more than 82,000.



It took only a couple of questions for student Zachary Norberg to identify his pen pal, Suzanne Rodrigues.



Conversations flowed easily when students met their senior pen pals last week. Diana Petrosinelli enjoyed meeting the students.



Cheryl Hill, a driver with the Cranston Senior Center, was touched by the handmade gifts from her pen pal.

## ● PEN PAL from page 1

each other like old friends, and their smiles lit up the room as they sat together to share a quick lunch and resume the conversations that, until then, had been remanded to paper.

"I knew her right away," Cranston West senior Guiliana Johnson said as she sat with Cynthia Marzullo, who had been writing to Johnson under the name Katniss Everdeen from "The Hunger Games" series of books and movies. "I like her personality," Johnson said. "She's a cool person."

When asked if they thought they'd stay in touch now that the pen pal project is over, both Marzullo and Johnson decisively said, 'yes,' and it was a sentiment echoed

around the room.

There was a lot of chatter and hugs as the two generations of writers shared a casual lunch of pizza, cupcakes and cookies. The response delighted Cranston West teachers and Senior Center staff who have been ferrying the letters back and forth for the last couple of months.

The project began earlier in the spring as a way to encourage communication between young and old, and also to help reintroduce the disappearing art of letter writing.

It was a win-win from the beginning, according to Senior Center staff and Cranston West teachers. Students and seniors alike waited anxiously each week for packets of letters to be exchanged, and their written conversations unfolded naturally through the missives.

Students wanted to know things such as where their pen

pals had traveled, how they met their spouses, how many children they had. The seniors in turn were fascinated to hear about the teens' studies, their interests, their family lives and their aspirations.

On Friday, the Cranston police, along with Comprehensive Community Action Program, donated pizza and fruit drinks for the pen-pal gathering. And the students and seniors showed up with small gifts for each other, including handmade cards and painted beach rocks.

"I love the bonds that were created," said Sky Marcos, director of programs at the Senior Center. "They went from not knowing each other at all to being able to pick out their pen pals almost from the minute they walked in here."

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From left, Rhodes Elementary students Jack, 7, and Benny, 4, are ready to run in the 1K. *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*



From left, Cranston residents Dana Egan-Sherry and son Caleb, 6, are excited ahead of the 5:45 p.m. start of the 1K fun run. *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus*



Wiped out! *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus*



Wave the checkered flag! Kids run straight to the finish line. *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus*



From left, Cranston residents Hillary Trimbach and Jesse Trimbach after finishing the race with their children, Xander and Zach. "I've never done something like this before," said Xander, and Zach said he loved it. *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*



From left, Kristen and Shanell Lavery with their children Lailah, 9, and Elijah, 11, who attend Rhodes Elementary and Edgewood Highland Elementary School, respectively. *Beacon Media Photo by Rosegalie Cineus*

● **GARAGE** from page 1  
 Historic District Commission. He also listed the required approvals by the Warwick City Council and the state Department of Environmental Management and Department of Transportation.  
 "I have no idea how long it's going to take. I wish it was tomorrow," Albanese said.  
 Asked what commercial uses he is considering for the property, Albanese said there won't be a restaurant. He said neighbors made it clear they don't want a restaurant, "and we're OK with that."  
 City Planner Tom Kravitz said Monday that assuming approvals by the Historic District Commission and the City Council, the Albaneses would need to come before the Planning Board for final approval.



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# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

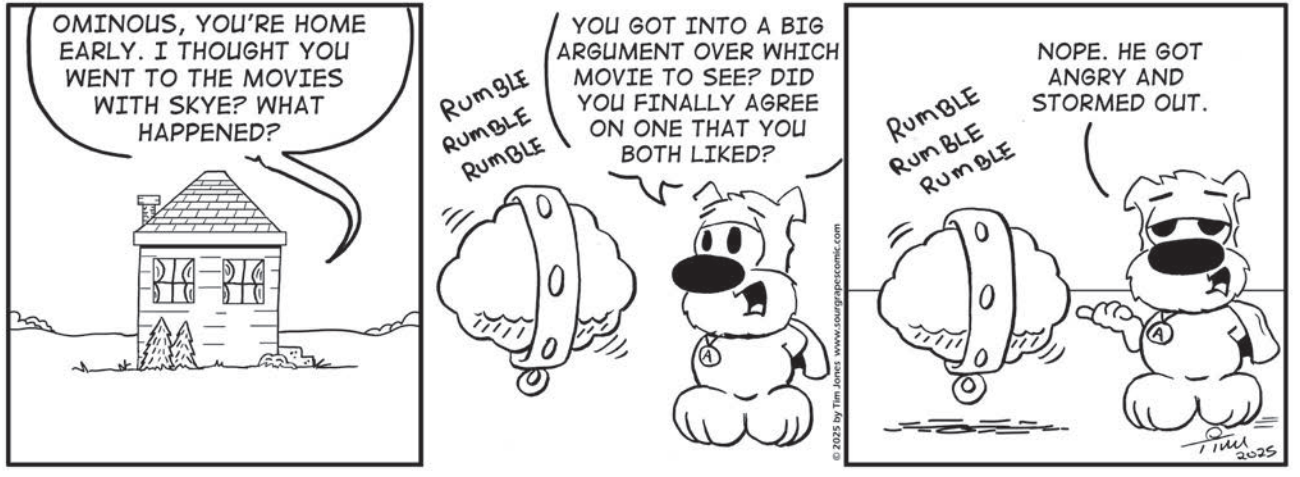
Local ♥ Adoptable ♥ Loveable



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

## SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



## Six inducted into Hall of Fame

The Cranston Hall of Fame announced its 2025 inductees this week, including leaders from a small business to a community organization.

The Cranston Hall of Fame Foundation is a non-profit foundation established in 1980 by the Cranston School Committee. According to their website, the Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who demonstrate distinguished achievement, commitment, and dedication to community involvement.

Cezar Ferreira is the 2025 recipient of the Dr. Frank DelSanto Community Service Award. Among his many accomplishments, Ferreira had a 40-year career with the YMCA, including 25 years as the executive director of the Cranston YMCA.

The group will be honored at a ceremony October 17,

2025. The 2025 Hall of Fame inductees are:

Lara D'Antuano is the president and CEO of Boys and Girls Club of Warwick. She is a graduate of Cranston High School West.

Steve Marocco is the owner of Elmwood Sports Center. He is a graduate of Cranston High School West.

Rena Nathanson is the founder and CEO of Bananagrams, Inc. She is a graduate of Cranston High School East.

Nancy Vitulli is the Cranston West Theatre teacher and Community Drama Director. She is a graduate of Cranston High School East.

David Zisseron, JD is the Assistant Chief, Tax Division Criminal Enforcement Section U.S. Department of Justice. He is a graduate of Cranston High School West.

### ● HONORS from page 9

McGuinness, Angelo Minyetti Saldana, Lexi Montalban, Caroline Nelson, Minh Nguyen, Gabrielle Okunfolami, Tyler Ou, Mariella Paliotta, Lovely Pamphile, August Pasquariello, Parth Patel, Liam Perry, Johnathan Phav, Larisa Poghosyan, Rebecca Puii, Melanie Rondon Paulino, Kira Sanzen, Shayna Sanzen, Nicolas Scorpio, Peyton Silva, Bradyn Slaughter, Goldly Pheaktra Sok, Luis Soto Carias, Elisabeth Spirito, McKenzie Stall, Kyliene Stevens, Mikayla Taveira, Gianna Wiedenroth, Noe Zacarias.

**Grade 9:** Ellen Arslanian, Zaria Barbosa Anthony Campagnone, Milania Carley, Mia Carlucci, Mackenzie Carter, Ryan Chhun, Natalie Chin, Aikaterini Chrysanthopolou, Cyrus Cohn, Marcos Cruz, Gabriella DelBonis, Angelina DiBiasio, Devin DiLanna, Malaia DuPree, Jaly Espinal, Ari Gabriel, Norly Oliver Germain, Allie Guisti, Ani Hovagimian, Benjamin Irons, Diante Jackson, Anna Kelly, Jillian Knight, Savannah Lafontaine, Kelly Liang, Mackenzie Lopes, Nathan Martin, Ryder Mello, Siena Montalvo, Logan Nelson, Alyse Odumosu, Sophia Paplauskas, Alissa Pathammavong, Broden Riley, Dylan Rodriguez Agudelo, Gabriella Rogers, Victoria Sedlak, Maggie Sjoval, Kira Stephens, Luca Talamo, Emma Toolin, Hendrix Vega, Kiara Violante, Benjamin Warner, Danica Yin, Jared Yu.

### Honors

**Grade 12:** Benjamin Ahlquist, Brooke Alarie, Rusul Aldabbagh, Taha Alnahas, Wafaa Altaan Al Hariri, Illiana Alves, Ava Amadio, Giana Amitrano, Antonio Aquilante, Alex Avakyan, Ashlyn Benfeito, Zachary Berardis, Stalia Biosse, Christian Blanchette, Corey Blanchette, Tyla Blanchette, Zachary Bradley, Natalie Brandow, Joshua Brynes, Angelina Burrows, Emily Caniglia, Kiara Caraballo, Josie Caron-McCain, Yesier Carrion, Aidan Carter, Camila Cespedes, Keiyyi Chumbiray-Rodriguez, Preston Colvin, Lindy Corea, Jovaniel Cruz, Sophia Deanseris, Gianna D'Ercole, Jadon DeSousa, Christopher Donnelly, Vincent Durante, Madison Fera, Aryanna Ferreira, Mia Gavopoulos, Jonathan Gelfuso, Jessica Gutierrez-RAMIREZ, Hannah Hallam, John Hanley, Kaycence Holden, Caterina IZZI, Zachary Jean-Philippe, Fadi Jirius, Marcus Johns, Eric Johnson, Shawn Kemble, Antonia King, Jacobi King, Grace Kogut, Lucinda LaMorte-Bromley, Serena Lei, Ethan Luguesi, Aliyah Macaruso, Emily MacDougall, Matthew Marchesi, Ashley Martinez-Beltran, Aisha Mbye, Evan Mejia, Christopher Melise, Angelica Merced, Nikhole Morales-Batres, Ayla Munoz, Trent Nani, Tomas Negalha,

Lucas O'Brien, Bridget O'Donoghue, Diana Orellana, Jamison Orlandi, Jesus Ortega, Thalan Ou, Lola Paolissi, Dylan Paulhus, Joseph Pennacchia, Hannah Perez, Zachary Petrella, Ryan Phillips, Alisha Pimentel, Catarina Pimentel, Adam Rajack, James Raspollo, Hannah Regan, Delmy Rickert, Sophia Robbins, James Ruggieri, Avery Salmons, Kimberly Sandoval Estevez, Jack Schmiedeknecht, Lila Sczerbinski, Chris Sheriff, Raymond Shurtleff, Joshua Silva, Florah Small, Sophia Teolis, Angel Vargas, Matthew Varin, Regan Violante, Lauren Ward-Smith, Ava Wiggin, Colin Williams, James Wright, III, Sarah Xiong.

**Grade 11:** Adalino Aceto-Kun, Katelyn Angell, Madyson Archambault, Macauley, Ash, Chloe Ayoub, Issraa Ayoubi, Kacie Bailey, Genesis Bamba, Christopher Barboza, Emily Bedetta, Ida Bensouda, Alyssa Bermudez, Ava Brady, Finlay Braga, Shyanne Burkemper, Jillian Burns, Katelin Cardillo, Kate Caron-McCain, Emilia Chace, Lysedavan Charles, Ryan Chase, Saniyya Chase, Hanna Chong, Michael Coggeshall, Charlie Cornell, Devin Cruz, Jack D'Allesandro, Cassidy Danh, Jeremiah Davidson, Miguel De La Rosa, Michael DeFrusco, Henry DeLaZerda, Rowen D'Ercole, Steven Desmarais, Silvanah Doeur, Jolene Draper, Marc Driscoll, Omari Drown, Leslie Espanol, Taylor Evans, Jordan Fermino, Ava Ferranti, Nicholas Figueroa, Joseph Flaherty, III, Anthony Flores, Ryan Furtado, Olivia Gallardo, Jeremy Garcia, Samuel Genereux, Sophia Gomes, Madison Gomez, Mya Gonzalez, Alexiona Gorton, Peter Grammas, Charles Greene, Jason Greene, Lana Hach, Anastacia Hafferty, Natalia Hayden, Mark Heard, III, Felix Henderson, Eloise Herriott, Logan Hoyt, Jared Howland, Nisarangi Jarvis, Colin Jerzyk, Ariella Johnson, Isabelle Johnson, Liam Johnson, Maura Kane, Matthew Kelly, Shafeng Khang, iyanna Kong, Logan LaFlamme, Courtney Lariviere, Evan Laventure, Lana Lieng, Irie Lisiecka, Tess Mahoney, Jake Manzi, Adam Marriott, Christopher Marshall, Finn Meehan, Jaden Mei, Austyn Miller, Alyssa Needham, Kenny Negron, Abigail Nelson, Matthew Ng, Sebastian O'Brien, Aaron O'Quinn, Jr, Tatianna Pacheco, Emily Padula, Ethan Parent, Luzmerlys Pena, Dante Phathepvongsa, Hali Proulx, Robert Ralde, Jackelyn Ranone, Gavin Roposa, Sara Regine, Ashlyn Renaud, Jordyn Renaud, Allie Richardson, Ivan Rodriguez, Jayde Roman, McKenzie Rose, Amelia Ross, Rebecca Ruppert, Angelina Sant Antonio, Kristiana Santopadre, Unitie Santos, Sayde Sawyer, Michael Scotti, Jordan Sewell, Emma-Rose Shaw, Aiden Short, Nicole Silvestri, Sawyer Sprows, Alex Sundberg, Ilter Talebi-Abgarmi, Noah Tampinco, Wasim Tanbakji, Garo Tarbinian, Emma Taylor,

Logan Taylor, Ava Tedeschi-Moran, Savanna Theroux, Lauren Trudell, Jean Urena, Kevin Urquilla, Cameron Varella, Jaila Vega, Ariana Velino, Ava Vendituoli, Gabrielle Vitale, Talya Walker, Ziyue Wang, Michael Xiong, Nathaniel Yeomans, Zachary Zarro, Brayden Zervas, Sophia Zhu,

**Grade 10:** Munir Alani, Madison Almada, Nylah Andrade, Jake Anzivino, Santos Arias, Logan Ashegh, Collin Aul-Branch, Benjamin Bardsley, Christopher Barron, Kyleigh Barron, Natalie Battista, Cristina Biernacki, Hailey Blais, Melina Blanco, Dillon Blessington, Madilyn Bolton, Victoria Bramble, Ashley Budano, Zoe Budano, Arleen Bueno, Catalina Burbo, Emily Butler, Camren Cadet, Brooklyn Carreiro, Jacob Case, Vichara Chhit, Maya Cicchitelli, Aiden Clark, Sofia Coccia, Jaelyn Cogan, Stephen Cole, Jameson Collard, Caiden D'Amico, Madison Deanseris, Samantha DeCesare, Jayda DeCosta, Sophia DeLuca, Ryan D'Errico, Gianna Desmarais, Clayton DiLello, Emalee Dorrance, Nathaniel Dorrance, Emily Dusseault, Jonathan Edmond, Carter Elias, Adriana Espinal Albizu, Michael Farina, Victoria Fernandez Flores, Jeiren Fernandez, Francesca Fisher, Giselle Gaither, Sahara Genao, Edward Gomes, Sofya Gonsalves, Aaron Gravallese, Camryn Gravallese, Matthew Greene, Dylan Guglietta, Angelina Gutierrez, Kalen Habchi, Vanvesal Hach, Alex Hallidri, Owen Heaney, Sam Hutnak, Alexis Johnson, Gulianna Johnson, Santana Jones, Jude Kilduff, Kiari Knight-Tufts, Tira Knight-Tufts, Lucas Labonte, Aiden LaBossiere, Nathan Lao, Jamauri Laurenceau, Sylvia Leary, Avery Lizarda, Noah Macera, Alexandra Mailhot, Alberico Mancini, Wyatt Mays, Jackson McCrave, Luke McGuinness, Andino Merola, Hayley Miceli, Jayden Mirabal, Zavier Montero, Emiliano Monzon Rodriguez, Chloe Mooney, Jaevian Morales, Peter Morello, Kiara Morse, Aaliyah Moseley, Kaleb Nadeau, Ariel Ochoa, Michelle Okunfolami, Orion Paolino, Adelaide Papitto, Madison Parent, Jane Paulhus, Jack Payne, Ailani Perez, Grace Petitbon, Benjamin Phok, Anthony Pimentel, Marcus Pinheiro, Owen Polofsky, Jace Preister, Alexa Ramirez, Teddy Ramos, Emma Reed, Makenzie Rego, Ellery Reiner, Sydney Reuter, Christian Rich, Daisy Roach, Ronaldo Robbins, Delihany Rodriguez Pagan, Kasey Rose, Siranoush Sahakian, Isabella Salazar, Euan Sampang, Daylen Sang, Grace Schulze, Camila Sime, Katelyn Snedeker, Aza Soda, Anthony Sposito, Owen Sterpis, Gavin Stewart, Samantha Toole, Norman Trott, III Jolizia Turcios, Sofia Uriati, Nicholas Veloso, Matthew Verdi, Fallon Vecchio, Payton Wells, Frances Zins.

Armen Avagyan, Jasmine Ayoub, Brooke Bailey, Mia Barone, Jasmine Bartolo, Bree Bedard, Kaycee Belliveau, Owen Bennett, Jaiden Berardis, Nicole Bethune, Victoria Blessington, Eliana Bogosian, Belle Bradley, James Burgess, Emily Butts, Yiqi Cai, Leah Castillo Martinez, Owen Catelli, Giuliana Celseti, Cooper Cerio, Joseph Ciarlo, Nora Ciccone, Carter Ciesla, Addison Colagiovanni, Cameron Colbert, Molly Costabile, Miley Coumouyer, Opal Creighton, Amiyah Cromartie, Gabriella Crudale, Jeranny Cruz Mota, Joshua Cruz, James Curran, Serialenis De la Cruz Duarte, Grace DeAlmeida, David DeSarro, Jr, Britney Dorival, Giulia Dorsey, Yassir Doumi, Sophia Falandys, Ella Farrell, Nathan Fernandes, Isaac Fernandez, Juan Fernandez, Leon Finkle, John Fitzgerald, Alyanah Frias, Joseph Giron Pineda, Sarah Gonzalez Acosta, Joseph Grant, Ella Grenier, Gianna Guisti, Eudy Gutierrez, Alexia Guzman, Nathan Hallam, Isabella Harrington, Gabriel Hart, Rodaina Hassanen, Gabriel Hudson, Roman Iacobucci, Nathan Izzi, London Jackson, Luke Johnson, Nathaniel Khea, Emily Kodzis, Gavin Lamirande, Elianna Laurenceau, Minh Le, Mariah LeFort, Aliza Lema, Miah Licon, Jessica Lincoln, Deon Lombard, Kason Lyons, Giuliana Macko, Lucia Maimoni, Jacoby Marianetti, Adysen Martin, Dayla Maurelli, Lily McCartney, Lillian McEntee, Avangelina McIntosh, Braedon McMahon, Karissa Mello, Adrian Mendez, Rico, Meruvia Dylan Milano, Ariya Moeuy, Valen Mooney, Elizabeth Moretta, Bodhi Morse, Arianna Musco, Jaxxon Nadeau, Rachel Navedo, Leah Newbury, Sophia Nightingale, Evelyn Norigian, Avery O'Brien, Mia O'Brien, Olivia O'Leary, Amelia Olivero Familia, Anaelle Pamphile, Anihah Parker, Giuliana Parks, Dylan Perez, Kenny Perez, Aaliyah Perrino, Ella Perry, Daniela Pires, Sophia Poirier, Stosh Puckett, Elizabeth Quaglieri, Anderson Ramos Mota, Caydan Rego, Kevin Rodrigues, Ean Rojas, Neishka Roldan Candelaria, Kathleen Rossi, Mia Rubino, Sophia Rubino, Mia Sampaio, Elena Sampson, Andrew Sargent, Andrew Schiappa, Kyle Schultz, Rheanna Sears, Cadence Senerchia, Adam Sepe, Amalisa Sherwood, Isabelle Smith, Vanessa Sousa, Aral Talebiabgarmi, Sheung Tang, Ephraim Taylor, Daisy Tenaglia, Emily Tracy, Mariana Trombetti, Isla Ucciarone, Keitana Tyler, Jack Ucci, Mason Ucci, Alizon Urizar-UMANA, Helden, Van Joseph Veitch, Donovan Velasquez, Andrew Velino, Rosalie Ventura-Turrisi, Xavior Vicente, Sofia Vincent, Kayven Vivar, Yousif Wadia, Sara Ward, Sophia Waters-Burns, Edward Wenzl, Anthony Yeomans, Jayden Zolli.

## Shirl Shirl

This sweetheart hasn't had the best life and we are here to hopefully turn that around for her! She's a little short stack full of love, even after all she's been through! Shirl Shirl is looking for a home where she will be the center of your world! No other pets in the home, she wants all the cuddles to herself! Shirl Shirl is a senior girl who wants all of her remaining years to be golden. Who is going to be the one who finally gives her the love she so deserves? Is it you? Contact EGAPL Heart of RI Animal Rescue League at 401-467-3670 or visit Shirl Shirl at 44 Worthington Rd Cranston, RI. They are OPEN Wednesday 3-7 and Saturday 10-2.

If you are thinking of adopting or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at [animaltalk1920@gmail.com](mailto:animaltalk1920@gmail.com)



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# Opinion

EDITORIAL

LETTERS

## Composting provides compound benefits

It's not often in life that a problem presents such a harmonious, simple and effective solution – one that requires only a little bit of effort for a lot of gains.

Composting is one of those examples, and while we're not idealistic enough to propose that every Rhode Islander will one day join the composting club, we think it is highly realistic for every one of Rhode Island's public schools to do so.

It would be a mistake not to move toward that goal methodically and purposefully in the coming years.

Rhode Island has a well-documented trash problem. We have one central landfill that will be full in the next couple of decades. Once that happens, the cost to truck our waste to somewhere else that still has space to bury our garbage will likely be a rude wake-up call for many residents who pay no attention to such matters. Just like having functioning plumbing, few people realize the vast amount of infrastructure and human ingenuity needed to keep our state from overflowing in refuse.

While composting would not solve the unavoidable trash avalanche headed our way, widespread implementation of its practices, even just in our public schools, would have a significant effect and could buy us some time. Some early data from local schools that are already participating in composting programs illustrate the possibility that most of what's being sent to our landfill is compostable food waste.

Saving that food waste from going into our trash, ultimately destined for the landfill, would solve multiple problems at once. It would reduce the persistence of rodents looking for quick meals from full dumpsters. It would cut the volume of greenhouse gases coming from the landfill. It would lower the cost of trash removal by reducing the amount of trash and, therefore, the frequency of having to haul it away. These would all be double victories for everyone.

Having mandatory composting programs at every public school in Rhode Island would also open a door to expanded educational programming on topics crucially important to the future of Rhode Island and the wider world.

Students could learn about what makes something compostable, recyclable or reusable. They could learn about what a landfill is, why they are important, how they work and what will happen when we run out of space in them. Schools could take soil – enriched from the very food waste they helped keep out of the landfill – and incorporate it into lessons about growing food and how plants thrive.

The other benefit of implementing a widespread composting program is that it could be launched at a relatively low cost and would promise long-term financial benefits for the schools that make the investment.

State leadership and corporate benefactors should be eager to figure out how they could help bankroll and support composting programs in their local communities. It would provide an easy public-relations victory, and would be a triumph for all of Rhode Island, and planet Earth.

### What's on your mind?

The Cranston Herald encourages letters to the editor. It's part of our mission to reflect a multitude of perspectives on everything from community news to national politics. In the interest of including as many viewpoints as possible, we ask that you hold your letter to 250 words. We can accommodate a longer piece on a complex topic as an op-ed, preferably with a local focus and a maximum of 750 words. With your letter or op-ed, we ask that you include a phone number (not for publication) where we can reach you to confirm authorship. We'd like to hear from you.

• **WHERE TO WRITE:**  
**publisher@beaconmediari.com or...**  
**The Cranston Herald**  
**1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889**

## The power of natural mentorship, and how we can do more

By RHONDA LAPHAM

May is a time of change and growth. Students are wrapping up the school year, families are adjusting to new routines and many of us are looking ahead to summer. It's also Mental Health Awareness Month, which reminds us of the importance of connection and belonging in a young person's life. As a board member at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island and someone who has benefited deeply from mentorship, I know how pow-

erful these relationships can be.

Some of the most influential people in my life weren't assigned mentors – they were teachers, coaches, neighbors and colleagues who naturally stepped into that role. I learned so much from these individuals – traits and skills that have made me the person that I am today. I learned leadership, empathy, compassion and the desire to help make a difference. They helped shape my values, guided me through tough times and celebrated my growth. These "natural mentors" are all around us, and often they don't real-

ize the impact they're having.

At BBBSRI, they work to support and strengthen these natural mentorships. They know that young people thrive when they feel seen, supported and connected – and that's exactly what mentoring does. In fact, 100% of mentees in BBBSRI programs advanced to the next grade last year. Parents also reported major improvements in mental health (91%), increased self-confidence (86%), and avoidance of the juvenile justice system (97%). And every single mentor said the experience was positive for them,

too.

We also know from national data that mentored youth are 20% more likely to attend college than their non-mentored peers. These relationships matter.

If you or your child are in a natural mentoring situation – maybe there's a coach, family friend or neighbor already playing that role – I encourage you to consider enrolling formally with BBBSRI. Their programs enhance and support those existing relationships by providing professional case management, access to free or low-cost

activities and opportunities for scholarships, financial assistance, workforce development and more.

Mentorship doesn't have to start from scratch, but with the right support, it can go even further. Let's help our youth succeed – together. If you'd like more info about BBBSRI, visit BigsRI.org.

*Rhonda Lapham is market president of iHeartMedia Providence and a board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island.*

## Beneath us, a diabolical enemy of the people

By MIKE LEVESQUE

There is a diabolical enemy that exists in plain sight in the state of Rhode Island.

It saps the lifeblood out of your existence, causes pain and emotional distress, turns quiet days and nights into horror shows, and if you're lucky, rips your bank account into only marginal chaos.

I'm talking, of course, about potholes.

No, let me qualify.

I'm talking about potholes, depressed manhole covers and drainage grates, ripped up roads with no warnings, and "repaired" roads after the installation of new water mains or sewer lines that are anything but "repaired."

Only in Rhode Island do you have to look down at the road ahead of you, rather than

look at oncoming cars. And look at the scenery at your peril.

If you do choose to look at cars or buildings, you have a great chance of hearing that earth-shattering sound of a front axle bending to a hole the size of Block Island.

We are a state that has passed the buck for so long on upkeep and repairs that we sometimes have to do the sign of the cross before we cross a bridge.

And in one case, and you know what I'm referring to, we have to close our eyes when we see a truck coming in the adjacent lane because we just know that in that section of the Washington Bridge, the lanes are so tight that we can shake the hand of the passenger in the next lane.

It doesn't have to be this way.

It's got nothing to do with politics.

It's just people with the will to get things

done for a change.

We have to demand that our elected officials get off their high horse and smell the pavement (maybe the problem is that they are still riding horses).

Rhode Island is a beautiful state.

People love looking at the unique scenery when passing through.

That is until they get a flat tire or broken axle below a manhole cover that is six inches below the surface of the highway, or a pothole that is humongous.

When budget time comes rolling around, I hope that our elected officials, both statewide and in our cities and towns, take this matter into account. Maybe redirect some of the unspent funds on road paving as our recent winters have been relatively free of significant snow events.

God only knows that with the new admin-



Charlie Hall

GUEST OPINION

## Time for lawmakers to clean up the CRMC

By TOPHER HAMBLETT

While the beauty and value of our coastal waters and shoreline is well known to all Rhode Islanders, the state agency that regulates activities along the shore, the Coastal Resources Management Council, largely flies under the radar.

CRMC's work and the decisions it makes are extremely important to the future of our state, but years of questionable decisions by CRMC's politically appointed council have eroded public trust in the agency. It's time for the General Assembly to make meaningful reforms.

CRMC's staff of engineers, geologists and policy analysts are experts in their field and respected nationally for their work in coastal planning. Staff review thousands of applications each year from property owners along the coast for compliance with state and federal laws and potential impacts to our coastal resources. But their decisions are only recommendations to a council of volunteers who are not required to have any experience in coastal law, science or policy.

When the CRMC was first created in the 1970s, the appointed council was composed of state legislators and local elected officials who often placed the political influence of applicants above the best interests of our coastal resources. While legislators no longer serve on the council, the culture of unequal application of the law and due process remains, with a series of poor decisions recently laying bare the shortcomings of the CRMC's decision-making structure.

In 2022, the RI Supreme Court overturned the CRMC's approval of a closed-door negotiation between coun-

cil members and a Block Island marina that sought to circumvent a previous agency decision denying the marina's expansion proposal. In its ruling, the court admonished the appointed council for its lack of an "open, traceable process."

In a more recent case in January involving a proposed dredging project in Jamestown – the Dumplings Assoc. v. CRMC (2025) – the RI Superior Court noted CRMC's incorrect interpretation of its own rules, adding "it defies logic that CRMC's council doesn't understand or correctly apply its own rules."

And in North Kingstown, Quidnessett Country Club is now approaching two years of being allowed to maintain an unauthorized 600-foot rock wall that has buried coastal habitats and blocked public access along the shore. While a cease-and-desist order was issued to remove the illegal wall, the council chose to entertain a petition from the country club to change the rules after the fact. The council's actions foster a climate of "seek forgiveness, not permission," and in the case of Quidnessett, damage and lack of public access to a 600-foot stretch of coastline is allowed to continue.

Currently, three of the 10 seats on the appointed council are vacant, and it's been over five years since all the seats were filled. It is difficult to find people willing to serve on the council, and meetings are frequently cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Aquaculture permits sometimes take five or six years to approve, and there are rights-of-way to the shore that have been under review for two decades. The current structure is inefficient, which is bad for business and bad for the people of Rhode Island. Rhode Island's volunteer council de-

cision-making structure is an outlier among coastal states, and an outlier among Rhode Island's regulatory agencies. Despite having been admonished by the courts for poor decisions and a failure to follow its own rules, the appointed council has yet to be held accountable. Supporters of the council's "business as usual" approach have put forward bills that nibble around the edges of these persistent problems but do not fix anything.

This is why the state's attorney general, Save The Bay, the RI Saltwater Anglers Association and others are calling for the passage of a bill that would abolish the politically appointed council. This legislation would bring Rhode Island in line with most of the other coastal states and bring our coastal agency in line with other state agencies such as the Department of Environmental Management, where decisions are made by a director appointed by the governor with advice and consent of the Senate.

At a time when our coastal agency is dealing with increasingly complex issues like sea level rise, coastal erosion, public access and offshore wind, it's time to modernize the CRMC to deal with these challenges more effectively. Eliminating the politically appointed council would lead to better decisions, increase efficiency, reduce costs and improve transparency and accountability. It's time for the General Assembly to act.

*Topher Hamblett is executive director of Save The Bay, a local nonprofit dedicated to protecting and preserving Narragansett Bay. Since 1970, the agency's vision has been a fully swimmable, fishable, healthy Bay, accessible to all.*

*A Warwick resident and former West Warwick mayor, Mike Levesque is the author of "Meeting with Mike," a column profiling community members appearing in this paper.*

## On Smith Hill, echoes of Lexington and Concord

To the Editor:

Our nation began with a battle over gun control. On April 19, 1775, soldiers of King George III marched on Lexington and Concord to seize the weapons of Massachusetts colonists. The goal of the mission was to make the defiant colonists defenseless.

As every American should know, the colonists had the courage to fight back, and did fight back, against British tyranny. The rest is history.

But now, 250 years after Lexington and Concord, despotic Democrats in the Rhode Island General Assembly are attempting to confiscate the firearms of law-abiding citizens. Two local legislators, Sen. Mark McKenney and Sen. Matthew LaMontaine, have joined the ranks of the enemies of freedom and are co-sponsoring the Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2025.

As Bill Welch correctly points out, the purpose of this legislation is to “reduce the public’s access to firearms for self-defense.” What the law will not do is limit the access of criminals to these so-called assault weapons. (“Reducing criminal use of firearms requires honesty,” May 8.)

McKenney and LaMontaine want to strip law-abiding citizens of the right to self-defense. Like our forefathers did in 1775, we should find the courage to fight back against the actions of these two King George III-type tyrants.

A. H. Liddle  
Warwick

## Stop the money grab

To the Editor:

An open letter to “Governor” McKee and the General Assembly regarding Article 2 of H5076, i.e., the proposed FY 26 Budget.

“Governor” McKee, perhaps some background on what you are attempting to do to Rhode Island is appropriate? The 2011 Rhode Island Retirement Security Act (RIRSA 2011) included RIGL 35-6-1(d), the purpose of which was to require that all future state budget surpluses be deposited into the pension fund to help restore it to full funding.

Back in 2011, then-Treasurer Gina Raimondo promised that RIGL 35-6-1(d) was part of the pension reform package and was enacted into law to be an annually recurring function.

After becoming governor in 2015, Raimondo went back on her word and RIGL 35-6-1(d) [now subsection “(e)"] was rewritten to reduce the ERSRI deposit from 100% of excess revenues to only 50% and to allow the other 50% to be used to balance the annual state budget instead of being used strictly to restore the pension fund. Any wonder that the pension fund has been slow to recover?

When word of your attempt to “scoop” approximately \$21.6 million, 50% of the FY24 surplus, from being deposited into the pension fund as required under RIGL 35-6-1, came to light, the board of the Employees Retirement System of Rhode Island (ERSRI), speaking as one, voted on 9 April to send to the governor and all members of the General Assembly a resolution expressing its “strong opposition to any redirection or non-transfer of surplus revenues, which are statutorily required to be transferred to the Employees’ Retirement System.”

Further, the board’s Resolution in Opposition to Art 2, Section 3, questioned the efficacy of denying the ERSRI, which has been struggling to undo a level of unfunded liability for over 14 years to which it is statutorily entitled!



## We don't need a bottle bill

To the Editor:

I own and operate a Shop N Go in Warwick, and I’m worried the proposed bottle bill could hurt Rhode Islanders – and threaten the future of my business.

The bill would add a 10-cent tax on bottles and cans, meaning that the price of nearly every beverage sold in the state would increase, all at a time when families are already struggling. Increased prices will mean fewer customers and fewer sales. For businesses like mine, that can be the difference between keeping the lights on or closing up shop for good.

What’s worse, this type of tax hits hardest those who are struggling the most. For seniors, individuals with disabilities or those who don’t have access to reliable transportation, making an extra trip to a redemption center to reclaim the deposit is out of the question.

Like many Rhode Islanders, I support initiatives that advance recycling outcomes to protect our beaches, parks and neighborhoods, but this bill is not the right approach. It would create unreasonable financial challenges for small businesses and working families who are just trying to make it by.

Our state already has curbside recycling programs. Why don’t we focus on making that better, more effective and even more accessible instead of creating an entirely new system that places the burden on families and small businesses?

I care about my business, I care about my employees and I care about my customers. A bottle tax would hurt all three. I urge lawmakers to go back to the table and find a better solution to keep our state clean.

Jalil Rehman  
Warwick

Of note, since RIRSA was enacted, the RI budget has almost doubled, increasing from approximately \$7.7 billion to over \$14 billion!

One hopes that every RI union will join in the effort to stop the governor’s attempt to blatantly usurp the money, which is not McKee’s money, but state budget money that was directed by RIGL to be deposited into the pension fund for this sole purpose! What gives him the right to change the law?

In my opinion, it has been your hubris and lack of “fiscal oversight” that has contributed to the current state of affairs in Rhode Island. From thousands of Rhode Islanders suffering in the traffic over the Washington Bridge (we are still waiting for your self-proclaimed “Day of Reckoning”), to the possible collapse of our health care system, I could go on ad infinitum!

Your recent proposed pay raises for your senior advisors, while attempting to deny the over 60,000 members of ERSRI funds statutorily required to be transferred to the Employees’ Retirement System, is beyond the pale. Your justification for the raises is that they “will help keep Rhode Island competitive in attracting and retaining top talent for crucial leadership positions.”

In my opinion, Governor McKee, you have no ethics, no honor and no integrity!

To quote Cromwell’s address to the rump Parliament back in 1653, “It is not fit that you should sit here any longer. You have sat here too long for any good you have been doing lately . . . In the name of God go.”

But, before you go, please withdraw the surplus revenue “scoop” from your FY 2026 Budget.

A.G. “Aldo” Palazzo, CDR USN (Ret)  
West Warwick

Flowers adorn the State House Senate seat of the late Rhode Island Senate President Dominick Ruggerio, who died April 21. Ruggerio reported more than \$148,000 cash on hand in his campaign account as of March 31. Photo by Nikki Silva/Rhode Island Current

Cranston City Council President John E. Lanni Jr., remains open but inactive. After deducting bank fees, the remaining \$1,200 balance was transferred to the state’s unclaimed property account, overseen by the Office of the General Treasurer, following Lanni’s death in 2020, Thornton said. Lois Lanni, John Lanni’s wife and the treasurer for his campaign account, died in 2019.

Prior to his death, Ruggerio missed most of the 2025 legislative session due to illness, including two stays at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital in his North Providence district. But the 76-year-old Democrat nonetheless received a strong show of financial support from fellow officeholders, labor and business leaders.

Ruggerio reported nearly \$93,000 in donations in the first three months of 2025, including \$64,000 from individual donors and nearly \$29,000 from political action committees. His financial supporters included local auto body shop owners, Bally’s Corp. lobbyists and two of his predecessors: former Senate Presidents Billy Irons and Teresa Paiva-Weed, who donated \$300 and \$250, respectively. Gov. Dan McKee gave \$1,000 to Ruggerio, while McKee’s 2022 Republican rival, Ashley Kalus, donated \$150.

Ruggerio spent more than \$65,400 from his campaign account in the first three months of the year, including more than \$31,000 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick on Feb. 5 for a political fundraiser.

Ruggerio also contributed to many fellow lawmakers. He gave \$1,000 to Sen. Val Lawson, the East Providence Democrat, his majority leader, who was elected last Tuesday to succeed him as president. Ruggerio also gave \$500 to Sen. Frank Ciccone, a Providence Democrat tapped as the new majority leader. Senate Minority Leader Jessica de la Cruz, a North Smithfield Republican who voted for herself in the leadership election among state senators Tuesday, received a \$100 donation from Ruggerio’s campaign.

Nancy Lavin is senior reporter covering state politics, energy and environmental issues for the Rhode Island Current. RI Current is part of States Newsroom, the nation’s largest state-focused nonprofit news organization.

## HOUSES OF WORSHIP

### Anchor Baptist Church

New Meeting Place  
868 Reservoir Avenue  
Pastor Alex Martinez  
632-9672

[www.sermonaudio.com/anchorbaptist](http://www.sermonaudio.com/anchorbaptist)

### Annunciation Greek Orthodox Parish

175 Oaklawn Avenue  
401-941-4188  
Sunday Liturgy 9:30am  
[www.annunciationri.org](http://www.annunciationri.org)

### Asbury United Methodist Church

143 Ann Mary Brown Drive  
Rev. Yohan Go  
467-5122  
Worship Service 9:30am  
Sunday School at 9:30am  
Sept – June  
[asburyumc.org](http://asburyumc.org)

### Assemblies Of God The Solid Rock Church

1753 Phenix Avenue  
Rev. Richard K. Leahey  
827-0770

[www.solidrockchurchag.com](http://www.solidrockchurchag.com)

### Christadelphian Ecclesia

2104 Cranston Street  
441-7432  
[www.christadelphia.org](http://www.christadelphia.org)

### Church Of The Ascension (Episcopal)

390 Pontiac Avenue  
Pastor Santiago Rodriguez  
Sun 10 am (English)  
Sun 12pm (Spanish)  
461-5811  
[www.ascensioncranston.org](http://www.ascensioncranston.org)

### Church Of The Transfiguration

1665 Broad Street  
461-3142  
Sunday 10 am  
Holy Eucharist

### Edgewood Congregational Church

1788 Broad Street  
461-1344  
Sunday 10 am w/coffee hour  
[www.edgewoodchurchri.org](http://www.edgewoodchurchri.org)

### Faith Chapel Lutheran Brethren

43 Sicutate Ave.  
John Black, Pastor  
944-2771  
[www.faithchapelri.org](http://www.faithchapelri.org)  
Sunday Worship 10am

### Gateway Pentacostal Fellowship

711 Park Ave. (rear)  
Pastor Russell Farmer  
467-3830  
[www.gatewayupc.org](http://www.gatewayupc.org)

### Grace Bible Church

116 Rolfe Street  
481-0030  
[www.gbcri.org](http://www.gbcri.org)  
9 a.m. Sunday Worship  
7 p.m. Wednesday Prayer

### Holy Apostles Church

800 Pippin Orchard Road  
Very Reverend William J. Ledoux  
946-5586  
[www.holyapostles.com](http://www.holyapostles.com)

### New Beginnings Christian Church

122 Laurens St.  
Mario J. Nadich, Pastor  
787-0725

### Oak Lawn Community Baptist Church

229 Wilbur Avenue  
944-0864  
[www.olcbbaptistchurch.com](http://www.olcbbaptistchurch.com)

### Pawtuxet Baptist Church

2157 Broad Street  
Rev. Irving Scoby  
461-3635  
[pawtuxetbaptist@verizon.net](mailto:pawtuxetbaptist@verizon.net)

### People's Baptist Church

1275 Elmwood Avenue  
Pastor Mark Lindsay  
[www.PeoplesBaptistChurch.org](http://www.PeoplesBaptistChurch.org)

### Phillips Memorial Baptist Church

565 Pontiac Avenue  
467-3300  
Handicapped accessible  
[www.phillipschurch.org](http://www.phillipschurch.org)  
Rev. Dr. Amy Chilton, Pastor  
Affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island and the USA  
Member of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptist (AWAB)  
Facebook: @PhillipsChurch  
Church Office Hours:  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm (Mon. – Fri.)  
Worship is at 10:00 am on Sunday

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# Beating the cyber thieves

*We've 'all been compromised'...but not defeated*

By **JOHN HOWELL**  
Beacon Media Editor

It seemed plausible. A baby is crying and a woman, speaking in anxious and concerned tones describes how she in a desperate situation and can't access her husband's cell phone for help. The cell phone employee on the call empathizes and as the conversation evolves, key information is disclosed including passwords.

This video scene was played for the Warwick Rotary



**Helder Machado**

Club by Helder Machado. Machado is the CEO/CISO of Machado Consulting, an information technology company based in Worcester, MA. The company provides cybersecurity services to more than 100 clients, many of them nonprofits.

In the last week the company provided free assessments to three Warwick companies and nonprofits.

Machado talked about phishing, smishing and vishing. Machado started with phishing correctly assuming from the nods of his audience that people generally understood it is a cyberattack that uses fraudulent emails, text messages, phone calls or websites to trick people into sharing sensitive data, downloading malware or otherwise exposing themselves to cybercrime.

### Watch out for vishing

Victims of smishing have been sent deceptive text messages to lure them into sharing personal or financial information, clicking on malicious links, or downloading harmful software or applications. And vishing, he explained, uses fraudulent phone calls and messages – sometimes using an AI generated voice sounding remarkably like someone they know to gain sensitive information such as login credentials, credit card numbers and bank details.

Machado spoke of some of the major cyberattacks such as one last December on the Rhode Island Bridges Account that compromised personal information of 650,000 Rhode Islanders. The information including Social Security, credit card and bank account numbers, he said would be

sold on the “dark web.” He said the cost of these large scale cybersecurity and smaller scams totaled \$12.5 billion last year as compared to \$2 billion four years ago.

“We’re all compromised in some way,” he said.

### Social engineering

The biggest threat, he said, is social engineering. This he explained is when people who have the skill build a relationship usually on the phone or in an exchange of emails with an unsuspecting victim who sincerely believe they have found a trusting friend. Such a relationship can develop over weeks and months before the unsuspecting victim readily withdraws thousands from their savings or retirement account to help their “friend” who is suddenly faced with an emergency.

Machado advocates the use of Multi-factor Authentication (MFA). Simply explained, when logging into a bank account for example, the bank won't give you access until you input a code sent to you by email or phone. Machado favors codes sent to cell phones as email can be more easily compromised. Online vendors, such as Amazon provide such protection. In the case of Amazon, he said go to the company's website and select two step verification.

Another line of defense is a password manager. He has a family subscription to LastPass which costs him \$48 a year for four persons. The system automatically populates the passwords you have selected for various applications, and as Machado points out the passwords you create you never need to remember.

### Tips to protecting information

Some of the tips Machado offered are:

- “Think before you click.”
- Call your bank if you receive an email claiming to be your bank and asking you to click on a link that is provided.
- If you open a link requesting personal information don't provide it and better yet don't open and delete it.
- Check supposed bank notices by visiting the bank website.
- Change your passwords and make them long – his suggestion is to use sentences.

A retired Army Lieutenant Colonel with the Massachusetts National Guard, Machado is a 32-year combat veteran and recipient of the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He served in Iraq with the Third Infantry Division. He is a certified Information Systems Security Professional with more than 30 years of experience in information technology and cyber security.

He is offering free assessments to businesses and nonprofits with 15 to 500 users to check for vulnerabilities. An audit takes about two hours to complete and will not disrupt services. As of last week he had performed three assessments in Warwick.

Should his report identify vulnerabilities and the client chooses to use him to make corrections, Machado said the cost can run from a couple of thousand dollars to \$20,000.

## Machado's cybersecurity recommendations

### Tip #1 - Use Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

Using Multi-Factor Authentication is something you know; your password AND something you have; like a pin on your cellphone or app

### Tip #2 - Practice good password management

We all have too many passwords to manage - and it's easy to take short cuts, like reusing the same password.

Here are some general password tips to keep in mind:

- Use long passwords: 10 – 12 characters; the longer the better.
- Use a strong mix of characters and never use the same password for multiple sites.
- Don't share your passwords and don't write them down
- Update your passwords periodically, at least once every 6 months (90 days is ok if you are required to change it more frequently).

### Tip #3 – Be suspicious, avoid Phishing scams

Using various social engineering ploys, cyber criminals will attempt to trick you into divulging personal information, such as your login ID and password, banking or credit card information through emails, texts, and voicemails.

- Be suspicious of any official-looking email messages, texts, or phone calls that ask for personal or financial information and avoid clicking on links of unknown emails, texts, websites or downloading software from untrusted sources. If attachments or links are unexpected or suspicious for any reason, don't click on it.

### Tip #4 - Back up your data

The single biggest thing that will defeat a security threat is having a good regularly updated backup.

- Back up all of your computers, phones, tablets, etc. on a regular basis to include your files, pictures and videos.
- If possible, subscribe to a service like Apple iCloud, Google Drive, or a similar service that will back them up for you automatically.
- For servers and cloud applications, daily backups are good but hourly backups are better.

### Here are some additional tips to help keep you safe and secure online:

- ALWAYS use a firewall – on your network as well as on your computer. Mac and Windows have basic desktop firewalls as part of their operating system that can help protect your computer from external attacks.
- Use public wireless hot-spots wisely – Make sure you are connecting to the correct Wi-Fi and follow these tips for staying safe.
- Be conscientious of what you plug in to your computer Never plug in your computer a flash drive that you found and don't know what is on it. (Flash drives and even smart phones can contain malware and viruses).
- Be careful of what you share on social networking sites. This information can be used against you at some time in your personal or business career.
- Monitor your accounts for suspicious activity. Subscribe to an Identity Theft Service such as Life-Lock or a similar tool.
- Bank or shop online only on trusted devices and networks - and logout of these sites when you've completed your transactions.
- Participate in and train employees – Make sure that you and your employees have annual training which includes testing them to make sure that the training is being understood and reinforced.

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● MARINO from page 1

Since her time in office, Marino has cited her grandparents and parents as some of the strongest motivators for her role in public service. When you walk into a City Council meeting, you witness Marino in her element.

She reads everything in preparation for matters on the agenda. When she speaks, you can tell she has done her research, pay-

in current times, that Marino says are the qualities her parents and grandparents would be proud of.

“The climate is a very hostile climate,” Marino said. “It happens too often where people who hold public office choose to take the low road and cut at other people or just be negative to distract from issues. And that has never been who I am, and it will never be who I am.”

**Plenty of work ahead**

This year, the council unanimously approved the FY25-26 budget, which Marino said was the first time in a long time she saw bipartisanship really come together.

While the city budget seems to be going smoothly, Marino says there is still plenty of work in the year ahead.

Issues from rodent control to seeking improvements for the city’s inspections department are just some of the matters she hopes to work on.

Another issue that Marino is keeping her eye on is the impact of losing American Rescue Plan Act funding, the large sums of federal money that was given to cities nationwide during the pandemic.

Marino said in 2020, everything was uncertain, and it was a once-in-a-lifetime type of situation. Coming out of the pandemic, the city can’t count on that type of federal funding anymore, especially with the national turmoil and a lot of federal money being pulled back.

“That is my concern because that doesn't

happen just in a vacuum,” Marino said. “It has a trickle-down effect. Even if it's federal funding that is not given to a local nonprofit that impacts us as a city, because then those are people that live within our community that relied upon those services ... [and] they're no longer receiving [them].”

Affordability is another concern that Marino is focused on. She says that for residents, everything is more expensive. The increased costs of utilities, rent and mortgage payments have outpaced people’s incomes, she says.

The city’s Housing Commission is something that Marino is hoping will improve this year. With some new appointments, she wants to see the Housing Commission take a more active role.

Marino is a longtime proponent of always including a portion of affordable housing with proposed residential developments.

Looking to the future, Marino says she wants to see more of the true bipartisanship she has come to experience with this year’s council. She says it’s refreshing to see the mayor’s office and council work together to solve issues important to residents.

But while the work seems never-ending, the summer is fast approaching and, for an outdoorswoman like Marino, that is paradise.

Keeping to the Rhode Island spirit, she says summer offers some of the best times to experience the Ocean State.



Marino with her husband, Joseph, and son Justin. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus.*

Her summer plans include enjoying the Rhode Island coast. Whether that’s with a nighttime stroll looking up at the stars with her children or a fun little kayaking adventure, which she does every summer.

Marino says she loves to be outside, at the shoreline, hearing the waves. And while by day, Marino works as a civil litigation insurance defense lawyer and serves as the council president, she’s often just a Cranstonian enjoying the Rhode Island shore.

“There’s just such a peaceful serenity to just being on the water, just enjoying nature,” Marino said. “I just like the simple stuff.”



Marino runs into a colleague, City Council Vice President Daniel Wall, at the market. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus*

ing attention to the impact the decisions of the council have on residents.

It is that dedication and her determination to remain in local politics, especially

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# Lifestyles

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

CRANSTON HERALD

## HISTORY IS

# Her Story

By MATTHEW LAWRENCE

At a recent ceremony at the Quonset O' Club, Warwick resident Marta Martinez was inducted into the Rhode Island Press Association Hall of Fame. Martinez is founder of Nuestras Raíces: The Latino Oral History Project of Rhode Island, and was honored for over three decades of work documenting the stories of Rhode Islanders.

"I had so many ups and downs of emotions," Martinez says. "I actually wasn't quite sure what qualified me to receive the award. I had to sit with that for a while."

Born in Mexico, Martinez grew up in El Paso, Texas, part of a family that included six siblings. She moved east to attend Providence College, and by the end of her freshman year she met her future husband. After college, the couple spent a decade in Washington, D.C., returning to Rhode Island in 1988 because it felt like a better place to raise a family.

"I wanted to go into broadcast journalism," Martinez says of her time at Providence College. "I wanted to be a TV anchor. I got an internship at Channel 12, which was an ABC station at the time. That got me an interview with ABC in Washington when we moved there, but I realized then that broadcasting wasn't what I wanted to do."

Instead, Martinez got a job at Gallaudet University, a school for deaf students, and there she learned American Sign Language. During her time in Washington, she worked as an interpreter for both Spanish and ASL.

When Martinez returned to Providence, she started working with Hispanic Social Services, and from there got to know the South Providence and Elmwood neighborhoods.

"I started walking Broad Street and talking to people, and I was really introduced to the Latino community for the first time that way. In college I didn't get out much, I stayed on campus. Downtown felt very desolate. There was very little to do besides shop at The Outlet and maybe a few other stores. Well, I should say there was very little that I wanted to do downtown."

Though Providence had a large Latino community, Martinez says that media coverage at the time was very limited and mostly negative. "It was all crime and stories about welfare," she said. "So, I called the Providence Journal to ask why, and the person who answered the phone told me that if I wanted to see positive stories printed that I should start submitting them myself. So, I did."

"The culture of Broad Street is very Dominican, and that was very foreign to me," she says. "Mexican culture and Caribbean cultures are very different. I started learning more about that history. I went to libraries and archives to get a sense of who they were. I came from Texas, where Latinos have been around for four hundred years, so it was very surprising to me that Latinos didn't come to Rhode Island until the 1960s. At the time, the 1960s wasn't that long ago, so I thought it would be fun to meet some of the people who had arrived first."

That began a three-decade career meeting members of local Latino communities and recording their stories, first to audiocassette and later digitally. Some interviews even became Providence Journal stories.

"It was very accidental," Martinez says. "Rhode Island Council for the Humanities gave me my first grant, and I used that to learn more about what oral history is, because I hadn't studied it. I found other oral historians and got very involved with the Oral History Association."

There were few other oral historians in Rhode Island, let alone working specifically with Latino communities. "A lot of people do oral histories in school, and it's their big project for a year or for a semester. Then they move on to other things and you never see them again. And where do the histories go?"

In 1991, Martinez started Nuestras Raíces: The Latino Oral History Project of Rhode Island. Since then, the organization has grown into a diverse collection of personal stories, photographs, and documents that capture the history of Rhode Island's Spanish-speaking community, according to its website.

Nuestras Raíces lost some funding earlier in April when National Endowment for the Humanities funding was eliminated, even for projects that were already underway. Not only that, but the National Endowment for the Arts was targeted a few weeks later, impacting Rhode Island Latino Arts, Martinez's day job.

"With Rhode Island Latino Arts I work with artists from every genre: visual artists, musicians, theaters, even culinary artists," says Martinez.

An NEA grant was awarded, and later rescinded, for the 10th annual Teatro en el Verano production, a new bilingual (English/Spanish) retelling of the story of Doctor Faustus, which will be performed in local parks and outdoor venues around the state. The play was already cast and moving forward when the funding was taken away. They are now looking for funding to keep the production going.

In addition to theatrical programs, RI Latino Arts hosts regular meetups for artists. (They're normally held at the organization's gallery space in Central Falls, although the next one will be held in the Roger Williams Park Museum of Natural History and Planetarium on June 5). Martinez also organizes a summer-long Museo del Barrio, in which Broad Street becomes a living museum with dance, drumming, performances, and tours of the historic neighborhood.

For more information, visit [RILatinoArts.org](http://RILatinoArts.org)

Marta Martinez was inducted into the Rhode Island Press Association Hall of Fame on May 2. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



The Somos Rhode Island exhibit runs through July 18 at the Southside Cultural Center, 393 Broad St., Providence (M-F 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and by appointment) and showcases a collection of 30 portraits created by artist René Gómez. For more information visit [rilatinoarts.org](http://rilatinoarts.org). *Submitted photo by Marta Martinez*



Martinez interviewing an elder for an oral history project. *Submitted photo by Marta Martinez*



Martinez, a Warwick resident, before kicking off the 25th annual Halloween parade in Pawtucket in October 2024. She is the chair of Friends of Pawtucket Village and founder of the annual event. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Martinez carrying a poster-size copy of her book. *Submitted photo by Marta Martinez*

# Through the years: Memorial Day marching, honoring

I have always loved Memorial Day. When I was a child, my mom, brother, and I would walk to the end of our street to watch the Memorial Day parade, which used to end with a ceremony at Warwick Veterans Memorial High School. Every year, my mom would buy a helium balloon for my brother and carefully tie it to his wrist so he wouldn't lose it. He'd joyfully wave it in the air, flapping his arm up and down, all day and well into the night. She tied it securely. So securely, in fact, that the next morning he woke up with a red, swollen hand, almost as big as the balloon itself! She had tied it so tightly that it cut off his circulation! Thankfully, once the string was removed, the color returned, the swelling went down, and his hand was back to normal. My mom never tied a balloon that tightly again.

march in the parade when I was a girl scout. I loved wearing the uniform, decked out green skirts, crisp white shirts, and green sashes with enough badges to make a Navy admiral jealous. We were ready. We were proud. And we were not synchronized. Instead of marching, they were just walking normally, which caused us to follow suit. No "hup two, three, four" but a casual stroll. My mom, who was the girl scout leader, had no experience in leading us for a march. (Sell girl scout cookies... she was great. Make s'mores... she was great... Lead us in the recitation of our motto... she was great. Marching, not so much!)

There was one big problem: there were only two marching bands, one from Veterans High and one from Pilgrim, and we were placed somewhere in the musical no-man's-land between them. So instead of keeping in



**Life Matters**

with Linda Petersen

time with a rousing drumbeat, we just kind of... strolled. Aimlessly.

About halfway through, my legs decided they had had enough exercise. Forget marching, I was dragging my feet like a zombie, scuffing up my brand-new white sneakers with every sad shuffle. My knee socks had sullenly rolled down to my ankles. I was a sweaty, disheveled mess. My sash, the pride of my entire Girl Scout identity, had twisted around so the American flag was unpatriotically upside down. To make things worse, I really had to pee.

And then, then, the grand finale of my personal parade experience, I stepped on horse poop, a reminder that the Warwick Police had been leading the way riding

on horses earlier. And not just riding, but also letting nature take its course.

I finished the parade scuffing, sweating, sash-askew, and reeking of horse poop. But wait, that was not the end. At the finish, sitting on the grass of the high school, drinking a bottle of water which had been thankfully dispensed by parade organizers, I listened as the speakers took to the podium and microphone where they delivered heartfelt, respectful remarks that honor the true meaning of the holiday, something like this:

"Good morning and thank you for joining us on this solemn and meaningful day. Today, we come together not for celebration, but for remembrance. Memorial Day is a time to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. They laid down their

lives not for fame, not for recognition, but out of a profound sense of duty, courage, and love of country. We remember them not just as soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, but as sons and daughters, husbands and wives, parents and friends. Their stories are the foundation of our freedom.

As we enjoy the freedoms of this day, the sunshine, the parades, the laughter of children, and the cookouts, let us also pause to reflect on the cost of those freedoms. Let us carry forward the values they died defending: liberty, justice, unity, and peace. May our gratitude live not only in our hearts, but in our actions, and commit ourselves to building a nation worthy of their sacrifice. We remember. We honor. We are grateful."

I could not have said it better myself.

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By JENNIFER COATES

Three young martial artists-in-the-making stood at rapt attention while their instructor, Mr. Johnny, led them in the dojo's "Student Creed". If one didn't know better, they might think these were young recruits, ready to go out and defend their country ~ but this is something much better for five, six and seven-year-olds! These students are instead learning how to defend their honor, their integrity, and their emerging sense of selves.

Kathryn, Stephen and J.J. could not have been more enthusiastic or proud as they said in unison "I will develop myself in a positive manner and avoid saying anything that will reduce my mental growth or physical health. I will develop self-discipline in order to bring out the best in myself and others. I will use common sense before self-defense and never be abusive or offensive. This is a Black Belt School. We are dedicated. We are motivated. We are on a quest to be our best!" Finally, "Winners never quit. Quitters never win. I choose to be a winner!"

These are not just catchy phrases that instructor and Black Belt Master Mr. Johnny chants to hear his own voice ~ these are aspirations that are woven into every aspect of the classes that he leads. His students listen to him and repeat his words like a Boy Scout mantra. They hear them often enough that maybe, just maybe, they will internalize them ~ young and old.

The students here at Premier Martial Arts in North Scituate (just over the border from Johnston) are serious about their martial arts practice. Whether they are elementary school aged boys and girls, or adults, they know that this ancient practice is so much more than kicks and punches. It is about learning "self-mastery, courtesy, integrity, modesty, self-control and perseverance."

Premier Martial Arts is part of a larger network of martial arts



Johnny Gasdia, Black Belt Martial Artist and co-owner of Premier Martial Arts in North Scituate, leads a group of enthusiastic young students as they advance towards their goals!

studios throughout New England. This dojo is owned locally and is managed by Mr. Johnny Gasdia, the talented, energetic and devoted Black Belt instructor. Gasdia is passionate about the work he does at the studio, but mostly he is passionate about the students who attend classes here. It matters to him that they live up to martial arts' overarching principles, both on the mat and in the outside world.

With every class, Mr. Johnny teaches all the classic moves of martial arts while focusing on monthly themes such as anger-management, teamwork, nutrition, courage, and so

much more!

Beginner students and experienced martial artists alike will find everything they need at Premier Martial Arts. If you want to know more, try their two FREE introductory classes. Classes are held Monday through Friday, and there is something for every age and ability level, from "tiny champs" to teens and adults.

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# Lookers find balance between simple, complex

Lookers. Submitted photo

By **ROB DUGUAY**

Redundancy is an eternal enemy of creativity. No artist or entity wants to make a rehashing of something else. There's always a desire to make something fresh and new.

Enter the Providence indie rock act Lookers. The quintet of lead vocalist Muggs Fogarty, guitarist and synth player Rafay Rashid, bassist and violinist Florence Wallis, guitarist Nick Politelli and bassist Bryan Fielding blend together elements of post-punk, disco, surf and alt-rock together to create an inventive sound.

This is best exemplified with their new album "Deeper", which came out via the Brooklyn based record label Almost Ready Records on April 25.

The band has a unique background due to being somewhat like a supergroup with Rashid, Politelli and Fielding being part of the garage pop act Ravi Shavi, Wallis being part of the indie folk group The Low Anthem and Fogarty having a presence in the local poetry community. They also have ties to the area due to Rashid growing up in Warwick.

"'Deeper' was written over the course of several years and recorded in two clusters, one section in 2017 and the other in 2024," the band collectively says about the full-length. "The album aims to be uncomplicated but complex while having a lot of high-energy, flirty, angsty, danceable songs mixed with moments to reflect and feel something honest. The songs on aren't shying away from

the stickiness and complexity of human connection along with its successes and failures. Expect textured layers of influence, explosive energy, and danceable drive."

The overall quality of the tracks within the new release is pristine, and this is a big credit to producer Bradford Krieger at Big Nice Studio in Lincoln. While capturing the structure, arrangements and instrumentation in excellent fashion, he also allowed the band to experiment and take some risks in order to push things forward. This is especially true in the songs "Animal" and "Alone" while others such as "Midnight TV Dinner", "Depressed" and "Crisis" convey a more direct approach. While there's a substantial sonic variety that comes across, the low leaning tones and Muggy's operatic delivery keep the tracks related to each other. It's a malleable adhesive for the sequencing while creating an enjoyable listening experience.

To give "Deeper" a listen, look it up on YouTube or Spotify and press play once you find it, or you can log onto Lookers' Bandcamp page at lookers.bandcamp.com. You can also possibly make a purchase on that platform to download it into your digital music library. Lookers recently finished up a short run of shows around the Northeast, but if you're aiming to catch their next performance, follow their Instagram page [instagram.com/lookers](https://www.instagram.com/lookers) to keep tabs. In the meantime, stop reading this article and give this new full-length a listen, it's rock music with a wide range that finds a really cool balance.

# Stolen check, forgery leads to psychiatric hospital

**Back in the Day**  
by Kelly Sullivan



Reverend Raymond Walker resigned his pastorate at the Graniteville Baptist Church in Johnston in 1909. Soon after he would be residing at the RI State Hospital for the Insane.

Born in England in 1875, Walker was married in 1904. His wife, Nellie, a native of Pennsylvania, became pregnant with their son in 1909. The baby was born three months premature in February 1910 and died that same day at Providence's Lying-In Hospital. The loss of the baby only added to the despair that hovered over Nellie's life. It had been discovered that, on Nov. 4, 1909, her husband had stolen a blank check from the checkbook of his friend G. Lambert Newhall, and made the

check out to himself for \$35, forging Newhall's signature. On Dec. 7, police went to Walker's home to arrest him. The retired minister became physically combative.

Walker was hauled into court where he was charged with forgery. He had spent the check at the Shepard Company Store. When a designation of insanity was placed upon him, following an examination by a physician, he was taken to the State Hospital for Mental Diseases in Cranston instead of prison.

On March 30, 1910, Walker managed to sneak past the nurse who had been tasked with watching him. He exited the institution, scaled the 12-foot wall surrounding the grounds, and escaped. He went to Boston where, on April 2, he visited the Board of Charity and asked if they might help him as he wasn't feeling well.

They transported him to the city relief hospital where it was determined that he had ingested a dose of poison. Walker made no attempt to hide his true identity and Rhode Island police soon learned of his location.

When Walker was released from the hospital on April 6, police officers were waiting at the doors of the hospital to arrest him and bring him back to RI. Walker put up a fight, swearing that he would never return to RI voluntarily. This presented a problem for the lawmen who had to follow procedure. One of the officers returned to RI where he quickly obtained legal paperwork charging Walker with being a fugitive then went back to Boston and assured Walker that he was being taken to the RI State Hospital again, whether he went voluntarily or not.

In April of 1911, Walker

escaped from the state hospital again. Without being seen, he changed his clothing, broke a window, climbed out and fled. He was located and brought back to the facility but, by 1913, he had been released and departed for somewhere in New Jersey. Nellie had taken as much hardship as she could. She filed for divorce on the grounds of extreme cruelty and neglect to provide. She alleged that he had humiliated her in front of their church congregation, stated that he wished their two living children were dead, and once threatened, "I will follow you to the end of the earth and blow your brains out." The divorce was granted in September 1913 in Walker's absence, and Nellie was given custody of both children. It isn't known what happened to Reverend Walker following his removal to New Jersey.

**See it on the Screen**  
with Joyce & Don Fowler



Smile

**NETFLIX**

**SMILE**

\*\* 1/2

(Eerie Horror Tale)

"Smile" was a big hit with the younger horror movie fans a couple of years ago.

It popped up on my computer screen recently, so I decided to see what the fuss was all about, leaving Joyce to reading her mystery novels.

Sosie Bacon plays a mental hospital therapist who witnesses a patient committing suicide.

It has a powerful effect on her as the man has an eerie smile on his face as he cuts his throat only inches from her.

The more she tries to understand why, the deeper she gets into other similar cases, concluding that these people were possessed.

Her boss, her boyfriend, her sister, and her own therapist are convinced she is crazy as more and more people suffer horrible deaths.

Her investigation leads her to deal with her own dark secrets and guilt. She eventually confronts her own demons, resulting in a disappointing ending.

**BAD THOUGHTS**

\*

(Disgusting, Crude "Humor")

Comedian Tom Segura has compiled a six-part series of the most disgusting, crude attempts at humor we have ever seen on Netflix.

And this is right after watching the lovely little film, "Nonnas."

Segura combines bathroom "humor" and prurient sexual "humor" that reaches the lowest levels of inanity.

Watching the first episode was all we could take, as an assassin messes himself and then makes a spectacle of it.

If you have young children, be sure to put your controls in place on this one.



The Ballad of Wallis Island

**AVON**

**THE BALLAD OF WALLIS ISLAND**

\*\*\*

(Bittersweet British Romance)

Charles (Tim Key) is a wealthy widower who has retired to a remote island where his main desire is to hire an aging singer to come to his island and perform for him and "under 100 others."

From the looks of things there are far less than 100 people on the remote island, available only by a small boat.

Herb McGwyer (Tom Basden) accepts his unusual offer, hoping to use the money to finance a comeback album. Unbeknownst to him, his former partner in both love and music, also shows up with her husband.

Tension builds. Herb is still in love with her, but she rejects him.

Typical British humor is occasionally lost thanks to typical British accents, as the story plays out to its gentle, bittersweet ending.

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A Burlesque on Carmen

# Silent movies come to Music on the Hill

By **MATTHEW LAWRENCE**

Charlie Chaplin and classical music aren't often found in the same place, but one of the Little Tramp's silent comedies will be accompanied by music from Georges Bizet's opera Carmen at two performances in East Greenwich this week.

It makes sense once you learn that the film is *A Burlesque on Carmen*, an early (1916) parody of two Carmen films that had been released the year before, both based on Bizet's opera. The original is about a soldier named Don José who falls hard for the Romani title character, a loose woman with a lot of attitude. In Chaplin's much sillier version, the soldier's name is Don Hosiery.

The silent movie event kicks off the 17th annual season of the Music on the Hill festival, featuring two weeks of classical concerts in East Greenwich, Warwick, and Cranston. The film runs about 44 minutes and is one of four silent shorts presented by Music on the Hill at two concerts on Wednesday, May 28. In recent years it's become common for live musicians to perform improvised sets to silent classics, but this one is different.

"It's not improvised," says Emily Atkinson, executive director of Music on the Hill. "The program is curated from existing music that gets matched to each of the four films. There's also talking in between

each one, to give the audience context about the movies and the music and why they were paired."

"It's a big year for Bizet," Atkinson says. This year is the sesquicentennial of the Romantic composer's death, which happened rather abruptly just a few months after Carmen premiered in 1875.

The music will be performed by a string duo, violinist Anton Miller and violist Rita Porfiris, who selected the four films and the concert program. It takes place at Crafted Hope Brewing (1485 South County Trail, East Greenwich). There's a matinee performance on Wednesday at 2:00pm and an evening screening at 7:00pm.

"This event will be cool for the history buffs. And there's beer," laughs Atkinson. "Beer is always good. We decided to do the program twice because the last time we did something in the space it was super packed, and we thought maybe some folks would prefer a less packed concert on a Wednesday afternoon."

Other highlights include Appalachian Spring at Immaculate Conception Church in Cranston on June 8. That program is centered around the Shaker spiritual "Simple Gifts". Most of the concerts feature small ensembles of performers, but this concert will feature thirteen instrumentalists on stage under the direction of well-known local conductor Edward Markward, who has led the Rhode Island Civic

Chorale Orchestra, the Rhode Island College orchestra, and the Chamber Orchestra of Barrington at St. John's.

"People know Aaron Copland," Atkinson says, "or people think they know Copland because they've heard bits and pieces in commercials and things." (The beef industry famously used Copland's work to great effect in commercials in the 1990s.) "So we decided to do Appalachian Spring to introduce people to his work."

John Williams used a variation of the spiritual for his piece "Air and Simple Gifts," composed for performance at the 2009 inauguration of Barack Obama. That marked the first time that a classical quartet was performed at a presidential inauguration.

Other works fitting the theme include Mark O'Connor's "Appalachia Waltz" (1996) and a solo violin and loop pedal improvisation from violinist Sarah Whitney. There will also be a brief Prokofiev solo piano piece performed by Jack Paiva, a junior at The Prout School who won first prize this year in the festival's annual student music competition.

In addition to seven public concerts, the festival includes a number of private performances for elementary school students and residents of elder care facilities. One such resident is Carol Pellegrino, a violinist who will join a string quartet for a short Mozart piece, her first performance in

many years. Pellegrino was the music teacher for many years at Toll Gate High School, where she created the strings and orchestra program. A musical family, the Pellegrinos were integral to the founding of Music on the Hill's festival in 2007. Carol's nephew John Pellegrino is the festival's Artistic Director.

"I'm always excited to bring home Rhode Island-born musicians, and friends whose devotion to Music on the Hill has made Rhode Island their home-away-from-home," John Pellegrino said in a statement. "This year I'm especially excited to bring home trumpeter Rod MacDonald. Rod and I played in the Rhode Island Philharmonic Youth Orchestra senior ensemble, along with oboist Anne Gabriele, in the 1980-81 school year. In our finale concert on June 10, Anne and Rod are the featured soloists, performing a concerto for oboe and trumpet. They soloed in the Youth Orchestra's performance of Copland's "Quiet City", long ago."

For those wondering about the name Music on the Hill, the Hill in question is the one in downtown East Greenwich. The organization got its start at St. Luke's Episcopal Church and still performs there today.

Tickets are just \$30 in advance with Eventbrite or at the door (cash/check only), and free for students with I.D. For information, visit [www.musiconthehillri.org](http://www.musiconthehillri.org).

## Tex-Mex, chicken, burgers, chili and more at Chili's

Restaurant Review by **DON FOWLER**

Chili's used to be our go-to stop after a movie at the Showcase.

The food was consistent, served hot and quick, and reasonably priced.

We enjoyed the aroma of the sizzling fajita plates brought to the surrounding tables.

We returned to Chili's recently after many years and found that little had changed.

Of course, the prices have gone up, but occasional specials like a burger, french fries and soda for ten bucks is only slightly more than the equivalent at a fast food joint...and much better.



The fajitas are still a popular item, with their special featuring chicken, steak and shrimp. Hamburger and chicken sandwiches come in every conceivable combination, ranging from \$10-\$13. With fries.

Joyce chose the chicken and bacon quesadillas (\$15.99), served with the traditional accompani-

ments, and as good as she remembered.

A popular choice at Chili's is the Triple-Dipper, listed as an appetizer, but enough for a full meal or to share with another.

There are more than a dozen items to choose from, including chicken, mozzarella, mini hamburgers with tasty fried onions,

and a southwestern egg-rolls.

My favorites were the three southwestern egg-rolls, filled with chicken, spinach and beans and accompanied with a tasty dipping sauce, which I also used for my chicken. The mini burgers were a huge hit, rounding out a nice little buffet.

We noticed many families and tables filled with teenagers who probably had just come from the movies.

Friendly staff welcome you at the door and even hold the door for you when you leave.

They must be doing something right, because they always seem to be doing a big business.

## Concert of Beethoven and Bach works is May 31 at library

Music on the Hill string, flute, and marimba ensemble will perform works by Beethoven and Bach at the Warwick Public Library Saturday, May 31 at 2 p.m.

Music on the Hill is a nationally-recognized concert series that brings professional musicians from Rhode Island back home to share their passion for music with the communities they love.

Hear Beethoven's "Serenade for flute, violin, and viola," Bach's "Cello Suite no. 3," Piazzolla's "Bordel 1900," and Dall'Abaco's "Sonata da camera" with Anton Miller on violin, Rita Porfiris on viola, Elisa Kohanski on cello, John Pellegrino on bass, Anthony Trionfo on flute, and Peter Ferry on marimba.

For more information, call (401) 739-5440, x9758. The Library is located at 600 Sandy Lane.

This event is free and open to all.

## 'Mélange of music' on June 1



Six ensembles comprised of members of The Chamber Orchestra of Barrington at St. John's and friends will present a chamber music concert on Sunday, June 1 at 3 p.m. at the church, 191 County Road, Barrington. The musicians will perform a delightful mélange of music from around the world! Please consider bringing a canned food item for St. John's Outreach Program. This is a pay what you can event. Submitted photo by Mary Murphy

# PrimeTime

## At 102 Domenic keeps ticking



Even at 102, Domenic Giarrusso serves up a contagious smile along with his hospitality. (Beacon Media photos by John Howell)

### WWII veteran who worked on B24s knows you can't overwind a clock

by JOHN HOWELL

Domenic Giarrusso pointed to the kitchen table with its four chairs in an invitation to have a seat. A glass display case on one wall held a collection of cut crystal and porcelain figurines. Windows looked out on one side to a yard. The other side opened to a pin-neat, carpeted living room. A counter separated the area from the stove, refrigerator and cabinets filled with canned goods.

"A lot of expired labels...like me" Domenic said with a laugh and sweep of his hand.

"Coffee, tea?"

Domenic pulled out a coffee tin and filled the kettle with enough water to percolate a couple of cups. He didn't want any assistance. In fact, he insisted his guests be seated.

And, oh yes, there were a lot of wall clocks. Many hung in the entryway from the garage or were evenly positioned on a nearby bench. They all looked old and most were silent, which is a good thing for they all would have chimed on the hour.

Domenic expected the visit. He would get another clock - this one to repair - and he was prepared to tell his story as a WWII Air Force veteran.

What ensued was an extended visit during which Domenic talked about growing up in Providence, his job repairing B-24 bombers that had been shot up - he showed a photo of one with a wing tip nothing but wires and metal scraps - as they returned to bases in North Africa and Italy; marrying a first grade classmate; and eventually settling in Cranston. Along the way, when the Navy pulled out of Quonset in the 1970s, he was jobless for four months and learned how to repair clocks as a hobby that ultimately became a source of added revenue.

Today he's ticking - very strongly we would add - at the age of 102. He lives in-

dependently, drives to keep appointments with the VA and, on occasion, repairs clocks, too.

#### A middle child

It all started on Jan. 30, 1923 when Domenic was born at 409 Union Ave. in Providence. He was the "middle child," he puts it, of six sisters and one brother. His father was a shipping clerk at International Braiding and as Domenic recalls insisted that the whole family be at the table for dinner.

Domenic names the schools he attended as if he's reading them from a list, only he's not reading. When he reached Central High School he enrolled in a split program with automotive mechanics. That training opened doors he would never have imagined.

World War II was in full swing and before graduating Domenic enlisted in what was then the Army Air Corps, to later become the US Air Force.

"I wanted airplanes," he said. Having taken an aptitude test and completed basic training in Miami Beach that transformed from a tourist town to a training post during the war. From there Domenic

was sent to St. Louis for intense training in aircraft mechanics that included as part of the finals flying a small plane comparable to a Piper Cub solo. Thirty-two started off in the class that ended off being 29 by the time training was completed.

"It was go-go all the time," he said describing how the day started at 6 a.m. with a muster and by 8 a.m. had them in classes until 4 p.m. Domenic estimates the equivalent of two years of college engineering courses was packed into five months.

With that portion of training completed, Domenic was assigned to the 312 squadron in Rome, NY where he was a basic mechanic working on "piston pounded" B24 engines.

bombers in the air as the allies closed in on Germany.

When the war came to an end, the squadron stayed to close operations and fly out the planes. Infantry were the first to return home.

Domenic was surprised on returning home was to discover his mother had saved the money he had been sending home to help the family had been placed in a savings account. He leaves his coffee for a second time and shuffles out of the room, returning with a satchel filled with albums, books and papers. There's a paper bound book that was compiled by members of the squadron recounting events during the war along with drawings and photographs. From one of the albums flops an 8 by 10 black and white photograph of a young man standing in the vacant square in front of St. Paul's Cathedral at the Vatican.

Domenic explains he visited Rome on leave after the squadron was reassigned to a base in Naples. He digs deeper into the satchel, coming up with the savings passbook handed him on his return to Providence.

#### His mother's advice

"I'm a keeper," says Domenic. "I keep everything." He remembers, too, down to his mother's advice "to always have breakfast" as a kid to what she told Dorothy DelSesto when she learned they were going to marry. Her instruction: "Never feed him cheese."

Dorothy heeded the advice.

It was an off-hand inquiry to a friend that led to connecting with his first-grade classmate. In a casual conversation Domenic asked whatever became of Dorothy. The friend suggested he find out for himself and



Domenic Giarrusso during WWII. Submitted photo

#### Always the host

Domenic pauses to get a plate of sugar-coated cookies, a great compliment to the coffee. The story resumed.

From Rome, NY, the squadron was shipped to El Aouina Air Base in Tunisia. The Germans were on the retreat in North Africa and Domenic spent a lot of his time fixing jeeps and keeping the motor pool running until the squadron was deployed to Gioia del Colle base in Apulia, Italy. There the crew worked feverously to keep

● DOMENIC to page 22

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# Little things we take for granted

First, I would like to apologize to my faithful readers (all six of you) for missing last month's column. It's the first time that I have missed a monthly column in more than seven years. Rest assured that I had a good reason. In late February, I joined the unfortunate clan of 36 million seniors when I slipped and fell on wet stairs, fracturing two bones in my shoulder. I also became one of 300,000 seniors who need medical treatment in an emergency room or urgent care facility. Treatment for the injury began with a sling to facilitate healing. After that, I used a walker, then a cane to get to my goal of walking normally again.

The accident triggered a series of adjustments that I had to make during my recovery. Our first adjustment was to move our second-floor bedroom to the first floor of the house. Even with this adjustment, you may find that you need help to get in and out of bed.

You will probably need help showering. The most important idea, especially for

elders, is to have grab bars installed and to place non-stick strips on the shower floor. Another precaution would be to replace that old tub with low threshold unit and a permanent shower chair. For a short time, you may need help using the bathroom. Grab bars here would also be a useful safety feature. I was very lucky. For the first phase of my recovery, my wife helped me dress every morning.

After breakfast (cereal works best), you might leave the house for work, errands, shopping, appointments, or just some fun and relaxation. Herein lies a daunting challenge. If you have lost your ability to drive, as I did during my recovery, it's a severe blow to independence. This hurdle can lead to isolation and loss of social contact, both necessary to maintain vital and physical well-being. Even getting in and out of the car can also be difficult. Don't be afraid to ask for help and get some training from licensed professionals like physical or oc-



## MY SIDE OF THINGS by LARRY GRIMALDI

cupational therapists. In most cases, therapy will be prescribed as part of your recovery.

Most communities have transportation programs to encourage persons in getting to senior centers, go shopping, keep doctor's appointments, eat a nutritious meal at community site "restaurants," or other activities. Senior centers are excellent sites to sign up for trips, exercise, clubs, and or enroll in educational programs. You can find your local senior center by calling the town or city hall, the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging at 462-3000, or The Point information, referral, and resource center at 462-4444.

Although I previously never thought about climbing a flight of stairs, I found it necessary to find the elevator or ramp at various stores and restaurants during my recovery.

The National Institute on Aging offers additional tips on fall prevention such as:

- **Stay as active** as you can manage
- **Removing power cords** or other objects that may be in your walking paths
- **Enhance the lighting** in your home
- **Keep all your medical appointments** and periodically review your medications with your health care providers
- **Wear practical shoes** in and out of the house
- **Consider enrolling** in an emergency response system (particularly if you live alone).

For more information on fall prevention, go to the National Council on Aging website at [ncoa.com](http://ncoa.com) or the National Institute on Aging ([nia.nih.gov](http://nia.nih.gov)).

Don't take everyday tasks for granted and take your time performing them. Don't become a fall statistic.

*Larry Grimaldi is a freelance writer from North Providence. For more information, or comments, e-mail [lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com](mailto:lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com) or visit [fruihillpublishing.my.canva.site/](http://fruihillpublishing.my.canva.site/)*

# Random musings

by ELAINE DECKER

Some of you may remember the sketch Deep Thoughts with Jack Handey on Saturday Night Live. That spoof inspired my column for this month: Random Musings. I've reached the age when I lie awake at night musing about all sorts of random topics. I've collected some of them for this essay, randomly, of course.

The other evening I was struggling to decide if it's a kerfuffle or a kerfluffle. My bedtime brain doesn't have spellcheck, so I didn't know that Word would underline kerfluffle in red. I can see that now, but I've already moved on to other musings.

I'm aware that the animal known as the ship of the desert is the camel, but isn't that usually depicted with one hump? That would make it a dromedary. The ship needs two humps to be called a camel. This of course means that the cigarette brand of that name actually has a dromedary on the package. You probably knew this already.

Moving right along... is the Hokey Poky really "what it's all about"? And if so, why? And can't words really hurt as much as sticks and stones?

Who decided there would only be two choices in winter hand coverings—mittens and five-finger gloves? Why isn't there an option with three channels—thumb, index and middle finger together, and the two

smallest fingers together? Or thumb, index finger, and the last three fingers together?

Why do we assume that the first one to smell it did it?

I wonder if the estates of the four female leads in The Golden Girls get residuals for all those reruns on the Hallmark channel. I've watched some of them multiple times.

The show is on just about every day, even more often than Murder She Wrote, and that series has just one female lead who would be entitled to residuals.

I'm only half way through this and you should already be able to see how truly random my musings are. And this is even without a glass of wine.

Eggs are sold by the dozen. Golf balls are sold that way, too. Muffin tins have twelve compartments. So why do we rate things on a scale of one to ten? What's worse, sometimes one is the best rating and sometimes ten is. Bo Derek was a 10 in the movie of that name. Best In Show at the Westminster Kennel Club Competition is always the number 1 dog. It's all so confusing.

We hear a lot about AI now. It usually means Artificial Intelligence. With all my aches and pains, it's more likely to mean the generics Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen for me. And my chronic cough means CVS texts me automatic refill notices for my Albuterol Inhaler. Artificial Intelligence will have to wait a long time before

*"We hear a lot about AI now. It usually means Artificial Intelligence. With all my aches and pains, it's more likely to mean the generics Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen for me."*

that's what I think of first when I hear AI.

I lost all my hair after my chemo treatments last spring. It grew back in white and straight and after a few weeks, I looked like

Yahya Sinwar, the late Hamas leader who was in the news at that time. As my hair grew in more, I thought I looked like a human cotton swab. Now my hair has grown a lot and it's curly. (It used to be straight.) My current look is very Harpo Marx. I'll get it trimmed back to cotton swab length soon.

My husband and I never had children, but we each have siblings, so we live vicariously through our nieces and nephews. People talk about grandparents and great grandparents all the time, but we seldom hear about grandaunts or great grandaunts.

Grandaunt will show up if you search the term, but almost no one uses it. I found this explanation helpful. "Grand" indicates one generation away; "great" is added to indicate generations beyond "grand." Most of my nieces and nephews keep things simple and just call me "Aunt E."

I don't understand the reasoning behind the kerfuffle over football's "Tush Push." I have to do a tush push every time I put on a pair of French cut underpants. And a major push trying to get in and out of leotards. They should call that activity the "thigh pry."

I'm pretty much randomed out. I hope you've enjoyed musing along with me.

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



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PACE participants Marie W and Lucille G demonstrate the OM Interactive Mobii Multi Touch Table. Submitted photo by PACE

## PACE unveils Reminiscence Therapy Room

PACE Organization of Rhode Island (PACE-RI), the health care provider and insurer for medically complex older adults, recently opened a state-of-the-art reminiscence therapy room at its metro-area center to support people experiencing dementia.

Reminiscence therapy is an intervention that helps elders, especially those with mild to moderate dementia, recall and share past experiences. The immersive experience of the room and corresponding activities encourage emotional well-being and social connection.

Reminiscence therapy is now available to PACE participants, including 33 Warwick elders and 14 Cranston elders who are provided transportation to attend the day center and clinic. It is part of the all-inclusive health care and social services offered by the organization to help nursing home-eligible older adults continue to live safely and independently at home instead.

The room has two distinct sections – one is modeled after a 1960s living room, complete with mid-century modern clocks, retro wallpaper, and a clear vinyl covered couch among other amenities. The other area replicates a game room and den from the 1960s with simulated wood paneling. While the room has a vintage feel, it is also home to advanced technology based on the principles of reminiscence therapy.

Some of the innovative technologies featured include:

- **The OM Interactive Mobii Multi Touch Table**, an interactive tabletop projector that features games, music, social activities, and memory tools. It also encourages physical activity: a typical 30-minute session includes 550 movements.

- **A bubble wall** that encourages visual tracking, boosts auditory awareness, and reduces agitation in people with advanced dementia.

- **iN2L, a standing touchscreen system** used in over 2,000 elder care communities nationwide. It offers enriching content that supports cognitive health.

- **A soothing fish tank** that encourages relaxation and reduces anxiety.

- **Aromatherapy diffusers** that engage the sense of smell to trigger positive emotions and uplift moods.

- **Joy for All™ companion pets**, lifelike robotic cats, dogs, and birds that simulate the comfort of real animals and reduce loneliness.

- **Moxie, a small AI robot** used as a companion and for conversation for adults with mild to moderate dementia.

The purchase of technology and the room's design and renovation were funded through generous grants from the Simon W. Wardwell Foundation and the Harriet Ballou Charitable Foundation.

## Don't sit with worry, reach out

7,000 reached out with concerns

*"See something, say something."*

It's been a common refrain in airports and transportation hubs for many years. It calls upon all of us to participate in the protection of our neighbors and community by calling attention to suspicious packages or behaviors.

How often, though, have you seen something concerning about your older adult neighbor, friend, or loved one and thought to yourself, "something isn't right, but I don't know what to do"?

If you are concerned about the safety of someone age 60 or older in Rhode Island, the Office of Healthy Aging (OHA) is who you can contact. Previous columns have introduced the ways OHA creates opportunities for connectivity, independence in aging, and supports community engagement and supports. A critical piece of OHA's work is to prevent and alleviate elder abuse. Concerns can be reported to 401-462-0555 or <https://oha.ri.gov/report-elder-abuse>.

June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. This month's column seeks to bring awareness, not just to the signs of abuse, but also to the supports available. Nationally, it is estimated as many as one in ten older adults is abused or neglected each year, but most cases are not reported.

Elder abuse can be defined as "a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person".

Abuse may occur regardless of age, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, or relationship status. Some older adults may be at increased risk of abuse. They may be frail. They may have caregivers who did not want to be caregivers. They may have resources or money acquired throughout their lives making them a target for exploitation. Abuse may be physical, emotional, verbal, or sexual; it may be neglect or financial exploitation. Self-neglect also falls under the purview of Adult Protective Services (APS) at OHA.

In 2024, our APS team received over 7,000 referrals. Seven thousand times a neighbor, family member, physician or friend called or completed a web form to express concern about an older adult in Rhode Island.

They were concerned.



by MARIA CIMINI

Not all calls were for abuse. Some were about neglect. Some were self-neglect. Some were circumstances where people

needed supports, they didn't know how to access and ended up in distress or decline. Sometimes law enforcement was engaged and sometimes case managers were engaged. Every time, we were happy someone reached out. We need to be watching out for one another and no one should be suffering at the hands of a caregiver.

What might you call about? **Here are some signs that my prompt your concern:**

- Person lacks basic hygiene, adequate food or clean, appropriate clothing
- Person lives in a home that is cluttered, filthy, or in disrepair
- Person exhibits unexplained or uncharacteristic changes in behavior
- Person has unexplained fractures, bruises, welts, cuts, sores or burns
- Person has unexplained sexually transmitted disease(s)

- Person with dementia is left unsupervised
- Person is confined to bed without care and/or has untreated "bed" sores
- Person's money is controlled by caregiver, but caregiver is failing to provide for the individual's needs
- Person is isolated by a caregiver
- Caregiver is verbally aggressive or demeaning to the person

If you recognize any of the above for a person age 60 or older living in the community in RI, call 401-462-0555 or visit <https://oha.ri.gov/report-elder-abuse>.

Your report is always 100 percent confidential, and the process is 100 percent confidential.

Don't sit with the worry about a friend or a loved one.

The staff at the office of healthy aging are trained to assess to protect and to connect to resources. OHA investigators and community-based case managers will go out, knock on the door, and offer support to someone in need. There is no shame in reaching out for help and Rhode Islanders should have the peace of mind that help is available.

*Maria Cimini is the director of the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging.*

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|            | Wickford          |                |

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COOK TIME



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- 1 lb. Chicken Thighs, boneless
- 3 Ripe Peaches, cut into wedges
- 2 Shallots, chopped
- 1/4 Cup Fresh Basil, chopped
- 1 Tbsp. Olive Oil
- 1 Tbsp. Fresh Ginger, chopped
- 1/2 Cup White Wine
- 2 Tbsp. Honey
- 1/2 Tsp. Each of Ground Pepper & Salt



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*R.J. Connelly III*

● DOMENIC from page 19

handed him a scrap of paper with her phone number. Sometime later Domenic found the paper in his pocket and made the call. Their first date was a movie and some five months later they were married.

Domenic was working for the Navy in Quonset, but the newlyweds wanted to be close to family and friends in Providence. When Domenic learned an acquaintance was buying a two-family house in the Union Avenue neighborhood, he asked if there might be an apartment for rent. The answer was “yes,” but when Domenic went to check it out, it was an unfinished attic.

Domenic saw an opportunity. He offered to convert the attic into an apartment at his cost on condition that the rent was frozen at \$30 a month for as long as they were there. It was a deal.

**Landlord reneges on deal**

But the landlord reneged several years later, telling Domenic he wanted them out. Domenic was furious and thought of fighting the edict in court. Instead, he looked around, finding a double-decker they could call their own. It needed renovations and Domenic went to work. The replacement of a toilet with a wall tank and pull chain, which was on top of Dorothy’s list to go, was among the first renovations. He cleaned up the yard and built an outdoor fireplace from cobble stones salvaged when Washington Street was repaved.

The first of their two children, Edward was born in 1957, followed by Elaine who came seven years later. He has two grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

When the Navy pulled out of Quonset in the 70s Domenic was out of a job. He went to work as a production controller for Madison Industries. He looked



Domenic Giarrusso uses the mechanism out of a Seth Thomas clock to point out features of the mechanism. (Beacon Media photos by John Howell)

to go farther. He took night courses in production planning at URI and somehow between it all looked to fix a clock from Italy that had belonged to his grandfather. He went to D’Agastino Clocks and Watch Repair in Providence where he struck up a friendship with the owner who became his mentor in understanding clocks and repairing them.

But times were changing and so was the neighborhood. Following an episode where shots were fired not far from his home, Domenic started looking for a house in Cranston. He found the place close to Garden City but in need of cleaning and repair. Domenic put his woodworking skills to work again reconfiguring the kitchen and converting a portion of the basement into a clock workshop.

**The clock shop**

On a follow-up visit, he showed off his basement cubby filled with boxes and drawers of gears, springs and the tiniest tools.

“People would say they overwound their clock,” Domenic says of the frequently heard complaint when he was averaging three to four repairs a week.

“But you can’t overwind a clock.” He explained that most clock failures result from worn pinions and bushings that hold gears in position. The pinions holding the spring in place, which are subject to the most torque, can wobble

causing the gears to jam and the clock to stop.

He lists the parts, pulling gears of different sizes from drawers. One can imagine he was similarly focused on repairing a car engine or that of a World War II bomber.

Of all the clocks he’s worked on, Domenic says the French ones are especially finely built. He said components are precision crafted and are driven by springs – in the case of windup clocks – of minimal torque placing less stress on gears.

It was this mechanical thinking that surely played a role in him landing a job with the state and eventually a pension that continues to serve him well.

When he learned of a plant mechanic position overseeing the operation of the power plant serving the state institutions at what is now the Pastore Government Center, Domenic was interested in the money and the challenge. The job entailed ensuring the operation of five boilers standing three stories

high. There were scores of applications for the position and Domenic figured he didn’t have a shot at the job because he didn’t know anybody. He was surprised when he was given a second interview and delighted when he landed the job that he held for 13 years.

Today Domenic says he takes one day at a time. He often has visitors, and he is a big admirer of retired Providence Fire Chief George Farrell founder of the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Honor Flight Hub. Domenic went on one of the 32 flights the hub has conducted, transporting veterans to Washington, DC for a day of visiting war memorials. Domenic attends Honor Flight fundraisers, often speaking about the experience and what it meant to him.

For Domenic, moderation and patience are tenants to live by. In his 102 years he has discovered the joy of living: “I like to see things come to life...I don’t care if it’s a million dollar clock or a 50 cent clock.”



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# Sports

## West takes down No. 2 Pilgrim

Falcons heating up as playoffs loom

By **ALEX SPONSELLER**  
Herald Sports Editor

The Cranston West softball team earned a statement win on Monday afternoon when it rolled past second-place Pilgrim, 12-3.

The Falcons were coming off a 2-1 extra inning loss to St. Ray's and also fell to the Pats in a 3-2 extra inning battle earlier this season. The Falcons wasted little time on offense, going up 2-0 in the first inning and scoring four more in the third to take a 6-1 lead. West had another four-run inning in the fifth to run away with the decisive victory.

Nicole Silvestri led the way at the plate, going 3-for-3 with three RBI and a home run. Mia Santomassimo also added a pair of RBI on two hits while Payton Wells hit a two-run home run as well.

Pitcher Mia Crudale got the complete game win, allowing just one earned run on five hits while striking out six batters.

Pilgrim was led by Madison Turrok, who knocked in two runs

● WEST to page 28



*Athlete of the Week:*  
**Nicole Silvestri**

The Cranston Herald's Athlete of the Week is West softball player Nicole Silvestri. Silvestri was dominant at the plate against Pilgrim on Monday in a big Division I showdown, as she went 3-for-3 with three RBI and a home run to propel the Falcons to the win. The Falcons will now move on to the playoffs and look to go on another deep run toward a title. *Beacon Media photo by Alex Sponseller*

## Roundup: West golf clinches division

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Cranston West golf team got the job done last week as it won its first Central Division title in more than two decades.

The Falcons clinched the division when it beat Bishop Hendricken and Coventry last week. West finished with a score of 155, while Hendricken finished at 157 and Coventry 181.

Jack Marques led the way with a score of 35, followed by Jagger Dion with a 39 and Michael Farina who shot a 40. Eric Whitlock shot 41 and Zach Smith shot 42. Josh Smith wrapped things up with a 48 for West.

The Falcons will now take part in next week's state championship, which will take place at Cranston Country Club on the mornings of Tuesday and Wednesday.

**BASEBALL**  
East 10, West 4

The Bolts got some revenge against their crosstown rival in a non-league matchup on Monday.

Jeu Leon had a three-run double for East and Antonio DeFusco drove in two runs on two hits as well. Cameron Boulanger pitched five innings for the Bolts, allowing one earned run on three hits while striking out a pair of batters.

Adam Stoloff scored a pair of runs for the Falcons. Ryan Phillips recorded seven strikeouts in 3 2/3 innings of work on the mound for West.

**BOYS VOLLEYBALL**  
Classical 3, West 0

The Falcons were swept by the Purple in a late-season battle. Ziyue Wang racked up 12 kills for West while Ashton

● ROUNDUP to page 26



East's Cydnee Meekins at bat last week against Juanita Sanchez. *Beacon Media photos by Alex Sponseller*

## Tigers hold off Bolts

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Tiverton softball team held off defending champion Cranston East

4-3 in a pivotal Division III matchup on Monday afternoon.

The Tigers jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning and led 4-2 in

the sixth. Although the Bolts managed to score and run and put two

runners on base, the Tigers managed

● BOLTS to page 28



## Huskies top Rams, earn playoff berth

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The Hope Highlands Huskies softball team ousted the De La Salle Rams 9-6 on Monday at Hope Highlands Middle School.

The Rams opened the scoring in the first after Olivia Graziano singled, scoring one run.

Hope Highlands scored on a wild pitch, which helped the Huskies tie the game at one in the bottom of the first.

The Hope Highlands Huskies flipped the game on its head in the bottom of the second, scoring six runs on six hits to take the lead, 7-1. The biggest blow in the inning was a

The Hope Highlands softball team last week. The Huskies finished the regular season 8-2 to clinch a playoff berth. *Submitted photos*

● HUSKIES to page 24

# CCRI advances to NJCAA World Series

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Community College of Rhode Island softball team is headed back to the NJCAA Division III Softball World Series for the second consecutive season following another remarkable run in 2025.

With a 19-7 overall record, CCRI is currently ranked No. 6 in the NJCAA Division III national poll and will represent the Northeast District and Region XXI at the World Series, held May 21–24 at Carrier Park in Dewitt, NY.

The Knights are one of only eight teams nationwide to qualify for the tournament, with official seeds and bracket announcements scheduled for Monday, May 19 at 5 p.m. As the only active softball program in Region XXI, CCRI once again had to compete against teams from Regions XV and XX in the Northeast District Tournament, where they defeated Dutchess Community College in a decisive double-header sweep (6-1, 5-1) on May 10 to secure their bid.

“This is a real honor,” said head coach Paul Mercier. “All they’ve wanted from Day 1 was another invitation to the World Series. I’m very proud of the way we stuck together. We had some rocky roads, but we found our path to the region and district playoffs, and now we’re on our way to compete with the best programs in the country.”

This season builds on the momentum of a record-setting 2024 campaign, when CCRI won a program-best 32 games and secured its first-ever World Series win, upsetting No. 7 Herkimer in the consolation round.

### Season Highlights

- National Rankings:
  - o 1st in home runs (14)
  - o 2nd in team batting average (.428)
  - o 1st in on-base percentage (.507)
  - o 4th in slugging percentage (.611)
  - o Pitching staff ranked 4th nationally with nine shutouts

### Player Accolades

- o Zoe Battersby (West Warwick, RI): Broke CCRI’s career home run record with 17 in two seasons; hit .457 with 38 RBI and a .889 slugging percentage
- o Crystyliah Covel (Easton, MA): Freshman standout hit .500 with 17 RBI and a .620 slugging percentage
- o Brianna Grenier (Cumberland, RI): Hit .457 with a team-high .901 slugging percentage, 5 home runs, and 33 RBI
- o Kathryn Motta (Warwick, RI): Batted .557 with 38 hits, surpassing 100 career hits
- o Sophia Chevian (Warwick, RI): Led pitching staff with 7-3 record, 1.81 ERA, 3 shutouts, and 42 strikeouts (120 career Ks)
- o Janina Mazzulla (Johnston, RI): Finished 6-1 with 4 shutouts and a team-high 55 strikeouts (122 career Ks)

Seven of CCRI’s regular players (20 or more games) hit over .400 this season, highlighting the team’s offensive depth and consistency.

“CCRI is officially on the national softball map,” added Mercier. “With 10 returning players from last year’s team, I’m hoping the experience will help us this time around. Our players will leave everything on the field.”



Jaiden Harding waits for the ball as a runner slides into second base.

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Kathryn Motta takes a lead in a recent game. Photos by Mike Zawistoski



Hope Highlands’ Ariana Iorfida, who earned the win in the circle.

### ● HUSKIES from page 23

single by Alexa Okolowicz on a 3-0 count that drove in two.

Hope Highlands added one run in the third after Laila Murphy doubled to center field.

Ariana Iorfida earned the win for Hope Highlands. The starting pitcher allowed six runs (four earned) over seven innings, striking out five and walking none. Teagan O’Reilly took the loss for

De La Salle Rams. The hurler went six innings, allowing nine runs (eight earned) on 13 hits, striking out five and walking one.

The Huskies tallied 13 hits in the game. Angie Ialongo, Murphy, Okolowicz, Natalie Santurri, and Lylah Riley each collected two hits for Hope Highlands Huskies. Murphy went 2-for-2 at the plate and led the team with two runs batted in. Hope Highlands turned one double play in the game.

# Favorite places to catch spring striped bass

By **CAPT. DAVE MONTI**  
Special to the Herald

The striped bass are here on their annual migration north. Before relating where to catch them and how it is important to note that they are in tough shape as a species.

Striped bass continue to be overfished and subject to overfishing so great care should be taken to catch and release fish safely to reduce fish mortality.

Using one single hook rather than multiple treble hooks on lures helps. Keep the fight short and try to keep the fish in the water when dehooking and releasing. In-line circle hooks are the law when using bait and no use of gaffs.

Take your time when releasing the fish once the hook is out holding it by its tail (caudal) fin moving it forward and backward so water flows over their gills to revive them. The fish will let you know it is ready to be released when it wags its tail fin in your hand, at that point just let it go.

The striped bass limit is one fish/person/day between 28" to less than 31".

### Some favorite spots and methods

Coves, ponds, rivers and along the ocean shore. Salt Pond and Narrow River, Narragansett; Green River, North Kingstown; and the Warren River are good spots. My favorite cove is Greenwich Cove in the spring (because I lived there, and it is the first place I ever caught a striped bass).

I have caught bass from shore and boat at the end, middle and mouth of the Cove at Chepiwanoxet Point, Warwick; to the East Greenwich Town Dock and Scallop Town Park on the east side; to the Godard Park boat ramp all the way up to the State Beach. My favorite baits are hard and soft plastic lures (both surface and swimming).

The East Passage of Narragansett Bay including the space between Popasquash Point, Bristol and Bear Point Prudence Island. I have caught many large striped bass in this area (large for the Bay is 20 to 40 pounds), particularly trolling with tube and worm or fishing the channel pads and edges with menhaden (live or chunked) and large spoons that mimic herring and Atlantic menhaden. The channel pads from Bristol to Barrington are also great places to fish as they hold bait and stripers as the shipping channel acts as a bait conduit pushing bait up and down the East Passage of the Bay. Can fish this area from shore at Barrington Beach and Colt State Park fishing pier, Bristol.

The West Wall of the Harbor of Refuge in Jerusalem area, South Kingstown; the Charlestown Breachway and any other jetty along the coastal shore. These areas provide shore anglers (and boat anglers) with one of the best first Rhode Island striped bass opportunities as the bass make their run past the Connecticut coastline to Rhode Island. Lures of all types are the baits of choice.

Providence River in the cities of Providence, East Providence, Barrington, Cranston and Warwick. The area from shore up the Seekonk River and at India Point Park and the Hurricane Barrier in Providence to Conimicut Point has been a very fruitful fishing area in early spring. The most popular method in recent years has been live lining or fishing with cut up chunks of Atlantic menhaden.

The hot areas to fish include the Hurricane Barrier down to Save the Bay on Fields Point in Providence. Anglers have caught thousands of bass in this area.



Grant Stark with the 46" striped bass he caught on Cape Cod last week. Photo courtesy of "My Fishing Cape Cod"

When the menhaden spawning runs are strong striped bass chase them up the Providence River to the Seekonk River all the way up to downtown Pawtucket. Bass over 50" have been caught in this area. Anglers can catch from shore in Pawtucket, Providence, East Providence, Barrington, Warwick and Cranston.

### Where's the bite?

Striped bass. Manny Macedo of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren, said, "The stiped bass bite has been very good in Mt. Hope and Narragansett Bays. Anglers should know that Rhode Island and Massachusetts now have two different ways of measuring striped bass."

In Massachusetts anglers must squeeze the tail (caudal) fin to take the measure from the closed mouth of the fish. Visit Massachusetts - Striped Bass | eRegulations for an illustration on how to measure striped bass in Massachusetts. In Rhode Island measure from the mouth to the longest point of the tail fin, there is no squeezing allowed.

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence, said, "Customers are having difficulty catching slot size fish in the upper Providence and Seekonk Rivers. Larger fish over 31" are being caught, earlier this month a 53" fish was caught. Baits working include live or chunked Atlantic menhaden with worms working best in the Seekonk River as all that mud up the Seekonk River holds a lot of worms."

Angler Kevin Travares said "We fished Mount Hope Bay, the Sakonnet launch to Bristol to Roger Williams, etc. Chased terns and gulls on breaking schools of bass. Sometimes w/out birds, could spot them breaking top water. Needed to move with the schools. 40-50' of water/drop offs in channel worked. Most fish were around

slot, had some under 20" (nice to see) and a couple over 30 inches." Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "We've seen some impressive sizes, with reports of fish up to 47 inches caught in the Charlestown Breachway this week. Both tides have been productive, and they are actively feeding on a variety of bait, including silversides, needlefish, shad, eels, and squid."

Tautog. Ryan Collins of 'My Fishing Cape Cod', said, "The red hot tautog bite earlier this month seems to be cooling off a bit on the Cape as other species like scup move into the area."

"Anglers have filed fewer reports on tautog as not as many are fishing for them as they are now targeting scup, striped bass and other species that have arrived," said Henault of Ocean State Tackle.

Summer flounder and scup are being caught throughout the region. Manny Macera of Lucky Bait & Tackle said, "The scup are in with small fluke being caught too."

Angler Matthew Haczynski reported

Saturday finding keeper fluke in the Block Island area with he and two others filling a cooler full of fluke."

Angler Garey Vandemoortele, said, "We limited out on fluke in the Westport area last week when chartering on Three Sister Charters. Clams and clam worms worked best."

Freshwater. For complete regulations, a list of trout stocked ponds, and a copy of the RI Freshwater Fishing Regulations and Guide visit Fish & Wildlife | Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and in Massachusetts visit Freshwater Fishing | Mass.gov.

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. Forward fishing news and photos to [dmontifish@verizon.net](mailto:dmontifish@verizon.net), visit [www.noflukefishing.blogspot.com](http://www.noflukefishing.blogspot.com) or [www.noflukefishing.com](http://www.noflukefishing.com).

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Members of the RI Party & Charter Boat Association with food and cash raised at their annual dinner that they donated to the Johnney Cake Center for Hope, Peace Dale.



The recent Block Island Inshore Fishing Tournament included nine species and a wind farm photo contest division.



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# Pressure on Mazzulla as Celtics upset by Knicks

The dust has now settled on the Celtics' Eastern Conference Semifinals loss to the New York Knicks, and all eyes will be on coach and Johnston native Joe Mazzulla as the team moves forward and tries to pick up the pieces after a devastating defeat.

To make matters worse, star Jayson Tatum did, in fact, rupture his Achilles and could be out for the entire 2025-26 season. Guys like Kristaps Porzingis and Jrue Holiday could be on the chopping block with their big contracts, and even Jaylen Brown will be recovering from a torn meniscus.

Time for Mazzulla to be the difference maker.

This is not the first time that Mazzulla has been tested and has even faced some national criticism. The team fell in the conference finals his rookie year and many wondered if it was too

much, too soon for the young head coach. Well, he and the revamped roster turned around to win the title last season before this year's bitter end.

The primary complaint of those watching when it comes to Mazzulla is his devotion to the 3-ball. He has been very vocal over the past three years that his system is focused on hitting 3-pointers at a high volume, and even if the shots aren't falling, to keep shooting anyway as things will settle back toward the mean.

Last season, the system worked like butter. This year, especially throughout the playoffs, it fell flat. The Knicks sold out to prevent the 3-ball and the Celtics struggled to win with Plan B. They just didn't have the horses to attack the rim, especially once Tatum went down.

Should Mazzulla have scrapped the 3-ball? Should he have been more aggressive attacking the bas-



## My Pitch

by Alex Sponseller

ket? Should he have forced his guys to buckle down on defense and turn it into a dogfight? The answer to all of that is yes, but in the moment, coming off a dominant championship, it's hard to go against what had worked.

After the 2023 loss, Mazzulla had a pass because it was his first season with a roster that had some critical deficiencies. Year 2, well, you know how that went.

This is the first time that we will get to see what Mazzulla is truly made of. He's in an interesting spot.

His first year was an impossible situation. Taking over a flawed roster on the heels of a controver-

sial firing (I am referring to former coach Ime Udoka). His second year was the total opposite as he was handed one of the best rosters ever assembled. Although he is wise beyond his years and developed a system that worked, he was given the most talented team in the league to work with.

Next year he will be forced to lead the team beyond the sum of its parts. The roster is almost certainly going to have significant turnover and the pressure will be on Mazzulla to keep things rolling after the recent upset.

What's uncommon about Mazzulla's trajectory is that it goes against the typical ceiling versus floor debate. We usually get to see a young coach's floor early on and then see them rise to their ceiling. Last year showed us what Mazzulla's ceiling is. He's a championship-caliber coach at his best.

Next year will be about main-

taining a high floor. There are coaches out there that sink when the roster takes big shots, there are guys that can't cut it when they don't have the same tools as other loaded teams.

The Celtics won't be the best roster in the league next year. Heck, they may not even be a top-5 roster by the looks of it.

If Mazzulla can return and bring the Celtics to the playoffs and on another deep run, then there will be no doubt that he is among the NBA elite. We all know that he's a qualified NBA head coach, you don't win titles if you aren't. But next year will show us just how good he really is.

I believe he is a good coach, I believe he is one of the best young minds in the league, and I believe he will learn from this loss. Let's see what adjustments he makes and how far he can bring a B-level roster.

### ● ROUNDUP from page 23

Mak recorded 23 assists. Henry DeLa Zerda finished with 11 digs on defense.

### OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League Division Championships took place at Cranston West last week and plenty of locals made noise.

#### BOYS

Hendricken's David Hayes won the 1,500 run while teammate Colby Flynn won the 3,000 run. Pilgrim's Brandon Wolfenden won the discus throw, shot put and the hammer. Hendricken's Carson Dean won the pole vault. Pilgrim's Hunter Schobel won the

triple jump. Jakob Reyes won the high jump for Hendricken.

Pilgrim's relay team of Patrick Rowe, Miles Zuniga, Cornelius Zmed and Jacoby Schmidt took second in the 3,200 relay. Hendricken's Tristan Jordan placed second in the 110 meter hurdles. Flynn placed second in the 1,500 run. Schobel finished second in the long jump.

West's Daniel Mojica finished second in the 300 meter hurdles. Toll Gate's Ryan Brady finished second in the 800 run. West's Ryan D'Errico placed second in the 200 dash. Hendricken's Dimitri Johnson took second in the hammer, and teammate Kayson Kong took second in the shot put.

West's Logan Lavimodiore took third in

the discus and fourth in the shot put, while Toll Gate's Sean Anderson finished third in the hammer.

D'Errico finished fourth in the 100 meter dash while East's Cohen Brinker took fourth in the 1,500. West's Ryan Luke took fourth in the hammer throw, while teammate Ben Phok took fourth in the long jump.

#### GIRLS

West's Reece Vitale won the triple jump, 100 meter hurdles and 300 dash while Pilgrim's Keaney Bayha won the 1,500 run and 800 run. Toll Gate's Vanessa Jones won the discus and hammer throw.

East's Jessica Chin took second in the 3,000 run and Pilgrim's Lia Wasilewski took

second in the javelin. Jones finished second in the shot put.

West's Maya Cicchitelli finished third in the 100 hurdles while teammate Amelya D'Errico took third in the 100 dash. Madeleine Marques finished third in the 300 hurdles for the Falcons. Caroline Brennick took third in the javelin for East.

Marques placed third in the triple jump, while teammate Sarah Pimental placed fourth.

West's Mylla Jean finished fourth in the 100 dash. Toll Gate's Anna O'Donnell finished fourth in the 3,000 run. Pilgrim's Brenna Hall took fourth in the discus while Jones took fourth in the javelin for the Titans.

# Real Estate Transactions

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ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE	ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
<b>CRANSTON</b>									
12 Sherman Ave	Lane, Bruce D and Lane, Mindy B	Custodio, Jose M and Munrayos, Miriam M	4/23	\$525,000	31 Tartaglia St	Moore Jr, Anthony M and Moore, Lisa A	Mccabe, Justin and Armfield, Emma	5/5	\$485,000
120 Pontiac Ave	Bovis, Thomas and Lynch, Lauren	Bonilla Cruz, Marcos and Bonilla Calderon, Pablo	4/22	\$670,000	32 Cavalcade Blvd	Oconnell, Kenneth M and Oconnell, Katherine J	Bottell, Randy J	5/5	\$275,000
15 Mohawk Ln	Lancia, Marc and Lancia, Renee	Delgalo, Allyson and Delgalo, Nicholas J	5/2	\$620,000	35 Regina Dr	Giolitti Ft and Giolitti, Henry C	Weber, Karl	4/30	\$358,000
15 Mohawk Trl Lot 231	Lancia, Marc and Lancia, Renee	Delgalo, Allyson and Delgalo, Nicholas J	5/2	\$620,000	4 Heritage Cir	Fiore, Karyssa	Rodriguez, Jose A and Rodriguez, Betania	5/6	\$360,000
179 Jordan Ave	Rojas, Nancy B	Pimentel, Laura J	4/28	\$392,000	5 Gano Ave	Kings Catering LLC	D&m Home Improvements LLC	4/30	\$322,000
204 Maplewood Ave Lot 2380	Hernandez, Adeldo	Estevez, Darys J and Nunez, Yasmin M	5/2	\$630,000	6 Midwestern Cir	He, Feng	Tonucci, Ronnie P and Chiaromonte, Julie S	5/6	\$560,000
204 Maplewood Ave Lot 2381	Hernandez, Adeldo	Estevez, Darys J and Nunez, Yasmin M	5/2	\$630,000	657-1/2 Greenville Ave	Cascade Funding Mtg T Hb8	Eaton Developmtns Inc	4/30	\$191,750
204 Woodbine St	Northeast Revest LLC	Lacasse, Micaela J	4/28	\$587,000	97 Hill Top Dr	Flath, Jason R and Flath, Julie D	Osborne, Christopher J and Mckenzie, Mary	5/6	\$500,000
21 Highland St Lot 21	Fogarty Dorothy L Est and Jarvis, Christopher	Bogda, Dean and Bennett, Caroline	4/22	\$470,000	<b>WARWICK</b>				
221 Hillcrest Dr N, Agency LLC	Paul Durfee, Ryan and Lleonart Riol, Maya	4/23	\$680,000	116 Lake Shore Dr	Shrestha, Sajan	Peterson, Shannon H	5/1	\$408,000	
230 Lawnacre Dr	Beverly L Rush T and Rush, James L	Psikakos, Elenia A	4/30	\$430,000	120 Missouri Dr	Dewolf, Kevin J and Maslona, Eric D	Grinder, Robert	4/25	\$375,000
230 Lawnacre Dr Lot 3507	Beverly L Rush T and Rush, James L	Psikakos, Elenia A	4/30	\$430,000	131 Brendard Ave	Ideal Estate Invest LLC	Yang, Richard S and Yang, Stephanie M	5/1	\$445,000
26 Susan Dr	Ragosta, Ernest and Ragosta, Lisa	Rodriguez, Odalis and Baez, Jhanley M	4/29	\$500,000	15 Willing Ave	Camus, John S	Smith, Michael R and Smith, Jae T	4/24	\$539,000
32 Cambio Ct	Banigan, Mona M	Levisay, Matthew and Livesey, Andrea	4/25	\$459,000	1508 W Shore Rd	Restivo, Robert	Decastro-Vicente, Suzana	4/24	\$315,000
33 Hollins Dr	Dallesandro Roger Sr Est and Dallesandro, David	Ciccarelli, Leanne S	4/22	\$500,000	166 Beach Ave	Excel Prop Solutions Ri L	Gonzalez, Hugo	4/28	\$290,000
35 Fales St	Ciccarelli, Leanne S	Cook, Kevin M and Leacock, Sandra D	4/22	\$400,000	167 Welfare Ave	Bottom Line Re Solutions	Fichman, Robert G and Harrington, Susan G	4/24	\$463,300
37 Cardinal Rd	Hope Road Land Invest LLC	Berroa, Yudelka	4/29	\$1,195,000	176 Aurora Dr	Cole Adam D Est and Cole, Haley J	Cole, Haley	5/1	\$300,000
40 Norfolk St	Paul J Brown Lt and Brown, Paul J	Ri Custom Builders LLC	5/2	\$400,000	21 Rogers Rd	Orchard Invest LLC	Mella, David L and Mella, Maria K	4/25	\$575,000
420 Webster Ave	Luce, Oliver H and Luce, Gail F	Rojas Lopez, Valentin and Sanchez Derojas, Soraya V5/1	5/2	\$350,000	222 Killey Ave Lot 21	Staruch, Darcy L	Diorio, Maria E	4/25	\$320,000
45 Surrey Dr	Saccoccio, Steven J and Saccoccio, Melissa J	Toomey, Rebecca S and Toomey, Sean P	4/30	\$880,000	265 Post Rd Lot 9	ConAve Sheila and Walton Jr, Hollie R	Bazarian Murray, Mary J	4/30	\$415,000
77 Maplewood Ave	Collazo, Maria S	Hernandez, Adeldo	5/2	\$360,000	3524 W Shore Rd Lot 909	Pizzi, Stacie L and Pizzi Jr, Agelo R	Delos, Remi M	4/30	\$137,500
8 Roslyn Ave	Brown, Denise	Yeo, Anna J and Hanson, Matthew D	4/25	\$625,000	370 Larchwood Dr	Citizens Bk	Alpha Hldg LLC	4/24	\$400,000
83 Freedom Dr Lot 3458	Cahill, Dylan and St Lawrence 3rd, Thomas	Belliveau, Danielle M and Russo, Michael P	5/2	\$957,700	370 Larchwood Dr	Alpha Hldg LLC	Parenteau Jr, Joseph A and Sullivan, Sharon	4/25	\$655,000
83 Freedom Dr Lot 3561	Cahill, Dylan and St Lawrence 3rd, Thomas	Belliveau, Danielle M and Russo, Michael P	5/2	\$957,700	400 Narragansett Pkwy Lot SC12	Silvia, Mary L	Asvestas, Theodore	4/25	\$298,000
85 W View Ave	Rush, Carole A and Rush, William L	Little Flower Home	4/28	\$501,000	41 Rosedale Rd	Elisabeth O Garbutt Lt and Garbutt, Elisabeth O	Rosedale Re RET and Bitsoli, Deborah A	5/1	\$850,000
94 Carman St Lot 2193	Sanita, Donna M and Davis, Carol A	Agency Group LLC	4/24	\$430,000	41 Williams St	Doehler, Carol	Tesler, Kristi	4/24	\$720,000
94 Carman St Lot 2195	Sanita, Donna M and Davis, Carol A	Agency Group LLC	4/24	\$430,000	5 Delaine St	Sage, Brandon M	Harvey, Justin and Margadonna, Gilbert	4/25	\$358,000
96 Harvard St	Mazza, Raymond and Mazza, Sacha M	Dunlap, John H and Dunlap, Kathleen P	5/2	\$417,500	51 8th Ave	Carlsten, George F	Bowie, John F	5/1	\$587,500
98 Sheffield Rd	Celio, John L	Moscariello, Joseph and Saint Hilaire, Debra A	4/24	\$550,000	68 Greene St Lot 4	Melwick Birds LLC	Singh, Gurvinder	4/24	\$422,000
<b>EAST GREENWICH</b>									
210 Trappers Ln	Fischer, Anne E and Boin, Kathleen E	Quigley, Sean B and Ferrin, Emanuela	4/30	\$1,183,000	75 Marshall Ave Lot 211	Vartabedian, Pia	Lowell LLC	4/25	\$279,125
151 Pine Glen Dr Lot 151	ane W Marsello Irt and Marsello, Gregory R	John P & K J M Roche Irel and Roche, John P	4/30	\$700,000	75 Marshall Ave Lot 212	Vartabedian, Pia	Lowell LLC	4/25	\$279,125
75 Overfield Rd	Horton, Sandra	Flynn, Andrew	4/30	\$510,000	752 Quaker Ln Lot B207	Tocco, Paul J	Buscher, Dean M and Vargas, Jane E	4/25	\$218,000
94 Virginia Ave	Dambruoso Firt and Dambruoso, Daniel R	Dambruoso, Talia J and Tombs, Joshua	5/1	\$346,913	86 Bluff Ave	Dorsey, John A	Harrington Sr, Terence A and Hall, Beverly J	4/24	\$215,000
94 Virginia Ave	Dambruoso, Donna A	Dambruoso, Talia J and Tombs, Joshua	5/1	\$353,087	884 Halifax Dr Lot 884	Paul, Evelyn A	Pierre J Plante RET	5/1	\$359,900
<b>EXETER</b>									
135 Black Plain Rd	Brayam Ethel V Est and Nikola, Nora	Charpentier, Corinne E and Pickering, Christopher M4/30		\$380,000	92 June Ave	Mancini, Victor	Prior, Allyson C and Prior, Daniel	5/1	\$465,000
<b>JOHNSTON</b>									
1 Dante Ave	Soares, Thomas J and Soares, Kimberly R	Sanchez, Jose	5/6	\$385,000	17 Bates Ln	Cogan, Benjamin J	Baker, Emily E	5/1	\$450,000
14 Angell Ave	Drinkwater, Jamie	Bileau Investments LLC	5/1	\$410,000	<b>WEST GREENWICH</b>				
15 Dayton Ave	Pietros, Mark and Pietros, Amanda	Odgen Jr, Harry R and Odgen, Stephanie L	5/2	\$639,000	<b>WEST WARWICK</b>				
2 Naples Ave	Dirocco, Francesca M	Lamarre, Lakicha and Acacia, Jerry	5/2	\$535,000	16 Standard Ave	Rossi, Alfred S	Santucci, Robert and Santucci, Carol A	4/30	\$420,000
22 Dante Ave	Title Investments Rigg	Joseph, Theophilus D	4/30	\$1	2 Guertin St	Garces, Mauricio	Tripp, Carlisa	4/30	\$400,000
24 Kensington Way Lot 24	Atwood Ave Condos LLC	Pell, David C and Pell, Ann M	4/30	\$449,900	50 Earl St	Dejesus, Julia J	Mandeville Pro LLC	5/2	\$260,000
2631 Hartford Ave Lot 5	2631 Hartford Ave LLC	Warner, Edwin F and Brodner, Amy L	4/30	\$280,000	54 River St Lot 10	Townsend, Nella	Morales, Antol R and Morales, Kimberly	4/30	\$175,000
2631 Hartford Ave Lot 6	2631 Hartford Ave LLC	Zabocchia, Paul	4/30	\$257,000	606 Providence St	Amd Holdings LLC	Cross Street Realty LLC	5/2	\$1,495,000
3 Coolidge St	Riccitelli, Hope F and Gitsit Solution LLC	Cianci Jr, Raymond M	5/5	\$282,000	7 Miami St	Coyne, George M and Coyne, Claudette	Kennelly, Sean and Kennelly, Isabella	5/2	\$540,000
						71 Curson St	Murphy, Christopher M	5/5	\$389,000
						75 Glen Dr Lot 3B	Lombardi, Don D and Lombardi, Diane A	4/30	\$309,000

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West pitcher Mia Crudale winds up on Monday against Pilgrim (above). West outfielder Siena Nardelli fields the ball (at right).



● WEST from page 23

while Brianna Raleigh added another. “This is a confidence booster after a tough loss to St. Rays. That score didn’t reflect how well we hit. This was a good confidence booster and with the RPI, it’s good for us,” said West coach PJ Bessette. “We knew we had to come in and play our A-game. We knew we had to control the game and support (Crudale) with our bats. My goal was just contact,” said Silvestri. Silvestri has recently been working her way out of a slump at the plate, and her bat will be needed as the Falcons gear up for a Division I playoff run. “It was good to get Nicole back, sometimes she tries to do too much as the number four hitter, but tonight she played loose. She was more comfortable and hit the ball hard. That was great,” said Bessette, who was also proud of Crudale, who shook off a shaky fifth inning by shutting the door on Pilgrim in the last two at bats.

“Mia is tired, she’s pitched a lot of innings in not a lot of days. But we kept her out there, she battled and finished strong,” said Bessette. The Falcons are set to play their season finale on Thursday against Cumberland. From there, the team will enter the playoffs as either the fourth or fifth seed. The Falcons reached the state championship last season as a surprise team considering its young roster. Now, the Falcons are confident and seasoned as they look to finish the job. “This was an important game and we had to leave it all out there. We came back ready to go. Our experience helps keep our composure, helps us stay calm and help each other through things,” said Silvestri. “Our energy is a big thing, if we have it, we do good.” Bessette added: (Our experience) is what’s going to carry us. The seniors have stepped up, it’s hopefully going to be a good run for us. We’re starting to play how we’re supposed to be playing.”

● BOLTS from page 23

to escape the jam, then would escape in the seventh to hold onto the win. Gianna Tocci drove in a run while Nevaeh Fatorma, Jaeda Viveiros and Alice Billings all scored. Cydnee Meekins finished the day with two hits. Lexi Montalban tossed six innings in the circle for East and allowed just one earned run while striking out six Tiverton batters. The Bolts held on to fourth place in Division III despite the loss as Tiverton sat in second. The Bolts rolled past Juanita Sanchez 19-0 the previous game. Meekins went 3-for-4 at the plate with

four RBI, while Montalban also drove in four runs as well. Leanna Garcia and Fatorma had multi-RBI outings, and Montalban got the three-inning win and struck out seven batters. East was slated to take on Division II Barrington on Wednesday, but the results were unavailable at press time. The Division III playoffs are set to begin this weekend and Davies sat in first place as of Tuesday morning. The team’s lone loss came to East earlier this spring. The Bolts sat in fourth place with a 12-3 record. East picked up some key DIII wins over teams including Classical, Rogers and Central. It lost twice to Tiverton while also taking a loss to Davies.



East catcher Gianna Tocci works behind the plate (at left). Second baseman Skylah Belmont-Gomez flips the ball to first base against Juanita Sanchez last week (above).



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