

JohnstonSunRise

Thursday, June 12, 2025

24 Pages with Supplement • **FREE** • Vol. 28 No. 17

To JSHS graduates: ‘Stand up for justice’

By **TARA MONASTESSE**
Beacon Media Staff Writer

Before hard-earned diplomas were handed to the graduating students of Johnston Senior High School last Thursday, Vice Principal Amy Ricketson had a simple request: that the audience members hold their applause until the end.

It was worth a shot.

But as soon as the first name was called, the request immediately went unheeded.

There was just too much wild enthusiasm for the 183 graduates and their brilliant futures for the family and friends in the audience at Veterans Memorial Auditorium to hold back. As Ricketson named each member of the Class of 2025 and their post-graduate destiny – whether it be college, military service, the workforce or another adventure – the auditorium erupted into cheers and whistles, from the front row all the way up to the matinee seats.

Before taking that final walk across the stage and crossing the threshold into adulthood, graduating students heard one last time from the administrators who oversaw their education. Facing rows and rows of his soon-to-be former students, Principal Matthew Velino highlighted the unique potential of each graduate from the podium.

“As I look out into this group of young adults. I don’t just see graduates,” he said. “I see leaders, thinkers, artists, athletes, problem solvers and changemakers.”

Velino, who assumed the role of principal three years ago, told students they must refuse to settle for the status quo as they embarked on a new chapter of their lives. “The world doesn’t need more people content with ‘good enough,’” Velino said. “It needs bold individuals who see what’s broken and step up to fix it.”

The graduates weren’t the only ones celebrating the end of an era that evening. After 15 years of serving Johnston Public Schools as superintendent – a span “almost unheard of in this profession,” Velino noted – Bernard DiLullo delivered his final graduation address before his retirement at the end of June.

DiLullo wasted no time stressing the values he hoped the students would hold close as they entered the adult world.

“Honesty is more than just telling the truth. It’s about being genuine with ourselves and others,” he said.

● **GRADUATION** to page 10



Valedictorian Lucas Anderson encourages his classmates to write their own stories as they move to the next chapter of their lives. *Beacon Media photos by Barbara Polichetti*

\$5.4M bailout aimed at school deficit

By **TARA MONASTESSE**
Beacon Media Staff Writer

A \$5.4-million transfer from Johnston’s municipal reserve fund will erase the School Committee’s budget deficit, says Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr.

Polisena first revealed the bailout in an interview with WJAR last Friday, where he stated he was “not very happy” about having to dip into funds the town had worked to save in case of an emergency.

The transfer will resolve a budget shortfall accumulating since 2019, allowing the School Committee to begin the new fiscal year on July 1 with a clean slate. But remedying the committee’s funding challenges won’t end there.

David Bergantino, Rhode Island’s auditor general, told the SunRise that the next step is for the town and the School Committee to draft a corrective action plan to ensure the schools’ financial health moving forward, which his office will then review.

Bergantino, who first learned of Polisena’s bailout plan through television news coverage last Friday, said that discussions between his office and the town about the deficit had been ongoing.

“Johnston, by all accounts, at 43 million [dollars] has a very good reserve built over several years,” Bergantino said. He said that he believed a reduction in state aid to Johnston Public Schools in 2021 was a significant factor in worsening the deficit.

In an interview with the SunRise on Tuesday, Polisena explained that Johnston must keep enough money in the reserve to cover three months worth of the town’s operating expenses, which means that only \$10 million of the \$43 million in the reserve is currently available. Therefore, the \$5.4 million bailout will amount to just over half of the available funds.

Polisena said he feels confident that the bailout will be a one-time occurrence.

“I’m comfortable feeling that it’s

a one-time thing because they have a new chairman who I think is working really hard to remedy some of the problems in the district,” Polisena said. He said he had faith in the district’s business manager and human resources director, “plus the fact that there are now four appointed members on the School Committee who I think are really bright in their own right.”

Polisena said that he hopes the School Committee will adjust its approach to budgeting as it begins a new fiscal year.

According to Polisena, the money will be disbursed to the School Committee in installments throughout the fiscal year. In exchange for the continued disbursement of funding, Polisena said that the committee is expected to obey certain directives by the town. The town council and the School Committee will be asked to ratify a memorandum of agreement in the coming weeks that will stipulate the terms.

Bernard DiLullo, the outgoing

● **BAILOUT** to page 8

Resident’s death brings AEDs to RI golf courses

By **TARA MONASTESSE**
Beacon Media Staff Writer

A bill signed into law last Friday requires all golf courses in the state to have automatic external defibrillators, or AEDs, available on their premises.

Known as the David Casey Act, the bill is named for a Johnston man who died in February 2023 after experiencing cardiac arrest while playing golf at the Cranston Country Club. Shortly after, Betsy Casey, his widow, began advocating for lawmakers to pass legislation mandating AEDs be made available on public and private golf courses.

While the bill failed to make it out of the General Assembly when Representative Deborah Fellela of Johnston first attempted to introduce it in 2024, Casey continued to push for its approval. After the act’s second draft finally made it through the Assembly on May 29, Casey said she “felt relieved.”

“I felt like I’ve been able to make a difference,” Casey said in a phone interview with the SunRise, adding she hopes the bill’s positive impact will mean that her husband’s death was not in vain.

● **AEDs** to page 8



\$549

Minimum 8 Windows
Offer Expires 6/30/25

Call for a FREE Estimate or Book Online
Use Discount code "RING" for an Extra \$10 off per Window

401.273.3600 | VentureWindow.com
33 Freeway Drive, Cranston, RI 02920

INSTALLED BY
OUR OWN CREWS.

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE.

40 YEARS IN BUSINESS.

BBB RATED A++.

TILT FOR CLEANING
High Efficiency
Low E Glass / Argon Gas



**Smith Reglazing
Company LLC**

Tub & Tile Refinishing
401-935-4496
LSmith@smithreglazing.com
smithreglazing.com

Licensed and Insured #45582



U.S. Rep. Seth Magaziner, D-RI, recently visited Simmons Village senior housing in Johnston, where he spoke with residents. Magaziner and residents discussed Social Security and the importance of making health care more accessible and affordable among other topics. *Submitted photo*

Police Log

DUI

On May 27 around 8:45 p.m., Officer Patrick Gendreau observed a white sedan traveling southbound on George Waterman Road at an excessive rate of speed while traversing a corner. After observing the vehicle driving at high speeds, engaging the brake lights in extremely short durations and veering over the white line of the breakdown lane, Officer Gendreau initiated a motor vehicle stop.

Upon contacting the vehicle’s operator, she claimed that she was traveling to her home in Providence. The officer observed her speech to be mumbled and a mild smell of alcohol to be coming from the inside of the vehicle. The operator struggled to complete multiple field sobriety tests, and several opened alcohol containers were discovered in the vehicle alongside several unopened containers, an unopened cannabis edible and a cannabis vape pen.

The operator was issued a Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal Summons for Re-

fusal to Submit to a Chemical Test, Speeding 11+ MPH in Excess of Posted Limit - 1st Offense and Operate Vehicle with Unsealed Alcoholic Beverage - 1st Offense. She was also issued a summons for Laned Roadway Violation.

SHOPLIFTING

On May 29, Warwick Police arrested a man with an active arrest warrant for shoplifting at a Market Basket location in Johnston on 1300 Hartford Avenue. The shoplifting occurred on March 13, when the suspect left the store without paying for approximately \$148.66 of items. A Rhode Island DMV check of the man’s registration plate revealed his identity to law enforcement. After initially being brought to the Warwick Police Department, the man was taken into the custody of the Johnston Police Department. He entered a not guilty plea during his arraignment and was then given a \$2,500 PR bail and issued a pre-trial date in June.

CORRECTION

The town’s tax rate for Fiscal 2026, which begins this July 1, will raise the annual tax bill on the median single-family home by about \$89. This takes into account a widely utilized 20% reduction in assessed value where homeowners have applied for and received a “homestead exemption.” The exemption is available to residents who own single-family homes and occupy them as their primary residences.

A story in last week’s SunRise reported that the average residential tax bill would increase by \$110 in the coming year. That figure did not take into account the effect of the homestead exemption where it applies.

According to figures provided by the town, the owners of most single-family homes in Johnston qualify for and are receiving the exemption. The new residential tax rate will be \$15.62 per \$1,000 of assessed value, up from this year’s rate of \$15.30.

LET US KNOW

The SunRise corrects errors of fact in its published reports. If you find a factual error in our print or online publications, please let us know at publisher@beaconmediari.com.



**Summer is Arriving
AND WE CAN HELP!**

Suits sizes 6 to 32
A cup - H cup

*Celebrating Our
70th
Anniversary!*

Custom Bra Fitting
& Full-Size Range
Post-Mastectomy Products
Compression Hosiery
& Maternity Supports
Specialty & Fashion Bras

Ruth’s
106 ROLFE ST., CRANSTON, RI
401-941-5155
Tuesday-Saturday 10am - 5pm

Voted "Best of Rhode Island" RI Monthly



**60th
Parade**

Saturday June 14 at 10:00 am
Narragansett Parkway into Broad Street

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Closing Celebrations
Sunday June 15

Colonial Encampment
Blessing of the Fleet
Sunday in the Park
Burning of the Gaspee
Gaspee Gear Sales

Pawtuxet Park • 10 am
RI Yacht Club • 11 am
Pawtuxet Park • 12 pm
Pawtuxet Cove • 3 pm
Pawtuxet Park • all day

Information and full calendar at Gaspee.com



HEY KIDS!

Draw Your Dad
for a chance to win

a Family 4 Pack
of Tickets to  **ZOO**

or

a Family 4 Pack
of Tickets to  **THE BLOCK ISLAND FERRY**

Mail or drop off your entries:
BEACON MEDIA
1944 Warwick Ave., Warwick RI 02889
email entries to ldaz@RhodyBeat.com

Include name, town or city and phone number
or email address, so we can contact you if you win.

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH

Timeless shop continues mission of seven decades

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS
Beacon Media Staff Writer

“The best of what the past was” is a great way to describe one of Cranston’s preserved gems. It is what owner Carol Schwebel calls her store, which has been serving generations of women for 70 years.

A rarity in today’s age of mass-market shopping, Ruth’s Lingerie, in the heart of Rolfe’s Square, keeps to the essence of its roots, providing one-on-one service for customers looking for the perfect bra.

Known for its variety of product, it is also a specialty store that offers a full-range of bra sizes, from A-O (Schwebel said they may even have one “P” size bra in-store).

From nightwear and undergarments to swimwear, Ruth’s serves a diverse set of customers and offers a wide range of affordable to higher-priced items.

“We try to have both quality products, but we recognize that people’s needs differ, and we want to be able to take care of all women if possible.”

Another way Ruth’s does that is through its service to breast cancer survivors. Schwebel says hers is the only store in the state to provide that service. Her mother, Ruth Lubinsky, received her certificate for fitting breast cancer survivors in 1957



Schwebel says although they don’t sell corsets anymore, one of the things they’ve been hearing from customers is “I want to be up there. I want to be lifted or whatnot,” which she says was the 1950s look. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus*

– a time when providing such a service was rare, but maybe no rarer than a woman owning a business in the ‘50s.

Ruth’s, founded by Lubinsky in 1954, is where Schwebel’s grandmother worked as the shop’s first seamstress. The store began with a simple mission: to help women feel their best, as it states on the store’s website.

“...I see what we do [as] helping women,” Schwebel said. “We’re making women

feel good, and that’s important. I’m a good feminist at heart.”

With the store, Schwebel said her mother, who had been widowed early when Schwebel was 19, was able to take care of all her needs in the mid-1990s. It was the store’s income that put Schwebel through school.

And when her mother passed, Schwebel, who had also lost her husband in the same year, didn’t have the heart to close the shop. Living in Ohio with her family, she made the decision to return

to Rhode Island.

“It was my mother’s name on the door, and that was important to me,” Schwebel said.

Since opening, the store continues to be woman-owned and women-run. But in modern times, a challenge that faces the quaint little shop, is the internet.

Schwebel said younger generations are more likely to purchase their items online than come into the store.

“You might not know what you need, what bra size and

what products is going to best meet your needs,” Schwebel said. The younger generation “doesn’t seem to have the same allegiance to the store that the older generation did.”

Schwebel explained that some of that store allegiance is crucial to a brick-and-mortar store. But despite the changes that inevitably occur – the rise of online shopping, COVID-19 and the endlessly changing fashion industry, some things remain true for Ruth’s.

“People [say] that were unusual [because] we can have three generations of women coming into the store,” Schwebel said. “So in other words, we could have the granddaughter, the mother and the grandmother, and for all three of them to walk out with products.”

Just that morning, a mother-daughter duo was shopping in preparation for a family member’s wedding.

Looking toward the future, Schwebel hopes to keep the store open and running for as long as possible, preserving the legacy and mission that began with her mother.

“This one really is kind of unique in that it started all those years ago, and it is still serving women in very much the same way that women help women,” Schwebel said.

To find out more about the shop, you can visit ruthsofri.com.



Early Friday morning, not long after opening, Ruth’s Lingerie was bustling with customers. *Beacon Media photo by Rosegalie Cineus*

WIN THEATER TICKETS

Find the hidden Theatre Mask in this week’s issue for a

Chance To Win a Family 4 Pack of Tickets to

BILL HANNEY’S

THEATRE

BY THE SEA

Enter every week!

- LOCATE the theater mask hidden in each week’s issue
- e-Mail IdaZ@RhodyBeat.com – Use FOUND IT as your subject
- INCLUDE your NAME, NAME OF NEWSPAPER and PAGE NUMBER where you found the mask
- WINNERS will be CHOSEN from correct weekly entries
- WINNERS will be contacted on Monday
- Winners will be CONTACTED BY e-MAIL
- ACTUAL SIZE of Theater Mask
- CONTEST ENDS August 2025

AARP®

Driver Safety

Fees are \$20.00 for AARP members and \$25.00 for non-members. Cherry Hill will be providing a \$10.00 allowance towards the required fee. Advance registration and payment is required and there are no tests to successfully complete the program.

Individuals who have Medicare Supplement Plan insured by AARP United Healthcare can take the program for free. Insurance card verification is required by the instructor.

— — — — —

If an insurance discount is one of your objectives, please inquire in advance with your automobile insurer to determine if you qualify for a discount if you complete this program.

To register, please call Cherry Hill at 231-3102 and ask for Loraine DiLorenzo, at extension 6385.

Tuesday June 24

9:00am-2:30pm

CHERRY HILL MANOR

Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

2 CHERRY HILL RD JOHNSTON, RI

Complimentary lunch will be served for all participants.

**SUNDAY MORNING
BOWLING**

\$2 per game, \$2 shoe rental

10am - 1pm • Now thru Aug. 31st

**MEADOWBROOK
LANES
LOUNGE**

**NO
RESERVATIONS
REQUIRED!**

2530 Warwick Ave, Warwick, RI • (401) 737-5402

LAWNSCAPES
THE LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS

Landscape Maintenance & Construction

★★★★★

NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS
FOR THE 2025 SEASON

Landscape Maintenance & Construction
Weekly Maintenance Cleanups
Trimming & Pruning
Plant Bed Care
And MORE

CONTACT US TODAY
401-385-9685
INFO@LAWNSCAPESRI.COM

Instagram Facebook

➔ **FREE ESTIMATES** ➔

Proudly serving Rhode Island since 1994



RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE

2025 SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

June 23 - August 8

Ages 7 - 15

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

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

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

"IT'S FRIENDSHIP. IT'S LOVE. IT'S GREAT MUSIC.
YOU'RE GOING TO
DRIVE HOME HAPPY!"
- ON THE AISLE WITH RONA MANN



*Always
Patmy Cline*

PHOTO BY MICHAEL DERR

NOW THRU JUNE 21 ONLY!

BILL HANNEY'S
THEATRE
BY THE SEA

THEATREBYTHESEA.COM
401.782.TKTS (8587)
364 CARDS POND RD. WAKEFIELD, RI

f i x v

FOLLOW US
@OFFICIALTBYS

Library set to fully reopen after flood

By TARA MONASTESSE
Beacon Media Staff Writer

The Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library temporarily closed its lower level after employees discovered flooding from a sewer backup on June 6. Director Jon Anderson said the library plans to reopen the lower level to the public on June 12. The library's other floors remained open to the public throughout the closure.

While no books or other library materials in the children's section on the lower level were damaged, the area was closed. Restoration will include replacing the area's damaged furniture, as well as ripping up carpet and removing parts of the drywall that have been affected.

Rhode Island Restoration is managing the restoration effort. As a town building, the library is eligible to have the restoration costs covered by town insurance.

Anderson said the cause appeared to be a toilet in the upstairs bathroom that was “running like a whirlpool.” He described “standing water in one of the stairwells and part of the hallway and behind the children’s service desk.”

The flooding appeared to be unrelated to the rain showers over the weekend. Anderson speculated that the issue is due to debris obstructing the grinder pump system the library uses in its sewer system, which can occur when

foreign objects are introduced into drains.

While the water flooding the lower level was clear, Anderson said that the library would “err on the side of caution” by refraining from allowing library staff to enter the area and that the room would be dehumidified and disinfected. Children’s books that are returned to the library in the meantime were held upstairs rather than shelved.

While the unexpected flood interfered with some of the library's summer programming and resulted in a few cancellations, library staff have worked to keep planned events on schedule by moving them to different rooms. While story time on June 7 was canceled, there was good news for young fantasy enthusiasts: the Dungeons and Dragons group was able to meet upstairs on June 6.



Submitted photos from Director Jon Anderson showing the flood damage and restoration efforts in the library's lower levels.



Johnston
SUNRISE
COMMUNITY NEWS FOR JOHNSTON, NH

Kid chief pick a 'work horse, not a show horse,' says gov

STAY CONNECTED
with all your local news...

johnstonsunrise.net



Bami Farm is located on Hartford Avenue in Johnston. *Beacon Media file photo by Will Steinfeld*

Champlin offers consistency for nonprofits

The Champlin Foundation recently announced \$8 million in grant awards that will provide vital assistance – particularly in funding capital improvements – to 89 nonprofit organizations across the state. Many of the organizations receiving grants from this latest funding cycle are on the frontline of key state issues, including emergency housing, elder care, and behavioral health.

“A core value for The Champlin Foundation is consistency,” said Nina Stack executive director of the Foundation. “We recognize that for any business environment to thrive– whether nonprofit or commercial – it relies on consistency from its investors. In today’s environment, where there is so much uncertainty and upheaval, the Foundation recognizes its responsibility to support the organizations that provide help and hope to Rhode Island.”

About 10 of the latest round of recipients are in the Cranston, Warwick and Johnston area, including Kent Hospital. The hospital is slated to receive a \$660,000 grant which will allow it to help address a dramatic need for crisis intervention and care for behavioral health issues, the Foundation stated in a press release.

Kent Hospital plans to use the funding to significantly renovate and expand its “Care Team Two” unit. The project will include a dedicate trauma space for patience experiencing behavioral health and substance abuse crises and challenges.

“As the second largest hospital in Rhode Island, Kent Hospital has a tremendous impact on the health and vitality of our state,” said Paari Gopalakrishnan, Kent Hospital President and COO. “Our vision with this innovative approach is to reduce overcrowding and delays in our Emergency Department, while providing people in crisis with a better experience, better care coordination, and ultimately better patient outcomes.”

Another recipient of a major Champlin grant is Comprehensive Community Action Program of Cranston which was awarded about \$400,000 for the installation of a new elevator at its Cranston Health Center.

Other key recipients elsewhere in the state include Amos House in Providence which provides sheltering, housing, and homeless prevention services to more than 1,000 individuals a year. It has been awarded a \$122,726 Champlin grant to enhance the safety and accessibility of its community center and its main service community. Also, the Saint Elizabeth Community –

which has eight locations serving the elderly in the state, including Warwick -- will receive a \$100,000 grant to help with the cost of overhauling the heating and ventilation system at its nursing home in East Greenwich.

According to information from Champlin foundation, it has awarded more than \$713 million to fund capital projects for Rhode Island nonprofit organizations since 1932. Its nine areas of focus cover arts and culture, conservation and parks, education, healthcare, historic preservation, libraries, social services, welfare of animals, and youth services.

Below is a list of Cranston, Warwick and Johnston organizations that are being awarded grants in this most recent round of funding.

Johnston

African Alliance of Rhode Island: \$62,800 for an irrigation project at its Bami Farm in Johnston.

For a full list of recipients, visit the Foundation website. The Champlin Foundation, headquartered in Cranston, conducts two grant application and distribution cycles each year. The next application cycle opens June 1, 2025, and closes July 1, with award recipients announced in the fall.

Cranston

Cranston Public Library: \$100,000 for computers.
Gateways to Change: \$10,204 for medical equipment.

Warwick

ALS United RI: \$23,478 for office technology upgrades.
Kent Hospital: \$660,000 for renovation and expansion of its Behavioral Health Emergency Unit.
MS Dream Center: \$25,000 for office and other equipment.
Sargent Rehabilitation Center: \$89,000 for elevator modernization.
Thundermist Health Center: \$167,243 for computer network upgrades.
Warwick Center for the Arts: \$25,000 for classroom technology, furnishings and renovations.

With reports from Barbara Polichetti

A Care Tree Service

Licensed and Insured Arborist

Specializing in Climbing

401-932-3541

HIC. 0653192 • RI Lic. #43473
CALL US
401-541-5985

www.brilliantbasementwaterproofing.com

Brilliant Basement Waterproofing, LLC

Over 36 Years Combined Experience
Egress Windows, Foundation Repair,
Crack Sealing, Sump Pumps,
Pumps Eliminated in Most Homes,
Yard Drainage

HIC. 0653192 • RI Lic. #43473
CALL US
401-541-5985

www.brilliantbasementwaterproofing.com

Write RHODE ISLAND

A CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM FOR TEENS

Summer PROGRAMS

Write Rhode Island's Creative Institute provides young creatives the opportunity to develop their skills — and more — in a fun, relaxed and motivating environment.

School One!

All programs held at School One
220 University Ave.
Providence | (401) 331-2497

GRADES 7-12
Two Sessions:
7/28 – 8/1
8/4 – 8/8

CERAMICS
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
POETRY
FASHION
DRAWING
FICTION

Stay CREATIVE!

SIGN UP TODAY!

ATTENTION HOME AND LANDOWNERS

Know what you own !!!

Boyer Associates can provide you with:

- CERTIFIED RECORDED COPY OF YOUR DEED.
- PLAN OF YOUR PROPERTY LINES.
- RECORDED PLAN OR PLAT OF YOUR DEEDED AREA.
- THE AREA TOWN IS ASSESSING FOR YOUR DEEDED AREA.
- ASSESSORS PLAT# & LOT#
- COLORED ENLARGED AERIAL PHOTO OF YOUR PROPERTY AND NEIGHBORS.

Safe keep this information for title and estate reasons.

\$235.00

2 hard copies plus digital file upon request

Call 401-828-9850

Rewriting the Rules of Retirement

Retirement comes with more time for the things you love. A reverse mortgage can help you fund them.

- ✓ Pay off your existing mortgage to eliminate monthly payments¹
- ✓ Get additional income tax-free cash to use for what matters most²
- ✓ Continue to own your home just like a traditional mortgage

Contact **Carol Miller**, your local Reverse Mortgage Specialist.

☎ (401) 406-1247 (Cell)
✉ carol.miller@longbridge-financial.com

1. Property taxes, homeowners' insurance, and home maintenance required. The home must be your primary residence.
2. Consult a financial advisor and appropriate government agencies for any effect on taxes or government benefits.
Branch Office: 1 International Blvd, Suite 900 Mahwah, NJ 07495. NMLS #957935. Licensed by Rhode Island Third Party Loan Servicer License 20193879LS, Rhode Island Lender License 20153084LL, MA Debt Collector License DC957935, Mortgage Lender License, with reverse mortgage authority ML 957935.

BBB A+ BBBB NMLA

AGING DISGRACEFULLY

STARRING DOREEN COLLINS & CHARLIE HALL

579 BENEFIT STREET

RESTAURANT

Great Brunch/Lunch Menu

SUNDAY

JUNE 22

@ 2pm

Sat. June 14- LANCELOTTA'S, North Prov.

Wed. June 18- YELLOW KITTENS, Block Island

Sun. July 20- SPUMONI'S, Pawt. (matinee)

Sat. July 26- ST. MARY'S FEAST SOCIETY HALL, Crn.



Reservations, info @ agingdisgracefully.net

ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE:

A	T	P				B	E	D	S
T	U	L	A			P	O	D	I
O	V	A	L			W	A	N	I
M	A	N	E	T		P	I	R	A
I	L	E	U	S		T	E	S	T
C	U	T	T	H	E	M	U	S	T
				N	A	R	E	K	E
				F	M	C	A	R	E
			A	L	I	E	L	I	
	P	E	Y	T	O	N	M	A	N
	F	E	R	T	I	L	E	A	E
C	L	E	A	R	E	D		G	R
A	O	R	T	A	S			V	E
S	W	E	E	P				E	S
E	N	D	S					T	Y

LIKE US ON

facebook



Johnston SunRise



Helping hand

State Rep. Deborah Fellela from Johnston delivered a legislative grant check for \$2,500 to Louis Spremulli of Spirit of Hope. The private, nonprofit organization assists people in need by donating food baskets, winter clothing and more. *Submitted photo*

SunRise Scoops

June 13-14: Polish American Festival: Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will hold its Polish Festival on Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14 from 5-9 p.m. on school grounds at 222 MacArthur Blvd., Coventry. Free admission and parking. Call 401-821-7991 or visit their website olcsvp.org for more information.

June 14: Gaspee Day parade parking: \$5! Safe, off-street Parade parking at Asbury UMC (1 block from the parade route), 550 Fair Street on the corner of Ann Mary Brown Dr., from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Water for sale & bathrooms open until noon. For any questions call Andrea at 401-207-8017.

June 28: Sweet 16 Celebration: Local nonprofit Project Sweet Peas will hold a celebration of the work done to help those in the NICU community Saturday at 6 p.m. at Rhodes on The Pawtuxet, 60 Rhodes Pl. Attire is semi-formal. Visit projectsweetpeas.com/sweet-16celebration for more information.

RISPCA Summer Learning Series

Rhode Island SPCA kicks off their Summer Learning Series on Wednesday, June 18. Please join us for a workshop with **Missing Dogs Massachusetts** to learn what to do if you lose your dog or if you find one! This free event starts at 6pm. Registration is required. For information: www.rispc.org.

Believers United in Christ

Believers United in Christ will be holding an event at Johnston Memorial Park on Saturday, June 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Activities planned include guest speakers, Living Scripture Theater, and worship music by artist and song writer Eric Lee Brumley. This day will also offer prayer for our military, local and state representatives, first responders and school committees

Outdoor Summer Concert at Moosup Valley Church

The Moosup Valley Church summer concert will be held on Saturday, June 21 from 6-8 p.m. on the outdoor stage (weather permitting, otherwise inside) at the beautiful, historic church at 81 Moosup Valley Rd., Foster. The concert will feature singer/songwriters Joanne Lurgio and Michelle Saylors. For more info, contact Laurie @401-623-0320.

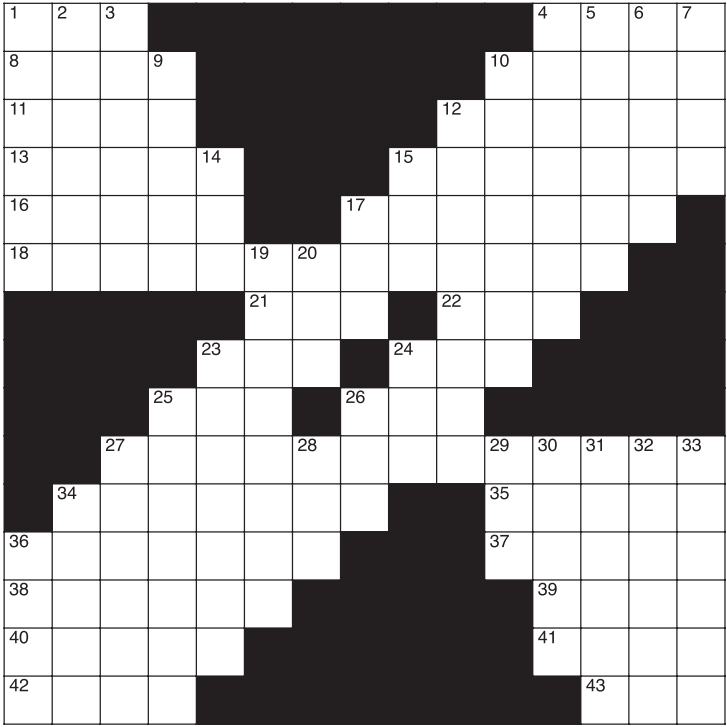
Eating with the Seasons with Farm Fresh RI

Join Farm Fresh RI at the Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library on Wednesday, June 25 at 6 p.m. for a lesson on how eating with the seasons can benefit your budget. Learn which produce is in season in Rhode Island and how to maximize your produce purchases with veggie substitutions.

Johnston High School Reunion Classes 1965 and 1966

Johnston High School will hold its class reunion for the classes of 1965 and 1966 on Sunday, August 24, at The Dance Floor, 332 Atwood Avenue, Cranston, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Food, beer, wine and entertainment is included. No cash bar. \$55.00 pp. Dress is smart-casual. Checks made payable to Dorothy (Rapone) Whelan, 6 Celebration Way, Johnston, RI 02919. Please include your maiden name and graduation year on your check. Please spread the word and inform classmates you know who may not have access to this information. For information/questions contact: Dottie (Rapone) Whelan: 401-714-7625 or dottiewhelan@gmail.com or Nadine (Gravel) Skovron: 401-837-0496 or ngskovron@yahoo.com.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



CLUES ACROSS

- Racquet sports association
- Places to sleep
- Native American tribe
- Small platforms
- Egg shape
- Running out
- French painter
- Some are "of the Caribbean"
- Painful intestinal problem
- More irritated
- Prove yourself
- Catch
- Supplement with difficulty
- American automotive giant
- Form of "to be"
- Boxing's GOAT
- Peyton's little brother
- Eli's big brother
- Capable of producing
- Reproductive structures in fungi

CLUES DOWN

- Consisting of uncombined atoms
- Island country
- Heavenly body
- Caribbean island
- Copyread
- A place to eat
- Drops down
- Native group of Alaska
- Engage in
- "Desperate Housewives" lane

- Thyroid-stimulating hormone
- Foot (Latin)
- A place to bathe
- Animosities
- Partner to cheese
- Venus ___ plant
- A donation
- Pokes holes in the ground
- Midway between northeast and east
- Looked into
- Not young
- Annoy constantly
- Something one can strike
- Most glacial
- Ten less than one hundred
- Idle talker
- Has moved through the air
- Container for shipping



Cherry Hill Manor

Nursing and Rehab Center

2 Cherry Hill Road • Johnston, RI • (401) 231-3102

Opinion

EDITORIAL

A letter to 2025 high school grads

Hi there, young Rhode Islander. Congratulations on graduating high school and getting ready to enter the exciting world of adulthood. Although it might not be coming to you in your preferred form of media, we hope that you'll see this letter at some point in the near future as you look ahead to what's next for you.

While this achievement may seem to some of you like a mere formality on the way to bigger things, we hope you'll take a moment to look back fondly on the past dozen years of schooling, or at least as a time in which you enjoyed a relative sense of freedom to find out a little more about who you are and what you want to offer to the world you are now encouraged to go explore.

You see, it's likely that you've noticed a sort of magnifying lens that has been placed upon you and your peers throughout the last few years. A laser focus on your social development and educational achievements, and your relationship with emerging technology. A high level of scrutiny that hasn't always resulted in kind things being said about you.

There is no question you've had to overcome a lot to get to where you are. Growing up with internal pressures from social media, hearing adults arguing about, well, just about everything, and let's not forget about the pandemic that thrust you directly into the middle of one of the most disruptive, tumultuous and scary eras in recent human memory.

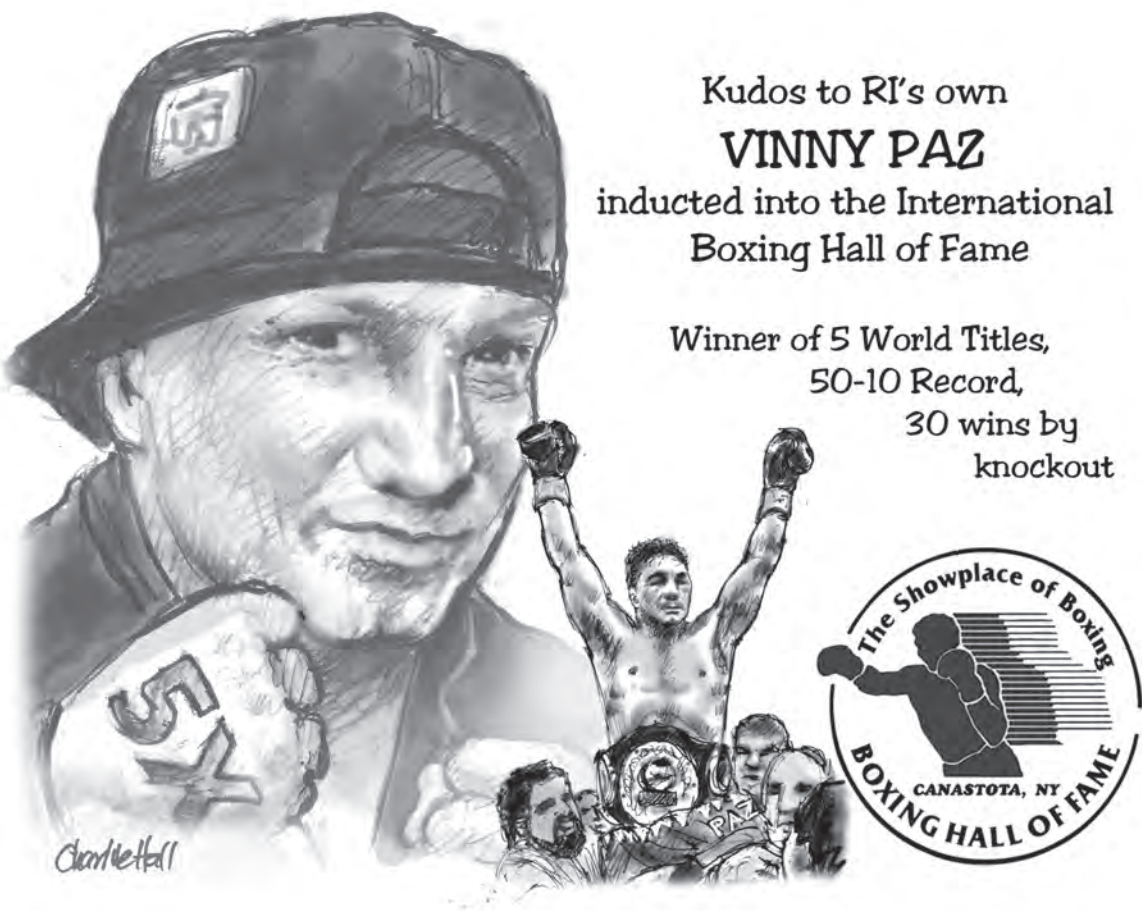
But instead of finding reasons to doubt the abilities and gumption of your generation, what we're happy to report to you in this letter is that we've seen plenty of evidence of how well you have handled all those challenges, and how hopeful and excited you make us for a future that includes your contributions.

Where others have seen a generation crippled by social anxiety, we have seen adolescents, teenagers and young adults empathizing with and respecting their peers – regardless of their gender, sexual identity, religion, ethnicity or cognitive differences – unlike any generation before them. Where others have seen a generation preoccupied with their cellphones, we have seen a generation become more prepared than anyone else (including those adults pretending they know what the future holds in emerging technologies) to deal with whatever form those technologies take in the coming years.

While everyone else was hemming and hawing about your lack of preparedness or willingness to work in the world, we have seen you enthusiastically train in unprecedented numbers in Career and Technical Education programs, ensuring that our next generation of carpenters, chefs, artisans, mechanics, EMTs and countless other professions that make America run will be full of young, energetic and eager talent.

In many ways, dear young graduate, you have been battle tested unlike many generations before you. You have grown up under that unprecedented scrutiny, from loud external forces and from within your own ranks. You have heard the doubts about your ability to succeed in this difficult world since you were old enough to read.

Now is your chance — and what a beautiful opportunity it is — to go out and prove exactly what you can do. We'll be rooting for you every step of the way.



GUEST OPINION

RI should embrace common-sense housing solutions

By CLAUDIA WACK

Rhode Islanders searching for a home in today's housing market experience a cruel game of musical chairs. With too few homes available to rent or buy, wealthier families who can win a bidding war or pay rising rents get better access to limited opportunities. Those with fewer resources at their disposal are left to make do, move further away from their job or community or even leave the state entirely.

The fact that Rhode Island has a housing shortage is well documented. We need to build approximately 24,000 additional homes just to meet the demand of our current residents. The good news is that there are tested and popular solutions to the problems we face.

According to March survey data, Rhode Island voters overwhelmingly support allowing more housing to be built in commercial zones near existing shops (87%), legalizing single-family townhomes (70%), and allowing homes to be built on smaller lots, particularly where transit and infrastructure are

available (81%).

As the General Assembly enters the final stretch of its 2025 session, we call on our representatives and senators to prioritize bills before them that would make it easier to build exactly these types of homes, which residents need and want. Our neighbors in New Hampshire and Connecticut recently took action to pass similar bills, underscoring how Rhode Island will fall behind in the region if it fails to take proactive steps.

In New Hampshire, for example, the legislature has passed HB 631, which allows homes to be built in nearly any commercial district statewide, with some health and safety exceptions. Building new units above retail or in converted office spaces will shorten workers' commute times, create more walkable neighborhoods and revitalize underutilized commercial spaces, all while steering development away from the state's farmland and forests. Rhode Island has a similar but narrower bill pending that would require cities and towns to allow residential development on at least 30% of commercial

land, which local officials would have the authority to designate. We hope that our legislators take a cue from New Hampshire and pass this key legislation this session.

Connecticut is also modeling determined action. In the last week, both of the state's legislative chambers passed an omnibus bill, HB 5002, that legalizes more homes in areas where shops, restaurants and offices are allowed as well as expanding incentives to build near transit.

Addressing the housing shortage is critical to the health and future of our communities. Will we be a state in which workers and families of many different backgrounds and incomes can afford to live? Or one in which certain residents must pack their bags? Rhode Islanders cannot afford to wait, and the state cannot afford to fall further behind. The General Assembly must embrace common-sense and popular solutions to build homes and opportunity.

Claudia Wack is president of Neighbors Welcome! Rhode Island

JohnstonSunRise

John Howell, Publisher Emeritus

Publisher
Joy Fox - Publisher@BeaconMediaRI.com

Editor
Tim Forsberg - TimF@BeaconMediaRI.com

Reporters
Barbara Polichetti - BarbaraP@beaconmediari.com
Rosegalie Cineus - RosegalieC@beaconmediari.com

Sports Editor
Alex Sponseller - AlexS@rhodybeat.com

Advertising Director
Donna Zarrella - DonnaZ@rhodybeat.com

Classified Advertising
Ida Zecco - Classifieds@rhodybeat.com

Advertising Representatives
Sherri Leo - SherriL@BeaconMediaRI.com
Suzanne Wendoloski - SuzanneW@rhodybeat.com

Credit Manager
Lynne Taylor

Bookkeeping & Circulation
Leslie Paz Andujar

Production Manager
Lisa Bourque Yuettnier - LisaB@rhodybeat.com

Production Staff
Monique Rice - MoR@rhodybeat.com

Spotlight Profile Writer
Jennifer Coates - JenniferC@rhodybeat.com

Tel.: 401-732-3100 • Fax: 401-732-3110

All advertising and editorial material in whole or in part designed and/or composed by Beacon Media RI is copyrighted and may not be reproduced without express permission of the publisher. Beacon Media RI shall not be liable for errors and omissions in or failure to insert any advertisement for which it may be responsible beyond the cost of actual space occupied by the item in which error or failure to insert occurred. Beacon Media RI is a member of the New England Press Association, The Rhode Island Newspaper Group and The North Central Chamber of Commerce. Johnston Sun Rise is owned and operated by Beacon Media RI. Editorial offices are located at 1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889. Paid subscriptions are available for \$74 per year. Web site: www.johnstonsunrise.net

What's on your mind?

The Johnston SunRise 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:**
TimF@beaconmediari.com
or...
The Johnston SunRise
1944 Warwick Avenue
Warwick, RI 02889

LETTERS

Let's cool the rhetoric in LA

To the Editor:

With National Guard and Marines being deployed in downtown Los Angeles, the scene is now ripe for serious and possibly fatal incidents. These demonstrations could spread to other large urban centers.

The rhetoric on both sides needs to be muffled, as every word or comment has caused a serious uptick in the confrontation.

I do not have any proposals for a quick solution, but those in authority should begin now to form a coalition of responsible federal,

state and local leaders in an attempt to initiate a peaceful solution.

Look back on other violent demonstrations and there is a similarity in that they started in one local area and spread quickly into many large cities, sometimes even without a reason for their outcry.

These incidents could be the beginning of a long, hot summer of discontent affecting vacations and travel among our other pursuits.

Bob Sweeney
Warwick

Legal Notices

Town of Johnston Planning Board AGENDA
Tuesday, July 1st, 2025
at 6:00 PM
Johnston Senior Center
1291 Hartford Avenue
Johnston, RI

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

III. OLD BUSINESS
PB 25-18 – Xtreme Auto Body – Public Hearing for a Minor Land Development with Unified Development Review to develop a 42 foot by 90-foot addition which will need dimensional variances. 15 Bucklin Avenue. AP 17 Lot 156. Zoned - Industrial. Owner/Applicant – Xtreme Realty, Inc.

IV. NEW BUSINESS
PB 25-23 – 34 Colony Drive - Public Hearing for a Minor Subdivision with Unified Development Review to develop a new single-

family home. AP 37 Lot 145. Zoned R-40. Owner/Applicant Deborah Lynn Catamero

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT & SPECIAL ITEMS
None

VI. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
Discussion – Future Land Use Maps

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- The Planning Board Agenda and Minutes are available for review at <https://clerkshq.com/johnston-ri> or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Planning Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.
- Items not heard by 9:00 p.m. may be continued to the next Regular Meeting or a special meeting at the discretion of the Board.
- Facilities are handicap accessible. Interpreter services may be requested from TTD (401) 792-9642 at least 72 hours in advance.

6/12/25

Notice of Public Meeting Town of Johnston, RI

The Town of Johnston is applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to enhance community services through a collaboration with Tri-County Community Action Agency and the United Way of Rhode Island. The Tri-County initiative aims to expand access to its dental center, and the United Way initiative aims to provide the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program and the 211 One-Stop Connection Hub, in compliance with 24 CFR Part 570.208 (2)(i)(A) and HCDA Section 105(a)(8).

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Town’s Department of Development and Public Services at 100 Irons Ave., Johnston, RI.
This hearing is open to the public, and public comments are welcome.

6/12/25

We’re All EARS



**Questions?
Comments?
Story ideas?**
Let us know how we’re doing.

Your opinion is something we always want to hear.

Warwick Beacon • Cranston Herald • Johnston SunRise

BEACON MEDIA

401-732-3100

● AEDs from page 1

“Hopefully I’ve been able to save someone else’s life,” she said.

After Casey reached out to her, Representative Fellela felt moved by her story to introduce the bill.

“Just her compassion, her story, was so compelling,” Fellela said. “Her testimony and her passion for the bill just kept me moving forward.”

In the event of cardiac arrest, AEDs are devices designed to analyze a person’s heartbeat and, if necessary, correct the heart’s irregular rhythm by delivering an electric shock. When used properly, the devices can improve survival odds.

But using the devices can be daunting. Monica Caldwell, manager at the Goddard State Park Golf Course in Warwick, said the course already has an AED but its employees are nervous about the possibility of having to use it. “We’re not trained to use it, and we don’t want to be sued if something goes wrong,” she said.

Fellela said that the original version of the bill stipulated that an employee on the course must be trained to use an AED, but that condition was removed to avoid placing a financial burden on the courses to provide training. AEDs are designed to be used in an emergency without any prior training and provide clear instructions.

While previous state law required AEDs to be available at health clubs and public places where large groups of people gather, it did not stipulate that golf courses were included as one of those locations. State

Senator Andrew Dimitri of Johnston, who introduced the Senate version of the bill alongside Fellela, said he was surprised to learn this.

“You’re at risk [of cardiac arrest] doing anything, but especially athletic activity,” he said when reached by phone. He referenced a statistic that states a person’s survival rate goes down by up to 10% for each minute that passes when they aren’t treated with either CPR or an AED after cardiac arrest. If treated immediately, however, Dimitri said “their chances of survival are very good.”

Despite not previously being required to provide them, many golf courses in the state already have AEDs installed. Those without them will now be responsible for purchasing them.

“There’s no cost to the state at all; the courses are strictly responsible for it,” Dimitri said. He estimated that an individual AED would cost between \$1,200 and \$2,500, with device batteries lasting about three years and the electrode pads used to deliver shocks lasting about five years before replacements are needed.

Dimitri said golf courses could request state funding for the devices in the future.

Joe McDonald, director of communications for the Rhode Island Golf Association, said that the organization “certainly support[s]” the bill following its approval by the General Assembly, “especially for the health and wellbeing of golfers in the state.” He said that RIGA is currently working to facilitate a program with the state that would provide funding for golf courses to purchase the equipment.

“This is something we’ll be behind,” he said.



The Johnston School Committee met Tuesday at Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School. While the budget deficit wasn’t discussed in depth, the committee is working with the town to improve the school system’s financial standing. *Beacon Media photo by Tara Monastesse*

● BAILOUT from page 1

superintendent of Johnston Public Schools, attributed the steady climb of budget expenses in recent years to “unpredictable” developments during a phone interview. He mentioned that more resources have been necessary in order to support special education and multi-language learning students; both populations have recently seen substantial growth in the district, he said.

Additionally, DiLullo said that out-of-district placements for special education or career and technical programs were another significant driver of budget increases. He said that the opening of the district’s new elementary school in 2026 will hopefully help to make up the budget, as the consolidated building

will result in lower operating costs.

In last Friday’s interview, Polisena told WJAR that he believed “the Johnston School Department, unfortunately through the outgoing superintendent and the former chairman, absolutely destroyed the School Department.”

In response to this, DiLullo said that “I think it’s unfair to characterize either myself or the former chair as responsible for the deficit.”

“I’ve been superintendent for 15 years, and over many of those years we have sustained a zero increase from the town,” he said. “As far as being wasteful in terms of spending, that’s not what’s happening here.”

“My goal as superintendent is obviously, try to get what the kids need,” DiLullo said. “Public educa-

tion is not the enemy of municipalities.”

Due to the ongoing nature of the situation, the School Committee didn’t discuss the budget transfer during its regularly scheduled meeting on June 10 – though committee member and former chairman Robert LaFazia briefly referenced Polisena’s comments.

“If anybody out there has any financial issues that you want to blame, Dr. D and I, we’d be more than happy to put it on our shoulders,” he said.

When asked after the meeting about the committee’s ongoing work with the town to resolve the deficit, Chairman Joseph Rotella said, “We’re working through it for the benefit of the students and the town.”

SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones

C'MON, OMINOUS. WE'VE GOTTA GO DOWN TO TOWN HALL, BOY.

WELL, IT'S THE LAW THAT ALL PETS HAVE TO HAVE A LICENSE.

NO. THERE ISN'T A ROAD TEST.

Hospital president struggles with prolonged strike

Mary Marran suspects larger forces are at play

By JOHN HOWELL
Warwick Beacon Editor

The room is airy and filled with light. A bright bouquet – a gift from employees – sits on the sill of a window looking out at a screen of leafy trees. To one side of a desk facing the door and beneath a mantel with framed pictures of children is a table and giant strategy board that is clear white. There’s not so much as a shadow of what topics may have been discussed in recent meetings.

The room has a cozy feel. Yet this is ground zero for Mary B. Marran MS, OT, MBA, president of Butler Hospital, who is key player in a strike that as of Tuesday has been 26 days.

After a greeting, Marran sits at the table. She doesn’t have a laptop computer or a note pad. She’s ready for questions and her answers come quickly with her hands accenting her points.

Marran doesn’t fit the mold of a hospital executive. It’s not a position she pursued. Her leadership capabilities were recognized from within and she accepted the president’s post hesitatingly in 2019, expecting it would be temporary.

“I never thought I would be in management,” she said.

Her first taste of management came as the hospital’s director of occupational therapy and then director of records followed by running admissions and information health records and then landing as vice president of operations.

She wants strikers back

Marran says she’s fully committed and wants to rebuild a cooperative and trusting culture once a contract is in place. Despite reports that the hospital is posting positions, meaning strikers could lose their jobs, she looks to bring back those who walked out.

“There’s nobody better than that staff out there on the [Blackstone] boulevard,” she said.

Marran’s relationship with



Strikers take a mid-afternoon break from the picket line on Blackstone Boulevard at the entrance to Butler Hospital. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*

Butler began as an occupational therapy intern 40 years ago. She knows the staff. She thinks of them as family. That’s made it difficult for her, as from her perspective she has been transparent with what the hospital can afford in a four-year contract. She believes she’s put all the cards on the table. The complete details of the offer are posted on the hospital website.

What’s she’s gotten, she says, are distortions of the facts, “stunning deceptions” and threats, prompting her to retain personal security for herself and key personnel.

What’s disheartening is that the longer the strike persists, the more it costs to keep the hospital functioning and the less she has to address a contract. Not only does she feel that the hospital risks sliding backwards, but also the opportunity to help employees and more important-

ly the services Butler provides.

Walking away from a good deal

What she can’t make sense of is why SEIU 1199 NE walked away from the table May 15 without countering the hospital offer, at the risk of jeopardizing what she feels was once a cooperative and trusting relationship between management and the union.

“They left a really good deal on the table,” she said in a phone interview prior to a face-to-face interview last Thursday. “We’ve been able to work things out, but since the pandemic it has changed ... it’s highly contentious right now,” she said.

On Thursday she was optimistic that an 11-hour session on Wednesday – the first since the strike – was a step in the right direction. Both sides agreed to stop talks at 11:30 p.m. The next meeting is set for June 17. Marran did not attend the Wednesday session – the hospital’s legal team was at the table – although Jesse Martin, SEIU 1199NE executive vice president, was present.

Marran is of the opinion that this is bigger than Butler and that what happens here is a show of strength when it comes to other issues. That view was highlighted in the hospital’s on-line newsletter warning strikers “the union is wasting your time.” It goes on to say the union walked out of the portion of the session devoted to negotiations, adding, “it does not want to negotiate. It wants to prolong the strike at your expense.”

“I’m struggling with what’s happening here,” Marran said.

Union positions stated

The Beacon emailed Jesse Martin, SEIU 1199 NE executive vice president, as well as the firm handling news releases for the union. It heard back from the firm. A May 8 post on the SEIU site quotes Martin saying, “Care New England has repeatedly discussed its financial success; however, that success is because of the hard work and sacrifice of its dedicated employees. Butler Hospital (CNE) has failed to make proposals to lift its workforce out of poverty, address chronic workplace violence or protect their retirement and health insurance benefits.”

A post on June 3 quotes Martin as saying, “Mary Marran’s claims of heartfelt concern for Butler Hospital employees are perverse in light of her decision to replace dedicated frontline staff — some of whom have served the hospital since graduating high school — with out-of-state, temporary workers. Not only is this immoral, it is illegal in light of the hospital’s unfair labor practices. Stripping Butler employees of their job security and health care benefits

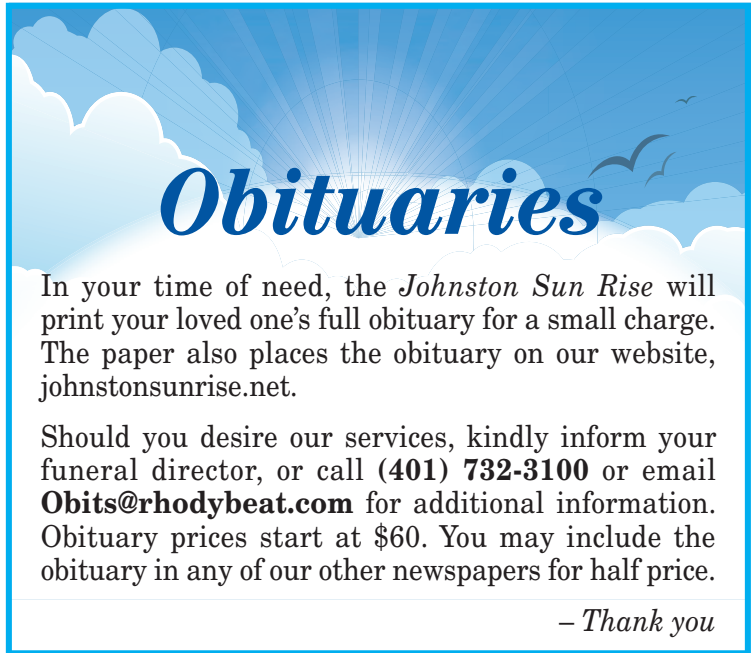
is not how you build a better hospital. Real improvement comes from respecting workers’ voices, honoring their contributions and paying them fairly to ensure both staff and patient safety.”

In a statement issued Tuesday, Marran said, “We remain committed to settling the agreement and having our staff return to their jobs. Meanwhile, staff are welcome to join those who have already made the decision to return.”

According to its website, District 1199 SEIU New England represents 29,000 health care and service workers in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts. In Rhode Island, 1199 SEIU NE represents almost 5,000 members. 1199 SEIU NE is affiliated with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) – a union of over 2 million members across the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada. SEIU has been a national leader in pushing the growing fight for a \$15 minimum wage and a union movement.



Butler Hospital president Mary Marran started her relationship with the hospital as an occupational therapist intern 40 years ago.



Obituaries

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

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

– Thank you

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



Congrats

TO THE CLASS OF

2025!



Richard FASCIA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 42 ★ JOHNSTON – CRANSTON

PAID FOR BY RICHARD FASCIA

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



Congratulations

Graduate

CLASS of 2025



Representative Deborah Fellela
DISTRICT 43 • JOHNSTON

PAID FOR BY DEBORAH FELLELA



This year’s graduation marks the end of an era for Superintendent Bernard DiLullo Jr. (right), who will retire this month after 15 years leading the district. Here, his dedication to the district is praised by high school Principal Matthew Velino, left. *Beacon Media photo by Barbara Polichetti*

CONGRATULATION TO THE CLASS OF 2025



BLUE Door Studio

Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Digital Media, Fashion Design, Artist Workshops,

and More!

We love working with our students helping them excel their skill set using a variety of media methods and techniques. We work with students of all ages within a sequentially based art program that they can grow with!

CLASSES & CAMPS

CLASSES FOR AGES 4 - 18+
CAMPS FOR AGES 4 - 12





JOIN US FOR SUMMER ART FUN!

Join us for 8-week sessions of art lessons all year long, full- and half-day summer art camps, birthday parties, and a wide range of workshops and other drop-in activities to choose from!

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

GRAND FINALE ART EXHIBITS EVERY FRIDAY!

CONTACT

Lincoln: (401) 644-8750
Cranston: (401) 862-9800
bluedoorartstudio115@gmail.com
www.bluedoorartstudio.com

LOCATIONS

1525 Old Louisquisset Pike, Lincoln, RI
840 Oaklawn Ave, Cranston, RI

● GRADUATION from page 1

“Closely connected with honesty is morality: the courage to do what is right even when it’s hard. Our morals shape the decisions we make and the person we become. Let’s promise ourselves, all of us, to stay true to our principles, to stand up for justice and to be a force for good in a world that needs it now more than ever.”

Once it was their turn, the student speakers of the evening addressed the audience and their fellow graduates with inspiring, hopeful and often humorous words. Aiden Soto, salutatorian, kicked off his speech with the revelation that he had dreaded having to give a speech since he discovered his class rank. Despite this, he was enthusiastic when dis-

cussing the accomplishments of the class.

“I’ve come to understand that success looks and feels different for everyone,” Soto said. “Today, we each have something to celebrate. No matter the path we took, being here means we’ve succeeded in our own way, and that’s what makes this moment so meaningful.”

As both valedictorian and student council president, Lucas Anderson took the podium more than once during the ceremony. In addition to leading the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, he delivered a speech expressing gratitude to his family, friends and teachers, as well as assuring the crowd that success in life would be impossible without the determination to see hard times through.



One spirited graduating Panther paused on stage to grab a quick photo of the moment.



The graduates were jubilant when it came time to cross the stage and receive their diplomas.



Principal Velino shook nearly 200 hands as he handed each student their diploma.

MORE GRADUATION ON PAGE 12



Congratulations

CLASS OF 2025



Preparing, Planning, and Paying for Your Education Journey



Johnston Senior High School 2025 graduates

Michael Abbruzzi
Melissa Aguilar
Temitope Ajayi
Logan Akins
Saad Alam
Christopher Alves
Eva Alves
Lucas Anderson
Mya Angell
Nicki Aucone
Tavian Bear Banta-Cain
Isabella Barata
Benjamin Bejnar
Jayden Benitez
Jordan Bracey
Jack Bremer
Annabella Brennan
Sadie P Bun
Tyler Buote
Josue Cabrera Ramirez
Ryan Carvalho
Brooklynn Case
Nyasia Cashwell Abney
Dylan Cerio
Edward Cespedes
Henri Xue Xin Chan
Matthew Clem
Sean Connor
Elliot Cortesi
Gian Corvese
Angel Cruz
Giuseppe Cucinotta
Jazmin Cuello-Pineda
Judah Cummings
Ethan Daigle
Arianna Dandy
Chantal DeJesus
David Delfino
Jensee DePena
Gabriel Descoteaux
Anthony DiBlasio
Michael Dilorio
Adrianna Dinucci
Tyler Diodati
Santo DiRaimo
Lauren Dixon
Seth Donahue
Samson D’Uva
Riley Enos
James Estrada
Sophia Finegan
Tyler Fortin
Kalyn Foster
Robert Franchini
Roman-De Furtado
Preston Galeas
Ayberson Garcia Cruz
Morris George Jr.
Luis Gil



Many students decorated their caps to deliver messages of thanks, inspiration and relief as they ended their high school years. *Beacon Media photos by Barbara Polichetti*

Amanda Giron Caballero
Kiniya Glenn
Joao Gomes
Cristian Gonzalez
Ivan Gorrin Cimmarusti
Brendon Grace
Robert Graham
Kenderra Guertin
Carlos Gutierrez Deleon
Zachary Hanna
Tyler Hartmann
Wally Hassan
Victor Hidalgo-Alvarado
Madison Elias Hogan
Tyler Holton
Malikai Hopp
Vanessa Javery
Christian Jeetan
Noah Jemery
Daniel Jin
Marcel Johnson Goncalves
Nariah Johnson
Hailee Joyal-Weiss
Hannah Klein
Jonathan Lagasse
Ashley Lainez Natareno
Brenton Lang
Caden Langlois
Brady Larangeira
Anthony Lastor Quinonez
Andre Lataille
Alyssa Leclerc

Jared Lee
Ed Leslie
Jonas Littlefield
Katelyn Loffler
Joseph Lopez Tavares
Amaria Lopez
Andrew Lyman
Neko Mahony
Lisbeth Maldonado
Channsophon Mam
Balla Marone
Logan Martins
Muhammad Masood
Jake McCaffrey
Hailee McDaniel
Autumn McIntyre
Sebastian Mejia Hoyos
Alexander Melillo
Evan Melvin
Angel Mercado
Alan Montenegro
Ashley Morales
Daniel Morales
Karissa Morales
Jonathan Morris
Dariana Munoz
Aiden Murphy
Addison Neil
Neriah Nhar-Matko
Connor Niles
Ryo Nilsson
Jayden Noble

Janelle Nunez
Gianna Oroz
Randy Ortega
Julianna Ortiz
Yeremy Ovalles
Katelyn Palermo
Loren Pastore
Nicole Patenaude
Noelle Patenaude
Emily Paul
Matthew Penafiel
Sheyla Perez Sosa
Caroline Pesenecker
Genesis Pineda
Ryan Pistocco
Ethan Placella
Matthew Ponte
Fiore Porreca Jr.
Catherine Privitera
Sydney Raposo
Alexis Ratte
Deakin Reyes
Gianna Ricci
Alayath Rietwijk
Emmanuel Rios
Diana Rivadeneira
Danielson Rivas
Debra Rivera
Jordan Rivera
Alan Robinson
Aiven Rua
Carlos Ruiz Chavez
Lilianna Salois
Miguel Santamaria Romero
Jesse Santillan
Jayden Santos
Kimberly Sibilia
Brandon Simonelli
Arleny Solorin Henriquez
Aiden Soto
Skyley Soto
Brandon Souza
Hope Stevens
Ariana Stoecker
Michael Stone III
Luke Taglianetti
Abraham Tillet
Bobbi-Sue Trahan
Jared Urizar-Santos
Marques Santana Vasquez
Sarah Vasquez
Anderson Villa
Sincere Waldron
Fae Weston
Austin Wheeler
Riley Whitten
Nicholas Williams
Logan Woodall

PROUD OF OUR GRADUATES!



www.davesmarketplace.com



Locally Owned, Locally Operated since 1969

Whether it's your future or your septic tanks, keep it flowing smoothly!

Don't Be a Party Pooper!!
Let us handle the dirty work for all your summer events.

Friendly SEPTIC 

FriendlySeptic.com

Congratulations



Class of
2025

401-732-3234



Wearing the school colors of blue and white, the Class of 2025 listened to the well wishes of this year’s speakers. *Beacon Media photos by Barbara Polichetti*



Students were all smiles as they assembled for the last time.



It was a night for looking toward the future.



CONGRATULATIONS,
Grads!

We’re with you as you take this next step in your life.

- Free Student Checking built with you in mind
- Ultra-convenient Mobile Banking
- 5,600+ shared branches nationwide
- Personalized, friendly service
- And more!

Wave Federal Credit Union

Yes! We Can Help You.

wavefcu.org • 401-781-1020
480 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick
1217 Warwick Avenue, Warwick



SCAN ME

LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Ember to Ash Cigar Lounge

A new place to relax, unwind and enjoy a cigar

NOW OPEN

OFFERING:

- Fine Cigars
- Full Bar
- Private Members Lounge

Loyalty Discounts & Points

23 Greenville Avenue, Johnston, RI
401-383-5700 Hours: 10AM-11PM

By JENNIFER COATES

Ember to Ash, the newest cigar lounge in Johnston, is everything you expect (and want) from a momentary escape from the world. Think of soft comfortable chairs that you can just sink into and relax for a while. A moody space that smells like leather and well-seasoned wood, but also of the familiar and nostalgic aroma of cigars. Two lounges, one for “members only” and the other open to everyone and staffed with a knowledgeable team of “cigar aficionados”. A full bar where you can enjoy a broad selection of fine liquors and other beverages. And finally, look for the humidor where you can find the most popular brands of cigars as well as some new “up-and-comers”.

Ember to Ash officially opened its doors to a warm reception early this April. It sits in an off-beat plaza on Greenville Avenue, close to where it intersects Killingly Street. Though it is only recently open to the public Ember to Ash has been a dream in the making for a long time. Step by step, this cigar bar was transformed into the welcoming and laidback space it is today. Attention was paid to every detail. The lighting. The furniture. The décor. The selection of cigars and libations. The long bar with its brass foot railing. The hand-selected staff. Every detail.

Today, visitors to this inviting cigar lounge will find everything they need to relax for a lingering smoke, or for a reoccurring visit. Customers may sit for as long as they wish but are simply asked to purchase one cigar from the humidor’s ever-growing inventory. Many longtime cigar enthusiasts will recognize the brands Kristoff, Estaban Carreras, Perdomo, Drew Estate, Rocky Patel, and more. Producers of the highest quality cigars from across the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua



The city of Johnston welcomes Ember to Ash Cigar Lounge on Greenville Avenue. Open seven days a week, this lounge is the perfect place to unwind at the end of the day (or any time in between!)

are represented here.

Many may ask, how do the memberships work? Once you become a member, you have exclusive access to the private, “member’s only” lounge as well as to special discounts. For “Individual Members” who pay the annual fee of \$150, they get 5% off every purchase. For \$300, members get access to the lounge and 12% off all purchases as well as a cigar locker. If you have a buddy who you want to share a locker with, you pay \$400/yr. For frequent cigar fans, these memberships pay themselves back in no time!

There will also be upcoming events held at Ember to Ash, including one on May 17th. when a representative from Kristoff cigars will be at the lounge. The event runs from 3:00pm to 11:00pm with the rep on-site from 1:00pm to 8:00pm. Come for a smoke. Bring your friends.

Ember to Ash Cigar Lounge is located at 23 Greenville Avenue. For more information, call 401-383-5700 or visit them at www.EmberToAshCigar.com. You can also learn more by following them on Facebook or Instagram. The lounge is open from 10:00am to 10:00pm, seven days a week!

Success in School starts with Karate

SIGN UP TODAY!

FIRST CLASS FREE

ScituateMartialArts.com

43 Village Plaza, North Scituate, RI • 764-5745

CRANSTON PAINT & WALLCOVERING

Interior & Exterior Painting

Celebrating 30 Years!
1995-2025

NOW BOOKING INTERIOR and EXTERIOR SPRING PROJECTS

“Products and Services From One Source”

946-5070 or 265-5095

cranstonpaintri.com

386 ATWOOD AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED RI REG. #37080

THE PRESERVE AT BRIARCLIFFE

Supportive Independent and Assisted Living

BRIARCLIFFE

CALL 401.944.2450 TO SCHEDULE A PERSONAL TOUR

Convenient to US Hwy 6 and I-295 in Johnston, RI

54 Old Pocasset Road | briarclifferi.com

BEACON MEDIA

WARWICK BEACON • JOHNSTON SUN RISE
CRANSTON HERALD • THE REMINDER
RHODE ISLAND NEWSPAPER GROUP

SHERRI LEO
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
sherril@beaconmediari.com
P: 401-732-3100

1944 WARWICK AVENUE, WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02889

10% OFF YOUR MEAL

All Day Monday-Thursday*

Buy 3 Wieners with small fry \$10

EVERY DAY!
(except Sunday)
Buy 4 Wieners, Get 1 FREE!

WACKY WEDNESDAYS!

OPEN 7 DAYS!
Mon-Thurs & Sat 7am-4pm,
Fri 7am-8pm, Sun 7am-1pm
*June 12-July 10. Mention Ad

98 George Waterman Rd, Johnston, RI 401-233-9665

★Lowest \$ In Town★

WASH • DRY • FOLD Drop Off Service

only 89¢ per lb.

Includes Softener, Bleach, Soap & Hangers
Same Day Service

Jain's Laundry

Plaza 44 • 39 Putnam Pike • Johnston • 231-7019

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am-9pm; Sat. & Sun. 7am-9pm

THE SPOT

Serving Delicious Dominican-American Fusion Cuisine

BAR & GRILL

Lunch Specials 11am-3pm

Full Menu • Specialty Drinks • Drinks to Share

Tues, Weds 4pm-11pm, Thurs 11am-12am, Fri, Sat 11am-1pm, Sun 11am-11pm

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

20 Rolfe Square, Cranston, RI • 401-642-9301 • www.thespotbarandgrill.com

Advertise your business in our **LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

Be part of the LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT and get the word out about your business with a feature story and photo for one week during your 10-week advertising commitment...

All for just **\$44/week!**

Call Today 732-3100

(10-week commitment)
(Includes story & photo on our website)

PROFESSIONAL SECURITY SERVICES

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

Luxury Car and Shuttle Service

One to Twenty-four Passengers

Airports, Ports, Weddings, Parties

New England, New York and New Jersey

www.professionalsecurityri.com

401-942-4430

Sports



The Hendricken baseball team after winning the state championship. *Beacon Media photos by Alex Sponseller*

Hawks defend title

Hendricken baseball tops Cumberland for state championship

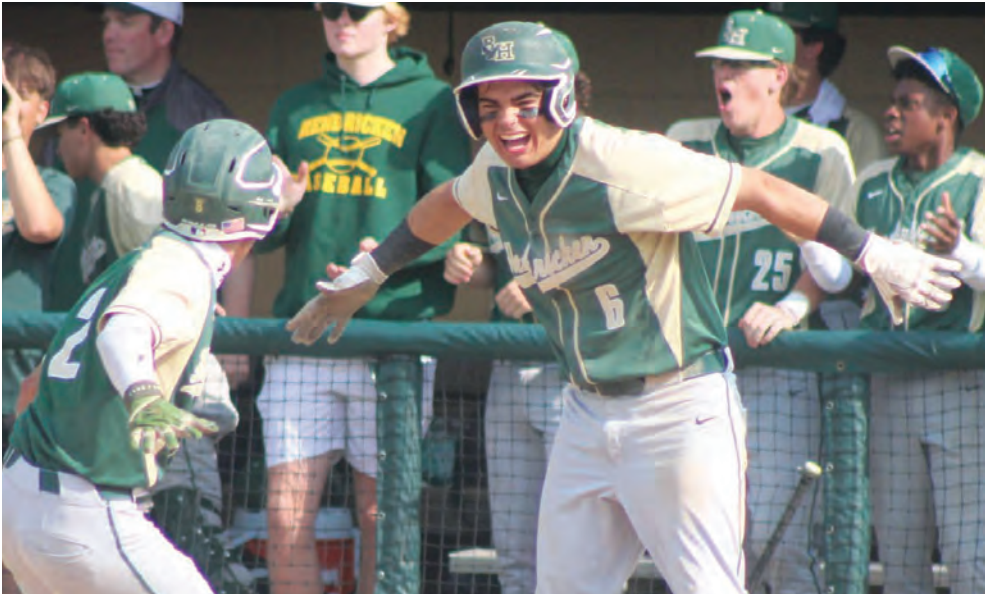
By **ALEX SPONSELLER**
SunRise Sports Editor

For the second straight season, the Bishop Hendricken baseball team is Rhode Island's Division I state champion after sweeping the Cumberland Clippers in two games in last week's title series.

The Hawks won the second game 12-2 on Sunday at Rhode Island College to run away with the trophy. The Hawks led in a 3-2 dogfight heading into the sixth inning but would blow the lead open by tacking on five runs, highlighted by a three-run home run by senior Braeden Campbell.

"I was just thinking, I needed to get those guys in. We needed the ex-

● **HAWKS** to page 17



Mason Crain celebrates after scoring a run on Sunday.

Panthers finish strong at track states

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League Outdoor Track & Field State Championships were held last weekend at Brown University and plenty of locals finished the year strong with big performances. The event took place across two days, as rain washed out the second half of Saturday and forced things to be completed on Sunday.

La Salle Academy took first as a team with a score of 147, while Bishop Hendricken finished in second with 113, and Barrington third with 111. Pilgrim wrapped up seventh place.

Cumberland won the girls' side with a score of 69 and West Warwick took second with 64.

Johnston was led by Jayden Ponte, who finished eighth in the discus and 18th in the shot put. Brandon Souza also took 13th in the discus for the Panthers.

Here is a look at some of the top performers on the day:

GIRLS

Keaney Bayha won the 3,000 run to wrap up her high school career for Pilgrim. Vanessa Jones won the discus throw for Toll Gate.

Cranston West's Reece Vitale took second in the 300 meter hurdles as well as second in the triple jump. Pilgrim's Lia Wasilewski finished second in the javelin throw.

Vitale placed third in the 100 hurdles, while Jones finished third in the hammer throw.

West's relay team of Sophia DeLuca, Kristen Fountaine, Annelisa Joyce and Lilliana Prendergast took fifth in the 3,200.

BOYS

Carson Dean won the pole vault for Hendricken and Pilgrim's Hunter Schobel won the triple jump for the

● **TRACK** to page 18



The Gershkoff Top Notch Lightning Elite team at the Memorial Day Firecracker Tournament. *Submitted photos*

Gershkoff continues to grow as season begins

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

David Schiappa enters his third decade of coaching American Legion baseball for Gershkoff Auto Body Auburn Post 20. He has established a futures program currently in the 10-U division. In addition, he has handed the 19-U senior program to Steve Piscopiello (current CWLL president and Cranston Recreation Director) while he takes the reigns of his 17-U Junior American Legion tournament team.

The Senior Legion team is co-sponsored by Elmwood Sports. The 10-U team and the Junior Legion

Lightning Elite teams are co-sponsored by Top Notch Rentals.

10-U manager and sponsor Andrew Piccirillo writes that being part of this program and team offers a truly wonderful experience for players, coaches, and families alike.

"The team has made significant strides in their development, not only in their baseball skills but also in their ability to support one another both on and off the field. They celebrate each other's successes, but what truly matters is how they lift each other up during the slumps and challenges," said Piccirillo. "Being

● **GERSHKOFF** to page 19

Atlantic bluefin tuna retention limits adjusted

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI
Special to the SunRise

NOAA Fisheries adjusted the Atlantic bluefin tuna daily retention limits for recreational fishermen. The adjusted limits took effect June 3, 2025 and extend through Dec. 31, 2025, unless modified by later action.

NOAA Fisheries may need to take other action(s) later in the year, if appropriate, to further adjust the retention limits or close the fishery.

The adjusted limits for private vessels with a HMS angling category permit is one school fish 27” to less than 47”. For charter boats with a HMS Charter/Headboat permit fishing recreationally two school fish 27” to less than 47” are allowed. In both cases no large school/small medium fish 47” to less than 73” are allowed and no giants over 73” are allowed at this time.

This January tuna fishing in North Carolina was not allowed to close due to an Administration rule making executive order. The freeze allowed overfishing which has meant reduced quotas for New York and New England fishermen as the fish migrate north. For the past three years, anglers have caught an abundance of bluefin tuna close to shore. Many believe robust bait/forage profiles are here close to shore in great abundance due to warming water. This climate change impact points to the need for enhanced stock assessments and climate research to keep tabs on fish stocks.

For information and updates visit the NMFS Permit Shop.

Catch and release best practices for striped bass

Striped bass fishing is good, so good for this time of year that we have to make sure we use catch and release best practices to help ensure the survival of the fish we release. More striped bass die after capture and release than those legal-size fish we take home to eat.

Fishing at the Cape Cod Canal has been very good too with anglers catching fish to 41”. East End Eddie Doherty, Cape Cod Canal fishing expert and author, said, “On Wednesday “Bill on the Grill” Prodouz landed a 40-inch linesider that fell for a herring Mystic glider and then a 41-inch powerhouse with a Yo-Zuri bone hydro twitch bait.”

On my charter boat Tuesday the fish were on the bottom. Jason Mills of Cranston caught a 39” striped bass on a tube & worm on the channel pad at Poppasquash Point, Bristol when fishing with Richard Hellwig of Providence. And, Steve Brustein of Warwick caught a 34” fish in the same place earlier in the week. There were no signs of fish on the surface but they were there in the lower water column and on the bottom.

The striped bass stock is overfished, with overfishing occurring, so we all need to be ready to safely catch and release these fish giving them the best chance of survival.

Striped bass regulations are one fish/person/day in a slot size of 28” to less than 31”.

Catch and release tips

Gaffs are not allowed and inline circle hooks must be used when fishing with bait for striped bass, tube and worm fishing is an exception.

Bring the fish to the boat quickly, extended fights deplete oxygen and reduce survival.

Avoid putting fish on deck and letting it flop around, keep it in the water as much as possible.

Wet your hands or gloves before handling the fish, dry hands remove the fish’s protective slime layer and leave it open to infection.

Handle fish carefully. Do not put fingers into gill cavities or eye sockets.

Gently remove the hook to minimize damage.

Use lures with single hook, barbless hooks (I snap them off), or circle hooks.

Return fish to water quickly. Place gently in water in upright horizontal position. Move it back and forth in the water to force water across its gills. Once revived it will flip its tail when ready to be released.

Introduction to the “Hex Hatch”

The RI Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Resource Education program will hold their introduction to the “Hex Hatch” program Thursday, June 12, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the DFW Outdoor Office, 1B Camp E-Hun-Tee Place, Exeter, RI.

The three-hour workshop begins with a presentation about the mayfly and its habits, when it emerges to spawn, what gear to use to mimic the hatch, and how to catch a trout during the hatch. All fly-tying equipment and materials are provided.

Cost is \$10 per person. For more information and to register, email kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov.

Where’s the bite?

Striped bass/bluefish. Tom Olson of Ponaug Marina, Warwick, said, “The striped bass and bluefish bite has been good for anglers they are catching fish trolling with tube & worm, umbrellas rigs or using live bait.”

Ed Lombardo fly fishing expert and guide, said, “Fishing slowed on Narrow River, Narragansett Tuesday. I fished and moved many times to the more productive spots up, down, and across the river until 12 noon. Fished again at 1 p.m., now an incoming tide, and caught two small bass and one hickory shad.” Striper fishing in the East Passage of Narragansett Bay has been good. Last week anglers on my charter boat hooked up with bass to 40” with reports of a 52” fish being caught by RISAA member Dave Sweet’s son at Anawan Cliffs, Narragansett. Lay off the big fish if you have other options as more striped bass are killed after being release than those we take home to eat (see above article on bass catch and release practices). Sherri Kanelos of Warwick boated her largest fish ever Sunday, a 24” bluefish off Bear Point Prudence Island.

Black sea bass, summer flounder (fluke), squeteague and scup. Summer flounder fishing has been good in the lower Narragansett Bay with anglers catching keepers.

Tom Olson of Ponaug Bait & Tackle said, “We had two commercial rod & reel customers catch monster fluke in the East Passage around the Jamestown bridge, one fish they boated was over 30 inches.”



Good eating: Sherri Kanelos with bluefish and Marc Carvalho with a squeteague, both of Warwick, planned to bake and eat their catch whole Sunday night.



Personal best: Jason Mills of Cranston with the 39” striped bass he caught Tuesday off Poppasquash Point, Bristol.



The Bishop Hendricken baseball team meets Braeden Campbell at home plate to celebrate his sixth inning home run on Sunday at RIC.

● HAWKS from page 15

tra runs, the insurance runs, and just got my pitch and ended up hitting a home run. It's been a dream of mine and I always tried to do it, but this time it happened naturally," said Campbell.

The Hawks then added four more runs in the top of the seventh to cement their place as the state's best team for the second straight season.

Hendricken was not quite as dominant or consistent as last year's team, losing three straight contests toward the end of the regular season then suffering an early playoff loss to La Salle before rebounding for five straight wins to cruise to the championship.

Finding a spark offensively and while playing unselfish baseball helped jumpstart the late surge, according to Campbell.

"All together as a team, we collectively put at-bats together. Focused more on the team than on ourselves. We thought we could do it by ourselves," said Campbell.

Hendricken took a 2-0 lead in the third inning when Campbell drove in Mason Crain and Parker Boyd on a two-run single. The Clippers wasted no time responding as they put up two runs of their own in the bottom half of the inning.

Cam Daley drove in Jack DePalma in the fourth inning to regain the lead for Hendricken. Boyd and Cullen Crain knocked in runs prior to Campbell's homer in the sixth. Cullen Crain then drove in two more runs in the seventh while Boyd and Campbell also recorded RBI in the inning.

Hendricken pitcher Dylan Poloski earned the complete game win, allowing two runs in seven innings and picking up seven strikeouts.

The Hawks won the first game of the series, 4-3. The game was knotted 3-3 in the bottom of the sixth, and Frank Tillingham drove in Boyd on a sacrifice fly for the game-winner. Patrick Clemmey and Cooper Maher split pitching duties, with the latter picking up the win by allowing one earned run and striking out four in 4 2/3 innings of work.

Campbell, was thrilled to finish his career on top and to prove that the Hawks weren't going anywhere.

"It was a grind. Coming into the season, everyone said we weren't as strong a team as we were last year, but I think they were wrong, I think we were the best team in the state, and obviously it showed. We had to grind to get here, we had some ups and downs, but it helped us overall," Campbell said. "It's the last one so you have to celebrate to the fullest."



Bishop Hendricken pitcher Dylan Poloski moments after the Hawks clinched the title.

Business Card DIRECTORY

This Week's Featured Business...



Weatherproof Home Improvement

Roofing • Siding • Windows

Dennis 732-9218

Fully Licensed/Insured Reg #31803
Family-Owned/Operated

Advertise in the Cranston Herald's
Business Card DIRECTORY
for only
\$18 per week
(12 week commitment)
Add the Warwick Beacon or Cranston Herald
for an additional \$9 per week.
Call 732-3100

Free EstimatesFully Insured

Interior/Exterior • Residential/Commercial



Levine Painting

Prompt, Reliable, Quality Work

• Wallpaper Hanging • Power Washing • Staining

401-736-0600

RI Reg. #7140www.levinepainting.com

● TRACK from page 15

Pats. Hendricken’s Colby Flynn won the 1,500 run. Flynn went on to take second in the 3,000 run while teammate Tristan Jordan took second in the 110 hurdles. Brandon Wolfenden took second in the shot put for Pilgrim.

Fred Russell finished third in the 3,000 run for the Hawks while teammate Elijah Guertin took third in the 110 hurdles. David Hayes took third in the 1,500 run for the Hawks as well.

Schobel went on to take fourth in the long jump,

while Hendricken’s Nathanel Tarlue took fourth in the triple jump. Dimitri Johnson finished fourth in the hammer throw for the Hawks, and teammate Alezander Prado took fourth in the shot put.

Hendricken’s relay group of Andrew McCarthy, Jamel Flomo, Rylan Barbato and Jeremiah Sans Souci took fourth in the 1,600.

Hendricken’s McCarthy took fourth in the 400 dash. Jakob Reyes finished fifth in the high jump for the Hawks, while Russell ran to fifth place in the 1,500.

Hendricken’s relay team of Jordan, Guertin, Will Mascena and Javien Valle took fifth in the 400.



Gershkoff Top Notch Lightning Elite coach Ed Tavarez prepares the team before a game in the Memorial Day Firecracker Tournament.

● GERSHKOFF from page 15

part of this organization transcends being just a team; it is a cherished journey. Next up this August is a summer tournament in Delaware.”

Head coach Ed Tavarez reflects on how remarkable the journey has been. As a coach, he couldn’t be prouder of these boys and the incredible strides they’ve made since last season.

“This year, the team finished with an impressive 17-7 record, establishing itself as one of the top teams in a league of over 100 programs. Every player contributed to our success, and the camaraderie and joy they brought to the field made this season unforgettable.”

Members of the team included:

Matt Mazzola, Vinny Vlaun, Brayden Proppe, Andrew Tavarez, Jacob Kowalczyk, Luca Mariotti, Anthony Hernandez, Ben Leveillee, Bryson Ramos, Jacob Fiontella and Luca Orsini.

Tavarez states that the program is built on the dedication of an amazing group of players and supportive parents, and with

the growth we’ve seen, the future is incredibly bright for this team. We have something truly special here, and we can’t wait to see what next season holds.

Piscopiello stated, “The Senior season will be a reset for the program, with a complete roster turnover and youth movement. He hopes this combination will produce a gameday energy and passion for baseball during the summer. The goal is to teach, get in much needed reps for everyone while playing loose and having some fun. He feels if he could meet basic goals, the players will enjoy the experience, which could lead to some wins and take it one day at a time.”

Gershkoff Junior Legion will be kicking off its season this week with two league games, and a Firecracker tournament in Mystic, CT. They will also be heading to San Diego, California from June 30 through July 7 to compete in the Fireworks at the Harbor tournament with some of the best 16-U programs on the West Coast.

The team is comprised of a promising group of 15-17 year-

old players from various local high schools (Cranston West, Cranston East, Johnston High, Toll Gate, and Bishop Hendricken) that looks to compete for a state title. Players competed at the varsity and junior varsity level this past spring with much success.

The pitching staff is well experienced and seasoned. Aiden Neal, Michael Blair, Aidyn Pizzuti, and Reece Zarella look to dominate opposition as all four were relied on during their respective high school seasons. Peter Grammas, Gianni Santo, and Joey Nunez all figure to factor in on the mound as well.

Catching duties feature a trio of players that all provide a solid backstop; Josh Gillen, Ethan Conrad, and Andrew Schiappa. All will see time across the diamond as well.

The infield will include Neal, Zarella, Blair, Joey Nunez, Michael, Nunez, Gianni Santo, Ethan Davis, Lucca Ricci, and Corey Ogden.

Patrolling the outfield will include Zarella, Pizzuti, Grammas, Davis, Lucas Santo, Joey Nunez, and Ogden.

BUSINESS SERVICES

Electrical

Valco Electric
Residential Specialist
Electrical Upgrades
Trouble Shooting & Repairs
Prompt & Courteous Service
401-921-3143
Lic. #A3990 AmEx/Disc/MC/Visa Insured

Painting

STEVEN G. RUHLE
PAINTING
Interior & Exterior
Small Exteriors
Neat, Clean Workmanship
639-0967
Free Estimates
Reg. 12067 - Insured

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Call/Text Larry:
401-529-2087
Leave Message
Masters Licenses
RI #A3338
MA #16083A
Insured

Fencing

Reilly Fence Inc.
Professional installations of
Vinyl • Wood • Aluminum
Chainlink Fences
Insured - Free Estimates
Call & book an appt. today!
228-3647 Reg. #40392

Flooring

EAST COAST
WOOD FLOORS
Installed • Sand
Finish • Refinish
Insured • Senior Discounts
Cell 265-3644
Reg. #15124

Home Improvements

Weatherproof
Home Improvement
Interior/Exterior Painting
Roofing • Siding • Gutters • Decks
Dennis
732-9218

Masonry

CEMENT
MASONRY WORK
Chimneys ♦ Floors ♦ Patios
Driveways ♦ Steps ♦ Walkways
Repairs ♦ Free Estimates
Ron 397-1891
Cell 639-2942
Reg. #6326 Licensed & Bonded

Oil Tank Removal

Why wait for your oil tank to leak?
Old oil tanks removed
Licensed RI Waste Transporter
Drum Disposal
Newton B. Washburn, LLC.
Insured • Reg. #27176 • #RI877
401-647-9606

TO PLACE YOUR AD BY PHONE, PLEASE CALL IDA AT 401-732-3100

Plastering

Harold Greco Jr.
Plaster Perfection
ALL Small Repair Specialist
Emergency Water Damage Repairs
Historic Restorations
Painting
Senior, Veterans & Cash Discounts
Integrity & Passion
ALL MAINTENANCE
Reg. #414 ★ Member BBB ★ Est. 1946
Call now! **738-0369**

Plumbing & Heating

E.W. FLAGG
Plumbing & Heating
New & Old
Installations • Repairs
Water Heaters
Commercial & Residential
739-6155

Power Washing

Coast to Coast
Power Washing
Everything Residential
When Quality/Service Matters, call Ken,
401-413-0547
Satisfaction Guaranteed!
Save 20% off this month!
RI Reg. #GC47967

Rubbish Removal

Liberty House
Junk Removal, Inc.
We remove one item
or content of entire house.
Sheds and hot tubs
FREE ESTIMATES
15 years of reliable service
Reg. #2983 & Insured
401-286-0505

Spring Cleanups

House - Cellars -
Garages - Moving?
Anything hauled away, some for FREE!
30 yrs. - Reliable Service!
741-2781 Lic. #37379 - Insured

BUSINESS SERVICES

ads start at

\$35/week

for 4 or more weeks

Ad appears in the Johnston Sun Rise, Cranston Herald, & Warwick Beacon
(All 3 papers for one low price)

Classifieds

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

TO PLACE OR CANCEL A CLASSIFIED AD:

Call 732-3100 by —

- 3 PM Thursday for Cranston Herald (Thursday), Johnston Sun Rise (Thursday), Warwick Beacon (Thursday) & The Reminder (Wednesday)

Please Check Your Ad!

We make every effort to carefully proofread all advertisements, however, we ask you to check your ad the first time it appears. If you find an error, call 732-3100 so that we may correct it in the next publication. Beacon Media shall not be liable for errors or omissions in, or failure to insert, any advertisement for which it may be responsible beyond the cost of the actual space occupied by the item in which error or omission or failure to insert occurred. Advertiser will be entitled to refund of advertisement price or insertion in next issue at advertiser's option.

LINE ADS:

20 Words - \$35.00 per week
each additional word \$1.00
bold first line \$4.00 
Includes Warwick Beacon, Cranston Herald and Johnston Sun Rise
Add The Reminder for an additional \$10/week

CREDIT POLICY We accept all major credit cards. We will bill line-by-line classified ads (with the exception of YARD SALE ADS) to customers adding \$1.50 billing fee. Business Service ads must be prepaid until a Credit Application has been approved and account established.

BUSINESS SERVICE ADS:

\$35.00 per column inch per week*
Includes Warwick Beacon, Cranston Herald and Johnston Sun Rise
*Ad Must Run 4 Consecutive Weeks

Add The Reminder:
\$8.00 per column inch. Ad Must Run 4 Consecutive Weeks.

Email ads to: Classifieds@rhodybeat.com

CLASSIFIED AD FORM

20 Words - \$35/week*

*Add \$1 for each additional word

Includes Warwick Beacon, Cranston Herald and Johnston Sun Rise

☐ Add The Reminder for an additional \$10/week

Please print clearly – One word per box
Phone number is one word.
Not responsible for words we cannot read.

☐ BOLD TYPE
\$4.00 per week. First line only.

				20 words
+\$1 each addition word				

Name

Address

Town/State

Phone

Price Per Week# of WeeksAmount Paid

☐ Check/Money Order Enclosed – Payable to: BEACON MEDIA RI

Circle One:



Account #

Security CodeExpiration Date

MAIL OR BRING TO:

BEACON MEDIA RI

1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick RI 02889

E-Mail: classifieds@rhodybeat.com

Classified Ad Deadline is

THURSDAY AT 3PM

Announcements

HAPPY GRADUATION, JOHN-NY J.! We are very proud of you. Love, Mommy and Daddy.

Autos Wanted

JUNK CARS WANTED. Up to \$500 paid. Call 401-895-7351 for quote.

Boats For Sale

1996 MAXUM 24'. MERC 210 Engine. One owner. Sleeps 4. New gas tank. Handheld shower. Includes trailer. \$7,000/OBO. 401-739-6458/401-317-8277.

Cemetery Lots For Sale

HIGHLAND CEMETERY, JOHNSTON Graceland, Lot 15. \$1000 OBO. Call/text: 401-714-5332

Coins/Jewelry

COINS! LOCAL COIN COLLECTOR not a Dealer looking to buy coins. On-the-spot honest estimates. My house, your house or library. Call Mark, 401-556-4703.

Dogs For Sale

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS: Excellent temperament, shots, parents on premises. \$900/each. Call: 1-860-576-0024.

Classified Advertising
Deadline is
3 PM THURSDAY

Help Wanted

MECHANIC NEEDED for busy landscaping company. 40hrs/wk. Competitive pay. Small engine and truck experience. 401-886-7000.

Home Improvement

CHOICE SOFTWARE: Homes, Decks, Fences, Patios, Roofs, Awnings, Trash Bins. Commercial & Residential. Fully Insured. Free Estimates. 401-241-7136, Jon.

Houses Wanted

WE BUY HOUSES: Any condition!! Quick sale!! House needs work? We don't mind. Call 401-595-8703.

Personals

HEALTHY MALES SEEKING SINGLE WOMAN in her 70's for companionship and possible travel. P.O. Box 6111, Warwick, RI 02887.

Real Estate Wanted

RENTAL PROPERTY WANTED: Need space to park a recreational vehicle with a 120V hook-up. Willing to pay for space. Call George: 401-259-4725.

Yard Sales

152 CENTRAL AVENUE, JOHNSTON, Saturday, June 14, 8am-2pm. Household goods, tools and collectables.



Advertise Your

YARD SALE

Call 732-3100

(Yard Sale Ads Must Be Pre-Paid)

Real Estate Transactions

SPONSORED BY



ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE	ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
COVENTRY					WARWICK				
35 Walker Ln	Francis, Jonathan P	Gibbs, Zsonelle	5/13	\$515,000	11 Brewster Dr	Arnold, Jordan	Johnson, Timothy	5/8	\$391,000
409 Knotty Oak Rd	Taylor, Christopher	Duhaime, Christopher	5/13	\$310,000	11 Macarthur Dr	Cardillo, Karen E	Brown, Latrice C	5/9	\$350,000
CRANSTON					113 Cove Ave	Midwood, Bethany R and Midwood, Jason B	Woodruff, George W and Woodruff, Diana M	5/15	\$444,000
130 Grand Ave	Catherin-Hodgkins	Maldonado, Karen M and Saum, Duncan	5/12	\$605,000	114 Covington Dr	Amen, Joseph and West, Owen	Fletcher, Lauren E and Matias, Jayson J	5/13	\$470,000
131 Fordson Ave Lot 7	Toher, Christine and Chubbuck, Kimberky	Sheehan, Maggie M	5/13	\$215,000	12 Barber Ave	Gabriele, Daniel L	Amalfitano, Diana and Amalfitano Jr, Steven M	4/30	\$335,000
143 Hoffman Ave Lot 101	Sunshine Dev Inc	Hoff, Eileen	5/16	\$357,000	124 Welfare Ave	Atwood, Christina R	Santana, Angel R and Roman Cruz, Legna M	5/15	\$323,000
149 Yeoman Ave	Federal Natl Mtg Assn	Jg Tiberi Dev LLC	5/16	\$375,000	141 Sturbridge Dr	Nanni, Roland W	Imondi, Jason M and Del Buono, Sarah E	4/30	\$485,000
15 Spruce Ave	Guertin, Lois S	Elevator Prop Inc	5/15	\$200,000	146 Holmes Rd	Burns, Steven J and Burns, Jessica R	Silva, Barbara	5/13	\$352,000
1880 Broad St	Murphy, Sean	Kennedy, Leslie and Kennedy, Michael	5/15	\$560,000	154 Twin Oak Dr	Dugas, Joshua T and Dugas, Mikayla L	Ahern, James C	5/9	\$514,799
190 Gladstone St	Pacheco, Louis M and Pacheco, Barbara A	Silva, Michael	5/12	\$615,000	160 Long View Dr	Weiner, Dana N	Oliver, Ginamarie and Mcvay, Christopher	4/30	\$575,000
27 Hemlock Ave	Cobble Hill Dev LLC	Soriano, Alexandra R	5/16	\$475,000	18 Louisiana Ave	Aker Bruce W Est and Nappa, Bryan J	Martini Hldg LLC	4/29	\$310,000
27 Holly St	Colardo, Paul	Jamieson, Amanda and Messier, Christopher	5/16	\$550,000	20 Blackmore St	York, Stephanie and York, Scott	Daniel, Lauren	5/12	\$725,000
27 Holly St Lot 2163	Colardo, Paul	Jamieson, Amanda and Messier, Christopher	5/16	\$550,000	203 Holmes Rd	Drennon, Tiffani L	Salvas, Deirdre R	5/8	\$450,000
3 Pheasant Hill Ln	Dossantos, Daniel F and Dossantos, Sarah A	Girard, Andrew	5/16	\$740,000	205 Smith St	Langlais, George L	Mcniel, Kyle D	4/29	\$430,000
32 Dewey St Lot 2216	Lc LLC	Jamila Realty LLC	5/16	\$450,000	21 Airway Rd	Blunt, Jonathan	Castriotta, Nicholas	5/15	\$345,000
32 Dewey St Lot 3821	Lc LLC	Jamila Realty LLC	5/16	\$450,000	2190 W Shore Rd	Ursillo, Jeffrey J	Schmitt, Dylan and Piontkowski, Kimberly	4/28	\$365,000
348 Princess Ave	Fera, Paul D	Lantini, Jessica A	5/16	\$390,000	22 Eagle Run Lot A	Mary L Oneill Lt and Oneill, Joseph J	Houle, Karen R	5/16	\$405,000
35 Warren Ave	Avila, Carlos A	Moretti, Marijane	5/15	\$355,000	2536 W Shore Rd	Stockard, Justin	Cathedral Inv LLC	4/28	\$150,000
385 Olney Arnold Rd	Mary-Jo Vacca Relt and Barth, Henry E	Nunez, Khalie Y	5/14	\$810,000	26 Peeptoad Rd	Nunez, Khalie Y	Hamel, Joseph and Hamel, Patricia	5/14	\$570,000
50 Aetna St	Dawkins, Demettrious and Dawkins, Katie	Uber, Tricia L	5/15	\$365,000	265 Post Rd Lot 9	Conway, Sheila and Walton Jr, Hollie R	Bazarian Murray, Mary J	4/30	\$415,000
56 Blaisdell St	Sammartino Jr, Robert	Sammartino, James	5/16	\$337,500	28 4th Ave Lot 28	Cicillini, David J and Cicillini, Suzan	Passett, Catherine	5/16	\$290,000
7 Salem Ave	Dearmas, Leonar and Hollingworth, Daniel S	Long, Ryan and Long, Rachael	5/16	\$212,500	300 Warwick Neck Ave	Cameron, Kyle and Cameron, Madison	Scuncio, Zachary R	4/28	\$485,000
7 Salem Ave	Hollingworth, Craig B	Long, Ryan and Long, Rachael	5/16	\$212,500	3081 W Shore Rd	Hogan Marie F Est and Hogan, William E	Hobin, Rebecca K and Black, Christopher J	4/29	\$400,000
777 Pontiac Ave	Arpin Peter J Est and Kitchen, Lorraine	Natale, Joseph	5/12	\$165,000	33 Fox Ridge Cres Lot 33	Schooner Rlty LLC	Tessier, Allyson	5/16	\$386,500
777 Pontiac Ave	Arpin Robert H Est and Kitchen, Lorraine	Natale, Joseph	5/12	\$165,500	330 Longmeadow Ave	Follett Jr, William	Dodd, Henry and Perez, Adriana	5/13	\$350,000
99 Walden Way Lot 99	Harris, Joy M	Martinez, Dariel	5/12	\$370,000	3524 W Shore Rd Lot 909	Pizzi, Stacie L and Pizzi Jr, Agelo R	Delos, Remi M	4/30	\$137,500
EAST GREENWICH					3524 W Shore Rd Lot 906	Ray, Robert K	Rioles, Sarah M	5/16	\$230,000
100 Rocky Hollow Rd	Mclaughlin, Brendan L	Stephens, Richad S and Grey, Melissa Z	5/9	\$1,600,000	40 Buttonwoods Ave	Rinn, Gianna M	Rinn, Jacob K and Rinn, Colleen	5/12	\$410,000
307 Main St	Joseph N Zenga Ft and Zenga, Christine A	307 Main St LLC	5/9	\$850,000	403 Commonwealth Ave	Worcester Svcs LLC	Ajm Prop Hldg LLC	5/9	\$450,000
5 Sawmill Ct	Lawrie, Nathan and Lawrie, Smaranda	Verdi Jr, Chad and Verdi, Lauren	5/8	\$1,525,000	43 Carpenter St	Delgallo, Allyson C and Delgallo, Nicholas J	Lesieur, Corey R and Black, Angela E	5/15	\$451,500
65 West St	Ellis, Michael L and Ellis, Michael R	Kenyon Dev LLC	5/9	\$691,000	44 Scranton Ave	Islamaj, Eugert	Js Florence Prop LLC	4/29	\$415,000
EXETER					51 Westfield Rd	Jordan Realty Rigp	Fadl, Mohamed F and Fadl, Susan A	4/16	\$1
158 Pauchaug Trl	Eberl, Karen L and Sautter Jr, Charles E	Austin, Christine	5/20	\$199,500	51 Westfield Rd	L&r Prop LLC	Wong, Damon and Wong, Emily F	4/16	\$789,000
475 10 Rod Rd	Burlacu, Robert	Mckeen 3rd, George W	5/19	\$1,300,000	51 Whipple Ave	Pro Bldrs Ri LLC	Siegel, Joshua A and Wu, Dorothea	5/12	\$500,000
JOHNSTON					53 Buena Vista Ave	Gong, Feixia	Germosen, Pedro L and Germosen, Mariela A	5/14	\$500,000
1143 Hartford Ave Lot 4C	Martellucci, Sandra A and Deutsche Bk Na TCom	Assiradoo, Joseph	5/16	\$201,000	61 Bruce Ln	Rosenbaum, Daniel and Rosenbaum, Theresa	Chapelle, Sophie	5/13	\$700,000
19 Kensington Way Lot 19	Atwood Ave Condos LLC	Graber, Connie D	5/16	\$449,900	61 Mystic Dr	Stacey, Debra J and Mair, Denise R	Elliott, Kayley and Medina, Edward	5/16	\$390,000
30 School St	Crossley Jr, Robert and Crossley, Deborah	Alvarez-Diaz, Jeffrey A and Alvarez, Jose A	5/20	\$540,000	62 Crescendo Dr	Elevator Prop Inc	Yang, Shonmea	5/14	\$525,000
41 Harris Ave	Shao, Vianne W	Alvarez, Irish C	5/16	\$427,000	66 Ontario Ave	Rodericks, Brian J	Bouthillette, Matthew R	5/8	\$455,000
6 Blaine St	Slim Investments LLC	Harnois, Heidi and Chevette, Jacob	5/16	\$390,000	67 Haley Rd	Ronald Fontaine Lt and Mancone, Joanne	Dorfman, David J and Ferreira, Meagan E	4/28	\$550,000
64 Winsor Ave	Dodge, Christopher and Eccleston, Jane	Akin, Hannah and Akin, Jake	5/15	\$552,000	752 Quaker Ln Lot A206	Maynard, Maurice G	Csoszor, Colin	5/14	\$200,000
8 Toledo St	Gambit Properties LLC	Ternnova Enterprises LLC	5/19	\$550,000	760 Cowesett Rd	Camara, Christine and Camara, Sally	Moore, Davis	5/13	\$525,000
					77 Parkside Dr	Ohara, Jonathan and Ohara, Susan	Germani, Kenneth J and Choquette, Olivia	4/30	\$455,000
					9 Lippitt Ave	Earle RET and Northeast Private	Hintz, Steven E and Hintz, Carolyn	4/30	\$1,500,000
					9 Oakdale St	Horan, Brendan P and Kelly, Jocelyn W	Ventura Sanchez, Angel J	5/13	\$435,000
					99 Midgley Ave	Barbara A Durrell-Dickers and Durrell-Dickers, Barbara A	Debye, Danelle M	5/13	\$490,000
					99 Midgley Ave Lot 158	Barbara A Durrell-Dickers and Durrell-Dickers, Barbara A	Debye, Danelle M	5/13	\$490,000



15 Morris St	Yang, Shonmea	Hanson, Katherine C and Del-Sesto, Jonathan M	5/14	\$420,000
17 E Greenwich Ave	Bland, Kamisha	Lemieux, Melissa and Lemieux, John	5/14	\$315,000
2 Loggers Run	Mckiernan, Michael E	Blessing, Brendan and Walker, Madison R	5/19	\$513,000
23 Crossland Rd	Flamand, Melinda M	Carey, Charles and Carey, Haley	5/14	\$300,000
24 Alden Dr	Carey, Charles and Carey, Haley	Cullen Jr, James A	5/14	\$457,500
24 Scenic Dr Lot 24	Kiernan, Michael A and Walsh, Kiley E	Lacombe, Diane A	5/16	\$326,000
511 E Greenwich Ave	Padula Builders Inc	Touchdown Rlty Group LLC	5/15	\$1,575,000
9 Lily Ln Lot 9, Moriarity	Erin and Galat, Stephen	Otrado, Patricia J	5/16	\$485,000
98 Lonsdale St	Brooks Carpentry & Remode	Whittaker, Meghan and Whittaker, Zachary	5/16	\$478,000

This copyrighted material is compiled from public records and re-printed under agreement with the Warren Group of Boston. Not every community is reported each week. To report a data error, call 617-896-5310 or send an email to transfersatthewarrengroup.com

There’s no business like your business.

As the **#1 SBA Lender in Rhode Island**, we can help you achieve your business goals both now and in the future.

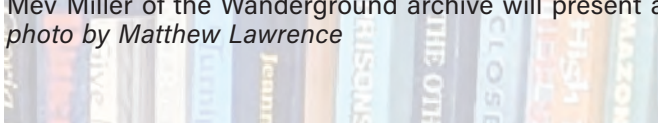


SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Lifestyles



Mev Miller of the Wanderground archive will present a curator's talk on June 25 at the Providence Public Library. Registration is recommended. *Beacon Media photo by Matthew Lawrence*



By MATTHEW LAWRENCE



Items from the Wanderground archive are currently on display at the Providence Public Library. *Submitted photo Jay Ruzicka, PPL digital content creator*



Wanderground books on display at a pop-up event in May 2023 in Newport. *Submitted photo by Wanderground*

In Sally Miller Gearhart’s 1978 novel *The Wanderground*, a group of psychic women known as the Hill Women live their lives completely free of men, communicating with plants and animals and reproducing without sex.

Published by Persephone Press, the book is a classic of the 1970s lesbian separatism movement. It also inspired the name of a lesbian archive located in a discreet office building in Cranston. According to the archive’s website, *The Wanderground* was one of the first major instances of lesbian representation in science fiction.

The Wanderground emerged from the Women in Print movement, which sought to create spaces in publishing specifically for women. In the 1970s, lesbian women’s writing was rarely published by mainstream book publishers or magazines. Lasting for about 20 years, the Women in Print movement included every aspect of the industry, from authors and editors to printers, bookstores and readers. In New England, Persephone Press operated in Watertown, Massachusetts, until 1983.

The Wanderground archive is run by Mev Miller and her wife, Sally Howard, though Miller is the public-facing half of the organization. Miller was herself part of the Women in Print movement and worked in publishing for decades, amassing a large collection of books and other materials along

the way. Much of the Wanderground archive is from Miller’s own collection.

The collection outgrew their home last year, and Wanderground moved into a three-room office that is now filled with books, music and ephemera documenting the lives of 20th-century lesbians.

“Now that we’re settled in the space, we’ll start doing more with the collections,” Howard said.

Wanderground is not a lending library. The books do not circulate but can be studied in the reading room. The archival work is done

by volunteers. “To be surrounded by this many lesbian books, their eyes pop out of their heads,” Miller says.

“I’ve never been in a room with this many lesbian books before,” one volunteer told them. Howard points out that a lot of younger people might have never seen a lesbian or feminist bookstore before.

By the 1980s, there were about 150 feminist bookstores in the United States. Now there are only a handful in New England, the closest of which are All She Wrote in Somerville, Massachusetts and Bloodroot in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The Wanderground collection is specifically lesbian, though the archive includes some broader LGBTQ anthologies and some feminist publications that include lesbian content, since the Women in Print movement included feminists who are not lesbians. Wanderground mostly focuses on materials between 1950 and 2000, though there are some older items and some newer items, like more recent publications by authors like Judy Grahn who were significant in the 1970s and 1980s. In the reading room, books are organized by publisher.

In addition to books, there are newspapers and periodicals including national lesbian publications with names like Sinister Wisdom, Amazon Quarterly and



“Exploring the Wanderground Archives: Objects with Stories to Tell!”

Curator talk with Mev Miller
Providence Public Library
150 Empire Street
Wednesday, June 25
4:30–6:00 p.m.

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is encouraged. Visit provlib.org

ANIMAL TALK
By Karen Kalunian
Local ♥ Adoptable ♥ Loveable



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

Brownie

Puppies!! Have you been searching for a new pup to join your family? Well Brownie is just one of the adorable pups waiting for their forever home at the Heart of RI. They have several litters of puppies of all ages and colors. They are all mixed breed pups, we like to say, "mixed to perfection!" Please give them a call for more information at 401-467-3670 or visit during their open adoption hours every Wednesday from 3:00-7:00 or Saturday from 10:00-2:00. The shelter is located at 44 Worthington Road Cranston, RI. The puppies are anxiously awaiting your arrival!



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



Saturday, June 28th



Vendors
11am-2pm

Adoptable Dogs
12pm-2pm

Jordan's Jungle
545 Pawtucket Ave., Pawtucket, RI

Paws in the Jungle



Taavon Gamble as Guy Jacobs and Cloteal L. Horne as Angel Allen. Photos by Mark Turkek courtesy of Trinity Rep.

Trinity's 'Blues for an Alabama Sky' hits the right notes

Theatre Review by **DON FOWLER**

Pearl Cleage's 1930's social drama hits the right notes at Trinity Rep. Directed by Jackie Davis and acted by five outstanding actors, the story takes place during the Harlem Renaissance, as black families strive to survive economically and socially, while introducing the arts to the depressed community. The play centers around Angel (Cloteal L. Horne) a blues singer who has been fired and moves into an apartment with Guy, her gay friend and costume designer (Taavon Gamble). She befriends Delia (Meagan Dilworth) who lives across the hall. Sam (Dereks Thomas), the local doctor, completes their small close-knit community of struggling survivors and dreamers. Into Angel's life comes Leland (Quinn West) a "gentleman caller" from Alabama who falls in love with her despite their differences, beliefs and social backgrounds. Michael McGarty's cluttered set sprawls across the downstairs Dowling Theatre stage, with Angel's apartment on one side and Delia's on the other.

Angel obsesses over her upcoming audition, while Guy dreams of landing a job in Paris. Delia is a church lady, leading a family planning clinic and seeking advice and help from her doctor friend. The characters reveal their past, their hopes and their dreams in a long first act (1 hour & 50 minutes). When Leland discovers that Guy is gay, his southern-raised prejudices rise and cause friction in the close-knit group. The second act (also long) deals with the situation while also tackling other problems faced by the Black community in Harlem and beyond. Cleage has written much humor into the script, as the five individuals deal with their personal problems, interactions, and prejudices from white folks. We lost some of the lines when actors had their backs to us or were on the far side of the stage. "Blues for an Alabama Sky" took place nearly 90 years ago but is as relevant today as it was back then. It is a play to be seen for the many issues raised. At Trinity Rep through June 29. For tickets, visit trinityrep.com or call 351-4242.



(L to R) Taavon Gamble as Guy Jacobs and Cloteal L. Horne as Angel Allen, Meagan Dilworth as Delia Patterson, Dereks Thomas as Sam Thomas and Quinn West as Leland Cunningham. Photos by Mark Turkek courtesy of Trinity Rep.

● WANDERGROUND from page 21

Lesbian Tide. There is a New Haven-based publication from the 1980s called The Newsletter: A Lesbian Position, and a complete run of Lesbian Connection, which began in 1975. It is one of the few lesbian print publications still going. The archive also includes music, papers, t-shirts, buttons and other ephemera.

Though there are lesbian collections at Brown University and places like Smith College, Miller believes Wanderground is the only wholly lesbian archive in New England. The next nearest is the Lesbian Herstory Archives in Brooklyn.

Miller’s official title is Instigator/Lesbrarian. In addition to Miller and Howard, there is an advisory council called the Amazon Steward Council. Wanderground is an all-volunteer effort, including librarians and archivists of different generations. “There are older lesbians, and younger people who may or may not identify as lesbians,” Miller says. “I don’t really ask.”

With no paid staff, the organization has low overhead but relies on donors and grants. “There’s rent, the website, insurance and archiving software,” Howard says. “But we’re very frugal. The expenses are manageable.”

Miller believes that lesbian archives are important because women’s work is often erased from history.

She mentions Sally Miller Gearhart, author of The Wanderground. Gearhart was active in San Francisco politics and worked closely with Harvey Milk to defeat Proposition 6, which would have banned gay and lesbian teachers in public schools. “Then they made a movie about Harvey Milk and Sally isn’t even mentioned.” (Sally!, a documentary about the author, is currently playing film festivals.)

Miller is also interested in building connections, working with other libraries and archives in the region, including the RISD Library, the Sarah Doyle Center for Women and Gender at Brown University

and Providence Public Library, where there is currently a Wanderground exhibition.

Events this year have included a fundraising concert in Newport for Lesbian Visibility Week in April, and a day-long retreat at Camp Hoffman in Kingston to discuss lesbian experiences with Girl Scouting. That event included crafts, camp songs, showing of Girl Scout Memorabilia, and a survey polling attendees about their favorite Girl Scout cookie flavors. (Thin Mints won.)

Wanderground is looking for items that speak to actual lesbian experiences. Items they seek include things like concert posters, jewelry, bumper stickers and mugs. “Maybe it’s a hat from your softball team.” She pauses. “We don’t need all of your books, though.”

“What do lesbians do?” Miller asks. “We cook, we have children, we have lovers, we raise dogs. We want to create a fuller understanding of lesbian history and culture.”

Miller and Howard are both retired, but Wanderground is increasingly becoming full-time work for them. They are both in their late 60s, and their generation is aging. “The folks that we want to get the stuff from are dying,” Howard said. “So we have to get it now.”

Wanderground currently has an exhibition of artifacts on display at Providence Public Library. The exhibition runs through June 30, and on Wednesday, June 25 at 4:30 p.m. Miller will host a Curator Talk. According to the Providence Public Library, “Exploring the Archives: Sharing Stories/Building Connections” is made possible in part through funding support from Rhode Island Humanities, an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The archive is open by appointment only. “We don’t publish the address, with the times being what they are,” said Miller. Contact info@wanderground.org to set up an appointment.



The archive also includes music, papers, t-shirts, buttons and other ephemera. *Beacon Media photo by Matthew Lawrence*



INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Shop Locally!

PROPANE FILLING STATION

621-8129 Call Phil

ALL PROPANE TANKS FILLED HERE

- Open 7 days a week
- Open all year
- English & Spanish

904 Manton Ave. Providence (IN FRONT OF STOP & SHOP)

Phil.Johnston32@gmail.com www.jfcpropane.com

Nardone Painting Co.

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR WORK

Roofing, Siding and Windows

NOW OFFERING: Carpentry, Kitchen & Bath Remodeling & Hardwood Floors

Over 40 Years Experience — Quality Work LICENSED & INSURED

401-943-1675

Luciano Nardone 27 Tweed Street, Cranston

Mention This Ad For **\$500 OFF** Exterior Painting Jobs (\$2500 & Over)

GOULIN STORAGE

STORAGE CONTAINERS FOR RENT

Stationary at our Johnston location or mobile at your location for a monthly rental fee.

401.837.0048 or 401.626-8737

VERY COMPETITIVE RATES, FAST, RELIABLE COURTEOUS SERVICE

YARD DEBRIS, JUNK REMOVAL and MORE!

10, 15, 20 & 30 yard containers placed at your location

Call for pricing and availability.

401.626.8737 or 401.837.0048

Call for our pricing & incentive programs for long term use.

(401) 461-5600 www.budgetrooterservice.com

BUDGET ROOTER SERVICE

Drain Problem? No Problem! **Just Call Jim!** 40+ Years of Experience

“Why Pay More?”

Family Owned And Operated

Servicing both Commercial and Residential Clients: Main Sewer Lines • Sinks • Tubs • Showers • Floor Drains

Video Camera Pipe Inspection

Glass & Screen Repair & Replacement

Residential Services:

- Sliding Screen Doors
- Insulated Glass
- Storm Doors
- Acrylic Sheet Available

Call Denny (401) 641-1010

Johnston Area – Free Estimates – Will Pick up & Deliver

30 Years Experience

RI Reg # 46236

JRM Landscape Construction LLC

No Job Too Big or Small, We Do It All!

Mulch • Stone • Sod • Bushes Planted, Trimmed & Removed • Excavation • Weekly/Bi-Weekly Lawn Maintenance • Grading • Demo • Cement Pad Insulations • Pool and Shed Demo • Patios & More

Licensed & Insured

Call Us For a Free Estimate **774-644-4733 or 401-226-2716**

Follow us on Facebook! JRM Landscape Construction

RI GC#48452 Fully Insured

FENCEWORKS RI LLC

For all your fencing needs

401-390-8795

Fenceworksri.net

Call 732-3100 to Place Your Ad

Reach LOCAL Customers!

ONLY \$16⁵⁰ PER WEEK

(10-week commitment)

3.42"x2" ad • FREE COLOR WHEN AVAILABLE

RI Sealcoating LLC

Residential & Commercial

- Sealcoating • Asphalt Repair
- Crack Filling • Concrete • Powerwashing

10% OFF DISCOUNT for June and July

15 Years Experience FREE Estimates

RI Reg #34912

401-259-2702

Congratulations to the Class of 2025

Best wishes for your
success in all your
future endeavors!
— Andrew



ANDREW
DIMITRI

STATE SENATOR

District 25 | Johnston

From Johnston.
For Johnston.