



The Reminder

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025 | 1 SECTION • 24 PAGES • FREE • VOL. 70 No. 42

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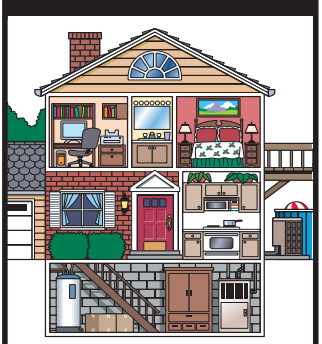
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**OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
FAMOUS POLISH FOOD SALE**

Our Lady of Czestochowa, 222 MacArthur Blvd.,
Coventry, will be hosting a Polish Food Sale on Saturday,
February 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They will be selling
Frozen Pierogi & Golombki (or as long as the food lasts).
The sale will be held in the school auditorium.

**ROGER WILLIAMS ZOO MOBILE
AT THE GREENE LIBRARY**

Children ages 3 and up will enjoy this interactive program
with the Roger Williams Zoo Mobile at the Greene Library,
179 Hopkins Hill Road, Greene, on Wednesday, February 19,
at 11am. They will learn about animals that hibernate and see
some in person. Registration is required and space is limited.
Please call 397-3873 to sign-up.

**PUMPERNICKEL PUPPETS PERFORMING AT
THE COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Families with children age 3 through 5th grade can join us
for this fun puppet show at the Coventry Public Library,
1672 Flat River Road, Coventry, on Thursday, February 20,
at 11 a.m. Pumpernickel Puppets will perform Three Billy
Goats Gruff and The Lion and the Mouse. Registration is
required. To register, please visit the library's website at www.coventrylibrary.org.

ONGOING FOOD DRIVE TO BENEFIT VETERANS

The High 5 Pantry at Flat River Tavern, 2260 Flat River
Road in Coventry will have an ongoing Food Drive to benefit
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CYBER-SENIORS WORKSHOPS @ THE COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us for a series of technology workshops specially designed for adults 65+ at the Coventry Public Library, 1672 Flat River Road, Coventry. Led by URI students in collaboration with ATEL, workshops will focus on how to use accessibility features related to vision, hearing and mobility on Tuesday, Feb. 11; camera use on Tuesday, Feb. 18; and using virtual assistants such as Siri on Tuesday, Feb. 25. Attend for a chance to win a free tablet! Workshops run from 12 – 2 p.m. and are free and open to the public, but registration is required. Please go to <https://coventrylibrary.org/> and view the Events page to register for these workshops. For more information, contact Reference Librarian Kiki at 822-9105 or KButler@CoventryLibrary.org.

SWEETHEART SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

The First Baptist Church, 1614 Main Street, West Warwick, will be holding a spaghetti & meatball dinner on Saturday, February 22, from 4 to 6 p.m. the menu includes, spaghetti & meatballs, tossed salad with dressing, bread & butter, assorted desserts and assorted beverages. Adults/\$15, Children/6-10 years old/\$8 and children under 5 years of age are free. There will be assorted Sweetheart Raffle Baskets available. All proceeds are for the church boiler fund.



AARP CHAPTER 2210 – TRIP TO NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE "BAGGAGE"

AARP Chapter 2210 is sponsoring a trip to see "Baggage" at the Newport Playhouse, Tuesday, April 15. After enjoying a delicious luncheon buffet, cash bar available, enjoy a wonderful play in an intimate theater. After the show, return to your luncheon table for a delightful cabaret. Sit back and relax on a luxury motor coach operated by DATTCO Coach & Tour. Pick up at 10 a.m. from Park & Ride, Hopkins Hill Rd. (Exit 19 off I-95), West Greenwich. Approximate return: 5:45 p.m. \$144/person. Final payment due: Tuesday, March 18. Contact: Maureen Murphy 401-828-5188 or Anne Brien 401-463-4274.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP AT COVENTRY SENIOR CENTER

The Coventry Resource & Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry will host a Grief Support Group on Tuesdays from 1-3PM. Please call 822-9175 to add your name.

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		SPECIALTY Yancy's Cheese Wedges 7.6 oz. \$4.99 15.5 oz. Varieties Full Circle Organic Canned Beans.....\$1.59 16 oz. Varieties Full Circle Organic Salsa.....\$3.49 14 oz. Busetto Salami All Varieties \$5.99	BAKERY MUFFIN OF THE WEEK! 4 Pack Banana Nut \$5.99 8 oz. Zaro's Chocolate or Raspberry Rugelach \$6.99 4 oz. Table Talk Lunchbox Pies.....4/\$5 Delicious Pound Cakes \$5.99 14 oz.

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ReMax
Sandy Bottom Rd
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Coventry Senior Center
Cumberland Farms
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Tom's Market
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Ocean State Job Lot
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Ray's Poly Clean
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West Warwick Library
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Shell
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Classifieds

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“RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS...” We could all use a little good news to brighten our day... Have you witnessed a “Random Act of Kindness” lately? “The Reminder” would love to hear about it. Please submit your entry in writing and we will print them anonymously on a space available basis. Please mail your “Random Acts of Kindness” (with contact information) to **The Reminder, 1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick RI 02889** or email your submission to mail@rirereminder.com

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• **“Sign out of all accounts when you are using someone else's computer.** I can't tell you how often I have used the computers at the library and went to sign into my webmail only to find that the previous user's email comes up. Navigating away from a page usually doesn't work, closing the browser sometimes doesn't work, but logging off ALWAYS works. The same for shopping sites, like Amazon. If you don't log off, because these sites use “cookies” to remember you, someone could potentially use your account.” — M.L. in Florida

Send your tips to *Now Here's a Tip*, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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SATURDAY GRAB & GO WEEKLY MEALS

Are you or is someone you know an elder in Coventry or West Warwick? St. Vincent de Paul Society is offering a warm meal from their Saturday Grab & Go weekly meals. To schedule a delivery or pick up of a warm meal, please call 828-3090 before 3PM on Wednesdays. If picking up your meal, please go to the OLC School Gym, 445 Washington Street in Coventry, between 11AM-12PM on Saturday.

MUSEUM PASSES AT THE COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Did you know you can borrow passes to local museums from the Coventry Public Library? Our museum passes can be picked up from the library at 1672 Flat River Road, and allow free or discounted entrance to museums such as the Nathaniel Greene Homestead, the Paine House Museum, Mystic Seaport Museum, Plimoth Patuxet Museums, and more! Stop by, see our website, or give us a call at 822-6200 for more information. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



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PARLONS FRANCAIS!

Parlons Francais meetings will be held from 6-8PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the West Warwick Youth Center, Factory Street, West Warwick. Anyone wishing to revive their French-Canadian heritage is welcome. Please call Edith at 919-0075 or Linda at 580-7832 with any questions.

COVENTRY SENIOR BAND

The Coventry Senior Band is looking for Musicians. We are an all-volunteer band that plays at Senior Centers, Nursing Homes, etc. Dust off the old instrument and come have some fun with us! Must be 55 years young and have some weekdays free. Call/Text David at 368-6895 or email walshdavid170@gmail.com.

EXPLORING LOCAL FUNGI & FLIES – RESCHEDULED

Join the Coventry Public Library and the Coventry Land Trust for a special presentation on all things: fungi and flies. This program was postponed due to weather. The new date is on Thursday, February 20, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Coventry Public Library, 1672 Flat River Road, Coventry. Free and open to the public. For more information or to RSVP, call Jessica at 822-9104 or email JCarsten@CoventryLibrary.org.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN TO KNIT?

If you knit or you would like to learn, join the Knitting Group at the Coventry Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry. The group meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30AM. This is a great way to socialize and make new friends.



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Lawmakers Sponsor Bills Banning Hidden “Junk Fees”

STATE HOUSE –Warwick resident Pearl Holloway was excited to buy her grandchildren Harlem Globetrotter tickets whose lowest ticket price at an online site was \$23. After promising to take them, Pearl was horrified to learn that each of those tickets required her to pay a \$14.75 “service fee” — a 64% increase — that raised the price for a family of four from \$92 to \$151.

“I didn’t want to disappoint my grandchildren, so

Shekarchi (D-Dist. 23, Warwick), also her state representative, to see if something could be done.

This year, Ujifusa and Rep. Brandon Potter (D-Dist. 16, Cranston) are introducing identical bills in the General Assembly (2025-S 0017, 2025-H 5247) that target undisclosed mandatory fees, such as those typically tacked on to event tickets and many other products and services. The legislation would make it a deceptive trade

said Ujifusa. “If the fee is mandatory, it’s part of the price. Telling consumers that the price is lower is false advertising that should be prohibited.”

Said Potter, “Junk fees are one of the most obvious examples of how large corporations rip off everyday people every day. Consumers deserve the right to know what they’re paying for what they buy, and now, with the Trump administration shutting down the Consumer Protection Bureau, states urgently need to step up and crack down on corporations that make it their business model to con people.”

Attorney General Peter F. Neronha supports this legislation and has said, “these types of hidden fees make it nearly impossible for even the most well-informed consumers to price-shop.”

This bill has the support of a broad coalition of 52 consumer advocacy groups. In addition, New York, Tennessee, Connecticut, California, Maryland, Colorado and Minnesota have recently passed laws that ban junk fees and many other states are considering doing so.

Customers subjected to hidden fees in online ticket sales spend significantly more than those shown the true price up front.

“If this proposed law were in place,” said Ujifusa, “my friend Pearl and countless other Rhode Islanders would be protected from hidden mandatory fees and able to spend their hard-earned dollars on things they really want or need.”

practice in Rhode Island to advertise, display or offer a price for a good or service that does not include all mandatory fees or charges other than government taxes and shipping.

“Junk fees go by many names — convenience charges, facilities fees, service charges and more — but they are usually just an excuse to charge consumers more than the advertised price of an item or service,”



The legislation would make it a deceptive trade practice in Rhode Island to advertise, display or offer a price for a good or service that does not include all mandatory fees or charges other than government taxes and shipping.

I just bought the tickets,” said Holloway, and she is not alone. Research has shown that 10 specific kinds of junk fees amount to \$90 billion per year in the United States, or more than \$650 per household per year on average.

Holloway was so concerned about what she called a “bait and switch” that she called her friends Senator Linda Ujifusa (D-Dist. 11, Portsmouth, Bristol) and House Speaker K. Joseph

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Wood has long been a go-to material when interior designers attempt to add warmth to a property.

Wood could be having a moment among modern home buyers.

According to the real estate experts at Zillow, the term "cozy" appeared in 35 percent more real estate listings in 2024 than in 2023. Though various components can help to create a cozy



vibe inside a home, wood has long been a go-to material when interior designers attempt to add warmth to a property. The home renovation experts

at Houzz also cite wood-infused architectural warmth among its 10 most popular home trends in the coming year. Homeowners who want to capitalize on this trend before putting their homes on the market or those who simply love the idea of adding more

wood-based warmth in their homes can consider installing ceiling beams, wood wall paneling or even wood trim throughout their homes.

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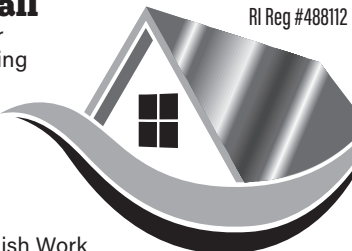
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Popular Types of Lighting That Can Complete Home Decor

These are various types of lighting and how they can work best in your home.

Many components come together to create a home interior that is welcoming and comfortable. Lighting is an important part of any design and plays a key role in home decor. Lighting can change the atmosphere of a room with the flip of a switch. Through lighting, one can make a space seem more cozy, or even make small spaces seem more expansive.

Homeowners should not underestimate the power of lighting in their homes. In addition to making spaces functional and more attractive, lighting can affect personal well-being, as a well-lit room can benefit mental health. The following are various types of lighting and how they can work best in a home.

Ambient
Ambient lighting is blanket lighting that is used to evenly illuminate a room. Lowes Home



ing can be utilized to highlight collectibles or artwork. Accent lighting may call attention to entryways, plants, fireplaces, or other points. Accent lighting typically adds character to a room and is not necessarily bright enough to sufficiently illuminate a space.

Decorative lighting
Decorative lighting is used exclusively for aesthetic purposes, according to BLOCC House of Interiors. It adds style and drama to spaces. Decorative lighting fixtures include pendants, sconces, chandeliers, and more. Decorative lighting also may be whimsical, such as fairy lights strung in a child's bedroom or neon lights in a home bar or sports room.

Separately, these lighting options may not be enough to suit your needs. But when combined, these types of lighting help to establish an interesting and functional home interior design that fits with a person's lifestyle and needs.

Improvement says this is the general lighting that every home needs. Fixtures like overhead lights, floor lamps and more provide enough light for people to function safely indoors. Ambient lighting is the foundation for every interior lighting scenario, and ambient lighting fixtures should be featured toward the center of the room and closer to the ceiling to disperse light more efficiently.

Task lighting
The home improvement firm Hiller describes task lighting as lighting directed toward a spe-

cific area to give more detail to objects. Close-range work such as crafting, reading, cooking, and desk work requires task lighting so projects are effectively illuminated. Task lighting can be installed anywhere a person requires direct, intense light to see details. This means lights can be under cabinetry or on a desk for reading mail or homework.

Accent lighting
Lowes indicates that accent lighting balances lighting and spotlights certain points in a space. For example, accent light-



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Soak Up These Luxurious Bathroom Features

Kitchens and bathrooms are two popular areas to address when renovating a home. Modernize Home Services says 26 percent of sellers make bathroom improvements to their homes before listing. Midscale bath remodels will net a return on investment of about 64 percent, while a luxury bathroom overhaul has an ROI of about 57 percent.

When considering bathroom renovations, homeowners may want to include some unique features that can add style and function, not to mention some much-deserved luxury. With that in mind, the following are some luxurious features to consider.

• **Heated floors:** There is something to be said for stepping out of the shower and being met with warmth underfoot. Heated floors are not just for people who live in cold climates, either. When the air conditioning is pumping on hot days, tile floors can feel chilly. Heated floors also are aesthetically appealing because homeowners don't have to factor in baseboard heaters or forced-air vents.

• **Steam showers:** There are many different steam showers on the market, and each can turn regular showers into steamy spa-like enclaves. A steam shower is similar to a sauna and utilizes a steam generator to produce steam in a single area, advises Badeloft® Luxury Bathrooms.

• **Soaking tub:** Although the majority of people shower as part of their daily hygiene routine, a deep soaking tub separate from the shower is ideal for those who enjoy a good bath.

• **Luxury mirror:** Upgrading the bathroom mirror to one that offers features like defoggers, integrated lighting and a dimmer setting can elevate the bathroom.

• **Floating vanity:** A floating vanity is mounted directly to the wall to leave space underneath. Better Homes & Gardens says a floating vanity can lend an airy feel to a bathroom.

• **Frameless shower:** A frameless (glass) shower door is not only luxurious but also functional for people who want to age in place. With no edge or lip to step over to enter the shower, anyone



When considering bathroom renovations, homeowners may want to include unique features that can add style and function, not to mention some much-deserved luxury.

with mobility challenges can walk into a frameless shower safely.

• **Water closet:** If space allows, separating the toilet in a water closet from the rest of the bathroom space affords even more privacy. Plus, in couple's bathrooms, a water closet enables two to use the bathroom at the same time for different functions.

• **Walk-in-closet:** Relocating the bedroom closet to right off the owner's bathroom affords an immediate opportunity to dress comfortably, thus streamlining a morning routine.

Bathroom renovations are worthwhile investments. Choosing some unique upgrades can enhance the design and function of these important spaces.

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Join ProJo columnist Colleen Mellor as she shares the deeply personal journey she and her husband have faced over the past 10 years since his Alzheimer's diagnosis. Colleen will offer practical insights and strategies that have helped them both manage the challenges of caregiving. Wednesday, February 26, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Coventry Public Library, 1672 Flat River Road, Coventry. We encourage you to bring family and friends to this program, and it is free and open to the public! For more information or to RSVP, call Jessica at 822-9104 or email JCarsten@CoventryLibrary.org.

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Strange
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By Lucie Winborne

• **The Latte Index**, which was developed by The Wall Street Journal, compares the price of a tall Starbucks latte in dozens of cities around the globe to estimate which currencies are overvalued and undervalued.

• **While Finland refers to itself** as the "Land of 1,000 Lakes," it actually contains 188,000.

• **Gucci manufactured a pair of jeans** named the Gucci Genius Jeans that sold for an astonishing \$3,134.

• **In 1859, America was swept by a moral panic** over young people playing ... too much chess.

• **Fifteen minutes of shivering** from cold temperatures can be the metabolic equivalent of one hour of exercise.

• **At the age of 104**, a fellow by the name of Jack Reynolds became the oldest known person to get a tattoo. He followed that up by becoming, at age 105, the oldest person to ride on a roller coaster.

• **In 2009, an Italian neurosurgeon had a heart attack** in the middle of performing surgery. He powered through it when he realized his patient wouldn't recover if he stopped. Half an hour after finishing the surgery, the dedicated doctor had an angioplasty.

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RI Senate, URI to Explore
Public Medical School

With state's primary-care crisis as backdrop,
study will focus on feasibility.

A Rhode Island Senate study commission and the University of Rhode Island will partner with one of the nation's leading medical education consultants to study the feasibility of launching the Ocean State's first public medical school.

Following a competitive request process, Tripp Umbach has been selected to lead the feasibility study.

The study follows the formation of a Rhode Island Senate special commission, appointed by Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio in July and co-chaired by URI President Marc Parlange and state Sen. Pamela J. Lauria (D- Barrington, Bristol, East Providence). The commission is charged with studying the state's health care workforce with a focus on educating and retaining primary-care physicians, as well as examining how a medical school at URI could help alleviate that critical need.

"Few issues are as important as health care, and right now, our health care system is in critical condition," Ruggerio said when appointing the commission. "Strengthening the primary-care pipeline is an essential part of our work to make health care more accessible and affordable for Rhode Islanders."

Tripp Umbach is a leader in economic impact studies and consultation services for academic medical campuses and medical schools. Over the last three decades, the firm has measured the economic impact of all U.S. allopathic medical schools and more than 400 teaching hospitals for the Association of American Medical Colleges.

"We are excited to partner with such an experienced firm as Tripp Umbach," said Barbara Wolfe, URI provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. "They have worked extensively with both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools. This includes public universities with medical schools centered on primary and community care, such as the University of Houston and Washington State University."

As part of the study, Tripp Umbach will collaborate with a broad range of stakeholders throughout the state, including local and statewide health care organizations, federal and state agencies, research institutions, medical education providers, and policymakers and professional associa-

tions. Their collective input will help shape the study's direction and outcomes.

Complementing the work of the Senate commission, the study will evaluate the need and feasibility of developing a medical education program at URI, recent-

Island residents to find primary-care physicians is resulting in the use of community health centers and urgent care facilities to meet their medical needs, which strains resources and creates additional pressures on the health care system.



Photo by jodie covington on Unsplash

The inability of many Rhode Island residents to find primary-care physicians is resulting in the use of community health centers and urgent care facilities to meet their medical needs, which strains resources and creates additional pressures on the health care system.

ly named the number-one public university in New England by The Wall Street Journal. The study will also examine and make recommendations regarding workforce development, medical school models, enrollment projections, accreditation standards, financial viability and required resources, capacity to support clinical training and medical research opportunities.

"Through numerous undergraduate and graduate programs in health care fields, including several that are nationally ranked, URI is enhancing the physical and mental health of individuals and communities locally and globally," said Parlange. "We are dedicated to broadening our impact for the good of the state, and we look forward to partnering with health care providers and elected officials to examine the need for and feasibility of a public medical school for the benefit of all Rhode Islanders."

Rhode Island is experiencing a net loss of primary-care clinicians, and the shortage is expected to worsen in the years ahead. The inability of many Rhode

"As a double alumna of the University of Rhode Island, I am proud to co-chair the Senate commission, which could help reshape the future of higher education at the university," said Lauria. "The central question before our commission is how we can best address the serious challenges facing primary care in our state. Rhode Island is on track to be short about 100 primary care providers by 2030, which could leave 180,000 Rhode Islanders without access to primary care coverage. It is imperative that we act thoughtfully, expeditiously and decisively to strengthen the primary-care workforce and pipeline in Rhode Island."

Rhode Island is home to a private medical school – the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University – but no new medical schools have been established in the state since 1972 and no public medical school exists in the state.

The final feasibility report is expected in June. The commission is scheduled to issue its recommendations to the Senate by Dec. 20.



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Volunteers with the Warwick Village presented to the city council in the fall of 2024. Submitted photo.

A Village comes to Warwick

Issues call for more volunteers, villagers

After more than a year of planning by residents, alongside the Village Common of Rhode Island, Warwick's Village for older adults is becoming a reality.

There will be an opportunity to celebrate this milestone and to learn more about how the Village supports older adults in the community on Feb 26 at the Elk Lodge on West Shore Road.

The village concept is neighbors helping neighbors in a formal, sustainable organization. Older adults can get trusted help when they need it and stay social, preventing the negative effects of isolation.

According to a press release, the Warwick Village is always looking for volunteers to fill a variety of roles, from serving

on the steering committee to helping older residents who are just feeling lonely and need someone to talk to.

"We can provide rides to doctor's offices, to the market, pharmacy or other errands, and do shopping for the member," Caroline Dillon, executive director of the Village Common told the Warwick Beacon in November when the Warwick Village was still in its early organizing phase.

"We offer home help, which includes basic maintenance, such as replacing a battery in a smoke detector, changing a light bulb or removing seasonal items...We all need some technology help, setting up new devices. We have volunteers ready," she said.

According to Dillon, volunteers must

complete a required background check. Villagers can also be volunteers, which Dillon says has happened often across Rhode Island's other villages. Interested potential villagers, she continued, can meet with the organization's membership ambassadors at their homes or at another location.

"We want to be sure that a village is a good fit for the perspective member and expectations are understood," she said.

The Village Common of RI is a volunteer-driven, membership based, nonprofit organization with villages in Aquidneck Island, Barrington, Burrillville, Edgewood, Gloucester, Providence and Westerly. Each village has members and the volunteers who assist them, supported by the small administrative staff of The Village Common of RI. People can be both members and volunteers.

Formed in Providence in 2015, The Village Common of RI was inspired by the first village created by neighbors in the Beacon Hill section of Boston in 2002. These friends developed a formal network of volunteers available to help members with some of the challenges people experience as they age.

Each village reflects the needs of older adults in the community in which it operates. Villages are increasingly serving older adults in under-resourced communities with diverse populations. Members of Rhode Island villages pay dues based on what is financially manageable for them.

Warwick Village Launch

February 26, 2025 • 10 a.m.

Tri City Elk Lodge #14

Upper Level

1915 W. Shore Road

According to organizers, the Villages also rely on collaborations and partnerships to leverage their resources and better serve older adults. They partner with health care agencies and providers, senior centers, educational institutions, service clubs, for-profit businesses, faith-based groups, and organizations in the aging services network. They strive not to duplicate services but rather enhance connections to resources.

If you're interested in learning more about joining the Warwick Village as a volunteer or member, please contact us at warwick@villagecommonri.org or at 401-515-5118.

Visit our website to learn more about The Village Common of RI (www.villagecommonri.org).

With reports from Joy Fox and Adam Zangari.

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FEBRUARY

The Month of Love

by ELAINE M. DECKER

Ah, February! The month of great loves! With no disrespect to my husband of 34-plus years, I’ve been thinking about the loves of my earlier life. That in turn had me thinking about famous couples. What really started this was the recent death of President Jimmy Carter. He lived to 100 and had a 77-year marriage with his late wife Rosalynn. He first laid eyes on her when she was a newborn and three-year-old Jimmy peeked over her crib. His mother had helped to deliver her.

The Carters were inspiring both because of their longevity and marriage. Either one would be worth writing about. Without a long life, it would be difficult to celebrate a very long marriage. But some historical love affairs continue to be remembered because of their greatness, regardless of how long they endured. The earliest couple that comes to my mind is Antony and Cleopatra, made memorable in the 1963 film starring Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. The tumultuous Burton—Taylor affair that ensued (including being twice married to each other) is one of the great love matches of all time.

Several other acting couples had love affairs or marriages that we still remember decades later. The most famous is probably Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. Both had other marriages and affairs, yet we always think of Bogie and Bacall when we think of great loves. The lyrics of Key Largo play a role in keeping those names paired in our memories.

*We had it all
Just like Bogie and Bacall,
Starring in our own late, late show
Sailing away to Key Largo.*

A more conventional love and marriage of actors worth celebrating is that of Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward. They were married for 50 years when Paul died in 2008. Joanne was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease the year before Paul died. At last report, she was in hospice care.



Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter photographed by Ansel Adams in 1979. Courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

We can’t very well talk about Butch Cassidy without mentioning the Sundance Kid. Newman’s costar in that movie also had a long marriage. He and his first wife Lola were together for 28 years. Regrettably, they divorced in 1985. He married again in 2009 and appears to still be with his second wife.

Some others in long marriages, unusual for actors, are Denzel and Pauletta Washington, who’ve been married for nearly 40 years. They met on the set of a TV movie in 1977 and started dating a year later. Denzel said Pauletta turned down his marriage proposal twice before accepting it. They married in the ‘80s.

Another long-term acting couple are Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson. They met in 1981 on the set of a TV comedy and their paths crossed again in 1985 while filming

a movie. By 1988 Hanks and Wilson were married, and they’ve been together ever since. That’s 36 years!

One long lasting love that can’t easily be categorized is that of Oprah Winfrey and Stedman Graham. They met in 1986 and have been together since then. Winfrey has talked about why they haven’t married even after she accepted Stedman’s proposal. “I wanted to know he felt I was worthy of being his missus, but I didn’t want the sacrifices, the compromises, the day-in-day-out commitment required to make a marriage work.” For a relationship to last 38 years even without “a ring on it” clearly meant compromises and commitment, though perhaps not day-in-day-out.

Politics can also support great loves. Barack and Michelle Obama, President and First Lady of the United States from 2009 to 2017, met when they were both working at a law firm in Chicago. They married in 1992. The Obamas often speak about their marriage of 32 years, including how their relationship continues to flourish now outside of the White House.

The music entertainment field is not normally conducive to long relationships, what with touring and hangers-on. Country music’s most iconic couple, Tim McGraw and Faith Hill, have put the lie to that. They’ve been together for more than 28 years. They met for the first time in 1994, married in 1996, and have since had three children. Garth Brooks and Tricia Yearwood are another long-married country music couple, though not as long as Tim and Faith. Garth and Tricia have been together since 2005.

You can no doubt think of other couples that can celebrate great loves. They’re all around us. Perhaps you’re in one yourself. If so, congratulations! If not, it’s never too late to begin one and February is the perfect month to do it!

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Elaine M. Decker's books include Retirement Downsizing—A Humorous Guide; Retirement Sparks; Retirement Sparks Again; Retirement Sparks Redux; and CANCER: A Coping Guide. Her essays appear in the anthologies: 80 Things To Do When You Turn 80 and 70 Things To Do When You Turn 70. All are available on Amazon.com.

Contact her at: emdecker@ix.netcom.com

How Ortho Rhode Island Helps You Get Better

When orthopedic conditions cause pain and limit mobility, patients have one goal in mind: get better. But getting better doesn’t just mean improving symptoms — it means getting better focus on your unique needs, better expertise from highly trained orthopedic professionals, and better recovery that helps you get moving again.

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Ortho Rhode Island has pioneered robotic-assisted knee and hip replacement procedures in southern New England, introducing the technology to Rhode Island in partnership with South County Health. And as experts in the field, Ortho Rhode Island surgeons have contributed to the development and training of robotic-assisted surgeons around the world.

Their leadership in innovation extends to spine care that includes non-operative treatments like physical therapy, injections, and medications, as well as state-of-the-art spine surgery. Ortho Rhode Island’s fellowship-trained spine surgeons were the first in Rhode Island to perform robotic-assisted procedures using ExcelsiusGPS®, a robotic navigation platform that can provide greater precision and improve outcomes.

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So no matter who you are or what activity you’d like to return to — walking the beach, competing in a sport, chasing after grandchildren — you deserve to get better: better expertise, better care, better outcomes. Learn how Ortho Rhode Island can help you get better by scheduling an appointment at 401.777.7000 or by visiting OrthoRI.com.

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MY SIDE OF THINGS

by LARRY GRIMALDI

Being parents of two adult sons and a daughter, my wife and I have attended countless soccer, baseball, basketball, football games, dance recitals, and high school cheerleading performances. The cycle repeated itself when my twin granddaughters Kailyn and Sophia, now age 21 and in their last year of college, competed in hundreds of softball, volleyball, and soccer games, ran track, and cheered for the St. Raphael Academy football team.

These athletic events all had one common thread. They were held in mostly warm environments. While some football games and a few early season baseball and softball games were held during spring and fall when the weather had a chill in the air, they do not compare our newest adventure-high school hockey games. My grandson, 15-year-old freshman Nicholas, is a left-winger on the Blackstone Valley Schools varsity team. Consequently, we are being introduced an entirely new athletic circuit.

In our tour of the state's high school hockey arenas, we have discovered sites that are reasonably comfortable. Schneider Arena at Providence College, the Smithfield Rink and Thayer Rink in Warwick are okay. Things start to get chillier at the Rhode Island Sports Center on Route 146 in North Smithfield, the Burrillville High School Rink and the Boss Arena at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston.

The deep freeze begins at the Cranston Memorial Ice Rink. But nothing is as arctic as the Dennis M. Lynch Arena in Pawtucket. My wife and I have speculated that the heat was last turned on at this venue in 1982. If that wasn't cold enough, brain-freezing ventilation drifts through the rink. As you sit and observe the action on the ice, you are almost frozen in place on the aluminum benches. And I'm grateful that high school hockey periods last 15 minutes instead of the standard 20 minutes.

The heat, what little there is, can be enjoyed if you take refuge in the lobby and thaw out for about 10 minutes between the second and third periods when the Zamboni resurfaces the ice. The Zamboni is not used between the first and second periods when the teams gather around their

coaches to review the action and get instructions for the last period. So you

endure the igloo atmosphere in frigid silence, insulated with a long-sleeve t-shirt, flannel shirt, a wool toque topped by a hooded sweat shirt, a winter coat, gloves and a scarf as you huddle under a blanket. (I am NOT exaggerating).

My memory harkens back to those winter Sunday evenings spent at the old Rhode Island Auditorium on North Main Street watching the Providence Reds battle their American Hockey League foes like the Quebec Aces, Rochester Americans, Hershey Bears, Springfield Indians, and the Buffalo Bisons for the Calder Cup (the AHL equivalent of Lord Stanley's National Hockey League prized trophy). While I recall it being reasonably comfortable at the Auditorium, the cigarette and cigar smoke would rise to the rafters and could obscure some of the action on the ice by the third period.

The move to the Providence Civic Center in 1972 (now the Amica Mutual Pavilion) somehow took some of the aura away from the ritual Sunday contests at the old "barn." I also saw the rodeo, the circus, and the Boston Celtics, with roundball legends such as Bob Cousy and Bill Russell, play the Cincinnati Royals, featuring Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson at the Auditorium. I also skated there during open skating sessions.

At any rate, I'm sitting here at the frozen tundra that is the Lynch Arena and enjoying every minute. I wouldn't want it any other way.

Larry Grimaldi is a freelance writer from North Providence. Larry and his wife Kathy are co-authors of "Wandering Across America," a chronicle of their cross-country road trip, and "Cooking with Mammie," a collection of family recipes prepared with their grandchildren. He has also written the anthologies, "50 Shades of Life, Love, and Laughter, Volumes I & II." The anthologies are a collection of previously published columns, used with the permission of Beacon Communications. For more information, or comments, e-mail lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com or visit fruit-hillpublishing.my.canva.site

Choosing the Long-Term Care That's Right for You

You have options when it comes to making decisions about long-term care.

When choosing long-term care, families sometimes wait until they experience a crisis and then are forced to make a decision during less than ideal circumstances. Although moving into a skilled nursing home is a wonderful option, it's not the only one, and it doesn't always need to be the first step.

You can decide what is best for you with the assistance of an Aging Life Care Specialist like Sheri Ferola with Saint Elizabeth Community, who explains,

"We work with our clients to find the best fit for them at this moment in time, while planning out their long-term options. We take a holistic approach in assessing their needs then we help guide them through the process. And we'll be there with them for the duration, adapting with them as changes occur."

Here are some options in the continuum of care that an Aging Life Care Specialist can evaluate with you.

Home Care

We hear a lot of talk about aging in place where we have the opportunity to grow older in the comfort of our own home. Home care is a great way to make that happen. Let caring qualified staff come to your home to provide services that include skilled nursing, rehabilitation, physical therapy, CNA care, personal assistance and more.

Adult Day

One of the key ingredients of aging well is remaining active, physically and mentally. Adult Day Centers provide engaging and supportive activities all day long

under the supervision of health care staff who offer assistance with everything from personal care to medication management. Many programs offer specialized care for elders affected by conditions like memory loss or motion and mobility disorders.

Senior Apartments

For older adults who live independently but wish to be in a community of their peers, senior apartments are a great alternative. Many housing complexes offer safe and affordable spaces that include resources like security and onsite resident services.

Assisted Living

Assisted living provides independent living much like senior apartments but with additional support and attention. Nursing and CNA staff help residents with their daily care. Dining, laundry and other personal services are available as well. And there are always fun social activities to keep everyone active and engaged.

Skilled Nursing Home

Whether for short-term rehabilitation or as a long-term resident, skilled nursing homes offer the ultimate in quality care. Staff build relationships with the members of the community and are able to monitor and assess their health on a daily basis. Specialized units may focus on memory care or physical activity, depending on the needs of each resident.

Before you decide on your long-term care, consider the wide range of options available to you.

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Office of Healthy Aging Explained



by MARIA CIMINI

Are you one of the nearly 190,000 Rhode Islanders over age 65? You are in good company; you are part of the fastest growing population in the Ocean State.

I'm excited to introduce you to Rhode Island's Office of Healthy Aging (OHA). We are your partner and funded with your tax dollars. OHA creates policies and programs to support your goals for aging and supporting your independence. OHA is a state agency which exists to help you find the information you need - when you need it.

So, each month you can look to this place, this column, to learn more about the important role OHA plays in advocating for older adults, adults living with disabilities, and caregivers. Our mission is to provide you with the resources needed to live with dignity, security, and achieve maximum independence for your desired quality of life.

How we each choose to age — or grow old — is just that, a choice which looks different for each and every one of us. The team at OHA works as advocates and connectors, educators and protectors, for all our aging Rhode Islanders. Rhode Island has a larger than average older adult population.

Eighteen percent of our neighbors are over the age of 65, and nearly 40 percent of the state's population is 50 or older. We've built relationships with other state agencies and community partners to identify where each of our strengths and obligations lie.

As a third generation Rhode Islander, I know the Ocean State is a great place to grow up. It is also a great place to grow old. Part of what makes it great is our state's commitment to create support systems to allow people to thrive as they age. The team at OHA, alongside our community partners, works to create a Rhode Island that not only meets the basic needs of older adults but also ensures their full participation in society, in their communities, as they age. We must embrace each other through different stages of life and different times of need. Supporting older adults living in our communities' benefits everyone. El-

ders enrich society and contribute to our collective well-being. We all know, or are, someone who is an older adult, an adult with a disability, or has taken on caregiving duties. The work of our office touches everyone in the state. By helping older adults, we honor their lives and help them age with purpose and dignity.

As you have aged, no doubt you have made plans. You've thought about where you'll work, and for how long; where you'll live; how you'll spend your time; and who you'll spend your time with. There are many challenges to planning. You may not know your options or how to pursue your goals. You may not know the resources available to you. What may be more challenging, however, is when an unexpected event disrupts your plans. That's where the work of the Office of Healthy Aging can provide a compass.

You are not alone.

Whether you want to improve or maintain your physical health, learn something new, navigate dementia care, transportation resources or need support as you care for your loved ones, each month we'll highlight different resources and opportunities to be sure that you continue to live as you desire.

Imagine the diversity of interest and need of the 190,000 older adults in RI.

We have an obligation and are determined to be accessible and responsive to the needs of our aging adults. That means future months we may highlight services for those who are homebound, opportunities to engage your community, programs focusing on physical accessibility, or multi-lingual or LGBTQ seniors.

But this month, I leave you with the most important resource. Rhode Island's Aging and Disability Resource Center is the best first call to ask your questions and get answers, 401-462-4444. Learn more about our Office at oha.ri.gov, or pop into your local senior center.

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





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Footprints



MY MEMOIRS

by SUSAN DEAN

Our house backs up to a grassy hill that rises up to a stand of trees. We have a fence back there, but it's a short picket fence allowing a view of all the woodsy goings-on through the seasons.

In spring and summer, it's alive with activity. The drab grays and browns turn all shades of green — each tree a different forest hue from the rich deep emerald grassy meadow. Rabbits and squirrels dart here and there — in constant motion — or sit stock still as hawks or other birds of prey glide high above the treetops.

In fall, the colors are glorious — moving from green to brilliant orange, red, yellow, and deep purple. We've seen turkeys strutting their stuff — usually a group — a large tom spreading his bronze-green iridescent arc of tail feathers accompanied by his harem. One time they came through the back gate, which had come unlatched in the wind, and trooped into our backyard — first the tom and then the ladies, one at a time. They checked out the picnic table, foraged a bit through the fading flower beds, and peered at the back deck — eyeing the stairs but apparently thinking better of climbing them. As if they were a collection of sightseeing tourists, just arrived and eager to explore their latest stop. Their mission accomplished, the tom led the crew down the driveway and out to the street where they calmly paraded onward to their next destination.

We saw a full antlered deer back there once and another time two coyotes staked their claim on top of the hill for several days — sitting as if all was well in their world, soaking up the sun, ears alert, noses in the air. Nothing moved while they were in residence. Usually chattering squirrels and playful rabbits are in abundance — rough and tumbling, dashing across the meadow, disappearing into the trees and bushes, but there were no signs of life that week when the coyotes were kings of the hill.

In winter the trees are brown and bare, but we still see birds. The cardinals and blue jays provide

dashes of color that brighten the grayness and when there's snow — their reds and blues are a vivid reminder that beauty is all around us even in winter's darkest days.

Winter weather is tough sometimes — disrupting travel and canceling activities and putting life on hold as we deal with the onslaughts of snow and ice. But sometimes the quiet overnight snowfalls are peaceful and we wake to see our world covered in a soft white blanket transforming our normal outside view from drab to clean bright white.

And most times when this happens I can see the tell-tale signs of the winter animals going about their nocturnal or early-morning travels. For some reason, this rather delights me. Tracks of various sizes and shapes appear near the back fence at different starting points and meander about — some heading straight across the backyard to the large ancient maple tree standing tall and bare. Some tracks go in arcs and circles, stopping at different parts of the yard and continuing on to another stopping place, or doubling back or crisscrossing other sets of tracks. Footprints in the snow that leave a temporary record of nature's never-ending activity in what we call the dead of winter. But nature and life continue to hum — very much alive even as the land seems to lie dormant — quiet, idle, asleep.

There is an elderly man who lives in our neighborhood. I don't know his name — we've never met — and for years he rode his bike slowly down our street and past our house every morning. Then there was a time when we didn't see him and we wondered what had happened. But eventually he resumed his morning outings — only this time walking very slowly using a cane. And this has now become his daily routine. One step in front of the other — making tracks of a different kind — leaving footprints in my mind. Footprints that tell of his perseverance, his courage, his motivation to keep moving and to keep going despite the difficulties.

He reminds me that we all leave footprints of our time on earth. The footprints we leave are our legacy. We were here and every one of us makes a difference in our own unique way. Footprints in the snow — tracks that signify that life goes on and that it is meaningful and purposeful. That something living has left its mark on earth.

My neighbor's footsteps are leaving a mark on me without his even knowing it. Footprints that silently teach me how to gracefully and courageously move through the seasons of my life. And remind me that my footprints — like the nighttime tracks left behind in the winter snows — signify that I was here. What legacy will I leave behind?

Showbiz Memoirs, a Broadway Play and a Twisty Mystery on Audio

Memoirs from Rhode Island-based comic Matt Rife and Tony winner Alex Newell, a Broadway play starring Rachel McAdams and a new book by Queen of Twists Alice Feeney are all heard on recent audiobooks.



by ALAN ROSENBERG



"Your Mom's Gonna Love Me"

By Matt Rife, read by Rife. Simon & Schuster Audio, 5¾ hours, \$18.99. Also available via any Rhode Island public library.

Here's what breakout comedy star Matt Rife doesn't talk about in this new memoir: the offer he and a friend made in September to buy Burrillville's Conjuring House.

Here's what he does talk about: losing his virginity (it's the first thing he mentions); losing his father to suicide when he was a baby; his abusive stepfather and loving grandfather; sex; his struggles to get ahead in comedy; his sudden fame when a TikTok video went massively viral; and the backlash when a joke about a woman with a black eye was taken to mean he advocated domestic violence.

Oh, and the house he recently bought in Rhode Island, reportedly in North Smithfield (neither of which he mentions, for fear of fans finding him, he says). It came furnished, with a "flat and smushed" carpet and dingy beige walls, making him feel like he was moving into "an Airbnb that the owners died in." But, he says, there's "a comedy club, and an airport not too far away, so it's really convenient for all the touring I do."

And he says, he loves that it's in the middle of nature — though "the very first thing I bought for the house was a Nerf basketball hoop for the entrance, because blindsiding your boy with a windmill 360 dunk is good for you, too."

By the way, he recorded the book at Star Trak studios in Warwick.

If Rife's name isn't familiar, you probably don't

spend a lot of time on TikTok, where his videos get hundreds of millions of views, or on YouTube or Netflix, where he's had several comedy specials. At 29, he's really just ascending into stardom, but he's got a surprising amount to say about his life, and he tells it in an engaging way. And being a comedian, with a comedian's timing, he's the ideal person to read his own book.

"Beautiful Ugly"

By Alice Feeney, read by Richard Armitage and Tuppence Middleton. Simon & Schuster Audio, 9¾ hours, \$26.99. Also available via any Rhode Island public library.

Just as he was hitting the New York Times best-seller list, British author Grady Green's beloved wife, Abby, disappeared. In the year since Abby's red coat was found near a cliff-side road a mile from their house, Grady has been unable to write.

Now, out of money, he has taken refuge on a little Scottish island where his agent owns a cottage where a famed writer once lived and worked. But much is lurking behind the islanders' smiles in this characteristically twisty tale from the formidable Alice Feeney, author of books including "Sometimes I Lie" and "Rock Paper Scissors." I never like to give too much away about a Feeney book; suffice it to say that very little here is as it seems.

The book is enhanced by the reading from Richard Armitage, of the "Hobbit" movies. As his world disintegrates, Armitage understatedly but convincingly conveys his character's confusion and increasing desperation.

"Alex Newell and the Gospel of a Diva"

By Alex Newell, read and sung by Newell. Audible Original, 1 hour, free with Audible Plus membership, \$7.95 a month.

If you're looking for a lot of insight into the life of Tony-winning actor Newell, you've come to the wrong place. If you'll be satisfied with a display of vocal pyrotechnics, this audiobook may be for you.

Newell, who won a Tony in 2023 for his performance in "Shucked," says early on that at 32, they're too young for an autobiography. That means they mostly confine the commentary part of this live-recorded performance to sassy one-liners about the attitude of a diva.

But the nonbinary actor opens up a bit when talking about their turn on TV competition show "The Glee Project," which led to a recurring role on "Glee" and opened the door to much bigger things. And this discussion leads to a dazzling, heartfelt rendition of "If I Were a Boy."

I wish there had been more pairings like this of music and musing. That would have gone a long way toward making this book a must-listen.

"Mary Jane"

By Amy Herzog, read by Rachel McAdams, April Matthis, Brenda Wehle, Lily Santiago and Susan Pourfar. Audible Original, 1¼ hours, free with Audible Plus membership, \$7.95 a month.

Mary Jane is a single mother of a special-needs baby living in New York City. In this brief but wrenching play, she confronts her child's deepening illness in the company of a variety of people, primarily nurses and the mothers of other very sick children.

McAdams, who also played the title role on Broadway in the spring and early summer of 2024, brings intensity and sincerity to the part. What's surprising from a technical point of view is how frequently the dialogue feels like it was recorded in two different places, with McAdams stopping abruptly as though someone has cut in — but the other actor in the scene pausing a beat before beginning to speak.

It's a glitch that mars what otherwise is a strong slice-of-life performance.

Alan Rosenberg, of Warwick, is a retired executive editor of The Providence Journal and has been reviewing

audiobooks for more than two decades. Reach him at AlanRosenbergRI@gmail.com.



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Celebrating 50 Years of the Earned Income Tax Credit

IRS aims to raise awareness throughout 2025

by MEG CHEVALIER

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) reached a major milestone in tax year 2025. To help encourage participation, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will work to increase awareness of the credit and the significant role it plays in strengthening our working families.

The Tax Reduction Act of 1975 introduced EITC as a modest tax break to provide financial help to economically challenged families and encourage work. Over the years, EITC has grown into the federal government’s largest refundable tax credit program for low- to moderate-income workers.

Even at 50, there is more work to do to raise awareness. The IRS urges community partners to engage with clients directly through all available channels and help make eligible taxpayers aware of this potentially life-changing tax credit.

IRS’s goal is to capture the attention of those who are eligible for EITC and encourage them to find out whether they also qualify for other refundable tax credits. To qualify for the EITC or EIC you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file.

The credit is a financial boost to the taxpayer, their family, and community. For example:

- **Nationally, as of November 2024, approximately 23 million workers and families received about \$63 billion in EITC.**
- **In Rhode Island during 2024 processing year (2023 tax year) about 68,000 eligible workers and families received about \$170 million in EITC.**
- **The average amount of EITC received nationwide was about \$2,748. In Rhode Island, this was \$2,513.**
- **For tax year 2024, the EITC is as much as \$7,830 for a family with three or more children and up to \$632 for taxpayers who do not have a qualifying child.**



Furthermore, workers move in and out of eligibility based on changes in marital, parental, and financial status. Therefore, millions of workers may qualify for the EITC for the first time this year, making year-round outreach and education efforts critical for raising taxpayer awareness. For that reason, IRS conducts outreach and education related to EITC year-round, either directly through the IRS or through leveraged partnerships.

Closing EITC Participation Gap

Approximately four out of five eligible taxpayers receive the EITC. This means millions of taxpayers are putting EITC dollars to work for them. Unfortunately, this also means that many other taxpayers are not taking advantage of a benefit they have earned. Ultimately, our goal is to positively affect the EITC participation rate. The current rate is 81 percent. To reach the roughly 20 percent of eligible taxpayers that do not claim EITC, IRS will continue to focus on underserved communities or taxpayers with unconventional family conditions.

Workers at risk of overlooking the EITC are people:

- **Living in non-traditional homes, such as a grandparent raising a grandchild**
- **Living in rural areas**
- **With changed marital or parental status**
- **Veterans**
- **With earnings are below filing requirement**
- **Without children**
- **Who are Native Americans, have limited English skills, and people with disabilities or raising children with disabilities**

You can find a complete list of requirements and income limits on IRS.gov/EITC. Having your tax return prepared for free at a VITA/TCE site can help determine your eligibility for the EITC. They will review your information, such as income, filing status and the number of qualifying children to determine if you are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Local VITA site information is available by calling the United Way number 2-1-1. Also, at IRS.gov - search the word “VITA” and then click on Free Tax Return Preparation for You by Volunteers. To locate the nearest AARP Tax-Aide site, visit aarp.org, or call 888-227-7669.

Meg Chevalier is a Senior Tax Consultant/Relationship Manager in the Providence office of the Internal Revenue Service

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BY JENNIFER COATES

In a world that, at times, seems adrift and full of confusing messages, finding a faith community of fellow believers is more important than ever. For those whose beliefs are grounded in the Catholic faith but who have felt increasingly unwelcome in the traditional church, finding such a faith community takes on extra urgency.

This is what is bringing congregants from around the state to The Chapel of St. Therese of Lisieux in West Warwick.

The Chapel of St. Therese of Lisieux is a Catholic Community that functions outside the jurisdiction of Rome. This embracing community is guided by this mission: To make our faith experience relevant by being an inclusive, ministry-centered community that makes the living Jesus present in our world in a radical way.

The mission of "Saint T's" (as it is affectionately known) is simply stated: "To welcome ALL; To be the Body of Christ; To be growing disciples who are growing disciples."

What does it look like to be a "growing disciple"? It looks like someone who lives what they preach and who follows in the path of Jesus Christ, serving, loving, accepting, and welcoming.

Those who attend Saint "T's" will feel welcome there. They see families of all shapes & sizes, they see women in the clergy, they see divorcees participating in all the rituals and blessings their married and single friends enjoy, they hear contemporary music, they see those who extend kindness and love to them.

A quick peruse of the chapel's website best sums up the church's overarching philosophy: "The Chapel of St.



Come worship with fellow believers at The Chapel of St. Therese of Lisieux in West Warwick. All are truly welcome. Services begin every Sunday at 10:30am.

Therese of Lisieux welcomes all individuals seeking God's love; we keep our doors open to every soul seeking to welcome Jesus into their hearts. We invite you to open your heart and allow His grace to penetrate your soul. Our church stands as a beacon of hope in West Warwick. We are a place of acceptance, peace, and joy to

all who are moved to join us. Our church family is richly diverse, with people of different ages and backgrounds coming together to worship and serve together."

The church is a haven for those whose abiding faith in the teachings of Jesus Christ have not always been in alignment with the expectations

of the church of their childhoods, leaving them feeling estranged, conflicted, and often unwanted. To those who feel left outside the circle, come, you are a Child of God and you are welcome here. Come to be replenished, edified, supported, and uplifted.

For more details, check the church website at

www.saintthereseocc.org.

Please come to "Saint T's", located at 1500 Main Street in West Warwick. Services are every Sunday at 10:30. Sunday rosaries begin at 9:45am. Feel free to call 401-680-9076 or email stocc1500@gmail.com for more information.

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Hope Library, 374 North Road, Hope, is open on Mondays & Fridays from 10AM-5PM, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 10AM-8PM & Saturdays from 10AM-2PM. The Library is closed on Sundays. For more information, call 821-7910.

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Fri. 2/21: Escarole & bean soup, veal parmesan, Florentine rice, Italian mixed vegetables, wheat roll, watermelon. Option: Tuna salad sandwich.

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R.I. Home Sales Rose in 2024, Reversing Downward Trend

WARWICK, R.I. – Sales activity in Rhode Island's housing market rose last year for the first time since 2020. According to data released today by the Rhode Island Association of Realtors, 7681 single-family homes sold in the Ocean State in 2024, a 3.3% increase from 2023. Stunted by rising prices however, sales continue to fall far behind 2019 when 11,013 homes sold. In the five years since then, the median price climbed 66.7%. Last year alone, the 2024 median price of \$475,000 represented an 11.8% increase from 2023.

Chris Whitten, President of the Rhode Island Association of Realtors explained that demand from out-of-state buyers remains elevated. "The pandemic put Rhode Island on the map at a time our state was already short on housing supply. With the ability to work remotely, we've seen thousands moving into the Ocean State."

Last year, nearly one in four residential sales involved out-of-state buyers. For sales of \$1 million and over, the figure rose to 42%.

The multifamily home market also saw gains in sales and median price. Closed transactions rose 3.2% from the prior year

and investors interested in the hot rental market helped push the median price up 15.1% to \$541,000, the largest annual increase of all residential housing types last year. First-time buyers and families also sought multifamily properties as a path to home ownership.

"The pandemic put Rhode Island on the map at a time our state was already short on housing supply. With the ability to work remotely, we've seen thousands moving into the Ocean State."

— Chris Whitten, President of the Rhode Island Association of Realtors

Rhode Island's condominium sector experienced a 7% increase in sales, though the median price of sales dropped slightly to \$355,000 from \$357,000 in 2023.

"It's clear our housing market remains extremely out of balance and the cost of owning a home here in Rhode Island has reached unprecedented heights. Obviously, we need to get more shovels in the ground to sensibly increase our supply, but just as important, the full ramifications of proposed

laws on our housing market must be understood. While many bills are well intended, the effect of decreased home affordability from added fees, taxes and mandates can add up to thousands in a typical transaction. Sadly, the outcome of many of these bills are making the process more difficult to obtain the American Dream and detrimental to fixing our home affordability crisis," said Whitten.

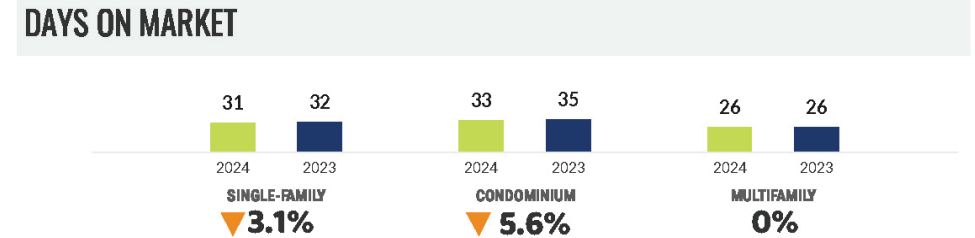
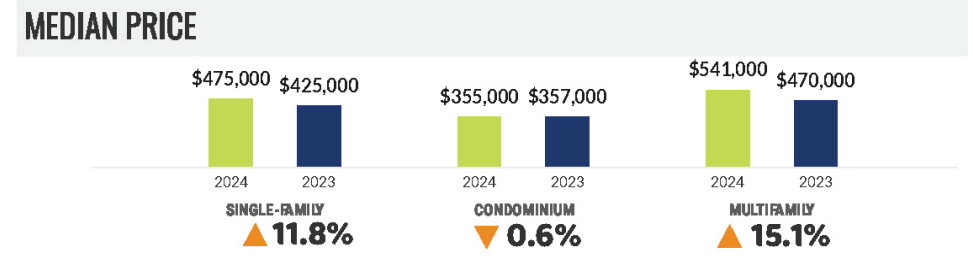
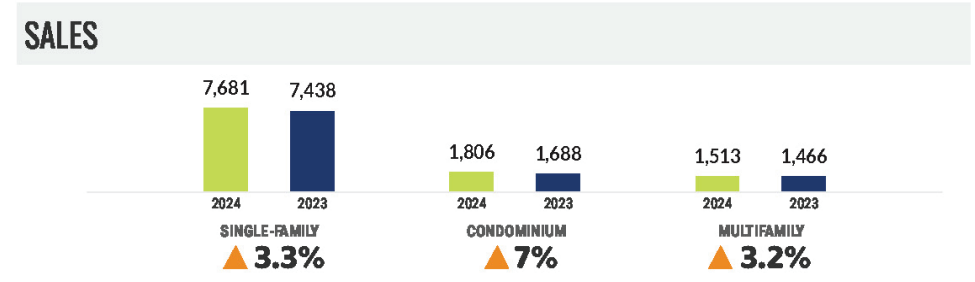
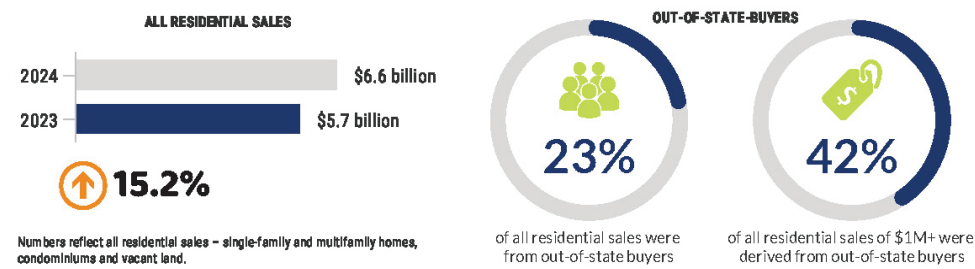
Based on data as of third quarter last year, each Rhode Island home sale pushed \$148,000 back into Rhode Island's economy through industry related income, expenditures related to home purchases and new home construction. The real estate industry accounted for \$14.9 billion or 18.8% of the gross state product according to a report generated by the National Association of Realtors.

"In addition to the enormous personal toll a lack of housing takes on our citizens, it doesn't make sense to do anything that makes the process harder and creates less affordability for one of the state's biggest economic drivers," said Whitten.

Source: Rhode Island Association of REALTORS®
www.rirealtors.org

YEAR-END 2024

RHODE ISLAND HOME SALES



Percent change reflects a year-over-year comparison between 2023 and 2024. Information is provided by State-Wide MLS, Inc., a subsidiary of the Rhode Island Association of REALTORS®, and is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



Changes in Washington Could Impact Student Loans

By TIM FORSBERG

As discussions continue about the potential dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education under the new presidential administration, concerns are rising about how such a move could impact student loans and financial aid programs.

Amy Kempe, chief of staff at the Community College of Rhode Island, and Charles Kelley, executive director of the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority, provided insights into what these changes might mean for students and families in Rhode Island.

According to Kempe, CCRI, in partnership with the governor’s office, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and the state’s higher-education institutions, is closely monitoring potential changes to assess their impact on current and prospective students.

“Regardless of any policy changes, CCRI remains committed to ensuring that higher education remains accessible and affordable,” said Kempe. “We encourage students and families to stay proactive, seek guidance from CCRI’s financial aid

office and take advantage of all available resources to make informed financial decisions about their education.”

Kelley noted that while eliminating the Department of Education entirely would be “difficult to achieve,” a more likely scenario would involve certain responsibilities being transferred to other parts of the government. But he acknowledged that uncertainty remains about the future structure of federal student aid.

For now, Pell Grants – the need-based financial aid provided to low-income students – do not appear to be facing major changes.

“Maximum Pell Grant is now \$7,395,” Kelley confirmed.

One of the more significant potential shifts, however, involves federal loans for graduate students and parents.

“The most significant change we have seen is the federal government’s involvement in making loans to graduate students and Parent PLUS loans the parents use to fill the gap after grants and the student maxing out the student direct loan, with a maximum of \$5,500 for a

traditional freshman,” Kelley explained.

The financial impact of eliminating or reducing these loans could be substantial. According to Kelley, replacing or reducing the so-called Grad PLUS loans would be especially troublesome as graduate students generally do not have the income and credit history to obtain a loan on their own. He highlighted the local implications, stating that about \$60 million in Grad PLUS loans were issued in Rhode Island for the 2023-24 academic year alone.

Similarly, Parent PLUS loans – federal loans taken out by parents to help cover college costs – play a significant role in financing higher education.

“There were \$103 million in Parent PLUS loans made for the 2023-24 academic year in Rhode Island. If those are eliminated or curtailed, RISLA will need to step up and help fill that gap,” Kelley said.

For students seeking additional financial aid, Kelley pointed to other scholarship opportunities, emphasizing the importance of applying for local funding.

“Go to the College Board

for national scholarships and RIScholarship.org to find and apply for local scholarships. You generally have a much better chance of being awarded a local scholarship, even if they are relatively small,” he advised.

Beyond the discussion of potential policy changes, Kelley acknowledged the growing national concern over student loan debt, which now totals about \$1.6 trillion. He noted that this massive loan portfolio makes the Department of Education “one of the largest banks in the country,” which has led to discussions about moving student loan management to the U.S. Treasury. However, he added, “they may not want it.”

As students and families navigate this evolving landscape, Kelley encouraged them to make informed financial decisions to minimize their reliance on loans.

“I understand it is unpopular to suggest this, but students and families should seriously consider making difficult choices to reduce the amount of debt they must incur,” he said. “Many

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students go on to graduate school and should not overload themselves with debt for their undergraduate” degree.

While the future of federal student loans remains uncertain, RISLA and other state-based loan providers may play a crucial role in filling potential funding gaps. For students and families planning for college, Kempe and Kelley say staying up to date and exploring alter-

native funding sources will be key in the months ahead.

“While no changes have been made yet, it is critically important for borrowers to stay informed, maintain communication with their loan servicer provider, and families planning for college financing should file their FAFSA to apply for aid as early as possible,” said Kempe.

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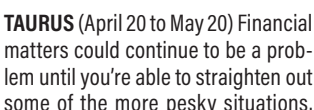
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CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your creative pursuits seem to be running into a roadblock. But rather than blame outside factors, look within to see if you might be holding back your efforts for some reason.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
As much as you prefer doing things on your own, continue to accept help if you still need to resolve the problem that affects your project. Meanwhile, some cheerful news is about to come your way!

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Regarding your workplace suggestions, be prepared to produce the facts to counter reactions from skeptics who feel like your approach is unreasonable or even impossible.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Savvy Sagittarians will

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your aspects continue to favor family issues, with a special emphasis this week on changes in and around your home. Get everyone to suggest what they would like to see done.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A matter you thought had been settled still might produce surprises. Best advice: Continue to gather facts

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) While your instincts are usually right when discerning "twixt truth and deception, you could benefit from doing more research on the new "prospect" that you've been pitched.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your wisdom is only matched by your generosity, making you the sort of friend everyone hopes to have.

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1712 Flat River Rd	Linares, Karen D	Roca, Julio C and Roca, Angelique I	1/31	\$470,000	44 N Williams St	Sivo, Maria L	Rhody Rentals LLC, 2/4		\$292,000
1850 Plainfield Pike	Fratantuono, Robert C	Fratantuono, Peter J and Lemme, Brooke	1/27	\$610,000	6 York Rd	Carlson, David W and Towd Pt Mtg T2015-4	Almontes, Franky, 2/4		\$260,000
187 Ayoho Rd	Wood, Christopher and Beaudry, Robert	Beaudry, Robert	1/31	\$175,000	7 Lena Dr	Delgreco, Deborah J and Gemma, Susan M	Salvato Sr, Joseph A	1/31	\$430,000
19 Juniper Hill Dr	James M Vesey T and Vesey, James M	Fox, Christopher L and Fox, Audra J	1/31	\$600,000	WARWICK				
190 Hopkins Hollow Rd	Medeiros, Joseph and Medeiros, Alison M	Sowers, M E	1/29	\$479,000	1008 Toll Gate Rd	Ryan, Kevin S	Petrarca, Nicholas	1/31	\$150,000
225 Hopkins Hill Rd	Forsons Realty LLC	53 LLC	1/30	\$1,325,000	119 Holmes Rd	King, Dana F	Cheney Jr, Julian J	1/29	\$400,000
26 Stuart Dr	Barnett, Tara	Taylor, Cornelius	1/28	\$83,000	1200 Quaker Ln Lot 32	Nai Entertainment Hldg LL	Collabdev 3a LLC	1/23	\$1100,000
272 Nicholas Rd	Sutton, Paula J and Sutton, Steven C	Linares, Karen and Caraballo, Roberto	1/31	\$750,000	1200 Quaker Ln Lot 33	Nai Entertainment Hldg LL	Collabdev 3a LLC	1/23	\$1100,000
3 Creighton Pl	Prime Re Investments LLC	Travers, Mildred	1/27	\$390,000	14 Wheeler St	Rhode Island Custom Bldrs	Cunningham, Ciara L and Cunningham, Sharon L	1/23	\$324,900
3 Lane 3	Neri Thea M Est and Santangelo, Theajona	Boiani, William	1/31	\$92,000	188 Wood St	Brian & Heather Johnson L and Johnson, Brian J	Patriot Hm Buyers LLC	1/30	\$155,000
31 Sunset Lake Cir Lot 22	Westwood Const Inc	Lecostaouec, Jean A and Lecostaouec, Julia L	1/31	\$747,900	191 Boulder View Dr	Torres, Eric M and Bui-Torres, Oanh T	Marek, Emily and Otenti, Ian	1/24	\$493,000
55 Carrs Ln	Sowers, M E	Sowers, Tyler H	1/24	\$675,000	197 Glen Dr	Lamantia, Michelle and Dowaliby, Lisa	Tatro, Alyssa J and Eldridge, Joshua	1/27	\$375,000
563 Knotty Oak Rd	Forcino, Richard E and Forcino, Jo A	Suriel, Juan and Suazo, Denia V	1/27	\$305,000	20 Overbrook Ave	Pittenger, Sol and Gambino, Monica	Williams, Paul and Bicknell, Hilary	1/30	\$275,000
8 Centennial St	Boulanger David A Est and Boulanger, Jean A	Correia, Luis	1/24	\$340,000	205 George St	Healey, Jane E	Yerger, Richard	1/31	\$390,000
8 Jennifer Ln	Jepson, Jane and Jepson, David	Olney, Cory J	1/31	\$420,000	2103-2107 Warwick Ave Lot 3	Xavier Invest LLC	North Tide Invest Inc	1/31	\$1,300,000
CRANSTON					252 Sumner Ave	Sylvester, Allison and Senra, Nicholas	Colello, John A	1/30	\$480,000
10 River St	Kelly, Kameron K and Kelly, Kody A	Kelly, Kody A	1/28	\$275,200	27 Galant Dr	Bush, Jennifer F and Chilvers, Betzy J	Dupont, Jami and Baron, Joyce	1/23	\$385,000
115 Myrtle Ave	Rhode Island Custom Bldrs	Tieman, Steven J	1/24	\$425,000	28 Ithica St	New Era LLC	Carvalho, Elizabeth and Shea, Kimberly	1/24	\$419,000
115 Myrtle Ave Lot 2980	Rhode Island Custom Bldrs	Tieman, Steven J	1/24	\$425,000	280 Long St	Bell, Robert K	American Hm Solutions LLC	1/29	\$200,000
14 Knight St	Perry, Joseph D	Polce, Patrick V	1/27	\$525,000	31 Eagle Run Lot A	Bowen, Lisa M and Bowen, Beth M	Flath, Eric	1/30	\$350,000
15 Pershing St	W A C & Family LLC	Vla LLC	1/28	\$379,000	316 Manolla Ave	Manolla Assoc LLC	Aaa Prop LLC	1/28	\$270,000
15 Pershing St Lot 1821	W A C & Family LLC	Vla LLC	1/28	\$379,000	32 Salix St	Vrmtg Asset T and Us Bk T Na	Ursillo, Jeffrey	1/23	\$229,000
1587 Phenix Ave	Difusco, Jason R and Difusco, Haylen B	Simhaqueva, Jennifer and Sullivan, Craig L	1/24	\$450,000	32 Sykes St	Boudreau, Shirley	Fresh Hm LLC	1/24	\$300,000
18 Ridgevale Ct	Habchi Saad Est and Habchi, Marie	Rex Investments LLC	1/28	\$725,000	357 Pequot Ave	Rhode Island Hsng & Mtg F	Fitzelle, John R and Fitzelle Jones, Mary P	1/27	\$1
24 Aldrich Ave	Pezza, Jillian	Conca, Jonathon	1/27	\$450,000	42 Rosegarden St	Rhode Island Hsng & Mtg F	King, Steven M and King, Victor M	1/27	\$1
32 Woodrow Ave	Threats Patricia Y Est and Simpson, Tanisha Y	Perez, Joshua M	1/24	\$438,500	45 Eagle Run Lot A	Catherine M Murphy T and Mullaney, Eileen A	Mullaney, Daniel J	1/31	\$350,000
35 Whitewood Dr	Whitewood Dr LLC	Difusco, Jason R and Difusco, Haylen B	1/24	\$750,000	51 Winthrop Rd	Thomas O Bernier Reft and Bernier, Thomas O	Wu, Guochu	1/31	\$378,000
400 Pippin Orchard Rd	Smart Homes LLC	Alba, Samuel	1/28	\$1,000,000	53 Welch Rd	Studley, Susan A	Rasombath, Songkham and Rasombath, Khanthaly	1/28	\$450,000
400 Pippin Orchard Rd Lot 73	Smart Homes LLC	Alba, Samuel	1/28	\$1,000,000	62 Nakomis Dr	Buffery, Carol and Hallam, Wayne	Tantimonico, Phillip and Ruggieri, Amanda	1/23	\$479,900
41 Fletcher Ave	Toni Ann Weisman T and Weisman, Elaine	Mandeville Prop LLC and Strom, Richard	1/27	\$295,000	63 Robert Ave	Coffey, Joseph C	Haddad, Alexander and Zottoli, Carla	1/31	\$470,000
52 Lyndon Rd	Fitzpatrick, Francis L and Fitzpatrick, Sara J	Innis, Benjamin D and Hornsby, Emma G	1/24	\$389,000	70 Turner St Lot C3	Kristen B Miranda Relt and Miranda, Kristen B	Sasso, Maryann	1/27	\$415,500
65 Vervena St	Maio, Robert and Maio, Thomas	Kiggundu, Frederick and Kiggundu, Immaculate	1/28	\$467,000	72 W Shore Rd Lot 103	Aldrich, Cynthia and Aldrich, Frederick	Gannon, James R	1/31	\$200,000
90 Bryant Rd	Deciantis, Thomas M	Cheshire, Stacey L	1/24	\$425,000	86 Princeton Ave	Lemon, Mary and Lemon, Linda	Pereira, Jeff R	1/24	\$295,000
EAST GREENWICH					86 Princeton Ave Lot 73	Lemon, Mary and Lemon, Linda	Pereira, Jeff R	1/24	\$295,000
35 Frybrook Dr Lot 35	Sharon L Yarlus Lt and Yarlus, Sharon L	Harold & Faye Cook Lt and Cook, Harold J	1/31	\$985,000	91 Harvard Ave	Elevator Prop Inc	Morgera, Marina	1/31	\$415,000
9 Tory Ln	Owner Private	Simons, Raymond C and Berman, Jessica	1/29	\$875,000	93 Grove Ave	Finocchiaro Arthur A Est and Finocchiaro, Susan	Mershon, Aimee	1/31	\$340,000
EXETER					925 Halifax Dr Lot 925	Medeiros, Bruce J	Matteson, Michael R	1/15	\$216,000
JOHNSTON					WEST GREENWICH				
205 10 Rod Rd	Onorato, Kimberly R and Onorato, Ryan G	Cody, Rebecca	1/30	\$364,000	WEST WARWICK				
1 Clemence Ln	Cole, Joseph A and Cole, Heidi L	Clinton, Robert	1/30	\$575,000	13 Bettez St	Elevator Properties Inc	Louis, Denno	1/29	\$470,500
1 Cottage St	St James Investors LLC	Kqa 3217 LLC	1/29	\$1	32 Trellis Dr Lot 32	Oreagan, Robert C and Maynard, Gwen M	Jepson, David and Jepson, Jane	1/31	\$315,000
32 Buchanan St Lot 33	Saccoccia, Kimberly A and Towd Pt Mtg T2016-5	Vasquez Properties LLC, 2/4	\$433,000		4 Freemont St	Blair Clifford L Est and Blair 2nd, Gordon D	Cruz, Raquel D and Cordero, Amurys J	1/31	\$272,500
4 Audrey Dr	Elevator Properties Inc	Gnacadjia, Colette H	1/31	\$510,000	6 Cleveland St	Dacosta, Elizangela and Dacosta, Daniel	Jancura, Thomas G and Jancura, Megan,	2/4,	\$415,000
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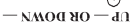
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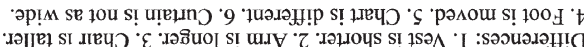
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“The future of the hospitality business is in the word itself.” – DINO PASSARETTA

By J. MICHAEL LEVESQUE

Dino Passaretta at Vanda, one of his five Rhode Island restaurants.

Hospitality. That’s the most important word to Dino Passaretta, when he talks about the key to the success of his five Rhode Island restaurants.

And he can be quite circumspect about the word when he talks about the industry in general.

“The future of the hospitality business is in the word itself. There are a lot of restaurants that lack hospitality. Hospitality is also what’s lacking in the world today. Restaurants are bringing back that feeling of what people grew up with.”

He then laughed and said, “robots will never be in my restaurants!”

I joined him for lunch recently at Vanda Cucina in the Apponaug section of Warwick (which was full as usual - try getting a reservation for dinner – best to call well in advance.), he was quite surprised when we counted the years that he worked in the industry. It has been 40 years.

He started with the glamorous position of dishwasher at Mianelli’s Restaurant on Chalkstone Avenue in Providence in 1984 at the age of 14.

His career would take him through the various positions in the industry, including bussing tables at the iconic Capriccio Restaurant in Providence.

His first full time job in the industry was at the opening of another legendary restaurant – Café Nuovo, where he waited tables and learned the business from a unique perspective, as they quickly catapulted into one of Rhode Island’s busiest and sought-after restaurants.

Three years later, the kid who grew up in the Mount Pleasant area of Providence (son of Orlando and Teresa, who both immigrated from Italy), moved to Boston to work for one of the city’s most famous restaurateurs, Frank DePasquale, who owns many North End restaurants.

He quickly became manager at one of DePasquale’s then newest launches – Fratelli,

which is now located in the Encore Boston Harbor.

He would then manage restaurants for other legends including Seth Greenburg, who has years of experience acquiring and developing hotels, restaurants, and nightlife properties in New York, Boston and Miami.

He also worked for Scott and Rande Gerber. The Gerbers landed on the map with the opening of The Whiskey in the Paramount Hotel in New York City. Rande is also married to former super model Cindy Crawford.

Dino moved to a warmer climate and landed a dream job as manager of the then, reportedly, number one restaurant in the country – Tantra in South Beach, Florida, where he would work for three years.

But as you know (borrowing a line from Don Henley of the Eagles), in Rhode Island you can check out any time you want, but you can never leave. Dino returned home and first opened with partners Moda on South Water Street in Providence. It was a restaurant he designed and built from soup to nuts. He also cleverly enlisted the talents of famed Rhode Island chef Jules Ramos.

First solo success

In 2007, he opened his first restaurant on his own, “Liliana’s” in South Kingstown. The restaurant was named after his daughter. This new restaurant, Dino said, “literally made me.”

The location was perfect, near the intersections of Route 1 and 138 on the way to the beaches. The spot, located in the



Dino with his daughter Liliana.

passion project, Vanda Cucina in Apponaug. The restaurant was named after his mother.

On any given day or night, you might see celebrities and people from all over Rhode Island and nearby states.

His mother’s kitchen

Dino lights up when he talks about Vanda. “I designed the restaurant to represent my mother’s kitchen,” he said. “My mother had plants all over the house, and most of the décor is from her kitchen and living room. It is a testament to her. She was an amazing cook, and I recall how mostly Italian was spoken in the house.” Dino speaks fluent Italian.

He now owns five restaurants - Vanda in Warwick, Locanda in South Kingstown, Seacraft in Narragansett, Public Kitchen and Bar in the Renaissance Hotel in Providence, and the new hot spot – Viola in Barrington.

I asked the obvious question, how do you manage five restaurants?

“Only one way. It’s the people who work with you,” he said. “I don’t micro-manage. It’s why I’m able to do it. I have general managers

who have worked for me for years.”

Walk into any one of his restaurants and you will find management and staff seamlessly working together, going overboard to try to accommodate their guests.

Asked how difficult it is to open a new restaurant in Rhode Island, Dino thought for a moment.

“It could be easier ... the fees are ridiculous and there seems to be more permits required (than other states), but the most important part is hiring the right people,” he said. “It’s really not difficult to find employees once people know that you are established and are a good employer. People want to work for you.”

Finally, I asked about retirement.

“Being in this business for 40 years, you can’t retire when you’re old,” he said. “If you can’t pass the torch to someone younger, then you’re in the business for the wrong reasons. One of the people I will pass the torch to is my Chef at Vanda – Gina Pezza.”



Dino with a group of his close friends at Vanda.

What about daughter Liliana? She’s now 19 and studying at college in Boston.

“No interest yet.”

I bet he hopes that changes. He also left our luncheon conversation with a little teaser.

“There might be something special coming to the Capital City, where I was born. Tune in to find out when,” he said.

I think it’s a safe bet to assume whatever that is, there will be no robots involved.



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IGGY'S BOARDWALK

Monday - Friday 3pm - 6pm

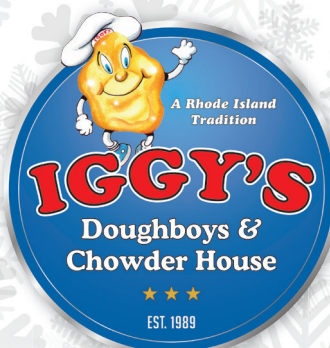
Restrictions do apply

APPY HOUR

1/2 priced appetizers from a select menu

BUCK & SHUCK

\$1 Littlenecks & Oyster



Shamrock Doughboys

Available For

In Store Pick Up

Or Nationwide

Shipping



IGGY'S SPECIAL
A PURCHASE OF \$30 OR MORE

\$5 OFF

Must present a valid coupon at the time of order. Valid for in-store food and beverage purchases only at Iggy's Doughboys & Chowder House. Cannot be combined with any offers and is not valid on holidays. Terms and conditions apply. Expires April 30, 2025.

ANY TWO DINNERS

Includes: Chowder or Salad, 6 Clam Cakes & 6 Doughboys

\$39.99 plus tax

Must present a valid coupon at the time of order. Valid for in-store food and beverage purchases only at Iggy's Doughboys & Chowder House. Cannot be combined with any offers and is not valid on holidays. Terms and conditions apply. Expires April 30, 2025.

DOORDASH GRUBHUB Uber Eats

ROCH'S

FRESH FOODS

Reliably Sourced Locally Served

PROVIDING QUALITY PRODUCE AND FRIENDLY SERVICE
TO OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

WEEKLY SPECIALS

PRODUCE



Celery
\$1.49
bunch

Small or Large
Red Potatoes

99¢ lb.

Red Onions

89¢ lb.

Large Kiwi

79¢ ea.

Iceberg Lettuce

\$1.49 hd.

Imported Blueberries

\$2.99 pkg.



1 lb. Bag
Baby Peeled Carrots
\$1.49 ea.

Green or Yellow Squash

\$1.29 lb.

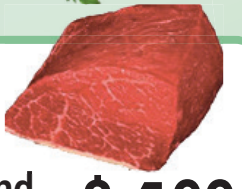
BUTCHER SHOP

Fresh Grade "A"
Boneless Chicken Thighs

\$2.99 lb.

16 oz. Shady Brook Farms
93% Lean
Ground Turkey

\$4.99 ea.



USDA Choice
Bottom Round Pot Roast

\$4.99 lb.

USDA Choice
Beef Stew Meat

\$5.99 lb.



SEAFOOD

10 oz.
Shrimp Ring

\$6.99 ea.

DELI

Cooper Sharp American Cheese



\$5.99 lb.

Honey Maple Ham

\$9.99 lb.

Hans Kissle Twist Pasta Salad

\$4.99 lb.

PREPARED FOODS

Roasted Zucchini & Squash

\$5.69 lb.

Balsamic Grilled Chicken Breast

\$8.99 lb.

Chicken Tenders

\$7.99 lb.

Mashed Sweet Potatoes

\$5.29 lb.

American Chop Suey Entrée

\$6.99 lb.

GROCERY



64 oz.
Mott's Apple Juice

2/\$6

12 oz./10 ct.
Starbucks Ground, Whole Bean, or K-Cups

\$9.99 ea.

11 oz. Bob's
Red Mill Granola

\$3.99 ea.

8.8-14 oz.
El Paso Dinner Kits

\$2.99 ea.

12 oz. Sue Bee
Honey Bears

\$4.99 ea.



2.87-5.12 oz.
Sun Chips, Funyuns, or Doritos Canisters

2/\$5

FROZEN FOODS

14 oz. 4 ct.
Yasso Frozen Yogurt Bars



\$4.49 ea.

DAIRY

7 oz. Cabot
Cracker Cuts

2/\$5

5.3 oz.
Brown Cow Yogurt

5/\$5

BAKERY

Raspberry White Chocolate Cake

\$15.99 ea.

Assorted Flavors 6 Pack Cookies

\$2.99 ea.

Half Parisian Bread

\$1.99 ea.

Assorted Flavors Half Pies

\$8.99 ea.

Local Market Locations:

Visit us online at
www.rochs.com

West Greenwich

10 ARNOLD FARM ROAD
WEST GREENWICH, RI 02817
401-397-7624

HOURS: MON - SAT: 7AM - 7PM SUN: 7AM - 6PM

Narragansett

1183 BOSTON NECK ROAD
NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882
401-284-2900

HOURS: MON - SUN: 7AM - 7PM

*Prices
in Effect
February
19-25*