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Warwick Beacon

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HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

To Pilgrim grads, 'Each path is as important as the next'

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS
Beacon Media Staff Writer

About a year and a half into the pandemic, a class of freshmen began its time in Pilgrim High School. That class has now finished that chapter and begun another.

Last Wednesday, Pilgrim celebrated its graduates and their years of hard work throughout high school. The ceremony was held at the University of Rhode Island's Ryan Center.

Principal Toby Gibbons praised the 274 graduates for their steadfast perseverance in handling the challenges that came their way.

He recalled meeting with the junior class a year ago and said he had asked them to become the leaders of the school.

"Since last June, you have taken that to heart and made our school the warm, wel-

● PILGRIM page 6



The 2025 Pilgrim High School graduates throw their caps in the air, signifying their accomplishment. *Photo by Leo Van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com*



Toll Gate's seniors celebrate the end of more than a decade-long chapter, stepping out into the unknown world of possibilities after high school. *Photo by Leo Van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com*

To Toll Gate grads: 'You never stop growing'

By ROSEGALIE CINEUS
Beacon Media Staff Writer

June 11 marked the end of a chapter 13 years in the making for Toll Gate High School's 2025 graduating class.

244 graduates celebrated the beginning of a new journey after high school last Wednesday at the University of Rhode Island's Ryan Center at 4 p.m.

Principal Candace Caluori congratulated the graduating class on its commitment to excel. She commended the grads on their perseverance, the attribute she said they will lean on the most throughout their life. She said overcoming obstacles brings moments of growth.

"You never stop growing even after you leave us," Caluori said. "Our hope is that we have prepared you for the next chapter of your lives wherever that may take you."

Mayor Frank Picozzi said graduation day is one of his favorite days of the year. He celebrated the graduates for their hard work

● TOLL GATE page 7

Bishop Hendricken graduation, page 5

Parents try to oust parochial school principal

By JOHN HOWELL
Warwick Beacon Editor

Although cleared by Warwick police and the state Department of Children, Youth & Families of any inappropriate behavior that could lead to criminal charges, a beloved St. Rose of Lima gym teacher has left his job because the school will not exonerate him – and now an online petition signed by more than 580 people is calling for the resignation or dismissal of school principal Kim Izzi.

Furthermore, the issue has become the topic of social media posts that have brought to light other parental complaints about the school's administration and an exodus from the school.

A mother of four children, Milissa Garrity, said she was contacted by school authorities about two weeks ago and told that, based on a video showing her 6-year old daughter sitting with gym teacher Bob Petrarca, who has worked for the school for 19 years, the police had been notified, as had the DCYF.

Garrity said she was shown a "grainy" video and figured the girl pictured was her daughter because of her blond hair. Garrity, who has volunteered to help in an afterschool program, didn't see anything inappropriate in the video. She pointed out many kids are friendly with Petrarca and are delighted when they see him and give him a hug. Garrity was not told how the school obtained the video. Yet she fully agrees with the school's decision

● PRINCIPAL page 10



The Pawtuxet Rangers kept pace despite Saturday's wet weather. *Submitted photo by Major Denise Foggo of the Pawtuxet Rangers*

Gaspee weathered its 60th parade

While Colonial forefathers wielded rifles with bayonets, parade spectators last weekend defended their revolutionary fire with umbrellas and ponchos. Under a steely gray sky, Narragansett Parkway in Warwick and Broad Street in Cranston were bursting with red, white and blue: from the traditional uniforms of the Pawtuxet Rangers to the patriotic floats designed by local schools, organizations and businesses.

Saturday's wet weather didn't dampen the spirits of marchers and spectators celebrating the 60th annual Gaspee Day Parade.

Rifle fire and cannon blasts pierced the air. High school bands and professional music groups made their brass instruments sing with Sousa tunes. And, with some of the morning's 5K participants in historical garb, it might have been the only place in America where you could find people wearing powdered wigs and tricorn hats with Nike sneakers.

The festivities culminated in the Pawtuxet Rangers' carrying out a changing of the guard ceremony in Pawtuxet Park. Col. Philip Rowell will now serve as commander of the Rangers, succeeding Ronald W. Barnes. Several state officials gave remarks at the ceremony, including Gov. Dan McKee, U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and U.S. Representative Seth Magaziner.

● GASPEE photos, page 20

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15 inaugural academy grads are pinned police officers

By JOHN HOWELL
Warwick Beacon Editor



Mayor Frank Picozzi administers the oath of office to the city's newest police officers. *Beacon Media photos by John Howell*

Sometimes the best things are born out of necessity.

That's the way Warwick police are looking at the Warwick Police Training Academy, which held its inaugural graduation and swearing-in ceremony Friday morning at the Crowne Plaza. In his remarks, Lt. Matthew Higgins, academy assistant commandant, observed that in order for the department to meet its desired staffing level, the city would exceed the number of recruits it could send to the municipal academy. That wasn't going to work. It would be too long a wait, but running an academy wasn't going to be easy, either.

"From day one we knew we needed to meet the rigorous standards set forth by the Rhode Island Police Officers Standards and Training [POST] curriculum. But we also knew that wasn't enough," he said. The aim was to create a program that went deeper and was built specifically for Warwick by Warwick. Higgins said recruits pushed through intense physical fitness training, mastered firearms qualifications, learned critical legal concepts, trained in de-escalation and use of force and developed the skills necessary to write clear and professional reports.

Higgins pointed to the necessity to bring the department to its full strength, adding it has become "a foundation for excellence, a proving ground for character and a launch pad for service."

Captain Robert Hart, academy commandant, said Monday that the newly minted officers were on field-training exercises and that for the next year they will be on a probationary status. Academy training was over 16 weeks and consisted of a number of mock situations including a car crash, domestic violence, mental health incident and an arrest where the recruit handled the situation from responding to the scene, taking the "suspect" to the station and then filing a report. The training even went a step further with a mock, two-hour trial over which Warwick Municipal Judge Kelly McElroy presided. Much of the training was done at the New England Institute of Technology Criminal Justice Facility in Warwick.

With the new officers, Hart said the department is up to its full complement of 175. Nonetheless, he explained, the department is constantly recruiting as vacancies pop up with retirements and personnel moving on to other opportunities.

In addressing the graduates Friday, Hart said, "You are the first to walk across this stage, but more importantly you are the first to carry the legacy of a new beginning. As the inaugural class, you have set the standard, the tone and the expectation for what it means to serve this community with pride and honor."

He said there was more to the academy than teaching law enforcement tactics and procedures. "We aimed to build a foundation of character grounded in community service, driven by respect and defined by integrity."

Hart spoke of upholding values and meeting people in what could be their worst moment and "treating them with the same dignity you would offer your own family. It is about patrolling the streets of Warwick not only with authority alone, but with empathy."

Hart said the oath taken by the new officers is a commitment to the people of our city that you will serve justly.

Hart also spoke about community policing as not a slogan or strategy but rather a philosophy.

"It means knowing your neighborhoods and the people that live and work there every day … it means listening before acting … understanding our strength is not in force, but in trust," he said.

The newly sworn officers and first graduating class of the Warwick academy are: Evan T. Cummiskey, Nicholas T. Allen, Cordin O. Pereira, Andrew J. Persechino, Jorge A. Ramirez, Kyle M. Deen, Alex T. Bergemann, Nicholas W. Fabiano, Christian A. Martinez, Amedeo Ucci Jr., Jonathan R. Lee, Michael R.G. DiPaolo, Victoria L. Ferreira, Benjamin L. Floyd and Vincent L. Lancellotti.

Receiving awards during the ceremony were: Nicholas T. Allen, valedictorian; physical fitness, Evan T. Cummiskey; leadership, Evan T. Cummiskey and top shot, Jonathan R. Lee.

Police Log

Assault After Vehicle Collision

On May 17 at approximately 7:30 p.m., Officer Gian Micheletti was dispatched to the area of Little Red Hen Preschool on Old Forge Road for a report of a motor vehicle accident. While driving to the scene, Officer Micheletti observed that the two vehicle operators involved in the accident were fighting in the area of the train trestle. The reporting party explained that the other vehicle operator struck the front bumper of the reporting party's vehicle while trying to pass. After they collided, both vehicles pulled into the breakdown lane. The driver who had reportedly caused the collision exited his vehicle, walked over the driver's window of the reporting party's vehicle, and struck the reporting party in the face with a closed fist three times. Officer Micheletti observed the reporting party's skin around the left eye to be swollen and bruised.

The assaulter claimed he attempted to pass the other vehicle to avoid being brake-checked. He reported that as he started to pass in front, the reporting party swerved into his vehicle, causing the collision. He admitted to striking the reporting party's face. He was placed into handcuffs by Officer Micheletti and transported in the patrol vehicle to WPD headquarters. He was released with a summons to appear in District Court. He has been charged with Simple Assault and/or Battery and cited for Overtaking on the Right. The reporting party has been cited for Places Where Parking/Stopping Prohibited.

DUI

On May 16 at approximately 10 p.m., Officer Connor Bemis was on a DUI traffic enforcement detail in the area of Oakland Beach Ave and West Shore Road. Officer Bemis observed a GMC pickup truck driving at high speeds on Oakland Beach Avenue with both of the vehicle's passenger side tires completely over the solid white lane line into the breakdown lane. Officer Bemis estimated the vehicle to be traveling 47 mph in a 35-mph zone. Officer Bemis stopped the vehicle for the observed violations.

The officer immediately observed the driver to have bloodshot and watery eyes, speak with slurred speech and have the scent of alcohol emanating from his breath. The officer also observed marijuana in a cup holder next to the driver. The officer asked the driver to exit the vehicle, and he informed the officer that he had been driving erratically because he had been texting while driving. The officer asked the driver to submit to a series of Standardized Field Sobriety Tests, to which he agreed. The officer then administered the first test, after which the driver refused to continue with the tests. The driver asked repeatedly if there were any actions the officer could take to avoid arresting him.

Officer Bemis concluded that the driver had been operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor and/or drugs. The driver was then taken to WPD headquarters, where he refused to consent to a chemical test. After a check of the driver's criminal history it was determined he would be charged with DUI B.A.C. Unknown 2nd Offense, Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test, and several traffic citations including Use of Emergency Breakdown Lane and Speeding 11+ in Excess of Posted Speed Limit.

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Planning on winter ice

Jason Pannone, principal with the Bentley Companies of Warwick says after a rough winter and wet spring, the Greenwood Credit Union Ice Rink at the Warwick City Hall Plaza is on schedule to be operational in early December and on budget, if not under budget. Pannone of Warwick said he takes pride in the project, a vision of Mayor Frank Picozzi as a means of revitalizing Apponaug and providing a venue for year-round activities. While open to the elements from the sides, the rink will be covered providing shade and shelter during inclement weather. Funding for the $6.7 million project comes from a $5 million federal earmark grant from Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse and federal APRA funds. Greenwood Credit Union won the naming rights through a bidding process. The next structure to rise on the site will house refrigeration equipment, ticket office and concessions. Jack Fallon, Rich Verville and Tom Burke of Preferred Mechanical prepare to install an estimated nine miles of piping under the surface of the 126 by 60 foot rink. *Beacon Media photos by John Howell*

$100 for college fund offered through BBBSRI

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island has announced an expanded partnership with CollegeBound Saver, offering a new incentive to inspire academic success and long-term planning among youth.

Every student age 7-14 who is matched with a mentor through BBBSRI will now receive a $100 contribution to their 529 education savings plan before going to high school, thanks to support from CollegeBound Saver.

This initiative builds on the partnership that began in September 2024, when CollegeBound Saver awarded two mentees $529 during a ceremony at the Rhode Island State House in honor of Big Brothers Big Sisters Month. Today, that momentum continues with a new commitment to invest in every eligible mentee's future.

"The cost of higher education has increased exponentially over the past several decades," said state General Treasurer James A. Diossa. "As treasurer, I want to ensure that Rhode Island children from every income level and zip code can aspire to, plan for and succeed in postsecondary education. Big Brothers Big Sisters' mentorship has created a positive impact in the lives of children all across Rhode Island, and I am looking forward to continuing to support their work."

"Mentorship is about believing in a young person's potential, and this partnership is a tangible way to show that belief," said Kaleigh Perkins, chief operating officer of BBBSRI. "Thanks to CollegeBound Saver, our mentees now have both a mentor to guide them and a savings plan to help them dream even bigger."

CollegeBound will not only contribute the initial $100 but also assist families in opening their accounts, removing barriers and making college and career training more accessible.

"We're thrilled to partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters to support Rhode Island youth from an early age," said Jennifer McElroy, CollegeBound Saver Program representative. "By starting their college savings journey now, we hope to spark conversations about higher education and career opportunities that can shape their futures."

BBBSRI creates and supports one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, making a donation to support our program, organizing a clothing drive or fundraiser for your school or group, or learning more about our initiatives, please visit www.BigsRI.org, call (401) 921-2434, or email mentoring@BigsRI.org.

BBBSRI is not affiliated with CollegeBound Saver.



Gold pays off

Senior high school students who won gold medals in the 2025 Rhode Island Academic Decathlon were presented with $500 scholarships from House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi at a State House reception May 22. Fourteen students from 10 schools across the state received scholarship awards. They include Joshua Holland of Bishop Hendricken, who won a gold in Math, pictured here with Frank Lenox, RIAD executive director, and state Rep. Justine Caldwell of East Greenwich, who made the presentation on behalf of Shekarchi. Rebecca Farias of Toll Gate, who won gold in Literature and Speech, was also a recipient of a scholarship award. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*

Property tax bills expected next week

Values high; some residents expect bills to rise 20%+

By JOHN HOWELL
Warwick Beacon Editor

Warwick property tax bills are expected to start arriving in the mail next week, and while the city tax levy – the total anticipated revenue collected from property taxes – is slightly below the 4% allowable increase set by state law, individual taxpayers may be in for a shock. The reason: The citywide revaluation, the first full revaluation in nine years, reflects a dramatic increase in residential values.

As soon as the mayor and city council passed the FY2026 budget and advertised the proposed residential and commercial rates, property owners applied the rates to the new values. Barry Cook, who lives on Gaspee Point on leased land [he owns the house, but not the land] was one of the first who said he could not afford living in Warwick and put his house on the market. Others on Gaspee Point, also living on leased land, have likewise calculated big bumps in their taxes.

They're not alone. With 39 miles of waterfront where values have soared proportionally greater than inland properties – a reflection of the demand for waterfront – some property owners expect tax bills to rise more than 20%.

Lonnie Barham, who overlooks the Bay from his Shawomet Avenue home, is one of them. The value of the property increased 26% from $685,000 to $924,000. Based on the proposed residential tax rate of $13.34 per $1,000 of assessed valuation, a decrease of $1.34 in the rate, Barham projects he will be pay $2,462 more in taxes, an increase of 26%.

In an email, and based on his random survey of property value increases across the city, Barham came up with an average increase in value of 34%. Given his study, he imagines the city levy would be greater than the allowable 4% increase and that the city should further reduce the tax rate.

City Tax Assessor Neal Dupuis discounts Barham's study, saying taxpayers can't use the 4% on the levy as a guide to how much their taxes will increase. He makes the point that values are market based. It should be noted Barham didn't include revenues generated from commercial properties in his calculations. The value of commercial properties dropped in the revaluation. The proposed commercial rate increases from $25.32 to $25.45.

According to the mayor's budget, $244 million will be collected in tax revenues in FY 26, an increase of $8.6 million or 3.66% from the current year.

On Monday, Dupuis said the department conducted about 450 hearings in response to questions raised over higher valuations, which is about a third of the number conducted in previous full revaluations. Throughout the revaluation, Dupuis maintained that property owners should question the value assigned their property if they believed it was higher than what they could sell it for.

Dupuis said appeals weren't focused in specific neighborhoods, but in conducting reviews they looked at nearby houses regardless of whether those homeowners had filed appeals. In some cases, he said, values were dropped on those houses as well. Gaspee Point is one of the areas reviewed.

Man's death brings AEDs to golf courses

By TARA MONASTESSE
Beacon Media Staff Writer

A bill signed into law recently 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 suffering cardiac arrest while playing golf at the Cranston Country Club. Shortly after, Betsy Casey, his widow, began advocating for lawmakers to pass legislation mandating that 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 Beacon Media, adding she hopes the bill's positive impact will mean that her husband's death was not in vain.

"Hopefully I've been able to save someone else's life," she said.

After Casey reached out to her, 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 Memorial 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

Warwick Vets 3rd quarter honors

High Honors Grade 06

Giovanni Ambrosio, Asher Beland-Palmer, Layla Bliss, Skyla Bliss, Shamel Bullock, Kit Christina, Benjamin DeCesare, Reilly Diggins, Ariya Fayerweather, Aziyah Frias, Emily Gaspar, Ariana Gauthier, Marina Godbout, Isabella Hanna, Victoria Healy, Augustine Howlett, Kennedy Hunter, Emma Kaplan, Jonah Kelley, Aiden Landis, Samantha Maldonado, Dylan Marchand, Abigail McCluskey, Riley Mitchell, Anabelle Mozzetta, Kathleen Offiler, Sarah Paolino, Cody Penta, Jacob Regent, Anthony Scanlon, Aidan Sojka

High Honors Grade 07

Eden Barratt, Gavin Champagne, Julia Chen, Hailey Dowding, Mia Forrester, Olivia Foytho, Weston Heintzel, William Hencler, Samantha Howard, Victoria Jiang, Audra Lynch, Ava Madden, Zachary Moore, Paige Murphy, Zackary Nolan, Olivia Poirier, Cole Rocha, Ethan Stepalavich, Izabelle Stockley

High Honors Grade 08

Kingston Bayha, Michael Bessette, Vathaya Boriboune, Abigail Bryson, Hannah Camara, Julia Croft, Sydney Diggins, Marissa DosRemedios, Riley Engelhardt, Scarlette Gagne, Olivia Gaspar, Alexander Gemma, Cameron Godbout, Bailey Guerrero, Jace Hennessey, Atreyu Hogans, Everly Iech, Christian Jardin, Kamilia Karimi, Isabella LaFazia, Logan Lavallee, Alessandro Leberon, Carmela Loffredi, Chloe Marcotte, Bryce Merrill, Justin Nguyen, Alvaro Noguera Gomez, Renee Ou, Violet Padula, Tyler Pouler, Nathan Rivera, Lucas Rutkiewicz, Parker Silvia, Connor Skinner, Benjamin Taute, Tristan Waters, Logan Zawislak

The Buzz

June 21: Warwick Library Summer Reading Kick-off: On Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Warwick Public Library will kick off their Summer Reading Challenge at 600 Sandy Ln., Warwick. Crafts, games and snacks will be available. At 2 p.m. the library will host a science story with friends from Science Heroes. Please register separately for this event.

June 21: Conimicut Village Farmer's Market: The Conimicut Village Farmer's Market will be held on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at the Shield's Post Legion at 662 West Shore Rd in Conimicut. Check the website, www.conimicutvillage.org for a weekly list of vendors and updates.

June 21: Welcome to Summer party: Join Big Brother Big Sisters of Rhode Island as they kick off the summer on Saturday from 7:30-11 p.m., at Bonnet Shores Beach Club. To purchase tickets, become a sponsor, or donate in honor of their Cat's Camperships Fund, visit BigsRI.org and click Events & Happenings under the Get Involved tab.

June 25: Welcome to the Graveyard: Join Gravestone Girls presenter Brenda Sullivan for a 90-minute, in-person "virtual tour" chronicling cemetery art, history and symbolism. The free event will be at the Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Ln., in their Large Meeting Room at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

June 25: RI Trout Unlimited: On Wednesday, RI Trout Unlimited will have its monthly membership meeting at the check station, on rt 165, in Exeter. We will start with a cookout at 5 pm, then the meeting at 6. After the meeting we will fish in the Wood River. All are welcome.

June 23-Aug. 8: WCFA Summer Art Camp 2025 at the Warwick Center for the Arts. Join us for one week or the whole summer. Morning and afternoon sessions available with different themes each week. For further information, please call 401-737-0010 or warwickcfa.org

July 12: Boot-Camp Breakfast and Veterans' Resource Fair: Mission: Boots to Briefcases will hold a breakfast and veterans' resource fair on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Pilgrim Senior Center, 27 Pilgrim Pkwy, Warwick.

July 19, Aug. 23: Gaspee Celtic Jam Musicians: Enjoy performances of Irish and Scottish musical selections at the Sprague Mansion Carriage House (located behind the Mansion) at 4 p.m. Visit gaspeecelticjam.org ahead of dates for their announcement on songs for the evening. Tickets each performance: $13; $5 age 12 & under. Seating is limited. Parking in back of Mansion. No pets.

Aug. 9: Cranston High School East, Class of 1970 – 55-year reunion at the Cranston Country Club, 69 Burlingame Rd. Cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner. Reunion committee is seeking help locating classmates. Send information to Barbara Russo at twinn52@yahoo.com or Jeanne Sinapi at jeanpass@cox.net.

Aug. 23: Class of 1975 Warwick Vets - 50-year reunion at the East Greenwich Yacht Club, 10 Water Street, East Greenwich, from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets are $70 per person. Please contact Jeff Voigt at meddevconsultant@aol.com.

Aug. 24: 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 Aug. 24, at The Dance Floor, 332 Atwood Ave., Cranston from 5-10 p.m. Food, beer, wine and entertainment is included. No cash bar. Tickets are $55 per person. 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. 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

October 11: Pilgrim High School Class of 1975 - 50-year reunion at The Quonset "O" Club on 200 LT. James Brown Rd., North Kingstown., from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are $100 per person. Please contact Dean Plowman 401-413-9978 or Dean695@gmail.com.

St Francis Xavier Academy Alumnae Association: is accepting scholarship applications for Catholic High School until July 31. Forms are available by writing to SXA, P.O. Box 20452, Cranston, RI 02920 or email sxa.alum@gmail.com.

Conimicut Village Farmer's Market: the Conimicut Village Farmer's Market will be held every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the parking lot at the Shield's Post Legion at 662 West Shore Rd in Conimicut. It will have anywhere from 20 to 30 vendors each week 2-produce stands, 6 bakers, woodworkers, artists, crafters, herb products, coffee & tea, eggs, yarn products, honey, candles, and so much more. Check the website, www.conimicutvillage.org for a weekly list of vendors and updates.

Conimicut Village Art Festival: the Conimicut Village Association is now accepting artist and maker applications for its annual Art Festival on Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain date: Sunday, Oct. 5. Artists are asked to be available for both dates. Space is limited, so don't wait to apply. Original artwork will be reviewed by a jury committee and artists will be notified of their acceptance by July 15. Questions, or to request an application ($60 registration fee) can be directed to conimicutvillage@gmail.com or for more information visit conimicut.org.

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

Every Monday - The Gaspee Celtic Jam meets at the Pawtuxet Village Baptist Church, 2157 Broad St., Cranston, every Monday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Do you play fiddle, guitar, Irish flute, pennywhistle, bodhran, mandolin, banjo, concertina, accordion, folk harp, hammered dulcimer, Appalachian dulcimer, banjo, acoustic bass, ukulele, keyboard, recorder, or sing? All skill levels welcome. Visit www.gaspeecelticjam.org for more info (including the current tune list/tune book) or to send us any questions. No specific Celtic music experience is required.

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

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

Every Second and Fourth Tuesday the Fall River Toastmasters Meeting, serving both Rhode Island and Southern Mass. the Fall River Toastmasters holds its meetings. Doors open at 6 p.m. and meeting is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Join us at The Chamber, 200 Pocasset St, Fall River, Mass., 2nd floor. For more information, call Sean DaCosta at (508)-840-6621. All are welcome!

Third Wednesday of the month, Old Warwick Grange #41 will hold meetings at 7:30 p.m., at 1175 West Shore Rd. There are no meetings in July and August. The Grange is a fraternal community service, non-profit organization with a special interest in rural life and the traditions of faith, patriotism, leadership and family values. For information, please call either Joan Clegg at 401 465-7259 or Mike Osiensky at (508) 954-9712.

Every Thursday, The Warwick Rotary Club meets from noon to 1:15 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick. Every week features a different speaker.

Every Thursday, Take Off Pounds Sensibly TOPS #38 is meeting every Thursday morning at St. Luke's Episcopal Church (lower level), 99 Pierce Street, East Greenwich. Weigh-in begins at 10:15 a.m. The meeting starts at 10:45 a.m. Enter from the side parking lot, go down the stairs to the kitchen area. All are welcome as well as any canned food donations. For information, call: Angela Henderson at 401-225-6174.

Every Thursday, Get-a-Job-Thursdays - We Make RI, an organization that provides free manufacturing training, hosts a series of job fairs every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon, 200 First Ave., Cranston. We Make RI offer job seekers a chance to meet with employers, get career counseling, resume help and more. Some employers include Swissline Precision, Admiral Packaging, KB Surfaces, Warwick Hanger and Hitachi Cable. For more information about this event or other training opportunities, visit www.wemakeri.com/get-a-job-thursday or contact Mike at (401) 232-0077 x109.

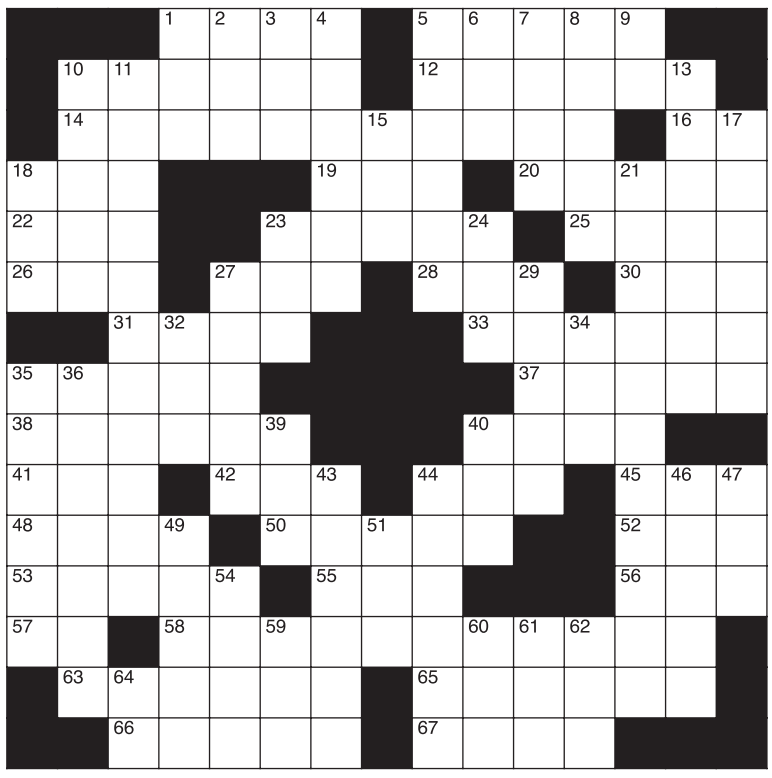
NAMI-RI Family-to-Family Course: Registration is open for the next in-person course which begins Wednesday, July 9 at 6 p.m. Classes will be held at St. Paul's Parish House on Main St. in Wickford Village. To register for the next Family-to-Family course, or for more information, please call 401-331-3060 or email Beth at beth@namirhodeisland.org. The NAMI Family-to-Family is a free 8-session educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people living with mental illness.

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

NAMI-RI Offers Family Support Groups: The Rhode Island chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness offers free support groups for families and friends of loved ones struggling with mental health. Groups are led by trained facilitators with experience with family members. Meetings last 1.5 hours, and everyone gets a chance to share. Group members offer help and resources, when appropriate, based on their experiences. More information and full schedule can be found at namirhodeisland.org. or call 401-331-3060. No pre-registration for these monthly groups is necessary.

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of bread
5. Range of mountains
10. Ended
12. Musical forms with a recurring theme
14. On the nature of being
16. Law enforcement agency
18. Australian flightless bird
19. Subway rodent
20. More dried-up
22. A beaver might build one
23. Suggestive of the supernatural
25. Art ___, around 1920
26. American rocker Snider
27. Not or
28. Earliest human: __-Magnon Man
30. Firearm
31. Tough outer skin of fruit
33. Alternative form of a gene
35. Low shrub some call "fat pork"
37. Plants in the chamomile tribe
38. Revolutionary War era spy
40. Portion of a book
41. Hoover's office
42. Title of respect
44. Tax collector
45. Cool!
48. Real estate
50. Boy's name
52. Airborne (abbr.)
53. Strongly recommends
55. Hit lightly
56. Bar bill
57. Atomic #54
58. Devotes again
63. Fish sauce
65. French stock market
66. Things that consist of two elements or parts
67. Tense

CLUES DOWN

1. Retired game show host Sajak
2. Equal (prefix)
3. Israeli city __ Aviv
4. Loved
5. A type of analyst
6. Ad __
7. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
8. Ran without moving
9. Opposite of yes
10. Diffuse clouds of gas
11. Mentioning one by one
13. Instruments used to dilate
15. Freshwater fish
17. Remotely-manned flying objects
18. Doctor of Education
21. Renews
23. Not the start
24. Pitching stat
27. Small water buffaloes
29. Ceramic jars
32. I (German)
34. Something to toss on a fire
35. The process of flowing in
36. A series of acts at a night club
39. Egg of a louse
40. Inquire too closely
43. Travelers
44. Drink
46. Behave in a way that degrades
47. Electronic music style
49. Northern Ireland city
51. Upset
54. Stiff structure resembling a hair
59. Father
60. North Atlantic fish
61. 8th month (abbr.)
62. Make an effort
64. Commercial

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Soon-to-be Hendricken graduates filled the pews at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, awaiting final remarks from commencement speakers. *Photos by Leo Van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com*



Valedictorian Joseph Nicchia – Joseph Nicchia, bound for Brown University this fall, described forming lifelong friendships at Hendricken during his valedictorian speech.

Hendricken Class of '25 takes flight

By TARA MONASTESSE
Beacon Media Staff Writer

When Michael Haxton received a request in January from Mark DeCiccio, Bishop Hendricken High School's principal, to be the keynote speaker for the school's 64th graduation exercises, Haxton wasn't sure he was up for it.

Sure, he had once been a Hawk, graduating from Hendricken in 1978. But there was something he had to confess to the 130 graduating seniors and their guests gathered in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul as he began his address Tuesday evening: "I dreaded going to Hendricken." A school without girls seemed unimaginable to him, he said, and he went "kicking and screaming" at his parents' insistence.

Today, though, he sees things differently.

"I'm so thankful for my parents for sending me to Hendricken back when I attended," Haxton said. Now a graduate of Roger Williams University with a family of his own and a fulfilling career in sports – as a former college football player and retired coach – he credits Hendricken with laying the groundwork for the person he is now.

"You never know what plans God has in store for you," Haxton said. "It was 50-plus years ago that I begrudgingly came to Bishop Hendricken, but I could not be more thankful for the education and the life lessons that I learned here."

As the members of the Class of 2025 prepared to embark on their next journeys after high school, they took the time to reflect similarly on how Hendricken had already played a role in shaping the kind of man they would be. Under a canopy of ceiling murals and stained-glass windows, student speakers shared how an education at the elite boys' Catholic school had transformed them over the course of four years. Musical selections from the Young Men's Chorus, which featured a handful of graduating seniors, served as reflective interludes between the speeches.

Salutatorian Inesh Rai began by offering gratitude to the friends, teachers and family members that have supported him throughout his academic journey — including his grandparents, who had flown to the United States from India to attend the ceremony.

Rai, who will attend the University of Virginia on a full-tuition scholarship, said that "what these past four years have taught me is that being a Hendricken man does not mean becoming the same person as everyone else."

"A true brotherhood does not make us the same," he said. "It gives us the space and the courage to become ourselves, and to use our individual talents to create a stronger, united community." He encouraged his classmates to "keep making space for others to be themselves, the way Hendricken made space for us."

Joseph Nicchia, valedictorian, recalled feeling apprehensive at the beginning of his time at Hendricken — though he says he will now leave



Salutatorian Inesh Rai – Inesh Rai, who will be attending the University of Virginia, said in his salutatorian speech that Hendricken transformed what brotherhood means to him.



After receiving their diplomas and turning their tassels, the new graduates left the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul to celebrate with family and friends

with lifelong friends as he prepares to attend Brown University in the fall.

"I still remember walking in on the first day," Nicchia said. "Quite terrifying because I didn't know a single person in my class, and back then I wasn't good at starting conversations or talking to new people."

"I found myself surrounded by friends," he said. "Friends I'll still talk to in college, invite to my wedding. Maybe my future children's godfathers."

While the future may be daunting, Nicchia said, "I know each and every one of us will rise to the occasion and do what we are going to do."

In his greeting to the audience, Principal DeCiccio noted the class's standout achievements: More than 177 college acceptances, amounting to over $35 million in scholarships. But what truly mattered, he said, was how the Class of 2025 contributed to the school community.

"There's an old adage that we should leave places better than we found them," he said. "And gentlemen, you have done just that. The spirit, the tenacity, the compassion, the brotherhood and keeping Christ in your hearts – it's the truth."

Bishop Hendricken class of 2025

Zachary Joseph Adams
Eric Adejuwon Aikulola
Kyle Eric Almeida
Michael Joseph Alves
Arion L. Amoruso
Stephen Antonucci Jr.
Alexander Thomas Arnold
Akbar Askarov
Jared Damian Badillo
Rylan James Barbato
Scot Belford Jr
Americo Marc Besachio
Logan Michael Breault
Aidan James Brindle
Johan Brito Moya
Benjamin Brooks
James Arturo Caldarella
Braeden Charles Campbell
Lucas Caporaso
Michael Elijah Carreiro
Patrick Joseph Cavanagh
Ethan William Charnley
Patrick Clemmey
Jack T. Colgan
Jack Thomas Corcelli
Harrison Robert Coupe
Aiden Charles Craft
Ronald Frederick Cronin
Boden Frazer Dair
Cameron Michael Daley
Michael S. DaSilva Jr
Carson Edward Dean
Dominic M. DeHaven
Jack Thomas DePalma
Pasquale Anthony DiRocco III
Brenan Ashton Duquette
Terrence C. Ebere
Alexander Cole Elevado
Christian Tyler Faraj
Xavier Logan Fisher
Brandon G. Flood
Evan Charles Franchina
Hank D. Francis
Noah Andrew French
Billy Gallogly Landon
James Girouard Luca
Edward Gobis
Ryan Kenneth Goodwin
Thomas Franco Hanson
Santiago Kipp Harrington
Addison Micheal Heffernan
Hunter Sali Hennessey
Joshua C. Holland
Thomas John Hughes IV
Zachary F Iacabbo-Sawyer
Zachary D. Iamarone
Russell Oliver Ide
Aidan Michael Igoe
Tristan Denio Jordan
Brent Araujo Karpowich
Mason James Keenan
Belayneh Jacob Reedy Kerachsky
Joshua Joseph Kline
Jace P. LaPlante
Gianluca Matthew Lepore
Ryan Nicholas Lopez
Maddox Antonio Lora
Vince E. Lossini
Dylan James Lynch
Jacob Osbert Madriaga
Cooper Aaron Maher
Grant William Mandeville
Luca Stefano Marinucci
Ryan Charles Martin
Carmen Ryan Massemini
Matthew Joseph Massemino
Scott Earl Matarese Jr.
Seth Payne McGrew
Jake Metcalf McNeil
Dezman Alexander Mey
Jacob Damon Montenegro
John Robert Moretta
Colin P. Murray
Ryan James Narcessian
Sebastian Ian Nault
Alexander J.Newman
Joseph Donald Nicchia
Matthew Andy Nong
Ronan Charles George
O'Connell Quinn
Michael O'Connell
Justin Richard Onysko
Josiah Ortega Noah
Matthew Pace
Vincent Thure Palazzo
Joshua Jamil Perez Vazquez
Logan Matthew Peterson
Joseph Rocco Pezza,III
Avery John Picchione
Evan Allen Presbrey
Christopher Frank Pullano
Brady Patrick Queenan
Inesh Rai
Emmitt Yao Rattey
Jeremy E. Redd
John S. Renza IV
Jakob R. Reyes
Jonathan Patrick Riley
Jonus Rivera
William A. Ruskaup
Brendan Mark Ryone
Francesco Marino Savoretti
Ian R. Sechio
Michael Kulin Shah
Nathan William Sisson
Noah Soban
Andrew G. Soscia
Benjamin Tamul
Nathanael M. Tarlue
Emmanuel Taveras
Frank James Tillinghast V
Logan Toussaint
John R. Treat
Eamonn J.Trenn
Dylan Joseph Tupaz
Benjamin Patrick Warr
Henry Thomas Waters
Braydon W. Wilding
Benjamin Dexter Williamson
Timothy Douglas Wishart



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Graduates excitedly await their moment to walk across the stage and receive their diplomas. *Photos by Leo Van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com*



During her speech, Johnson encouraged graduates to find their wings. "They say the sky's the limit, but the sky is just what we'll stand on – to reach beyond," she said.



Pilgrim salutatorian Keaney Bayha, left, and valedictorian Misharel Johnson

● PILGRIM from page 1

coming, inclusive place where every person has a sense of belonging and can all grow and learn during what can be difficult teenage years," Gibbons said.

He called it an amazing year and urged the graduating seniors to keep being generous with their time, empathy and social awareness.

Misharel Johnson, the 2025 valedictorian, thanked family, friends and faculty who helped support her time in high school. She recognized the significance of graduation for the class, saying it was the beginning of something amazing.

"As we move forward, I urge you to pursue the path that brings you happiness and purpose," Johnson said. "We're not just stepping into the future, we're shaping it."

Salutatorian Keaney Bayha encouraged graduates to find what matters to them. She said not to waste time worrying about who will remember you. Instead, she said, find out who you want to be.

"Each path is as important as the next, remember that" Bayha said. "High school isn't the end; it's just one of the first chapters."

2025 Pilgrim High School graduates

Madison Rose Adams
Dylan Michael Albanesa
Jordan Allen
Jayden Ames
Aden Anderson
Eliana Araujo
Derek Joseph Asciolla
Jayden Baez Lamaire
Liana Bannon
Andrew Banspach
Jordan Baptista
Kary Junior Baptiste
Zoey Michelle Barlow
Corey Jamal Barnes
Joseph Michael Bartis
Lily Batchelor
Faith Nevaeh Bates
Olivia Beckett
Calden Beeley
Leah Marie Belota
Aniyah Elise Bendigo
Connor Derick Berard
Isaac Bergevine
Finnegan Stuart Blakely
Aliyah Marie Bonn
Cristiano Borges
Tyler Scott Boudreau
Dahir Brutus Jourdain
Liam Patrick Joseph Budz
Colin Burke
Sarah Burnham
Mary Faith Burns
Emma Burr
Richard Cabral Jr.
Jacob Campbell
Nolan Canestrari
Ruby-Love Carter
Chloe Jean Casavant
Elehna Charon
Steven Edward Chase
Gianna Marie Chasse
Jacob Chicas-Moore
Olivia Grace Cliff
Carter Jay Clifton
Julia Coico

Ciara Collins
Noah Constantinou
Brody Corcoran
Abigail Correia
Giada Dias Cramer
Xavier Ramon Cuba
Genna D'Amato
Jezebel Damian
Brandon Raymond Davis
Madison Delaroca
Isaac Daniel Delgado
Jillian Rose Delroy
Italia Dias
Alexis Diedrich
Andre Diel
Mia Donnell
Avery Grace Donovan
Brenton Duguay
Alex Michael Earle
Leah Eaton
Ethan Ellinwood
Blendy Auerely Espinal Gonzalez
JanCarlos Espinal Gonzalez
Naoki Estevez Takayoshi
Sokhna Amy Faye
Aiden Xavier Feliz
Haylie Ferguson
Isabella Ferguson
Grace Rose Ferland
Gracelynn Sophia Dapenha Ferreira
Andreas Filippou
Rory Fiore
Michaela Bryce FitzGerald
Eion Flynn
Camden Forrester
Blake Fraime
Lia Franchetti
Brianna Gagnon
Samantha Gates
Kamryn James Gavin
Jasmine Irene George
Nicholas Georgitsis
Thomas Giddings
Nicholas Golder
Galileo Gonzalez

Jacob Erwin Gonzalez
Katelin Elizabeth Gouveia
Lydia Grace
Erionna Greenwood
Alyssa Grenier
Lily Hall
Benjamin Halliwell
Reid Handfield
Andrew Hatch
Katelyn Healey
Matthew Heon
Colin Hlavacek
Sloan Hogan
Ava Holland
Tyler Holman
Liam Michael Holmes
Russell Horton
Alexandra Regina Cecilia Howlett
Henry Tinthyreak Iech
Brandon Irving
Asia Jean-Baptiste
Raymond Jeranka
Axel Johnson
Kendall Johnson
Misharel Johnson
Mitzie Amare Johnson
Sadie Johnson
William Johnson
Brooke Lynn'Marie Joseph
Nathaniel Kane
Jaewon Kang
Daniel James Kavanagh V
Evan Kaya
Henry Joseph Kearns
Kylie Kennedy
Logan Kennedy
Abby Ashlee Khounvichith
Alianna Victoria Kirwin
Kalem Knowles
Audrey Frances Lee Kuiawa
Nayeli Marie Lago Suarez
Ian Laplume
Brandon Laudon
Lorelai Faith Leddy
Naim Lee

Emma Marie Lemoine
Xavier Leon
Serena Ann Lewis
Tyler Sanethavong Lieng
Lucas John Link
Jonathan Lorenz
Andrew Lewis MacLennan
Geovanny Antonio Maldonado
Cameron Manchester
Christopher Peter Maniatakos
Taylor Ann Mark
Anthony Marsella
Zachary Thomas Marsocci
Aidan Martel
Tyler James Martin
Thomas James Fredrick McCaffrey
Logan John McDermott
Ashlyn Marie McGorty
Ciarra Mary McGowan
Brodie Quinn McKay
Alyssa McKitrick
Kyle Menard
Gabriel Glen Mercado
Sheamus Monahan
Jinijah Montero
Madason Moore
Keannah Samarah Morris
Paige Morris
Zoe Morrison
Andrew Mullaney
Ethan Murphy
Tyler Nadeau
Joseph Nardolillo
Kaitlyn Mackenzie Nelson
Natasha Nemirow
Alijah Rashaun Newton
Paige O'Brien
Rian Ogni
Jacob Oliveira
Kassidy Elizabeth Oliveira
Gabriel James Orduna
Hever Ortega
Carmella Pega
Aaliyah Pestana
Abigayle Claire Petrillo

Adriana Pettinato
Cameron Pezzullo
Yanik Pierre-Louis
Kathryn Pike
Emma Pouler
Marin Victoria Prest
Aiden Prum
Juliany Quezada
William Michael Raleigh Jr.
Frangie Ramirez Acosta
Riley Rastella
Hailey Dorothy Reis
Kyle Renaud
Marcello Restituyo
Haiden Riess
Danielle Rivera
Jordania Rivera
Cole Robinson
Kaylee Robinson
Owen Sam Robinson
Alex Rodrigues
Dylan Rodrigues
Kiomara Rodriguez
Luka Ruscio
Benjamin Santa Cruz
Sebastian Santana
Marcelia Skyy Santoro
Ariely Camila Savinon
Jack Sayler
Christopher Schifino
Hunter James Schobel
Emma Sage Scribner
Dominick Sebastiao
Kayla Tatyana Sen
Christian Sevilla
Daegan Shepherd
Kayli Elizabeth Sherlock
Nathan Silva
Ryan Simao
Ethan Antonio Simas
Isabella Simas
Kayley Brooke Simas
Samuel Skinner
Zachary Smith
Laithe Socha

Noah Somers
Carla Sosa Tifa
Jacob William Soulliere
Kayleigh Elizabeth Squire
Devin Allen Stevens
Silas Stevens
Larisa Stewart
Brian Suarez
Brooke Taylor
Elliott Thomas
Veronica Thongdee
Jordyn Toledo
Nalani Gabriela Torres
Justin Tourgee
Alyssa Ann Trudell
Dylan Michael Vale
Sarah Valentine
Adriana Rose Vazquez
Jules Velazquez
Madison Lucille Audette Ventura
Donovan Vermette
Leilai Voupawoe
Brady Christopher Walker
Taylor Walker
Joshua David Walsh
Alexis Patricia Warburton
Anita Waterhouse
Joseph Weeden
Matthew Wellington
Faris Marlene Weston
Aiden Everett White
Lucas White
Brad Whitman
Corey Wilcox
Yahaira Wilcox
Kenneth Wilson
Grace Wolfe
Brandon Wolfenden
Noah Wyman
Sila Yang
Mason Young
Josiel Ignacio Zuniga

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● TOLL GATE from page 1

and for pushing through the challenges they faced.

"Graduation is more than a ceremony, it's a turning point," Picozzi said. "You're closing one chapter, yes, but you're also opening up another."

A highlight of the special day centered on the valedictorian and salutatorian, Joshua Maynard and John Maynard, respectively, who are identical twins.

Their long, long list of accomplishments throughout high school and academic and sports awards aside, the pair highlighted some key lessons they also learned at Toll Gate.

John, older by one minute, said being a twin has taught him the importance of empathy. He said it is what helped the brothers realize that others' success doesn't take away from their own.

"Empathy doesn't have to mean dramatic acts of kindness either," John said. "My hope is that we will continue to spread our empathy as we move on to the next chapter of our lives."

In his valedictorian speech, Joshua called the class of 2025 resilient. He said even though the path forward will include mistakes, it is in how you respond that will define you.

"It's how we rise after the fall, how we learn [and] how we grow. That's what shapes us, that's resilience."

Recalling the start of their scholastic odyssey in 2012 as the year the class of 2025 began kindergarten, Joshua noted the excitement to learn, make new friends and discover a world of possibilities that they all felt.

"So, forget about the person to your left or to your right, and look within," Joshua said. "Find your kindergarten self and always strive to become someone they would be proud of, open to what is going to be a new world of possibilities."



Graduates get ready for a big step into a future that Mayor Picozzi says is in very good hands. "You're not just the leaders of tomorrow, you're the leaders right now," Picozzi said. *Photos by Leo Van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com*



From left, Salutatorian John Maynard and his twin brother, Valedictorian Joshua Maynard.



More than 200 graduates walked across the stage last afternoon, ready to begin a new chapter in their lives.

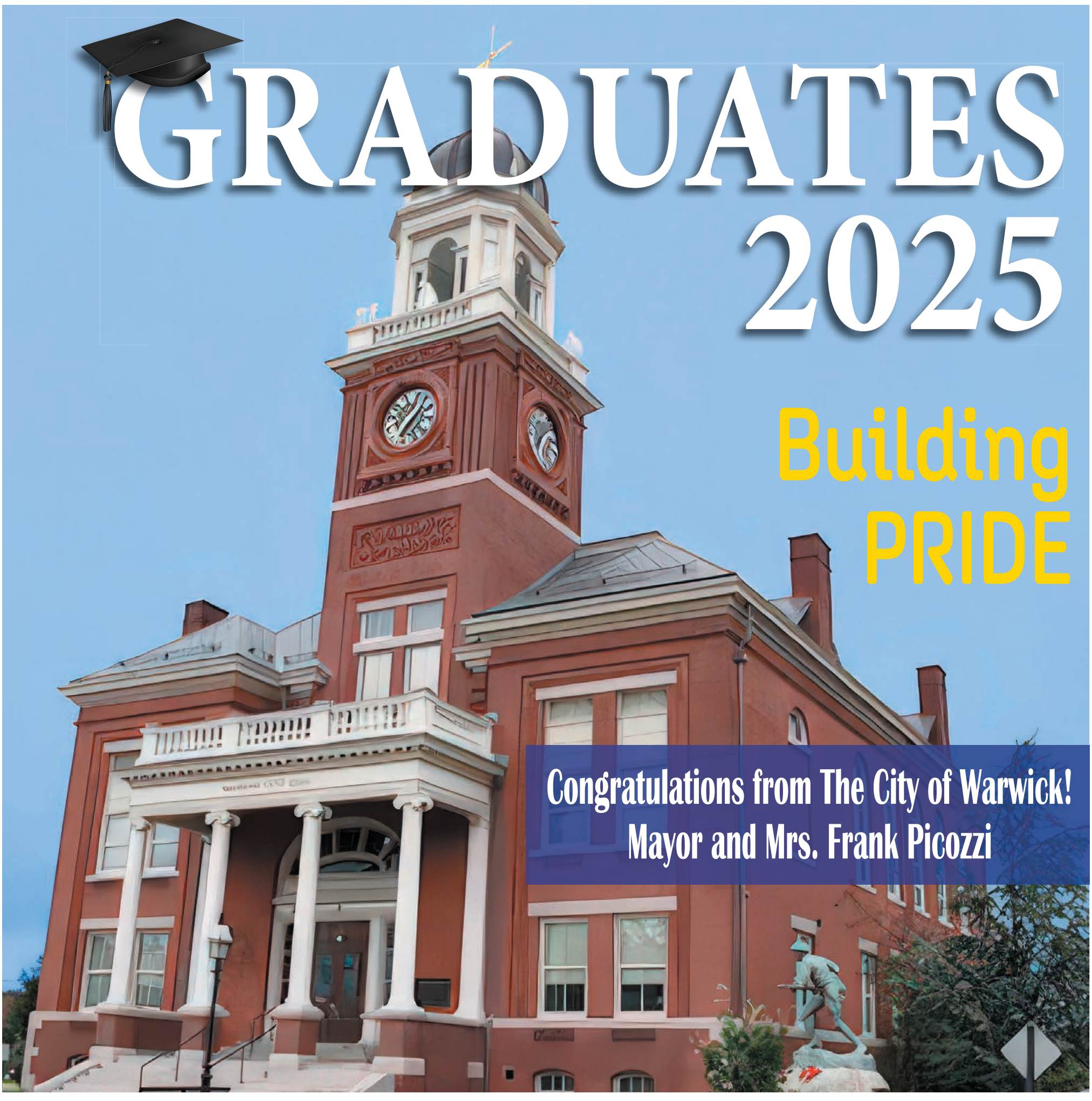


A special performance by Rebecca Farias, accompanied by Elias Ryan.

2025 Toll Gate High School Graduates

Dima Laith Al Sallami
Anabella Leticia Alcantara
Emma Allen
Jaiden-Tyree Alves
Braydon Russell Amaral
Stephen Amargo
Trinity Angell
Austin Audet
Joseph Aunchman
Haley Jane Authelet
David M. Bagian
Samantha Riley Barr
Brook Bastan
Riley Joseph Baxter
Rylee Kathleen Berard
Kyle Bickham
Ronald Bliss
Alexander Michael Bottella
Olivia Kylie Bradford
Ryan Scott Brady
Leah Elizabeth Brown
Rion Brown
Jazmin Nicole Budrow
Lena Blake Butera
Juliana Cabral
Michael Caparco
Daphne Sara Cardillo
Ryan Paul Cataldo
Robert Chace
Aaliyah Desirae Charron-Abbott
Christian Noah Chavez
Oliver Chavez
Jadon Antonio Chrouch
Madyson Clark
Levi Coggins-Libian
Massimo Coite
Jack Patterson Colvin
Lyla Grace Costa
Amber Courtney
John Dacey
Cassandra DaCosta

● GRADS to page 8



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● GRADS from page 7

Aurora Keenan Dailey
John Joseph D'Angelo
Kamryn DeAngelis
Madison Rose DeBlois
Jared Mitchell DeCorpo
Anaise Arianna Delgado Torres
Ava Joyce DelVicario
Benjamin DeNoncour
Nathan Paul D'entremont
Mario DeSimone
Jayden Matthew DeSousa
Avry Kaylinn Dewar
Autumn Rose Diaz
Hannah Elizabeth DiCaprio
Alexander R Dolan
Brayden Drowne
Corey Dufault
Lily Duquet
Noah Durand
Zachary Walter Dyer
Victoria Grace Edge
Leo Ellis
Natalia Rose Emery
Jacob Enos
Mason Enos
Rebecca Veiga Farias
Zane Fernandes
Jackson J. Fields
Conor G. Finegan
Kodin Lee Flagg
Riley Christiann Flynn
Andrew James Francis
Ashlyn Michelle Franco Garmendia
Lucas William Franco
Jacob John French
Nathan Gamba-Masse
Sierra Rose Gardner
Owen Garza
Adrianna Rose Giovanelli
Sam Girard
Gianie Marie Gonzalez
Owen Mitchell Greco
Avery Grier
Liam Lee Harnois
Arielle Willamina Harpin
Melody Lynn Harrison
Jing Jackson Harrison-Viera
Emma Marie Harrold
Brayden Leonard Healey
Isaac Hecker
Sama Laith Hikmat
Emma Hindle
Emilee Lynn Holland
Robert Holland
Harrison Hun
Stephen Michael Hutchison
Nathanial Itteilag
Connor Jackson
Angelina Marie Jennings
Vera Rain Jones
Joshua Michael Jutras
Brennan Kabalkin
Ethan Jason Kazarian
Devin A. Kelly
Jaiden Kilroy
Kayla Rose Kipphut
Jonah LaFauci
Elizabeth Lagergren
Geoffrey Eric Laliberte Jr.
Meredith Lamphier
Kiera Elizabeth Lavalley
Ian T. Lavoie
Leif Lawrence
Ian Leahy
Liam Leahy
Shamus Michael Leahy
Brady Leigh
Katelyn Leonard
Kelsee Leonard
Megan Chartley Levett
Nicholas Lill
Savanna Hope Lill
Daniel Lin
Drew Loiselle
Tara J. MacGregor
Haylee Patricia Marandola
Steven Paul Marandola
Tatiana Destiney Marmol-Cashwell
Ava Alisabeth Marrocco
Durante Amir Martins
Aylah Maxwell
John Henry Maynard
Joshua Thomas Maynard
Joseph Richard McCormick
Dylan McCracken
Mary Elizabeth McNulty
Jayden Medeiros
Ella Mehta
Rain K. Mello
Isabelle Ann Menard
Juanita Sheila-Marie Mendez
Sean Mendez
Nathan Daniel Mer
Anthony Merola
Flora Lee Meunier
Grant Meunier
Isabella Meyer
Julianna Ashley Meyer
Jaedyn Miga
Kyleigh Minn
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Ayla Paley
Jennifer Palmisciano
Abigail Parenteau
Gabriel Parrillo
Julianna Pauley
Abigail Paulhus
Mason Payne
Seth Payne
Alexia Marie Peckham-Fusco
Samuel Pena
Andy Jean Peralta
Alanna Pereira
Lorenzo Perez
Cayden Petrarca
Angelo Petrone
Cristina Marie Plante
Teagan Lynne Platt
Caroline Polo
Izaiah Poston
Joshua Allan Quimby
Aidan Quinton
Marcos Ramirez
Damian Raposa
Brendan Reilly
Brielle Olivia Renshaw
John Ricci
Daemon Rigollet
Aiden Gonzalo Rios
Elexis Rivera
Ana Carolina Rodrigues Braga
Giada Celeste Rodriguez
Jared Thomas Sabatelli
Victoria Salinas
Lorenzo Salvador
Connor Salzillo
Alonzo Jesus Sanchez
Arison Santana
Keith Santo
Anthony Siconio
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Adriana Elise Smith
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Jalissia Smith
Jania Smith
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Dezmin Sullivan
Hayden Sweet
Lillian May Szewczyk
Kaitlin Szymkowicz
Paige Isabelle Tapley
Maxx Tejada
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Allen Thimas
Shiyuan Tian
Bryan Tombs
Azairah R. Townes
Tye Traverse
Logan Tucker
Emily Tullie
Adrian Valdez
Hailey Venticinque
Connor Ventura
Hanna Ventura
Ryan Waleryszak
Nathan Warhurst
Katelyn Watson
Danica Weedon
Kate Whelan
Nicholas White
Jayda Whitford
Cayden Williams
Amelia Wilson
Delaney Wilson
Jack Wilson
Kason Wirtz
Joan Yao
Zachary Yehle
Alexandra Zinno
Jareksa Zuniga

Congrats
GRADUATES



Best Wishes Class of 2025

RISLA
Preparing, Planning, and Paying for Your Education Journey

Her own Little Library is Cowesett woman's hub

By ALYSSA WALKER
Beacon Media Contributor

At the corner of Meeting House Lane and Red Chimney Drive sits Jenn's Little Library, a gift to Jenn Cusack and the rest of her Cowesett neighborhood.

Cusack, who has been battling cancer, had always expressed her desire to have her own little library. Her group of friends, whom she calls the "under the tree gang" recently made that dream come true by giving her a Little Library under the tree where they all met.

The library, months in the making, was a surprise as Cusack's friends ordered it and arranged an Adopt-a-Spot before officially surprising her last year. Since then, she has hand-painted the library with scenes from her childhood and continues to keep it stocked with books, dog treats and stickers.

Cusack is "very proud" of the library and spends a good bit of time there, stocking it or watching others visit it. Its location has made it a popular spot for the children of Cedar Hill Elementary School as well as dog walkers.

"I've never met anybody more optimistic in my life," said Maureen Hager, a friend who helped arrange the surprise. "She can be facing the worst and will still always be there to cheer others up."

If you're in the area, stop by Jenn's Little Library to take or leave a book and continue supporting Jenn Cusack's Little Library crossroads.



Jenn Cusack with her very own Jenn's Little Library. *Submitted photo*

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Fire drill a surprise for retiring teacher

Warwick Beacon staff report

As elementary schools are required to conduct so many fire drills in the course of the academic year, it made perfect sense that Warwick Neck Elementary Principal Francis Galligan should inform the faculty of a drill Thursday morning.

The drill was carried out flawlessly, with the students filing out of the building to gather in the back play yard. But unlike previous fire drills, this one was a surprise to Catherine J. Maguire, who is retiring after 32 years of teaching at Warwick Neck. She found her husband, Bob, and her father, John Phillips, seated beside a podium in front of the school's community garden. And what followed was an outpouring of appreciation for her dedication and contribution to the Warwick Neck School community over the years. There were bouquets, cards, tears, laughter, a poem to Maguire, the unveiling of a plaque dedicating the garden to Maguire and even rocks. Yes, painted "kindness rocks" that a select group of students placed along the garden interior.

The inscription on the plaque reads, Kindness grows in Mrs. Maguire's Garden."

One minute teary-eyed and the next laughing, Mrs. Maguire, as she is known by her students, stood to hug those who spoke and draw them in beside her like a mother hen. She was especially moved by the remarks of former student Hailey Hayes, now a seventh grader, who also wrote a poem naming Maguire.

Anne Goldman, a representative from the Volunteers of Warwick Schools, said Maguire was an advocate for all of the positive programs that VOWS brings into Warwick schools. "Mrs. Maguire was always the first to sign up because she believed in what we did," she said.



Catherine Maguire embraces Holly Hayes and Nova Kruse, who gave her a photo album at a surprise dedication of the Warwick Neck School community garden in her name last Thursday. Maguire is retiring after teaching for 32 years at the school. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*

Shaun Galligan, chair of the Warwick School Committee and the brother of the Warwick Neck principal, told of the groundbreaking for new Toll Gate and Pilgrim High Schools earlier in the week and how the new schools would be there for the students gathered. He said it was the first time he had been called on to speak at a fire drill dedication.

It was then that Maguire expressed her gratitude. "I can't thank you enough. It's very bittersweet to leave, but I am not going anywhere. I will be back to volunteer. I will not disappear from the school, since it's been my home for 32 years. I love you all," she said.

In comments following the ceremony, Maguire said she thought it was time for her to retire and do some traveling. She said she and her husband plan on seeing parts of this country. But she doesn't expect to distance herself from the school either physically or mentally. She'll be there.

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City Council backs bill protecting use of prescription drug savings

By TARA MONASTESSE
Beacon Media Staff Writer

At a June 2 meeting, the Warwick City Council approved a resolution that requests General Assembly support for a pharmaceutical discount bill.

The "Defending Affordable Prescription Drug Costs Act," which passed the Rhode Island Senate on May 13, prohibits insurance providers and other entities from discriminating against health care agencies that use the federal 340b discount program.

The program allows health care agencies such as hospitals to purchase prescriptions at a discounted rate and invest the saved funds in patient care. The bill would prohibit pharmaceutical companies and other providers from reimbursing 340b agencies less money as a discriminatory response to the discount.

The bill awaits House approval. Rep. Marie Hopkins of Warwick is a sponsor, along with four other representatives.

Lisa Tomasso, senior vice president of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island, testified in favor of the bill at the meeting.

"The legislation puts a restriction on manufacturers from being able to siphon those savings off for their own benefits," Tomasso said.

The 340b program includes health care providers that serve a high percentage of poor and uninsured patients. Tomasso said that four hospitals in Rhode Island are classified as 340b entities, including Kent Hospital in Warwick.

The resolution passed with seven "yes" votes, one "no" and a recusal. Before the vote, Councilman Vincent Gebhart, who would vote no, thanked Tomasso for her educational testimony but expressed reluctance to vote yes at the city level on a state-level issue.

"I think we need to be very cautious about the types of statewide issues we weigh into," he said.

Tomasso replied that the legislation would be "critical in order to maintain operations and to be able to continue the expansion of services that are being provided to the most vulnerable people in Kent County."

Critics claim the bill contains a loophole that would allow hospitals to exploit vulnerable patients for profit.

Patrick Plues, senior vice president of state government relations at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization, believes the bill would allow hospitals to benefit by pocketing the funds gained by the discounts rather than investing them in patient care.

"While the 340b program was originally intended to support vulnerable patients, the reality today is that some large hospital systems are exploiting it with little oversight," Plues wrote in a emailed statement to the Warwick Beacon. "[This bill] would entrench this problem by expanding access to 340b profits without requiring any transparency or patient benefit … Before expanding the program, lawmakers should demand accountability to ensure these savings actually support patient care, not hospital bottom lines."

Lauren Greene, a spokesperson for HARI, says that characterization is "way off base."

"I would say that that is absolutely not the case in how the 340b program has historically run in Rhode Island," Greene said. "In the current climate of health care in Rhode Island, which is already facing a crisis due to low reimbursement rates, the 340b program and legislation in front of the Rhode Island legislature is yet another tool in the tool box that allows them to subsidize the care for those on Medicaid and Medicare."

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GUEST OPINION

Hidden effects of proposed tax on 'top 1%'

By LAURIE WHITE

If Rhode Island drives out its top earners with higher taxes, it's not just the wealthy who leave – it's their tax dollars, too. And when that happens, the rest of us are left footing the entire bill for running the state.

That's the hidden consequence behind H 5473 / S 329 and similar proposals aimed at increasing taxes on the so-called "top 1%." The proposals may sound fair on the surface, but they risk hollowing out our tax base and leaving the other 99% of Rhode Islanders – working families, small business owners and middle-income taxpayers – holding 100% of the burden. That's not justice. That's economic self-sabotage. And we should all be angry about it.

Rhode Island's economic strength relies on smart, forward-looking decisions that grow opportunity – not punish success. If we want to create jobs, retain talent and support the public services our communities rely on, we must stop turning to short-sighted revenue grabs that undermine the very foundation of our economy.

Most Rhode Islanders can't simply pick up and move. They're tied to their communities, their schools, their mortgages. When the economy contracts, they're the ones left standing in it. The most dangerous part of tax migration is that it doesn't come with a press release. People don't send out farewell emails or hold news conferences when they decide to shift their legal residence, move assets or change the trajectory of their financial lives. They simply do it – quietly, deliberately and often long before any official data catches up.

That's the flaw in arguments that say "there's no evidence people are leaving." By the time evidence appears in a dataset, the damage is already done. These are decisions made at kitchen tables, with financial advisors, behind closed doors – not captured in exit polls. And once those dollars, jobs and charitable gifts are gone, they're extraordinarily hard to recover.

Meanwhile, Rhode Island is competing every day for people, capital, and credibility. Massachusetts may have enacted a millionaire's tax, but it's operating from a position of strength – anchored by world-class institutions, global tech hubs and deep pools of capital. Rhode Island doesn't have that kind of margin of error. Our economy is more fragile. Our talent base is more mobile.

And here's the bigger question: What are we doing to bring people back from Florida? Thousands of former Rhode Islanders – entrepreneurs, executives, professionals and retirees – have already left, not out of disloyalty, but because they felt they were being pushed out. Let's reverse that by passing a Welcome Back to Rhode Island tax package before the end of this legislative session – a bold, strategic initiative to invite former residents to return, reinvest and rejoin our economic ecosystem. Other states are marketing themselves with smart tax policies. Why shouldn't we?

Today's debate is about whether your kids will have opportunities in a state that grows or one that declines. We urge the General Assembly to reject H 5473 / S 329 and take a more mathematical view of Rhode Island's long-term competitiveness. Don't narrow our tax base . Expand it. Don't squeeze those who fuel our economy. Support them. Don't wait for the data to confirm the exodus. Lead before the session ends.

Laurie White is president of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce

Save this lifeline for RI's distressed children

By DAWN ALLEN

When a child is facing a mental health crisis, time to address it is of the essence. We never think about what we would do in that situation as parents until it's staring us right in the face, but we hope those supports exist when we need them. Emergency rooms are overwhelmed. Police may not be equipped to respond. Schools are already stretched thin.

There is, however, a proven solution operating quietly and effectively across Rhode Island to help children and families: Mobile Response and Stabilization Services, or MRSS.

At Thrive Behavioral Health, a Warwick-based Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, or CCBHC, we are proud to partner with Tides Family Services to deliver MRSS to youth and families in Kent County. MRSS is an evidence-based model that provides immediate, in-person behavioral health care support to children experiencing mental health crises. Providers and specialists meet families where they are – at home, in school or in the community – to stabilize, de-escalate and provide critical follow-up care and family support.

When adequately supported financially and operational, this is a proven approach that works. Since its inception in Rhode Island, MRSS has helped divert more than 90% of youth from psychiatric hospitalization. Not to mention, it's just plain fiscally responsible. To date, MRSS has saved the state an estimated $2.2 million by reducing unnecessary emergency department visits.

But despite its positive outcomes and track record of success, MRSS is at risk.

Right now, Thrive and our nonprofit partners are funding this crisis response system for all youth in Rhode Island, but we are only reimbursed when the youth in crisis is covered by Medicaid and enrolled in a CCBHC. That means families with private insurance, who make up nearly half of our MRSS calls, are relying on a lifesaving service that their insurance plans do not cover. As a result, Thrive is operating at a deficit of more than $15,000 each month just to serve privately insured youth at their most vulnerable. That funding gap is not the result of inefficiency or mismanagement – it is the result of a system that has not kept pace with the needs of our children and families.

But there is hope.

There is currently legislation before the Rhode Island House that would reinforce the importance of MRSS as a vital part of Rhode Island's behavioral health continuum. House Bill 6118 would require all insurers – private and public – to reimburse for MRSS just like any other behavioral health service. House Bill 5527 would direct Medicaid to establish MRSS as a reimbursable program through a State Plan Amendment, ensuring its long-term sustainability.

Families in Cranston, Johnston and Warwick are already benefiting from MRSS. But without enacting this legislation, those services are in jeopardy. Our families cannot afford to exist in this current system, where access to emergency mental health care depends on who insures your child. We cannot continue asking nonprofit providers to shoulder the cost of a statewide crisis intervention system alone.

Passing H6118 and H5527 would level the playing field in behavioral health crisis care. It would ensure that all children in Rhode Island – regardless of their insurance coverage – can access timely, professional mental health intervention when they need it most. And it would strengthen our broader system by reducing the burden on hospitals, school systems and law enforcement.

As a provider rooted in the Warwick community, Thrive Behavioral Health urges continued support from our local legislators. We are grateful for their longstanding commitment to mental health and know they understand what's at stake. With these legislative fixes, we can build a stronger, more equitable, and more responsive system for all families in Rhode Island.

Let's make sure no child in crisis falls through the cracks, especially when it's avoidable and has a solution.

Dawn Allen is the interim CEO and chief of staff of Thrive Behavioral Health in Warwick. Thrive is a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic and one of the state's leading providers of mental health care for children and adults.

● PRINCIPAL from page 1

to call in the authorities. She said the school system has a responsibility to follow up on reports of inappropriate behavior.

'Case thrown out'

Garrity was told police viewed the video and found no reason to investigate the matter. "The case was thrown out," she said.

That would have likely been the end of the incident had Izzi and the parish priest, Fr. Andrew Messina, reinstated Petrarca after placing him on paid leave. Instead, according to Evan Shanley, another St. Rose of Lima parent, Petrarca refused to sign a document returning him to his job because it didn't clear him of allegations of misdeeds. Shanley and his wife, Meredith, have withdrawn their son, a second-grader, from the school and canceled plans to send their daughter to kindergarten there this fall. Garrity and Meredith Shanley are sisters.

Online petition circulated

Garrity wanted to learn more.

She talked with other parents and learned they were not allowed to see the video and didn't understand why Petrarca hadn't been reinstated. Meredith Shanley said she and her sister confirmed that Warwick police and the DCYF saw no reason to follow up on the complaint. Last week Garrity went on Change.org to post an online petition calling for new school leadership. In part it reads, "the current administration has displayed a pattern and practice of intentionally and repeatedly misleading parents, failed to address a culture of bullying within the school, failed to protect innocent and highly effective teachers, and failed to appropriately supervise, support and hold staff to a reasonable standard of performance."

Within the first day the petition garnered 100 signatures. Change.org contacted Garrity and said the website had been asked to take the petition down. Garrity said she provided information including names and correspondence not included in the petition. School administration is referenced in the petition but not the principal's name. The petition stayed online.

Students expelled from school

Throughout, Garrity was in touch with William Klements, the superintendent of diocesan schools.

She said he asked that the petition be taken down so the parties could meet, but she said that would have to wait because the family was going away for the weekend and she wouldn't have computer access. On Friday at 5:30 p.m. she received a call that her daughter and 7-year old son "were no longer allowed back at the school." She was informed her children's records would show they had completed their grades for the year but they would not be permitted to attend end-of-year ceremonies.

She said Klements told her it was out of his hands and the decision was that of Fr. Messina and Principal Izzi. Meredith, a teacher for 17 years – much of it in Warwick schools, who now works with the LEA program at Park School – has likewise been in communication with Klements.

"He's wonderful," she said explaining Klements' willingness to listen and discuss the situation.

The Beacon reached Klements by phone, and he requested that questions be submitted in an email. Of the nine questions, he responded to some but not all of them. This is what he said.

Diocesan superintendent responds

"Thanks for your inquiry. It sounds like you've received some information that may not be entirely accurate and we'd like to help clarify that for you.

"We take parent concerns seriously and all our Catholic schools work and partner closely with parents as first educators of their children. Partnering with parents does involve listening attentively to their concerns, and that has always been the goal at Saint Rose of Lima School. Both the school administration and the Catholic Schools Office have met with and had conversations with parents to hear their concerns. The school and diocese will continue to have those open conversations with families as needed to reassure them that the school does and will continue to provide an exceptional Catholic education in a safe and caring environment for everyone.

"While as a policy we don't comment on personnel matters, we can confirm that Mr. Petrarca was not terminated and was invited to return to his position at the school, which he declined to do. As to your questions about expulsion of students, we also don't comment on individual students or family cases as a matter of policy. What we can say is that in general, expulsions are serious matters that are not taken without much consideration and as a last resort. Expulsions for violations of the school's handbook and policies are rare but are sometimes necessary and within the school's purview to do so.

"Saint Rose of Lima School had a successful school year and looks forward to welcoming families and students back for another school year in the fall."

The Beacon also called the school Tuesday and left a voice message with Izzi. She had not replied as of Wednesday early afternoon.

Principal targeted

Meredith Shanley says her focus is on the kids and what she regards as Izzi's lack of communication with parents and inattention to what's happening in the school. She sees no alternative than for Izzi to leave, and according to her count, at least 15 parents have withdrawn their children from the school.

She helped write the petition that reads, in part: "No one wants to see someone lose their job and it's uncomfortable to put parents in a position where they have to ask for a school administrator to be fired. However, we have no choice because that's the position we have been forced into. Someone who has demonstrated an inability to meet the basic expectations of truthfulness, competence and empathy is not fit to lead our beloved school. This situation is serious and demands your immediate attention and action. Should you fail to take action, many of us will be forced to find a new school for our children and that is the last thing in the world we want to do."

Christina Woodbine said she has withdrawn her two children from the school, adding in an email "as long as Kim Izzi is principal, my kids will never be in that building."

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Opinion

EDITORIAL



Gaspee Parade spectator on Narragansett Parkway. *Submitted photo by Kath Connolly*

The Gaspee's embers glow

Gaspee Days bring about the beginning of summer with a festive, patriotic flourish and an intensely local celebratory energy that you should experience at least once if you live in Rhode Island.

The commemorating of the Gaspee Affair reminds us that at one point, our nation was not a nation at all. We were a playground for a monarchy an ocean away – a laboratory it could impose its restrictive rules upon and exploit financially without worry that its subjects might want to speak for or represent themselves.

While the burning of the HMS Gaspee was not the incident that ultimately triggered the American Revolution, it was one of thunderbolts that reverberated throughout the Colonies at the time, making it clear that the time for standing up to the British Crown was imminent. The overreach of British rule was symbolized by the authoritarian image of the Gaspee, and its burning became a powerful symbol that such tyranny was headed for a fight.

We would be wise to remember what the Sons of Liberty were fighting for when they set the schooner ablaze on June 9, 1772.

They were fighting against a government that trampled on the basic human rights of its people, that imposed policies that prevented them from securing a prosperous life for themselves and their kin. They were fighting against too much power being vested in one person who too often supplanted the will of the people with the will of himself.

We would argue that the Sons of Liberty would be uneasy with the consolidation of power we are seeing today coming from the current leader of the executive branch.

In a retreat from freedom aided by the obsequious surrender of our tyrant's morally vacant allies in the legislative branch and the disappointing indulgence of the Supreme Court, the checks and balances that countless thousands have died to protect in our system of government are being put through a stress test like the nation has never seen.

Just as there were Colonists who supported the British and decried the burning of the Gaspee as treason, there are people today who simultaneously fly flags warning the government not to "tread" on them while they celebrate this executive (without any discernible sense of irony) as he threatens protesters with violence and activates the military to patrol domestic streets as if they were a foreign combat zone, as he undermines the foundational pillar of due process that supports our entire justice system, and as he rules by decree rather than through the legislative process that has underscored our entire nation's history.

Perhaps it is fitting, then, that on the same day that we locally celebrated our historic act of rebellion, thousands of people across the nation stood up to protest the very same thing and declare that America never has been and never will be the playground of a megalomaniacal king.



A parade with a rich history



This Side Up

by John Howell

You know there's going to be a parade long before the Pawtuxet Rangers raise their muskets and fire a volley into the air.

I was too early for the volley and, in fact, seeing that it was spluttering rain, I questioned what I would find when I approached Spring Green Road in Governor Francis Farm on Saturday morning. The adjoining roads were free of parked cars, and it looked like many potential spectators had chosen to skip the 2025 edition of what has become a June tradition to commemorate the burning of the British schooner Gaspee on June 9, 1772. Might some of the parade regulars also have chosen not to make a soggy march down the parkway and across the bridge into the village center?

My hopes were lifted as I approached the parkway. It was alive. A police officer detoured traffic. The Rangers in all their spit and polish lingered in the open road, although there were tents nearby. Ray Morgan, who has seen every Gaspee parade since the first one 60 years ago, came over to say hello. He was wearing an off-white suit and a patriotic tie. With him was Mark Russell, who had recruited him to carry the historic mace at the head of the parade.

"It's not hot. I can walk it," Ray said confidently. Mark would drive the convertible following him should Ray, now 88, decide to take a break. While this was a first for Ray, it was a last for Ron Barnes as commander of the Rangers. He would step down in a ceremony that afternoon at Pawtuxet Park.

Ron looked up. The sky was gray and there was the occasional drop. "Holding off so far," he said optimistically. And what would the Rangers do if the skies opened up? Ron didn't pause to consider. They would keep marching, only they would shed their red woolen jackets and stay the course in their "whites." I didn't need the details nor, fortunately did I see the transition. It spat but it didn't really rain. They kept their red jackets.

Elected officials started appearing. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse looked official in his suit and quite unprepared should the clouds open up. He lifted a tightly rolled umbrella. "It's a good cane, too," he said.



Not that they are known as a chorus, the Pawtuxet Rangers sang happy birthday to Jeanne Knowles before stepping off to lead the Gaspee Days parade on Saturday. Jeanne celebrated her 99th birthday on Sunday. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*

Bubbly as ever, Lt. Gov. Sabina Matos greeted me with arms open and a bright smile. She was going to march no matter the weather.

Ron motioned for me to follow him. The Rangers were gathering, yet it wasn't near the start of the parade. They lined up in front of a tent where one of their ranks sat in a chair under the protection of a tent.

I've seen Jeanne Knowles for as long as I've attended Gaspee Days parades, or at least 50 years. Adjutant General Andrew Chevalier was there, as was Kasim Yarn, the state's director of Veteran Services. Something was up.

Jeanne could tell. She got up to join her fellow Rangers. The general presented her with a coin. And Kasim had a presentation as well. Then, at Ron's direction, the entire assembly sang happy birthday. It was one day premature, but totally appropriate as a prelude to a parade. Jeanne celebrated her 99th birthday the following day.

Jeanne has had a long relationship with the Pawtuxet Rangers, but not as long as with the Gaspee Days that sprung from Dave Stackhouse at a summer 1965 meeting at the Knowles' home. Her husband, Hazard "Hap" Knowles, became president. Nine years later, during the bicentennial and while interest in Colonial militia was high, Bob Lynch talked of reactivating the Cranston Blues. Jeanne wouldn't hear of it. She told Bob to reactivate the Rangers, and within two weeks he had the charter. At about the same time, Hoot Hartman started the fife and drum corps.

She has been a Ranger for more than 50 years. For a while she was the unit nurse but tired of it.

"What the heck," she remembers thinking, "I might as well learn the fife." She did and still plays.

Jeanne recruited Ron 37 years ago. She spotted him in the Cranston East band and thought he would make a great drummer. Ron probably wouldn't have stuck it out if it wasn't for another Ranger, James Collinson. As Ron recalls, Jim would call to let him know about rehearsals. Ron came up with excuses, but Jim didn't accept them and said, "I'll be right over."

Reflecting on his 21 years as commander, Ron said his job was made easy because members want to be there. He is especially proud of a grant that has enabled the Rangers to fund an endowment that will grow and ensure their future.

And it all had its start when he was in school at Cranston East and Jeanne recognized a good drummer when she spotted one.

GUEST OPINION

Career and tech education works; guns in schools don't

By JOSEPH H. CROWLEY

Wow! a twofer ... Career and Technical Education and Guns in Schools: Two of my favorite topics in one issue of the Herald.

Not all roads lead to college. As a career and technical educator, both teacher and administrator, the realization that college is not the be all and end all of education is so timely. Having started teaching computer programming in 1968, and having served as an administrator in three Career and Technical Centers, I have been fighting the college prejudice for a half century.

Having attended my granddaughter's Cranston Career and Tech Education (CTE) awards ceremony last evening, it was so heartwarming to see 303 Cranston CTE graduates recognized for their achievements. It is about time.

Throughout the "'60s, '70s, '80s, '90s and into the 2000s, forgoing college to become a craftsperson was denigrated, as noted in the June 5 editorial, "Not all roads lead to college." College was the only way to succeed, according to prevailing logic.

What most missed was the huge costs of attending college, both in tuition and being out of the workforce for four years. What was missed was the fact a third of college students drop out in the first year. Just over 60% of college students will earn a degree – notwithstanding the debt that college tuitions represent even for non-graduates. That is especially true for non-graduates who leave college without the degree that was supposed to be their passport to success. Unemployment of college dropouts hovers just below 20%. What was missed is that two thirds of jobs do not require a college degree.

Our high schools are finally realizing the potential provided by a sound education in many career fields that do not require a college degree. It is so gratifying to see that day finally arrive. For many years, I have advocated for Career and Technical programs. When I retired from my last position, as the principal/director of the Warwick Career & Technical Center, I left my successor with a statue I had kept in my office for a couple of decades. It was Sisyphus, pushing his rock up the hill. It looks like the CTE rock is finally approaching the top.

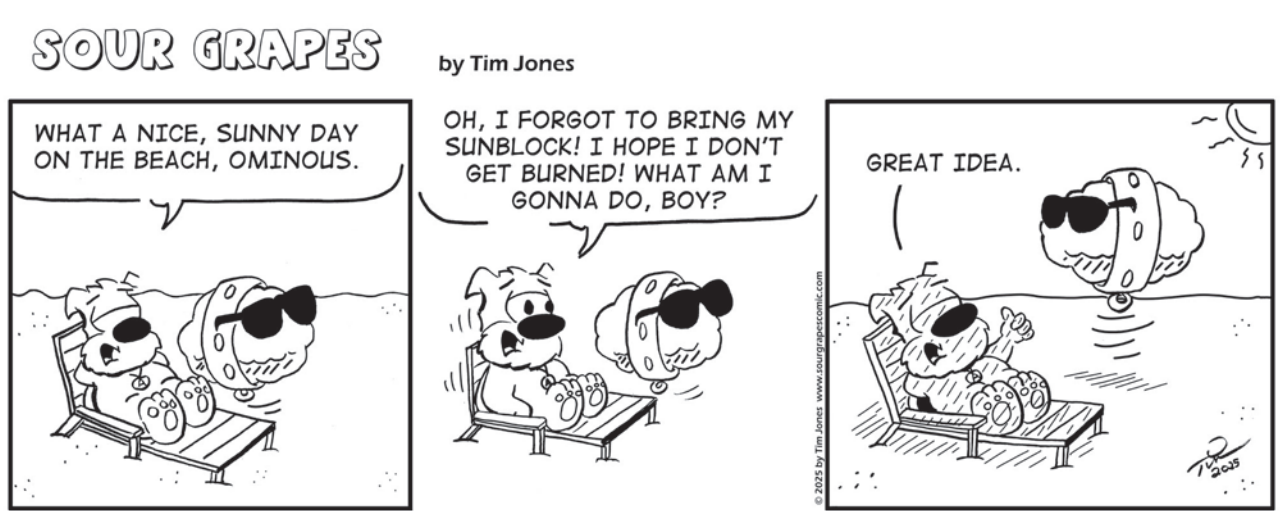
More guns in schools? Let us start with a quote from the Learning Policy Institute: "A recent study of every intentional school shooting from 1980 to 2019 found that there was no relationship between having an armed officer on the school grounds and the rate of injuries."

An armed person in a school has little chance of interceding if a school shooting occurs. Most damage is done by a school shooter in the first minutes of an attack. An armed employee would need to be close by to make a difference.

There are many kinds of school shootings. Roughly one half of school shootings, the kind in which the shooter is seeking some type of revenge on the school, most often for bullying, are by students within the school. Steps can be taken to identify students likely to ideate a school shooting. Their behavior in such things as drawing disturbing images, messages and postings, conversations with friends and classmates is indicator of someone the school needs to address. Counseling needs to be provided. Parents need to be informed. Guns need to be removed from the home. Action can be taken to prevent a catastrophe. But that action is not to have another gun carrier within the school.

Increasing the number of guns in a school is an emotional response to gun safety. What is needed is an intelligent response based on facts. Across the country, the most gun deaths occur where the most guns are.

Joseph H. Crowley, of Cranston, is the retired director of the Warwick Area Career and Technical Center and is now serving as a member of Mayor Frank Picozzi's School Budget Commission.



GUEST OPINION

We need better paid family leave in RI

By BECKA CARROLL

Paid family leave in Rhode Island – referred to on Smith Hill as TCI, or Temporary Caregiver Insurance – is long overdue for an update.

\For too many years, low-wage workers in our state have paid into TCI without the option to ever use it. Who among us, especially those earning minimum wage, can afford to take a 40% pay cut? Certainly not anyone already struggling to make ends meet.

Rhode Island has the highest employee payroll tax and one of the lowest wage reimbursement rates for a state paid family and medical leave program. The result? The paltry 60% wage reimbursement we have is wholly insufficient to sustain families during a time of medical crisis or the birth of a baby.

This year, legislation at the State House – if passed – would finally expand the wage reimbursement rate from 60% to 70% by January 2026, and up to 75% after January 2027. This reduces the income gap and improves both equity and access for working families in our state to be able to utilize the benefit they've already paid into. Additionally, by expanding the number of weeks people can utilize paid family leave, true caregiving becomes much more realistic.

Most people who utilize TCI benefits in Rhode Island are parents welcoming a new baby to their family. Medical research is abundantly clear that newborns who have longer bonding times with parents experience better socio-emotional, behavioral, temperamental and developmental outcomes. Sufficient bonding time benefits mothers and birthing parents, too; rates of maternal depression are decreased when paid family leave is freely available.

Conversely, returning to work before mothers have fully recovered or established infant bonding negatively affects the health of all involved. The American Academy of Pediatrics has applauded policy that provides 12 weeks of paid family leave, which would be accomplished by January 2028 with the passage of H 6066 and S 0974.

Apart from child care, no one should have to return to work before they have been able to help a family member fully recover from an illness, injury or medical event. Rhode Island has an aging population that will make aging in place and family caregiving even more crucial in the years to come.

Now is the time to act to make TCI – and thereby, caregiving – more realistic and accessible for families across our state. Good paid family leave policy is good for small businesses. Paid family leave is proven to save businesses money and improve employee satisfaction. Importantly, the program is fully funded by employees via a payroll tax, so there is no cost burden on the business or the state. Expanding the number of weeks available to Rhode Islanders from 6 to 12 would also boost the state's economy, as benefits such as paid leave are among top considerations for professionals seeking jobs.

States with poorer paid leave policies are far less attractive to people considering relocating for their careers, and paid family leave is an area in which Rhode Island has fallen far behind. Massachusetts and Connecticut both provide up to 12 weeks of paid leave and have more inclusive family definitions than Rhode Island now does.

In order for Rhode Island to be a place where people want to live, and for our families and aging population to be appropriately and sufficiently cared for, paid family leave urgently needs an upgrade. Let's make this the year it finally happens – for all Rhode Islanders.

Becca Carroll is a Cranston resident who holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Rhode Island and an alumna of the Women's Fund of Rhode Island's 2023-2024 Women's Policy Institute.

LETTERS

LA demonstrations obstructed 'lawful actions'

To the Editor:

Bob Sweeney seems to suggest that there is a moral equivalence between the National Guard and Marines deployed to restore law and order in Los Angeles and the rioters and anarchists who would burn the city to the ground. ("Let's cool the rhetoric in LA," June 12) I think he is terribly mistaken.

These "demonstrations," as Mr. Sweeney refers to them, were planned to obstruct the lawful actions of federal ICE agents attempting to arrest illegal immigrants, some of whom were accused of committing violent crimes. ICE agents were acting in the interest of public safety.

Contrary to what Mr. Sweeney suggests, it is not just the "rhetoric" that is causing these "possibly fatal incidents" to occur, it is the rioting. There should be zero tolerance for those who engage in violent demonstrations, no matter the reason for their alleged "discontent."

A.H. Liddle
Warwick

Please love your country, whoever is president

To the Editor:

As I turn 75, I have a wealth of wisdom that I didn't possess many years ago. I was baptized on the Fourth of July and have always kidded that I am, therefore, a firecracker. I have definitely have always been patriotic.

That is up until the Biden presidency, when MAGA people and Republicans were punished for their views and their speech. I never wrote any editorials in defense of Trump in those years for fear of retribution. Now Trump is president again and I feel a new surge in patriotism. He held a beautiful event and parade yesterday honoring our nation's 250th birthday of the nation's army.

I can understand if people don't agree with everything a president has to say. That's fine. That's democracy. But what I don't understand is the ongoing vitriol and hatred of everything that Trump does.

So while this wonderful positive event was going on honoring our fathers, grandfathers and forefathers and the brave people who died for our country, the Democrats chose to ignore it and protest instead. Couldn't that have been done any other time? They are 364 other days that these could have taken place. People are ignoring their own bloodline and men and women who fought to save this country just to go after this one man?

It makes no sense to me. The people voted. And we elected, by a big majority, President Trump. Can't you put away your hatred of him for one day to honor your own family members and your country? If you really hate this country, you are free to leave.

In this world today, we are always one step away from annihilation. It won't ever again be a war like in the past with missiles and bullets. Israel recently attacked Iran nuclear capabilities. Iran could and was set to send nuclear weapons upon Israel and our own country and could reach our East Coast, namely us.

Please come together under this president for your own sakes. How can hatred of one man be more important than the love of our country, our forefathers and ourselves?

Margaret Porter
Warwick

Legal Notices

Notice of Public Hearing

The Warwick Housing Authority has scheduled a Public Hearing, to discuss the contents of its Five-Year Capital Fund Plan and to invite public comment regarding the Plan. The hearing will be held at 1035 West Shore Road, on August 6, 2025 at 10:30 am. Draft copies of the Five-year plan are available for review and inspection by contacting the Warwick Housing Authority at 401-732-8500. Requests for interpreter services for the hearing impaired must be made in writing to the Warwick Housing Authority no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing.

6/19/25

NOTICE OF LEGAL ACTION

***ROSALBA ZANNI V. GREGORY PETTINATO*,**
FC NO. K2025-2355M

State of Rhode Island Family Court, Warwick, SC ROSALBA ZANNI V. GREGORY PETTINATO, FC No. K2025-2355M. NOTICE: Please take Notice that on April 2, 2025, the Providence County Family Court granted Petitioner's Motion for Alternative Service permitting alternative service on Defendant, Gregory Pettinato, via publication in the Warwick Beacon. Verified Miscellaneous Petition was filed on May 27, 2025. The matter has been scheduled for hearing on **July 9, 2025 at 12:15 p.m.** at Providence County Family Court located at 1 Dorrance Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Defendant, Gregory Pettinato, should contact the Law Office of Timothy J. Robenhymer, 303 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island 02888 at (401) 921-4800.

6/19, 6/26, 7/3/25

STATE WIDE 7

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
Probate Court of the
CITY OF WARWICK
NOTICE
OF MATTERS PENDING AND FOR HEARING
IN SAID COURT
The Court will be in session at
WARWICK CITY HALL
on the dates specified
in notices below at
9:00 AM
for hearing said matters:

CALCAGNI, Albert, Sr., est.
Probate of Will; for hearing June 26, 2025

DAVIDSON, Dorothy Starr, est.
Probate of Will; for hearing June 26, 2025

HICKS, Dorothy M., est.
Executor's 1st & Final Account; for hearing June 26, 2025

KING, Charles H. alias Charles Henry King, est.
Sale of Real Estate for property located at 80 Opper Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889 further designated as Assessor's Plat 332 Lot 645; for hearing June 26, 2025

MARSELLO, Judith, est.
Miscellaneous Petition; for hearing June 26, 2025

NORDSTROM, Cynthia K., est.
Executrix's 1st & Final Account; for hearing June 26, 2025

O'DELL, King B. Jr., est.
Executor's 1st & Final Account; for hearing June 26, 2025

ROSATI, Jacob, est.
Guardianship Petition; for hearing June 26, 2025

ROSATI, Joseph, est.
Guardianship Petition; for hearing June 26, 2025

ROSS, Charles, L., III, est.
Removal Petition; for hearing June 26, 2025

SOUTHWICK, Valerie M., est.
Sale of Real Estate for property located at 125 Wentworth Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889 Further designated as Assessor's Plat 355, Lot 0672; for hearing June 26, 2025

THIEL, Charles August alias Charles A. Thiel, est.
Probate of Will; for hearing June 26, 2025

WEST, Dolores E. alias Dolores Ellen West, est.
Probate of Will; for hearing June 26, 2025

BADESSA, Marie C. alias Marie Camilla Badessa, est.
Joanne Crabtree has qualified as Administratrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

CANDJON, Paul G. alias Paul Candjon, est.
Arlene Snook has qualified as Executrix (Mark Hamer, Esq. of 1 Custom House Street, Ste.2A, Providence, RI 02903 as agent); creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

CENAMI, Paula Lois, est.
Lois C. Graydon has qualified as Administratrix (J. Katherine Scott of 392 Wamponoag Trail, Riverside, RI 02915 as agent): creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

CHASE, Allen Thomas, est.
Thomas A. Chase has qualified as Administrator; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning May 22, 2025

COLLINS, Nancy L. alias Nancy Lee Collins, est.
Erin Preble & Michael Collins have qualified as Co-Administrators; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

DICK, Nicholas, est.
Maria & Michael Collins have qualified as Co-Guardian's; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

FEROLITO, Lisa M. alias Lisa Marie Ferolito, est.
Jennifer Collins has qualified as Administratrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

HANNA, Gertrude L. alias Gertrude Louise Hanna, est.
Robin A. Thacker has qualified as Executrix; Creditors must file their claims in the office of The Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

HERNANDEZ, Sean, est.
Melissa Catano has qualified as Guardian of Person & Estate; creditors must file their claims In the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

KRUSE, Nova A.H. alias Nova Ann Hope Kruse, est.
Lori Dutcher & Louise Brown have qualified as Co-Guardians of the Person & Estate: creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

QUIRK, Michael J., est.
Sharon Q. Capuano has qualified as Administratrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning June 12, 2025

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the City Clerk's Office at (401) 738-2006 Ext 4 at least (48) hours in advance of the hearing.

ATTEST: LYNN D'ABROSCA, CITY CLERK

6/12, 6/19/25

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF WARWICK
ORDINANCE NO. O-25-8

APPROVED June 3, 2025 — Frank J. Picozzi MAYOR

ORDER ON THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF HARPER STREET JOHN HERRALD, BARBARA HERRALD, KAREN HERRALD, BRUCE MOORE, MARY MOORE, NANCY STOCKARD, & JASON STOCKARD, PETITIONERS

In the matter of the abandonment of a portion of Harper Street described on Exhibit A attached hereto, it appearing that due notice by advertisement and as described below, has been made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of Title 24, General Laws 1956 and all amendments and additions thereto, and after giving opportunity to the owners of land abutting upon the hereinafter described portion of Harper Street to speak for or against such abandonment and as to the damage, if any, they shall sustain thereby, and after due consideration thereof, it is hereby

ORDERED

1. That the portion of Harper Street described on Exhibit A attached hereto be abandoned for the reason that said premises have ceased to be useful to the public as a highway or driftway.

2. That it is the judgment of the City Council of Warwick that no owner of land abutting on that portion of Harper Street has suffered any damage because of such abandonment, and for this reason the City Council awards no compensation to said abutting owners.

3. That signs shall be placed at each end of that portion of Harper Street having thereon the words "NOT A PUBLIC HIGHWAY".

4. That notice of this order shall be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in English, and further that personal notice of same shall be served upon every owner of land abutting upon that portion of Harper Street as herein described who is known to reside in this State.

5. That the City Clerk be and she is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice to be given in accordance with the provisions hereof, and the Highway Department is hereby authorized and directed to erect and place signs referred to herein.

6. That an Administrative Subdivision of Assessor's Plat 367, Assessor's Lots 488 & 491 meeting the standards as set forth in the *"Subdivision and Land Development Regulations" as amended,* shall be recorded by the interested parties abutting the abandonment, or evidence of abutter's abandoned interest.

7. Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 24-6-1 and Sec. 1-13 of the Code of Ordinances, an appraisal of the fair market value of the abandoned roadway was conducted and based upon that appraisal the Petitioners shall pay $52,137 to the City of Warwick.

Entered as an Order of the City Council this 2nd day of June 2025.

SPONSORED BY:
COUNCILMAN KIRBY

COMMITTEE:
PUBLIC PROPERTIES, LAND USE, AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Attest:
Lynn D'Abrosca, City Clerk

6/12, 6/19, 6/26/25

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Asbury United Methodist Church
143 Ann Mary Brown Drive
Rev. Yohan Go
467-5122
Worship Service 9:30am
Sunday School at 9:30am
Sept – June
asburyumcri.org

Baha'i Faith
Warwick Community
Call for meeting information
800-228-6483

Buttonwoods Bible Chapel
311 Buttonwoods Avenew
401-823-7803
or 508-579-7384

Christ Church
1025 Main St., E.G.
(corner Post & Cedar)
884-8632
www.christchurchec.org

Church of The Apostles
Anglican Church in North America
170 Fairview Ave.
Coventry, RI 02816
821-7609
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
www.apostlesri.org

Church of The Transfiguration
1665 Broad Street
461-3142
Sunday 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Community of Christ Church
292 West Shore Road
Rev. Nancy L. Cornish
Rev. Peter M. Latham
738-0342

Concordia Center for Spiritual Living
292 West Shore Rd.
732-1552
10 am. Sundays
concordiacsl.org

Eckankar Center
2914 Post Road, Unit #3
Path of Spiritual Freedom
Light & Sound Services
1st & 3rd Sundays 10 AM
Pastor Mark Lopotoski
738-4727
www.eckankar-ri.org

Faith Baptist Church
765 Commonwealth Ave.
Pastor Matt Vandeleest
738-7664
faithbaptistri.org
Sunday 9:30am & 11:00am

Faith Family Chapel
205 Hallene Rd. (Unit 103)
Pastor Brian Regan
681-4690
www.faithfamilychapel.org

First Congregational Church of Warwick, UCC
715 Oakland Beach Avenue
Pastor Michael Ashe
738-3377
fccwri.org

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
124 Division St.
East Greenwich

Friendship Baptist Church
2945 West Shore Road
Pastor Kaleb Hall
738-4392
friendshipri.com

Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian
805 Main Avenue
Rev. Dallas Ann Bradel
737-1230
www.gccp.org

Lakewood Baptist Church
255 Atlantic Avenue
Pastor Ron Provencal
781-1136
lakewoodbaptistchurchri.com
Sunday Worship 10am
Offering Zoom for Sunday Services.
Please see website for link.
wwwfacebook.com/LBCWarwick.

Living Faith Christian Church
1201 Greenwich Avenue
739-2444
www.LivingFaithRI.org

Narragansett Bay Baptist Church
1642 West Shore Road
Pastor Dru Merrill
738-0600
nbbcri.org

Norwood Baptist Church
48 Budlong Avenue
Rev. George Barclay
941-7040

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1817 Warwick Avenue
Pastor Todd Stange
739-2937
www.pilgrimlutheranri.org

Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church
3257 Post Road
Rev. Scott R. Lee
737-4141
8:00 & 10:00 Holy Eucharist
www.stbarnabaswarwick.org

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
111 West Shore Road
737-3127
Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am
www.stmarkswarwick.com

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
389 Greenwich Avenue
Rev. Hayley Bang
737-6758
stpaulwarwick.org

Saint Timothy Church
1799 Warwick Avenue
739-9552

Saints Rose & Clement Church
111 Long Street
739-0212
Masses: Saturday 4 pm
Sundays 8 am & 10:30 am

SouthPointe Christian Church
200 Pettaconsett Ave.
401-821-9800
Worship Services 9 & 10:30 a.m.
Kids Programming for
Birth-4th grade both services
5th-8th grade Programming
9 a.m. Sundays
High School Programming
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.
southpointeri.com

Spring Green Memorial Church
1350 Warwick Avenue
463-8328
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Rev. Shelton Rucker, Jr.
https://sgmcri.wordpress.com/

Trinity Church
139 Ocean Ave., Pawtuxet
Cranston, RI 02905
8 am & 10 am
10 am is live-streamed on
facebook @trinitypawtuxet
941-4324
http://www.trinitycranston.org/

Warwick Hope Assembly of God
425 Sandy Lane
Pastor Matthew McIntosh
732-0634
Sunday Service 9:30 am.
Bible Study Wed. 7 pm

Warwick Central Baptist Church
3270 Post Road
Pastor Sam Chesser
739-2828
wcbc01@verizon.net
Service Sundays at 10:15 AM

Warwick Christian Fellowship
358 Warwick Neck Avenue
Pastor Steve Reickett
739-26606

Westminster Unitarian Church
119 Kenyon Ave., E.G.
401-884-5933
Sunday Service 10 am
Streaming on: westminsteruu.org

Woodbury Union Church, Presbyterian
58 Beach Avenue
Rev. Deb Packard
737-8232
WoodburyChurchRI@gmail.com

Obituaries

Robert G. Garafano



Robert G. Garafano, 84, of Warwick, passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, June 15, 2025. Born in Providence, he was the youngest of eight children of the late Erasmus and Antonetta (Timpani) Garafano.

A self-made man with an unmatched work ethic and creative mind, Bob wore many hats throughout his life. He began his entrepreneurial journey with Uptown Autobody in Olneyville. From there, his talent for innovation led him to found K.I.M. Engineering Corp, a fiberglass fabrication company, and Renegade Corp., where he specialized in custom boats and molds. Bob's skills and talents in fiberglass fabrication landed him roles in numerous projects around the globe, most notably including one of Rhode Island's most iconic landmarks—the Big Blue Bug. Most recently, he was the proud co-owner of Mid Cove Marina in Warwick, which also housed his fiberglass business.

True to his nature, Bob named his boat 'Renegade,' a fitting tribute to his determined spirit and unyielding personality. He found joy in the outdoors, fishing, hunting and loved participating in tuna tournaments. He never missed an opportunity to crack a good joke, had a big heart and a deep love for his family. Bob shared a remarkable bond with his loyal companion, Wolf, whom he took in as a pup. The two were inseparable for many years, their unique and powerful connection was a true reflection of Robert's fiercely loyal and caring nature.

He is survived by his devoted daughter, Christine Zapata, and her husband Alejandro; his cherished grandchildren, Nathan, Matthew, and Liliana Zapata; two siblings, Raymond Garafano and Carmella Read; and longtime companion Patricia Antonelli. He was also predeceased by five brothers and sisters.

Relatives and friends are invited to join his Visitation in the Funeral Home on Sunday, June 22, 2025, from 1:00-4:00pm, in the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, 2435 Warwick Ave, Warwick. A Celebration of his life will be held on Sunday, June 29, 2025, from 12:00-3:00pm, at his residence. In lieu of flowers, donations in his honor may be made to Visiting Nurse Home & Hospice, online at https://visitingnursehh.org/giving/

For online tributes and condolences, please visit: www.TheQuinnFuneralHome.com

Thomas White



Tom White was born June 10, 1952, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. In 2018 he was diagnosed with a terminal form of Leukemia called CMML and was given 4 years to live. Tom lived for 7 years and passed away in his home among family and friends on June 9, 2025.

In 1987 Tom began working as a contracted Field Services Supervisor for Thielsch Engineering in Cranston, RI.

In 1990 he moved on to become the Maintenance Superintendent at Our Lady of Providence Center (OLP). The OLP Center is owned by the Diocese of Providence and is located on a 77- acre estate located in the Warwick Neck area of Warwick, RI. At the time of Tom's employment, the estate included the Aldrich Mansion, the Overbrook Academy, a chapel and several historical buildings. Tom oversaw all maintenance, grounds care, construction and renovations on the property for 27 years. He loved his job, he loved the estate, and Tom felt blessed to work with many fine people during his time there.

For 25 years Tom was a close friend to Bill W. Through his involvement with Bill W., he built a "family" of meaningful dear friends whose friendship and support he valued greatly. Tom said his involvement with this "family" gave him purpose and was truly life changing.

Until the onset of Leukemia, Tom enjoyed working out at his gym, walking several miles a day and he enjoyed the beauty of the area in which he lived. He was an avid student of both Roman and Middle Age European history. Tom both fostered and pet sat for numerous dogs over his life and he greatly enjoyed his good friends and family.

Tom is survived by his three siblings, Elizabeth (Raymond), Catherine (Betsy) and Molly (David); four nephews, Travis (Rachel), Charles (Chris), Daniel (Jocelyn) and Brian (Julia); two grandnieces, Ariel and Cora Leigh and a grand nephew, Gavin.

The family would like to thank the staff of Hope Hospice who provided great support and comfort to Tom and his family during his final days. A Celebration of Life was held for Tom at the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, Warwick.

Michelina Angelina (Macarusso) Owen



Michelina Angelina (Macarusso) Owen, 95, of Warwick, passed away on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. She was the loving wife of the late John Edgar Owen. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Nicholas and Amelia (Palumbo) Macarusso.

Michelina was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who provided a loving home for her family. She was an active member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Warwick. Michelina sang in the Church Choir for many years and was a member of the Ladies of St. Anne.

She is survived by her beloved children, Michael T. Owen, Sr. (Deborah) of Cranston, John S. Owen (the late Debra) of Palm Bay, FL, Paul S. Owen (Rosemary) of Melbourne, FL, David J. Owen (Lisa) of Warwick, and Jane A. Owen, her six Grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, her sister, Anna Simonelli of Smithfield, and her best friend, Marion Theroux of Warwick.

Michelina was predeceased by her daughter Maureen J. Yeaw (Jay) of West Warwick.

The family is sincerely grateful to her cherished caregivers, Chantelle Dos Remedios and Christina Angell.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, June 16, 2025 at 11:00AM at St. Kevin Church, 333 Sandy Lane, Warwick. Visitation was held prior to the Mass from 8:00AM – 10:00AM at THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick. Interment took place at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Exeter.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the RI Chapter of MADD, 806 West Shore Road, Warwick, RI 02889.

www.murphyfuneralhomes.org

Timothy D. Packhem



Timothy D. Packhem, a retired Warwick Firefighter, passed away peacefully Monday, June 16, 2025 at his home. Born in Wakefield, RI, he was the oldest of three boys born to Elizabeth A. (McHale) Packhem and the late Lewis P. Packhem.

He proudly served as a Warwick Firefighter for 30 years, dedicating his life to protecting his community. In addition to his service, Timothy was the longtime owner of Packhem Painting. He was a passionate sports fan, particularly devoted to the New England Patriots and Boston Bruins. Golfing was a cherished pastime, and he was a proud member of the Alpine Country Club, where he spent many happy hours on the green. In addition to golf, Timothy loved a good card game and participated actively in a league at the Firefighters Club. A proud "Disney adult," he found immense joy in trips to Disney World, where the magic and wonder aligned perfectly with his vibrant personality. He found immense joy in his annual trips to Longboat Key, Florida, where mornings were spent watching the dolphins swim in the Gulf, and evenings unwound with a cigar, a glass of wine, and breathtaking sunsets from his balcony

Known for his generous spirit and mischievous nature, Timothy was a man who embraced life with enthusiasm. He had a knack for bringing laughter to those around him with his quick wit and love for harmless pranks. He was the central figure of his blended family and made it a priority to maintain a great relationship with both of his former wives, ensuring that family bonds remained strong. Timothy's devotion to his family was evident in every aspect of his life, particularly in the unwavering love and care he showed towards his mother. He was the consummate family man and he will be deeply missed by all those who had the privilege to know and love him.

He was the devoted father of Jessica L. Waters (husband, Sean), Hannah E. Packhem and the late Timothy J. Packhem; cherished 'Grampa' of Timothy (T.J.), Owen and Emma Waters. He was the brother of Andrew Packhem and

Thomas Packhem and the former spouse of Paula Martorelli and Cari Packhem.

His funeral will be held Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 8:45am in the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, 2435 Warwick Ave., Warwick with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10am in St. Kevin Church, 333 Sandy Lane, Warwick. He will be buried alongside his son in St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston. A Visitation will be held in the Funeral Home on Friday, June 20, 2025 from 3-7pm. In lieu of flowers, donations in Timothy's memory may be directed to New England Donor Services, 60 First Ave., Waltham, MA 02451 or www.neds.org.

For information and condolences, visit www.TheQuinnFuneralHome.com

Cynthia Grace (Horton) Gardner



Cynthia Grace (Horton) Gardner, 77, of Warwick, passed away on Sunday, June 15, 2025. She was the loving wife of George M. Gardner, Jr., Battalion Chief, WFD Retd. for fifty-eight years. Born in Central Falls, she was the daughter of the late Robert and Bertha (Gregory) Horton.

Cynthia worked as a Claims Service Representative for Met Life Insurance Company and was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was a longtime member of the Hillsgrove United Methodist Church. An excellent crafter, Cynthia was a member of the Pilgrim Senior Center where she taught quilting classes and enjoyed sewing. She was a volunteer at VOWS and also enjoyed traveling to new places.

Alongside her husband, George M. Gardner, Jr., Battalion Chief WFD Retd. of Warwick, she is survived by her beloved children, Brenda A. Wood (James) of Coventry and Tricia M. Gardner of Raeford, NC, her sister, Roberta Booth (Robert) of Chambersburg, PA, and her grandchildren, Chelsea, Christine, and Trinity.

She was the sister of the late Peg Keenan.

Her Funeral Services are private and entrusted to THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Special Olympics Rhode Island, Inc. 370 George Washington Highway Smithfield, RI 02917.

www.murphyfuneralhomes.org

Carol Pace



May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest. Carol Pace (Hammond) one of 9 children was born on September 30, 1927, in Fredonia Iowa to Eula (née Russell) and Albert Hammond.

Carol was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years Melvin Pace and sons Michael and Lonnie Pace and granddaughter Stephanie Ann Redmond. She leaves her daughters, Donna Rowe (Cranston), Diana Redmond (Warwick) and Alice Pace and her husband Ned Quist (Warwick). She leaves 8 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews scattered across the country.

Carol was a home maker until her youngest child was a senior in high school and then went to work in a factory until moving to Arkansas with her husband. She loved playing dominoes, the card game "Spite and Malice" and watching game shows on TV. Carol enjoyed sewing and made everything from quilts to bibs for seniors to "dammit dolls". An avid traveler Carol visited almost every state in the US and went on several cruises with her daughter Diana. She will be remembered for her kindness and wicked sense of humor.

A memorial service in her honor will be held June 22 at 2pm at Asbury United Methodist Church, 143 Ann Mary Brown Dr., Warwick RI. Burial will be at a later date in Illinois. In lieu of flowers donations may be Asbury United Methodist Church, Hope Hospice or any animal rescue organization you choose.

Condolences may be offered to her family and favorite memories of Carol may be shared online at www.carpenterjenks.com

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE
JUNE 24, 2017



NORA T. LEGAULT

Seven years have passed and our hearts are still broken. I do not believe they will ever heal completely. You were such an important part of our lives. As your husband, I know my life will never be the same and I am sure your children, grandchildren, relatives and friends feel the same way. We love you, we miss you and are so lonely without you. Our love will live forever.

I Love You Mommy,
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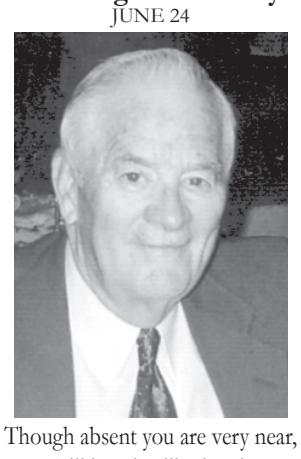
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A preschool class at the Warwick Early Learning Center enjoys some early June sunshine with their Del's treats. *Beacon Media photos by Tara Monastesse*



From left, John Falkowski, Warwick Early Learning Center Principal Lisa Dempsey Indermaur, Kevin Kretchman of Del's Lemonade and Kelly Falkowski.

Cool tribute to preschool staff

On a sunny afternoon last Friday, students and staff at the Warwick Early Learning Center were treated to some free Del's Lemonade to celebrate the start of summer. The frozen lemonade was donated by Kelly and John Falkowski, who were inspired by the hard work of the preschool's staff. John says he was moved by the stories he hears from his wife, Kelly, who works at WELC, about the supportive community at the school.





In time for July Fourth?

Like so many, John "Pete" Morris of Morris Farm on Warwick Avenue is looking forward to some warm sunny weather to welcome summer. But for him and the farm it's more than just soaking in a great time of year. It's about growing corn. Between his farm here and fields in Exeter, Pete says he plants and harvests more than 30 acres of corn. He started planting in April with the expectation of the first harvest in time for the Fourth of July. He's got his fingers crossed. His most recent planning was last Friday as he laid out his corn maze, which should be high in time for Halloween. The fresh sprouts pictured here were planted about a month ago. *Beacon Media photos by John Howell*

Earning honors at Saint Raphael Academy

The following Warwick students achieved honor roll status for the third quarter marking period in academic year 2024-25 at Saint Raphael Academy:

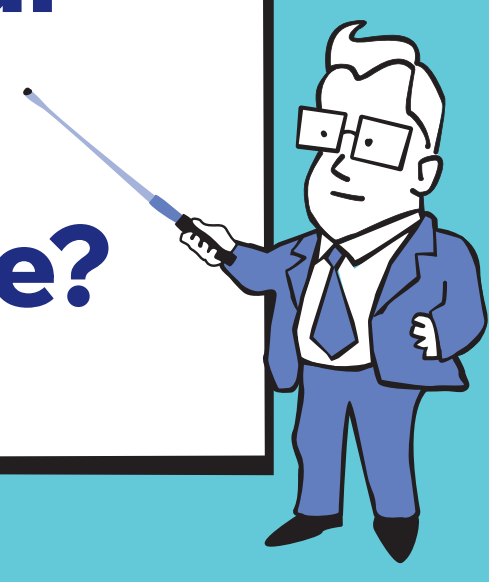
First Honors

Grade 9 - Grace Shea
Grade 12 - Gracie Lemieux

Second Honors

Grade 10 Isabella Alcantara and Hailey Berrio
Grade 12 Janjay Barnard and Kaylee Covel

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Lifestyles

For the Love of Books

Warwick woman lauded for Little Free Libraries advocacy

Katie Frazier at the Little Free Library in front of her home in Warwick. *Submitted photo from Kate Frazier*

By ALYSSA WALKER
Beacon Media Contributor

Warwick resident Katie Frazier's Little Library endeavors are evidence that it really is the little things in life that make you happy.

Growing up with a grandmother who read every day of her life, Frazier developed a love of books that she wanted to spread across her Warwick community and all of Rhode Island. In 2015, she established a Little Free Library in the exploratory play area at Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence.

"I realized with the exploratory play area that there was no fun learning aspect for science," Frazier said. "So I thought if we added books, kids could learn about nature that's not just in their backyards, and they could see nature that might be in another part of our country."

Frazier has visited more than 3,750 little libraries across the country and often seeks them out in her travels. This journey started several years ago on her first solo trip out of New England.

"I decided one day to fly out to Cincinnati, and I thought maybe I'd just go to see little libraries. That seemed comfortable to me since I own one here, and everything else just bloomed from there," she said.

Since that first trip, Frazier frequents the map on the LFL website, has friends and family tell her where they have seen them and does research into where she can make her next literary pit stop. Her research once led her to a small town in New Mexico where she found eight little libraries.

There are more than 100,000 Little Free Libraries across the United States and more than 200,000 around the world, the LFL website says.

Over the years, Frazier has also collected more than 4,200 books to put in little libraries that she encounters. She purchases some of them, but most of these books are donated to her by friends and family, saved from landfills or given to her by Buy Nothing groups. There was one occasion where she traveled north of Boston and saved 400 books from a school district that was discarding them.



Frazier's little library at the zoo from 2016, its first anniversary. *Submitted photo from Katie Frazier*



The maintenance team at the zoo gave it a paint job to "spruce it up" in 2019. *Submitted photo from Katie Frazier*

> ***"There are so many book bans in the country that I purchase books to make sure they're still accessible for kids who can't get them from public or school libraries."***
>
> **Katie Frazier**



The side details of the little libraries at Frazier's house illustrate that they are painted to look like the Mad Hatter and March Hare from Alice in Wonderland. *Submitted photo from Katie Frazier*

When visiting little libraries, Frazier makes it a point to leave books for all age groups and reading levels. After often seeing donations of only children's books or only adult novels, Frazier thought it was important to give a variety of books so any age group could get the most out of their visit. She also leaves Easy Readers and children's chapter books for adults looking to improve their reading skills.

Due to her years-long dedication to the mission, Frazier recently won the Little Free Libraries Award for Outstanding Achievement. She was nominated by a friend as well as an anonymous voter because of her advocacy in Warwick and at the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence.

"It is a privilege to recognize Katie Frazier as one of this year's winners of the Todd H. Bol Award for Outstanding Achievement," said LFL Executive Director M. Greig Metzger. "Her volunteer efforts exemplify the vision of the late founder of Little Free Library, Todd Bol, to engage communities and enrich lives through the power of shared books."

Just like Frazier, you can start your own little library at your house. All you need to do is find or build a weather-resistant cabinet. (Frazier upcycled an old newspaper vending box, but you can also purchase a library from the LFL organization), fill it with books and register your library on the LFL website. Frazier hopes that, by continuing to propagate LFLs, more neighborhoods will benefit by more people reading.

"It's to spread the love of books and reading, and it's also for book access. There are so many book bans in the country that I purchase books to make sure they're still accessible for kids who can't get them from public or school libraries," Frazier said.

To find a Little Free Library near you, visit **www.littlefreelibrary.org/map**.

Hermit's death proved a mystery

Back in the Day
by Kelly Sullivan



James Sutton, 61, lived alone in a small shack between the woods of Lincoln Park and the shore of the Pawtuxet River. Sutton was a real estate broker known for being a loner. He saved his riches by opting for rags and liked to approach strangers and flaunt the money he had accumulated. His uniqueness was whispered about in town. He only wore khaki clothes. He hitched rides rather than pay streetcar fare. He survived on bread, crackers and milk, and whatever vegetables he was cultivating in the small garden outside his shack.

One June 1, 1923, Sutton shared with one of his few friends that he had received a letter from his brother Walter in Boston, announcing that Walter's wife was very sick and asking him to come to Boston. James stated that he would probably set out for Massachusetts the following day. Several days passed and the friend became aware that a postcard from Walter had reached the post office in Warwick, explaining that his wife's condition was growing worse and again asking James to please come to Boston.

The friend became concerned. As far as he knew, James had left for Boston days earlier. He went to the shack. As the door was locked, he broke into the small dwelling through a window. There on the floor next to the sofa he found James covered with a blanket. Upon further investigation, he determined that James had been fatally shot in the head.

Police responded to the scene where they dug a .55 caliber slug out of the floor and noticed a bullet mark on a nearby wall. They also found a bloodstained hammer lying not far from the body. James's pockets had been turned inside out. A roll of small bills which totaled $500 and which he'd had in his pocket on June 1, was gone along with the diamond ring valued at $600 that he usually wore on his finger. Police believed James had probably been murdered by someone having issues with him regarding a mortgage. But there was other talk going on among the real estate brokers.

Harold Arthur White was a notary public for local brokers. The 26-year-old was appealing to the ladies and already divorced from his first wife. The woman he was presently courting lived in Woonsocket. Rose McCooey had formerly been employed as a waitress at Dickford's Restaurant on Main Street in East Greenwich. Rose admitted to police that White had asked her to marry him. He had also flashed a diamond ring and a roll of bills, and then seemingly disappeared.

Pearl Briggs of East Greenwich, another female friend of White's, told police that she believed he had boarded the oil tanker Swiftstar which sailed from Providence on June 8. The vessel was headed for San Pedro, Cal. Police learned that, on the evening of June 3, White had packed up all of his belongings from where he was staying at Central Hotel in East Greenwich. He sought out a friend he owed $5 to, paid him back, and left town. Although the police weren't saying much in terms of their investigation, they recouped the diamond which had been stolen from the dead man's finger. It had been placed in a new setting.

Police sent a description of White to the captain of the Swiftstar. It was requested that, if he was found aboard, that he be shackled. As the vessel passed through the Panama Canal, White was recognized and placed in irons. He was arrested when the tanker docked.

After being returned to Rhode Island, White was arraigned on a charge of murder. He pleaded not guilty and was secured in Providence County Jail. During his November 1923 trial, he agreed to plead guilty to a charge of manslaughter. He was then immediately sentenced to serve 20 years in the state prison. After serving his sentence, he moved into the Old Ladies Home in Providence where he had gained employment as a janitor. He later married again and is interred at New Fernwood Cemetery in South Kingstown.

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New management retains O'Rourke's charm

Restaurant Review by DON FOWLER

O'Rourke's Bar and Grill sits along the Pawtuxet River bridge on the Warwick side of the historic village, attracting the locals to their favorite watering hole.

On a warm spring evening last week, we returned to the cozy historic spot, joining a huge crowd on the large patio, where we could watch the planes making their descent to TF Greene, the motorcycles parading through the village and families walking their dogs.

The good news is that little has changed. Friendly service, good food at reasonable prices, cold beer and good odds at meeting your neighbors still prevail.

The inside bar is full, as are the tables for those preferring to eat inside.

Joyce's favorite appetizer, O'Rourke's famous Irish nachos, hasn't changed. Made with potato chips and loaded with bacon, tomato, cheese and all of those garnishes that make it so good, it is a dish that could be shared as an appetizer for four or be a meal in itself.

I craved the fish and chips, finding two huge pieces of fish on my plate along with cole slaw, and tartar sauce. I substituted onion rings for french fries. They were huge, crunchy and great.

Tacos, burgers and a fabulous Reuben are highlights of the menu, along with the popular fish taco.

Closed on Mondays, O'Rourke's at 23 Peck Lane in Pawtuxet Village is the place to chill out this summer. You can view their menu at orourkesbarandgrill.com.



O'Rourkes Bar and Grill. *Courtesy of orourkesbarandgrill.com*

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Still ranked as one of the most loved Chinese restaurants in Warwick, Islander Restaurant is found on West Shore Road ~ come here to indulge your cravings for delicious Chinese food, seven days a week.

By JENNIFER COATES

Everybody needs a little taste of paradise in their lives, right? If you can't escape to a deserted island where you can lounge by the beach and sip tropical drinks all day, then you will have to make a little bit of paradise of your own this summer. You will have to come to Warwick's popular restaurant, The Islander Restaurant, for your favorite taste of paradise.

What exactly does "paradise" taste like? Well, if you are a fan of lobster meat, shrimp and scallops, flavorfully sautéed with fresh Chinese vegetables ~ then that is your "paradise". If you salivate just thinking about crunchy Crab Rangoon, sinful pockets of crispy fried wanton stuffed with creamy crabmeat ~ then that is your "paradise"! Finally, perhaps a refreshing Blue Hawaii Polynesian Cocktail is all you need to take you away to paradise. Whatever you choose at The Islander, you will be transported to a paradise of delicious food, great hospitality, and a bar full of thirst-quenching drinks.

The Islander Restaurant, an award-winning restaurant on West Shore Road, offers a huge assortment of appetizers, main dishes, seafood specials, fried rice, lo mein, and chop suey options. Their combination platters are also sure to satisfy. For those with a fondness for American fare, you will also find plenty of classic favorites to choose from. For vegetarians, you will be happy to find flavorful dishes such as "Buddah's Delight", a combination of assorted vegetables with water chestnut, bamboo, ear mushroom, baby corn, and fried bean curd in rich brown sauce. You will never, ever leave the Islander hungry. Never!

The Islander's full bar serves cold draft beer, along with a broad selection of wines, mixed, tropical and frozen drinks. It is a perfect place to gather with friends and family to watch and cheer on your favorite New England Red Sox!

What you won't see listed on the menu is one of the best features of Islander Restaurant, their waitstaff. The hosts and waiters, most of them loyal fans themselves, are attentive and courteous. They are committed to giving you a truly relaxing and unforgettable experience here. From the quality of food to the level of service, you will not be disappointed. Come see (and taste) for yourself.

When you are planning a milestone anniversary, birthday party, wedding or baby shower, collation or graduation celebration, consider booking one of the private, spacious and comfortable function rooms here at the Islander. Every effort will be made to accommodate your palate and your budget. If you prefer, they will also cater your next special event with their extensive menu and guaranteed prompt delivery.

Visit The Islander Restaurant at 2318 West Shore Road in Warwick. Hours are Sunday - Thursday 11:00 am to 10:00 pm, and Friday and Saturday from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm. For take-out or delivery, call 401-738-9861. Be sure to check them out on their website: www.theislanderrestaurant.com.

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ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local❤Adoptable❤Loveable



Photo credit: Simmons Photography

Tex

Tex is the cutest little guy around! He is a year and a half old small mixed breed with a beautiful tri-colored coat and his "airplane" ears that make him look like he's ready to fly! Tex is sweet but can be shy until he feels comfortable. Yummy treats are the way to his heart! He is searching for a home with a fenced in back yard so he can run and play! Tex also likes other friendly dogs so if you've been looking for a second pup, he might just be your boy! Please contact our friends at Rhode Home Rescue via their email to find out how you can meet this handsome boy! Email: rhodehomerescue@gmail.com
Tex can't wait to share his heart with you!

If you are thinking of adopting or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at

animaltalk1920@gmail.com



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

Anakin

KITTENS!! Have you been searching for a new furry feline to join your family! Well look now further, Friends of Homeless Animals has so many kittens and they are all waiting to meet you! This little one is named Anakin and she is just as cute as a button! She just one of the many available so be sure to email her foster Mom for more information at ashmikgra1226@gmail.com or visit their website at http://www.fohari.org They will make a purr-fect addition to your home!



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Todd Rundgren. *Submitted photo by Rex Rundgren*

Rundgren brings a unifying message with latest show

By ROB DUGUAY

Todd Rundgren has amassed an incredible music resume since the 1970s.

As a producer, he's been involved in numerous acclaimed albums including The New York Dolls' influential self-titled debut, Meat Loaf's landmark full-length "Bat Out Of Hell" and "The New America" from the punk act Bad Religion.

He's also a prolific musician, with his hits "Hello It's Me", "I Saw The Light" and "Bang The Drum All Day" still getting radio play. On June 21 at The Park Theatre in Cranston, Rundgren and his band will be venturing through his extensive discography. The show starts at 8pm and it promises to be a great way to spend a Saturday night.

We talked ahead of his performance about the messaging behind the show, his views on collaboration, one of his hits being regularly played during sporting events, and a new project he has in the works.

Rob Duguay: This upcoming show at The Park Theatre is part of a tour you're doing that has the title "Still Me / Still We", which is an extension of your "Me / We" tour that took place last year. You've mentioned that the shows on this run center on a story with a message through your songs, so what exactly is that message?

Todd Rundgren: The first thing is that you don't give up. Life goes on, you adapt to it, and you have to do it in a way that doesn't betray yourself or the people that have faith in you. Change is always possible, sometimes it's necessary, and the power to change the world always resides within you. It's not a process that you reach the end of, it's a lifelong thing.

I didn't have a bunch of new material to build a new show around, that was one thing, but I also realized that my tour last year ended before the events of Election Day, which eventually changed the world, and it changed the meaning of everything I was doing. It's not as if my tour would have changed the outcome, but the outcome changed the world, and that is something we all have to confront while doubling our efforts to be our better selves. There's a lot of temptation to just give up, there's a lot of temptation to fight hate with hate, and I think it still bears reminding that the world changes when you change.

RD: Back in 2022, you released "Space Force" with the title being a tongue-in-cheek reference to the initiative that took place during the first four years of the Trump administration. You worked with a lot of different acts on the album, including Adrian Belew, The Roots, Rivers Cuomo from Weezer, Steve Vai and Rick Nielsen from Cheap Trick among others. How did you go about bringing these people into the fold for the songwriting and recording process? Was it all done remotely during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, or were you all able to schedule out studio dates together?

TR: I started recording before the COVID lockdown. My previous album was a highly concerted and elaborate work. I usually write the material and ask someone else to perform on it, so by the time I got to "Space Force", I told myself that I had to give up the rest of this. If I truly wanted to collaborate, I had to let other people start writing material as well, so during "Space Force" I asked everyone to contribute an orphan song. Something they started and they never finished where it maybe got to the demo phase but not beyond that, so most of the material is actually unfinished songs from the other collaborators.

RD: Oh, wow.

TR: Yeah, so they would give it to me, and I would finish it with either writing new lyrics or adding new parts to it while flushing out the arrangement. There are songs where I don't sing at all and the entirety of my contribution is in the production where I play and add instruments and things like that to change the arrangement of the song. I then ultimately do the recording and mix it down, so it was different in that way and it also kind of marked the end of that process for me, that aggressively collaborative thing. The work that I'm doing now is going back to me working with a concept of my own and doing most of the work myself. It doesn't mean that there won't be other collaborators on it, but it's going to be more like my previous work where I write everything and I create all the sound.

RD: You worked with a lot of different people throughout your career as both a musician and a producer, so what would you say is your core approach to collaboration and how do you view it? Do you take each experience of working with another musician as an opportunity to learn something?

TR: It's always a learning opportunity. I've never had a specific style per say, even though some people make assumptions and try to compare the records that I've made. [Grand Funk Railroad's] "We're An American Band" is nothing like [Meat Loaf's] "Bat Out Of Hell", and that album is nothing like [XTC's] "Skylarking". For me, it's all about adapting to the act and their material while trying to figure out how to put it in the best light. In my early production days, I used to maybe get a little bit too involved. For instance, if the band was having trouble coming up with material, I might get aggressively involved in the writing process. You can say that with an album like "Remote Control" with The Tubes, I'm not credited as a songwriter but I wrote most of the lyrics on the record.

I came up with many of the melodies, a lot of the arrangements and things like that. At that point, I had realized that I was taking over too much of the process, so I made adjustments. I make sure they have all the material before we go into the studio so I won't be called on to get involved in the writing process. When that happens it becomes recognizably me, and that's a problem. You're not supposed to be making a record about yourself and your own taste, you're supposed to be putting the artist and their material in the best possible light.

RD: I totally get that. Through your 1983 hit "Bang The Drum All Day", you're one of a few musicians who has your music being played at sporting events on a regular basis. I know the Green Bay Packers always play the song at Lambeau Field when they score a touchdown and it's also been played during hockey games as well. What are your thoughts on having your music be in a different realm in a transcendent way?

TR: In some ways, it's the ultimate success. I know it's in the public domain now, but nobody remembers the people who wrote "Happy Birthday", but everybody knows the song. You used to have to pay the people who wrote it if you used it in any kind of context where commerce was involved, so I kind of like it. I would almost prefer if nobody knew if I wrote "Bang The Drum All Day" so nobody would expect me to play it live, because it's a real pain in the ass to play live.

RD: I can imagine.

TR: It's just a bunch of jumping around and yelling, plus it's disruptive to the show when you bring out drums and stuff just to do the one song. It's not one of the ones that I regularly do live, and for some tours it doesn't make any sense at all. When you've penetrated the culture to that degree, that's an achievement of some kind, when somebody knows the song and they have no idea who wrote it. That elevates it to another level of culture, so I'm bemused by it. I never took the song so seriously that I thought it couldn't be used in any other context and as a matter of fact, the general public familiarity of the song has made it the most financially rewarding composition than I've ever dreamed.

I won't be doing anything but making music all day long, and then suddenly I'll start dreaming songs as well. If I can remember them after the dream, then they become an actual song, and that's what happened with "Bang The Drum All Day". It was a song that came to me in a dream that wouldn't have come to me in my waking life because it's just too silly. I would never think about writing a song about just banging on the drum all day, it just wouldn't occur to me, but in a dream it just becomes fully realized and I try to capture as much of it as I can remember. Bearsville Records released it as a single and it was never on the radio with my name on it, except when years later, it started to become a drivetime staple on Fridays. '

It became identified with silly good times and whatever that I got an incredible amount of money for licensing it for things like movie trailers or commercials and in particular for Carnival Cruise Line, who used it for years.

RD: That's an incredible story behind the song. It's really cool. You mentioned earlier how you're working on a new project, so how has it been coming along and when can we expect it to come out?

TR: A substantial part of it has been done by now, but I have this other project that's going on as well, which was formerly called PatroNet. In the '90s, I put together what was the first internet-based subscription service that was designed so I could get direct support from my fans and I wouldn't have to get support from a label. At the time, I sensed that the label system was beginning to collapse, which it indeed did when more and more people started getting their music through the internet. That was a project that got started and it looked like it was going to be successful, but I didn't really build a company behind it, so it collapsed under its own weight. It went moribund for a while, and then other people took up the mantle, in particular Spotify and Patreon.

When COVID hit, I had plenty of time on my hands and I couldn't go out on the road, so I couldn't do what I usually do to make money from my fans with concert tickets and merchandise, so I've spent the last several years since then reviving it under a different name. During the tour I'll be hyping it, getting people familiar with the concept and soon after that, ideally people will be signing up for the service, which is all built and ready to go. Once I get that out of the way, I can turn my focus back on making new music. Building a business is a serious thing and it has been a real distraction from music making, but I'm reaching the end of that process.



How To Train Your Dragon



See it on the Screen

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* * *

(Live-action Fantasy)

If you have seen the animated version of this fine family fantasy, you will quickly recognize that little has changed in the live-action version.

Hiccup is the meek son of the Vikings chieftain who doesn't measure up to his father's hopes for him to become a dragon slayer.

While hiking in the forest, Hiccup comes face to face with a wounded dragon. He slowly gains its trust, building a new tail and helping him to fly again.

Hiccup is part of a group of young dragon slayer trainees, using the techniques he has mastered to tame his dragon and fooling the entire village into thinking he is the best dragon slayer.

If you have seen the animated version, you know what happens.

The special effects are great, the scenery (Faroe Islands in the North Atlantic) is fantastic, and Mason Thames is a believable Hiccup.

Good lessons for the kids about compassion, teamwork and redemption.



Plane

NETFLIX

PLANE

* * *

(Tense Thriller)

Netflix has dug out this 2023 thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

Gerard Butler stars as the pilot of a plane that crashes on the remote Jolo Island, which just happens to be inhabited by a gang of violent separatists who hold the passengers hostage while Butler and a dangerous prisoner try to rescue them.

Great action. Lots of tension. Violence.

It tickled me



Life Matters

with Linda Petersen

As I age, I gain more knowledge and experience and continue to discover new things that tickle me. (My mother used to say something "tickled her" when she liked it, so I'm borrowing her expression.)

While taking my evening bath last night, soaking in a tub of luxurious, bubbly water, sipping a frozen wine cooler, and fiercely defending my Words with Friends honor on my iPad, I reached for the fancy new bottled soap my good friend gave me for Christmas. I expected the usual syrupy goo, but instead, it erupted in a dramatic puff of foam, like fluffy snow, if snow were warm and fragrant. I was delighted as it aromatically dissolved on my skin and giggled at this unexpected turn of events as I over-washed myself just so I could make the delightful adventure last. This new experience "tickled me."

I have been trying to eat healthier lately, so apples and peanut butter have become my go-to snack. Hubby got a good laugh when I brought home a five-pound container of peanut butter and started scooping out generous mounds in which to dip my apple slices. The real challenge, though, was cutting the apples. I kept rummaging through our drawers trying to find a knife sharp enough to do the job. Sensing my frustration, Hubby came home one day with an apple corer, a contraption he remembered using when baking pies with his grandmother. Since I am baking illiterate, I had never seen one. Lo and behold, this simple little gadget, when placed on top of an apple, slices it and removes the core and seeds in one fell swoop. I was joyful! It was so easy! This amazing little device "tickled me."

I work at a church and am often the assigned "greeter," stationed at the front door to welcome people as they arrive for services. Dressed in a pretty dress to compensate for my make-up-free face and poodle-style grey hair, I smile broadly to dazzle people with charm as they enter. I am always touched by the sight of the many elderly couples holding hands as they walk into church. I smile extra sweetly at them, tickled by the thought that they have such enduring love after so many years of marriage. Unfortunately, my delight was somewhat deflated when a colleague pointed out that the husband may simply have a bad hip and needed his wife's hand for support, or that the wife might suffer from dizziness and needed her husband to steady her. Still, I choose to believe in love.

Carrying cash with me has gone the way of the dinosaur. I always have my ATM card ready when making purchases, and this is generally sufficient. However, as I came out of Stop and Shop the other day, I saw a group of elderly veterans selling candy bars. Always wanting to support the military and, because I was on a diet and secretly yearning for chocolate, I was desperate to make a purchase. Unfortunately, the volunteers did not have one of those fancy card readers on their phones. They only accepted cash. I promptly plopped myself down on the curb and began emptying my pocketbook, piece by piece, hoping to uncover some forgotten money. Receipts, gum wrappers and Post-it notes fluttered from my lap into the parking lot, dancing playfully among the cars. My focus remained steady as I sifted through some coins at the bottom of my purse. I counted seventy-five cents, then another eleven cents, and finally found a quarter wedged deep in a corner of my wallet. Tickled by my success, I leapt to my feet and proudly handed my one dollar and eleven cents to one of the lovely gentlemen selling the candy bars. In my excitement, the contents of my purse, which had been sitting in my lap, tumbled to the ground. I did not care. I had my chocolate!

I love my life most when it is filled with small surprises and moments that tickle me with delight.



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Gaspee Days



Pawtuxet Rangers cross the mighty Pawtuxet River during the Gaspee Day Parade. *Beacon Media photo by Tara Monastesse*



Rev. Bob Marciano of St. Kevin's Church served as the parade's grand marshal this year. B*eacon Media Photo by John Howell*



Taking a walk, waiting for the parade. *Beacon Media photo by Tara Monastesse*



Calm before the storm: regiment readies the cannon on the bridge before the parade. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Students from Wyman Elementary in the revolutionary spirit. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Toll Gate High School's marching band pauses to perform. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



A Warwick Little Leaguer caught a ride during the parade. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Senator Reed walks the route with state leaders. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*



Rhody Bennett watching the parade. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*



Rolling to watch the parade. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Watching and waving on Broad Street in Cranston. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Pilgrim High School's marching band plays past the reviewing stand. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



Shriners on their way to start driving from Cranston into Warwick. *Beacon Media photo by Joy Fox*



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Play and spray

The splash park and playground overlooking Greenwich Bay in Oakland Beach is basically completed, according to city Chief of Staff William Facente. He said the soft flooring to the playground needs some work, which he expects will take place shortly. He said the spray is ready to go when the hot weather arrives. The park that includes landscaping, new fencing and benches is linked to an Oakland Beach walking and bike path. It is a longtime project of former Councilwoman Donna Travis. *Beacon Media photo by John Howell*



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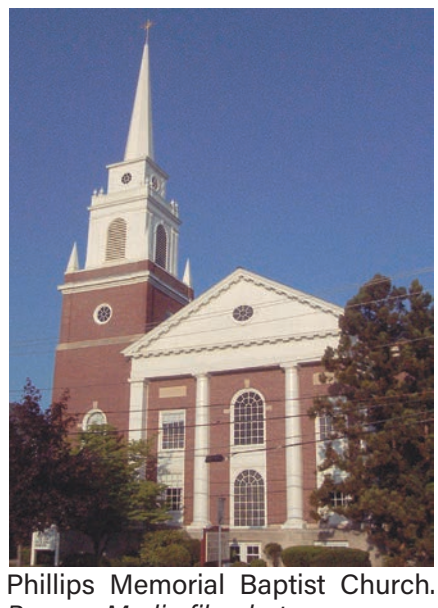
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Baptist Church still growing after 125 years

By BARBARA POLICHETTI
Beacon Media Staff Writer

Standing on a strong foundation of faith and commitment to the community, Phillips Memorial Baptist Church is celebrating its 125th anniversary by continuing to grow as a welcoming place of worship for people from all walks of life.

Located on Pontiac Avenue at the corner of Colonial Avenue in the Eden Park neighborhood, the stately church it takes up an entire city block and is quintessentially New England in its architecture. The towering brick building is trimmed with white wooden details including columns, arched windows and a tall steeple.



Phillips Memorial Baptist Church. *Beacon Media file photo*

Inside, it is austere in the simplistic beauty of whitewashed pews and minimal adornments. It is filled with natural light from tall, small-paned windows, and the rear of the church is dominated by a towering pipe organ that rises to the ceiling from the choir balcony.

The stately of appearance of the church belies the vibrant and diverse congregants who call it home and celebrate their faith with a variety of activities devoted to welcoming and helping others.

The church has numerous activities and groups, all of which work to serve their faith through good works and acts of kindness. The activities include a variety of missionary endeavors, both domestic and international. A knitting group meets weekly to create handmade dolls and blankets that are donated where needed. Other church members volunteer their time to visit the elderly. And the congregation regularly contributes to organizations that serve people in need – through monetary contributions, food drives, or by making simple sandwich lunches that can be easily handed out.

Music is also an important part of the church's ministry. Hymns swell from the pipe organ every Sunday, and music minister Martha Sobaje oversees a number of activities including choir groups for adults and children, and also the church's "Sanctuary Ringers" who perform with hand-held bells.

Perhaps one of the things that Phillips wants to be most known for is that it is an all-inclusive Christian community, said the Rev. Amy Chilton, pastor.

"We specifically welcome all those in the LGBTQ community," she said, noting that the church is a member of the Association Welcoming and Affirming Baptists. The group is a national organization that supports the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ individuals within Baptist Churches and the welcoming of all congregants regardless of sexual orientation or gender.

For the past couple of years, Phillips Memorial has had a booth at the annual RI Pride celebration, and Chilton said that kindness and inclusion will be a key part of the church's next 125 years.

"We love Jesus, and we love everyone around us just as Jesus does," she said.

One of the larger Baptist Church's in the region, Phillips is also a member of the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island. Its congregation consists of about 120 families and is growing.

As a Baptist Church, Phillips is an autonomous Christian Church, which emphasizes each congregant's personal relationship with God and the importance of the teachings of the Bible. "We are a dynamic congregation who are looking forward to be moving forward into our next decades of spiritual life," said Chilton, who is known as "Pastor Amy."

A native of Portland, Oregon, Chilton became pastor in 2022. She has a doctorate degree in systematic theology from Fuller Theological Seminary as well as a master's degree divinity from Fuller. She was chosen to take the pulpit at Phillips after a search that lasted almost two years.

"We welcome anyone who is looking for a spiritual home," Chilton said.

Earlier this month, Chilton presided over a special anniversary service where church members and guests gathered to celebrate their shared history and faith.

"Today is our birthday," said Chilton, who took time during the service to sit down with the children who were present and light the candles that decorated a small homemade cake. (A much larger repast awaited the congregation after the service.)

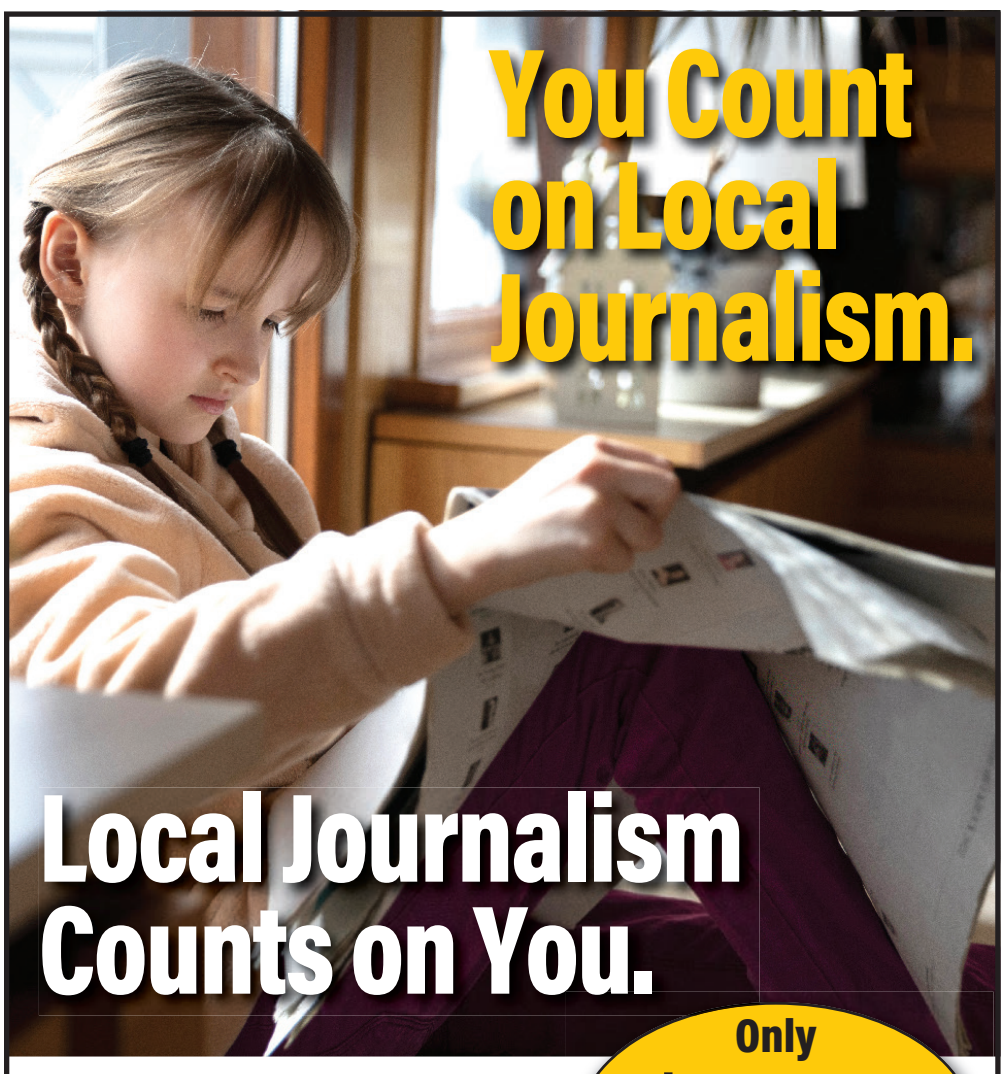
Chilton's sermon included a summary of the church's history as well as a look toward its future. "We are learning," she said, "to walk with one another with kindness, grace and forgiveness."



After the 125th anniversary service, Pastor Amy Chilton greets congregants as they head to the church hall for a special repast.



Anne Williams Crocker, 92, is the oldest member of the church. She and her family have worshipped at Phillips for generations. They are descendants of Rhode Island founding father Roger Williams.



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Sports

Big Blue Bug wins WNLL Majors crown

By ALEX SPONSELLER
Beacon Sports Editor

Warwick North Little League's Big Blue Bug team won the Majors championship last week when it topped 401 Painting & Construction 7-6 in the title clash.

Trailing 4-3 in the bottom of the fifth inning, Big Blue Bug's offense would step up and score four runs to regain the late advantage. Thomas Beaulieu drove in three runs on a two-out triple and Nathan Swiczewicz later knocked him in to make it 7-4.

Although 401 managed to pull within a one in the top of the sixth, scoring a pair of runs with two outs, Big Blue Bug relief pitcher Jesus Lantigua struck out the final batter to seal the deal and hang on for the win.

Jasson Vargas pitched 4 2/3 innings for the champs, allowing just two earned runs while striking out nine batters. Lantigua stuck out three batters in 1 1/3 innings of work.

"They were super excited, we worked so hard all year. I really felt like making them a team was

● WNLL to page 28



The Big Blue Bug team that won the Warwick North Majors championship last week. *Submitted photo*



Abby Adoian, Marisa Gould, Kaylianna Downing and Daphne Cardillo, who make up Team Violet Storm and raise funds toward Epilepsy research. *Submitted photos*

Team Violet Storm raising funds, awareness toward Epilepsy research

Abby Adoian is a girl on a mission.

So are her two pals, Marisa Gould and Daphne Cardillo.

And they have one thing in common; they are all affected by epilepsy.

But these three young ladies want to do something about it. They want to raise awareness of the fact that 13,000 Rhode Islanders are affected by epilepsy, and they also want to raise funds to help families and continue research into this "neurological condition characterized by recurrent seizures, caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain."

Meeting with Mike
by Mike Levesque



A condition that cannot be cured, but it can be managed.

So, why not rappel down a 35-foot building in Boston to raise those needed funds?

That happened last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Boston/Cambridge in what the Epilepsy Foundation New England (EFNE) said was a "thrilling once in a lifetime chance of rappelling in an exciting and completely safe environment."

A little background on the three pals who are members of "Team Violet Storm."

Daphne Cardillo (Team Captain) 19, hails from Warwick and is celebrating

● VIOLET to page 24



Brent Karpowich after scoring a goal in the state championship last fall. *File photo by Alex Sponseller*

Karpowich nabs Gatorade POY honors

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Bishop Hendricken soccer player Brent Karpowich was named the Gatorade Player of the Year last week, becoming the program's first-ever athlete to earn the award.

Karpowich led the Hawks with 23 goals and 20 assists last fall. He saved some of his best work for the championship game against rival La Salle, where he scored a goal in regulation then another in the shootout to help the Hawks win their first title since 1996.

He was also named to the Rhode Island Soccer Coaches Association's First Team and was a United States Soccer Coaches All-American selection. Karpowich will take his talents to Wheaton College this fall.





Records broken at Gaspee Days 5k

The annual Gaspee Days 5k foot race took place last weekend and boasted a field of runners that exceeded 2,000. Some runners aimed to beat their personal bests and compete for a first-place finish, while others donned their best 18th century garb and took a relaxed stroll through the neighborhood. It was the largest race in its 60-year history.

The big news of the event was Rachel Schilkowsky, who was the top female finisher and broke the course record with a time of 16:09.6. Schilkowsky broke

● GASPEE to page 28

Bluefin tuna regulations change for better

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI
Special to the Beacon

Bluefin tuna regulations changed for the better when NOAA announced last week new angling and charter/headboat Highly Migratory Species (HMS) regulations. Effect July 1, 2025 private vessels with an HMS Angling permit can retain one bluefin tuna measuring 27" to < 73" and charter/headboat permit holders are allowed two bluefin tuna measuring 27" to < 73".

This is good news as most bluefin caught in this area are over 47", and the present regulation is for fish measuring 27" to < 47".

Many believe robust bait/forage profiles are here close to shore in great abundance due to warming water. And the fish are here because the forage fish they eat are here.

This climate impact points to the need for enhanced stock assessments and climate research to keep tabs on fish stocks like tuna and other species particularly sensitive to overfishing due to stock shifts and enhanced fishing pressure.

Capt. Mike Pierdinock, member of the New England Fishery Management Council and President of the Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association, said, "We have a unique situation, due to the January Executive Order closure delay in North Carolina the general category overfished their 37.7 mt quota. By the time they closed the fishery on Feb. 28 they had harvested 115 mt of bluefin tuna. That's a lot when you consider the entire fishery is 1,300 mt. This combined with overfishing bluefin tuna in general in 2024, including the recreational fishing community for the first time since 2010, we are experiencing these reductions out of caution to prevent overfishing this year."

Hats off to Rick Bellavance, President of the RI Party & Charter Boat Association and Chair of the New England Fishery Management Council as well as Mike Pierdinock for advocating for a larger bluefin size.

For information visit the NMFS Permit Shop.

Fluke tips from the experts

It is summer flounder (fluke) fishing season and the bite is on around Nantucket Sound and Monomoy Island, Narragansett Bay, off Block Island and along the RI coastal shores. Here tips from two fluke experts, right from my interview notes.

Fluke tips from two of my favorite experts

Greg Vespe, past president Aquidneck Island Striper Team. Often fishes with Capt. BJ Silvia, Flippen Out Charters.

I tend to fish for fluke, especially June and July but some years throughout the whole summer. I like the soft plastic squid bodies in the Bay or the 'lima bean' style bucktails. For the squid bodies I usually use either white/glow, or dark purple and a white strip, such as squid or fluke belly and sometimes I add a gulp.

I usually run a teaser up about a 12" to 18" from the primary rig. If using a BJ Silvia rig I run the teaser 12" above, if a bucktail then approximately 18" above. I use a smaller teaser with a bucktail so as not to affect the bucktail action. I will fish for fluke from 20 ft to 160 ft in Bay with wind and tide matching. I will use my trolling motor to help control boat and speed of drift (+ or -).

Jeff Sullivan, fishing writer, charter boat mate and associate at Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren, RI.

May to June the fish are in lower water, say 25 feet. In summer they go deeper 45 to 100 feet. For bigger fluke stay away from the squid, I generally try to figure out what they are eating, strip that up i.e. sea robins, fluke bellies, black sea bass, Atlantic menhaden, etc. Fish rocky areas or on the edge of sand and a rocky area i.e. drop offs, fishing uphill/downhill.

Like to use squig rigs (Jeff makes and sells the rigs at Lucky Bait & Tackle) with stingers, also jigs with light line, 20-pound braid so he can get down with the least amount of scope. I am always fishing the contours for larger fluke.

In Rhode Island the fluke regulation is a 19" minimum size, six fish/person/day with special shore areas where anglers are allowed two 17" fish. Visit Marine Fisheries Minimum Sizes & Possession Limits | Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for special area details. Fluke regulations in Massachusetts include a minimum size of 17.5" from a vessel and 16.5" from shore with a five fish/person/day limit, for regulation details visit Recreational saltwater fishing regulations | Mass.gov.

● VIOLET from page 23

her 19th birthday and graduation from Toll Gate High School.

She is a member of the Toll Gate Unified Titans Basketball and Volleyball teams and the Toll Gate Drama Club.

Marisa Gould, from Cranston, is an Epilepsy Foundation New England Teen Speak-Up/Public Policy Institute participant and Hope two-time scholarship recipient. She is a CCRI student and talented artist and singer.

And, Abby Adoian, whom I have known for many years, is the team manager for the Toll Gate Unified Titans Basketball and Volleyball teams, and a member of the Toll Gate Chorus and Drama Club. She is an honors student and karate enthusiast.

Like most folks, I didn't know a lot about epilepsy, so I thought that I would sit down with Abby to learn a little more about it, and the effect it has on thousands of families in our state.

I learned that the causes are many, and include genetic factors, brain injury, infections like meningitis and encephalitis, brain issues at birth and other diverse factors.

Remarkably, in 50 to 66% percent of the cases, the cause remains unknown.

Abby, who lives in the Old Buttonwoods section of Warwick, had her first seizure when she was about 18 months old.

The daughter of Jed and Mary Adoian, Abby learned later in life that her dad was affected by the condition as well.

In her case, thankfully, she has had only three or four seizures in her whole life, the last being in 2023 while attending a Christmas play at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

She was pretty sure that the cause was the flashing lights that were part of the performance.

Abby, who is always upbeat and full of energy (like her brothers William and Joseph), decided to get involved with the EFNE.

Asked what her motivation was, she said, "my best friend Daphne has it. I wanted to support her, so I started going to epilepsy events throughout New England. When I found out that I had it, I not only wanted to support Daphne, but to also support my dad and others."

So, she went to various events primarily in RI and Massachusetts for walks and camps, which provided her with an opportunity to "know more about them and to learn new life skills. I also met a lot of people through social media."

She also joined her two pals in organizing a couple fundraisers at Papa's Ice Cream on West Shore Road in Warwick, as each participant in the Boston event had to raise a minimum of $1,000.00.

Though fundraising is not high on her list of fun things to do, "I struggle with this. I'm good at talking to people, but it's difficult to ask people to donate because you know that sometimes you can get rejected."

But that didn't stop her from putting flyers on social media to hopefully receive some online donations.

I was curious about what this talented young 16-year-old would like to do after she graduated from Toll Gate, and as usual, Abby was not lost for words.

"I would like to do two years at CCRI for general courses. I'd like to see how I progress and maybe after that, URI"

She continued, "the career option that I am currently interested in is modeling or acting, so maybe another option is to go straight to acting school."

Why acting?

"Growing up, my family said I have the capability to be an actress. It's kind of stuck with me."

"I was afraid to take the leap at first and was hesitant to do it. Then I got into the Drama Club this year, and was worried about not remembering lines, but I performed in the play "The Alibi" and remembered all the lines. They said my acting was good and I got a lot of good feedback!"

"Now that I've done it, I have a lot more confidence."

And modeling?

My grandma and people at school tell me I should, so why not look into it?"

But for right now, Abby is most interested in raising money and awareness for the Epilepsy Foundation New England through Team Violet Storm with her two friends Daphne and Marisa. They also inspired another young lady from Massachusetts, Kaylianna Downing, to join the team at the last minute.

"The money is all going to the Epilepsy Foundation so kids can go to camp, or for research to look more into what epilepsy is."

And if it takes rappelling down a dozen stories of a Boston building to raise that awareness, Abby, Daphne and Marisa were all in.

If you want to pitch in to help with this most worthy initiative, you can donate by going to: https://efne.epilepsynewengland.org/team/658629. You can also mention the team member that you would like to direct the funds to.



Abby Adoian rappelling the Hyatt Regency building in Boston last weekend.

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Gershkoff continues to grow as season begins

SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

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 Andrea 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.

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.

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.

Real Estate Transactions

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ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
COVENTRY				
1060 Main St	Hobson, Andrew R	Murphy, Molly H and Murphy, Timothy H	5/29	$440,000
12 Kiley Way	Kelly, Stephen C and Kelly, Tammy R	Rodriguez, Rocio R and Rodriguez, Carlos R	5/30	$780,000
1349 Maple Valley Rd	Casavant Lt and Casavant, Brad	Eastep, Lisa and Eastep, Mikeal	5/30	$790,000
137 Colvintown Rd	Wise Broters LLC	Flores, Rony Y	5/29	$322,505
14 Lincoln Ave	Anderson, Nathan and Messier Jr, Mark	Batista, Cole	5/27	$560,000
161 Rathbun St	Hainey, Mason and Hainey, Michelle	Wallis, Florence and Blanks, Austin	5/30	$450,000
1695 Harkney Hill Rd	Antonelli, Jessica R and Bamford, Brooke B	Murawski, Nichole E and Murawski, Rafal M	5/27	$410,000
20 Valiant Dr	Hometown American Mgmt	Burns, Ellen and Peloquin, Joseph	5/30	$294,995
200 Tillinghast Rd	Mclaughlin, William J	Jutonus LLC	5/28	$2,831
237 Knotty Oak Rd	Antunes, Walter C	Lapierre, Jennifer L	5/27	$440,000
24 Coventry Dr	Chester, Krystyna	Marchand, Lesly	5/30	$407,500
245 Lakehurst Dr	Contardo, Gregory P and Contardo, Cheryl L	Macdonald, John and Macdonald, Dawn	5/27	$1,200,000
31 Remington Farm Dr	Triggs, Louise A	Carrasquillo, Neftalie M and Carrasquillo, Mahlisa N	5/27	$495,000
38 Ginger Ln	Orlandi 2nd, Ralph E and Lepore, Sabra M	Berretto 3rd, Vincent A	5/30	$640,000
39 Liena Rose Way	Alsfeld, Marianne	Verry, Lawrence E and Verry, Joyce M	5/28	$269,900
454 Fairview Ave	Rollins L Carron T and Carron, Justin R	Mark Anthony Homes LLC	5/30	$250,000
56 Wright Way	Peloquin, Joseph P and Burns, Ellen M	Masse, Beth A	5/30	$135,000
63 Bates Ave	Ford, Zachary D	Silveira, Erika and Gones, Nicholas M	5/30	$427,000
65 Lear Dr	Kushner, Alan and Kushner, Carolyn	Evangelista, Nino C	5/30	$241,000
69 Taft St	Antonellis, Marilyn	Sano, Amberly and Vani, Frank	5/27	$415,000
7 Wildwood St	Perry, Jessica M	Pizinger, Brandon	5/30	$395,000
750 Gibson Hill Rd	Billington, Scotty D	Lindley, Michael P and Lindley, Caitlin M	5/30	$625,000
CRANSTON				
10 East St Lot 303, Merino, Lucia	Ramadam RET and Ramadan, Samer	5/29	$265,000	
110 WestcottAve	Ri Hsng & Mtg Fin Corp	Flynn 3rd, William F and Flynn, Kimberly A	5/28	$1
132 Fordson Ave Lot 4	Lannon, Edward and Lannon, Patricia	Ramirez, Mirla C	5/22	$230,000
14 AusdaleR d	Malone, Thomas J and Malone, Linda E	Dejesus, Eliezer M and Avila, Dayra J	5/28	$415,000
1560 Cranston St	Matarese, Frank P	Demancebo, Genesis G	5/23	$425,000
161 Holland St Lot 101, Maiorano, Joann		Powell, Lynne R	5/28	$359,900
17 Coletta Ct, Mowbray, Kerri	Dutt, Salend and Dutt, Sunita	5/27	$1,100,000	
1755 Cranston St	Spirito Holdings LLC	1755 Cranston LLC	5/23	$845,000
188 Chestnut Ave	Micheli, Bryon	Carlson, Alexis L and Stenberg, Emma E	5/22	$360,000
196 Montgomery Ave	Dingle, Jason	Flores, Randy D and Balenzuela, Carla S	5/27	$495,000
200 Bateman Ave	Manzi, Joseph F	Delaire, Jeana	5/20	$465,000
230 Garden Hills Dr	Krupa, John	Vanavery, Tiffany	5/27	$500,000
236 Mayfield Ave	Perez, Katherine and Giron Urizer, Maria Y	Leonguerrero, Stephen	5/28	$392,000
237 Pontiac Ave	Cs Construction LLC	Duarte, Layllah	5/28	$427,125
274 Montgomery Ave	Drumm, Anna L	77wpi Inc	5/23	$315,000
28 Spenstone Rd	Contreras, Kenny	Yazid, Khadija	5/27	$439,675
32 Church Hill Dr	Waite, Stevenson	Way, Margaret C	5/29	$695,500
33 Farwell St	Guglielmetti, Susan	Labianca, Matthew and Labianca, Cara	5/29	$600,000
334 Magnolia St	Connor, Jonathan J and Connor, Kayo	Fetter, Amanda	5/22	$400,000
34 Sophia Dr	Moretti, Anthony C	Marchetti Jr, David G and Marchetti, Alexandra M	5/23	$785,000
38 Laurelhurst Rd	Agelina Carter T and Carter, Paul D	Hermann, Andrew J and Hermann, Rebecca A	5/23	$457,500
384 Union Ave	Georges, David and Georges, Vallerie	Louis, Michelle and Louis, Gerson T	5/20	$456,610
40 Freedom Dr	Broomfield, Michael H and Broomfield, Donna M	Sattler, Austin C and Sattler, Marikate D	5/23	$490,000
40 Thunder Ln	Crudele, Colleen M	Cilento Jr, Joseph A and Crudele, Colleen M	5/23	$15,000
400 Meshanticut Valley Pkwy Lot 5	Carter, Thomas P	Piccione, Taya and Piccione, Linda	5/29	$535,000
44 Tallman Ave	Delare, Jeana	Murphy, Michael	5/20	$405,000
47 Denver Ave	Moss Home Solutions LLC	Canalda, Josuel	5/23	$265,000
47 Denver Ave	Watkins, William E	Moss Home Solutions LLC	5/23	$150,000
51 Quail Hollow Rd	Ducharme, Warren J and Ducharme, Steven	Koller, Michaela A and Mcgladrigan, Clare M	5/28	$475,000
61 Grant Ave	Mao, Thaw	Dream Home Flips LLC	5/21	$297,000
88 Sweet Meadow Dr	Hayes Lt and Hayes, Neil W	Salka, Sean M and Salka, Arianna L	5/23	$530,000
EAST GREENWICH				
120 Westfield Dr	Leitch, Christopher L and Leitch, Megan E	Novis, Austen C and Novis, Lindsey A	5/30	$1,680,000
177 Overfield Rd	Wright, Ashley L	Capobianco, Giuseppe and Capobianco, Susan	5/16	$650,000
205 Shady Hill Dr	Delahanty, Lawrence and Fraioli, Vincent	Simione, Meg and Headrick Jr, Samuel P	5/22	$1,195,000
302 Kent Dr	Page, David and Page, Patricia M	Downey, John M and Downey, Alyssa J	5/30	$1,000,000
32 Phillips Rd	Malgieri, Christopher and Malgieri, Catherine	Gormley Lt and Gormley, Michael	5/29	$790,000
4 Country Ct	Desjarlais, Carl L and Desjarlais, Christina M	Bevacqua, Erin E and Bevacqua, Heather L	5/30	$550,000
48 Birchwood Way	Palana, Christine	Hays, Christopher and Leahey-Hays, Patricia	5/22	$610,000
6 Jodie Beth Dr	Hill, Sean T and Bryce, Kristen A	Novak, Sergey M and Novak, Kimberly A	5/30	$630,000
7 Cedar Rock Mdws	Hendrickson, Christine	Annette F Picerne RET and Picerne, Annette F	5/16	$2,200,000
75 WestfieldDr	Tamburini, Joseph P and Gregg, Erica S	Votta, Marshall S	5/16	$1,675,000
80 Frybrook Dr Lot 80	Archibald Properties LLC	Pompei, Robert P and Pompei, Shirley A	5/27	$1,225,000
80 Lebaron Dr	Koelling, Jared K and Koelling, Callista B	Smith, Richard K and Smith, Amanda C	5/30	$716,800
85 Lynn Cir	White, Jennifer R	Damico 3rd, William	5/23	$1,400,000
9 Hampton Rd Lot 23	Apponaug Properties Inc	Lancaster, Lisa A and Lancaster, Gary P	5/16	$1,075,000
96 Bayberry Ln	Cartagena, Jo F and Cartagena, Elizabeth A	Digisi, Annamaria	5/27	$685,000
EXETER				
119 Mill Pond Rd	Leamy Maryte Est and Place, Kerrie L	Logan Jr, Stephen W and Maiorano, Abigail A	5/30	$521,000
26 Woody Hill Rd	Reynolds, Donald and Reynolds, Melody	Bryce, Kristen and Hill, Sean	6/3	$649,900
271 Austin Farm Rd	Thornley Margaret A Est and Tefft, Lucille M	Hernandez, Juver A	5/28	$200,000
28 Beechwood Hill Ln	Beauregard Lt and Beauregard, Barbara A	Dayboch, Philip and Vani, Kathryn	5/28	$775,000
37 William Reynolds Rd	Mcclure, Warren J and Mcclure, Carol P	Lavit, Laura P	5/30	$650,000
JOHNSTON				
1 Colony Dr	Tutay Elvira Est and Dimonte, Vincent	Crms LLC	5/29	$285,000
1 Sydney Rose Ct Lot A	Aceto, Lorenzo and Doliveira, Michelle	Barbcau, Rene and Barbcau, Valcric	6/2	$455,000
13 Kensington Way Lot 13	Atwood Ave Condos LLC	Wise, Daniel	5/28	$449,900
15 Kensington Way Lot 1	Atwood Ave Condos LLC	Wong, Joseph	5/30	$449,900
158 Putnam Pike	M&a Family Realty LLC	George, Marianela	6/2	$442,000
17 Auburn Ave	Messere, David L	Agency Group LLC	5/30	$345,000
17 Betsy Williams Cir	Carroll, Michael P and Carroll, Lorraine R	Barletta, John and Siliezar, Ingrid	5/28	$595,000
17 Kensington Way Lot 17	Atwood Ave Condos LLC	Diack, Thomas L	5/30	$449,900
2 Prescott Ave	Ianniello, Lucille D	Marderosian, Mary L	5/29	$350,000
21 RiversideAve	Agency Group LLC	Harmon, Brandon	6/2	$400,000
22 Freedom Ct,	Villella, Patricia M	Cox, Stephen and Cox, Timothy	5/29	$520,000
4 Robert Cir	Hanna, John and Hanna, Shadi	Leclerc, Stacey and Leclerc, Donna	6/2	$571,000
47 Morgan Ave Lot 43	Assanti, Doreen A	Chun, Ethan K and Hutchinson, Michael D	6/2	$317,000
WARWICK				
102 Pleasant View Rd	Hynes, Katy	Hutchinson, Kendra and Faria, Lynn	5/27	$500,000
106 Church Ave	Celtic Roman Grp LLC	Ruggieri, Vanessa J and Ruggieri, Kirby E	5/23	$359,000
11 Creekwood Dr	Verrecchia Const Mgmt LLC	Machado, Andres L and Smith, Izabella E	5/23	$452,000
117 Lippitt Ave	Roy Donna M Est and Roy, Donna A	Leboite, Ronan	5/22	$309,000
122 Tiernan Ave	Leblanc, Julie M	Johnson, Karen A	5/28	$350,000
136 Honeysuckle Rd	Durand, Samantha J	Mowbray, Kerri	5/28	$689,888
183 Wellington Ave	Froment, Lorraine I	Bergeron, J S	5/22	$425,000
2 Williams St Lot 2	Jmr Prop LLC	Mcmurray, Barbara and Mcmurray, Stephen	5/22	$1,500,000
200 Glen Dr	Mjv Enterprises LLC	Carroll, Dianne	5/23	$421,500
25 Haverford Rd	Deciccio, Robyn A	Grant, Patrick	5/23	$365,000
295 Gilbert Stuart Dr	Zarrella, Christopher J and Zarrella, Nancy N	Baker, Melissa J	5/22	$930,000
351 New London Ave Lot 606	Robbins Sr, Keith F and Robbins, Sandra M	Ryder, Sean C	5/23	$325,000
38 Economy Ave	Hammer, Heather and Hammer, Brian J	Cartus Fincl Corp	5/27	$520,000
38 Economy Ave	Cartus Fincl Corp	Simonelli, Zachary	5/27	$520,000
4 Kalmer Rd	Maguire, Justin T	Chmura 3rd, John A and Chmura, Michelle L	5/22	$490,000
40 Covington Dr	Irene M Healey Irt and Teixeira, Elizabeth H	Engstrom, Kathleen	5/27	$403,000
46 Social Dr	Prior Margaret M Est and Foulk, Madeline H	Shelton, Arlene A and Arruda, Antonio J	5/27	$349,000
60 Arrowhead Way	Li, Juan and Hu, Yanlong	Bucklin 4th, Edward F and Bucklin, Margaret M	5/23	$750,000
72 Blackburn St	Piscopio, Joseph S	Guerrero, Hardllyn and Guerrero, Michell	5/27	$450,000
73 Ormsby Ave	Ricci, Anthony J	Pro Bldrs LLC	5/28	$280,000
75 Duane St	Fiorentini Virginia M Est and Fortes, Alan R	Harrington Const Inc	5/23	$290,000
766 Greenwich Ave	Servbank	Son, Daniel	5/27	$289,000
82 Fuller St	Kabbas, Lea	Maymon, Sandra M	5/22	$325,000
865 MainA ve	Arlia Salvatore Est and Arlia, Frances E	Elbstamey, Lamis	5/27	$480,000
90 Amherst Rd	Pennie, Ryan D	Cross, Erica M and Cross, Stephen A	5/28	$515,000
94 Chapin Ave	Bolton, Evan	Depolito, Ashley E and Depolito, Jessica A	5/22	$540,000
WEST WARWICK				
1102 Main St	Calheta, Olga M and Brum, Adelia M	Calheta, Olga M	6/2	$200,000
1102 Main St	Vieira Edmundo M Est and Vieira, Dorothy	Calheta, Olga M	6/2	$50,000
12 Tilton St	Levesque, Roland H and Levesque, Elizabeth	Levesque, Robert F	5/30	$400,000
131 West St	Raheb, Ronald	Koenig, Yanick and Koenig, Joelle	6/2	$395,000
14 Governors Hl Lot 14	Picard, Ann E	Mccarthy, Trevor	5/30	$275,000
2 Victoria Way Lot 2	Smith, Michael R and Smith, Jae T	Madison, Susan and Bailey, Robert E	5/30	$610,000
29 Central St Lot 29,	Mahoney-Monson, Jill M	Giguere, Nicole	6/3	$276,000
33 Village Ct Lot 33	Johnson, Karen A	Breard, Christopher	5/28	$245,000
35 Sunset Ave	Black, David R and Black, Suzan L	Lafleur, Therese L	6/2	$370,000
37 Oriole Ave	Hayes, Loretta C	Anniemac Private Equity C	5/30	$400,000
38 Cowesett Ave Lot 18	Daac Re & Management LLC	Aue, Harry J and Aue, Mary H	6/2	$232,000
40 Pine Orchard Rd	Costa-Estrela, Vitor M and Estrela, Amy L	Donohue, Joseph M and Brunner, Elizabeth R	5/30	$417,000
450 Providence St Lot 41	Arruda, Brianna M and Holgate, James M	Healey, Sandra	6/3	$373,000
5 Legris Commons Ln Lot 5	Miller, Tracy J and Wallace, Jospeh C	Ldesa, Silvio R	5/30	$318,000
52 Morris St	Black, Colin S and Black, Diane C	Luciani, Tyler S	5/29	$415,000
565 Quaker Ln Lot 19	Farugia, James C and Farugia, Alicia J	Aguira, Manuel and Aguira, Maria	5/28	$320,000
8 Lenox Ave	Johnson, Constance V and Johnson, Joshua P	Kheradi Holdings LLC	6/3	$183,600
8 Mcteers Ct	Lima, Giavanni	Depina, Carlita	5/28	$365,000
83 Quaker Dr	Contois, Thomas M	Roberts, Justine M and Roberts, Karen M	5/28	$465,000

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Call 732-3100 by —

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

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

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

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(Yard Sale Ads Must Be Pre-Paid)

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SINGLE VISION PRESCRIPTION LENSES & FRAME
- Choose from a specially selected group of fashion frames
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CRANSTON HERALD THE REMINDER

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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
suzannew@rhodybeat.com
p 401-732-3100
1944 WARWICK AVENUE, WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02889

● GASPEE from page 23

the previous record of 16:22 set by Amy Rudolph in 2003. Gilmar Silvestre was the top overall male finisher.

Other winners included:
Female <12: Charlotte Saadeh
Male <12: Will Lang
Female 13-18: Molly Richardson
Male 13-18: Brayden Seraichyk
Female 19-29: Katie Goldenburg
Male 19-29: Nick Celico
Female 30-39: Katharine Walker
Male 30-39: Daniel Kilcoyne
Female 40-49: Brett Ely
Male 40-49: Adrian Massie
Female 50-59: Kim Chula-Maguire
Male 50-59: Keith Adams
Female 60-69: Marge Bellisle
Male 60-69: Norm Bouthillier
Female 70-79: Joan Roby
Male 70-79: Richard Boyle
Female 80+: Joan Johnson
Male 80+: Gary Kilro









Gilmar Silvestre, who was the top men's finisher. *Beacon Media photos by Joy Fox*

● WNLL from page 23

what mattered the most and they really showed that they were a team halfway through the year. They all became friends. I told them, 'they created a family,' and they'll have these memories for the rest of the lives," said Big Blue Bug manager Mike Beaudoin.

Beaudoin also tipped his cap to 401, who was the toughest team they faced all spring across three meetings.

"It was back and forth the way a championship should be. Both teams deserved to be there. All three games were a back-and-forth battle and I told them that it's baseball, someone is going to win and someone is going to lose. If we played them again, they could win, they had a lot of talent," said Beaudoin.

North will now shift gears toward the upcoming All-Star tournaments. Beaudoin was proud of the league's commitment to the city's youth this spring and believes the competitive postseason reflected the overall strength of the North community.

"We have a great league. We have super supportive parents, amazing volunteers. A lot of these kids go to school together, they're great kids and they all get along. They're out there having fun and that's what it's all about," said Beaudoin.

Members of the champion Big Blue Bug team included: Cayden Rea, Chase Fraime, Domenic Coelho, Jaimin Harlow, Jasson Vargas, Jesus Lantigua, Nathan Swiczewicz, Salvador Pellerano, Thomas Beaulieu, Emily Beaudoin, Matthew Beaudoin and Xander Roberts. Coaches were manager Mike Beaudoin, assistants James Beaulieu and Christopher Swiczewicz.

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Cup: $5.00 Pt: $9.00 Qt: $15.99
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Shrimp Basket 1/2 lb. $14.99
Fried Calamari $14.99
alla mama, sticky, buffalo
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