

How will Johnston spend \$9M in ARPA loot?

By RORY SCHULER

June 13.

Johnston will be receiving “approximately, \$8,809,038.22,” according to Polisena.

“I mean, we should’ve got more, but I guess I’m satisfied with that,” he told Town Council. “We wanted to look at things where we could actually invest in our community. Invest in our infrastructure.”

Johnston expects to receive nearly \$9 million in federal funding following the pandemic.

How will the town spend the money? The short answer: three large garages and athletics field improvements.

Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena outlined the planned expenditures of Johnston’s share of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds during the last regular Town Council meeting on

ARPA - PAGE 7

Mayor pitches new DPW, police & fire garages; field repairs

LITTLE DIPLOMAS



Next year they’ll find a pot of gold

By RORY SCHULER

The youngsters took turn breakdancing.

They fed a hungry caterpillar.

They used their little diplomas as telescopes.

The Johnston State Pre-K classroom at Over the Rainbow Learning Center celebrated the end of the school year during a show for family and friends on June 17.

The children sang and danced to many songs, from “Shake Your Sillies Out” to “Gummy Bear.” After singing and dancing, the children received certificates of completion for Pre-K and read and acted out “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle.

CUT A RUG: The Johnston State Pre-K classroom at Over the Rainbow Learning Center celebrated the end of the school year during a show for family and friends on June 17. Youngsters took turns breakdancing. Above right, the children received certificates of completion for Pre-K. They got a kick out of their little diplomas. For more photos, turn to Page 11. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

RAINBOW - PAGE 11

Taking a walk with JPD

By PETE FONTAINE

There are season openings of all kinds. Then there’s Walk with Cops. Walk with Cops?

This is a special and time-honored tradition that began over a quarter century ago and has never — ever — grown old.

Walk with Cops was founded by now retired Johnston Police Chief Richard S. Tamburini and has continued through the years on weekday mornings during the spring and summer months, weather permitting, inside the “The Jewel of Johnston” a.k.a. War Memorial Park as a unique way for the JPD to interact with the town’s senior citizens who reside in nursing and rehabilitation facilities.

There have always been many magical moments during the two-hour session last Wednesday morning when JPD Chief Joseph P. Raza, Deputy Chief Mark Vieira and

other officers welcomed a host of senior citizens, who in most cases arrived by bus from residences like Cherry Hill Manor, The Bridge at Cherry Hill and Anchor Bay at Pocasset.

Likewise, Johnston Town Councilwoman Linda Folcarelli — who also serves as the JPD’s Community Liaison Officer — and her sister Donna arrived early and began placing white coverings accented with red and blue stars on tables that were adorned with small, flowered plants and chairs where the morning’s special guests would soon sit.

The sisters Folcarelli then decorated another table and placed mini-American flags amid decorative flowered plants and a blue banner with black lettering that read: “Walk with Cops ... Johnston Police Department.”

Enter recently promoted Johnston Police Capt. Mike Babbitt who un-

loaded containers of hot coffee and boxes of freshly made donuts and muffins that all attendees and JPD officers would enjoy during the two-hour session that was filled with unmatched caring and camaraderie.

Within a few minutes, two buses from Cherry Hill Manor pulled into the sun-covered yet shaded wet end of the park and was followed by a bus from The Bridge at Cherry Hill and Anchor Bay at Pocasset.

Staffers from all three residences began unloading wheelchairs and walkers while other friendly folks made their way carefully to the “outdoor kitchen” where they were warmly greeted for Opening Day 2022.

“Oh, my goodness!” exclaimed Linda Folcarelli, as she scooted to the table to help her “buddies” Ernie and Leo take their seats. “I love these guys.”



HELPING HANDS: Cherry Hill Manor resident Anna Amalfitano gets help from super staffers Christine Garafalo and Lorraine DiLorenzo during last week’s season opening of Walk with Cops. (Sun Rise photo by Pete Fontaine)

WALK - PAGE 11

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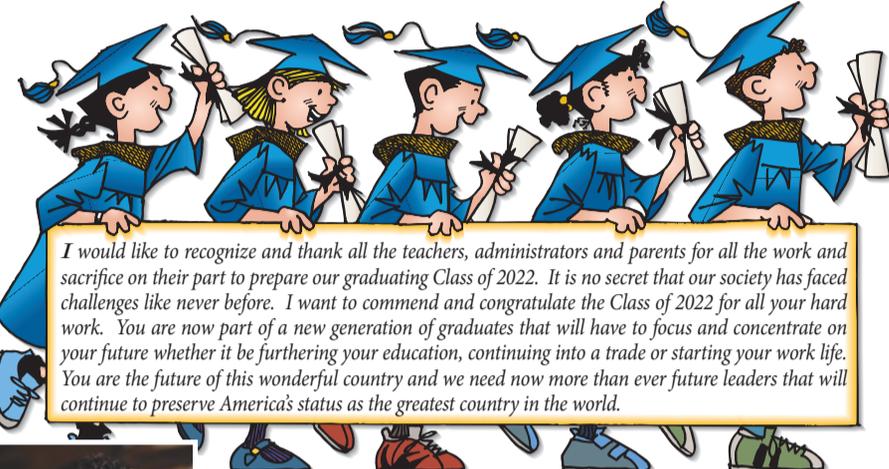


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I would like to recognize and thank all the teachers, administrators and parents for all the work and sacrifice on their part to prepare our graduating Class of 2022. It is no secret that our society has faced challenges like never before. I want to commend and congratulate the Class of 2022 for all your hard work. You are now part of a new generation of graduates that will have to focus and concentrate on your future whether it be furthering your education, continuing into a trade or starting your work life. You are the future of this wonderful country and we need now more than ever future leaders that will continue to preserve America's status as the greatest country in the world.

CONGRATULATIONS JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2022

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DISTRICT 4 TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT



GRAND OPENING: Johnston State Rep. Deborah Fellela, BBBSRI Chief Financial Officer Jack Blatchford, Johnston Town Councilwoman Lauren Garzone and BBBSRI Director of Development Katie Dawkins celebrated the new Johnston drop-off site.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of RI open new drop-off spots in Johnston & Cranston

The new locations — at 993 Oaklawn Ave. in Cranston and 629 Killingly St. in Johnston — provide a convenient place for local residents and community members to drop off their gently-used bagged donations of cloth, fabric, and small household goods and toured the new space.

Over the course of the official opening weekend at the end of May, both locations collected approximately 3,200 pounds of goods, according to a BBBSRI press release.

"BBBSRI is grateful for the support from local elected officials who attended the grand openings, including Representative Deborah Fellela of Johnston, Councilwoman Lauren Garzone of John-

ston, and Councilman Robert Civetti of Johnston and Councilman John Donegan of Cranston," according to BBBSRI.

"I support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island immensely and am thrilled that they have moved to Killingly Street," Garzone said.

State Rep. Deborah Fellela shared: "We have a new Big Brothers Big Sisters here in Johnston, in a great location with easy access. It's a great way to give back to our communities to help many in need."

The Donation Center is a subsidiary of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island that collects donations of used clothing and small household items. BBBSRI has a partnership with Savers Thrift Stores, which is a key factor in raising nearly 70 percent of the agency's funds to support its one-on-one mentoring programs and in the organization's ability to increase the number of children and families served, according to the press release.

The Donation Center also helps keep between 3-5 million pounds of clothing and textiles out of the landfill each year and supports local nonprofit agencies and municipalities, according to BBBSRI.

"BBBSRI is constantly looking to expand its partnerships and is looking to the community it serves for connections. BBBSRI encourages any nonprofit groups, municipalities,

community groups or other agencies interested in hosting a big green bin on their property to reach out to Jillian Scott, Business & Community Engagement Coordinator at jillian@bigsri.org. In addition, the Donation Center is looking to find new donation sites in an effort to increase its presence around the state and asks residents to share any leads they may have with Jillian Scott."

BBBSRI makes donating easy. In addition to the Cranston and Johnston locations, there are currently drop-off sites in Wakefield and Middletown.

Drop-off sites are staffed and open to the public 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Residents can also donate goods to any of the 107 big green bins across Rhode Island or schedule a free, curbside pick-up at their home. For more information, visit bigsri.org/donateri.

Net proceeds from the Donation Center support BBBSRI mentoring programs. BBBSRI creates and supports one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. If you are interested in mentoring a child, donating to support our program, hosting a clothing drive, hosting a clothing fundraiser for your school or group, or more, visit www.BigsRI.org, call 401-921-2434, or email events@BigsRI.org.

alzheimer's association



Alzheimer's Community Forums

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June 23 at 12 PM | Warwick Community Forum

Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI

June 27 at 12 PM | East Providence Community Forum

East Providence Public Library, 41 Grove Ave, East Providence, RI

To register, contact Annie Murphy at mmurphy@alz.org

alz.org/RI | 24/7 Helpline 800.272.3900

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Attention: Natalie

or Email:

NatalieP@rhodybeat.com

A special last day of school at Winsor Hill

By PETE FONTAINE

Something super special happened last Thursday morning on Theresa Street in Johnston. When the nearly 400 students who attend Winsor Hill Elementary School — which was recently honored for being Nationally Kindness Certified — were greeted with everything from music and special greetings from Principal Dr. Amy Burns as well as teachers and staff.

Likewise, the always smiling and popular principal offered sincere congratulations to the entire student body on what she described as “a very, very successful school year!”

Meanwhile, Johnston Fire Department sent along several fire apparatus with lights flashing and sirens filling the air while the nationally-accredited Johnston Police Johnston also had a presence with officers and its famous Hummer which was restored several years ago by Gary Salzillo’s Northeast Autobody and put back into service.

The event also featured two beauty queens — namely Miss Johnston Nina Benedetto and Miss Johnston Tee Giovanna Arakelian — who also offered congratulations and well-wishes for continued success during the 2022-23 academic year.

Even two iconic characters — a dinosaur and unicorn — that were wearing inflated costumes added to the special celebration.

“Winsor Hill Elementary is a special school!” exclaimed several parents as they talked to Susan Parillo, the long-time Health/Physical Education teacher who has organized many highly-successful events and fund-raisers through the years. “The people in Johnston should be proud of what goes on here.”

Finally, the last day of school closed with a special message that read: “Winsor Hill wishes all a safe and happy summer vacation. We look forward to seeing everyone again in September.”



SUPER STAFF: Above, among the many teachers and staff that made the last day of Winsor Hill School’s 2021-2022 year special was: Susan Parillo, Judy Centracchio, Donna Pingitore, Margy Aiello, Nicole Moccia, Melinda Izzo, Dina Needham and Doreen Hudson. At left, Winsor Hill School Principal Dr. Amy Burns (right) and Health/Physical Education Teacher Susan Parillo during last week’s special send-off for some nearly 400 students. At right, Among those people who helped make the last day of school at Winsor Hill Elementary extra special were Miss Teen Johnston Giovanna Arakelian, Johnston Police Officers Matt Leveillee and Lou Cotoia and Miss Johnston Nina Benedetto. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



‘A Night to Remember’

By Denise Bell
Special to the Sun Rise

On Friday night, June 17, the Johnston Senior Center was alive and kicking as the members came out to celebrate for the first time in over 2 years!

The event was twofold. It was an annual fundraiser for the Center, while the members had the opportunity to have a wonderful time to get out and enjoy themselves. There was a table with Raffle Baskets of all kinds and restaurant gift certificates to be won, while appetizers, drinks, coffee and desserts were served.

There were over 150 in attendance. They danced to music of the 1950s, 60s & 70s played by the “Roger Ceresi Trio.” The band, also known for their big band the Roger Ceresi’s All Stars, is well known around the Ocean State, playing at Water Fire, Columbus Day on Federal Hill and many venues in Rhode Island and Connecticut. The dance floor was full all night long.

There were so many who supported the night with food, gift cards, raffle prizes and the band. A great big “THANK YOU” to Smithfield Woods Assisted Living, D’Palmieri’s Bakery, Morgan Health Center, The Bridge at Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill Nursing Center, Tavalo Wine Bar, Atwood Florist, Luigi’s restaurant, Wine & Cheese restaurant, Atwood Grill, Seven Stars Bakery, Cappelli Design, Schroders Deli, the Block Island Ferri, Honey Dew Donuts!

A special “Thank You” to Peter Lombardi for the Wine & Beer donation, to Pat Hannagan for assisting with the ticket sales, and to Connie Tsoumakas for her help “hitting the pavement” asking for donation items and crafting the beautiful raffle baskets and to all those who donated the items!

Next we want to say how much the JSC staff and volunteers are appreciated for all their help, hard work and time making the event a real Night to Remember!

Editor’s Note: Denise Bell serves as Assistant Director at the Johnston Senior Center.



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TREASURE HUNT: Gian Souza runs a unique little shop on George Waterman Road, selling everything under the sun. The store has recently undergone a major change. The two-in-one shop – with a small antique and oddity business on one side and a big “soup to nuts” variety shop on the other – has switched. The antique shop – run by Souza’s niece Kim Tillinghast (shown here in the reflection) – now occupies the larger space. Find 40-year-old Mego figures to century-old furniture in the newly redesigned space. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

By RORY SCHULER

Gian Souza runs a unique little shop on George Waterman Road, selling everything under the sun. The store has recently undergone a major change. The two-in-one shop — with a small antique and oddity business on one side and a big “soup to nuts” variety shop on the other — has switched. The antique shop — run by Souza’s niece Kim Tillinghast — now occupies the larger space. Find 40-year-old Mego figures to century-old furniture in the newly redesigned space. New toys. Old toys. Collectibles and historical items. Each day, the inventory’s a surprise; the shelves re-stocked with new (and old) items each day. Souza has been running a small antique and second-hand shop at the same location for the past eight years. The switch in strategies will hopefully help keep the shop in business at least eight more.

Business Name: Gian’s Treasure
Owner’s Name: Gian Souza
Business Address: 95 George Waterman Road
Length of Operation: 8 years
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 7 days a week
Business Phone Number: 401-439-2898
Business Description: Unique retail operation. Buying and selling “everything, soup to nuts.”
Owner’s Address: 23 Golini Drive, Johnston
Entrepreneur’s Quote: “All prices are cheap and negotiable!”

EDITOR’S NOTE: This is an installment of an ongoing series focusing on Johnston’s smallest businesses. “The Smallest” will profile proprietors with few or no employees, how they make a buck, the challenges they face, and why they decided to start their own business in Johnston. If you know a business owner who deserves a profile, have a business update to share, or would like to see a story about your business in the pages of the Sun Rise, please contact Johnston Sun Rise Editor Rory Schuler at rorys@rhodybeat.com.

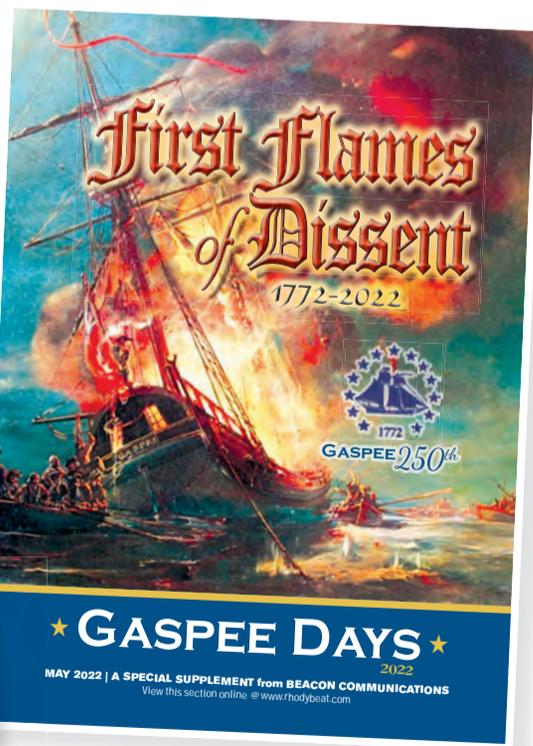


TREASURE HUNT: Gian Souza, at left, runs a unique little shop on George Waterman Road, with his niece Kim Tillinghast, at right, selling everything you can imagine. The store is actually two-in-one, with an antique and oddity business on one side and a “soup to nuts” variety shop on the other.

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JHS: "Let's save lives!"

By Talia Laflamme
Special to the Sun Rise

Johnston Senior High School is hosting its annual summer blood drive on June 28, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. The blood drive will take place in the school's cafeteria. Our region is currently in a blood emergency and the Rhode Island Blood Center (RIBC) is in need of people willing to donate.

To put this in perspective; blood is the only thing in a hospital room that can't be man-made. There are all sorts of machines and gadgets that a hospital can buy, however, blood is something that has to be donated in order for it to make it into the operating room.

Johnston High School has been recognized multiple times by the RIBC for its commitment in bringing in donors and the community is looking to doing it again.

To make an appointment for the drive, visit this link: www.donate.ribc.org/donor/schedules/sponsor_code (and type in 0441 as the sponsor code, after which the Johnston High School drive will pop up and you can schedule your appointment).

Editor's Note: Talia Laflamme serves as the Johnston High School National Honor Society President. If you have more questions about the blood drive, contact Glenn Halverson at 401-265-1431.

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Johnston Sun Rise

Johnston Senior High School Q4 Honor Roll

High Honors

- Mohammed Abaherah
- Melissa Aguilar
- Aliza Almonte
- Lucas Anderson
- Benjamin Annicelli
- Allison Benoit
- Kevin Biscelli
- Trinity Blondin
- Emily Buddenhagen
- Tyler Buote
- Vincent Chan
- Janet Clements
- Albion Cortesi
- Glorianna Crichlow
- Kelly Dargy
- Timothy Davis
- Courtney Dias
- Adrianna Dinucci
- Jullia Droukas
- Willson El Hage
- Alexia Evangelista
- Gezzelle Fernandez
- Cameron Ferrara
- Makaila Fosu
- Victor Fragoso
- Amanda Giron Caballero
- James Guilmette
- Jonathan Guilmette
- Mackenzie Hanna
- Nicholas Harrington
- Shannon Hartley
- Charlene Hohlmaier
- Emma Homenick
- Aliyah Hunt
- Mineishka Hunt
- Emily Iannuccilli
- Kyle Iannuccillo
- Siera Jeetan
- Emily Klein
- Fujiy Kue
- Brenton Lang
- Savhanna Larivee
- Nina Lautieri
- Jaylin Loeum
- Dylan Lussier
- Cassie Magnone
- Neko Mahony
- Channosophonn Mam
- Chelsea Maranhao
- Samantha Marcotte
- Logan Martins
- Peyton McClish
- Jeremy Melise
- Jaylen Molina
- Carlos Monteiro
- Brendon Norris
- Janelle Nunez
- Ayomide Olagundoye
- Lilian Oliva Garcia
- Sebastian Orozco
- Ava Palma
- Alyssa Pascale
- Emily Patenaude
- Nicole Patenaude
- Noelle Patenaude
- Joshua Philbrick
- Genesis Pineda
- Jenna Poland
- Malakai Quinones
- Christopher Ragosta
- Candace Raposo
- Tyler Renaud
- Dylan Robbins
- Steffi Rotella
- Phoenix Russell
- Kasem Sasa
- Makayla Scuncio
- Joseph Silvia
- Aiden Soto
- Luke Taglianetti
- Joseph Thomas
- Abraham Tillett
- Cameron Tum
- Jacqueline Urizar
- Joseph Vento
- Danielle Warren
- Victoria Winsor
- Nathen Zalisk
- Catrina Zinni

Total High Honors: 89

1st Honors

- Amelia Akkaoui

- Jenna Aucone
- Benjamin Bejnar
- Logan Brennan
- Gianna Brodeur
- Macenzie Buddenhagen
- Michael Cepeda
- Henri Chan
- Sofia China
- Matthew Clements
- Rebecca Clements
- Elyssa Collins
- Elise Connors
- Haley Connors
- Evan Correia
- Giuseppe Cucinotta
- Charles Curci
- Arianna Dandy
- Michael DiIorio
- Alexia DiLorenzo
- Caitlin Fasteson
- Jennelle Fernandez
- Serenity Gonzalez
- Riley Guenette
- Jasmin Guerrero
- Gianna Halliwell
- Zachary Hanna
- Lauren Hill
- Malikai Hopp
- Susana Huezo
- Rachel Ixcotoyac
- Vanessa Javery
- Faith Khang
- Hannah Klein
- Lucio La Terra Bellina
- Christopher LaPlante
- Balla Marone
- Ayden Martins
- Ariana Medeiros
- Ava Melo
- Manee Men
- Karissa Morales
- Jacob Muller
- Andrea Muriel
- Neriah Nhar-Matko
- Elijah Odhiambo
- Gianna Orozco
- Caroline Pesenecker
- Allan Pineda
- Shannon Pistocco
- Alexis Rattray
- Noe Reyes-Estrada
- Anthony Rini
- Lana Salamone
- Abigail Salas
- Derek Salvatore
- Raylin Santos
- Ryan Schino
- Andrew Sia
- Athena Sin
- Christian Sonner
- Sheyla Soto
- Matthew Sou
- Jake Souvannavong
- Ryan St. Lawrence
- Michael Stone
- Branden Testa
- Jackson Troxell
- Patrick Waldron
- Jordan (Fae) Weston
- Austin Wheeler

Total 1st Honors: 71

2nd Honors

- Joseph Acciaro
- Ferlandi Aguilar Lopez
- Logan Hayden Akins
- Carlos Alfaia
- Elizabeth Almonte
- Emily Anderson
- Nicki Aucone
- Ryan Audino
- Kalina Bonetti
- Hailey Brown
- Sadie Bun
- Victoria Butler
- Gerson Cabrera
- Samuel Cambranes
- Georgiana Cardullo
- Kylie Caroselli
- Kayla Carpentier
- Jacob Carr
- Dariana Carrascoza

- Ryan Carvalho
- Joseph Centeno-Gonzalez
- Dylan Cerio
- Michael Chavier
- Juliana Correia
- Anthony Corsinetti
- Elliot Cortesi
- Yohani Cortez
- Phillip Costantini
- Jazmin Cuello-Pineda
- Carprece Daigle
- Keyari Dandy
- Antonio DeFalco
- Kathleen DeLeon
- Lauren Dixon
- Briana Dominique
- Samson D'Uva
- Linda Echeverria
- Riley Enos
- Landon Faucher
- Emily Feinstein
- Robert Franchini
- Joshua Galeas
- Anthony Gawlik
- Robert Graham
- Caleb Guimaraes
- Carlos Gutierrez Deleon
- Dineishka Hunt
- Ariana Iasimone
- Micheline Irons
- Marcel Johnson Goncalves
- Ava Khoury
- Talia Laflamme
- Hannah Lavergne
- Noah Lavergne
- Jared Lee
- Thadeus Leomensah
- Katelyn Loffler
- Joseph Lopez Tavares
- Gabriella Manchester
- Samantha Marcotte
- Mouhamadou Marone
- Dylan Martins
- Maylin McAteer
- Alicia McCoy
- Autumn McIntyre
- Malvin Melicio
- Milana Melvin
- Gabriela Mercado
- Jasella Mitsoulis
- Isaiah Montoya
- Jonathan Morris
- Hector Munoz-Lopez
- Eliyahna Negron
- Jeremy Ovalles
- David Pagliarini
- Lexie Palma
- Dean Paris
- Gabriella Pascale
- James Pastore
- Jaqueline Pinto Lopez
- Emily Pistocco
- Emily Placella
- Xavier Pol
- Matthew Ponte
- Kaylee Poole
- Taylor Powell
- Skyla Prata
- Catherine Privitera
- Kenneth Privitera
- Alexander Quesada
- Donavin Quinones
- Isabella Ragosta
- Joshua Ramos-Ortiz
- Sydney Raposo
- Michelle Recinos
- Nicholas Rianna
- Sophia Ribezzo
- Dante Ricci
- Gianna Ricci
- Rileigh Richard
- Danielson Rivas
- Jahaziel Rodriguez
- Katie Rodriguez
- Yandery Rodriguez
- Janzel Roquez
- Diana Rosales
- Aiven Rua
- Jenifer Sajbin Estrada
- Cameron Salois
- Miguel Santamaria Romero
- Selina Santanelli

- Jesse Santillan
- Christian Sarmiento
- Shanna Scopelliti
- Anthony Sevigny
- Vena Seyon
- Ariel Shelly
- Julia Sidoti
- Shane Simeone
- Jonathan Simpson
- Nathaniel Smith
- Brandon Souza
- Jacob Spinella
- Ariana Stoepker
- Emmerson Sylvia
- Parker Sylvia
- Carl Taglianetti
- Alejandra Torres Morales
- Lena Torti
- Bobbi'Sue Trahan
- Jared Trotter
- Jeremy Urena
- Jared Urizar-Santos
- Kaylee Vanstone
- Kevin Veader
- Victoria Venditelli
- Nicolas Viau

Total 2nd Honors: 137

3rd Honors

- Eric Aikulola
- Saad Alam
- Sebastian Aleman
- David Allan
- Aubree Allen
- Alyssa Aloisio
- Christopher Alves
- Gabriel Bandoma
- Sean Beliveau
- Jack Bremer
- Morgan Carrier
- Raymond Cimino
- Nolan Cumiskey
- Chantal DeJesus
- Sincear DeLoatch
- Samantha DiMaio
- Tyler Diodati
- Nathan Emory
- Alex Fedorchuk
- Maya Ferreira
- Zachary Ferry
- Roman-De Furtado
- Cristian Gonzalez
- Kayla Gruttadauria
- Wally Hassan
- Logan Hemstreet
- Jake Hicks
- Devin Kent
- Aiden Lariviere
- Karen Lastor Rojas
- Valerie Lotero
- Eric Luna
- Santiago Luna
- Isabella Maggiacomo
- Cameron Mattson
- Hailee McDaniel
- Dylan Moore
- Ashley Morales
- Natalia Munoz
- Connor Niles
- Jayden Noble
- Randy Ortega
- Yaneishka Ortiz
- Edgar Pacheco-Ortiz
- Loren Pastore
- Hannah Patnaude
- Iris Perez
- Michael Peruginio
- Mario Pi
- Delya Sabet
- Jaselle Santos
- Caitlyn Savard
- Victoria Sical
- Zayvion Stokes
- Jayden Testa
- Sarah Vasquez
- Michael Vita
- William Vizcaino
- Dominic Whitten
- Nicholas Williams
- Logan Woodall

Total 3rd Honors: 61

"HYSTERICALLY FUNNY!" -Wrwk. Beacon

AGING DISGRACEFULLY
'Cuz gettin' old is gettin' old

TWELVE ACRES, Smithfield
 Wed. Matinee - July 20 - 12:30

TWIN OAKS, Cranston
 Sun. Matinee - July 24 - 12:30

BELLA Restaurant, Glendale
 Saturday Early Bird - Aug. 6 - 4:30

CHELO'S, Post Rd. Warwick
 Sunday Matinee - Aug. 14 - 12:30

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■ ARPA
(Continued from page 1)

First, and consuming the majority of the \$8.8 million in ARPA funds, newly constructed shelters for the town's public safety and public works fleet.

"We'd like to put up three buildings," Polisena told Town Council. "The first building, obviously would be DPW (Department of Public Works). It's a 13,600 square foot building which would include sprinklers, heating, electric, lighting and generator, a hot box, and the approximate (cost) is ... about \$3.5 million."

Polisena delivered a presentation illustrating the needs for a new DPW garage.

"The reason being, we probably have one of the best fleet of vehicles in the state," Polisena said. "Thanks to this council approving all the new trucks that we obviously bought. We have a brand new sewer vac truck, as well as a used sewer vac truck, and obviously they have water in it. So to leave it outside is very, very difficult. Because it will freeze. If they have to put it inside, especially during a storm, there really is no place for them to work on the plows. You also have a pump truck that has water in it. Not to mention our street sweepers which are not used in the wintertime."

The need for DPW vehicle shelter doesn't stop when the seasons change.

"In the summertime ... we have a really a really good cadre of Mac trucks, dump trucks that we like to keep inside," Polisena explained. "We've had issues where mice have gotten under the hood. Eaten through the wires. It happened a couple of times, if I'm not mistaken ... Once we get them inside we'll feel ... a lot better. And we're going to protect, obviously, the vehicles."

Polisena said the new DPW garage will be built "in the back, you see where the sand pile is ... we have a salt shed there ... in that general vicinity." The DPW headquarters is located at 100 Irons Ave.

Polisena and Johnston Fire Chief Peter J. Lamb made the case for a garage to house fire and rescue apparatus.

"The headquarters fire station ... it includes 7,000 square feet ... generated heat, electric, lighting ... we would keep electrical cords, that will hang down from the ceiling where the trucks have to be plugged in all the time," Polisena explained.

The new fire garage would be built "on the property behind the Atwood Avenue Fire Station," according to Polisena, and cost around \$1.8million.

"As you know, we're buying a new ladder truck," the mayor reminded Town Council.

Town Council approved the purchase of a new ladder truck in April. The new truck will cost about \$1.1 million, and replaces a truck purchased only seven years ago, but has been plagued with mechanical problems.

"We want to keep that inside," Polisena explained. "That and other vehicles; especially our rescues. We keep our reserve rescues inside and they have equipment on them. And

the equipment really shouldn't be outside. Obviously in the cold weather, we keep our extra defibrillators, and medical supplies. And of course, we have extra pumpers, fire trucks. That has 500 gallons of water; and obviously we have to leave the trucks outside, we have to drain all of that water, and it's kind of a waste of money."

A similarly sized (and priced) police vehicle garage has also been proposed.

"The Johnston Police Station ... we would build them a 7,000 square foot building," Polisena said. "Which would have heat, electric, lights ... at a cost of approximately \$1.8 million."

The Johnston Police Department has a substantial fleet of specialized police vehicles, and a need for long-term storage of vehicles logged in as evidence.

"They have a lot of vehicles, for instance," Polisena told Town Council. "We have a SWAT vehicle that if it stays outside in the sun, the bullet-proof glass is no longer bullet-proof."

"Am I correct chief?" the mayor asked Johnston Police Chief Joseph P. Razza.

"You are correct mayor," Razza replied.

"And also, once again, the mice got involved in the (police) truck and they ate the wires and destroyed the wires," Polisena explained. "So we obviously had to have that fixed. Not to mention, they keep ... evidence vehicles locked up. And they would also use it for training."

In all, Polisena estimated the "total costs of all these three projects is \$7.1 million."

A couple million dollars in ARPA cash still remained after the plans for three vehicle fleet garages.

"And then we talked about possibly investing in our children," Polisena said, regarding the remainder of the ARPA funds. "Absolutely. In our fields."

"What I'd like to do is we have about \$1.8 million to \$1.7 million left," Polisena explained. "We want to buy 'CONEX' boxes (steel shipping and storage containers) for all the different ... the Little League, the girls Softball, Pee Wee Football ... so they'll have places to keep their equipment."

Polisena said he has been "working with (Johnston's) Recreation Director, Chris Correia, who's here tonight." Correia was sitting in the audience.

"We'd also like to invest in Kennedy Field," Polisena said. "We know that Kennedy Field gets flooded constantly, because of the drainage that's all blocked up. But we have to do something here."

Polisena said the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management will be implementing new regulations starting July 1 that could make renovations at Kennedy Field difficult, if not impossible.

"DEM is coming out with rules and regulations July 1," Polisena explained. "That's going to be really prohibitive. Once again, it's a bureaucracy with too much power. And they're really going to tie people's hands ... They decided they're going to do it by regulation. They've got way too much

power as it is now."

Polisena urged Town Council to help him expedite Kennedy Field repairs.

"So, we're asking that, I need to get this done ... we have to get this in by July 1," Polisena warned. "Because after July 1 it's a whole new set of rules, unless the General Assembly can call in the director of DEM and say, eh eh eh eh, not so fast. So there's a rush to do this for some reason. I think they hoodwinked the Governor ... Anyway, we obviously want to get that field going."

Polisena also hopes to right a wrong with a portion of the funds.

"One of the things I found out too, I was kind of disappointed, the Johnston Girls Softball team really do not have a field of their own," Polisena said. "They do not have a regulation field."

Correia and Polisena identified a potential new home for Johnston girls softball.

"Field 3, mayor," Correia told Polisena and Town Council.

"We're going to make that a regulation size softball field," Polisena said. "Because it's not fair ... the males have their own fields and the females don't. That's grossly unfair. So I'd like to get some money, and we'd like to get some help from the parents too. I'd like to give them a regulation sized field with maybe some lights, which would be great. And of course, they would also get a CONEX box."

Polisena also recommends paying the town's share of a three-community animal control compact and shared headquarters.

"This board approved our getting together, if you will, consolidation of our animal control offices. Between us, Smithfield and North Providence," Polisena told Town Council. "There is a cost obviously. We were going to pay by rent; I should say, pay like a mortgage if you will. But I'd like to give them the up-front cost of the \$350,000. That's what Smithfield is doing. After I mentioned that, Smithfield decided to do the same thing ... And then all we'll have to pay for is things like electricity, animal food, whether it's dog or cat food ... I'd rather pay that up front."

Polisena said the town planned to advertise for bids on the CONEX boxes last week.

"They're about \$6,500 a piece," Polisena said. "They're CONEX boxes that have been used one way to store stuff ... You will be the ones that are approving. When I come before you, once we it goes out for bid for the buildings, it will have to be approved by the council. You will approve obviously the CONEX boxes, once they go out for bid. I just want to explain to you what we're doing. ... Hopefully we'll get this going ... Especially the Kennedy Field (repairs) before DEM really raise their ugly head."

Polisena called the nearly \$9 million in ARPA funds "a windfall."

"This is a windfall for us," he told Town Council and the public. "There's no doubt about it. And I do thank our Federal Delegation who did get us the money."

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Watch Your MOUTH
by Rochelle Rhodes, D.M.D. and David McFarland, D.D.S.
AVOIDING AN ABSCESSSED TOOTH
A tooth abscess is a swollen pocket of pus caused by a bacterial infection in the tooth's root. An abscess can occur at the bottom of the root or in the gums to the side of the root. Bacteria enters the root through an untreated cavity, chip, or crack in the tooth, causing swelling and inflammation. An abscess requires treatment and won't resolve on its own. A dentist will drain the abscess and treat the infection. A root canal or tooth extraction may also be required. The best way to avoid a tooth abscess is to prevent tooth decay through daily brushing and flossing, healthy eating habits that limit sugar and snacks, and regular cleanings by a dental professional. One of our fundamental philosophies at DENTAL ARTS GROUP is teaching our patients the importance of taking charge of their dental health and doing what is necessary to control their own dental conditions, from prevention to maintenance. We work together as a team with our patients to achieve the long-term benefits that quality dentistry affords. From sound advice about healthy gums and periodontal care to routine well visits to major dental reconstructions, we've got your dental needs covered. Our office is located at 1136 Hartford Ave., Johnston. You can reach us at 401-521-3661. P.S. If left undrained, the bacteria from a tooth abscess can spread to the head and neck and may even spread throughout the body as a life-threatening infection known as sepsis.
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TERMS & CONDITIONS
1. INTEREST RATES: Rates are for loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2022 for the 2022/23 academic year and include 0.25% reduction for making automatic monthly payments (auto-pay feature). Each repayment option is subject to funds availability. Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The rates and terms disclosed above are available while funds last. New loans may be subject to different rates and/or terms.
2. APR: The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) reflects the estimated total cost of the loan, including origination fees (EO), accruing interest, and the effect of capitalized interest. Interest begins accruing after each loan disbursement. Rate shown includes the 0.25% interest rate reduction for using the auto-pay feature. If monthly payment is calculated to be less than \$50 per month for full term, lowest payment is \$50 per month with term reduced.
3. RHODE ISLAND ADVANTAGE: applies to any Rhode Island Students attending school in any state or Non-Rhode Island Students attending a school in Rhode Island who select an immediate or deferred repayment loan.

Tri-County Community Action Agency wins \$350,000 grant

Tri-County Community Action Agency in Johnston has received \$350,000 in funding for Health Center renovations and expansion from the Champlin Foundation.

The foundation recently announced more than \$9.6 million in capital funding, which also included three \$1 million grants awarded to the Tomaquag Indian Memorial Museum, Crossroads Rhode Island, and the Boys and Girls Club of Providence.

The 87 nonprofit organizations receiving funding in this cycle serve Rhode Islanders of all ages across youth services, healthcare, arts and culture, and beyond. Among the recipients are 12 first-time grantees.

"While our lives return to

normal in many ways, the impact of the pandemic can still be felt, especially in our nonprofit community. In organizations across the state, workforce shortages continue to leave nonprofits doing more with less, and inflation and supply chain disruptions have a significant impact on capital projects," said Nina Stack, executive director of The Champlin Foundation. "We seek to ease some of that burden for community-based organizations delivering critical services and advancing the physical, mental, and economic health and vibrancy of our state. We are proud to support this latest round of grantees, representing transformational work that is anchored in the needs, priorities, and aspira-

tions of our communities."

The Champlin Foundation specifically supports capital improvements across nine areas of focus: arts and culture, conservation and parks, education, healthcare, historic preservation and heritage, libraries, social services, youth services, and welfare of animals. Every area is represented in this round of funding. Total giving by the Foundation will be supplemented with a second round of grants in fall 2022. Applications for the fall cycle open today.

The trio of \$1 million awards in a single cycle is unusual for Champlin but speaks to both the tremendous need in the nonprofit community and the leadership and commitment of

grantees.

The Tomaquag Museum is one of that trio. The organization is preparing to build a comprehensive, four-building campus on 18 acres of rural University of Rhode Island land in South Kingstown that honors the region's Indigenous history with a new museum, robust archives, a maker's space, as well as a building for educational programming.

"Rhode Island is home to one of the most important and vibrant Indigenous histories in the country. Having a beautiful, expansive campus will allow Tomaquag to better honor and share the gifts of our cultures—past, present, and future," said Executive Director Lorén M. Spears. "Support and enthu-

siasm for our campaign continues to grow, and this gift from Champlin further underscores the momentum we have for elevating the stories of Indigenous people and engaging more Rhode Islanders in exploring, understanding, and honoring that legacy."

"Lorén, her staff, and the board, with perseverance and a sound, diligent approach, presented a well-conceived, transformational vision. To see it fully realized it will require many more donors, but the Foundation is proud to be a major contributor," Stack added.

In the face of an urgent statewide affordable housing crisis, Champlin awards a \$1 million grant to Crossroads Rhode Island, the leading

provider of homeless services. The organization's main headquarters, which is the epicenter of service and support for the more than 1,100 Rhode Islanders who face housing insecurity on any given day, is in need of significant exterior restoration and repair.

"At Crossroads, we know that housing is the only true solution to homelessness," said Karen Santilli, Crossroads CEO. "We serve some of the most vulnerable people in our state, and by reinvesting in our headquarters, we can continue that work for many years to come."

The third and final \$1 million grant in this cycle is going to the Boys and Girls Club of Providence.



Request for Proposals Town of Johnston

Rainone Gym- Finish & Door Construction

The Town of Johnston is requesting bids for **Rainone Gym- Finish & Door Construction**. Bid specifications are available at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office located at 1385 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919 beginning June 23, 2022 weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, subject to State Holidays. Specs are also available on the Town's website at www.townofjohnstonri.com. There will be a mandatory Pre-bid conference on June 29, 2022 at 9:30 am at Rainone Gym-45 Mill Street, Johnston, RI 02919. Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 am, July 6th, 2022 at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office at the above address and will be opened publicly at that time. The Town of Johnston reserves the right to reject any or all responses or parts thereof, to waive any informality in them, or accept any bid deemed in the best interest of the Town. The Town of Johnston will offer interpreters for the hearing impaired provided the request is at least three (3) days prior to scheduled bid opening by calling (401)553-8830.

Joseph Chiodo, CPA
Finance Director

6/23/22



Request for Proposals Town of Johnston

Purchase and Construction of Three Metal Building

The Town of Johnston is requesting bids for the **Purchase and Construction of Three Metal Buildings**. Bid specifications are available at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office located at 1385 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919 beginning June 23, 2022 weekdays between the hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, subject to State Holidays. Specs are also available on the Town's website at www.townofjohnstonri.com. Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 am, July 1st, 2022 at the Johnston Town Clerk's Office at the above address and will be opened publicly at that time. The Town of Johnston reserves the right to reject any or all responses or parts thereof, to waive any informality in them, or accept any bid deemed in the best interest of the Town. The Town of Johnston will offer interpreters for the hearing impaired provided the request is at least three (3) days prior to scheduled bid opening by calling (401)553-8830.

Joseph Chiodo, CPA
Finance Director

6/23/22

JOHNSTON ZONING BOARD MEETING AGENDA Thursday, June 30th, 2022 at 6:30 PM Johnston Senior Center 1291 Hartford Avenue

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Review will hold its monthly meeting on June 30th, 2022 at 6:30 pm, at Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue. All persons interested in the following proposals are requested to be present at this time. The assembly facilities are accessible to the handicapped. Persons requiring special accommodations shall call the Zoning Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting (401) 231-4000 ext 4117. Persons utilizing TDD equipment may contact the Town through "Relay Rhode Island" at 1-800-745-6675. The agenda for the evening will be as follows, subject to change:

Old Business
File 2022-9 – Petition of Off Course Properties, LLC, Applicant for Plainfield Street/Capitol Street, AP 26 Lot 1, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a Dimensional Variance & Use variance Section 340 for a proposed Single-Family Dwelling.

File 2019-34 – Petition of David Disanto, Owner/Applicant; 279 Scituate Avenue; AP 44 Lot 363 Industrial Zone, 40,510 Sq. Ft. Special Use Permit Section 340-138.1. Proposal of Compassion Center. The petitioner is seeking to add more time to act on the Special Use Permit.

New Business
File 2022-12 – Petition of Cranston

Enameling, Inc./Dana Antonelli, Owner/Applicant for 1309 Plainfield Street, AP 3 Lot 225, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a Use variance Section 340 Subsection 9 - Kennel for Commercial Boarding of Pets for a Proposed Doggy Day Care.

NOTE: If a Case has not been called for a hearing by 10:30 p.m., the Board, at its discretion, may continue the Case to a subsequent or a special meeting. The Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town's web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Building Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.

Per order of the Zoning Board of Review
Thomas Lopardo, Chairman

6/16, 6/23, 6/30/22

**Office of the Town Clerk
Town of Johnston
1385 Hartford Avenue
Johnston, Rhode Island 02919
(401) 351-6618**

Notice is given pursuant to Rhode Island General Law § 3-5-17 that the Johnston Town Council, sitting as the Liquor Licensing Commission under Title 3 Chapter 5 of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, as amended, shall hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, July 11th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Municipal Court Building, 1600 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is

to consider the following application for a liquor license.

Applicant: Yanci Wu
Business Name: DNS Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a Red Ginger Restaurant

Transfer From: KNS, Inc.

Location: 560 Killingly Street Johnston, RI 02919

License Type: Class BV Full - Liquor License- Transfer

Remonstrants are entitled to be heard before the granting of the license.

Per Order:
Johnston Town Council
Robert V. Russo, Council President

Individuals requesting interpreter service for the hearing impaired must notify the Office of the Town Clerk seventy-two hours in advance of the meeting date.

6/23, 6/30/22

**PLANNING BOARD MEETING
Tuesday July 12th, 2022; 6:00 P.M.**
Johnston Senior Center
1291 Hartford Ave.
Johnston, RI 02919

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- III. OLD BUSINESS

PB 20-44 – Mill Street Planned Development - Public Hearing on a proposed conversion of a mill building to a 16-unit residential building. Located at 634 Mill Street AP 4 Lot 311. Zoned - PD. Applicant: Geranskye Real Estate, LLC

IV. NEW BUSINESS

PB 22-35 - 15 Washington Drive – Public Hearing on a Preliminary Plan for a proposed 3 lot Minor Subdivision on a private road. Located at 15 Washington Drive AP 45 Lot 450 and 470. Zoned: R-40. Applicant: Gilbert and Tania Rosa.

PB 22-40 – Bolton Estates – Public Hearing on a Concept Plan 3 lot Minor Subdivision on a private road. Located at 25 Pine Hill Road AP 58 Lot 38. Zoned R-40. Applicant: Wayne Bolton.

PB 22-41 Meadowbrook Estates Phase II – Public Hearing on a Preliminary Plan for a 9 lot Major Subdivision on a private road. Located on Justin Court AP 43/4 Lot 90. Zoned R-40. Applicant: Meadowbrook Development.

PB 22-42 – Morra Subdivision – Public Hearing on a Preliminary Plan 2 lot Minor Subdivision on a private road. Located at 494 George Waterman Road. AP 38 Lot 73. Zoned R-15. Applicant: Paul Morra.

PB 22-31 – Proposed DPW Building – Public Hearing on a Master Plan and Preliminary Plan for the development of a storage garage located at 100 Irons Avenue AP 34 Lot 530. Zoned I. Applicant: Town of Johnston.

PB 22-32 – Proposed Fire Department Building – Public Hearing on a Master Plan and Preliminary Plan for the development of a storage garage located at 1520 Atwood Avenue AP 53 Lot 178. Zoned B-2. Applicant: Town of Johnston.

PB 22-33 – Proposed Police Department Building – Public Hearing on a Master Plan and Preliminary Plan for the development of a storage garage located at 1651 Atwood Avenue AP 47 Lot 9. Zoned R-20. Applicant: Town of Johnston.

PB 22-37 – Advisory Opinion to the Town Council on the request to abandon a portion of Naples Avenue.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT & SPECIAL ITEMS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

•The Planning Board Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town's web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Planning Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.
•Items not heard by 9:30 p.m. may be continued to the next Regular Meeting or a special meeting at the discretion of the Board.
•Facilities are handicap accessible. Interpreter services may be requested from TTD (401) 792-9642 at least 72 hours in advance.

6/23, 6/30, 7/7/22

JOHNSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

10 MEMORIAL AVENUE
JOHNSTON, RHODE ISLAND 02919
(Door B4)

INVITES SEALED PROPOSALS FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

- | | |
|---|---|
| Air Replacement Filters | Asbestos Related Service |
| Bleacher/Grandstand/Backboard Inspections | Chair Lift Inspections |
| Commodity Items | Electrical Services |
| Elevator Inspections | Floor Finish |
| Floor Finish Remover | Food Safety Inspections |
| Fuel Oil #2 | Generator Services |
| HVAC Services | Testing & Inspecting Life Safety Equip. |
| Pest Control | Plumbing Services |
| Surveillance Services | Uniforms |

Specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 10 Memorial Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. **beginning Thursday, June 23, 2022.**

Each bidder is required to deliver his/her proposal **by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, July 11, 2022** at the Johnston Public Schools Administration Office located at 10 Memorial Avenue, Johnston, RI. **All bids will be publicly opened and read on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.** Bids received after 11:00 a.m. will not be accepted.

For each proposal submitted, the envelope must be sealed and clearly marked for the item you are bidding.

The Johnston School Committee reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.

Per Order of the Johnston School Committee
Robert LaFazia, Chair

6/23/22

Opinion

EDITORIAL

An eventful session with a few remaining questions

There's no doubt that this year's legislative session of the General Assembly was one for the history books, but there do remain a few lingering questions as the session winds down, with a tentative adjournment date of this Thursday.

As far as things accomplished, Rhode Island legislators made headlines by becoming the 19th state in the country to legalize the recreational use of marijuana and open up the state to a new source of economic expansion. While critics will continue to parrot tired conspiracy theories about how this move will contribute to the fall of society, we find it more likely that it will fade into the background as just another element of societal progression that results in few drawbacks while generating revenue for the state. We

hope that elected officials will keep their eyes on the prize and ensure that this revenue is used for such worthwhile endeavors as better drug education in our schools, and treatment programs for those suffering from substance use disorders.

Also making news was the passing of three new gun laws, which Governor McKee signed into law on Tuesday. While debate on this topic could fill a newspaper by itself, we are encouraged by the legislature's efforts to do something, anything, in order to possibly prevent more pain and suffering from gun violence. At the very least, increasing the age at which someone can buy a gun to the same age at which they can purchase alcohol is a good start. If you're not old enough (or mature enough) to legally buy a beer, why should you be legally able to purchase a gun?

Questions remain about the future of the state's hospitals, as a merger between Lifespan, Care New England and Brown University was shot down by regulators earlier this year. Kent Hospital is siphoning money each month, so it remains to be seen if there will be any short-term efforts to bolster the facility.

The Rhode Island Senate now has the job of finalizing the \$13.6 billion budget approved by the House last week, which includes \$1 billion in American Rescue Plan Act spending, notably taking \$250 million to target better housing outcomes, as well as measures to bolster future COVID response and fund behavioral health care clinics throughout the state. Residents should also be happy that the car tax is slated to be phased out a year earlier than expected, along with a \$250 child tax credit that provides relief for up to three children born prior to 2022 within families.

Questions and critiques are sure to mount as the details of the state's massive budget is further explored. For now, lawmakers will certainly be relieved to take their summer recess.



LETTER

'Rhode Island Senate has once again subverted the will of the voters'

With Warwick's own Senator Michael McCaffrey (D-Warwick) leading the charge, the Rhode Island Senate has once again subverted the will of the voters!

Senators were elected to their offices based on their campaign promises, to include many who promised to refrain from making law-abiding citizens felons through senatorial fiat. Some of these senators were assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee, the body that studies proposed changes to gun laws and decides whether or not to approve related legislation or hold for further study.

On June 14th, the committee met to consider whether to forward legislation to the full Senate that would outlaw ten-plus round gun magazines and make them illegal to buy, sell, or possess in the Ocean State. The majority of the committee — six of nine members — wanted to grandfather Rhode Islanders who bought such magazines years ago in good faith and who have never misused them. That huge majority should have ended the committee's consideration of the bill and it would have died in committee.

But, hold on! Senate leadership, to include Senate President Dominick Ruggerio, Senate Majority Leader Michael McCaffrey, and

Senate Majority Whip Maryellen Goodwin all inserted themselves into the committee process and, using their ex-officio roles, voted to pass the bill out of committee without the grandfather clause. They didn't succeed, however. The vote then ended up six to six with the tie vote spelling defeat under Senate rules.

The people's voices were heard, right? The Senate rule making process, where committees study bills and decide whether or not they are worthy for advancement to the full senate for consideration, worked. The voters who elected the committee's majority had their voices heard, even with the dubious insertion of the Senate leadership into the committee process.

Wrong! Once again the cabal of Ruggerio, McCaffrey and Goodwin overruled the voters. McCaffrey pushed the full Senate to override the committee's decision and effectively invalidate the long-established committee process. Unfortunately, this Warwick anti-Second Amendment Democrat succeeded and a bill identical to the bill the Judiciary Committee had rejected was passed — making hundreds of thousands of law-abiding Rhode Islanders felons for possessing something purchased legally and

never misused.

The Rand Corporation studied gun ownership in America and concluded that 15% of Rhode Islanders own guns. That's about 150,000 Ocean State citizens. Most of these guns are magazine fed.

So, what's the result of McCaffrey's anti-Second Amendment push to be signed by the Governor this week? Disregarding that most other states with high capacity magazine bans have grandfathered existing magazines, McCaffrey's cabal has decided that it will make over a hundred thousand Rhode Islanders criminals for possessing a magazine that holds more than ten rounds. Our government intends to confiscate these magazines by forcing owners to turn them in to police, a likely unconstitutional taking of private property. Or they can hide their magazines somewhere in their homes and, automatically and without just cause, become felons. It will be a dilemma in which law-abiding citizens will find themselves between the proverbial "rock and a hard place," having to choose between two equally bad choices. That's not how a democratic state should treat one tenth of its citizens!

Lonnie Barham, Warwick



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SUN RISE SCOOPS

By Meri R. Kennedy
and
Rory Schuler

More at Mohr Library

Registration is open for the following programs. Some will fill up, so register and save a spot.

The Beanstack Summer Reading Challenge lets participants log reading, do activities, share reviews with other readers and earn prizes.

- At 10:30 a.m., June 29, award-winning songwriter, teacher and performer Julie Garnet will share original songs from her book "Animal Songs," and will be available for book purchasing and signing. The event is for children ages 1 to 6, with a caregiver.

- At 10:30 a.m., Thursdays, June 30, July 7, Aug. 4, and Aug. 11, you can "Read to a dog." The library's furry friend Teddy and his handler Ms. Pinto will stop by to listen to stories read by children. This event is for children ages 3 and up with an adult.

- At 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, July 6, Farm Fresh RI Presents "Eat the Rainbow." In this interactive experience families will learn about our local food sources through games, fun activities, and a hands-on cooking demo of assembling and tasting spring rolls. This event is for families with children ages 6 and up. Registration is required.

- From 4-5 p.m., Wednesdays, July 13 to Aug. 3, Preschool Storytime will be held for children ages 2 and up with a caregiver.

- Two of the library's programs, ArtSmart and Animal Experiences, are currently full and have waiting lists.

- More programs coming up for kids: Magic Show, Hula Hoops, Computer Coding and Outdoor Fitness Games. See our website for more information.

For adults:

- TJ Heffers will lead a discussion of Anne Tyler's new novel, "French Braid," at 11 a.m. on July 14.

- Emilie Marchetti will lead a discussion of "In Deeper Waters" by F.T. Lukens at 5 p.m., Friday, July 29.

- Want to run your own book club? The library can supply you with a bag of five copies of "Fly Girl," the new memoir by bestselling author and Rhode Island resident Ann Hood.

These books and the statewide Rhode Island Summer Reading Program are supported by the RI Office of Library and Information Services with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Local support includes The Friends of Mohr Library, Tri-County HEZ and generous gifts in Memory of Andrew Greene.

Mohr Library offers on-the-spot computer help and can schedule longer sessions for individuals needing more help. Librarians can also help you find classes at other locations.

The library can also help you find electronic books and journals, career and testing guides, self-improvement media and more.

Mohr Library offers use of computers, printers and scanners. Library staff will send faxes for \$1 a page, and have a free Notary service evenings and Saturday mornings (call ahead).

The library bookdrop is again out of service, but they expect a new one by the end of June.

The book sale happens every day.

Mohr Library posts hours, services and programs at mohrlibrary.org, where you can also sign up for updates. If you don't get them electronically, they'll mail you a newsletter. Mohr Library is at 1 Memorial Ave. in Johnston. Call them at 401-231-4980.

Johnston Rec Summer Day Camp

Johnston Parks and Recreation Department's Summer Day Camp will begin on Tuesday, July 5. Camp will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (July 5 through Friday, Aug. 12).

Registration began on June 6. Due to capacity limitations only 36 children will be accepted into camp. These 36 children will be separated into three age groups (12 children per group maximum).

The age groups will be 6-7, 8-9 and 10-12 (age as of July 1, 2022).

The fee structure for camp: one child for six weeks, \$825; 2 children for six weeks, \$1,125 (sibling discount); 3+ children, six weeks, \$1,325 (sibling discount).

Registrations and payments can be dropped at the recreation office at Johnston Memorial Park, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please make checks payable to the Town of Johnston (Check or Money Order only; no cash accepted). Camp is for Johnston residents only (ID is required).

A minimum \$100 deposit is required, per family, to hold a spot. The Full balance must be paid by Friday, July 1, 2022. For more information go to www.johnstonrec.com or call 401-272-3460.

Reminder from Johnston Parks & Rec

Just a reminder of some of the rules and regulations at Johnston Memorial Park. There are no dogs allowed in the park or walking tracks. Dogs are allowed in the nature trail across the street from the parking lot. No smoking or tobacco use. No bikes, scooters, skateboard, etc. are allowed on the walking track that surrounds the pond. They may be used on the center path of the park, Please do not feed the ducks, birds, or any wildlife.

Please keep the park clean by using the available trash barrels. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages on town property. No vehicles allowed in the park. No swimming or boating in the pond; No open flames or charcoal grills. Gas grills are permitted. Fireplace use is prohibited. For your safety, please do not climb trees or fences. The park closes at 10 p.m. No overnight parking. No foul language or loud music. Field use is by permit only.

Also, please be mindful of parking. Please display a handicap placard if you park in a handicap space. The area behind the office is reserved for employees. If you have any questions, please call 401-272-3460.

Apple Fest Scheduled

The 34th Annual Apple Festival has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sunday, Sept. 11. The festival will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

The event will be held at the Johnston Memorial Park - 1583 Hartford Ave. in Johnston. Register: [members.nricham-](http://members.nricham-ber.com/.../the-34th-annual-apple)

[ber.com/.../the-34th-annual-apple](http://members.nricham-ber.com/.../the-34th-annual-apple).

The annual Apple Festival has been called by many a "Time-Honored Community Tradition & Fun for Everyone." As always, this year's fest will feature its "Artisan Row" — filled with beautiful handcrafted items, Pony Rides, and more.

The Annual Apple Festival will run for two days at Johnston Memorial Park, 1583 Hartford Ave. The event is free and open to the Public.

Johnston Historical Society General Meetings

At 7 p.m., June 29, Johnston Historical Society will hold a General Meeting with guest speaker author and historian Marty Podskoch, who will talk about his new travel book, "The Rhode Island 39 Club," that encourages people to visit all thirty-nine towns and villages in Rhode Island.

For July and August, a Summer Hiatus will begin, as Executive Board meetings and General meetings are suspended for the summer. Have fun everyone!

To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

The Johnston Historical Society's museum barn is open Tuesdays, from 6 to 8 p.m., for those who would like to visit the museum or examine the society's collection of printed materials. Both the museum and Elijah Angell House continue to be open by appointment — the society always welcome visits by interested individuals or groups. Just shoot them an email at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, or leave a message at 401-231-3380 to set one up.

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Johnston Historical Society Museum Barn, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston, and are free and open to the public. Events are subject to change. For more information, call 401-231-3380.

Contact the Johnston Historical Society at 231-3380 or at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, www.johnstonhistorical.org or www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

Neighborhood Watch

The 2022 season of Johnston's Neighborhood Watch has officially kicked off. This Neighborhood Watch brings together residents who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together with members of the police department. The program pairs residents with Johnston Police officers in an effort to open up communication, meet other neighbors and create partnerships that help build community resiliency.

Pre-K Lottery

The RI State Pre-K lottery is now open. This lottery will run until July 6 so you know a child who would be 4 before Spt. 1 may qualify. To apply, visit www3.ride.gov/PKL.

Driving for a Cure

Please join the Cranston Country Club for the Gregory Rubino Memorial Golf Tournament on June 25. The club is "Driving for a Cure" at Cranston Country Club, and all proceeds go to benefiting the Lung Cancer Research Foundation. Spots are filling up fast so please

register now to secure yours. Learn more and register at grubinomemorial-golf.com.

Johnston Senior Center offers classes & services

At the Johnston Senior Center, all exercise classes have resumed, and new classes have been added too. Call the center for information.

If you need any help with heating, housing, etc., during this cold winter or humidity or any other time, contact the Johnston Senior Center Social Services Department by calling 944-3343. Made-line or Amy will be happy to help you.

Arts Scholarships for youth now open to register

Do you know a student aged 11 - 14 who loves to create and to perform? Encourage them to apply to our ARTS Scholarships 2022 program! Applications and guidelines are now available at ppacri.org/artsscholarships.

The ARTS Scholarships 2022 program, sponsored by the Textron Charitable Trust and the PPAC Annual Fund with support from WPRI 12 and Ocean State Charities Trust, offers young artists an opportunity to participate in local summer arts education program that will broaden their experience in their chosen area of study.

Qualified students must be aged 11 - 14 by June 1 of this year and reside in and attend school in Rhode Island.

Consider donating blood

The Rhode Island Donating Center is in need of blood donations. Individuals wishing to donate must book an appointment at the donation center; walk-ins are only accepted if safe distancing allows at the person's time of arrival.

Nearby areas to donate include The Shops at Greenwood, which is located at 615 Greenwich Ave., in Warwick. Sign up by visiting www.ribc.org.

Walk and Talk at Rocky Point

Come join the "Rocky Point Pacers" for a walk around Rocky Point every Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m., weather permitting. They meet at the gate on Rocky Point Avenue. Get some sunshine and burn off some holiday pounds.

Prepare RI High School Internships Program

Calling all RI public high school juniors: The 2022 PrepareRI High School Internship Program is accepting applications to participate in on-site/in-person, PAID summer experiential learning internships with local employers across the state.

This program will help you earn, learn, and connect with employers across Rhode Island. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Visit www.skillsforri.com/prepareri for more information.

Editor's Note: Send submissions to rorys@rhodybeat.com. Photos in jpg format are accepted and news can include community events, promotions, academic news and nonprofit events. Email today and see your news in our column in the Johnston Sun Rise. Please include a daytime telephone number in case we require any further information.

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Walk

(Continued from page 1)

Similar scenes were repeated until each chair was filled and volunteers like Pat Giardina — along with JPD officers like Luca Lancellotta and Johnston Town Councilman Robert Civetti — began talking, taking requests and serving cups of coffee, a variety of muffins and donuts.

But Walk with Cops isn't just an early morning coffee and event.

That was obvious when Razza asked: "Does anyone want to walk?" And soon, almost each and every attendee and staffers from all three residences stood up to begin the morning's traditional walk around what Razza called "our fantastic and beautiful park."

Some folks walked slowly on their own while others used walkers and were also pushed around the entire park in their wheelchairs by Vieira, Lancellotta and Babbitt.

Perhaps Razza, who has never missed a "Walk with Cops" session, best summed up the season opening.

"It has been truly a special and amazing day to have the opportunity to engage with our seniors to kick off this year's Walk with Cops program. This allows us to engage and interact with not only our senior's population but for all members of the public who use this beautiful park during our walk. The members of the Johnston Police Department truly support the support of our residents, volunteers and community partners to make this program possible."

Razza, as he and other JPD officers thanked people for coming and began tidying up the pristine park, added: "Have a great day and week; we're looking forward to seeing everyone back here on June 30 for our second seasonal Walk with Cops."

The event begins at 9:30 a.m. and is open to the public.



HAPPY HOSTS: Among the many people who made last week's Walk with Cops season opening a huge success are Deputy Chief Mark Vieira, Councilwoman Linda Folcarelli, Chief Joseph Razza, Captain Mike Babbitt, Donna Folcarelli, Officer Luca Lancellotta, Pat Giardina and Councilman Robert Civetti. At right, Anchor Bay at Pocasset staffers Gienevieve Ferucio, Laurie Spicuzza and Dan Marcello along with Johnston town Councilman Robert Civetti enjoy a break after serving coffee to residents Shirley, Anne, Paulione, Charlie and Chuck. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)



Rainbow

(Continued from page 1)

The list of graduates included the following students (in Ms. Robin and Ms. Michaela's RI State Pre-K Class): Stella Harrison, Jackson Spetrini, Janelly Mendez, Josiah Wallace, Lucio Couture, Lola Austin, Nicolina Nardolillo-Lima, Zachary Leach, Matthew Cabrera-Arita, Jenna Khadem, Paris Towns, Camila Cabral, Lillian Russo, Juan Diego Juarez, Mya Corvese and Benjamin Mafredi.



CERTIFIED PRE-K:

Above, Ms. Robin and Ms. Michaela's RI State Pre-K Class celebrated their graduation to Kindergarten during a ceremony and show last week. At right, the young students took turns break-dancing. Top right, the students also read and acted out "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle.

(Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



Obituaries

Paula Ann Buckley

Paula Ann Buckley, 85, of Marlborough, MA died after a brief illness on June 12, 2022. She was a longtime resident of Johnston and North Scituate. She was the daughter of George Kanis and Mabel Higham Kanis of Johnston.

Born in Providence, in addition to raising her children she worked for several years as a volunteer coordinator and staff assistant to Congresswoman Claudine Schneider, and later enjoyed working as a school lunch lady.

Predeceased by her husband James E. Buckley and her son James E. Buckley Jr, she is survived by her daughter Paula Diemer and her husband George of Marlborough, MA and her son Patrick Buckley of Providence, as well as her four grandsons Jacob and Joshua Buckley and their mother Darlene Buckley, and Patrick and Christopher Vicca and their mother Lori Vicca. She was the sister of Leo Kanis of Warwick, Jacquelyn Kanis of Peace Dale, and the late Edwin Kanis.

She enjoyed baseball, music, local theater, reading, sun and good food.

Funeral services will be private. A celebration of her life will be held at a later time. For Messages of condolence please visit www.andersonwinfield.net



Obituaries

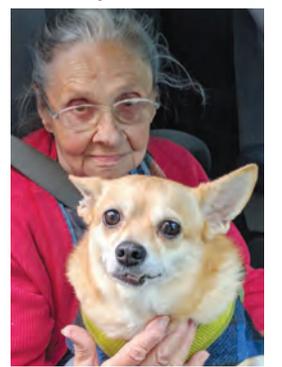
In your time of need, the *Johnston SunRise* will print your loved one's full obituary for a small charge. The paper also places the obituary on our website, johnstonsunrise.net.

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

- Thank you

Margarete H. Hosemann

Third Anniversary
JUNE 28



Gone but not forgotten, although we may be apart, your spirit stays with-in us, forever in our hearts.

Loved and missed -
Family, Friends & Peanut

Don't Let Medications Lie Around Your Home!



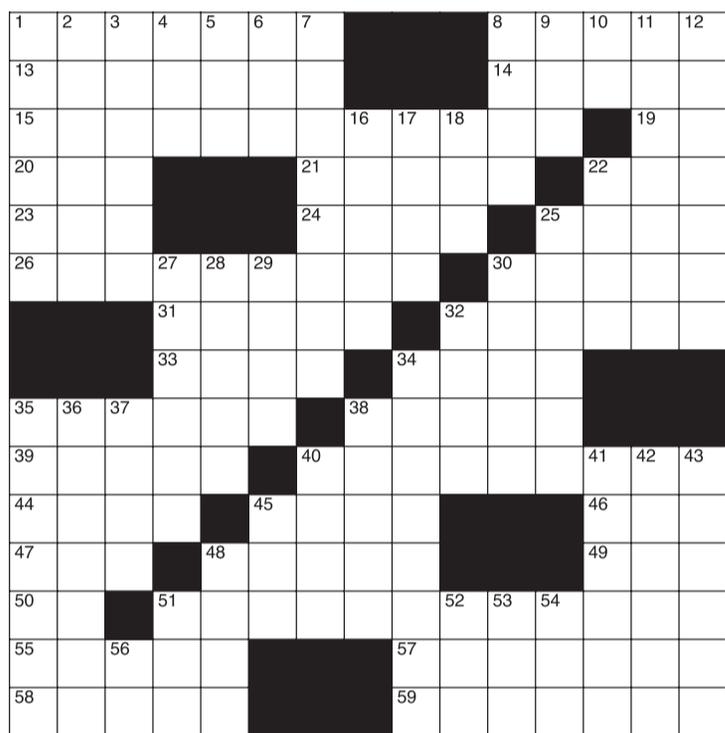
Please dispose of all your unwanted or expired medications at a secure drop box near you:

Cranston Police Department, 5 Garfield Avenue
Johnston Police Department, 1651 Atwood Avenue



For more drop box locations: spcprevention.org/drug-drop-box

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Half-conscious states
- 8. Unnatural
- 13. Deep regret
- 14. Rogue
- 15. Took without permission
- 19. An alternative
- 20. After B
- 21. Partner to "flowed"
- 22. The best day of the week (abbr.)
- 23. Helps you hear
- 24. Egyptian river
- 25. Lake __, one of the Great
- 26. Make free from bacteria
- 30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- 31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples
- 32. Most unclothed
- 33. NJ senator Booker
- 34. Tibetan lake
- 35. Desecrate something sacred
- 38. John __, English educator 1467-1519
- 39. Obtains in return for labor
- 40. Views
- 44. Rugged cliff

CLUES DOWN

- 45. Not quiet
- 46. Body part
- 47. Newt
- 48. German city
- 49. A way to save money
- 50. NBC's Roker
- 51. Dire Straits frontman
- 55. Actress Lathan
- 57. Most meager
- 58. Poems
- 59. Companions

- 17. The skill to do something
- 18. Where golf games begin
- 22. Untethered
- 25. Print errors
- 27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed
- 28. Ones to look up to
- 29. Stringed instrument
- 30. Gives whippings
- 32. Type of tie
- 34. Make more concentrated
- 35. Die
- 36. Part of a winter hat
- 37. Young men's club
- 38. Bathrooms need it
- 40. U.S. president
- 41. American novelist
- 42. Take into custody
- 43. Hurts
- 45. Type of gibbon
- 48. American actor Lukas
- 51. Partner to cheese
- 52. Some are covert
- 53. Political action committee
- 54. To and __
- 56. Atomic #28

Class of 2022



SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMENCEMENT: Edgar Pacheco-Ortiz received his diploma at Tuesday night's Johnston School Committee meeting. He missed last Friday's ceremony, when around 150 Johnston graduates flipped their tassels. The Johnston Senior High School Class of 2022 celebrated commencement during a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence. Pacheco-Ortiz attended the meeting with his family and received an ovation by the meeting audience. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)



ONWARD: Kelly Dargy was one of Johnston Senior High School's Class of 2022. The former senior is bound for UConn. (Submitted photo)



PROUD MOM: Kevin Veader, a member of Johnston Senior High School's Class of 2022, poses for a photo outside the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Providence following commencement. (Submitted photo)

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TOP OF THE CLASS: Johnston Senior High School's Class of 2022 Co-Valedictorian Victor M. Fragoso poses for a photo with his family after the graduation ceremony on June 10. (Submitted photo)



LUCKY CLASS: Julia Sidoti, a member of the Johnston High Class of 2022, poses for a photo with her sister Adriana, and Alex, from the Class of 2020, who pledged to not miss this year's ceremony after not having their own during the pandemic. (Submitted photo)



COUSINS GRADUATE: Mario Pi and his cousin Kailey Zonfrilli were among the nearly 150 students who graduated from Johnston Senior High School in 2022. (Submitted photo)

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Thursday, June 30, 2022 at noon

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Pool safety essentials to live by

METRO

A backyard pool can be a wonderful summer oasis. Swimming immediately cools people off on hot and humid days, and even provides thorough exercise that works many different muscles in the body. And summer revelers know that swimming and splashing in the pool is an entertaining activity for people of all ages.

Though pools are great summer spaces, one downside of pool usage is the potential for drowning. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that, every year in the United States, there are an estimated 3,960 fatal unintentional drownings — an average of 11 drowning deaths per day. In addition, around 8,080 nonfatal drownings occur. It's important to note that many of these incidents are unrelated to pool usage, as boating and even bathtub accidents contribute to drowning as well. But a 2020 review of 2,213 unintentional

immersion deaths and other water-related injury deaths in Canada by the Canadian Red Cross found that immersion deaths were most likely to occur when swimming and wading. Children ages one to four, males, and people with seizure disorders or other medical conditions like autism are among those at a higher risk for drowning.

Pools are fun, but it's a great responsibility to keep all swimmers safe. The following are some pool safety measures to put into effect.

- **Keep water sanitary.** Make sure pool water is chemically balanced so that it is comfortable to swim in and will not harbor any pathogens that can make swimmers ill. The pool equipment company Pahlen says the ideal water pH is 7.4 because that is the same as the pH in human eyes and mucous membranes, and it also supports good chlorine disinfection. The free chlorine content of a pool

can range from 0.5 to 1.6 to keep it sanitary. A quality testing kit can help pool owners balance water.

- **Learn your local ordinances.** Local ordinances will spell out which precautionary measures are required by law for people who have a backyard pool. These often include a fenced yard, a fence around inground pools that is at least four feet high, self-latching gates, and/or pool ladders that can be locked or closed when the pool isn't in use.

- **Rely on non-slip surfaces.** The pool environment can be wet and slippery. Utilizing materials like non-slip deck surfaces or rougher concrete finishes around pools can help reduce some slips and falls. The pool resource Poolonomics says people should be instructed to avoid running near or around the pool.

- **Inspect water returns and drains.** PoolSafety.gov warns that hair, limbs, jewelry, or bathing suits can get stuck in a drain or suction opening in a pool or spa. Broken or missing drain covers should be replaced immediately and no swimming should occur until the issue is remedied.

- **Install other barriers.** Barriers, alarms and pool covers can save lives and prevent access to pool water when the pool area is not in use.

- **Learn how to swim and perform CPR.** Families can take swimming lessons to become better swimmers. Learning how to perform CPR on adults and children can save lives. Courses are available at many hospitals and community centers or through the Red Cross.

Swimming pools are welcome additions to yards. Safety is vital when around water. SL226014

Coventry Parks & Recreation Department

SUMMER FRIDAY

Concert Series

2022 FREE SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SERIES - FRIDAY NIGHTS
1675 FLAT RIVER ROAD (ACROSS FROM TOWN HALL)

Concerts and cruise-ins will be held from 7PM to 8:30PM in July, and 6:30PM to 8PM in August. Gates open 30 minutes before the music starts and those attending are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner, blankets and/or chairs.

July 8th
STONE GOLD GYPSIES
 (rain date: July 10)

July 29th
CEE CEE AND THE RIDERS

August 12th
THE GOOD VIBE TRIBE
 (rain date: August 14)

July 15th
BILLY SHEARS BAND
 (rain date: July 17)

August 5th
THE DRIFTWOODS
 (rain date: August 7)

August 19th
REMINISCE
 (rain date: August 21)

July 22nd
RI REDNECKS

Feel free to bring blankets, chairs, and food. Please No Alcohol. Smoking is prohibited.

August 26th
STUMBLING MURPHY
 (rain date: August 28)

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By JENNIFER COATES

For young children, life is about playmates, hands-on learning, and adventure. It is about friendships and familiar routines; it is about engaging in organized activities which also allow for spontaneity and incidental learning; it is about sensory experiences that involve movement, creativity, music and so much more. For young children, they can find all of these things ~ and more ~ at Dreamland Learning Center in Johnston.

Dreamland Learning Center is part of a network of childcare centers throughout the region which make parents and caregivers alike happy, and, with all the programming and fun it is known for, make children happy too! Children ages six weeks through age 12 are welcome here.

Every space in this center is thoughtfully planned and designed to be developmentally appropriate and purposeful. Child-size furniture makes each room look comfortable and adapted to the needs of pint-sized early learners while shelves are filled with toys and walls are strewn with art projects. Centers are set up for imaginary play, arts & crafts, building, science, music and story time. The outside playgrounds provide the perfect place for youngsters to run off all that childhood energy. The after-school room is complete with long tables for summer school homework.

The curriculum and staff-to-child ratio requirements here meet the strict standards of the state while all staff are licensed, and CPR certified. The staff here work as a team with one goal in mind and that is to enrich the lives of the children over whom they have been given this special stewardship. In fact, the whole facility is Bright Star® rated for excellence.

Parents and children who come to this busy and nurturing



This bright and colorful playground is divided according to age levels and is the perfect place for energetic children to play this summer. Summer programs are open for enrollment!

learning center on Hartford Avenue will find that many of the changes that were implemented to protect the health and safety of its students in the days of the pandemic are still in place. At the same time, the daily programming for the children who attend Dreamland is still packed with fun, activity, friendships, and play.

The center is open all year round! The staff works together to plan a fun-filled summer complete with field trips, outdoor water play and a balanced curriculum that continues to encourage your children to learn through play.

If you are looking for childcare this upcoming summer ~ be sure to register for before and after school care for children

up to 12 years of age. Dreamland is even open during school vacation. For some school districts, transportation is provided to and from elementary school. Homework assistance and age-appropriate, supervised activities are always planned.

Dreamland Learning Center is now accepting enrollment for children ages 6 weeks through age 12. It is located at 1253 Hartford Avenue. For more information, call 401-280-1400 or visit their website at www.dreamlandlearningcenter.com.

Be sure to check out the other members of the Dreamland family of childcare centers in West Warwick (401-828-8200) and Pawtucket (401-655-1000).



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A MEMBER OF THE BAND: 20 years ago, Alyssa was diagnosed with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome and Pediatric Cardiologist James Ziegler met her at the emergency room's doors. Today, she now plays in a band with Ziegler. (From left) Ziegler, Alyssa, Ziegler's daughter Kate and Rich Pearce. (Beacon Communications photo)

Hasbro patient and doctor perform in band together

By **EMMA BARTLETT**

When Debbie Quaglietta's newborn daughter, Alyssa, was 13 days old, she knew something wasn't right; Alyssa was gray in the face and didn't look herself. Thinking she had a cold, Debbie brought her to the doctor.

The doctor tested her pulse ox levels and found that they were low.

"They double checked everything and said 'this child is cardiac,' and my mom was completely shocked because you don't hear that every day – especially with a newborn," said Alyssa, now 20, recounting what her mom told her.

13-day-old Alyssa was rushed to the emergency room where Hasbro Children's Hospital's Pediatric Cardiologist Doctor James Ziegler waited at the doors.

Ziegler, who joined Hasbro's pediatric cardiology division in 1995, served as the division's director from 2001 through 2010. His clinical interests included all aspects of pediatric cardiology, with special emphasis on preventive cardiology and exercise physiology, and he is board certified in pediatric cardiology and board eligible in general pediatrics and pediatric intensive care.

"Ever since that day, he's been the one to take care of me with my heart," Alyssa said.

Alyssa was diagnosed with a rare heart defect known as Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. With this condition, the left side of the heart is underdeveloped and can't effectively pump blood to the body. Treatment includes a three-stage open heart surgery in which Alyssa completed before age five at Boston Children's Hospital, thanks to a collaboration between the two hospitals. Today, she is missing a left ventricle and has yearly check-ins with Ziegler, and said that thankfully everything is healthy.

However, last year there was something unique about her visit to Ziegler.

Sports

Gershkoff Auburn Post 20 Legion team splits Monday doubleheader



FROM THE MOUND: Matt Winn throws a pitch during a doubleheader Monday night. Winn's the starting pitcher for Cranston/Johnston based Legion team Gershkoff Auburn Post 20. (Sun Rise photo by Ryan D. Murray)

By Ryan D. Murray

Ruben Fernandez hit a two-run single in the bottom of the 7th inning to give Gershkoff Auburn Post 20 a thrilling 8-7 walk-off win over South Kingstown Post 39 in Game 1 of their doubleheader on Monday night.

Fernandez finished the day with a single, a double, a stolen base, and two RBI, while Nick Masse recorded a double, a home run, and three RBI.

Matt Winn started on the bump for Gershkoff and tossed six 1/3 innings, giving up six runs on five hits with one strikeout. Winn was outstanding for much of the contest, but he ran into some trouble in the seventh frame.

"He pitched a great game, so I thought it was his game to win or lose," Gershkoff

manager David Schiappa said. "I had him stay in, but he still pitched a great game. He pitched unbelievable. So, it's good that we came up with the hits for him and we won."

Jason Patalano closed the game for Gershkoff, pitching the final 2/3 innings. Patalano induced back-to-back pop outs to the only two batters he faced while stranding two runners in scoring position.

South Kingstown was led by Brendan Flaherty, who had two singles, a walk, and two RBI, Patrick Ruhle, two singles, two RBI, and Liam Flynn, two singles and a walk.

Mark Hutchinson was the starting pitcher for South Kingstown and he gave up four runs (two earned) while striking out five over 5 2/3 innings.

LEGION - PAGE 20

Hawks swept in Championship series

By Ryan D. Murray

The Bishop Hendricken Hawks were swept in the best-of-three Division I Baseball Championship Series on Saturday, falling 10-7 in Game 2 to the North Kingstown Skippers at Rhode Island College.

It was the Skippers second-straight D-I baseball title in a row.

North Kingstown starting pitcher Braeden Perry was productive throughout the day, pitching 6 2/3 innings while yielding four earned runs on nine hits.

Sophomore Ryan Thompson took the ball for the Hawks and lasted just 1 2/3 innings, giving up two earned runs, on four hits, a walk, and a hit batsman.



HAWKS - PAGE 19

AT BAT:

Griffin Crain steps up to the plate during the best-of-three Division I Baseball Championship Series on Saturday. His team, the Bishop Hendricken Hawks, were swept in the series.

(Sun Rise photo by Ryan D. Murray)



NEW ARRIVAL: Wesley Scott Sponseller was born June 14, weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

In-person with Wesley and smitten

I've always wanted to be a father and was certainly ready to join the ranks of the other dads of the world. As the months passed, my excitement continued to grow.

Still, I never really understood what I was in for until something happened ... I looked into his eyes.

My pitch



by ALEX SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR
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PITCH - PAGE 21



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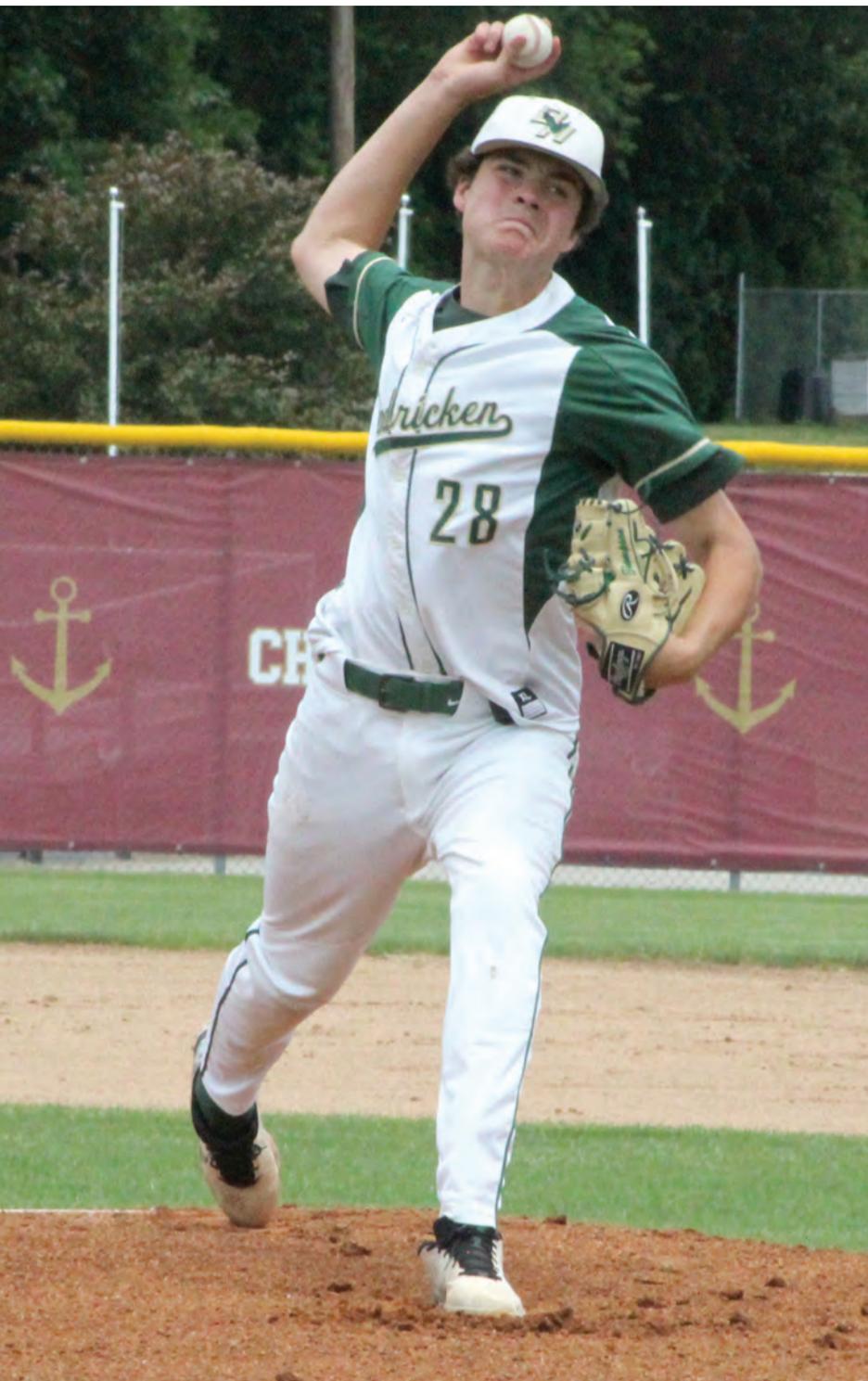


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THE PITCH: Above, starting pitcher Ryan Thompson launches one from the mound during the best-of-three Division I Baseball Championship Series on Saturday. His team, the Bishop Hendricken Hawks, were swept in the series. (Sun Rise photo by Ryan D. Murray)

■ Hawks

(Continued from page 18)

Hendricken was led by its senior Brandyn Durand, a catcher, who hit a single and two home runs, with four RBI.

Andrew Ciarniello, a junior, topped North Kingstown with a single, a walk, a double, and a triple, and two RBI.

The Skippers scored three runs in the second inning, and then two runs in the top of the fifth and possessed a 5-0 lead.

But in the bottom of the fifth, the Hawks bats finally got going.

Thompson, the pitcher, led off with a single to centerfield.

Next, Alex Clemmey, a junior, rocketed a shot at the second baseman, who made a throwing error to first, and so Thompson headed for third. On the throw over, the first baseman overthrew the third baseman and that allowed Thompson to come home and score, pulling Hendricken within 5-1.

Then, with a runner at third, Griffin Crain launched a sacrifice fly to left-center and inched Hendricken within 5-2.

Next, John LaRose singled, and then Durand crushed his first 2-run home run of the game over the wall in left field and pulled the Hawks within 5-4.

But in the top of the seventh, Max Proulx grabbed North Kingstown an insurance run when he hit an RBI double to right-center, and extended the Skippers advantage to 6-4.

Durand answered the call again in the bottom of the inning with another two-out, two-run homer, and evened the score at 6.

"He did a great job and he got us back in the game," Hawks manager Ed Holloway said. "And give North Kingstown credit, they could have folded there, but they didn't. They

came back strong and beat us. I give credit to them. I love our team. I love the way we fought and came back, but I give credit to them, too. They didn't give up and it could have been an easy time to fold there, but they didn't, and they did a great job. They're well coached. Kevin (Gormley) does a great job with them and they've got good pitching. Their pitching was outstanding."

In the eighth frame, Ciarniello hit an RBI triple and gave the Skippers back the lead at 7-6.

Next, Evan Maloney added an RBI single and extended the North Kingstown lead to 8-6.

Then, with runners at the corners, the Skippers executed a double-steal, which scored both runners after an error, and that gave North Kingstown a 10-6 buffer.

"We just didn't handle it the way we've practiced it," Holloway said. "You can practice it all the way, but then when the pressures on it's a lot different, and we just didn't do it the way we're supposed to do it."

"We fell asleep and we just fell apart," Holloway said. "We gave up two runs there that came back to hurt us. Learn from it and hope to do better next year."

In the bottom of the eighth, Thompson hit an RBI single and got the Hawks within 10-7.

Then, with the bases loaded and none out, North Kingstown manager Kevin Gormley called for his son, senior reliever TJ Gormley.

Gormley got Braeden Campbell to ground back to the mound and the pitcher threw home for the first force-out before the catcher threw to first for the double play. Lastly, after a walk, the bases were reloaded, but Gormley got LaRose to fly out to center for the final out.

North Kingstown defeated Hendricken by a final score of 1-0 in Game 1 last Wednesday.

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■ Legion

(Continued from page 18)

South Kingstown held a 2-0 lead after half an inning.

In the bottom of the first, Nate Poshkus, who walked, helped Gershkoff cut the lead in half at 2-1, when the left fielder scored from third during a passed ball.

Gershkoff evened the score at 2 in the fifth when Fernandez hit a double to left-center before stealing third base and coming home on an error.

Then, Masse gave Gershkoff a 4-2 lead in the sixth after the first baseman hammered the ball 375 feet, over the short porch in right field, for a 2-run home run.

"Right off the bat, we knew it was out," Schiappa said.

However, in the top of the 7th, South Kingstown scored five runs and took a 7-4 edge.

Nevertheless, in the bottom of the inning, with two outs and runners on first and second, George Threats hit an RBI single past a diving third baseman and pulled Gershkoff within 7-5.

Next, Dylan Martins, who walked, scored from third during a passed ball, and got Gershkoff within 7-6.

Then, Masse knotted the score at 7 when he launched an RBI double to center field.

Lastly, with the bases loaded, Fernandez smacked a two-run single to left-center and gave Gershkoff the 8-7 win.

Gershkoff would split the doubleheader with South Kingstown, losing Game 2 by a final score of 10-3.

Gershkoff currently sits at 1-3 on the young season, while South Kingstown is 3-1.

Gershkoff lost its opening series to Upper Deck Post 14 by scores of 1-0 and 6-5.

"We played Upper Deck



the first two games, we lost by a run in both games," Schiappa said. "Both games were pitchers' duels. And this was almost a pitching duel, too. So, our pitching has been excellent, our hitting, we're getting there."

Some highlights from Game 1 included a nice running catch from center fielder Brandon Chin, a diving catch by Threats in right field, and a nifty snag and throw to first by the second baseman Mike Bogosian.

BEHIND THE PLATE: Above, catcher Dylan Martins stops a heater from the mound during Monday's double-header. Martins catches for Cranston/Johnston based Legion team Gershkoff Auburn Post 20.

SPLIT DOUBLE-HEADER: Below, Brandon Chin takes a turn at bat for Cranston/Johnston based Legion team Gershkoff Auburn Post 20 during a double-header Monday. (Sun Rise photos by Ryan D. Murray)

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Pitch
(Continued from page 18)

I fell in love in that moment harder than I knew was even possible. This little boy that was dwelling by my side for the past nine months was finally here. I no longer had to speak to a round belly, I no longer had to decipher a language made of kicks and rumbles. He was here, and it felt like my life had truly just begun.

As I write this a week later, I can finally understand why so many fathers say that being a dad is the best thing to ever happen to them. You can't really explain it, but there is a biological shift and there is literally not a single second that your heart doesn't melt while with your baby.

Sure, there have been some of the typical new dad adjustments. Sleeping three or four hours a night, learning how to dress a 6-pound infant that somehow has the strength of Andre the Giant, changing diapers in the wee hours of the morning while your head is ringing from the blood curdling shrieks of a cold, cranky baby. Those were some of the things that used to concern me, but now, bring it on. I'll take every second I can get with that little boy.

Every day there is something new, something that surprises me, something that I learn. Whether it be his little personality traits that are finally starting to unveil themselves, or tips and tricks to handling the minute details of child rearing. I am a fish to water and it is all because of how much I adore Wesley. He has me wrapped around his little finger and I have no interest in unraveling myself, ever.

As much as I have enjoyed the day-to-day life as a new parent, I'd be lying if I told you that I have not been peeking ahead to the future. I can't wait.

I can't wait to see him mature, I can't wait to see his interests, skills and ambitions. Even if he grows to be too cool to hang out with his old man, he will always be my closest friend.

Another aspect of fatherhood that has been unbelievable is how much it strengthens the relationships within your family, even with those people that you have loved the most since day one.

My mother is so thrilled to have her first grandchild, or as she calls him, "her little chicken." Seeing my older brother hold his first nephew has been rewarding, it has brought out a beautiful side to him that I have never seen.

Arynne's family has also come down from Vermont to lend a hand and they have been incredible resources of knowledge and guidance. Joining our families by blood has been such a joy.

More than anyone, it has made me love Arynne more than ever. She did the heavy lifting for the past nine months, and hell, she is still running circles around me despite pushing out 6 pounds, 15 ounces of perfection just days ago.

The past few weeks I have been joking that he would arrive on June 20 at midnight and that I would miss Father's Day by a second. I would have welcomed him any day that he saw fit, but I was hoping that he'd reach the June 19 deadline.

Sure enough he did, and I was able to celebrate my first Father's Day with him and the rest of the family. It was the most fun I ever had celebrating a holiday, and the best gift that I have ever received.

I am honored to be a father and am madly in love with this little human being. I finally get it, I finally have felt the greatest of loves. This past week has been the best of my life.

Happy belated Father's Day to all the dads out there. Wesley, I love you.



NEW DAD: Sun Rise Sports Editor Alex Sponseller and his wife welcomed their son into the world last week. Wesley Scott Sponseller was born June 14, weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 19 inches long.

Climate change impacting habitat of large whales

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

New research finds climate change is having an impact on how large whale species, including the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale, use habitats in the warming Gulf of Maine, showing that right whales' use of Cape Cod Bay has shifted significantly.

The study illustrates the need for adjustments in protective measures for threatened and endangered whales. Measures have been taken by the State of Massachusetts to avoid whale line entanglements in traditional lobster pots, fish traps and other fixed fishing gear. Enhanced measures are needed to avoid entanglement wherever the whales frequent.

Using more than 20 years of data, the scientists measured shifts in whale habitat use in Cape Cod Bay, evaluating trends in peak use for North Atlantic right whales, humpback whales, and fin whales.

The study found that peak use of Cape Cod Bay had shifted almost three weeks later for right whales and humpback whales. Changes in the timing of whale habitat use were related to when spring starts, which has been changing as a result of climate change.

The study suggested that highly migratory marine mammals can and do adapt the timing of their habitat use in response to climate-driven changes in their environment, with results showing increased habitat use by right whales in Cape Cod Bay from February to May, with greatest increases in April and May.

The study, led by the New England Aquarium and including researchers from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, the USGS Northeast Climate Adaptation

Science Center, the Center for Coastal Studies, UCLA, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Canadian Whale Institute was published June 7 in the journal *Global Change Biology* at www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcb.16225.

Where's the bite?

Striped bass and bluefish. East End Eddie Doherty, said, "A school of good sized striped bass entered the Cape Cod Canal chasing bunker on a midafternoon east tide. The few guys who were there did very well at all levels of the water column with one surfcaster reeling in seven fish in an hour that were all over 30 pounds, each on a large white magic swimmer."

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence said, "Monday Capt. Mike Littlefield of Archangel Charters, Newport, caught a 55 pound striped bass."

Henault continued, "The bass bite in the Providence River is great."

Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick, said, "Fishing for striped bass and bluefish for customers has been outstanding. From the Providence River and down anglers are catching nice slot size fish in the 30" and 32" range with poggies, trolling umbrella rigs and tube & worm. And the bluefish are great too with 30" fish often being caught."

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



BIG BASS: Capt. Mike Littlefield of Archangel Charters, Newport, caught this 55 pound striped bass last week.

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HEADING BACK TO WICKFORD: Alyssa joined the band in 2021, and her first concert was at the Wickford Art Fest. The group will return to the festival this July. (Beacon Communications photo)



■ Hasbro (Continued from page 17)

Alyssa said during her 2021 yearly visit, Ziegler asked about her hobbies and she mentioned liking music. He asked if she was any good, to which Alyssa replied she didn't know. Ziegler then looked at Debbie who said Alyssa was pretty good.

"You learn to trust parents because usually it's true," said Ziegler.

He mentioned he had a small band called Kate and Co. which he did for fun with his daughter Kate. He said the band might be a good fit for Alyssa.

Ziegler and Kate facetimes Alyssa and they jived right away. Alyssa had several practices at Ziegler's house in North Kingstown and joined them at the 2021 Wickford Art Fest. Ziegler said Alyssa did well even though the audience had 50 to 100 people in it at any given time; Debbie added that singing helped Alyssa with her anxiety.

Since the art fest, the band has occasioned done gigs, with their most recent performance at Hasbro Children's Hospital's Healthy Kids Day on June 18.

Organized by Pediatrician Doctor Celeste Corcoran, the event engaged patients and community members in fun activities while educating them on health. Healthy Kids Day included representatives from SNAP-Ed, WIC and United Health and hosted a free farmers market for families to pick up produce.

There were food demonstrations where parents could learn how to make healthy snacks and Corcoran hoped participants realized that doctors are not just interested in caring for them when they are sick, but in maintaining their overall health. Corcoran would like to make Healthy Kids Day an annual endeavor.

Alyssa, Ziegler, Kate and guitarist Rich Pearce provided music for Saturday's three-hour event. Alyssa and Kate have a similar range and will harmonize on songs; they choose music by artist, not genre, and will sing songs by Echo Smith, Miley Cyrus and Taylor Swift.

"To go from where we were 20 years ago to now is not something that you think is going to happen, and I hope to show other families who are going through what we were going through 20 years ago that things can get better and things can change," Alyssa said.

Debbie said Ziegler invited several families with Fontan babies (which are what babies with Alyssa's condition are nicknamed) to Healthy Kids Day. She wished she had a family 20 years ago to tell her not to worry as much as she did because things could turn out really well.

"People are up there [in Hasbro]

right now crying or upset because their baby was born ill, but it doesn't have to be a bad ending or sad story," Debbie said.

Debbie said it's about giving hope to families for the future who are struggling and wondering if their child is going to make it through the next week or year. She also acknowledged Ziegler and the impact he's had.

"He's not just a doctor or cardiologist, he's a great dad and great man," Debbie said. "I don't know how he fits it all in. He wrote a book, he has a band, he saves kids' lives everyday; he does so much in the community to help people."

Ziegler said some physicians are afraid to get to know their patients' families and referenced Director, Division of Children's Integrative Therapies, Pain Management and Supportive Care Angela Anderson who said 'the coolest stuff you can do as a doctor is outside the hospital.'

Debbie said the relationship they've created has made bonds tighter and built trust; when it comes to anything medically, Debbie won't do anything until she has Ziegler's go-ahead.

"Trust goes a long way," Debbie

said.

Additionally, Ziegler said as a dad it's emotional when playing music with his daughter because when it's going well it's hard to focus because he wants to listen to her – he said the same goes for Alyssa and mentioned that at last year's performance at the Wickford Art Fest, he people had tears in their eyes when she sang.

Ziegler said while the band was originally named Kate and Co. The band currently doesn't have a name but was thinking of renaming it to KA and Co.

Alyssa graduated from online high school in 2019. She lives in Western Cranston and has a part time job at a shake shop and started her own dog sitting business. In September, Alyssa will go to Boston Children's Hospital for a catheterization to check on her heart – this is a preventative measure that will occur every 10 years to make sure everything is functioning correctly.

Alyssa said she's looking forward to doing more with the band; their next stop is to play at this year's Wickford Art Fest this July.



CELEBRATING HEALTH: Hasbro Children's Hospital hosted its first Healthy Kids Day event on June 18. Pediatrician Doctor Celeste Corcoran organized the event along with support from others at the hospital and engaged patients and community members in fun activities while educating them on health. The event included representatives from SNAP-Ed, WIC and United Health. (Submitted photo)

COLLECTIBLES

Consign or Sell? The Choice Is Yours!



By Travis Landry
Auctioneer & Specialist
Bruneau & Co. Auctioneers
Cranston, RI



ing at Bruneau & Co... Last year we were referred to an original owner collection in New Jersey from another auction house who did not deal with comic books. Prior to being introduced to us, they planned to sell the books to a local comic shop. What at first sounded great as a \$30,000 cash offer turned into over \$100,000 at auction after having the collection properly managed. That is the benefit of consignment. When working with an auction house it becomes a team effort, the more you make the more the auction house makes. Now depending on value and work involved you may need to pay upwards of 30% commission, but that will ultimately get you the most money in the end. It will take time, but if you can wait it is worth it. The biggest piece of advice I can leave you with is do not rush into anything. Take your time, do some research, and find the option that is best suited for you.

Whether you are a discerning collector or someone helping settle a family estate you always wonder what your options are when it comes to selling. When bringing any antiques or collectibles to market you have several avenues from the random Craigslist Ad "Buying Your Modern Furniture" to estate liquidators, auction houses, or your own hard work, sweat, and tears. I will preface this article that working in an auction house environment does tend to make me biased, but that is because I always hear the private selling horror stories!

Let's investigate the options. There is no denying that selling outright is certainly your fastest and easiest option. You make the phone call or email, the buyer shows up or maybe you take it to their store, a price is offered, cash is accepted, and you carry on with your day. If you are too

busy of a person or don't care to wait for consignment this is the option for you. However (with major emphasis), just know you are going to be selling the items at a great discount. A private dealer or store owner is someone who works for their best interest, not your own. A dealer's goal is to buy at the cheapest price possible to maximize return. It is just

the nature of the beast. Again, some people don't care, and I have dealt with several of them, they just want whatever cash they can get and continue on. I will note though that there are good dealers out there who are upfront and honest who do treat people fairly, but unfortunately that is the minority. Make sure to do your homework on who you are dealing

with!
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Lightyear
(Courtesy of Disney Pixar)

WARWICK SHOWCASE

LIGHTYEAR

(Disney/Pixar Cartoon Feature)

The lovable character from "Toy Story" has a big back story that led him to becoming one of the biggest dolls in history. This is his story.

Lightyear (the voice of Chris Evans) goes "from infinity to beyond" and is marooned on an unknown planet with a crew of hundreds including three green Space Rangers, blaming himself for a crash landing and no means of escape.

Buzz blames himself and is determined to "light speed" a rocket that can get everyone back to earth, but something goes wrong in his many attempts. To make matters worse, those back on the unknown planet age every time he tries.

Izzy, his mentor breaks new ground for a Disney character. Handled very subtly and discreetly, she is a Black, gay wife and mother who grows old while Lightyear stays the same age during his adventures.

The movie is loaded with adventure as Lightyear and his Space Rangers are chased all over the universe by mean robots.

The action goes on a bit too long, but the young folks will enjoy the battles that play out like a video game.

BRIAN AND CHARLES

(English Oddity)

This has to be one of the oddest films we have ever seen.

It was expanded from a popular short film which may have been a mistake, as it takes forever to kick-start.

Brian is the perfect example of an eccentric inventor, living alone in the Welch countryside, where he garbage picks anything that could be used in his oddball

inventions.

He finds a mannequin's face and decides to expand it into a full-size robot.

The robot comes to life, and they become bosom pals. The village bully steals the robot and won't give it back.

Brian joins with his girl friend (Not girlfriend just yet) and they invent an ingenious way to get Charles back.

There is a happy and crazy ending to this nice little tale.

NETFLIX

OZARK lovers will want to catch the half-hour special "A Farewell to Ozark" featuring the cast and crew talking about the making of the popular series.

VICE is a scathing look at VP Dick Cheney and how he grew from an unruly teenager to one of the most powerful people in the political arena. If half of it is true, we should be very concerned.

BILL BURR is one of the hottest comedians around today. He's playing Fenway Park this summer. I watched his special on Netflix and wasn't that excited. I found some of his material tasteless, but I guess that's what sells today.

Netflix has produced a number of standup shows recently with comedians bringing their "guests" on for short standups.

GOD'S FAVORITE IDIOT is the latest comedy half-hour series. Starring Melissa McCarthy and Ben Falcone, it is about an office filled with idiots (No comparison to "The Office"). One of them has his face glow and starts to believe that he is a messenger from God. I don't think I'll stay with this one.

SPIDERHEAD stars Chris Hemsworth as a research scientist in a prison that experiments with its inmates. Miles Teller plays one of the inmates who rebels when things get out of hand. There is conflict and eventual attempts to escape. It gets a bit brutal and out of control. Good acting. Not so good story.

ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local Adoptable Loveable



Photo credit: Meaghan Susi

HERCULES

My name is Hercules and I'm the best boy! I have the biggest and best smile with a huge heart to match! Hercules is available for adoption at PAWS New England. He is a three year old Plott Hound, Pit mixed breed who loves people! His best home would have a fenced yard as he loves to run and play! He has a gorgeous brindle coat and golden brown eyes sparkle with excitement. Please reach out to the rescue for more information via their Facebook page or their website at www.pawsnewengland.com You can fill out an application for Hercules right on their website. You can't find a sweeter boy anywhere!

If you have been looking to adopt or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen at animaltalk1920@gmail.com



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

ALPHA

Alpha is just a puppy who is ready to find his very own forever family! He is sweet, playful and loving! Alpha is a mixed breed puppy with an adorable face and a black coat with white accents. Alpha wants to learn everything, he's very smart. If you have been searching for a puppy, please contact Heart of RI Animal Rescue League for more information at 401-467-3670. Alpha also has a few litter mates available too! The shelter is located at 44 Worthington Road in Cranston. Their website is www.heartofri.org These puppies will get adopted very quickly so please contact them as soon as possible if you are interested.

Teen angst dominates Burbage's 'Our Dear Dead Drug Lord'

Theatre Review by
DON FOWLER

Can you not like a play and still recommend it for a targeted audience?

In all my years, I've never done that, but Alexis Scheer's quirky play, "Our Dear Dead Drug Lord," has gathered a strong young audience in New York, and now in its Rhode Island premiere, to merit a mention.

The opening night audience at Burbage Theatre laughed frequently at the antics of four diverse teenage girls, consummating with a loud standing ovation at the shocking ending.

I sat there thinking, "Say what?" I guess it's called the generation

gap, and the gap is getting wider between me and some young, modern playwrights.

The good news is that these playwrights are writing about important issues, with diverse, young actors tackling issues that affect them. The result is attracting young people to the theatre. And that's a good thing.

Scheer's play is loaded with teen girl talk, often loud and bawdy, with four girls trying to yell louder than each other to get their point across.

Beneath the brashness are the insecurities and fears they face in their everyday lives, as they slowly reveal their innermost feelings.

They are very much different, yet very much the same, coming together

in an abandoned tree house at the Dead Leaders Club, summoning up the ghost of drug lord Pablo Escobar.

The 80-minute play continues in high gear without intermission until the shocking ending.

Filled with teen humor, sex, profanity and issues that consume many young women, the play has an attraction for a young audience facing the same issues.

Therefore, I recommend it to the younger audience, male and female, gay and straight, Black, brown and white.

We older folks should give up our seats for them.

"Our Dear Dead Drug Lord" is at Burbage Theatre through June 26. Call 484-0355.

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Affordable ways to make homes more appealing to modern buyers

METRO

Affordable ways to make homes more appealing to modern buyers (456 words, US, UK, CAN) Home trends come and go. Today's must-have items tend to become tomorrow's outdated features in the blink of an eye.

Homeowners who plan to stay in their current homes for years to come needn't prioritize modern trends over personal preferences. However, homeowners looking to sell their homes can consider these favored features to increase their properties' appeal to modern buyers.

- **Separate laundry room:** According to the National Association of Home Builders' 2021 What Home Buyers Really Want report, a separate room dedicated to laundry was the most desired feature among prospective home buyers. Though it might not inspire the awe of an outdoor living room or floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a wooded backyard, a laundry room fills a direct and universal need. Perhaps that's why 87 percent of buyers want a room dedicated to laundry in a home.

- **Exterior lighting:** Drive through a modern suburban neighborhood at night and it won't take long before you realize the popularity of exterior lighting. And that's no coincidence, as homeowners everywhere appear to embrace exterior lighting. The NAHB report indicates that exterior lighting is the most sought-after outdoor feature. The good news for prospective sellers is that exterior lighting is an



inexpensive and instant way to transform a property at night. Some solar-powered lighting along walkways

and outside the front door can make a home feel more safe, while some up-lighting of large trees in the backyard

can produce a sight to behold once the sun goes down.

- **Energy-efficient upgrades:** Inflation has driven up the cost of just about everything over the last year-plus, and energy is no exception. So it should come as no surprise that 83 percent of prospective home buyers are looking for energy-efficient windows and appliances in a home. These features save money and benefit the planet, making them a win-win among buyers.

- **Patio:** Patio spaces have long been popular, but that popularity reached new heights during the pandemic. When forced to stay at home for long periods of time, millions of people longed for ways to spend more time outdoors without breaking lockdown rules. Patios provide outdoor living spaces, and 82 percent of buyers indicated they wanted a patio with their next property.

- **Side-by-side sink:** A double or side-by-side sink is among the more affordable features buyers are looking for. At less than \$1,000 on average, a side-by-sink is an affordable way to make a home more appealing to modern buyers.

Modern buyers want a lot out of their homes, and sellers can do their best to meet those desires while getting the most money for their properties. FH228166

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MARKET MATTERS



FOR SALE

Feeling the Shift!!

After two plus years of an extreme seller's favorable market, we are finally starting to feel a shift towards some sense of balance.

Although single family inventory continues to be low, we're seeing an increase of active and coming soon listings. This week we finally have slightly over 1000 list opportunities as more sellers are deciding to go ahead and list their property for sale. Some I believe are wanting to take advantage of the potential to sell high before a more dramatic market shift comes. Others typically find Summer to be a good time to make a transition for



Donna DeLauro
Senior Real Estate Specialist
RE/MAX Real Estate Center
Founder of Mature Matters

families with children, so the move happens before the start of a new school year.

Buyers continue to be active, experiencing competitive situations of fewer choices and interest rate hikes. When a new listing comes on the

market buyers must get there quickly if the property meets their criteria.

In a nutshell...single family inventory is slightly up. Home sales are up, median sale price is up, and interest rates are slightly up, yet still low compared to previous years.

As always, market conditions are specific to location, be it by state, town, neighborhood and street. Consult a professional for the best most efficient real estate experience.

Donna DeLauro is a Realtor at RE/MAX Real Estate Center in Coventry. She is also a Senior Real Estate Specialist and the Proud Founder of Mature Matters.

SAFETY MATTERS

By **DONNA DeLAURO**

With Summer upon us and gas prices high, you may be spending more time at home. Children are out of school, remember they are outside playing, riding their bikes, skateboards etc. Please keep them in mind when driving through neighborhoods!!

Hurricane season has also officially begun. Prepare for emergencies, wind, rain and power outages.

If you don't have a generator, be sure to have plenty of alternative lighting, batteries, and coolers for daily necessities. There are some nice rechargeable battery lights that can be used outdoors or indoors during an outage. Solar lights work indoors too!

Keep gutters clean and redirect water away from the home with downspout extensions.

Trim trees and branches overhanging the home.

Pool safety is always a top priority. Be sure to follow practical safety measures like proper fencing, lighting, providing safety equipment and never leave children unattended in and around the pool.

Think about ways you can keep your home and family safe.

Have a safe and fun Summer!

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