



# WARWICK BEACON



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## Picozzi questions timing of \$350M school bond

By ALEX MALM

Steve Gotherg, school Director of Construction and Capital Projects said Tuesday he is confident RIDE will approve the city's application to build two new Warwick high schools.

But earlier in the day Mayor Frank Picozzi said he isn't sold on the idea of moving the \$350 million bond to the ballot this fall.

"I'm not sure it's a good idea to put it on the ballot right now," said Picozzi. "I'm not sure."

His concern is the cost, questioning with supply chain issues and inflation if \$350 million is going to be enough to build new Pilgrim and Toll Gate High Schools.

"We don't even know if that is realistic until we start building," said Picozzi.

Noting mixed reactions to the new schools, Picozzi also wonders if the bond issue would gain voter

approval.

"You might risk it not passing this year. There are a lot of people out there who don't have kids in school," said Picozzi. "I couldn't tell you one way or another and I'm really in touch with people. I could see it going either way."

Under the guidelines school districts have five years from the time their application is approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education to complete the project to receive reimbursements from the state.

In the case for Warwick, if the application is approved in May the district would have five years starting Dec. 31 to complete the project.

Gotherg said that if the project is delayed then he doesn't think there is enough time to complete the project. He said that it takes

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## Dash for the gold & the noses

With the prospect of finding gold eggs with special prizes and eggs with red noses, kids at the Oakland Beach hunt charge onto the playing field at Oakland Beach School Saturday. See coverage of the event as well as other hunts held in Cowesett and Conimicut on page 16. (Warwick Beacon photos)

## 'Diet' aimed at making Main Avenue safer

By JOHN HOWELL

Mayor Frank Picozzi, Col. Brad Connor and the state DOT all favor putting Main Avenue on a "diet" from Greenwich Avenue to the Post Road and Jefferson Boulevard intersection. The "diet" involves reducing the road - the site of some of the city's most serious accidents including fatalities - from four to two lanes. This would provide for wider lanes, easier access and egress for homeowners living on the road, a center turning lane and a bike lane.

But with the reduction in vehicular travel lanes, can the major east-west road accommodate the volume of traffic? Picozzi has asked that question.

Col. Bradford Connor can't say for sure, but as he points out it's

worth trying and if it doesn't work the road can easily be re-lined so as to make it four lanes again.

"I absolutely support it," the chief said of the plan that has been studied by the state. He cited Main Avenue's narrow 10 foot wide lanes leave little margin for error that can lead to head on collisions or hitting a utility pole that are close to the curb.

Picozzi said he talked with City Council President Steve McAllister and Ward 8 Councilman Anthony Sinapi and both agreed to the plan. Main Avenue borders both Ward 7 and 8.

Connor noted that that section of Greenwich Avenue from Apponaug to Potters Avenue used to be four lanes until the state made

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## Fixed increases have schools looking for \$5.8M more from city

By ALEX MALM

When Mayor Frank Picozzi served as the Chairman of the Warwick School Committee he sat across from former mayors Lincoln Chafee and Scott Avedisian to discuss the school department's proposed budgets each year and to negotiate.

Now from the same corner office at City Hall Picozzi is prepared to do the same as the mayor.

If the School Committee approves Supt. Lynn Dambruch's proposed budget it could mean schools are looking for an additional \$5.8 million from the city.

On Tuesday the School Committee held its first budget hearing for the proposed 2022-2023 district budget.

"The district faces challenges in both areas where sources of revenue like State aid are on the

decline putting more of the burden on local sources," Tim McGrath School Finance Director wrote in a memo ahead of the meeting. "This is compounded by rising prices for goods and services due to systemic inflation."

On Tuesday McGrath said the biggest increases in the budget are out of the district's control. He cited salary increases of \$3 million; healthcare increases of \$500,000 and state pension increases of \$1.8 million increase and \$900,000 for WISE pension corrections.

McGrath also highlighted the original budget manager requests for 2023, which was \$196.9 million. After \$11 million in cuts and allocating about \$5.4 million in grant funds to different line items the total requested budget came in at \$179.5 million.

"We did put a lot of resources

in ESSER grants," said Dambruch. "We had to be creative in getting the things we really need."

As for revenues the proposed budget calls for the city to allocate \$135.8 million towards the budget. The current budget was \$129.9 million from the city.

An issue that McGrath also noted is that the district's state aid decreased this year from \$40,224,931.70 to \$40,217,404.00. McGrath said that normally there is a slight increase for state aid.

McGrath also pointed to out-of-district tuition revenue as declining. The 2023 budget projects losing \$550,000 in tuition compared to this year's.

"We're not seeing the same number of students attending the CTC program as we have in the past," said McGrath.

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## Dying pines, disappearing sands haunt Conimicut Point

By JOHN HOWELL

Twenty-eight more pine trees are dead at Conimicut Point Park and will need to be cut down. That leaves fewer than 15 out of an estimated 70 black pines that once dotted the park. That's not all the point is losing. An estimated two feet of sand has been stripped from the southern beach exposing stone and cement foundations of houses swept away by the 1938 Hurricane.

Retired Coastal Resource Management Council geologist and Senior Fellow at the Coastal Institute Janet Freeman, who surveyed the point Monday afternoon, attributed the loss of sand to high tides and wave and tidal action during storms. She called it a natural phenomenon, pointing out that the Conimicut spit has moved over the years. There's no saying when or if the sands will make a return. Depletion of the beach and the protrusion of the foundations have raised concerns over the safety of opening the beach to bathers. As obstructions are not visible at high tide, the fear is that swimmers could injure themselves.

Freeman said replenishing the beach would be a costly project with no guarantee that the sands would hold.

Beverly Wiley, Director of Parks and Recreation was unaware of the beach development. On Thursday she said she would assess the situation. She also said she hoped the city would have the lifeguards to open the beach this summer. Last summer, the city didn't have sufficient lifeguards to staff its three beaches - Oakland Beach, City Park and Conimicut in addition to McDermott Pool. It also lacked sufficient personnel to collect fees at all three beaches, thus leaving Conimicut free for most of the summer.



DEAD AND DYING: This stand of back pines greets park visitors.

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### SEVEN STRAIGHT

The Pilgrim softball team has been the best team in the state so far this spring season, winning its first seven games. See story on page 9. Pictured is senior Amelia Murphy sliding into home in a recent game.

### NOTABLE Quote

"The mayor has to have full confidence in the people he hires."

- Mayor Frank Picozzi listing one of the reasons he's adamantly opposed to council approval of his choices for department directors. Page 3



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**Honoring Father Shanley at PC**

Providence College broke ground for Shanley Hall on Wednesday, April 13 at 11:00 a.m. in the student parking lot on campus, whose entrance is right off of Eaton St. A Warwick native, Fr. Shanley served as president of Providence College for 15 years (2005-2021) and was the longest serving president in the College's history. He is now the president of St. John's University in New York. Shanley Hall will be a new, six-story suite-style residence hall of approximately 120,000 square feet with approximately 360 beds. The expected completion is September 2023 at an estimated cost of \$54 million. The residence hall is intended for sophomore students. The College is not adding beds; this new residence hall will allow PC to begin renovations of some of its existing, older residence halls, which will have to be taken offline to achieve. Dimeo Construction of Providence is the General Contractor. The architect is Symmes, Maini & McKee Associates (also known as SMMA) of Cambridge, MA. Here Fr. Shanley is joined by family and friends at the ceremonial ground breaking. (Submitted photo)



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**POLICE LOG**

**SUSPENDED LICENSE**

Around 9 a.m., April 3, Warwick Police Officer Aaron L. Steere was on a fixed post at 10 Jefferson Boulevard when a vehicle drew his attention. According to the incident report, the black 2011 Acura had "dark aftermarket tint, and the rear plate was not visible even during daylight hours due to a dark tinted plate cover." Steere initiated a motor vehicle stop southbound near 300 Jefferson Boulevard and made a passenger-side approach to the car.

"Again during daylight hours, Officer Steere was unable to observe inside the vehicle due to the dark aftermarket tint," according to the incident report. Steere knocked on the rear window and asked the driver to lower all four windows. The driver complied.

The driver was identified as Ray Burgess, 29, of 463 Greenville Ave., Johnston, and police determined his license had been suspended. Two female passengers were in the vehicle, according to police.

While speaking to the occupants, Steere said he detected "a strong odor of raw marijuana emanating from the interior of the vehicle."

A background check also revealed that Burgess had two prior convictions for Driving on Suspended License (in 2015 and 2018), according to the police incident report.

Burgess was taken into custody for Driving on

Suspended License (Third Offense), a misdemeanor. He was transported to Warwick Police Headquarters, processed and later released.

He will also RI Traffic Tribunal summons for alleged violations of Operating a Motor Vehicle with Unlawful Sunscreen Material and Visibility of Registration Plates.

"A search of the vehicle, based on the odor of marijuana, revealed 27 grams of packaged marijuana," according to police. "It should be noted that the packages were consistent with sales. Burges was asked about the marijuana. He advised that he had a California medical marijuana card; however he did not have it on his person or in the vehicle."

The marijuana was "seized for destruction."

**DUI**

Around 2:38 a.m., April 3, Warwick Police Officer Connor R. Bemis was driving north on Post Road in the area of Vanderbilt Road when he observed a silver Hyundai allegedly traveling at a high rate of speed. Bemis estimated the vehicle's speed at 55 miles per hour in a posted 35 mph zone.

"While approaching the intersection of Post Road and Airport Road, continuing northbound, I observed all traffic signals to be red for the northbound lanes of travel," Bemis wrote in the police incident report. "I then observed the Hyundai to travel straight through

the intersection on the red traffic light signal, with multiple cars traveling in the intersection. It should be noted the Hyundai did not slow down at any point, while accelerating northbound through the red light at the intersection of Airport Road. I then proceeded to activate my emergency lights and sirens and stop the vehicle for the observed violations."

The driver was identified as Angel D. Neris, 25, of 1627 Elmwood Ave., Apt. 3, Cranston.

Bemis wrote that he "immediately observed (Neris) to have extremely bloodshot and watery eyes."

"Neris also spoke with slurred and mumbled speech and a soft tone," Bemis wrote. "I detected a strong odor of recently burnt marijuana to be emanating from Neris's person, as well as a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage to be emanating from his breath."

Bemis wrote that "Neris appeared to be extremely incoherent and had trouble forming sentences."

"Neris advised me that he had a few drinks and smoked a 'blunt,'" Bemis wrote.

Bemis requested Neris submit to Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and he agreed. Subsequently, police asked Neris to consent to take a chemical test, and he refused.

Neris was charged with DUI of Liquor (Blood Alcohol Concentration Unknown) and Refusal to Submit to Chemical Test (First Offense), and a traffic violation for Obedience to Traffic Control Devices.

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## Much more than books

When Jana Stevenson, director of the Warwick Public Library told Mayor Frank Picozzi she would like to have a bookmobile to bring library services into the community, he told her it was a great idea provided she could find the money. Stevenson did that securing a \$50,000 grant working in collaboration with the Institute of Museum and Library Services. On Tuesday she and associate director Ellen O'Brien pulled the newly acquired van in front of City Hall to display to the mayor and the news media. The van will contain more than books. It will carry computers in the library's effort to extend digital literacy with visits to the Pilgrim Senior Center, housing complexes, West-bay Community Action programs and people of all ages. It will also carry easily transportable plastic seating to set up story time visits to schools. Stevenson said the van would also visit community events such as food truck nights and concerts. Stevenson and O'Brien found an attentive gaggle of reporters outside City Hall despite windy and chilly conditions. (Warwick Beacon photo)

## Council, mayor term limits step away from being on ballot

By ALEX MALM

Warwick voters are a step closer to enacting term limits for the City Council and Mayor, after a resolution passed Monday night requesting the General Assembly to put the question on the ballot in November.

The original proposal introduced by Ward 4 Councilman Jim McElroy would've made term limits for mayor two consecutive four-year terms and five consecutive two-year terms for the council. After extensive discussion, the council agreed to limit the mayor to two consecutive 4-year terms and six consecutive 2-year council terms.

Lots of options were debated.

During the April 4 meeting, an amendment was introduced by Ward 8 Councilman Anthony Sinapi for three consecutive four-year terms for Council and two 4-year terms for mayor. On a 4-4 vote that amendment failed. McElroy wasn't present for the meeting.

On Monday, McElroy favored five two-year terms for the Council as he originally introduced.

Ward 2 Councilman Jeremy Rix was the lone vote, arguing the legislative body should have term limits.

One of the arguments that Rix made is that the state has a "revolving door" policy which prevents any lawmakers from getting a job within the state government for one year after leaving office. He argued that while a Council member couldn't

work for the city for one year after leaving the Council, he said that the mayor would still be in office for an extra year.

Rix argued that by having the mayor's term being longer than members of the council, member could vote in favor of what a mayor wants in exchange for a position after they leave office. He noted that he didn't think that was happening or has happened but could in the future.

"That change may be a recipe for increasing that risk of corruption. To be clear, I do not think that anyone in office now has that intent. But, this is where we have to think about what might happen between future City Councils and future Mayors if someone were to exploit the system," Rix wrote on Facebook ahead of the meeting. "Hypothetically, a future member of the Council were term-limited and had a 2-year term, then, knowing that a future Mayor has a 4-year term, the two could make a deal involving the future Mayor agreeing to appoint that future Council member to a 6-figure job in exchange for support during that last 2-year term."

Rix also thinks term limits would negatively affect the Council's institutional knowledge.

"We are up for reelection every two years and the people decide if they want us to continue to represent us," said Rix.

Rix said that he didn't have a "heavy preference"

on either but thought they should be the same.

"I feel strongly that the terms of the mayor and the council should match up," said Rix.

Ward 5 Councilman Ed Ladouceur proposed an amendment to change the term limits for the Council to six consecutive two-year terms. During the previous meeting he said he was most in favor of three consecutive four terms saying that he would rather be working to help his constituents instead of campaigning every two years.

McElroy, who originally wanted to stay with five two year terms, made the amendment to extend it to six consecutive terms.

Warwick Watchdog Rob Cote said he didn't think enacting term limits helped the public.

"This legislation helps you people not us," said Cote.

Cote argued that it takes away some of the voice that the public has because they wouldn't be able to vote for a new mayor every two years and at some point wouldn't be allowed to vote for a particular council member or mayor if that individual is term limited.

"Why do you want to fix something that is not broken," said Cote.

Rix introduced two amendments, one that would make both the Council and Mayor's terms the same and another that would make the Mayor's term four consecutive two-year terms.

Both amendments failed to get a second for discussion.

Mayor Frank Picozzi on Tuesday morning said that he would've favored having the Council and Mayor have the same term limits.

"I would've preferred to have the term limits the same as the mayor," said Picozzi. "I don't understand why it needs to be longer."

School Committee term limits, expanded committee docketed

Also, on Monday Ladouceur docketed a resolution asking the General Assembly for permission to put the question of three consecutive four-year terms on the ballot for School Committee members on the ballot in November.

In a separate resolution he asked that the question of expanding the School Committee from five to nine members be put on the ballot.

A resolution to put the expanded School Committee was supposed to be on the agenda during Monday's meeting however, it was pulled by the then sponsor Ward 8 Councilman Anthony Sinapi.

I started receiving calls from residents as word spread of the proposal. They raised a litany of "concerns with the proposal as currently drafted, and such warrants further consideration before proceeding forward given that this ultimately requires changing the City Charter," Sinapi told the Beacon last week. "If we

are going to alter the composition of the School Committee, I want to make sure it's done right and in a manner that offers the greatest likelihood of success. Thankfully, the introduction of this proposal has started the conversation."

Ladouceur said that his proposed resolution would be similar to the one that was going to be proposed by Sinapi, but instead of having term limits as part of the ballot question, it would be entirely separate. He said that he is doing so because some people may be for expanding the School Committee to nine members but are opposed to term limits.

"Five is ridiculous," said Ladouceur. "Three people controlling 53 percent of the taxpayers' dollars is ridiculous."

Ladouceur said that one of the arguments that he has heard is that not many people run as it is. He thinks that more people would run under a nine person School Committee because it would be less ground for each candidate to cover.

"It's a lot easier to campaign in a Ward than it is to campaign citywide," said Ladouceur.

Ladouceur said that the Council isn't the final say on any of the resolutions introduced and docketed during the meeting. If they make it to the ballot the voters will get to decide.

"We are not the final say," said Ladouceur.

Council, mayor pensions Rix on Monday also dock-

eted an ordinance that would end pensions for newly elected Council members and mayors.

Currently elected officials elected before 2013 are eligible for a pension after serving six years in office and reaching 60 years old. Those elected after 2013 are eligible for a pension after serving for 10 years.

"It is actually a very small benefit for most but creates some perverse incentives for some who might be tempted to make a deal for a future job," Rix wrote on his Facebook page ahead of the meeting.

According to the current ordinance, the amount an elected official receives for their pension is \$1,500 and \$200 multiplied by his or her years of creditable service as an elected official or a non-elected official. The maximum amount is no more than \$5,500 per year.

Rix argued a member of the Council could serve for a few years and then get a job with the city in order to increase their pension.

"Multiplying a pension by about 10-fold is a temptation for some to make a corrupt deal," Rix posted on social media. "This is not about stopping anything that is happening right now, and, I truly do not think that anyone in office right now would do this. Instead, this is about recognizing a potential problem so that it isn't exploited in the future."

A date for when the ordinance would be heard wasn't set during the meeting.

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# BEACON BUZZ

**Warwick Municipal Retirees Association**  
The Warwick Municipal Retirees Association will hold its next meeting on April 27 at the Pilgrim Senior Center. The meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Ceramics Room. The mayor will attend for a meet and greet. New members are always welcome. Any questions or comments, please contact Lois at 401-738-1768.

**Women and Infants Hospital 2022 Gala**  
There will be a celebration of mother and earth on June 11 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the WaterFire Arts Center located at 475 Valley St., Providence. This event is important for raising critical funds for a new labor and delivery center at the hospital. For sponsorship opportunities and event information, contact Cezarina (Sue) Jackson, 401-921-8508, or [cajackson@carene.org](mailto:cajackson@carene.org).

**Featured Speaker**  
Italian American Historical Society member Bernadette Conte will be the featured speaker at Santa Maria di Prata, Cranston, on May 15 in the event honoring our mothers. Her book, "Under the Pear Tree," fulfills the commitment she made to her mother Caterina (Gaetanina) Cardi Capotosto, to write the family history. This book is an account told by one Itrani family of the difficulties and struggles the Italian immigrant experienced at the turn of the 19th century in Knightsville, Cranston, Rhode Island. The event starts at 11 a.m.

**Performance at Arctic Playhouse**  
The Arctic Playhouse announces three weeks of performances of "The Hatmaker's Wife." The show will run from April 21 to May 8. Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances are at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. More information is available on the theater website: [www.thearticiplayhouse.com](http://www.thearticiplayhouse.com) Tickets are available online or at the door (\$18 online/\$20 at door).

**URI Music Department and Notable Works' Spring 2022 Concert**  
This event will take place in URI's Recital Hall within the Fine Arts Center on May 15 at 3 p.m. and features the American Band, Directed by Brian Cardany. The American Band will be honored at this event by the RI Music Hall of Fame. The main focus of this event is to illustrate how Rhode Island is dealing with the climate crisis, highlighting revitalization efforts in our communities, as well as practicing current outreach strategies to connect to a wider and more diverse workforce, while broaching the question: "What can each of us do to work together to help build a more sustainable future?" This performance is free and open to the public; however, donations for Notable Works will be graciously accepted. CDC State Covid-19 guidelines will be followed. Complimentary refreshments will be provided following the concert. For more information, please call 401-874-2431 or visit <http://www.uri.edu/music/events> or <https://notableworks.org>.

**Night at the Theatre**  
After a two year hiatus, Thrive Behavioral Health is back with its annual fundraiser "A Night at the Theatre." They are raising funds to deliver their mission of inspiring hope and empowering lives of people living with mental health, substance use and housing issues. A reception will be followed by The Gamm's premiere performance of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The event will take place at 6 p.m. on May 4 at the Gamm Theatre at 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick. Tickets are \$75 and include the reception and theatre performance. There are only 50 tickets, so order soon.

**Gorton Pond Cleanup**  
The Friends of Gorton Pond will have their first clean up of the season on April 24 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. followed by a free community event at the beach.

**Comedy Fundraiser**  
There will be a comedy fundraiser featuring top local comedians to benefit Greenwood Fire Company Museum on May 14 at the Warwick Firefighters Association 120, (750 Warwick Avenue, Warwick). Doors open at 6 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. BYOS (Bring Your own Snacks), cash bar, raffles, 50/50 drawing, auctions. 18+ event. Cost \$25.00. For tickets to donate or sponsor (to be a sponsor costs \$100.00. Names placed on a large banner with other donors, flyers on the table regarding your organization), please visit [funny4funds.com/events](http://funny4funds.com/events). For more information, please contact Donna Halsband at 401-742-4937.

**Tree Planting**  
There will be an Arbor Day tree planting at 1:05 p.m. on April 29 at Warwick Neck Elementary School; hosted by the Warwick Wildlife and Conservation Commission.

**Craft Fair**  
The 8th annual Crafting for Critters Spring Craft Fair will be held outdoors on May 7 at the Airport Professional Park, 2348 Post Road, Warwick, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Hosted by Friends of the Warwick Animal Shelter, over 60 artisans will be selling their locally handcrafted wares just in time for Mother's Day! Products for sale include fine art, jewelry, crafts, handcrafted accessories, apparel, home decor, baked goods, candies, jams & jellies, dog treats, pet accessories, books and much more.  
Admission and parking are free. Food trucks will be on the premises. For more information or vendor space, please contact Audrey Snow, Fair Director at 401-480-9769 or by email [fowas.crafts@gmail.com](mailto:fowas.crafts@gmail.com). Donations of wet cat food



**Lots of animal toys**  
Jordan Kent didn't know what to expect when he mounted a pet supply drive for the benefit of the Providence Animal Rescue League as his Eagle Scout community service project. Held Saturday at St. Rose of Lima School parking lot, people dropped off a variety of items ranging from food to medication, carriers and leashes. But it was pet toys, especially stuffed animals that outnumbered all other donations. Jordan is a member of Troop 7 Buttonwoods. Assisting here are his sister Kerri and mother Kerrie. (Warwick Beacon photo)

and wet dog food for the shelter animals are welcome.

**Cemetery Cleanup**  
The Warwick Commission on historical cemeteries will host a clean up of Brayton cemetery in Apponaug on April 23 from 9 a.m. through 11:30 a.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Please bring a rake if you have one. Community service hours will be provided for anyone needing them. This is our annual clean up and is part of the RI cemetery awareness and preservation month. Please join us.

**"City Hall Plaza" Presentation**  
The Norwood Association invites you to attend their May 4 meeting at 7 p.m. at the Norwood Boys & Girls Club, at 43 Frederick St, in Norwood. Mayor Frank Picozzi, will present an interesting review of the exciting plan the city has to create a family-friendly park with an adjacent ice skating rink and other enjoyable amenities such as walking trails and other community-friendly events. Refreshments and snacks will be served.

**Yard Sale at Asbury UMC**  
Spring is here and so are yard sales. Asbury UMC at 550 Fair Street in Warwick is hosting a fundraiser/community outreach the yard sale on May 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have large and small ticket items. Indoor and outdoor tables hosted by Asbury members and the neighborhood. And, we wouldn't be Methodist if we didn't also have some food, so come a little hungry.

**Monthly Grab & Go Meals**  
Food for the Soul is a food provision mission for those in need of a meal. Asbury UMC has partnered with Lakewood Baptist Church in Warwick to provide "grab and go" meals once a month. Pick up dates are April 16, May 21 and June 18 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Lakewood Baptist Church 255 Atlantic Avenue, right on a bus line. Come as you are, leave feeling loved and cared about.

**The Art of the Fan**  
Clouds Hill House Museum presents "The Art of the Fan" which will run through May 15. Dozens of fans belonging to past generations will be on display. Fixed, cockade, fontage, brisé and pleated fans of lace, paper, cloth and feathers will be included with interesting and fun facts about fans. Reservations are required and regular admission rates apply.

**West Warwick AARP Chapter**  
West Warwick AARP Chapter is looking to expand its membership. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at St. Mary's Church Hall, 70 Church Street, West Warwick. All are welcome to come enjoy a cup of coffee and chat with new friends.

**AARP Chapter 2210 Lobster Clambake and Foxwoods Trip**  
AARP Chapter 2210 has planned a Clambake at Captain Jack's and Foxwoods Casino trip for May 26. Bus pickup from the Exit 6A Park & Ride at 10:30 a.m., return time is approximately 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$99 per person (must be paid before May 12). For more information, call Maureen at 828-5188. Be sure to watch for future trips to Martha's Vineyard (July 7), Newport Playhouse (August 17) and Atlantic City (October 16-17).

**Welcoming Ashley Kalus**  
The Warwick Republican City Committee will welcome Republican Candidate for Governor, Ashley Kalus to their April 21 meeting. Ashley will speak briefly and take a few questions at 7 p.m. Join them at the RIGOP Headquarters on Airport Plaza. Lower Suites Post Rd., Warwick. Additional information is on WGOP's Facebook.

**May Breakfast**  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church will hold its May Breakfast on May 1 from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., at 111 West Shore Rd., Warwick. Menu includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, baked beans, pancakes, muffins and hot and cold beverages. Cost for adults is \$10, children (5-12) are \$5. Handicap accessible. Please call 401-737-3127 for a reservation.

**Chamber Orchestra Concert**  
The Chamber Orchestra of Barrington at St. John's, led by Music Director Edward Markward, will present the fourth concert of its fifth season on April 24, at 3 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 191 County Road, Barrington.

The concert will include Prokofiev's, Symphony No. 1 in D Major, Sibelius', Valse triste op. 44, No. 1 (Sad Waltz), Joseph Haydn's Concerto in C Major for Cello and Orchestra, Hob. VIIb:1.  
All audience members will be required to wear masks and show proof of being fully vaccinated including a booster shot, if eligible. The concert is free, donations are welcome. More information at [www.cobsj.org](http://www.cobsj.org).

**Annual Electrofishing Survey**  
Join the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council on Saturday, April 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lower Woonasquatucket at River Sun Mills, 166 Valley St. Providence. Each year, they record what fish are migrating into our rivers as a way of assessing the health of our river habitat. Volunteers can choose to join the "on land" or "in water" crew to participate in a hands-on habitat assessment. All data is collected and sent to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. Contact: [cbrown@wrwc.org](mailto:cbrown@wrwc.org) and visit our website: <https://wrwc.org>.



# EDITORIAL

## Covid fatigue, we can't become complacent

It's difficult to fathom that we first entered Covid-19 lockdowns over two years ago. How can so much time go by so quickly — particularly when those two years have been filled with so many days of trepidation and concern regarding an illness that has killed nearly one million Americans and 6.2 million people worldwide?

The stage we currently find ourselves in regarding the pandemic is one of almost apathetic indifference to the disease that has turned our world upside down and upended weddings, small businesses and leisure travel plans for so many of us for so long. We know it's out there, but at this point, nobody aside from those who are at very high risk from the virus is living their lives much differently than they did two years ago, before the world changed.

To Rhode Islanders' credit, we've reached that point of indifference through doing the right thing — getting vaccinated. Although we wished that by this point, vaccine skepticism would be completely eradicated — considering the hundreds of millions of doses given thus far hasn't resulted in a massive government-sponsored extinction event — many still hold onto that fear-driven belief for whatever reason suits them. Their selfishness aside, enough people have done the right thing to allow us to get back to a place of normalcy, where the vast majority of people are no longer at risk of terrible consequences from catching the virus.

That layer of protection offered by the vaccine, combined with the fatigue we are all experiencing in responding to the threat of Covid as though it is the harbinger of our demise, is resulting in even our vaccine-favorable state to become vulnerable to another wave of the virus.

The BA.2 variants of Covid are becoming more and more prevalent across the world and, again, in the United States. The majority of these cases, to be clear, are not requiring hospitalizations, but they do unfortunately thrust talk of gathering restrictions and mandatory masking back into the conversation once again — a conversation that fewer and fewer people seem to want to have.

It is an understandable stance, considering the relative risk of the average person actually being seriously sickened or killed by this strain of Covid. However, we cannot forget the role we play in protecting our most vulnerable citizens — the immunocompromised, the elderly, the healthcare professionals with elderly or immunocompromised loved ones whom they cannot safely see. Our decisions are not merely our decisions when responding to this virus — a lesson we should clearly understand by now.

Although we may never be able to squash this virus and its presence from our lives, we cannot let ourselves get to a place of total complacency, and work hard to prevent as many unnecessary outbreaks, and resulting deaths, as possible.



## Backyard friends and foes

It's amazing what we do to attract and repel animals.

Rats are on the top of the "get rid of them anyway you can" list, with skunks and raccoons not far behind. Squirrels are also on the list although their reputation is a couple of notches up from rats and a step down from rabbits that fall into that yellow band between red as being detestable and green for being cute and basically harmless for nibbling on the lawn. But wait. Rabbits would be acceptable as long as they were content with grass. We won't have any tulips this year. The rabbits chewed the shoots down to the ground, or at least we assume rabbits are the culprits. Carol blames the squirrels for beheading our daffodils. One wonders what may possess a squirrel to lop off a bud and leave it lying beside the plant. Maybe squirrels are not to blame, but such wanton destruction hardly seems to be a wild animal trait.

We humans assign causes to such behaviors. Carol figures the beheaded flowers are payback for giving the squirrels a tough time at the bird feeder. Perhaps the squirrels know Carol loves her flowers and that she would be upset to find them mowed down.

No question if the squirrels were smart, and when it comes to food I believe they are, they would know cardinals are on the top of the pecking order when it comes to wild birds. The persistent click-click of a cardinal's call has Carol checking the feeder to ensure it has a stash of sunflower seeds. More often, she'll take a handful of seeds and cast them off the back

### This Side Up



by JOHN HOWELLS

porch. The squirrels have learned the cardinal call — not that they have mastered it — but know if the cardinals are going to get something, they better show up, too.

My son Jack decided to put an end to Carol's torment of either denying food to a bird she loves or feeding a critter she would be happy never to see again.

When we adopted Ollie, a spotted coonhound, I imagined he'd be the guardian and give chase to rabbits and squirrels. But no, Ollie only kicks into hunter hound mode when he picks up the scent of a coon. Rabbits and squirrels pay no heed of Ollie and, in fact, Carol has even caught Ollie chewing sunflower seeds. Carol's answer: Ollie is jealous of the cardinals.

Who's to say that he's not?

Jack's solution arrived in a three-foot-long box from Amazon. It's the latest in birdfeeders that honestly doesn't look much different than the one we have, only longer. This one, however, is designed to spin off squir-

rels that venture to jump or climb on it. YouTube videos of it in action are hilarious says my daughter Diana who is ready to have me install it and send her footage. I have images of squirrels wobbling like drunks after being spun on the feed. Apparently the birds don't get the carnival ride.

I doubt there's such a mechanical device to deter rabbits or deer from cleaning out the garden.

Ted, who lives on North Kingstown, has been waging his battles to save his garden. He's tried chunks of Irish Spring soap and mothballs with little luck and turned to a foul smelling spray that he believes is a concoction using coyote urine. I leave to your imagination how you would get a coyote to piss in a bottle.

Ted said the odor is invasive and if he's not careful he can track it into the house.

Yet one member of the family is excited when Ted takes up his battle with the deer. It's Nash, his cuddly Cavalier King Charles Spaniel that loves people and spending time in their laps.

With the scent of the spray, Nash is like a cat with catnip. This is the equivalent of a canine Chanel V. Nash goes apoplectic, rolling on the ground as if he couldn't get enough of it.

This brings me to the conclusion that Ted has found a way to bridge needs and desires between animals and humans. With the spray Ted has saved the tulips, Nash has found nirvana; deer have been reminded of the coyotes and the coyotes have found a new form of employment if, in fact, that's how it works.

### LETTER

#### Predatory politics

To the Editor:  
Democrat state Rep. Joseph McNamara, chairman of the House Education Committee, seems determined to rob little children of their innocence. That would explain his opposition to legislation introduced by Republican state Rep. Patricia Morgan.

Morgan's bill is designed to protect young children

from inappropriate sexual indoctrination in the public schools. It is a sensible proposal made necessary by progressive Democrats' perverse obsession with children and sexuality.

Mr. McNamara, who also serves as chairman of the Rhode Island Democratic Party, is willing to sacrifice a child's innocence for a political agenda that seeks to subvert parental authority. That is a very bad thing to do.

Parents who love their children should shield them from the predatory politics of Rep. Joseph McNamara and his degenerate Democratic Party. Republican Rep. Patricia Morgan, much to her credit, is bravely trying to help parents do just that.

A. H. Liddle  
Warwick

## DECLARATION: RI youth mental health in 'State of Emergency'

**Editor's Note:** *The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Rhode Island Council for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Hasbro Children's Hospital and Bradley Hospital have issued the following "Declaration of a Rhode Island State of Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health":*

As health professionals dedicated to the care of children and adolescents in Rhode Island, we have witnessed soaring rates of mental health challenges among children, adolescents, and their families over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, exacerbating the situation that existed prior to the pandemic. Children and families across our state have experienced enormous adversity and disruption. The inequities that result from structural racism have contributed to disproportionate impacts on children from communities of color at the same time as racial and ethnic diversity has increased in Rhode Island and is projected to rise in the future."

This worsening crisis in child and adolescent mental health is inextricably tied to the stress brought on by COVID-19 and the ongoing struggle for racial justice and represents an acceleration of trends observed prior to 2020. Rates of childhood mental health concerns and suicide rose steadily between 2010 and 2020 and by 2018 suicide was the second leading cause of death for youth ages 10-24. According to the 2019 Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 15% of Rhode Island high school students reported attempting suicide one or more times in the 12 months before the survey was administered. The pandemic has intensified this crisis: we have witnessed dramatic increases in Emergency Department visits for all mental health emergencies including suspected suicide attempts.

The pandemic has struck at the safety and

stability of families. More than 140,000 children in the United States lost a primary and/or secondary caregiver, with youth of color disproportionately impacted. We are caring for young people with skyrocketing rates of depression, anxiety, trauma, and suicidality that will have lasting impacts on them, their families, and their communities. We must identify strategies to meet these challenges through innovation and action, focusing on state and local interventions designed to improve equitable access to care including mental health promotion, prevention, and treatment. Taking into account Rhode Island's specific existing resources and our state's unique strengths, we urge a particular focus and investment in community-based and community-responsive outpatient care designed to identify and treat youth earlier in their course of illness. This would reduce the burden on individual children and their families as well as the impact on our higher levels of care and schools by decreasing escalation to full-blown mental health crises.

The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (RIAAP), the Rhode Island Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (RICCAP), Hasbro Children's Hospital, and Bradley Hospital are joining together to declare a Rhode Island State of Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health. The challenges facing children and adolescents are so widespread that we call on policymakers at all levels of state government, advocates for children and adolescents, and community stakeholders to join us in this declaration and advocate for the following:

Increase state funding, including Medicaid rates, dedicated to ensuring that all families and children, from infancy through adolescence, can access evidence-based mental health screening, diagnosis, and treatment to appropriately address their mental health needs, with particular

emphasis on meeting the needs of under-resourced populations.

Fully fund and prioritize comprehensive, community-based systems of care that connect families in need of outpatient behavioral health services and supports for their children with evidence-based interventions in their home, community or school as well as follow-up with families to overcome any barriers to engagement in care.

Accelerate strategies to address longstanding workforce challenges in child mental health, including innovative training programs developed collaboratively by Rhode Island's existing healthcare professional programs, loan repayment and reduced/free tuition consistent with RI Promise grants, and intensified efforts to recruit and retain underrepresented populations into mental health professions as well as attention to the impact that the public health crisis has had on the well-being of health professionals.

Increase implementation and sustainable funding of effective models of school-based mental health care with clinical strategies, including a mental health "warmlines" for school staff to access care comparable with the existing PediPRN model for pediatricians, and models for payment.

Accelerate and incentivize adoption of effective and financially sustainable models of integrated mental health care in primary care pediatric, including clinical strategies and models for payment.

Address the ongoing challenges of the acute care needs of children and adolescents, including shortage of beds and emergency room boarding, by expanding access to short-stay stabilization units and community-based response teams.

**WARWICK BEACON**  
1944 Warwick Avenue, Ste. 4  
Warwick, RI 02889  
(401) 732-3100

The Warwick Beacon is committed to accuracy, honesty, fair play and the well-being of our community. Those are the standards to which we hold ourselves and by which we ask you to judge us. If you think we have failed to meet them, we want you to tell us. Please address your concerns to the Editor or Publisher, Warwick Beacon, 1944 Warwick Ave. Ste. 4, Warwick, RI 02889; call (401) 732-3100.

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# Mayor adamantly opposes council approval of his appointments

By ALEX MALM

Cranston and Providence are among municipalities where the council has the power of "advice and consent" for Mayoral appointments of directors and department heads.

Jeremy Rix thinks that should be the case in Warwick, too.

On Monday the Ward 2 Councilman docketed a resolution which asking the General Assembly to put a question on the November ballot giving similar powers to the City Council in Warwick.

"This is about checks and balances for our government in the long-term," said Rix. "It's not about one Mayor or one City Council; it's about having a more balanced system in the future. Good government isn't just having good people, the process matters too."

Mayor Frank Picozzi plans to fight it.

"I'm completely against it for a lot of reasons," he said Tuesday.

Picozzi believes council approval would create a political process.

"Lincoln Chafee or Scott Avedisian wouldn't ever been able to hire a director," said Picozzi. Chafee and Avedisian were Republican mayors faced with a council run by Democrats.

In fact, Picozzi, an Independent with an all Democratic City Council said his relationship with the legislative branch didn't start off on a positive note. Only after working together has that changed. Because of that fact he thinks he would've run into trouble when naming directors to his administration.

"I'm not sure they would've approved everything I wanted," said Picozzi.

If subject to council approval Picozzi reasoned potential candidates for a job may be reluctant to apply since their current employer would learn they are considering another job.

"What happens if you don't get the job," asked Picozzi.

One example of this happening was in Cranston when the Council voted on party lines against Mayor Ken Hopkins' choice to fill the vacant Finance Director position.

"The mayor has to have full confidence in the people he hires," said Picozzi.

In Picozzi's case he said that he would've had to wait for the Council to approve his director positions after being elected in November 2020. He said that he didn't have a campaign staff and had to go out and find his staff after being elected.

# School district feels brunt of supply chain, inflation issues

By ALEX MALM

Steve Gothberg, Director of Construction and Capital Projects for the Warwick School Department told the School Committee last week that like the rest of the country, the district faces supply chain related issues, specifically for the projects the district hopes to complete this summer.

"We're running into some budget issues," said Gothberg.

Gothberg pointed to Sherman School.

Gothberg said that to help control costs the department is working directly with the supplier to buy things like shelving, cubbies, library furniture, shelving, and white boards.

"We're trying to keep costs down," said Gothberg.

Gothberg said one of the biggest concerns with the project is the time it takes to get materials. For ex-

ample windows have gone from a 24 weeks lead time to 26 weeks. He said that the HVAC rooftop equipment has now jumped to a 37 week lead time.

While Gothberg said delays will impact when the job is completed, he doesn't think it will impact the timetable for the opening of Sherman.

"We're still aiming for a Christmas vacation return," said Gothberg.

Gothberg also provided updates on HVAC and ADA at Hoxsie School. He said that the project came in at \$1.2 million over the \$1.9 million budgeted.

Gothberg said \$400,000 was left over from the roofing project two years ago which means that the project is still \$800,000 over budget.

Work that needs to be done at Winman had bids come in at higher costs than expected Gothberg said.

Gothberg said that he reviewed options with the

Building Committee and said that there are funds initially allocated for Pilgrim, Drum Rock and Toll Gate renovations. Pilgrim and Toll Gate would be replaced if voters approve a \$350 million bond issue this fall. As part of that plan Drum Rock would come down. The total amount of funds left from the three schools is around \$16 million.

"I see that we're going to be dealing with run-away costs," said Gothberg. "I believe we're going to be way over budget on most of our projects, and we have limited funds nowhere to get additional funds."

Gothberg said the Building Committee has talked about limiting the scope of the work being done this summer and curtailing portions of projects. He said that the critical thing to do this summer is getting the HVAC projects completed.

"As we move forward

tough decisions are going to have to be made by the building committee," said Gothberg.

Vice Chair David Testa who Chairs the Building Committee said the Hoxsie bid was a "shock."

Testa said that he is opposed to limiting the scope of work.

School Committee Chair Judy Cobden is concerned about the cost overruns.

"I had a mild heart attack," she said.

Gothberg noted that when he budgeted the projects he factored in an additional three percent for inflation, which he said is standard. He said that no one could prepare for what is happening now.

Gothberg said that the increase he believes is because of supply chain issues and from work not being done for the past couple of years.

"I see gouging in the supply chain," said Gothberg.

# OBITUARIES

## Rose Jenny Johnson

Rose Jenny (Latina) Johnson, 94, of Warwick, passed away on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at Brentwood Nursing Home. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Vincenzo and Rose (Croce) Latina. She was the loving wife of the late Ralph Johnson.

Rose is survived by her nephew, Robert A. Urciuoli, and niece, Deborah Ann Urciuoli, her grandniece, Rebecca A. Urciuoli-Anderson Curtis, and her great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews, MacKenzie Leigh Anderson, Cameron Curtis, and Harper Gautier. She was the sister of the late Eva P. "Pat" Urciuoli. Her Funeral Service will be held on Friday, April 22, 2022, at 8:45AM from THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick with a Committal Service at 9:30AM at St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston.

## WARWICK WORSHIP

### Asbury United Methodist Church

143 Ann Mary Brown Drive  
Rev. Yohan Go  
467-5122  
Worship Servicer 9:30am  
asburyumc.org  
Child Care available

### Baha'i Faith

Warwick Community  
Call for meeting information  
800-228-6483

### Buttonwoods Bible Chapel

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

### Christ Church

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

### Church of The Apostles

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

### Church of The Transfiguration

1665 Broad Street  
461-3142  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist

### Community of Christ Church

292 West Shore Road  
Rev. Nancy L. Cornish  
Rev. Peter M. Latham  
738-0342

### Concordia Center for Spiritual Living

292 West Shore Rd.  
Rev. Alan Vukas  
732-1552

### Congregation of Chadash

Egalitarian Minyan in the Jewish Conservative Tradition in Trinity Episcopal Church, 139 Ocean Avenue, Cranston Use Circuit Street entrance  
Friday Services 6:00 pm  
Saturday Services 9:30am  
For information on High Holiday Services or Membership visit:  
[www.orchadash-ri.org](http://www.orchadash-ri.org)

### Eckankar Center

2914 Post Road  
Pastor Tom Towhill  
738-4827  
www.eckankar-ri.org

### Faith Baptist Church

765 Commonwealth Ave.  
Pastor Dr. Ed Stutz  
738-7664  
faithbaptistri.org  
Sunday 9:30am & 11:00am

### Faith Family Chapel

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

### First Congregational Church of Warwick, UCC

715 Oakland Beach Avenue  
Pastor Michael Ashe  
738-3377  
fccwri.org

### Friendship Baptist Church

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

### Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian

805 Main Avenue  
Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Clark  
737-1230  
www.gccp.org

### Lakewood Baptist Church

255 Atlantic Avenue  
Pastor Ron Provencal  
781-1136  
Sunday Worship 10am  
[www.facebook.com/LBCWarwick](http://www.facebook.com/LBCWarwick)

### Living Faith Christian Church

1201 Greenwich Avenue  
739-2444  
www.LivingFaithRI.org

### Narragansett Bay Baptist Church

1642 West Shore Road  
Pastor Dru Merrill  
738-0600  
nbbcri.org

### Norwood Baptist Church

48 Budlong Avenue  
Rev. George Barclay  
941-7040

### Pilgrim Lutheran Church

1817 Warwick Avenue  
Pastor Maria Hammons  
739-2937  
www.pilgrimlutheranri.org

### Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church

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

### Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

111 West Shore Road  
Rev. Susan L. Wrathall  
737-3127  
5 P.m. Saturday  
Sun. - 8 am & 10:00 am  
All in person  
No reservations necessary  
LIVE <http://www.facebook.com/www.stmarkswarwick.com>

### Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

389 Greenwich Avenue  
Rev. Hayley Bang  
737-6758  
stpaulwarwick.org

### Saint Timothy Church

1799 Warwick Avenue  
739-9552

### Saints Rose & Clement Church

111 Long Street  
739-0212  
Masses: Saturday 4 pm  
Sundays 8 am, 10:30 am & 5 pm

### SouthPointe Christian Church

200 Pettaconset Ave.  
821-9800  
Worship Services 9am & 10:30am  
with Kids Programming for both  
for Birth-4th grade

### Spring Green Memorial Church

1350 Warwick Avenue  
463-8328  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
Rev. Shelton Rucker, Jr.  
<https://sgmori.wordpress.com/>

### Trinity Episcopal Church

139 Ocean Ave., Pawtuxet (Pawtuxet Village)  
Cranston, RI 02905  
Rev. Mitchell Lindeman  
941-4324  
www.trinitypaw@gmail.com

### Warwick Hope Assembly of God

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

### Warwick Central Baptist Church

3270 Post Road  
739-2828

### Warwick Christian Fellowship

358 Warwick Neck Avenue  
Pastor Steve Reickett  
739-26606

### Westminster Unitarian Church

119 Kenyon Ave., E.G.  
401-884-5933  
Sunday Services 9 & 11 am  
Summer Service 10am 6/24

### Woodbury Union Church, Presbyterian

58 Beach Avenue  
Rev. T. J. DeMarco, Pastor  
737-8232  
WoodburyChurchRI@gmail.com

To include your House of Worship in this listing, please contact Amanda at 732-3100 or AmandaN@rhythbeat.com

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And bring him home again.  
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No time to say goodbye,  
You were gone before  
We knew it  
And only God knows why.  
Our hearts still ache  
With sadness,  
And secret tears still flow,  
What it meant to lose you,  
No one will ever know.

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## Museum weekend launches Gaspee celebration

The Gaspee Days Committee and the Pawtuxet Rangers Historic Militia announce the Gaspee 250th Anniversary Museum Weekend, kicking off the Gaspee 250 anniversary. Museum Weekend will offer family friendly events exploring the colonial history of Pawtuxet Village.

Museum Weekend begins on Friday, April 29th with a cocktail party fundraiser. The event will offer attendees a chance to view historic artifacts at both the Aspray Boat House and Pawtuxet Rangers Armory. Tickets are \$25 pp and can be purchased on Eventbrite.

Museum Weekend will continue to run Saturday 4/30 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday 5/1 from 12 noon to 4 pm. All events both days will be free offering families the opportunity to walk through colonial life. Events such as marching along with the Pawtuxet Rangers Color Guard, learning about colonial life and drum music, witness historic militia drills, watch muskets and even a cannon being fired. Maybe even a sighting of the HMS Gaspee crew being brought ashore.

Storytelling will be offered throughout the weekend. Rhode Island Black Storytellers Rochelle Colman will offer stories to include Native American topics as well as the history of molasses highlighting life 250 years ago. Col. Barnes from the Pawtuxet Rangers will tell the Gaspee story.

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) will be available to help you discover a colonial ancestor. Other groups participating will be Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Children of American Revolution (CAR), RI Marine Archeology Project and the Rhode Island Scottish Rite. Gaspee Days 250th souvenirs will be on sale all weekend.

For information on Museum Weekend and all Gaspee Day's events visit [gaspee.com](http://gaspee.com).



**Donald D. Shirley**

Donald D. Shirley, 86 of Warwick passed away on Monday, March 28, 2022, at HopeHealth Hular Hospice Center after a brief illness. He was the beloved husband of the late Marcia Shirley for 60 years and the son of the late Harold and Eunice Shirley. Donald was the loving father of Deborah L. Fontes (Gary), Thomas J. Shirley (Melissa), and the late Donna J. Shirley. He also leaves two cherished grandchildren, Adam D. Fontes (Malaree) and Tara L. Fontes (Devin), and his first great-grandson Noah D. Fontes whom he adored. He was looking forward to the arrival of his first great-granddaughter Navi this May.



Donald was a toolmaker at Garland Industries for over 30 years. He enjoyed yard sales, flea markets and anything Disney. He enjoyed taking his family to dinner as long as the restaurant had good calamari and baked stuffed shrimp! Most of all, he will be remembered for the unconditional love he gave his family.

Services will be private to comply with Donald's wishes. He will be laid to rest with his wife and daughter in Highland Memorial Park in Johnston.

**Dorothy R. Farrell**

Dorothy R. (Bailey) Farrell "Dottie" 96, passed away on Monday, April 18, 2022. She was the wife of the late Richard J. Farrell. Beloved mother of Patrick C. Farrell, Linda S. Wojcik (Ed), and Richard J. Farrell (Ok Chu). Loving grandmother of Lauren, Kerri, Hannah, and Sarah. Loving great grandmother of Thomas, Nathan, Madison, and Freya. Predeceased by her infant daughter Cindy.



Dottie was retired from K-Mart and after retiring she operated a monogramming business in her home. She was an avid reader and liked doing word puzzles. She also loved gardening, playing cribbage and all animals. But most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family. She leaves her cherished chihuahua Emily.

Relatives and friends are invited to a visitation Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by a service at 11:00 a.m. in Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Chapel, 2435 Warwick Avenue, Warwick. Burial will be in Pawtuxet Memorial Park.

**Carol Ann Carlson**

Carol Ann Carlson, 80, formerly of Warwick Rhode Island, went to her Lord on April 16, 2022, in Tucson, Arizona. She will be interred at Peace in the Vally Lutheran Church columbarium in Benson, Arizona. Carol suffered from Lupus. She was the daughter of C Kenneth Peck and Clara A Peck. She had three siblings, Janet, Helen and Ronald who have proceeded her in death. Carol was born at home in Seekonk, MA.



She is survived by her husband, Inspector Robert W Carlson, WFD, retired. Carol and Bob were able to visit 26 National Parks and took 15 RV caravans. Their travels have taken them from Central America to Alaska, Nova Scotia to Vancouver. Carol will be greatly missed by her nieces and nephews, and especially missed by her dear Bob.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Carol Ann Carlson, please visit our floral store.

**William G. Coningford**

William G. Coningford, 65, a retired salesman for New England Tire passed away surrounded by his loving family, Saturday, April 16, 2022, at the HopeHealth Hular Hospice Center in Providence. Born in Warwick, he was a son of the late George R. and Victoria (Bedrossian) Coningford. He was the beloved father of William G Coningford (Molly), former husband of Patricia A. (Castro) Coningford, brother of Robert G. Coningford (Linda), Thomas G. Coningford and David G. Coningford (Donna). He was the uncle of Thomas J. Coningford. William was a graduate of Providence College and Suffolk Law School.



His funeral will be held Friday, April 22, 2022, at 9am, from Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, 2435 Warwick Ave, Warwick, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10am at St. Peter Church, 350 Fair St, Warwick. Burial will be in Pawtuxet Memorial Park. Visiting hours, Thursday, 4-7pm. Donations can be made in Bill's memory to St. Peter School, 120 Mayfair Rd, Warwick, RI 02888. Information and condolences, visit [www.theQuinnFuneralHome.com](http://www.theQuinnFuneralHome.com)

**Ronald A. Morrison**

Ronald A. Morrison, 79, of Warwick, passed away peacefully Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022, at Hope Health Hospice and Palliative Care. He was the beloved husband of Muriel (Collins) Morrison.



Born Feb. 25, 1943, in Providence, he was the son of the late Albert and Edith (Horton) Morrison.

Mr. Morrison was a proud Marine Corps veteran serving active duty during the Vietnam War and later serving in the Marine Corps Reserves. He was magna cum laude graduate of Johnson and Wales University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Systems Management.

He was an active member of the American Legion Post 43 and of the Newport Yacht Club, an avid gardener, and a navigator for an offshore race boat team.

In addition to his wife of 54 years he leaves his son and daughter-in-law, Stephen and Melissa Morrison of Pascoag; his grandsons Devin and Brayden Morrison; and many cousins. He was the brother-in-law of Norman and Cindi Collins, Joseph and Bonnie Collins, Carol Collins, and Melvin and Patricia Carlson.

Following Ron's expressed wishes his funeral was private with military honors and burial following at Swan Point Cemetery. Please share memories and condolences at [www.WoodlawnGattone.com](http://www.WoodlawnGattone.com).

**OBITUARIES**

**William J. McGowan, Jr.**

William J. McGowan, Jr., 71, passed away peacefully, Wednesday, April 13, 2022. Son of the late, William J. McGowan and Alice R. (Farley) McGowan. He was the beloved husband for 46 years to Donna M. (Maini) McGowan, and son-in-law of the late Gino and Mary Maini. Bill started his sales career with Jacob Licht, Inc. selling restaurant equipment and designing industrial kitchens. He later worked for the Providence Journal as a manager in their distribution center in Warwick. Bill attended East Providence High School, leaving early to join the Marine Corps. He served as a Lance Corporal in Vietnam and was exposed to Agent Orange which resulted in a diagnosis in 2017 with Interstitial Lung Disease. After his discharge in 1971, Bill received his G.E.D. and went on to receive a degree in Business Administration from Johnson & Wales College. He had a deep faith and was a Communicant of St. Benedict Church where he served as a Eucharistic Minister as well as a CYO basketball coach.



An athlete all his life, he played baseball, was a runner, and a Masters Swimmer who participated in the Save the Bay annual charitable swim from Newport to Jamestown. Bill also coached in the Warwick National Little League and was remembered for Don's Pizza's comeback win when they overcame an opening-game setback to post five straight victories and claimed the Major Division championship. He was also an assistant coach with the Warwick Soccer Association. He was a member of the Redsox Nation and an avid New England Patriots fan. Bill was also a former member of the St. Peter's school Parent Teacher Guild. More recently, he was a volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association RI Chapter serving as an Ambassador to Senator Jack Reed where he advocated for Federal funding to advance research efforts to find a cure for the disease. He loved to travel with his family and enjoyed his annual trips with his wife to Bermuda and scoured the Caribbean and Mexico to explore for new beaches. He also loved the beauty of Ireland and Italy. One of his favorite places was New Smyrna Beach in Florida where he spent time with his brother-in-law Gino Maini and his late wife, Susan. He will always be remembered as a great man and husband. He was an exemplary and dedicated father and grandfather. A true patriot. The world has lost one of its best.

He is also survived by his two sons, Jonathan W. McGowan (Carrie) and Brendan G. McGowan (Vanessa Ferriere). He was the loving "Poppa" to Celia Rose McGowan, Jonathan Jackson McGowan, Brian Dean Mosier, Jr., and William Joseph McGowan, III. He also leaves his siblings and twin brother, James J. McGowan (Patricia A.), Joseph T. McGowan (Eileen M.), Michaela A. Mendes (Paul A.), Kevin M. McGowan (Barbara N.) and the late Eugene P. McGowan and was the brother-in-law of Gail A. McGowan. Bill was a loving uncle, great uncle and Godfather to many nieces, nephews, and godchildren. The family would like to share their appreciation for the dedicated care provided by his physical therapist, Karl Busch as well as his nurse, Doreen Francis.

His funeral will be held, Friday, April 22, 2022 at 9am from the Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, 2435 Warwick Ave, Warwick with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10am in St. Kevin Church, Sandy Lane, Warwick which will be live streamed and can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbX-c3nrJ8VwKvuEIA4mpuVw/videos>. Burial with full Military Honors will follow in St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston. Visiting hours, Thursday, April 21 from 4-7pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka KS, 66675 or the Alzheimer's Association RI Chapter, 245 Waterman Street, Suite 306, Providence RI 02906 would be appreciated. Information and condolences, visit [www.theQuinnFuneralHome.com](http://www.theQuinnFuneralHome.com)

**Mr. Stephen E. Redfern**

Mr. Stephen (Steve) E. Redfern, 76 of Dunedin, Florida and formerly of Rhode Island passed away on April 11, 2022 at Empath Suncoast Hospice in Palm Harbor, Florida.



Born in Providence, Rhode Island he was the son of the late Vernon C. and Doris (Pike) Redfern.

Steve is survived by his companion and best friend of 26 years, Rosemary Larke, his daughter, Lindsay and Jeffery Lazzeri of Boynton Beach, Florida; two grandchildren, Olivia and Tyler; his brother David Redfern of Palm Harbor, Florida and niece Robin Davenport of Arizona.

Steve grew up in Rhode Island and attended Warwick Veterans High School. He enjoyed spending summers with lifelong friends at Buttonwoods Campers Association of Warwick, Rhode Island.

Steve worked numerous years at Bell Sports and Superior Uniform where he cultivated many friendships. He enjoyed traveling and cruising, fishing, boating, good food "ice cream", and his passion for the Tampa Bay Rays and his "razzing" of the Boston Red Sox. He will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of calling him "Friend".

A Celebration of Life will be announced at a future date.

**Carl Emerson Duke**

Carl Emerson Duke, 92, of Warwick, passed away on Sunday, April 17, 2022. Born in Weehawken, NJ, he was the son of the late Edward and Clara (Aurbach) Duke. He was the loving husband of Lucille Ann (Romanelli) Duke. Carl proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War and was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. He went on to become the owner and operator of Warwick Picture Frame & Gallery. He was a parishioner of Christ the King Parish in West Warwick and a member of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He especially enjoyed photography and spending time with his little dog "Angel".



In addition to his wife Lucille, he is survived by his beloved children, Carl D. Duke (Donna M.) of Warwick and Alison C. Toronczak of Foster, his sister-in-law, Anita M. Romanelli of North Providence, his grandniece, Lusa A. Gagnier of Johnston, and his grandchildren, Nicholas Berta and Eryk Toronczak. He was the brother of the late Edward Duke.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, April 22, 2022, at 11:00AM at Christ the King Church, 124 Legris Avenue, West Warwick. Visitation will be held prior to the Mass from 9:00AM-10:15AM at THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick. Interment with Military Honors will take place at St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in his memory to the Padre Pio Foundation of America, 463 Main Street, Cromwell, CT, 06416 or Friends of the Warwick Animal Shelter P.O. Box 9285 Warwick, RI 02889-9285 are greatly appreciated. [www.murphyfuneralhomes.org](http://www.murphyfuneralhomes.org)

**Scott W. Gorton**

Scott W. Gorton, 57, of Barrington passed away of natural causes at his home on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.



Born in Pawtucket, Scott was the son of the late William and Janice (Kollet) Gorton. He is survived by his loving wife, Christine (Specht) Gorton, his beloved sons, Jacob Gorton of Burlington, VT and Zachary Gorton of Barrington, his sister, Robin (Gorton) Favreau and her husband David of Carlsbad, CA and their family. He is also survived by his mother and father-in-law, Elaine and John Specht, his brother-in-law Greg Specht of Bristol as well as many relatives and friends.

A 1983 graduate of Toll Gate High School, Scott graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1987 with an B.S. in Computer Science. Most recently, Scott was employed as a Senior Principal Software Engineer at Telestream in Westwood, MA, where he received recognition for his outstanding technical contributions.

Scott was an accomplished drummer and the beat behind many popular bands, including Critical Few, Milk, One Horse Opera, Dames, Pond, Nauset, and Sheets of Hiss. He has been named the "Best Drummer in New England", he passed along his love of music to his sons and nephew.

Scott was a devoted father and took joy in encouraging and supporting his sons' activities. He served as a Cub Scout leader and Boy Scout volunteer in Barrington, while running the annual Pinewood Derby for over ten years. He was also a Pawtucket Youth Hockey Coach for many years.

Family was always Scott's priority. He adored his wife Christine and had celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary last Fall. The family will cherish the simple moments spent together throughout the years. Scott will be remembered for his smile, laughter, and the love that he brought to everyone who knew him.

Family and friends were invited to attend visiting hours on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, from 10:00AM-12:00PM at THE URQUHART-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME, 800 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, followed by a Memorial Service at 12:00PM. In keeping with Scott's easy-going nature, guests are encouraged to dress casually and bring your stories and pictures. Due to COVID-19, facemasks are respectfully requested, but not required.

Immediately following the Memorial Service, the burial will take place at Swan Point Cemetery, Providence followed by a reception for family and friends. In lieu of flowers, gifts honoring Scott can be directed to: The American Heart Association PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 or The American Cancer Society, PO Box 7312, Warwick, RI 02886. [www.murphyfuneralhomes.org](http://www.murphyfuneralhomes.org)

**Harold V. Blanding, Jr**

Harold V. Blanding, Jr., age 93, of Warwick, passed away on Saturday, April 16, 2022, at Sunny View Nursing Home in Warwick. He was the husband of Patricia A. (Gorman) Blanding. They were married for 72 years.



Born in Providence, the son of the late Harold V. and Ethel B. (Turner) Blanding, he lived in Warwick since 1988. A graduate of Central High School in Providence and the University of Rhode Island, he was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

Mr. Blanding was employed by New England Telephone / Verizon for 37 years, retiring in 1989. He was a former commander of the Civil Air Patrol in West Warwick.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons and a daughter, Peter J. Blanding (Hea-Jung) of Cumberland, Paul H. Blanding (Beverly) of Warwick, Kathleen M. Sanford of Edmonds, WA, and Michael V. Blanding (Adeljune); a sister, Norma L. Levesque of Chicopee, MA; ten grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. He was the brother of the late Roberta Marchand.

His funeral was held on Wednesday, April 20, from the Barrett & Cotter Funeral Home, 1328 Warwick Avenue, Spring Green, Warwick, with a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Rose & Clement Church, 111 Long Street, Warwick. Burial was in Quidnessett Memorial Cemetery, North Kingstown.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to McAuley House, 622 Elmwood Avenue, P.O. Box 73195, Providence, RI 02907 or to the RI Community Food Bank, 200 Niantic Avenue, Providence, RI 02907.

To leave condolence messages, please visit [www.barrettandcotter.com](http://www.barrettandcotter.com)

**Chris Beaulieu**

Chris Beaulieu, a resident of Pawtuxet Village, died Friday March 25, 2022, at a local hospice. Born in 1954 in Canada, she spent her childhood years in Maine. She was a 1972 graduate of Marie Joseph Academy and a 1974 graduate of St. Francis College (now the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine), both in Biddeford Pool, Maine.



Following graduation, she entered the US Army Officer Candidate School in Ft. Benning, GA and earned her commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps in 1977. After assignments in Pennsylvania, she was posted to Kaiserslautern, Germany, rising to the rank of Captain before her retirement in 1983 due to illness.

Moving to Washington, D.C., Chris worked in commercial real estate for several years before moving to live with her brother in Northampton, MA and later in Warwick's side of Pawtuxet Village. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Cranston and an advocate for Women Veteran Care at the Providence VA Medical Center.

An avid writer, Chris sent out notes, cards and letters on a daily basis to family and friends all over the country. She also wrote a great deal of poetry, full of reflections on life's journey and her own struggles with illness. During the holiday season, she wrote many Mrs. Santa Claus letters for children, writing with red and green pens, making sure to decorate each envelop with holiday stamps of all kinds. She may singularly have kept the post office on Matinicus Island, ME in business where she regularly ordered a monthly supply of stamps for over 25 years. She chose Matinicus because it was the farthest Maine island off the coast with a post office.

Chris was well known in the Village, considered by many to be its 'unelected mayor'. Her daily walks through the Village included many stops at various shops and cafes where she would meet up with friends and often sneak in her favorites of a grilled cheese sandwich or pepperoni pizza and a whoopie pie. Chris was known and loved for her generous nature, sympathetic ear, poetic spirit and whose embrace of anyone included the words, 'Heart to Heart'.

Following a local gathering for invited family and friends in mid-May to celebrate her life, Chris will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery, with full military honors. Online condolences may be shared at [www.THEBUTTERFIELDHOME.com](http://www.THEBUTTERFIELDHOME.com)



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slukowicz858@gmail.com

**ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE:**

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C	E	S	A	R	E	A	N	P	E	R	T	H	
U	T	E	R	I	A	L	A	E					
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E	L	B	E										
P	R	I	O	R									
I	A	M	B										
A	S	P											

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NCUA MEMBER LENDER

## Pretty in pink

Japanese cherry trees with their proclamation of spring have long graced the Warwick Public Library. The display was in its fully glory last week, even as it spread a blanket of pink petals on the green shoots of grass. (Warwick Beacon photo)

**WARWICK HEZ FAMILY FUN AND WELLNESS DAY**

Come Celebrate with Us! All are Invited!

Yoga, Mindful Meditation, Healthy Food Education, Mental Health and Health Education, Face Painting, Live Music by the Teens from the Boys and Girls Club!

Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022  
2756 Post Rd (Thrive Building Parking Lot)  
10am-2pm  
Gifts for all who attend!

Logos for sponsors: thrive, CCAP, THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND, SNAP Ed, westbay community action, WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY, Anchor Recovery Community Center, MENTOR RHODE ISLAND, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF WARWICK, YOUTH PRIDE, Rhode Island Department of Health, Kent County Prevention Coalition, Elizabeth Buffum Chase Center, Parent Support Network.

## RI pediatricians, psychiatrists declare child, adolescent mental health State of Emergency

By RORY SCHULER

It's tough being a kid. In 2022, experts warn, it seems to be getting tougher. As the COVID-19 pandemic wanes, and we approach the endemic stage, mental health professionals are starting to examine the effects of lock-downs, school shutdowns and peak anxiety levels in our children. Parents are experiencing record waiting times to secure mental health services for kids, and doctors are declaring a "Child and Adolescent Mental Health State of Emergency" in Rhode Island.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics, Rhode Island Chapter (RIAAP) the Rhode Island Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (RICCAP), Hasbro Children's Hospital, and Bradley Hospital issued a declaration of emergency regarding the state of child and adolescent mental health in Rhode Island," according to a press release distributed by local hospitals Tuesday.

"This has been an exceptionally troubling time for our children and adolescents — one that continues to be exacerbated by the pandemic and one that shines a light on the inequities that continue to exist in health care," said Phyllis A. Dennery, MD, FAAP, pediatrician-in-chief and medical director, Hasbro Children's Hospital. "Drawing attention to these discrepancies and this youth mental health crisis of epic proportions is a start, but we all must come together to provide the critical support these kids and families so sorely need."

Resources can be scarce for families seeking mental health counseling and treatment. "Amidst the stress and disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are experiencing an unprecedented emergency in child and adolescent mental health here in Rhode Island," said Henry Sachs, President of Bradley Hospital. "Prior to the pandemic, we were already experiencing troubling trends including increased youth suicides. The pandemic has pushed this situation into a full-blown emergency, with dramatic increases in emergency room visits for all child mental health crises. We are issuing this emergency declaration as a call to action to invest in our state's child and adolescent mental health care system, and to implement innovative new strategies to address this crisis."

Doctors are warning that they have been observing an unprecedented in childhood mental health crises. "In my 21 years as a pediatrician, I have never seen so many children experiencing mental health challenges or lack access to community resources to meet their mental health treatment needs," said RIAAP President Allison Brindle, MD. "The disruptions to usual routines and general stress that COVID has caused — on top of the usual stressors that kids and teens face — has taken a toll on children and families. They are having difficulty accessing resources needed to meet their child's social and emotional needs, support their optimal development, and we are seeing the results in developmental delays and in a sharp increase in child and adoles-

cent emergency room visits due to mental health issues. As a state, we need to come together to find ways to invest in our mental health system to better support our children through this emergency and to implement strategies that will promote positive mental health and prevent an emergency like this from occurring again in the future."

Competition among different health sectors has tapped much-needed experience from the Ocean State's mental health treatment network. "As child and adolescent psychiatrist working with teens, it is clear that the stress and disruptions caused by COVID have pushed many of the patients I see to the point of experiencing mental health crises," said RICCAPP President Michael Wolfe, MD. "Unfortunately, at the very time this is occurring many of our state's outpatient community providers are underfunded and are losing staff to higher paying jobs in other sectors. This means our youth are not receiving the community-based care they need, leading to more mental health emergencies."

The pandemic has led to record levels of burn out among health professionals, and required the shift of resources from mental health to other realms of treatment. "This emergency declaration is a call to action to better invest in Rhode Island's network of community and school-based mental health providers," Wolfe said. "We look forward to working with state government and health care leaders to implement recommendations that will address this child and adolescent mental health emergency and leave our system in a stronger position post pandemic."

The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Rhode Island Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Hasbro Children's Hospital and Bradley Hospital have issued the "Declaration of a Rhode Island State of Emergency in Child and Adolescent Mental Health."

"As health professionals dedicated to the care of children and adolescents in Rhode Island, we have witnessed soaring rates of mental health challenges among children, adolescents, and their families over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, exacerbating the situation that existed prior to the pandemic," states the declaration. "Children and families across our state have experienced enormous adversity and disruption. The inequities that result from structural racism have contributed to disproportionate impacts on children from communities of color at the same time as racial and ethnic diversity has increased in Rhode Island and is projected to rise in the future."

The declaration calls for increased state funding, community-based systems of care, accelerated strategies to address longstanding workforce challenges in child mental health and bolstered implementation and sustainable funding of effective models of school-based mental health care, among other demands.

For the full Declaration, go to page 5.

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## CCRI dental hygiene students host free dental sealant, Fluoride treatments

CCRI's Class of 2022 Dental Hygiene students will host a free dental sealant and fluoride treatment children's clinic this Saturday, April 23 (9 am - 1 pm) at the Flanagan Campus in Lincoln as their semester community project.

Named "Under the 'Sea' Lant," the treatments are available for children 17 years of age or younger, and all children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Scheduling for a treatment is by appointment only by calling 401-333-7330.

CCRI's Dental Hygiene program seeks to prepare students as dental hygienists who can competently and safely perform dental hygiene procedures; display the personal qualities of integrity, responsibility and reliability; function as active members of the dental care team; and are committed to professional development through life-long learning.

"Childhood decay is the number one preventable disease in the United States. The Dental Hygiene Class of 2022 put its primary focus for this community outreach project on preventing this disease. We saw an opportunity in a way to give back to our communities by choosing to provide sealants and fluoride treatments to young people," said Ingrid Ingrid Kakisis, a CCRI dental hygiene student and chair of this community event.

Parents and children coming to the clinic can expect that children will receive sealants on qualifying teeth and fluoride treatment. Sealants are a tooth-colored material placed in the grooves of adult molars; this is the most common spot for decay to occur. Fluoride varnish is a clear material placed on all tooth surfaces and helps prevent decay or, in some cases, slow the progression of decay. Both are non-invasive procedures. The appointments will last approximately one hour.



## Seven straight



IN THE CIRCLE: Pilgrim pitcher Alyssa Twomey fires a pitch. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

## Pilgrim softball off to monster start this spring

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Pilgrim softball team is picking up where it left off last year when it reached the state finals, winning its first seven games and sitting atop the Division I standings. Pilgrim's biggest win so far came

last Saturday when it hosted Coventry, who topped the Pats in the championship series. Pilgrim would hold on to win a tight 8-6 decision to keep its win streak alive and make a statement. "At the end of the day, I think both teams tried not to show their hands. It

was a rematch, but both teams knew that in a way, it was an exhibition. The big game that will be played between us will be in June," said Pilgrim coach Carlos Rodas, whose team is already looking like a favorite to compete for a title.

PILGRIM - PAGE 11



ON THE HILL: Toll Gate's Zach Scotti deals on the mound against Lincoln. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

## Titans look to turn things around

By ALEX SPONSELLER

After winning its season opener, the Toll Gate baseball team has dropped four straight to sit at 1-4 on Wednesday morning.

The Titans are coming off of a playoff appearance last spring and have been relying on a handful of underclassmen to make

TITANS - PAGE 11

## Roundup: Pats hold on to beat Smithfield

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Pilgrim girls lacrosse team edged Smithfield 8-7. Mary Centracchio had a monster game with six goals, while Emily Newton and Keira Ramsden scored as well. Elizabeth Cavanaugh was rock solid in the cage, recording 18 stops. Olivia Monte and Sofia Moffat added assists in the win.

BOYS LACROSSE  
Narragansett 12, Toll Gate 4

The Mariners rolled past the Titans on Monday afternoon. Sean Mullaney and Jacob Rianna scored goals for Toll Gate while goalie Christopher Schifino tallied six saves in the cage.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL  
Barrington 3, Toll Gate 1

Barrington would pick up a 3-1 win over Toll Gate on Tuesday. Jude Booth led the Titans with seven kills, two blocks and three aces in the loss.

## Elks host annual trout derby

By PETE FONTAINE

It's a tradition unlike any other as far as the Tri-City Elks are concerned.

It features family fun, fishing, food and valuable volunteers who Saturday transformed Lodge 14's famous Golden Pond off Rossi Drive into the Trout Fishing Capital of Rhode Island.

From 7 a.m. until 11 o'clock, a total of almost three dozen children ages 5 to 12 baited their hooks and cast their lines - in some cases with help from moms and dads - to reel in the largest fish during the Tri-City Elks ageless Trout Derby.

In the age group for kids ages 5 to 8, Olivia Smith had the



ELKS - PAGE 10

REELING THEM IN: Here are the kids that participated in this year's Tri-City Elks trout derby. (Photos by Lori Eaton)

Write Rhode Island is a short fiction competition for RI students



### 2022 Write Rhode Island Winners

**Breakfast for Button**  
Willow Campbell  
Home Schooled

**Parting Colors**  
Karuna Lohman  
Quest Montessori

**The Boy and the Hidden Truth**  
Hunter Robbins  
Bishop Hendricken School

**The Eastern Sky**  
Emmett Van Leer  
Barrington High School

### 2022 Write Rhode Island Notable Stories

**Mother Nature's Son**  
Ava Andrew  
Jacqueline M. Walsh School for the Performing and Visual Arts

**Keep Your Head Up!**  
Karina Asare  
Saint Patrick Academy

**Heir of the Lost Ones**  
Salim Davis  
Quest Montessori

**Ocean State**  
Alessandra Gonzalez  
Saint Patrick Academy

**A Birthday Gift**  
Delaney Gouveia  
Rogers High School

**Her Doubt Was Her Downfall**  
Angalie Jungira  
West Warwick High School

**Goodbye Esper**  
Majorie Leary  
Wilbur & McMahon Schools

**Hero**  
Julianne Manlove  
Charlton Regional High School

**What's an Oaker?**  
Evan Manni  
West Warwick High School

**Rhode Island (Plus a little magic)**  
Sadie McCann  
Wickford Middle School

**Cousins Come to Rhode Island**  
Bridget Pouliot  
Warwick Veterans Memorial Middle School

**Omertá**  
Annabel Rarick  
East Greenwich High School

**Free at Last**  
Emma Reyes  
West Warwick High School

**A Glass Full of Emotion**  
Abigail Sweetland  
West Warwick High School

**Jack's Crab**  
Julianna Williams  
Wickford Middle School

**Heart and Eye**  
Seoyon Kim  
Wheeler School

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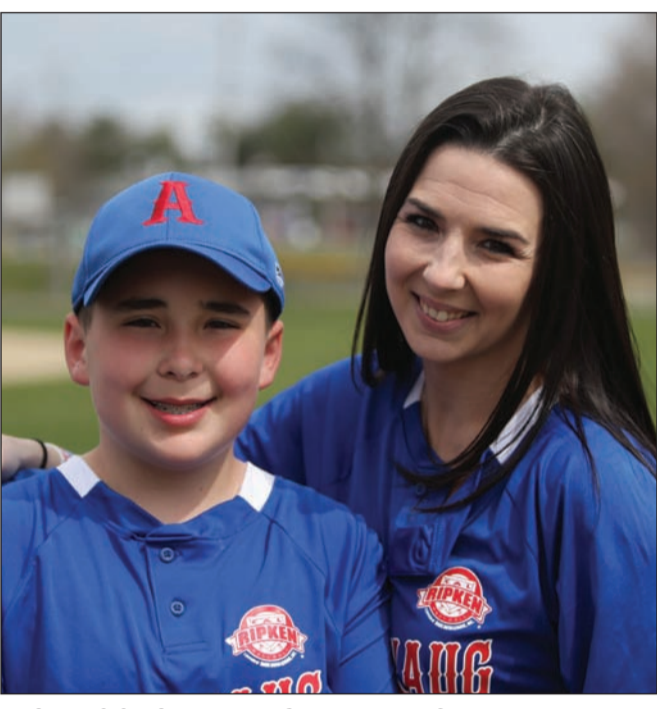
**FIRST PITCH:** Local teachers Leo Gauthier, Bob McGuire, Martin Susla, Jamie Kilday and Bonnie Doyle (left to right) were chosen to throw the celebratory first pitch.

# Opening Day

The Apponaug Cal Ripken Baseball League got its season started last week when it celebrated Opening Day at its fields in Warwick. Here are some looks of the action prior to hitting the field. (Photos by Mike Zawistoski)



**FIRST THING'S FIRST:** Aiden Bricker delivers the league's sportsmanship code of conduct.



**HIS BIGGEST FAN:** Celebrating Opening Day with Carter Varrecchia was his mother, Michele.

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**TEAM WORK:** Apponaug's Northeast Baseball Training team gathers for a group photo prior to the first pitch on Opening Day last Saturday at the league's complex in Warwick.

## Elks

(Continued from page 9)

largest fish that David Brown measured at 13 5/8 inches long.

In the category for kids ages 9 to 12, two boys - Caleb Del Cesto, 12, and Lucas Blagburn, 12, shared top honors with their respective catches that measured 14 inches in length and highlighted the day's two dozen trout that were taken from Golden Pond which was again stocked with trout courtesy of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

All three division winners received a spanking new fishing rod courtesy of Thomas Giddings, who has long supported the Elks Trout Derby and owns and operates the Tacklebox located off West Shore Road in the Conimicut section of Warwick.

But each and every angler was a winner Saturday, as Lodge 14 sent each boy and girl home with a spiffy trophy and provided not one but two food sessions Saturday.

"Wow, these Elks are really, really special," exclaimed several people who came to cheer on their favorite youth angler. "We need more kids-oriented events like this. These people really epitomize their creed of Elks Care, Elks Share."

For example, there was hot chocolate, coffee and donuts prior to the 7 o'clock start and featured hot dogs, potato chips and soda for young and old alike at conclusion of the fun-filled fishing tourney.

In keeping with Lodge 14's tradition, 10 Elks volunteered to make sure the day was fun for all participants as well as their parents.

For example, Past Exalted Ruler Bon Hartington cooked the hot dogs while Jen Jenn Brulett and PER Lori Eaton served as a two-person welcoming/greeting committee and registered the anglers.

Likewise, David Brown had the honor of measuring each and every trout taken while Merrick Leach and Bruce Martel - two of Lodge 14's valuable volunteers - helped each of the kids with their bait and morning's catches.



**BIG WINNERS:** Above are three of the winners for largest fish. From left are: Olivia Smith, Caleb Del Sesto (first place), and Lucas Blagburn.



**WHAT'S THE CATCH:** David Brown measures a fish.

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# Photo contest highlights climate impacts on fish, habitat

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

"The bait profiles we are seeing around Block Island are different, they are perhaps being impacted by warming water. For example we have an abundance of mackerel in and around the harbor which we have not seen for some years," said Capt. Chris Willi of Block Island Fish Works.

Meredith Moore, Director, Fish Conservation Program, Ocean Conservancy, said, "We need to adapt fisheries management so it can react to climate impacts faster throughout the management process." The aim is to be more climate nimble including more frequent research and stock assessments, in corporate climate impacts into fisheries management plans as well as more citizen science and electronic reporting to facilitate the analysis of fishing activity and catch.

Moore and Willi were two of nine panelists at Session II of the 2022 Baird Symposium this week sponsored by the Sea Grant program at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography, Ørsted (owner of the Block Island Wind Farm and developer of wind farms off Massachusetts and Rhode Island) and the Ocean Conservancy.

The Symposium also held a photo contest. Participants entered photos that depicted climate impacts on fish, habitat or resource users.

The two first place winners included a striped bass photo submitted by Capt. Abbie Schuster of Kismet Outfitters, Martha's Vineyard. The bass was being released from a boat in the wash or foaming water near structure. The other first place photo was taken by James Turek. The photo depicted severe beach erosion at the Weekapaug Fire District Beach in Westerly, RI.

Judges said they selected the striped bass photo as they are the most sort after recreational species

on the East Coast. More fishing trips are made to catch striped bass than any other species. They are widely studied, however, not much is known how climate is impacting the range of these fish and if warming water is impacting where and the productivity of their spawn.

There were two honorable mention photos one from Brian Crawford of his granddaughter showing off a legal sized quahog she caught the Great Salt Pond, Block Island and a photo of taken by Phil Duckett of angler Greg Vespe of Tiverton with a cobia, an exotic warm water fish he caught in Narragansett Bay just north of the Newport Bridge.

A Symposium report and a video that relates key learnings of the Baird Symposium is scheduled to be released at the end of June.

Hats off to URI and RI Sea Grant for dedicating the 2022 Baird Symposium to climate impacts on recreational fishing and boating.

## Tautog tips, rigs and jigs

Tautog rigs should have as little hardware as possible to avoid bottom tie-ups. I make single hook rigs with about seven or eight feet of monofilament line and attach it to the main braid line directly with a dropper loop for a presnelled "Lazar Sharp" brand hook (you need sharp hooks to get through tough tautog lips). The loop is about five inches above the sinker.

To reduce bottom tie ups by 50 percent I use an egg sinker rig when in heavy structure. The egg sinker slides on a small piece of monofilament adorned with red and white beads which has a two-way swivel on each end, a presnelled lazard sharp hook is attached to the end of the swivel and hangs down about eight inches.

Anglers are also more commonly using tautog jigs tipped with crab with good success. The jigs are made in a variety of colors

mimicking Asian crabs, green crabs whole or cut in half (the preferred baits for tautog). Jigs are also made to look like baby lobsters.

When using green crabs make it easy for the tautog to bite and take the bait. I like to break off most of the legs and claws leaving one per side on the end, cut the crab in half and hook it through one leg socket and out another.

The idea is to be ready with a number of bait & tackle arrangements on any given day.

Tautog are not often sold in fish markets because they are difficult to harvest commercially. They are usually caught by rod & reel or fish traps rather than trawling for them.

Keep your drag tight as once you hook these bulldogs they will try to fight their way back down to structure and cut your line.

Tautog can be fished from shore or boat and in both cases they like structure (rocks, wrecks, bridge piers, dock pilings, mussel beds, ledges holes and humps along the coast). So, no structure, no tautog.

## Charter boat wind arm fishing survey

A research study is being conducted by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution to assess the potential economic impacts associated with offshore wind development among for-hire party/charter vessels in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Participants will be asked about your for-hire party/charter fishing activity over the past five years. Having quick access to your logbooks for the years 2017-2021 will allow you to efficiently respond to this survey. Responses will remain strictly confidential, but will be summarized in reports and communications before RIDEM, MADMF and other regulatory bodies. Survey link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6778918/for-hire-vessel-survey>. The last day to complete this



**FIRST PLACE:** This striped bass release photo by Capt. Abbie Schuster, Martha's Vineyard, took a first place prize in the Baird Symposium photo contest.

survey is May 7, 2022.

## Where's the bite?

Tautog. Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick, said, "Reports of some keeper fish (16 inches or larger) being caught at India Point Park, Providence." "A 17-inch tautog was caught this weekend at India Point Park. Good places for spring tautog fishing include the Stone Bridge and Fog Land in Tiverton, and Ohio Ledge in the West Passage of Narragansett Bay." Tautog fishing will start to heat up as the water warms a bit. This week the water was 48 degrees at Narragansett Beach, 50 degrees is when the tautog bite starts to heat up.

Freshwater. "Fishing for brown, rainbow and golden trout have been good at stocked ponds in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Onley Pond at Lincoln Woods had been producing for customers but it has been cold. We had hail in

Attleboro this weekend." said Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle. "Upper Melville Pond seems to be producing trout for customers," said Bob Mello of Sam's Bait & Tackle, Middletown. Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box said, "Little Pond in Warwick off West Shore road behind Vets School is producing largemouth bass. We weighed in a five pound bass from there last week." John Littlefield of Archi's Bait & Tackle, Riverside said, "Locally Willet Avenue Pond is still producing trout for customers."

*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](mailto:dmontifish@verizon.net) or visit [www.noflukefishing.com](http://www.noflukefishing.com).*



**PLAY AT THE PLATE:** Pilgrim senior Amelia Murphy slides into home against Coventry.

## Pilgrim

(Continued from page 9)

The Pilgrim roster returns All-State pitcher Alyssa Twomey as well as senior Amelia Murphy. Murphy currently leads the team with a .529 batting average while Twomey is unbeaten in the circle with a .55 ERA.

"Her growing pains came last year, last year was her coming out party. Toward the end of the season she went from being the new girl on the block to, everyone wants to beat her. That was something that she had to get used to. This year, she is probably the best player in the state and everyone has her marked on their calendar. The big-time players understand that and relish being on everyone's hit list," Rodas said of Twomey.

Rodas added of Murphy: "She's our quiet leader. She has a lot of high school experience. As much as travel ball has helped these girls, the high school experience is different. Playing for the community, playing for your school, in front of your friends. Murph has that experience, she has probably five, six, seven games at Rhode Island College so she knows the goal and she's able to communicate that to the younger kids."

Also making a splash for the Pats is freshman Genna D'Amato, who leads the team with nine runs. Sophomore Audra

McDonnell has also provided production as an underclassman with seven runs scored and an on base percentage of .619.

"That's the key. The young kids are the tipping point of the team. With the older girls, we know what we have with Murphy and Twomey, they're our two big guns. We're relying on some of the young kids, we have started three freshmen in every game. We know that if they are ready come June, then we will be right in this thing. It might be too big of a task to ask the upperclassmen to carry the team against the teams like the Coventry's of the world," said Rodas.

The Pats have a handful of tough matchups coming up in the next few weeks. Pilgrim is set to take on St. Ray's, Cranston West, a pair of contests against La Salle, as well as one more meeting against the Oaks.

Taking it one game at a time and maintaining a steady pace will be key in navigating the DI dogfight, according to Rodas.

"That's the fun part about Division I, there are now gimmes. It makes it exciting every time we take the field. Coventry taught us something last year, they taught us that it is a marathon, not a (sprint). That's the key," said Rodas. "We understand that we have a chance to be in it at the end but we need to be focused on the marathon. We peaked a little early last year and we are trying to avoid that."



**APPLY THE TAG:** Zach DeCorpo tags a runner out at second base.

## Titans

(Continued from page 9)

an impact. Although the going has been rough at times, the Titans have made strides and continue to grind.

"We're young. We're getting players on base but we're just not driving them in. We're making too many errors in the field. That'll get cleaned up," said Toll Gate manager Nick Durand.

Leading the way for Toll Gate are captains Andrew Wheeler, Zach Scotti and Jamie Luna. With a young core behind them, Durand has relied on the trio to lead the way.

"Andrew Wheeler is a captain and is a scrappy kid. Zach Scotti is a captain, Jamie Luna is a captain and is a stud. They're learning how to be leaders and they're making progress. We want them to lead by example but also be able to be vocal at times too. We'll get there," said Durand.

Scotti is the team's ace on the mound and currently boasts a sub-2 ERA.

Another key piece to the lineup has been Domenic Calise, who leads the team with a whopping nine stolen bases.

"He does a lot for us, plays center field, sometimes catcher. He's always at the top of our order and always finds a way on base. From there, he likes to steal. He's very aggressive and we like that about him," Durand said of



**THE THROW TO FIRST:** Dylan Perreault makes a play in the infield.

Calise.

With a busy schedule coming up in the next few weeks, the Titans are looking to learn from their mistakes and build some momentum for the midseason push.

"It's day by day. Right now we are going to keep working on the lineup until we find something that fits. We put together good practices, the guys practice hard. We're putting guys

on base, we just need to get that big hit in that key situation," Durand said. "We talk about facing adversity all the time and how you handle it. Obviously a 1-4 start is nothing but adversity, but they're already growing which is good to see."

The Titans took on Lincoln on Wednesday, but the results were not available at press time.



# 'Evening in Italy' theme of Hendricken's fund raising gala

Bishop Hendricken High School will host its annual gala on Saturday, April 30 starting at 6 p.m. Epoch: The 2022 Gala for Hendricken will feature food, fun, and critical fundraising for young men to realize their dream of attending Bishop Hendricken. Tickets are \$150 per person and can be purchased at hendricken.com/epoch. Themed "An Evening in Italy," campus will be transformed into an immersive and unique experience that will feature an authentic Tuscan wine tour, Italian dishes from legendary Rhode Island restaurants, dancing with the Silver Arrow Band, silent and live auctions, our Fund the Future presentation, and some very special Rhode Island guests.

"I want to cordially invite our neighbors to Epoch: The 2022 Gala for Hendricken," said school president Fr. Robert Marciano. "This event helps ensure that we're able to send more good,

compassionate, Hendricken men out into a world that so sorely needs them. All proceeds benefit tuition assistance to make Catholic education a possibility for young men to become Hendricken Hawks."

Currently, 67% of students at Bishop Hendricken receive some type of tuition assistance or financial aid in order to attend. Given the COVID-19 pandemic and other economic challenges facing families, incoming students' financial need has never been greater.

This year's gala is an homage to Hendricken's popular fundraiser of the 1970s and '80s by the same name. The evening will feature unique elements like student servers and entertainment, immersive Italian-inspired food stations, and more.

The special guest honoree of the evening is Judge Frank Caprio P'84, '85. Fr. Marciano will present Judge Caprio with the inaugural

Bishop Hendricken Distinguished Public Service Award for his years of dedication to Rhode Island. Fr. Marciano will also confer an honorary diploma on Judge Caprio, making him a Bishop Hendricken alumnus, joining his sons, Frank T. Caprio '84 and David A. Caprio '85. Judge Caprio and his family will be in attendance to accept his honors and deliver remarks.

"Judge Frank Caprio's service to Rhode Island perfectly demonstrates the Hendricken ideal: to make circumstances better for those around you," said Fr. Marciano. "Judge Caprio's compassion, love, and kindness for others via his public service and involvement in education makes him a role model for our young men and our community."

As part of the event, Fr. Marciano will award two individuals with the Bishop Hendricken Medal of Honor for their promotion and strengthening of Bishop Hendricken's mission: Gary E.

Furtado P'02, President and Chief Executive Officer of Navigant Credit Union; and the late Br. Richard K. Grondin, C.F.C., founder of Epoch.

Through his involvement both as an alumni parent and leader of Navigant Credit Union, Gary Furtado has been instrumental in supporting the school and its people. As the originator of Epoch, Br. Grondin has inspired generations to help make Hendricken more accessible to young men. Br. Vincent McNally, C.F.C. and Br. James Devlin, C.F.C. will accept the award on Br. Grondin's behalf.

"It is my privilege to present Bishop Hendricken's highest honor to Gary Furtado and posthumously to Br. Grondin," said Fr. Marciano. "As evidenced by their unique contributions and immense generosity, both men not only understand, but truly believe in, the positive impact that a Hendricken education has

on young men. They truly embody our school's mission."

Epoch will also feature a very special distinguished guest to be announced in the coming weeks. Tony Petrarca, Chief Meteorologist for WPRI 12, will serve as the evening's Master of Ceremonies and auctioneer.

PMC Media Group and Broadway Italia both serve as lead sponsors for the evening. Feature dishes will come from Bacco Vino & Contorni, Basta, Bettola, Lou Umberto's Italian Kitchen, Mare Roofop, Trattoria Zooma and more. The Tuscan wine tour is made possible by E. & J. Gallo Winery. The gala begins at 6pm. The Fund the Future presentation and live auction take place at 8pm. The Silver Arrow Band will perform for dancing and drinks at 9pm. Dress code for the evening is business or country club casual. Tickets can be purchased at hendricken.com/epoch.

# Going once and now twice to benefit Hendricken



**FOR AUCTION AGAIN:** Tom Lynch with the ball signed by the 1983 Bishop Hendricken basketball state champs that he won in the Epoch auction in 1983 and he's returning to the school to be auctioned at this year's Epoch on April 30. Behind him is the hand-knitted blanket that he is also returning to be auctioned again. (Warwick Beacon photo)

By JOHN HOWELL

Tom Lynch got into a bidding war on April 9, 1983. "The crowd roared at every bid, while urging Lynch and Morretti to keep on bidding," reported the April 12 edition of the Warwick

Beacon. Finally, to the dismay of the crowd, Morretti dropped out of the bidding at \$705, giving Lynch the basketball." Morretti is Joe Morretti and Lynch was a State Senator at the time.

Lynch was in the Beacon office Tuesday with the basketball signed

by the 1983 Bishop Hendricken state champs, the very ball he won in the live auction at the sixth annual Epoch. That event raised more than \$80,000 for the school. Lynch also brought along a hand knitted blanket in the school's colors and bearing its crest. That too, was an

auction item from the 1983 Epoch. Lynch remembers his high bid was about \$400. Now both prizes will be on the auction block again.

Lynch is donating them to this year's Epoch to be held at McNally Gym at the school on April 30.

"I have such fond memories of that night. I thought I would donate it (the basketball) back," Lynch said.

Lynch has more than a casual acquaintance with the school. He is a member of the Class of 1964 and both his sons are alumni. Patrick graduated in 1998. He watched the ceremony by satellite TV from a hospital in Seattle, Washington where he was undergoing a bone marrow transplant in a fight for his life. His younger brother, Tim accepted his diploma.

Lynch has always maintained close ties with the school, serving in various capacities and addressing classes about government. Fact is, he would like to go back to the school as a teacher, a quest he intends to explore with Father Robert Marciano, school president and pastor of St. Kevin Church.

Could they afford him?

"I'll take a dollar," he says with a smile.

Lynch would like to teach a course in state government, a topic he is well versed in after serving 19 years in the state Senate. There's a story to the 19 instead of 20 years. One of his reelection campaigns coincided with a redistricting of the

district that basically covers Warwick Neck, Oakland Beach and Buttenwoods. The redistricting was challenged and a judge ruled election results invalid and ordered a special election to complete the term. William Pearson won but only served for one year before losing to Lynch in the next general election.

Lynch believes a course in government would bring understanding and generate dialogue.

"We need more moderates in government rather than extremists," he said. He sees the course as covering constitutional law as well as the practical side of politics such as how to run for office.

Peter Thomas, director of advancement and development at the school who is coordinating this year's Epoch said this year's live auction will feature a number of unusual items such as tickets to Fort Lauderdale, a scooter, "cigars under the stars with Fr. Marciano and a week on Nantucket. The Lynchs are making their island home available to the winner.

Thomas said this is the first he's heard that auction items have made a return appearance. And who knows they could even make a re-appearance.

Lynch said if the championship ball and the hand-knitted blanket don't fetch reasonable prices, he'll be bidding for them again come April 30.

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# LEGAL NOTICES

### Used Car Dealer's License

APPLICATION FOR A USED CAR DEALER'S LICENSE TO KEEP AND SELL USED CARS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 5-21 OF THE RI GENERAL LAWS OF 1956, HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE AS FOLLOWS:

FROM: Lakewood Autobody Corp  
DBA: Lakewood Autobody  
665 Warwick Ave  
Warwick, RI 02888

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY ROOM, WARWICK POLICE DEPT., 99 VETERANS MEMORIAL DR., WARWICK RHODE ISLAND AT 7:00PM ON Tuesday, May 10, 2022 AT 6:00 PM, AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE, PERSONS REMONSTRATING AGAINST THE GRANTING OF THIS APPLICATION MAY BE HEARD.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
James H Paolucci  
CLERK

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the office of Public Safety at 468-4217, or TDD at 739-9150 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date.

4/14, 4/21/22

### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE NOTICE (NEW)

LICENSE APPLICATION FOR A RETAILER'S BEVERAGE LICENSE CLASS BV TO KEEP AND SELL INTOXICATING BEVERAGES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 3 OF THE R.I. GENERAL LAWS OF 1956, AS AMENDED, HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE AS FOLLOWS:

FROM: Unique Affairs "The Studio" LLC  
DBA: The Studio  
400 Warwick Ave Suite 18 & 19  
Warwick RI 02888

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY ROOM, WARWICK POLICE DEPARTMENT, 99 VETERANS MEMORIAL DR., WARWICK, R.I., on **Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 6:00PM** AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE PERSONS REMONSTRATING AGAINST THE GRANTING OF THIS APPLICATION MAY BE HEARD. REMONSTRANCES MUST BE FILED ON OR BEFORE THIS DATE OF HEARING.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
James H. Paolucci CLERK

INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING INTERPRETER SERVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED MUST NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AT 468-4217, OR TDD AT 739-9150 AT **LEAST 72 HOURS IN ADVANCE** OF THE MEETING DATE.

4/14, 4/21/22

### STATE WIDE 7

### STATE OF RHODE ISLAND Probate Court of the CITY OF WARWICK NOTICE OF MATTERS PENDING AND FOR HEARING IN SAID COURT

The Court will be in session at **WARWICK CITY HALL** on the dates specified in notices below at **9:00 AM** for hearing said matters:

**CONSTANTINE, Catherine Amelia, est.**  
Probate of Will; for hearing May 5, 2022

**COUIE, Joseph E. alias Joseph Emile Couie, est.**  
Sale of Real Estate for property located at 170 Lincoln Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888 further designated as Assessor's Plat 310 Lot 448; for hearing May 5, 2022

**JOSEPH, Frank Sr., est.**  
Administration Petition; for hearing May 5, 2022

**HALL, Catherine alias Catherine J. Hall, est.**  
Removal Petition; for hearing May 5, 2022

**MCCRONE, Patricia Jean, est.**  
Probate of Will; for hearing May 5, 2022

**MELLENDEZ, Lisa Marie, est.**  
Name Change to Lisa Marie Paulino; for hearing May 5, 2022

**O'BRIEN, Michael J. Sr. alias Michael J. O'Brien, Sr., est.**  
Removal Petition; for hearing May 5, 2022

**PLEBISCITO, Joyce M. alias Joyce Marie Plebiscito, est.**  
Sale of Real Estate for property located at 200 Smith Street, Warwick, RI 02886, further designated as Assessor's Plat 345 Lot 785; for hearing May 5, 2022

**QUIGLEY, Barbara E. alias Barbara Ellen Quigley, est.**  
Probate of Will; for hearing May 5, 2022

**SCHWEGLER, Nancy alias Nancy A. Schwegler, est.**  
Guardianship Petition; for hearing May 5, 2022

**SPENCER, Judith, est.**  
Sale of Real Estate for property located at 11 Kearns Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888 further designated as Assessor's Plat 302 Lot 340; for hearing May 5, 2022

**VINCENT, Makayla M. alias Makayla Marie Vincent, est.**  
Adult Adoption; for hearing May 5, 2022

**WHITE, Benedetta Ann, est.**  
Miscellaneous Petition to Settle & Compromise Claim and 1st & Final Account; for hearing May 5, 2022

**BAYER, Rose M. alias Rose Marie Bayer, est.**  
Klaus Zenk & James S. Bayer have qualified as Co-Guardian's of the Person & Estate (R.J. Connelly, III, Esq. of 372 Broadway, Ste. A., Pawtucket, RI 02860 as agent); creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**CRABTREE, Kenneth R. alias Kenneth Raymond Crabtree, est.**  
Brittany Crabtree has qualified as Administratrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**CUDWORTH, Carol A. alias Carol Ann Cudworth, est.**  
Cindy Ann Bailey has qualified as Executrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**DEROBIO, Cameron, est.**  
Cheryl DeRobbio has qualified as Guardian of the Person & Estate; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**DEBIASIO, Carmino G. alias Carmino Giovanni DeBiasio, est.**  
Diane M. Kelly has qualified as Executrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**DORAZIO, Richard, est.**  
Michael J. Dorazio has qualified as Administrator (Charles N. Redihan, Jr. of 146 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903 as agent); creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**DOUGHTY, Michael E. alias Michael Edward Doughty, est.**  
Isabella Valente has qualified as Guardian of the Person & Estate; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**LYONS, Catherine M. est.**  
Alan Lyons has qualified as Executor; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**MAYNARD, Velma K. est.**  
Timothy J. Maynard has qualified as Executor; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**MULLANEY, Francis P., est.**  
Kevin T. Mullaney has qualified as Executor (John T. McCaffrey of 1380

Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888 as agent); creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**RUSSO, Vincent E., est.**  
Alexander P. Russo has qualified as Administrator; creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

**STRAIGHT, Donna M., est.**  
Shalimar Albanese-Pavao has qualified as Guardian of the Person & Estate (Elizabeth S. Phillips, Esq. of 1370 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888 as agent); creditors must file their claims in the office of the Probate Clerk within the time required by law beginning April 21, 2022

City Clerk's Office at (401) 738-2006 Ext 4 at least (48) hours in advance of the hearing.

**ATTEST: LYNN D'ABROSCA, CITY CLERK**

4/21, 4/28/22

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA CITY OF WARWICK ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

LOCATION: WARWICK CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 2ND FLOOR 3275 POST ROAD WARWICK, RI 02886

- I. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL
- II. Election of Officers – Discussion and/or action and/or vote regarding the election of a Zoning Board Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary from its membership
- III. PUBLIC HEARING - Discussion and/or action and/or vote regarding the following petitions. The Zoning Board may approve, approve with conditions or deny the following petitions/applications, as may be modified by testimony and/or evidence presented throughout the public hearing; and/or possible vote to continue a petition's public hearing to a date determined.

### REGULAR AGENDA

**Petition #10792 Ward 4**  
**Bloor Street**

The petition of Anthony Abatiello, 600 Cole Farm Rd., A-47, Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct a new 36' x 26' single family dwelling with a two-car garage below. Subject property having a less than required lot area 12,150 sq. ft. (40,000 sq. ft. required), frontage and lot width of 135' (150' required). Proposed dwelling having a less than required front yard setback of 25.2' (40' required), and a rear yard setback of 22.8' (40' required). Assessor's Plat 334, Lot 167, zoned Residential A-40 (formerly zoned A-7).

**Petition #10793 Ward 9**  
**153 Beachwood Dr.**

The petition of Richard A. DeFusco & Karen A. Gregory, 20 Saw Mill Dr. #206, No. Kingstown, RI, requests a dimensional variance to install a 10' x 12' shed. Proposed shed having a less than required side yard setback of 6' (10' required), and a rear yard setback of 6' (10' required). Assessor's Plat 203, Lot 327, zoned Residential A-15.

**Petition #10794 Ward 5**  
**14 Lippitt Avenue**

Glenn & Patricia Marina, c/o Bilodeau Capalbo, 1350 Division Rd., Suite 102, West Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct a new single family dwelling. Proposed dwelling having less than less than required front yard setback of 10' (30' required), and a rear yard setback of 12.2' (30' required). Assessor's Plat 335, Lot 265, zoned Residential A-15.

**Petition #10795 Ward 7**  
**311 Buttonwoods Ave.**

The petition of Christian Brethren of Warwick, Inc., 311 Buttonwoods Ave., Warwick, RI, requests a use variance to replace the existing free-standing sign with a new 6' x 6' free-standing sign. Also seeking a use variance for the proposed free-standing sign containing a bulletin/notice board. Proposed sign being larger than allowed @ 36 sq. ft. (1.5 sq. ft. required). As-

essor's Plat 363, Lot 46, zoned Residential A-7.

**Petition #10796 Ward 5**  
**6 Longmeadow Ave.**

The petition of Michael & Chiara Armetta, 6 Longmeadow Ave., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct a new deck in the same footprint as the existing deck (same size & location), and construct a 3' x 4' addition to the deck for the new electrical panel to meet flood zone requirements. Proposed deck having less than required front yard setback of 8.7' (30' required). Subject property being an existing undersized, non-conforming lot. Assessor's Plat 355, Lot 511, zoned Residential A-7 & A-15.

**Petition #10797 Ward 1**  
**26 Metcalf St.**

The petition of William McCormick, 26 Metcalf St., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct a 20' x 20'-2" family room addition in the rear of the existing dwelling. Proposed addition having a less than required side yard setback of 5' (8' required). Assessor's Plat 303, Lot 535, zoned Residential A-7.

**Petition #10798 Ward 7**  
**10 Brownlee Blvd.**

The petition of KCMN, LLC & Mediflor Organics, 10 Brownlee Blvd., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct an addition to expand the existing commercial structure/use. Proposed addition having less than required rear yard setback. Subject property having less than required parking spaces. Assessor's Plat 245, Lots 309-313, zoned Light Industrial (LI).

**Petition #10799 Ward 6**  
**50 Sea View Dr.**

The petition of Maureen & Allen Johnson, 50 Sea View Dr., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct an addition to extend the roof over the footprint of the existing first floor. Proposed addition having less than required front yard setback of 9.3' (25' required). Assessor's Plat 360, Lot 40, zoned Residential A-7.

**Petition #10800 Ward 8**  
**144 Metro Center Blvd.**

The petition of Link Commercial Properties, LLC, 144 Metro Center Blvd., Warwick, RI, and Hugo Adames/Talent Factory, 67 Love Lane, Warwick, RI, requests a special use permit to have a public gathering hall/theater/auditorium. Assessor's Plat 268, Lot 13, zoned General Industrial (GI).

**Petition #10801 Ward 6**  
**175 Hollis Ave.**

The petition of Doreen Pouler, 175 Hollis Ave., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to install a 15' x 30' above ground pool. Proposed pool having less than required front yard setback of 13.2' (25' required from front property line along Shand Ave.). Assessor's Plat 362, Lot 405, zoned Residential A-7.

**Petition #10802 Ward 9**  
**100 Beachwood Dr.**

The petition of F. Charles Haigh & Denise Haigh, 100 Beachwood Dr., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance to construct a 12' x 24' covered porch. Proposed porch having less than required side yard setback of 6.5' (20' required), and less than required setback to the Coastal Feature of 31.5' (50' required). Subject property being a pre-existing undersized, non-conforming lot. Assessor's Plat 203, Lot 20, zoned Residential A-15.

**Petition #10803 Ward 7**  
**40 Paul Ave.**

The petition of Odessa Cozzolino & Matthew Leathers, 40 Paul Ave., Warwick, RI, and Nathaniel Carden, 8 Ernest Ave., Boston, MA, requests a dimensional variance demolish the existing single family dwelling and construct a new 2,830 sq. ft. single family dwelling. Proposed dwelling having less than required front yard & side yard setbacks, Subject property having less than required frontage, lot area & width. Assessor's Plat 365, Lots 14 & 5, zoned Residential A-40 (previously zoned Residential A-7).

**Petition #10804 Ward 9**  
**1210 Ives Rd.**

The petition of Joshua & Ashley Cullion, 1210 Ives Rd., Warwick, RI, and Estes Twombly/Titington Architects, 79 Thames St., Newport, RI, request a dimensional variance and is seeking relief from Section 601.1 (D) to construct a pool cabana with an indoor/outdoor kitchen, a sitting/changing

room, a bathroom, laundry, and a covered patio. Assessor's Plat 208, Lots 12 & 14, zoned Residential A-40.

**Petition #10805 Ward 8**  
**189 Toll Gate Road**

The petition of Little Imaginations, d/b/a Progress Learning & Gina Mahoney, 189 Toll Gate Rd., Warwick, RI, requests a dimensional variance, and an amendment to a previously approved conditional special use permit approved by this Board on May 16, 2000 to construct a building to be utilized as a daycare. Petitioner is seeking a dimensional variance to construct an addition to the existing daycare having less than required front & side yard setbacks. Assessor's Plat 246, Lot 330, zoned Office (O).

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Discussion and/or action and/or vote regarding the Regular Meeting Minutes regarding the April 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

### Appeal

**Appeal #10806 Ward 3**  
**2055 Warwick Avenue**

The appeal of Christine Vieira, P.O. Box 9212, Warwick, RI and Janet Aurelio, 38 Ansonia Road, Warwick, RI, appealing the decision of the Planning Board dated March 11, 2022 approving the application for Preliminary Plan Approval of a Major Subdivision/Land Development Project heard by the

Warwick Planning Board at the regularly scheduled meeting held on March 9, 2022 for demolition of an existing building and construction of a new gas station, Assessor's Plat 328, Lots 408, 409, 410, 411 & 412, zoned General Business (GB).

### I. ADJOURNMENT

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW, WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND

Paul DePetritto, Chairman

\*Please be advised that the Zoning Board of Review has adopted Rules and Regulations governing the application process, submission of material, conduct of the public hearing on the application and responsibilities of an action to appeal a decision. These Rules and regulations are posted on the City's web site and are available for review in the Board's office during regular hours. All applicants and objectors are obliged to review these Rules and shall be held responsible for compliance therewith. If there are any questions on the above petitions, please contact the Zoning Office at 401-921-9534 or by email amy.e.cota@warwickri.com All inquiries must be made 24 hours in advance of said hearing. Facilities are accessible for people with disabilities. If you are in need of interpreter services for the hearing impaired, please contact the Human Services Department at 739-9150.

4/21/22

### City of Warwick 3725 Post Road Warwick, RI 02886

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF DRAFT PHASE II STORMWATER ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RHODE ISLAND POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (RIPDES) PROGRAM GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORM WATER DISCHARGES FROM SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS AND FROM INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY AT ELIGIBLE FACILITIES OPERATED BY REGULATED SMALL MS4S.**

DATE OF NOTICE: April 21, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER: 1

RIPDES PERMIT NUMBER: RIR040031

### NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF SMALL MS4 OPERATOR:

City of Warwick  
3275 Post Road  
Warwick, RI 02886

Pursuant to the requirements established in the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharge from Small MS4s and from Industrial Activity at Eligible Facilities Operated by Regulated Small MS4s (General Permit), the City of Warwick submitted an application package, including a Notice of Intent and Storm Water Management Program Plan (SWMPP) to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) for authorization of the storm water discharges from the City of Warwick MS4. In accordance with Part IVE of the General Permit the operator must annually evaluate the compliance of the SWMPP with the conditions of the permit, as well as the appropriateness of the selected Best Management Practices and efforts towards achieving the Measurable Goals. An annual report prepared in accordance with Part IV.G of the general permit must be submitted to RIDEM for each year after the permit is issued. Notice is hereby given of the intent to receive public comment and to hold a public hearing, if requested, on the City of Warwick Phase II Storm Water Annual Report.

### FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT:

Copies of the Phase II Storm Water Annual Report may be reviewed at the Department of Public Works – Division of Engineering, 925 Sandy Lane or the Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane from April 21, 2022 through May 6, 2022 by appointment, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

For additional information please contact Eric J. Earls, P.E., City Engineer, at 401.738.2003 or via email at eric.j.earls@warwickri.com.

### PUBLIC COMMENT AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Pursuant to the requirements of the Phase II Small MS4 General Permit, a public hearing will be held if the City of Warwick receives such requests from twenty-five (25) people, a governmental agency or subdivision, or an association having no less than twenty-five (25) members. If a public hearing is to be held, a public notice will be published announcing the date, time, location, and deadline for submitting written comments.

Public Comment Period: April 21, 2022 through May 6, 2022, 3:00 PM

All comments on the documents should be submitted in writing or via email no later than **May 6, 2022 at 3:00 pm**. If, during the public comment period, substantive comments are received concerning the draft Annual Report or amendments to the SWMPP, the City of Warwick will provide a written response to comments to all persons that submitted comments and all members of the public that request a copy of the response.

### FINAL ANNUAL REPORT AND AMENDMENTS TO THE SWMPP:

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the City of Warwick will issue a final decision and forward a copy of the final documents to RIDEM.

4/21/22

**THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that a Public Informational Meeting, will be held at the Warwick Police Department Community Room on May 11, 2022, located at 99 Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Warwick, RI, where a vote will be taken, beginning at 6:00 P.M. The purpose of the public informational meeting is to consider, and the Planning Board will vote on, a Major Land Development Project for Master Plan approval and a recommendation to City Council for a Special Use Permit with exceptions (dimensional) from the Ordinance. The Applicant is proposing to construct a 4,739sf car wash with vacuum spaces with shared egress from the adjacent lot 8.

Location: 1119 Division Street  
Assessor's Plat: 215  
Assessor's Lots: 7, 8  
Owners: 1119 Division Site, LLC / Division Street Warwick Neon, LLC  
Applicant: 1119 Division Site, LLC  
Zoned: GB  
Number of lots: Two (2)  
Proposed Number of lots: Two (2)  
Area: 2.4+/- acres  
Ward: 9  
Engineer: Bohler Engineering

A vote will be taken by members of the Planning Board at this meeting.

All persons interested in the above are respectfully requested to be present at the time and place to be heard thereon. For any questions or to review Development Plans, please contact the Planning Department at 738-2009.

Any party, person (s) or entity interested in registering for electronic notice for proposed zoning amendments and/or amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance and the City's Development Review Regulations governing Subdivision, Land Development and Development Plan Review should contact the City's Planning Department at 401-738-2009.

Per order of the Warwick Planning Board  
Philip Slocum, Chairman

4/21, 4/28/22

**THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that a Public Informational Meeting, will be held at the Warwick Police Department Community Room located at 99 Veterans Memorial Boulevard on Wednesday May 11, 2022, Warwick, RI, where a vote will be taken, beginning at 6:00 P.M. The purpose of the public informational meeting is to consider, and the Planning Board will vote on, a Major Land Development Project with zone change for Master Plan approval and a recommendation to City Council for a Zone Change with Special Use Permit and waivers (dimensional). The Applicant is proposing to construct a single-bay car wash with 6 vacuum spaces to be consolidated with the abutting Cumberland Farms gas station and convenience store. No access to Fessenden Street is proposed.

Location: 66 Fessenden Street/87 West Natick Road  
Assessor's Plat: 273  
Assessor's Lots: 378 & 409  
Owners: APM Associates, LLC  
Applicant: EG America  
Zoned: A7/GB (Proposed to be all GB)  
Number of lots: Two (2)  
Proposed Number of lots: One (1)  
Area: 1.82+/- acres  
Ward: 8  
Engineer: DiPrete Engineering

A vote will be taken by members of the Planning Board at this meeting.

All persons interested in the above are respectfully requested to be present at the time and place to be heard thereon. For any questions or to review Development Plans, please contact the Planning Department at 738-2009.

Any party, person (s) or entity interested in registering for electronic notice for proposed zoning amendments and/or amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance and the City's Development Review Regulations governing Subdivision, Land Development and Development Plan Review should contact the City's Planning Department at 401-738-2009.

Per order of the Warwick Planning Board  
Philip Slocum, Chairman

4/21, 4/28/22

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# With a year under her belt, Matos launches LG campaign

By EMMA BARTLETT

Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos hit the ground running with her LG campaign on April 14 — a date that had a particular meaning to her as it marked the one year anniversary of her official appointment to office.

Matos' schedule was already off to a busy start Thursday. The day began with an 8 a.m. breakfast at West Side Diner in Providence with supporters and friends, she was on air with La Mega Radio by 10:30 a.m. and made her way to Cranston's Coffee and Crumbs for a one-on-one interview with the Cranston Herald. Walking into the coffee shop wearing a gray pantsuit and pearls, Matos had a confident yet humbling smile on her face. With her was Mike Raia of Half Street Strategic Consulting.

Over coffee, Matos shared her passion for the ocean state and spoke of her background. "I never imagined that a girl from the Dominican Republic who spoke very little English and whose first job in the U.S. was working at a garment factory in New York would one day be the first Black woman to hold statewide office in Rhode Island," said Matos.

When Gov. Dan McKeegan tapped Matos as lieutenant governor, she was the Providence Ward 15 councilwoman, which included neighborhoods of Olneyville and parts of the Silver Lake and Valley. She said she enjoyed the position and noted that

historically Olneyville was home to generations of immigrants — whether Italians, Portuguese, Polish or Irish coming into the state — who were all trying to live the American dream. Today, Matos says she is living that dream. She lives in Providence with her husband and their two children.

Over the past year, Matos has visited the state's 39 cities and towns discovering the diversity and style of the individual communities. From the urban and suburban areas to the farm lands, Matos saw the state's beauty and spoke with people — realizing everyone was more alike than different. During her travels, such as going quahogging and seeing Rhode Island's coastline from a catamaran, she said that finding a brewery in Burrillville surprised her the most.

Matos said during her time as LG, she learned there were individuals struggling and trying to make it in every corner of Rhode Island — which comes into her platform.

Matos' LG platform will focus on affordable housing, access to education and job training, senior services and economic development and job creation.

### Affordable housing

Matos said one of her priorities is ensuring the development of affordable housing. This includes thinking about the aging populations who may be retiring and unable to live where they currently reside due to the level



SABINA MATOS

of expense. Therefore, the government needs to think about building alternative housing where people can age in place.

Matos spoke about the importance of making sure a city or town's police officers, firefighters and teachers (to name a few) are able to live in the community they serve. She mentioned that housing is such a crisis that only three out of the state's 39 municipalities offer affordable housing for individuals making less than \$50,000 a year. These three areas include Providence, Central Falls and Burrillville.

"We need leaders who don't just talk about housing, but have a track record of supporting real housing initiatives," Matos said.

So far, Matos has led efforts to revitalize neighborhoods and build housing in Providence; she is also playing a central role in work to invest a quarter of a billion dollars to build affordable housing.

### Economic development and job creation

On Tuesday morning Picozzi said that they anticipated a percentage increase for the school department request. Picozzi said that the total increase in the budget can be around \$8 million for the city and school district budget combined without exceeding the tax cap.

Picozzi said that with the cost of groceries going up, and with gas prices hovering around \$4 a gallon he said it wasn't a good time to increase taxes by a significant amount.

"It would be a huge tax increase and with the state of everything now people can't afford that," said Picozzi.

Picozzi said that he first found out about the request after reading an online Beacon story on Friday.

"Were trying to go through their budget now and see what's going on. I know it's always a negotiation," said Picozzi.

### WELC

Ahead of the budget hearing one of the key issues discussed on social media was possible cuts to the Warwick Early Learning Center after Director of Special Services Gary Coppolino met with staff.

Committee member Karen Bachus' request for the Administration to explain what was happening with the program was met with

applause. "We have not made any decisions about WELC," said Coppolino.

Coppolino said that one of their programs which runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. had to be looked at because they couldn't provide transportation next year for that time period. He said that the two alternatives discussed were moving the program to a half day program or to a full day program.

"Everything else was just looking at ways to be creative and getting more students in the door there," said Coppolino.

School Committee Chair Judy Cobden said that there were many versions of the story that she heard about what was discussed during that meeting. She said the School Committee is the one who makes those decisions.

Cobden said that she found the answer from Coppolino to be vague.

"I don't know what the

truth is at this point," said Cobden.

Cobden said that she didn't think any student already in the program should lose services.

Camely Machado, Manager of Non-Instructional Student Services said this was the first year that students were picked up from that program at that time and it was done this year as a trial run.

"It was introduced to us as a pilot," said Machado. Machado said that the main concern is that due to budget cuts they wouldn't be able to provide a bus at that time.

"Were asked to cut and were asked to make those tough sacrifices," said Machado.

Cobden said that she was happy that the Extended School Year program was able to be funded through grant funding. The program was subject to public outcry after there was discussion of

### Senior services

Matos noted that the office of LG Charlie Fogarty was a major advocate for the aging population and is looking to continue his work. She said Rhode Island has one of the largest populations of older adults but one of the worst states for retirees. According to the Alzheimer's Association, as of 2020, there were at least 24,000 people over age 65 living with Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia within Rhode Island. That number is expected to increase to 27,000 by 2025.

"Our parents are so important to all of us. They help shape our worldview and they were our first

teachers. We owe them more as they age," Matos said.

### Additional points

Matos also supports making the ocean ADA accessible and in favor of public access to the shoreline — mentioning that everyone has the right to enjoy the ocean.

Additionally, Matos said if she is elected LG and Rhode Island experienced a similar situation to former Governor Gina Raimondo leaving for another role, Matos would be "ready to go" and step in as governor. She noted that she has had the opportunity to work in partnership with McKee and be in conversations with cabinet.

McKee and Matos work closely together in their current positions and are running mates in the election.

Matos said if elected and McKee is not elected, she aims to work with whoever holds the post.

After a half-hour interview with the Herald, Matos was off to Farm Fresh RI in Providence to announce her reelection campaign. Later that day, she would find herself traveling all the way to Warren and Newport. With several handshakes with Coffee and Crumbs customers, Matos was off to her next endeavor.

She will now face Rep. Deborah Ruggerio (District 74 — Jamestown, Middletown) and Senator Cynthia Mendes (District 18 — East Providence, Pawtucket) in the primary for the Democratic nomination.

## Budget

(Continued from page 1)

Personnel with salaries and benefits accounting for about 80 percent of the proposed budget.

The proposed budget calls for 22 cuts from the WISE union and 15 cuts to the teachers union.

A list of the positions being cut wasn't made available to the public or School Committee during the meeting.

Warwick Teachers Union President Darlene Netcoh said after the meeting she was not provided with a copy of what proposed cuts are being made in the budget for teachers. A request made by the Beacon for a list of the proposed cuts went unreturned at the time of publication.

Vice Chairman David Testa said he hopes there is a way around making cuts to personnel.

"There has to be other ways to be creative to not cut people," said Testa.

### No control

Following committee approval of a budget, it is submitted to the mayor. The mayor then submits a city budget along with proposed tax rates to the council. The council then conducts a series of budget hearings

where it reviews the budget department by department before voting on a city budget. The mayor has the opportunity to veto the budget or amend department appropriations that the council can override. But while the mayor and council have authority over the total school appropriation, they have no say on how it is spent.

"When you can't control the revenue side of the equation it makes it difficult," said Testa.

Testa also pointed out that the vast majority of the budget is out of their control in the sense that they are contractual items.

In most parts of the country Testa pointed out that the school committees and cities and towns have their own tax levies which he would favor.

"It's really a bad system," said Testa.

Testa said he wasn't prepared to propose any changes during the meeting and would wait until next Tuesday's meeting.

"\$5.8 million is a lot of money," said Testa.

It was pointed out by Testa that last year the school district had a balanced budget.

Testa said it is their job to look over the budget and come up with a number to present to the City Council.

"I would be very comfortable with whatever we present," said Testa.

the project is delayed.

"I don't see things getting better," said Gothberg.

The district originally sought approval from RIDE to renovate the two schools but last year the application was rejected, and the district was told they wouldn't be provided any reimbursements for renovating them.

"New schools were our plan b," said Gothberg.

Picozzi said that if the Council and General Assembly approve the bond going to the ballot, he would support it going to the ballot.



## Electronics collection

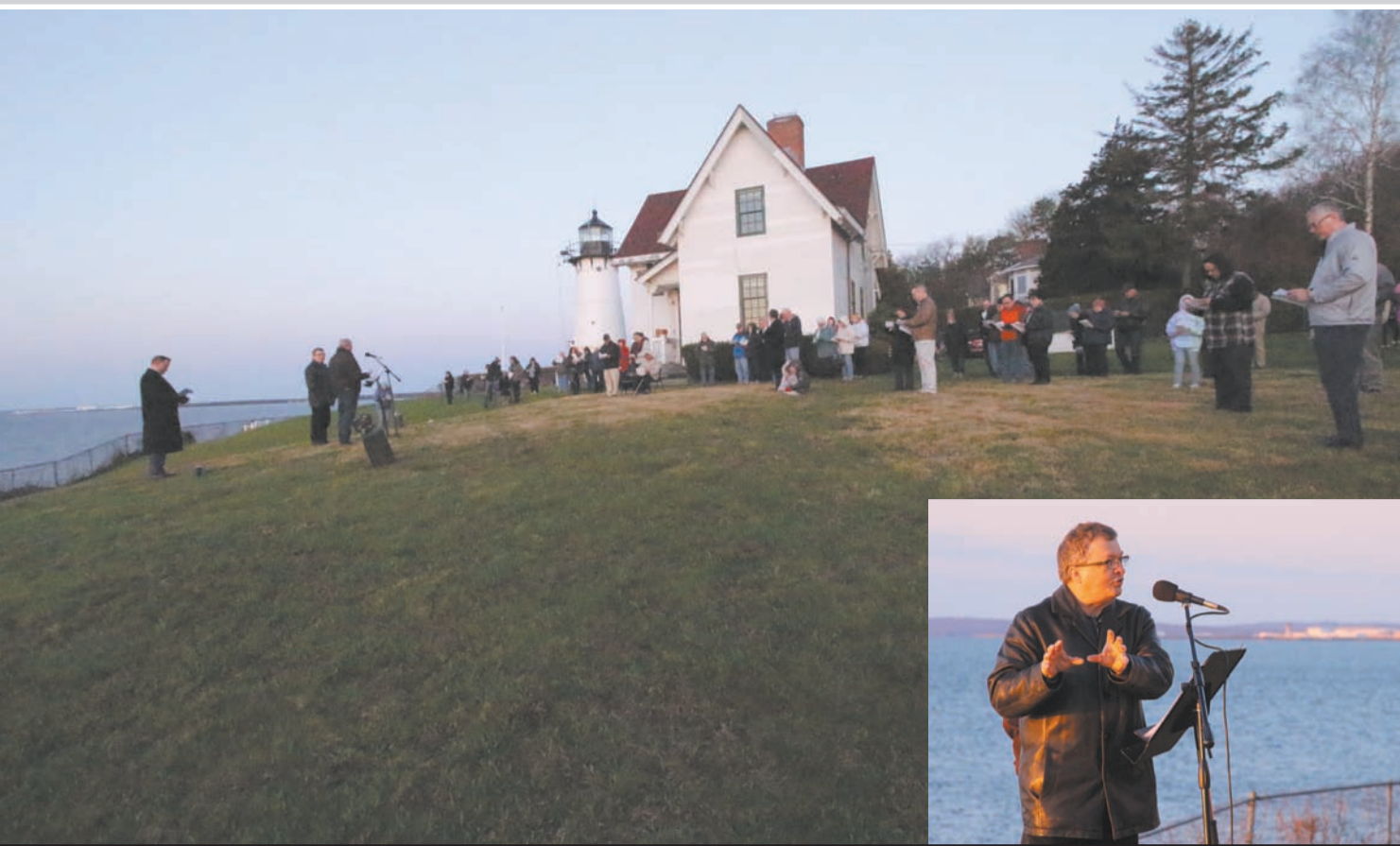
The Warwick Neck Improvement Association in concert with Indie Cycle LLC held a recycling of electronics collection Saturday at Kevin's Warwick Neck Garage. More than 45 cars pulled in to drop off computers, TVs, cell phones, modems and other devices. Jonathan Knight, association president, explained the event is a community service. There was no charge for dropping off items. (Warwick Beacon photo)

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## Where there is light

In keeping with a tradition regardless of rain, wind and even wet snow, a sun rise Easter service was held Sunday at Warwick Neck Light. This year the forecast was for overnight showers ending in the early morning. That was hopeful, but conditions were even better than projected as a full moon lit the way for the crew from the five churches hosting this year's service to setup speakers. Pastors from Norwood Baptist, Warwick Central Baptist, St. Barnabas Episcopal, Lakewood Baptist and Warwick Hope Assembly of God participated in the service that started moments before the sun peeked from across the bay and the Bristol shoreline at 6 a.m. Pastor George Barclay of Norwood Baptist (seen here) message "Darkness Into Light" focused on the light Jesus has brought us no matter our travails. (Warwick Beacon photos)



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By JENNIFER COATES

There aren't many places where you can go anymore where you can find tradition and nostalgia mixed with the energy and trends of this new era. But places like this do exist, places just like David's Greenwood Barber Shop on Post Road in Warwick. It is here, at this longstanding barber shop in the Greenwood section of the city, where you will find owner Dave Picozzi and his son Geno, the barbers who have given this enduring landmark its longevity, and its reputation.

David's Greenwood Barber Shop has been the destination for men's hair cuts in Warwick for more than twenty-eight unbroken years. That is a remarkable milestone by anyone's standards ~ they have survived economic downturns and pandemics ~there is nothing that can slow down this father-son partnership.

How has this family-run business survived when so many others have been swept away like a pile of newly-shorn hair? Just ask Dave and Geno. They know that it takes consistency, attention to detail, affordability and an environment where customers feel right at home. They know it takes "old-fashioned" values of honesty, respect and quality workmanship to have their kind of staying power.

Dave and Geno also know who their clients are and what they want; many of them have been loyal to the Picozzis for all their 28-plus years. Watching Dave and Geno with these faithful customers is like watching old friends who can't stop laughing at an inside joke and who finish each other's sentences.

Whether these buddies are talking about a walk-out win



Travelers who head up and down Post Road will recognize this familiar landmark in Warwick ~ this is the home of David's Greenwood Barber Shop, the same place it has been for nearly three decades.

by the Red Sox or the latest in national politics or just the fickle New England weather, there is always something to keep the conversation going at this neighborhood barber shop. This is what it is like with Dave, Geno and many of their customers. There is a kinship here that is hard to duplicate ~ and a camaraderie that is rare in our fast-paced world.

The Picozzi's owe a lot to their loyal clients. To show this appreciation they make sure that each customer is satisfied with their cut or trim every time he leaves the shop. The priority of these talented barbers is, and always will be,

100% customer satisfaction. Every time you step into their shop, Dave and Geno will go to any lengths to achieve just the look you want.

For those of you who like fades, temps, and line-ups – or just the classic "men's regular", David's Greenwood Barber Shop is the place to go. Just need a trim? No problem at all – just walk right in; Dave and Geno are waiting for you.

David's Greenwood Barber Shop is located at 2879 Post Road. No appointment is ever needed. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturdays from 7:30am to NOON. For more information call 401-738-7790.

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# Free range egg hunts

Cowesett, Oaklawn Beach and Conimicut

## Egg pitch



Hannah Whitford was one of those recruited to "hide" eggs for the Saturday hunt sponsored by Ward 9 Councilman Vinny Gebhart at Clouds Hill Museum in Cowesett. On command, she tossed an egg at the Beacon photographer ... others were more delicately placed. Meanwhile, Jillian Gerhart set up an elegant display for participants that included a jar full of jelly beans with the person coming closest to guessing the number of beans winning a prize with the assistance of son, Jack and Vinney. Not to be accused of randomly picking a number, Vinny counted the jelly beans Friday night. He came up with 1,108. (Warwick Beacon photo)



## The wait is over

After a 4-year hiatus caused by rain cancellations and the pandemic, the Conimicut Village Association Easter egg hunt was back again at Clegg Field. After racing across the playground field, kids claimed prizes from the open hatch backs based on the numbers they found in their eggs.

BUNNY FOR A BUNNY: Three-year old Catherine Barbeau offered to give her bunny to the Easter Bunning at the Conimicut Village hunt. (Warwick Beacon photos)



HUNTING FOR NUMBERS: Sophie Hazelwood-Chase and Emily MacInosh look for numbers in the eggs they retrieved as Paige McCoy looks on.



CASHING IN: Barbara Canton distributes prizes from the back of a SUV to those finding eggs with numbers from one to six. Kids claimed their prizes from vehicles with the corresponding number.

## Super hunt

This year's Oakland Beach Association Easter Egg Hunt Saturday was no less impressive than years past only it had a red nose twist. Hunt co-sponsors included a number of individuals and organizations with the Knights of Columbus serving up hotdogs and hamburgers grilled on the spot. Ward 6 Councilwoman Donna Travis said 3,400 eggs were placed in the Oakland Beach School yard that was divided into areas for really young kids and the older ones. Travis said there was a total of 3,400 eggs. Two gold eggs contained \$50 Walmart gift cards. Kids were also given free raffle tickets with the opportunity to cast them for more than 20 prizes. Kids finding a red nose and wearing it got to choose a prize from a table manned by Richard Corrente. (Warwick Beacon photos)



WORTH A PRIZE: Liam Leavitt makes sure his red nose stays in place after claiming his prize.



HER PAL: Ward 6 Councilwoman Donna Travis with the Easter Bunning before giving the count down to the hunt.

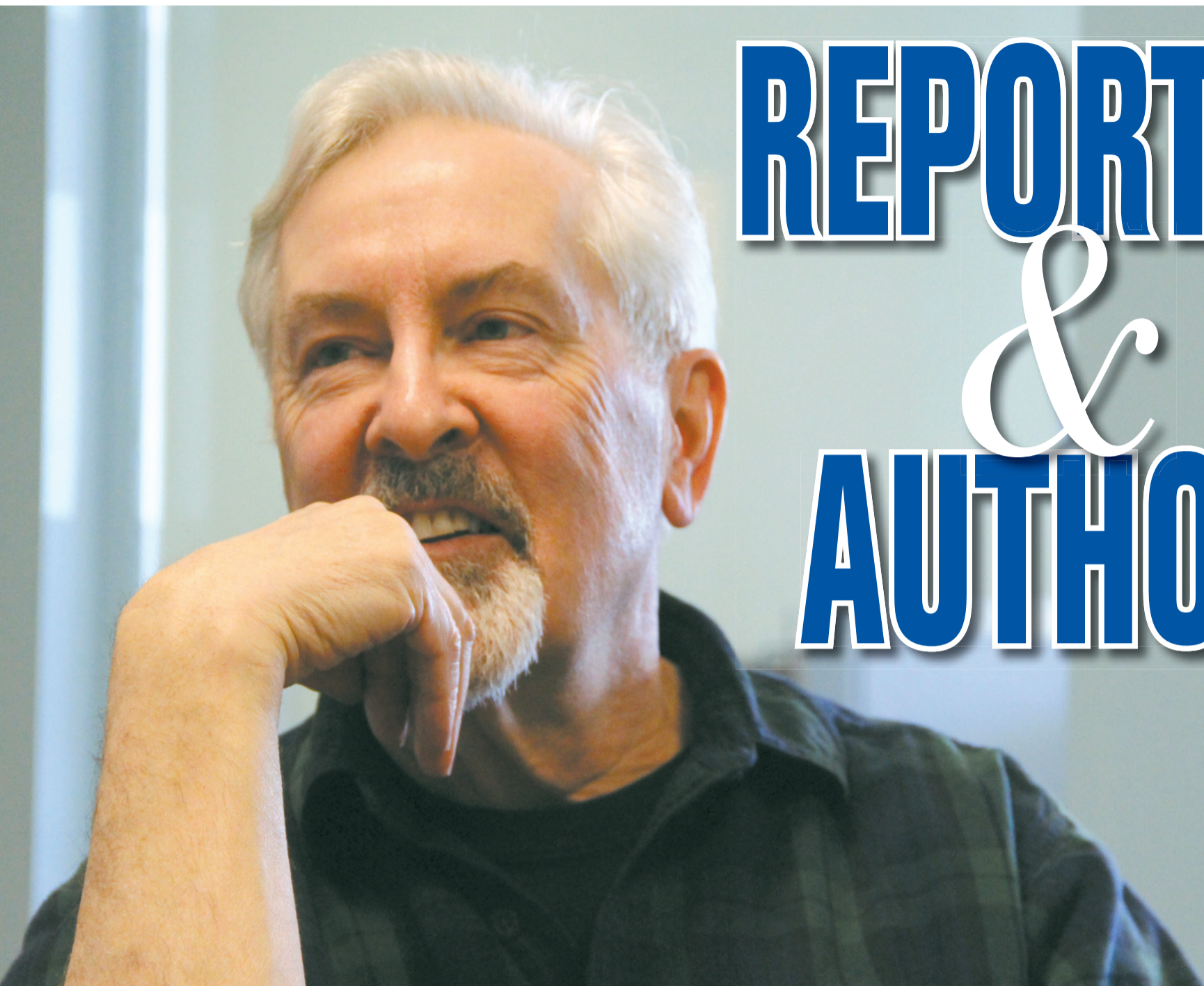


LUNCH TOO: The Knights of Columbus team manned the grill for the Oakland Beach egg hunt on Saturday.

COMMUNITY GATHERING: Rep. Joseph Solomon Jr., Alfred Green and Mark McKenney, who is running for Senate District 30 take a moment to talk politics at the conclusion of the Oakland Beach egg hunt.







## REPORTER & AUTHOR

As a reporter Miller focused on mental health issues, as an author his imagination was his only control

By ALEX MALM

During his 40-year career as a journalist, G. Wayne Miller has written countless stories for the Providence Journal. But his writing doesn't stop at the newspaper. Twenty of his books, some fiction and some non-fiction have been published with "Traces of Mary" just having been released.

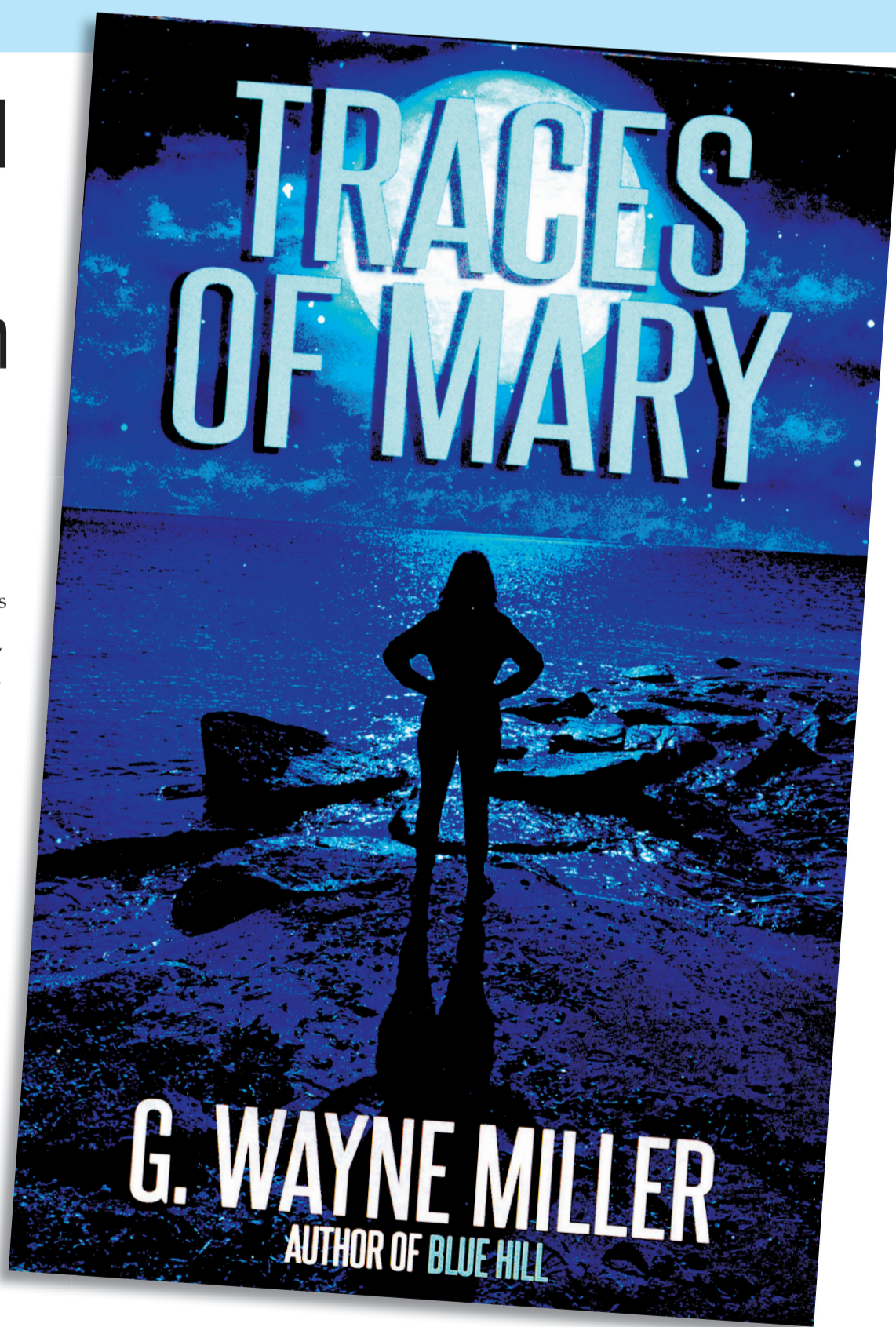
"Despite carrying the scars of childhood trauma, Mary McAllister has enjoyed a successful career and become the mother of two wonderful children," the summary of the book reads.

"Then their deadbeat father leaves, her young daughter dies, and she is hospitalized in a psychiatric center as she seeks to recover from this devastating loss. But she is not the same when she is released—and during escalating periods of crisis, she claims to be possessed by Z-DA, an evil creature from a distant galaxy that has come to earth in a war almost as old as the universe itself with Ordo, leader of a good species."

"Traces of Mary" has a mental health theme. The book's summary asks "Is this real, or only extreme psychosis? Is Mary's young son, Billy, really Theus, the First Lieutenant for Ordo, as she increasingly believes? Is Billy's dead sister, Jessica, really reaching out to her brother for help in freeing her from the dark and distant place where she is trapped?"

Mental health is a topic Miller has reported about many times throughout his career. Early in his career the Providence Journal had a far larger editorial staff and Miller and other reporters had the opportunity to do investigative pieces and take a large chunk of time working on stories.

■ AUTHOR - PAGE 23



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NAVIGANT

# Jenna & the Janes get personal with debut album

By **ROB DUGUAY**

Music can show a special kind of authenticity when it relays a true story from the artist. As the lyrics, notes, beats and strums go along, the song examines an event concerning a relative, a loved one, a former flame or something out of serendipity or happenstance. When the craft is approached this way, it can give visuals to the listener as they're diving into the recorded track via their ears. All of this I just mentioned is evident within "Earth Dog Year," the debut album from the Brooklyn indie folk act Jenna & the Janes which came out April 1. It's the first installment of a creative partnership between this particular project headed by Jenna Smith and the Cranston-based record label Pitch & Prose.

Multi-instrumentalist Kenny Florence, bassist & pianist Michael Sanders, drummer John Stallings and cellist Polina Kermesh joined Smith for the making of the album. Florence also handled the production duties and some of the mixing while lending his talents on guitar, pedal steel, organ, clavinet, keyboards and cello. Neal Shaw took on some of the mixing as well while doing the engineering at the legendary recording studio, The Power Station, in New York City. Nikki Grande and Ben Miller assisted Shaw with the engineering while Dan Millice took on the mastering while additional tracking was done at Moon Recording in Brooklyn with Josh Liebman. As you can tell, it took a lot of talented folks to make this record a reality.

In my opinion, what really makes this album stand out are the melodies and harmo-



**JENNA & THE JANES**

nies. Smith's vocal delivery has a heartfelt substance to it while having a unique range that can hit the high notes in a peculiar way. Sanders and Florence on backing vocals adds a bit of vigor to the chorus of various songs as well. The instrumentation also has a stellar cohesiveness; it makes for a genuinely great listening experience with the tunes going together seamlessly.

I like the way the gui-

tar leads off the title track. There's a slight psychedelic tone within the song as well. "Northern Light" is an ode to anyone who has had to get up and move on from their surroundings. The piano plays a nice part while going along with the steady drumbeats. Another track I like a lot is "Signs Of Life" -- everything builds from the guitar at the beginning to a stellar chorus.

If you're the type of per-

son who enjoys harmonic vocals, melodic song structures and depth within songwriting, then you should check out "Earth Dog Year." To give it a stream and a purchase, log on to Pitch & Prose's Bandcamp page at [pitchandprose.bandcamp.com](http://pitchandprose.bandcamp.com). To keep tabs on what Jenna & the Janes will be up to in the future, follow them on Instagram at [instagram.com/jenna.and.the.janes](https://www.instagram.com/jenna.and.the.janes).

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## I know how to speak Spanish!

A large percentage of the population learned how to speak Spanish in school, but MY classroom is this exotic Mexican resort in Riviera Maya. Hubby and I, along with my daughter, Dinora's, family, flew down here to enjoy some family time together during school vacation week. It is an especially meaningful trip because we have all been pretty much secluded due to COVID, but are now able to take this opportunity to socialize.

When we arrived at the airport in Cancun, I immediately noticed we were not following the dress code. Any group of five or more wore the same shirt. (Not squeezed together into the same shirt, of course, but the same color and type of shirt.) This made it easy to spot them amongst the million or so other tourists crammed together looking for their luggage. I kept losing sight of my family and made a mental note to remember the dress code for the next time we come.

After finding our luggage, we found the ground transportation to get to the resort and were soon conveyed into tropical surroundings worthy of a first-class vacation. Palm trees and flowers were in abundance, as were waterfalls and wild animals; turtles, coatis (animals that look like sloths) lizards and birds freely roamed the area. A very colorful peacock with bright blue and green feathers peaced in an arch to attract females also attracted Hubby, who spent evenings saving up pieces of crackers and chips to feed to him every morning. An alarm clock was not needed because "George" would jump up to our patio and belt out a loud screech promptly at 7a.m.. Hubby was almost giddy with delight as he would jump out of bed to reward the bird for waking us up.

The setting of the resort was Mayan, which was chosen because Dinora herself is Mayan and this was one way to somewhat share her heritage with her family, albeit commercialized with giant fake pyramids and temples. The resort rooms were tastefully decorated with Mayan sculptures and drapery, with huge palm trees and volcanoes in the distance. The resort was spectacular enough to feel as though we were in another country, which, of course, we were!

### Life Matters



with **LINDA PETERSEN**

One of the biggest things I was looking forward to was not having a cell phone, assuming our plan would not cover calls in Mexico. Hubby enthusiastically purchased walkie talkies for us to use to communicate with each other. Alas, the phone service was fine, and no one, especially the grandchildren, were willing to give up their phones. The walkie talkies sat unused while the cell phones were dragged

with us everywhere, conveniently tucked into water-proof bags and worn around our necks. So much for life in an ancient civilization!

The resort had exciting evening entertainment. A "Fire Show" took place by the beach, (where there was plenty of sand to put out a fire.) Dinora and I found the best spot to watch the show...sitting on a massage table in the grass roofed tiki hut! We were high enough to see over everyone else's heads, and greatly enjoyed the fire twirling dancers as they swirled and threw fire balls. A staff person from the hotel came up to Dinora and said something very quickly in Spanish. Dinora smiled and shook her head in agreement but had no idea what the woman was saying. It was only afterwards we learned the tiki hut was off limits during the fire show because of the likelihood it might catch fire if an errant fire ball was hurled in that direction.

We learned to love the entertainment no matter how corny or misunderstood. While the grandkids rolled their eyes at the Mariachi Band, they were amazed at the gyrations of the overhead acrobatics.

The food was Mexican through and through with plenty of pork, chicken, whole baby squid, exotic fruits and cheeses. The peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were grilled, and refried beans and guacamole covered everything. Even the Eggs Benedict was enveloped in Mexican spices, with Churros for dipping in the egg yolk. The ice cream and sorbet were still recognizable, much to my delight.

So far this week I have learned to say "ola", "gracias" and "por favor". I can't wait to see how many more words I pick up the rest of the week!



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# FirstWorks returns to The Vets with concert from international supergroup

FirstWorks, a Rhode Island non-profit dedicated to building community through world-class arts, presents "From Bamako to Birmingham," a concert with Blind Boys of Alabama and Amadou & Mariam on April 27, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at The VETS. FirstWorks welcomes the international supergroup to Providence for the opening leg of their North American tour. This show combines contemporary African sounds and American roots music in the collaboration of a lifetime. It takes nearly a day to fly from Birmingham to Bamako, but these two distinct musical worlds are coming together on a single stage with FirstWorks!

The Blind Boys are known for crossing multiple musical boundaries with their remarkable interpretations of everything from traditional gospel favorites to contemporary spiritual

material by songwriters such as Eric Clapton, Prince and Tom Waits.

For over forty years, Amadou & Mariam have managed to joyfully combine their love story with a musical career while becoming beloved ambassadors for Malian music, and African music, all around the world.

What these two acts have in common, besides their storied careers and enormous fan bases, is that they are blind. Rather than have sight impairment be a barrier, blindness has graced each of these musicians with strength and courage, and the ability to inspire others.

Tickets to the Wednesday, April 27, 2022 7:30 p.m. performance at The VETS are \$49-\$69 (includes a \$4 restoration fee) and are available now at <http://firstworks.org>.



Amadou & Mariam with Blind Boys of Alabama

# COLLECTIBLES



# Patriot's Day



**By Joel Bohy**  
Historic Arms & Militaria  
Bruneau & Co. Auctioneers  
Cranston, RI

I know most folks outside of Massachusetts don't know what Patriot's Day is. Actually, a lot of people in Massachusetts don't either. Since I was a young kid, I looked forward to April 19, staying up most of the night of the 18th till we would hike to the center of Concord, Massachusetts and to the north bridge to commemorate the events that touched off the American Revolution. Some only know of it as the day of the Boston Marathon, but to me it has always been a day to ponder the past as well as the future. It's also the event that got me into historical research and collecting.

I have spent the majority of my life studying the outbreak of the war through primary documentation as well as the objects that survive in local museums and private collections. For me, the objects always helped bring the events to life. They still do. But today I drove to Concord to meet up with friends and soak in some of the history.

Having lived in Concord for many years, the events are the most important of the year for most townsfolk.

Arriving in town, the crews were out early setting up the reviewing stand and closing down roads. Groups are arriving and heading to the staging area for the start of the parade. The town becomes alive with people all there for the same purpose, commemorating the British expedition to Concord to destroy military supplies and the fight that started our long struggle for independence from England.

A short walk from the center of town up Monument Street brings you to the Old Manse, in April 1775 the home of Reverend William Emerson, grandfather of author

Ralph Waldo. In the field in front of his house are the two cannons of the Concord Independent Battery preparing to fire salutes as the parade goes by. Just past the Manse is the causeway that leads to the north bridge, lined with folks waiting to see the parade and ceremony. As former chair of the Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee in Concord, I organized this parade for a few years, and it feels good to not have that stress as I stand and wait for the ceremony to commence. Soon the sounds of fifes and drums can be heard coming closer. That sound always stirs emotions inside of me. Then the parade arrives and passes by with militia companies and marching bands as the cannons bang away.

If you haven't read anything about April 19, 1775, grab a book and read up. It's a fascinating time in our country's history. As Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote "The thunderbolt falls on an inch of ground; but the light of it fills the horizon."

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# Roger Williams and Samuel Gorton wrote in shorthand

## Back in the Day



by  
KELLY SULLIVAN

In 1891, Providence resident Thomas Griffin noticed a book at the Warwick Town Hall which intrigued him. The leather-bound book contained about 60 pages and was filled with unidentifiable symbols. As an expert on stenography, Griffin decided to study the book at length.

Stenography concerns the use of shorthand, a symbolic system of writing which increases the speed at which one is able to commit information to paper. First known to exist in 4 BC, in Greece, different types of shorthand are used all over the world.

Griffin felt the shorthand used in the book was very similar to that devised by John Willis, a clergyman and stenographer in England during the 1600s. In 1602, Willis had published "The Art of Stenography", a practical system of taking notes via symbols. His own inspiration had been the work of Timothie Bright.

Bright was a physician and clergyman born in England in 1551. In 1588, he had published "Characterie" a book of which only eight copies are currently known to exist.

In studying the book, the work of Willis and the writing of some famous Rhode Island figures, Griffin came to the conclusion that the shorthand in the book had been written by Samuel Gorton who founded Warwick and whose son was one of the town's first clerks.

Aware that Gorton had taken notes on court proceedings, many which dealt with religious controversies, Griffin theorized

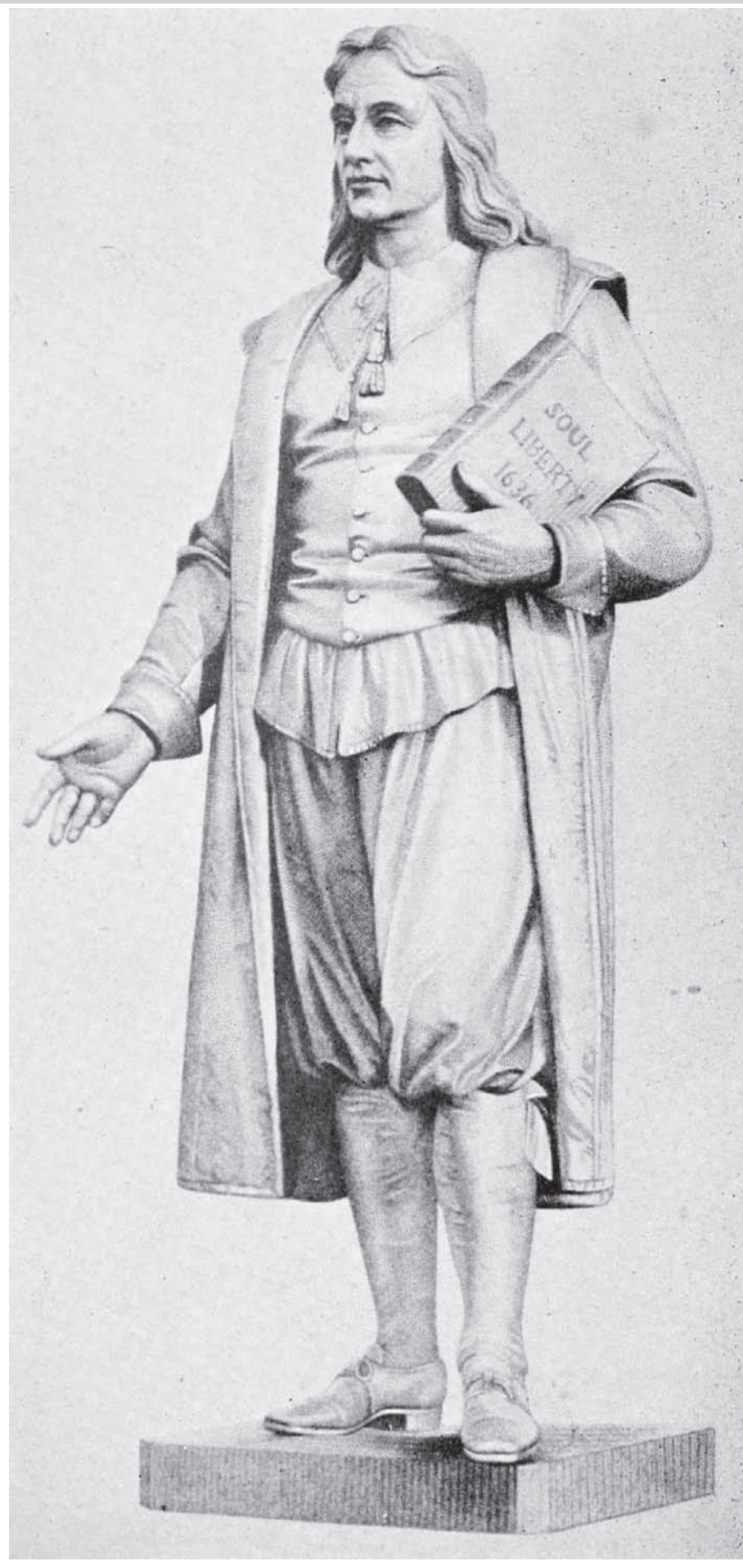
those proceedings were probably what the notes concerned, although he had no idea whatsoever what specific information any of it conveyed.

It made a great deal of sense to Griffin, who was president of the Rhode Island Stenographer's Association, that educated men such as Samuel Gorton and Roger Williams would use shorthand. It was known that Roger Williams had made notes inside a Bible belonging to John Eliot, a Puritan minister who devoted his life to introducing Christianity to the Native Americans, regarding discussions of religion. In these writings, symbols were used in place of words. Yet, despite his theories and interest, Griffin was never able to crack the shorthand code in the aged book at the Warwick Town Hall.

In 2012, a small leather-bound book containing about 240 pages and titled "An Essay Towards the Reconciling of Differences Among Christians" was pulled off a shelf at the Brown University Library. The margins of the aged book were filled with mysterious symbols which were noted to have been penned by Roger Williams. Math major Lucas Mason-Brown studied the shorthand and eventually cracked the code, determining that 28 different symbols stood for English letters and sounds. The shorthand concerned different essays Williams had studied and his opposition to baptizing Native American children.

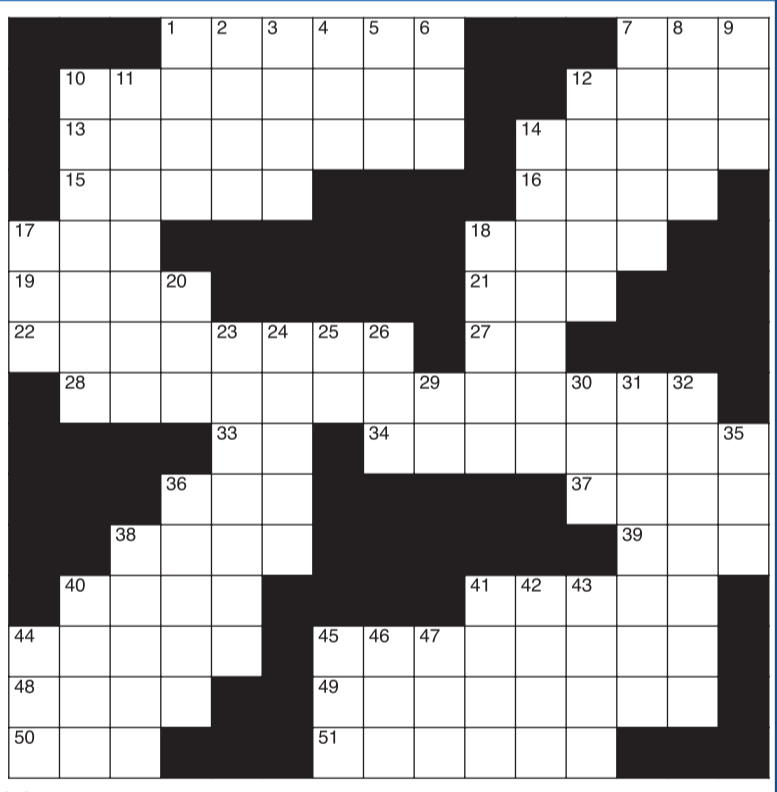
Today, 339 years after the death of our state's founder, we are still waiting to hear all he had to say. Somewhere, there are undoubtedly more ancient books unopened for centuries, more symbol-filled margins, more history to blow the dust off of.

*Kelly Sullivan is a Rhode Island columnist, lecturer and author.*



Roger Williams statue by Franklin Simmons.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



### CLUES ACROSS

1. A woman of refinement
7. Body part
10. One who imitates
12. Tropical Asian starlings
13. A type of delivery
14. W. Australian capital
15. Many wombs
16. Wings
17. Expression of amusement
18. Brews
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
21. Mild expression
22. Solitary
27. Distance to top
28. The rebirth of a soul in a new body
33. Police who investigate police (abbr.)
34. Begrudged
36. Popular sports league
37. Autonomous republic of Russia
38. Double-headed drum

### CLUES DOWN

1. Inspiration
2. Resembling wings
3. Form of Persian
4. Consumed
5. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
6. Sea eagle
7. Jaguarundis
8. Poker stake
9. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
10. South American nation
11. A colorless, odorless gas
12. Disturbance

14. Artist's tool
17. Polish peninsula
18. Ottoman military leaders
20. Bird-like dinosaur
23. Drinking glass
24. Central Florida city
25. One's mother
26. To do it is human
29. Atomic #10
30. Used to write
31. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear
32. Adversaries
35. Have already done
36. One of conspicuous wealth
38. It flies over sporting events
40. Geological times
41. Net
42. Musical phrase
43. Chadic dialect
44. Private Internet Access (abbr.)
45. Lizard genus
46. Woman of the church
47. Having ten

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The cast of *Sueno*. By José Rivera. Directed by Tatyana-Marie Carlo; Assistant Directed by Gia Yarn; Set Design by Patrick Lynch; Costume Design by Shahrzad Mazaheri; Lighting Design by Christina Watanabe; Sound Design by Germán Martínez; Fight Choreography by Mark A. Rose. (Photo by Mark Turek.)

# Trinity's 'Sueno' is a dreamlike experience

Theatre Review by DON FOWLER

Never short on innovation, Trinity Rep has turned to one of the masterpieces of Spanish theatre, "La Vida es Sueno," or "Life is a Dream," with a modern interpretation by Jose Rivera, presented in the style of a telenovela, or Spanish soap opera.

Rivera and Director Tatyana-Marie Carlo have chosen to parody Pedro Calderon de la Barca's 1600s play to the nth degree, creating cartoonish characters in outlandish costumes (Shahrzad Mazaheri), and combining verbal and physical humor with some pretty heavy material.

Patrick Lynch's set changes from dungeon to king's palace as characters race around and behind, while stagehands pass them props.

The Spanish king (Anne Scurria), always on top of her role, plays the outlandish king whose mission is to save Spain from those nasty outsiders.

He sends his son (Daniel Duque-Estrada) to prison for 25 years before revealing his existence to him and the world.

Can Segismundo save the kingdom, or will he react with vengeance?

Or is this all a dream?

Will the king's prophecies, based on the stars, prove false?

The tragicomedy is a metaphor for chaos, questioning whether or not life is but a dream.

Amidst profound questions raised, Rivera jumps from the sublime to the ridiculous. At one moment, we are dealing with issues raised by the world's great philosophers. The next moment, we witness shades of the Three Stooges or Abbott and Costello. Characters are spitting their P's in

each other's faces or trying to enter a narrow door in an oversized dress.

"Sueno" is like something you have never seen before. It will challenge you. It will make you think about honor, patriotism, reality and prompt more questions than you can absorb.

It will also cause a few giggles and groans.

Prepare yourself for a wild and crazy evening.



Jihan Haddad as Estrella and Catia as Rosaura. (Photo by Mark Turek.)

# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local Adoptable Loveable

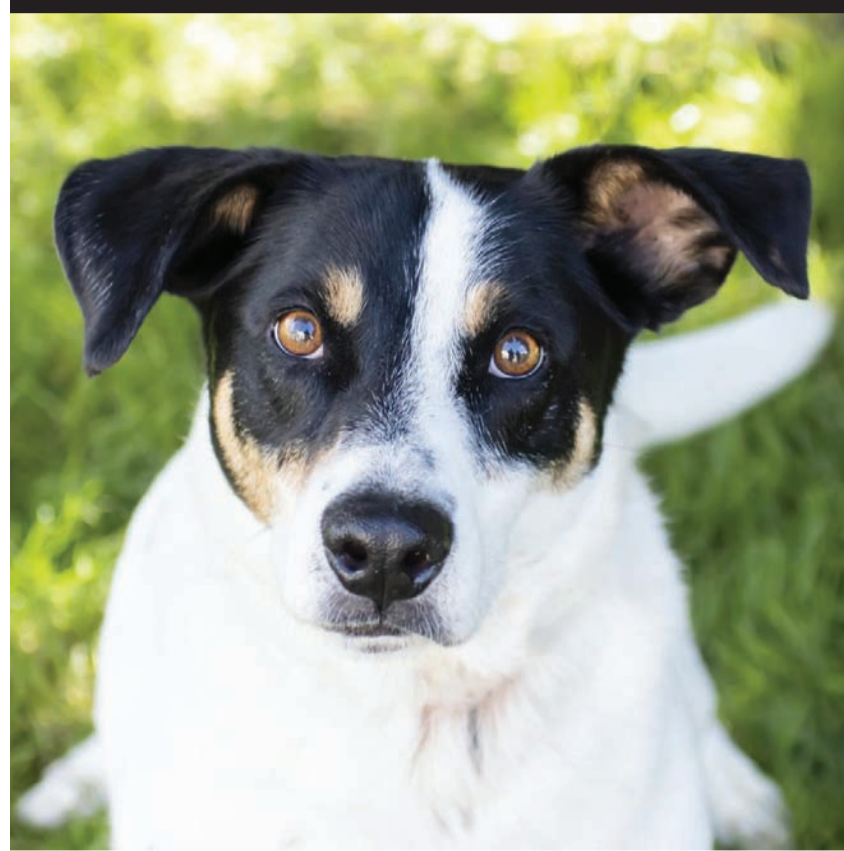


Photo credit: Jessica Pohl

## PETER

Peter recently celebrated his eight birthday and his wish is to find a loving forever home! He's a perfect gentleman with a flair for adventure! This handsome mixed breed boy loves attention and he would prefer to have all the attention to himself, so a home with no other pets would be his dream home. If you have a fenced in yard that would be the icing on his cake because he loves to run free and play! If you think you are the one to make Peter's birthday wish come true then please call the Potter League at 401-846-8276 or visit their website at [www.potterleague.org](http://www.potterleague.org) for more information. Peter hopes to have a real birthday party once he gets adopted!

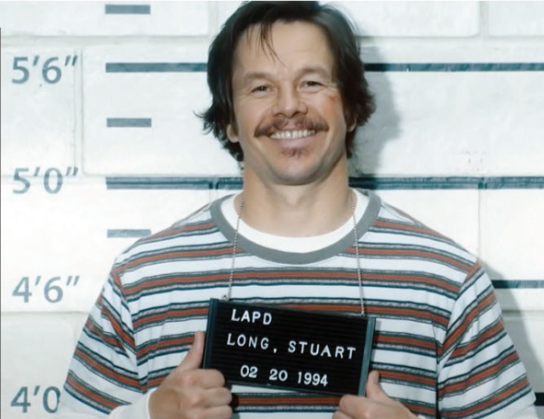
If you have been looking to adopt or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at [animaltalk1920@gmail.com](mailto:animaltalk1920@gmail.com)



See it at the **Movies** with Joyce & Don Fowler



**WARWICK SHOWCASE & APPLE CINEMAS**



Mark Wahlberg stars as Father Stu.

**FATHER STU**  
\*\*\* 1/2 (Joyce) \*\*\* (Don)  
From Boxer to Priest

Mark Wahlberg stars as Stuart Long, a foul-mouthed, womanizing boxer whose body has taken a beating over the years both in the ring and from crashing his motorcycle.

He ponders on what to do with the rest of his life.

Why not become an actor?

Stu heads for Hollywood where getting acting jobs isn't as easy as he thought. He gets a job in a meat market, where he meets a devout Catholic Sunday School teacher who leads him to her church.

The motorcycle accident leads him to a coma-like state where he "finds God" and decides to become a priest, much to the chagrin of the

Monsignor (Malcolm McDonald).

Stu's body fails him, making it impossible for him to carry on the required priestly duties, changing his life and his outlook completely.

The subplot involves Stu and his stubborn father (Mel Gibson) and their strained relationship.

Joyce like this one better than I did. The fact that it is based on a true story held my interest, although it still was hard to believe that this poor lost soul could become a priest.

Wahlberg gained a lot of weight for the movie, looking quite different from the muscular actor at the end of the tearjerker.

**FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE**  
\*\* 1/2  
(More Wizardry)

If you are new to this pre-Harry Potter wizardry, you will be completely lost in the characters and the story.

While you will enjoy the fantastic beasts, the humans (both good and evil) are bores.

Mads Mikkelsen plays dark wizard Gellert Grindelwald, determined to rid the world of the Muggles.

Newt Scamander (a dull Eddie Redmayne) gathers his motley crew to stop Grindelwald.

The movie is filled with political dialogue (shades of 1930s Germany) and overlong battles with magic wands that look like sticks.

There are two more films planned for the series, and we don't have a clue as to where it is going.

Except for the amazing computer-generated animals, there was nothing of interest for us in this long 2:20 hour movie.

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## Trees

(Continued from page 1)

Those returning to Conimicut will be greeted by phalanxes of dead and dying sentinels. What needles they still have are brown and brittle.

What's killed the trees? Warwick Tree Warden Carlos Pinheiro can't identify a single cause.

One area resident, who didn't want to be identified for this story believes, some trees were deliberately killed by cutting the bark of the tree in a circle or "ring-

Pinheiro thinks the rings hastened, if not was the cause, that killed the two trees. Some of the other trees look like they may have been ringed at one time but the majority show no evidence of efforts to kill them. Pinheiro offers several explanations.

He sees "winter burn" as a major factor. Winter burn is brought about by cold, dry and windy - 40 MPH plus - conditions that strip the pines of their needles. Beetles and blight may have something to do with it, too. Pinheiro points out evidence of beetles in the

ing factor as salt water filtrates into the ground water.

Then, too, there's the possibility the trees are nearing the end of their life cycle. Pinheiro estimates the trees were all planted at about the same time in the 60s or 70s.

In the past 20 years Pinheiro estimates the city tree crew has cut down at least 50 dead black pines at the park.

The death of conifers has been more pronounced since Super Storm Sandy inundated the park. Cindey and Steve Uralowich who have lived just outside the park for the past ten years and almost daily make a round of the park with their dog Montana said they lost all of their arborvitaes following Sandy, which they attribute to the introduction of salt to the ground water.

They also have noticed the loss of beach sand.

"We've never seen those foundations," says Cindey, "where did those stone walls come from?"

As for the vegetation, Pinheiro reasons a succession of severe winters could have hastened the demise of the pines. He points out the pines are not found at Rocky Point, Oakland Beach or City Park. Deciduous trees in those parks appear to be more tolerant of coastal conditions. He names oaks and weeping willows that are found at Oakland Beach. He thinks that willows would survive at Conimicut while providing summer shade for picnickers.

Pinheiro said the dead pines will have to come down although at this point they aren't on a schedule for removal. He is troubled by the destruction of undergrowth and saplings that have helped avert erosion



**EXPOSED:** With the loss of an estimated two feet of sand over the winter, the foundations of homes washed away by the 1938 Hurricane have resurfaced on Conimicut beach.

and provide habitat and food for birds. He advocates revitalization of a citywide tree planting program.

Point conditions have not gone unnoticed by Ginny Barham, president of the Conimicut Village Association and her husband Lonnie. "Kids rushing into the water are going to hit those," Lonnie said of the foundations obscured by high tides. He also took a count of the dead pines coming up with the number of 28 as well as found the two ringed trees.

Ginny is concerned by conditions at the playground where excavation was started and then halted for the installation of an adult exercise pad. The association received a legislative grant for the equipment that was bought more than a year ago and is in city storage. Work on installing the equipment started in Sep-

tember but stopped when the Municipal Employees Union complained that a supervisor and non-union member was performing the work. Lacking a licensed union operator of the equipment, a partially excavated site remains beside the playground and a temptation for kids to play.

Ginny said the association has sought to hasten the project, offering to buy mulch for the installation.

Wiley said she has been in contact with the Department of Public Works, that they now have personnel qualified to do the work and she has been assured work will resume shortly.



**WANTON DESTRUCTION:** City Tree Warden Carlos Pinheiro points to small trees that have been hacked down on the beach perimeter.

ing." He speculated homeowners outside the park wanted to get an improved view of the Bay. He also points to a section of the park where new growth made up of two and three inch diameter deciduous trees have been hacked down.

An examination of the dead trees found two pines had been ringed. There was also a section near the south beach where smaller trees had been lopped off two and three feet above the ground.

stumps of two dead trees cut down.

"Dogs urinating on them doesn't help either," he said. He doesn't see that as a game changed for the trees, although he observes once one dog urinates on a tree it is followed by a succession of other dogs.

Flooding of the park during storm surges may also have something to do with it. The salt water permeated the ground and could be comprising the trees. Freeman notes that rising sea levels could be a contribut-



**POWER OF WIND AND WAVES:** Retired CRMC geologist Janet Freeman attributed the loss of Conimicut beach sand to the wave and tidal action at high tides during storms.



**STILL WAITING:** Work started but then stopped in the fall on the site for adult exercise equipment at the Conimicut playground. It is to resume shortly say Parks and Recreation Director Bev Wiley.



**THEY'VE SEEN THE CHANGES:** Cindey and Steve Uralowich who routinely walk their dog Montana at the park have noticed the loss of beach sand and the number of dead trees.



**RING OF DEATH:** A ring cutting the bark clear of the tree is visible on this dead back pine.

## Main

(Continued from page 1)

it two lanes several years ago. While that section of Greenwich Avenue doesn't carry the volume of Main Avenue, the dieting didn't impact traffic flow and in Connor's words, "a huge improvement."

Charles St. Martin, spokesman for the Rhode Island Department of Transportation said the department has

received many complaints about speeding, crashes and the narrow lanes of Main Avenue. Referring to the diet plan he wrote in an email, "This would have one travel lane in each direction and a center turning lane that makes it safer for drivers to make left turns. It also would provide space for bike lanes on both sides of the road."

St. Martin said the road would return to four lanes as it approached intersections at both ends. From the Green-

wood Bridge east to its intersection with West Shore Road it would remain four lanes.

Additionally, St. Martin wrote, "RIDOT reviewed crash data and found there had been 59 crashes in the past five years on this part of Main Avenue, which included one fatal crash and 14 crashes with injuries (this does not include any crashes at Route 5 or Jefferson Boulevard intersections). Studies of previously implemented

road diets have shown that crashes are reduced by upwards of 40 percent."

He said RIDOT reviewed travel times using the current traffic pattern and projected once implemented the diet would increase the travel time by an average of 25 seconds.

The RIDOT has plans for East Avenue, eastward from the Main and Greenwich Avenue intersection.

St. Martin said Friday the state recently submitted a re-

quest for a \$25 million federal RAISE grant to rebuild the larger East Avenue corridor, with a series safety, bridge, transit, bike paths and bike lanes, and congestion improvements along Route 113 from Bald Hill Road to Main Avenue and on Bald Hill Road from the I-295 ramps to Centerville Road.

He said the project will reduce congestion, add electric car charging stations at CCRI, improve options for

cycling and walking, including connectivity to the Washington Secondary Bike Path - all of which will improve air quality through reduced vehicle emissions.

Asked how bicyclists would navigate between off and on ramps to Route 95, St. Martin said the bike lane would go down the middle of the road where there is currently a divider.

The grant proposal is online at [www.ridot.net/Projects/EastAv](http://www.ridot.net/Projects/EastAv)

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**Author** (Continued from page 17)

One of the assignments that Miller got to do was to spend a week at Ladd Center during its final days as the state's locked mental institution.

"People were treated barbarically there," said Miller. It was the 1980s, a couple decades after the Journal first began investigating the center in the 1950s. Miller said conditions had improved when the state approved his request to stay at the center but it was still a powerful experience.

"That was pretty dramatic and powerful," said Miller.

Miller said he also spent a week at the Institute of Mental Health which is now part of Slater Hospital.

As a reporter especially early in his career Miller took advantage of the fact that he was allowed to write books based on the series he did with the Journal. He said that the only stipulation was that the Journal got rights to the series first. Miller said he wrote four non-fiction books thus far.

One of the non-fiction books that Miller wrote was called "Human Hands." He said he got to spend over a year at Boston's Children's Hospital observing the

work of the chief of surgery, even getting to spend many hours in the operating room, when families signed off on it.

But all the way back in grammar school Miller said he always liked to write.

"I always liked to write fiction," said Miller.

*"Your imagination is your only control."*

G. Wayne Miller

Knowing that he wanted a career where he could make a living he chose journalism. After graduating from Harvard he began freelancing for different publications while working as a baggage handler for Delta Airline in Boston.

After applying to a number of different places, he got a response from the editor of the North Adams

Transcript.

"He took a shot on me," said Miller.

Miller said his first short story was published in a mystery magazine. He was paid a penny and a quarter per word. He still has his acceptance paperwork to this day.

Eventually he found an agent Kay McCauley, whose brother Kirby was the agent for Stephen King at the time to help him get more of his books published.

"That was a huge breakthrough," said Miller.

A Warwick resident, Miller said that he enjoys writing fiction because he is able to be creative.

"Your imagination is your only control," he said.

To this day Miller continues to write stories about mental health, with his latest being about a bill requiring the state to build suicide barriers on the Jamestown, Pell, and Mount Hope Bridges.

Throughout his career Miller said that he has seen less stigma around mental health.

"It's okay to talk about mental illness, it's okay to have mental illness," said Miller.

Miller's book can be found online on Amazon.

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By JENNIFER COATES

Whether you are a local fan or are just passing through Warwick, you will always find a comfortable seat, heaping portions of authentic Chinese food and the warm hospitality of the friendly crew at the Islander Restaurant on West Shore Road. Fans of this casual eatery in Warwick are able to sit down and enjoy one of those comfortable seats and some of that true hospitality. Islander Restaurant is busy doing what it does best ~ preparing outstanding food, ready for takeout and dine-in ~ every day!

If you are one of the hundreds of people who are tired of cooking, visit the Islander today! The Islander Restaurant has been a popular and busy destination for diners of all ages since it opened its doors in 1972, and it remains as popular today as it was all those many decades ago.

This award-winning Chinese restaurant offers a huge assortment of appetizers, soups, salads, main dishes, seafood specials, fried rice, lo mein, chow mein and chop suey options. Some of their many crowd-pleasing options include:

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- Kung Po Beef and peanuts - Tender chunks of beef sautéed with diced vegetables, spicy peppers and peanuts, stir-fried quickly over high heat
- Singapore Fried Noodle - Curried rice noodles sautéed with roast pork, shrimp, chicken and julienne vegetables
- Appetizers: Crab Rangoon, Onion Rings, Islander



Slide into your favorite seat at Islander Restaurant, this longtime and popular restaurant on West Shore Road. Enjoy classic Chinese food with loved ones and friends in this clean, safe, and welcoming eatery in Warwick.

Wings in sauce, Fried Wontons, Coconut Shrimp, Scallion Pancakes, Beef Teriyaki and Pan-fried Dumplings & more!

For those with a fondness for American fare, you will find plenty of classic favorites to choose from including Fried Scallops, BLT, Club and Delmonico Steak sandwiches and even Veal cutlets! Flavorful dishes such as the Cashew Vegetable Delight and Crispy Sesame Tofu round out a diverse vegetarian menu. There are well over one hundred items to choose from here at this authentic Chinese restaurant, including a huge variety of combination platters. There is also a kid's menu for your pint-size diners!

The bar is open at The Islander, serving all your favorite beverages and tropical drinks. With the plexiglass and masks are behind us for now, life has returned at this local hangout. You can even schedule a private function in one of their elegant banquet rooms. Call the Islander for details.

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

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# Tips and tricks for the perfect garden...

It's that time of year. The birds are singing, buds are appearing on trees and daffodils and tulips are in bloom. It's hard to not get too excited and start planting things. But before you do, there are some steps you should take to ensure that your garden, whether it's flower or vegetable or both will be the best! First, clean out all your gardening areas. Remove dead leaves and brush from around your perennials. Fall is the best time to add compost, so it has time to boost your soil. If you didn't do it in the fall, you can still add some now.

Compost provides organic matter and natural nutrients for flowers and vegetables. You can also add coffee grounds as fertilizer. I empty my K-cups into a jar and weekly sprinkle it onto the soil. Coffee grounds make great fertilizer because they contain several key ingredients required for plant growth. They can also help attract worms and decrease the concentrations of heavy metals in the soil. Now look at your garden.

What worked and what didn't? The placement of plants is key to their success. Do they need full or part sun? Remember a

## 60s and Sexy



by CINDY WILSON

sunny spot in your garden now, may be shaded after the trees have bloomed. Second thing to consider, is what type of soil you have. Not every plant works in all types of soil.

Where I live the soil is sandy. For herbs, Lavender, eucalyptus, and Rosemary all do well. For flowers, Black Eyed Susan's, and Salvia work well. Salvia is one of the easiest to grow. Whether you're an expert gardener or a first-time grower, you'll get months of vibrant, re-blooming flowers. This low-maintenance showstopper is also drought tolerant, once established, and resistant to deer and rabbits. After you have cleaned out the beds and garden area, take some time to research what works best in your area. Google is a great source. Take your time. Plan your garden out on paper. For the next few weeks, we will do this together, step by step. I will cover flowers, herbs, and vegetables. I'll share my successes and epic failures! For now, put on some sunscreen, clean out those beds and get ready for a great summer harvest! For questions or comments you can reach me at SixtiesAndSexy@gmail.com or follow me on SixtiesAndSexy.net.

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# Making Your Mother's Day Plans

**Celebrate with Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma as pandemic restrictions are lifted**

Mother's Day has felt a little less than normal over the last couple of years. The COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of many Mother's Day gatherings in 2020, and while things felt more familiar in 2021, this year may mark the most normal Mother's Day celebrations since 2019.

Pandemic-related restrictions have now been lifted in many towns and cities. Though it's best to confirm if any rules and restrictions are still in place before making any plans, individuals who want to make sure Mom has a special day can consider these planning pointers.

- Revisit old traditions. There's many ways to let Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma know she's special, but after two years of living under the specter of a pandemic, few things might be as meaningful to Mom as a return to pre-pandemic traditions. Book a trip to a destination you've visited on Mother's Day in the past. If possible, visit a locale where Mom spent her first Mother's Day as a parent, ideally staying in the same hotel or rental home that hosted you back then. If it was once tradition to spend Mother's Day in a big city, return there and enjoy a day that recalls pre-pandemic life.

- Book a special trip. Millions of people canceled or postponed travel plans during the pandemic. Now that many places, including foreign countries, have lifted travel restrictions, families can feel safe taking off for parts unknown. Such a trip can be even more special if it's a surprise for Mom on Mother's Day weekend.

- Make it a family affair. Even Mother's Day celebrations in 2021 were likely smaller affairs than some moms might have preferred. If Mom spent some time wishing more family could be around on Mother's Day over the last two years, make a concerted effort to include as many family members as possible this year. Encourage grown children to travel home for the holiday and invite Mom's parents and siblings over to celebrate as well.

- Get out of the house. A homecooked meal might have warmed Mom's heart in recent years, but a day out of the house might be especially welcomed this Mother's Day. Book a reservation at Mom's favorite local restaurant so no one has any cooking or cleaning to do this year. Just be sure to book a reservation early, as the competition for a table figures to be especially stiff this year.

- Start the day off with a spa visit. Moms might have put pampering on hold during the pandemic. Now that public health agencies have given the go-ahead to lift restrictions, a good pampering is undoubtedly in order. A Mother's Day morning spa trip can start the day off right.

Mother's Day celebrations in 2022 should feel more normal than they have in years. Families can capitalize on that by planning a day Mom won't soon forget.



## A Brunch Surprise for Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate and treat your mom to a delicious breakfast or brunch. Try this Brunch Fruit Tart with a tasty granola crust and colorful fruit topping to start Mother's Day in style. It's a sweet option to begin her day on the right note.

With a crunchy crust and smooth center, this tart is balanced, easy to make and a beautiful addition to the menu. It's also easy to customize as the fruit topping options are nearly unlimited. Pick your mom's favorites and decorate the top however you please. Or, let the little ones get creative and put their own spin on an essential Mother's Day meal. For more brunch recipes, visit [Culinary.net](http://Culinary.net).

### BRUNCH FRUIT TART

Recipe adapted from [homemadeinterest.com](http://homemadeinterest.com)

**Crust:**  
 4 cups granola mixture  
 1/2 cup butter, softened  
 4 1/2 tablespoons honey  
 nonstick cooking spray

**Filling:**  
 2 1/4 cups vanilla Greek yogurt  
 8 ounces cream cheese, softened  
 1/2 cup granulated sugar  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 1 package gelatin

**Toppings:**  
 strawberries, sliced, blueberries  
 and kiwis, sliced

To make crust: Preheat oven to 350 F.

In large bowl, combine granola, butter and honey. Grease 11-inch tart pan with nonstick cooking spray. Line bottom of tart pan with parchment paper.

Press granola mixture into tart pan. Place tart pan on baking sheet and bake 10 minutes. Cool completely.

To make filling: Using mixer, combine yogurt, cream cheese, sugar, vanilla extract and gelatin until whipped completely.

Pour yogurt mixture into tart crust. Refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Top with strawberries, blueberries and kiwis.



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MY SIDE OF THINGS  
by LARRY GRIMALDI

# Baseball is Striking Out

As you read this, the 2022 Major League Baseball season has begun. The last strains of the National Anthem linger over the park. Umpires have reviewed the ground rules and lineup cards have been exchanged. The home team has taken their positions on the field. Other roster members have settled into the dugout or strolled out to the bullpen. Fans have found their seats and vendors be-

gin stalking the aisles hawking their wares. If you look closely, however, modern-day baseball is markedly different from the once pastoral, symmetrical, and intricate game of its origins.

Not all of baseball's changes over the last generations have been detrimental to the game. For example, retro stadiums like Oriole Park at Camden Yards, PNC Park in

Pittsburgh, the Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati, to name a few, have replaced the massive concrete bowls carpeted with artificial turf. On the field, MLB is looking to a 14-second rule for pitchers to deliver the ball to the plate (bases empty) and 19 seconds (with base runners). If today's hurlers are as technically savvy as they claim to be (we'll discuss baseball ruination by technology later), they should already have determined their next pitch without consuming time it would take to read *War and Peace*. Rule infractions will be penalized and recorded as a ball. I am ambivalent about the National league finally adopting the designated hitter. Eliminating the pitch from the batting lineup does add offense to the game, but it also removes a bit of managerial strategy in the later innings.

Thankfully, MLB has abandoned the Sunday Morning Beer League seven-inning doubleheader and return to nine-inning games. However, MLB has decided to keep the ridiculous, softball-inspired International Tie Breaker rule. According to this idiotic rule, a runner is placed on second base, with no outs, at the beginning of each extra inning. I'm sure that Abner Doubleday and Alfred Goodwill Spaulding, two of baseball's most famous pioneers, rolled over in their graves when news of those diamond disasters reached them at Celestial Park.

I've a few more complaints about modern-day baseball travesties. Feel free to disagree. Let's start with the batter. Games slow to a snail's pace as he steps out of the box, fixes his batting gloves, glances at his bat, adjusts his uniform sleeves, and takes several practice swings before every pitch. Unless the batter is hit by a pitched ball, he should be allowed only one wandering from the box in each at-bat. The second exit, all consequential departures, will be recorded as automatic strikes.

Speaking of player-owner relationships, it's hard to sympathize with either side in a school yard spat between billionaires and millionaires. I don't know about you, but my first salary was not \$700,000, with a guarantee of a three and a-half month vacation! Long term contracts are another MLB mistake. What would be the incentive to keep producing at a high level if you know you were still going to rake in \$25 million or more for the next five, seven, or 10 years?

In my view, revenue sharing is uniquely anti-capitalism venture. As an owner, why should I share my profits with owners whose main objective is to count their millions while putting a Triple-A product on the field year after year (See the Baltimore Orioles and the Pittsburgh Pirates as examples). If there is a luxury "tax" for franchises willing to spend money for a competitive team, owners who do NOT expend at least a minimum amount on team salaries should be excluded from the revenue-sharing bonanza for that season. Why pay for consistent failure??

Baseball has evolved into a series of decisions made by computer read-outs. Computer "research" has established an arbitrary maximum of 100 pitches as the commandment for removing a pitcher from the game. In bygone days, if Oriole Earl Weaver went



to the mound to take out Jim Palmer after 100 pitches, I dare say that even Weaver would be shocked at Palmer's "suggestions." MLB is also considering using a computer to call balls and strikes. WHAT? Removing the human element would represent a monumental surrender to technology. Periodic reviews of an umpire's strike zone calls would be more useful.

We already have milquetoast managers who will not make a strategic move without consulting the all-powerful OZ of baseball-the statistical analysis. Clubs could fire the managers and coaches, save their salaries, and install AI in each major league dugout. I have absolutely no interest in the launch angle or velocity of a home run. I can see homers and don't need computer-generated graphics to confirm it. I'm also tired of the antics of a player who hits a home run in the bottom of the ninth with two outs and nobody on base celebrate like he just won the seventh game of the World Series, when in reality he has closed the gap to 10-2 instead of 10-1.

Most importantly, a family of four should not have to take out a home equity line or a payday loan to attend an MLB game. Using the closest team to me, the Red Sox, the cost of attending the Red Sox-Twins an April 16 game at Fenway might look like this:


Four Upper Bleacher Tickets:	\$200
Parking:	\$60
Two Score Cards	\$5
Year Book:	\$25
Four Chicken Finger Plates:	\$100
Two Beers:	\$30
Two Sodas:	\$15
Souvenirs:	\$75
TOTAL:	\$510

And, "Hold on to your homburg," the cost for ONE of those Upper Bleacher seats for the July 9 game with the New York Yankees is **\$118 per duca!** It appears that the "free market" business model means that Red Sox ownership is "free" to fatten their wallets while fans they get "the business."


Nevertheless, if you can afford it, don't mind watching pitchers take forever to deliver a pitch (the 14-second experiment will fade into baseball history faster than you can say 14-second rule), or don't mind taking a nap while the batter completes his mindless repetition of superstitions, take in an MLB game. Play ball!

Larry Grimaldi is a freelance writer from North Providence. Comments can be e-mailed to [lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com](mailto:lvgrimaldi49@gmail.com).

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by DON FOWLER

## Being Neighborly

Spring is finally here.

Pandemic restrictions have eased.

It is time to venture outdoors and make contact with our neighbors once again.

We have lived on our dead-end street in Edgewood for over fifty years. We were the youngest when we moved here, and are the oldest today.

Neighbors come and go. We have been fortunate over the years to have had a 100% batting average with friendly, helpful neighbors.

After two trips to the hospital recently, I came home to a month of rehabilitation only to discover that neighbors still bring casseroles.

Scott brought venison stew.

John brought a freshly baked, still warm Irish bread on St. Patrick's day.

My doctor made a house call (Honest!), bringing his own special-recipe beef stew.

We have eight houses on our street, three of them with . . . They took turns plowing me out this winter. When it is icy, Patrick salts my walks.

My next door neighbor picks up my daily newspaper, which is dropped at the end of the driveway or in the bushes and puts it on my steps every day.

His son writes and distributes a neighborhood newsletter, informing us of new pets, people on vacation, and other happenings. The children play in our yard and shoot baskets in front of the house. We love to watch them. Before the pandemic, people invited us to backyard picnics and special parties. Hopefully, our annual Christmas potluck party will return this year.

We have heard of other neighborhoods in Edgewood/Pawtuxet that hold annual block parties and street wide garage sales

It's the little things that count:

- . Giving a homebound senior a call.
- . Dropping by to check on seniors.
- . Cutting the lawn/Shoveling the snow.
- . Sharing the tomatoes from your garden.
- . Keeping your eye on the neighborhood, especially when someone is on vacation.
- . In short, Being Neighborly.

## RETIREMENT SPARKS

by ELAINE M. DECKER



# GOATs and PIGs and Other Acronyms

By now you would have heard that Tom Brady had decided to retire, his status as the GOAT football professional firmly in place. For those who don't know (likely very few of those who follow sports), GOAT stands for Greatest Of All Time. Since I started writing this, Brady has come out of retirement, likely poised to become even greater. Simone Biles is also a GOAT, for women's gymnastics. She has a goat tattoo on her shoulder. There are other animal acronyms that undoubtedly are not familiar, so I'm going to define them here.

My personal favorite is PIG. It stands for Popular Inspirational Guru. That title is held by my husband, Jagdish Sachdev, owner of SPECTRUM-INDIA on Thayer Street in Providence. He's so well recognized as the Guru of Thayer Street that a selfie with him often shows up as an item on scavenger hunts.

Another porcine acronym is SOW. That stands for Senior Opportunistic Widow, of which there are quite a few in almost every community. SOWs go on the hunt for recent widowers, especially ones who are financially well-heeled. Advice to any men who have recently lost your spouse: BOLO for SOWs in your circle of acquaintances. They are relentless.

Widowers might be attracted to a LAMB, however, if she's not also a SOW. A LAMB is the Last And Most Beautiful in her circle of widowed friends who has not yet found a new mate. If she does latch onto a widower, she might become an alternative LAMB, that is: Luckiest And Most Beautiful. As long as she's not a SOW, every LAMB can make a fine partner for a lonely widower.

Next we have DUCK, a Dude Using Charming Karma. DUCKs exist in all age groups. Just as a SOW will go after a recent widower, a DUCK might go after a recent widow, if she's been left enough assets by her late husband. BOLO to recent widows, DUCKs can be relentless, too. As far as I know, there's no male equivalent to the LAMB.

Someone else to watch out for is the SKUNK—a Senior Kahuna Using Noisy Kisses. The SKUNK latches onto you at a neighborhood gathering and plants a noisy, wet kiss on your cheek before you realize what's happening. In the SKUNK's mind, if the kiss is noisy enough, he hasn't stolen it, so you shouldn't complain. If you expect any SKUNKs at a garden party, keep a packet of tissues handy. Noisy ones are usually wet ones. Also, some SKUNKs use a seemingly innocent 'hello' hug to cop a feel. Have a stiff-arm ready when you see a SKUNK coming.

“DUCK . . . a Dude Using Charming Karma. DUCKs exist in all age groups

Desirable members of your community earn the acronym CHICKEN. The Charitable Helper In Community Kitchens (for) Elderly Neighbors is someone you'll want in your contact list. They'll help out in food pantries, soup kitchens, any place that provides food for older folks of limited means. And please, no jokes about chicken pot pies.

Another welcome older community member is a SHEEP. Those of you who care about our environment will be thrilled to have Senior Humanitarians Ending Environmental Pollution in your group. They're often on the front lines of recycling efforts. They're also likely to volunteer to help with park cleanup in the spring.

A truly noble acronym is FISH, First In Social Harmony. FISH are always welcome in social circles. They are the peacemakers in the community. Unlike real fish and the proverbial unwanted guests, they do not start to stink after three days either.

A SNAKE, on the other hand, is to be avoided at all cost. SNAKES rarely last long in a community, or at least not long as a member in good standing. Be especially wary of SNAKES if you have a neighborhood pool. Why? A SNAKE is a Sexy Newcomer And Kinky Exhibitionist. That says it all.

Finally, I propose one additional acronym, of which I hope to take ownership. That's GOOSE. It stands for Greatest Of Our Senior Essayists. If anyone would like to challenge me for that title, go for it! I know at least one PIG who will vote for me.

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

## SOCIAL SECURITY

by CHERYL TUDINO  
SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

# How to Get Help from Social Security

In early April, local Social Security offices plan to add more in-person appointments and will again offer in-person service for people without an appointment. We have not set an exact date in April. **We continue to provide help in our offices by appointment only.**

As we expand in-person service, we strongly encourage you to continue to **go online, call us for help, and schedule appointments in advance.**

The best way for people with access to the internet to get help from Social Security is online at [ssa.gov](http://ssa.gov).

If you cannot use our website, call our National 800 Number (1-800-772-1213) or your local Social Security office for help.

For quicker access to a representative at our National 800 Number, try calling early in the day (between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. local time) or later in the afternoon (between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. local time). We are also less busy later in the week (Wednesday to Friday) and later in the month.

If we are unable to help when you call our 800 number or local office, we will schedule an appointment for you by phone or in-person.

We may need to schedule you for an appointment at a later date or call you back to provide the service you are requesting.

As we get closer to early April, we continue to offer more telephone and in-person appointments.

The number of people a local office can help in person will depend on local health conditions and other factors.



### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

If you visit an office, please keep these very important points in mind:

- You must complete a self-assessment checklist to see if it is safe for you to enter an office.
- Everyone must wear a mask. We will provide a mask if you do not have one.
- You may need to wait outside because space in our offices may be limited. Please plan for the weather.
- We ask that you come alone unless you require help with your visit. If you require help, we can only permit one adult to join you. Children are allowed.
- Until announced, we are only able to help you in person if you have an appointment.
- When we resume helping people without an appointment in early April, they should expect long lines, especially during the busiest times in our offices: Mondays, the morning after a federal holiday, and the first week of the month.



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### MEMOIRS

by SUSAN DEAN

# Helen's Legacy

Loss is a part of life. But we're never ready. We wake each day expecting everything to be the same - and for the most part, it is.

I wrote about my aunt and uncle, Don and Helen Mellor, back in November. They were the Grand Marshals in the Cranston Veterans Day parade. Heroes in every way. To their country and to their family.

Aunt Helen passed away at the end of March. Some might say that it wasn't unexpected - she was 98. But it was sudden. She had a difficult night and by morning it became apparent that the end was near. Her six children and their families arrived and spent a final week with her. She was surrounded by love, laughter, tears, and many, many shared memories. The NCAA was blaring on TV in the background. Helen

was a fan of basketball, as well as all sports, and so it was a fitting backdrop.

Funerals are never easy, but hers can only be described as beautiful. The church was packed, the procession to the Veterans Cemetery miles long. Helen's children and grandchildren spoke about her - not in terms of formal eulogies - but in words telling of the simple things. They remembered the fun they had with her - how she was always laughing and upbeat. They talked about the early years when she would take them places and the later years when they would do the driving. She would comment on how beautiful the day was simply because the sky was so blue, giving them an appreciation of the world around them when they were young. They recalled singing together and laughed at how she usually changed the lyrics of well-known songs to fit the occasion, and how every excursion ended with sharing ice cream. They remembered summers in Maine, where Helen and Don had a house on a lake. The stories they told - both funny and poignant - were a testament to her impact.

Within the stories, however, was a deeper truth. They all knew that each and every one of them was valued and loved. Six children and fourteen grandchildren - all knew that they had her full attention and felt her love when they were with her. They talked about how supportive she was of all of their endeavors. Never judgmental - from fashion advice to life's lessons - from living life to the fullest to following one's heart and finding their way to their dreams. There is an old saying about roots and wings - she gave her children the perfect balance of both - all wrapped

up with humor and love.

I remember Helen's humor and love, too. She got me into running years ago when she was in her fifties and I was in my thirties. We were getting ready to run a four mile race in Maine one year - something we did along with many of our extended family every July. I had just turned 50 and she had just turned 79. Just before the race she lamented, "Oh, I wish I was 80 so that we could be moving into our next age divisions together!" And she truly meant it. Who wishes they were a year older - especially at age 79?

During the funeral church service one of her sons, addressing his father, had just finished saying, "Now, Dad, we know that Mom always gets the last word" and he'd barely gotten the words out when a cell phone rang out from somewhere in the filled pews. He ad-libbed, "In fact - she's calling now!" The church erupted in laughter that lasted several minutes. We all agreed that Helen would have approved.

Later, at the restaurant where we gathered to share a meal, my brother had set up a computer where he displayed a slideshow of family pictures. Between sets of pictures there were videos running of Helen playing the piano. She played her piano right up to her final days and my brother filmed her many times. The computer was running continuously while we were eating, but at one point my cousin tapped a spoon on a glass calling out that he wanted everyone's attention. As we all quieted down, Helen - who was cheerfully playing one of her favorite classics on video - at that exact moment stopped playing, turned and looked straight into the camera attentively, and then started to laugh. It was the second uncanny,

serendipitous, hugely humorous coincidence of the day. Or maybe neither was coincidence at all. Maybe...just maybe she had a hand in making them happen and was laughing right along with us from wherever she is on her journey.

I visited with my Uncle Don in the days following Helen's send-off. He talked about how they married after only nine dates and celebrated 76 years together. How they raised six great kids - still calling them kids - and recalled their many travels and adventures. We laughed about Helen's humorous bent. When Don retired from his "retirement" job at the Cranston Library at age 99, Helen said that she was thinking she'd need to divorce him as he wouldn't be able to support her in the manner to which she'd become accustomed. We laughed together as we remembered.

Helen's legacy is one of love, too. She used to say that if Don passed first her heart would break into a million pieces. Don's heart, I'm sure, broke upon her passing. But a heart can only break if it is filled to the brim with love. Don's heart is still full - not just with love, past and present, but with gratitude, too. He is grateful for the love and years they shared - each moment a gift.

Uncle Don is 101. He still embraces the gift of every day. Before Covid he was visiting local schools and sharing his experiences of his Navy days. He wants to resume those visits soon.

Helen is sorely missed, but her spirit is living on in the lives and legacies of her family as we remember, and I know that she is laughing, always finding the humor and the joy - wherever her next adventure has taken her.



## Create structure after retirement

Many people typically look forward to retirement and the freedom that comes with it. The notion that commuting and deadlines will one day be a distant memory is enough to make anyone excited for retirement. But when the day to leave the daily grind behind arrives, many retirees admit to feeling a little anxiety about how they're going to find structure.

Retirement is a big transition, and Robert Delamontagne, PhD, author of the 2011 book "The Retiring Mind: How to Make the Psychological Transition to Retirement," notes that some retirees experience anxiety, depression and even a sense of loss upon calling it a career. Some of those feelings can undoubtedly be traced to the perceived lack of purpose some individuals feel after retiring. Without a job to do each day, people can begin to feel useless. Overcoming such feelings can be difficult, but finding ways to build daily structure can make the transition to retirement go smoothly.

- Find something to truly engage in. People who truly enjoy their work tend to be fully engaged, so it's no surprise if such individuals have a hard time adjusting to retirement. Some may suggest volunteering can help fill the void created by retirement, but researchers with the Sloan Center on Aging and Work at Boston College have found that only those individuals who are truly engaged in their post-retirement volunteering enjoy the psychological benefits of such pursuits. So before retirees dive right in to volunteering as a means to creating structure, they should first exercise due diligence and find an opportunity they'll find genuinely engaging.
- Embrace the idea of 'bridge employment.' 'Bridge employment' is the name given to the trend that has seen retired individuals take on part-time or temporary employment after they have retired from full-time working. COVID-19 has no doubt skewed post-retirement working statistics since the World Health Organization first declared a pandemic in March 2020, but a 2019 survey from the LIMRA Secure Retirement Institute found that 27 percent of pre-retirees with at least \$100,000 in assets planned to work part-time in retirement. Even part-time work can provide enough daily structure to help retirees feel as though each day is not just a free-for-all.
- Make a concerted effort to be more social. Volunteering and working are not the only ways to create structure in retirement. A concerted effort to be more social can help retirees fill their days with interactions with like-minded individuals who may be experiencing the same feelings. Join a book club, a local nature group that goes on daily or semi-daily morning hikes or another local community organization. These are great ways to build structure and meet new people. Retirees can create social media accounts to find local community groups that cater to their interests. Even if it seems hard to believe, plenty of retirees are seeking to create structure in retirement life, and social media can make it easier to find such individuals in your community.

Structure and retirement may seem like strange bedfellows. But many retirees seek structure after calling it a career, and there are many fun ways for seniors to create more organization in their lives. TF222687

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**AARP - RHODE ISLAND**  
by CATHERINE TAYLOR

# Where Will You Live?

The “American Dream” has always included the promise of living comfortably in a home of our choosing – a dwelling well within our means in a community that meets our basic needs. Especially as we age.

Once, it seems, that wasn’t asking for much. But for too many Rhode Islanders today, fulfillment of this dream has become more like a nightmare. Our state is experiencing a housing crisis that is hitting older Rhode Islanders especially hard.

Affordability is a key factor. Historically low inventory in both rental units and homes for sale has sent prices through the roof. To make matters worse, only six of Rhode Island’s 39 cities and towns – Burrillville, Central Falls, Newport, New Shoreham, Providence and Woonsocket – have met an affordable housing goal the state set in 1991.

AARP Rhode Island’s recent *Vital Voices* survey of adults age 45 and older found that nearly half consider the availability of affordable and accessible housing a very serious problem.

Communities that want to thrive must have an array of creative housing options that are suitable for all incomes, ages, abilities and life stages. It’s time to reframe how we think about housing. It’s in everyone’s interest.

On April 26, AARP Rhode Island is holding a free virtual forum – **Thinking Outside the Four Walls: Age-Friendly Housing Ideas for How and Where You Want to Live** – so you may explore exciting housing possibilities and trends. National and local experts will discuss housing choices such as accessory dwelling units (ADUs), tiny homes, intergenerational home sharing, communities of mutual support, and popular modifications you can make to your current home. I am delighted that Danielle Arigoni, Director of Livable Communities, AARP Government Affairs, will join us as our keynote speaker.

“Most homes and communities are not designed to be age-friendly,” says Danielle. “AARP’s Livable Communities initiative supports efforts to diversify housing options, so that people who want to downsize or move into a more accessible unit in their community can do so.”

Among our panelists will be Caroline Gangji, Executive Director, The Village Common of Rhode Island, a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization offering supports and social engagement for older

adults who wish to age in their community.

“The Village Movement is strong across the United States with over 250 villages nationwide and began in Rhode Island in 2015,” she explains. “It is a system of mutual support, with neighbors helping neighbors with tasks such as providing rides to appointments, minor home chores, technology support and engaging social activities. “The strength in the village model is that it is never ‘just a ride’; rather, it is an opportunity to connect, make a friend, and act as a volunteer safety net around our members and volunteers.” Caroline will talk about villages in Barrington, Edgewood, Providence and Westerly, and a pilot village in Burrillville.

Another speaker, Andrea Burns of Age Friendly Boston, will discuss Boston’s Homeshare initiative. “A majority of seniors in Boston spend more than 30 percent of their incomes on housing,” she says. “Home sharing can alleviate the high cost of housing for both renters and owners and the public health crisis of social isolation.”

I’m looking forward to hearing from panelist David Salvatore, a member of the Providence City Council and the Government Affairs Director for the RI Association of Realtors. He also sits on the RI House of Representatives Low and Moderate Income Housing Act Commission. An advocate for affordable housing, David is a crusader for developing affordable tiny homes in Providence.

“Exacerbating Rhode Island’s problem is a reputation for opposing new and creative construction, instead of focusing on building a housing model that works for all families, including our aging population,” he says. David will share his excitement about creatively converting existing, low-occupancy-rate office buildings into adaptive housing.

Our fourth panelist is Mark Kravatz, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence, who so eloquently reminds us that “a decent home provides the strength, stability, and independence that individuals need to thrive.”

I agree wholeheartedly with Mark, and that is why our event is so timely and important. Are you giving thought to where you will live as you grow older? Participating in this event may lead to compelling new discoveries. It’s all about thinking outside the four walls.

Please join us at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26. It’s free and open to anyone interested, but you must register at [www.aarp.org/RIEvents](http://www.aarp.org/RIEvents). We look forward to seeing you and finding some answers together.

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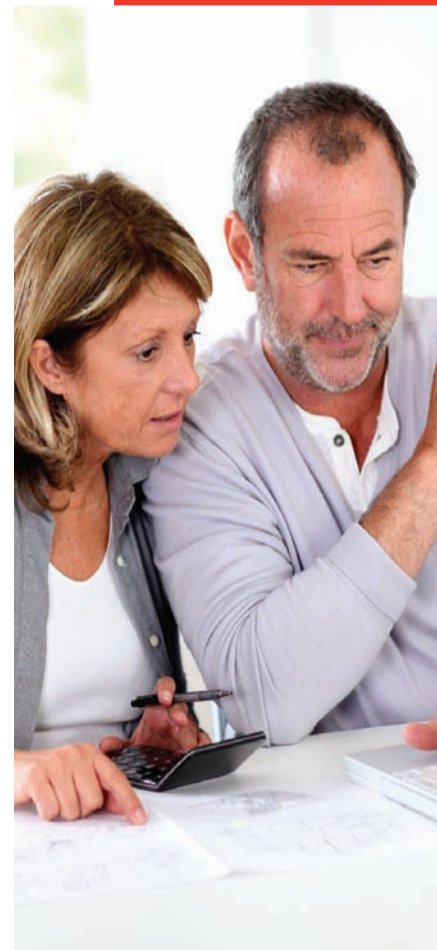
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## Exploring Age-Friendly Housing Alternatives

Join AARP Rhode Island for a FREE virtual forum. Explore exciting housing trends such as accessory dwelling units (ADUs), tiny homes, intergenerational home sharing, communities of mutual support, and modifications you can make to your current home.

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# Is it time to downsize?

Individuals work hard to save enough money to purchase their homes. And the hard work doesn’t end there. Once homeowners settle into a new home, they may set their sights on renovations that suit their individual needs. And even when buyers find a home that needs no such work, maintenance requires homeowners’ utmost attention.

All that hard work is perhaps one reason why seniors may be a little reluctant to downsize as they advance through their golden years. In addition to the sweat equity homeowners put into their homes, all the memories they’ve made within their walls can make it harder to put a home on the market.

Downsizing is a difficult decision that’s unique to each homeowner. Seniors who aren’t quite certain if downsizing is right for them can consider three key factors to make a decision that’s in their best interests.

- **Cost:** Perhaps no variable affects senior homeowners’ decisions to downsize their homes as much as cost. No one wants to outlive their money, and downsizing to a smaller home can help seniors reduce their monthly expenses by a significant margin. Even homeowners who have long since paid off their mortgages can save substantial amounts of money by downsizing to a smaller home or even an apartment or condominium. Lower property taxes, reduced insurance premiums and the need to pay for fewer repairs are just some of the ways downsizing can save seniors money.

- **Space:** Many people love the extra space that single-family homes provide. But seniors can take a walk through their homes and see how many rooms they still use on a consistent basis. If much of the home is unused, seniors can probably downsize without adversely affecting their daily lives.

- **Market:** The real estate market is another factor to consider when deciding if the time is right to downsize. A seller’s market can help seniors get the biggest return on their real estate investment, potentially helping them make up for meager retirement savings. For example, home prices skyrocketed across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic, making that a great time for sellers to put their homes on the market. Seniors selling to downsize may capitalize on such spikes since they won’t be looking to turn around and buy larger, equally expensive homes once they sell their current place. If the market is down and seniors can withstand the work and cost a little longer, it may be best to wait until things bounce back in sellers’ favor.

Downsizing requires careful consideration of a host of variables. No two situations are the same, so seniors should exercise due diligence to determine if downsizing is right for them.

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# Sweeten Up Spring with an 'Eggstra' Creative Brunch

**FAMILY FEATURES**

It's hard to top a brunch feast spent snacking on sweet treats in the sunshine with loved ones. At the center of your celebration can be a springtime tradition with nearly endless possibilities: eggs.

Lean into the season with creative recipes like Prosciutto and Parmesan Egg Cups or Eggy Lemon Sandwich Cookies to take brunch to the next level. As a natural source of vitamins and minerals, eggs are a delicious protein powerhouse with just 70 calories per large egg. Boiled, scrambled, poached, baked and any other way you like them, they're a kitchen superhero.

This spring, add eggs to your menu and explore fresh ways to celebrate the season at [incredibleegg.org](http://incredibleegg.org).

**Eggy Lemon Sandwich Cookies**

Recipe courtesy of the American Egg Board and "Joy the Baker"

Total time: 1 hour, 40 minutes  
Yield: 16-18 cookies

**Dough:**

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3/4 cup vegetable shortening
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, softened to room temperature
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tablespoons whole milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract



Eggy Lemon Sandwich Cookies

Place rack in upper third of oven and preheat to 350 F. Roll half of dough on lightly floured counter to 1/4-1/2-inch thickness. Cut with 2-3-inch egg cookie cutter and place on parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Use 1-inch round or egg-shaped cookie cutter to cut yolk holes out of half the cookies. Bake 8-10 minutes until just golden around edges. Cool completely before filling.

To make lemon curd: In 2-quart heavy saucepan, whisk juice, zest, sugar and eggs. Stir in butter and cook over low heat, whisking frequently, until curd is thick enough to hold marks of whisk and bubbles appear on surface, about 6 minutes.

Transfer lemon curd to bowl and chill, covered with plastic wrap, until cold, at least 1 hour.

To make buttercream: In medium bowl using electric hand mixer, beat butter until well softened. Add powdered sugar, salt and lemon zest; beat on low. Add milk and whip to combine. Beat in poppy seeds. Transfer frosting to zip-top bag with corner cut off or piping bag with medium round tip. Leave buttercream at room temperature until ready to pipe.

To assemble cookies: Flip each whole egg cookie so bottoms are facing up. Pipe buttercream frosting around edges. Spoon 2-3 teaspoons lemon curd into centers of cookies. Top each with one cookie with hole; press gently and spoon 1 teaspoon lemon curd into cookie hole.

**Lemon Curd:**

- 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into cubes

**Buttercream:**

- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened to room temperature
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 pinch salt
- 1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest
- 1-2 tablespoons warm milk
- 1 teaspoon poppy seeds

To make dough: In medium bowl, whisk flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt.

In bowl of stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, cream together shortening and butter until well combined. Scrape down sides of bowl, add sugar and beat on medium speed until pale and fluffy, 3-5 minutes.

Add egg, milk and vanilla extract; beat until combined. Add dry ingredients and beat on low until dough forms. Scrape down sides of bowl to ensure no dry pockets at bottom. Wrap and refrigerate dough 30 minutes.



Prosciutto and Parmesan Egg Cups

**Prosciutto and Parmesan Egg Cups**

Recipe courtesy of the American Egg Board and "Joy the Baker"

Total time: 34-36 minutes  
Yield: 6 cups

- 12 pieces thinly sliced prosciutto
- 6 slices tomato
- 1/3 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese
- 6 large eggs
- fresh cracked black pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup finely chopped chives

Place rack in upper third of oven and preheat to 350 F.

Line muffin pan with six cupcake liners. Drape two slices prosciutto in each cup over liner, ensuring there are no holes for egg to sneak through.

Place one tomato slice in each cup. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon Parmesan atop each tomato. Crack one egg into each cup. Sprinkle each with fresh cracked black pepper, to taste.

Bake 14-16 minutes, or until eggs are cooked as desired. Top with chives.

Cool 5 minutes before serving warm.

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