

## Your Amazon may arrive by Christmas 2024

By RORY SCHULER

Johnston's Amazon won't open in 2023. That's confirmed.

Now the launch has been pushed to a mystery date in 2024.

Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena Jr. expects the facility to be operational by next year's "holiday season." Amazon has spent \$300 million on the project so far, but won't commit to a firm opening date.

When it was pitched to taxpayers and residents in 2021, Amazon's lawyers estimated the facility would open months ago, last spring (2023). Then, eventually, as spring faded into summer, the company pushed the opening date back to the second half of 2023.

As the end of 2023 nears, Amazon now admits, at best, the region will be waiting until an as-yet-undetermined date in 2024 for the more than 1,000 promised jobs and the half-million dollars they

pledged to pay out to the community — expected to be divided among the town's youth sports, senior center, land trust and Memorial Park (within a year of opening).

"Construction inside and outside of the facility is ongoing and on track for a 2024 launch," according to a statement provided earlier this week by Caitlin McLaughlin, Amazon spokesperson. "We appreciate the partnership with the Town of Johnston and the State of Rhode Island and look forward to working with them to hire more than 1,000 employees."

Although it sits empty and incomplete, Amazon insists they will open the facility: "The Johnston Fulfillment Center remains a significant part of our future plans in New England," McLaughlin wrote in an emailed response to questions. She provided a little bit of background on the project.



**PACKAGE DELAYED:** These images of the Amazon construction site in Johnston, following the sunset, were captured by a drone piloted by Trevor Bryan, an FAA Licensed and insured drone pilot, the owner and operator of New England Aerial Services, on Sept. 21, 2022. The illuminated project has been taking shape on the Hartford Avenue hill overlooking Johnston, but its opening date has been pushed to 2024. (Johnston Sun Rise file photo)

AMAZON - PAGE 6

## Raising Cane's Johnston confirms January opening 'Free Cane's for a Year'

First 20 guests get

'Free Cane's for a Year'

Full details on Page 12.



**EMPTY PLAZA:** Completion of Town Hall Plaza is anticipated by April 2024. Who will occupy the prime piece of real estate along Atwood Avenue, next to Johnston's Town Hall? (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

## What store's in store for Town Hall Plaza?

By RORY SCHULER

Over the past year Town Hall Plaza was vacated and gutted.

While construction seems to have slowed at the site, a nationwide retailer may be considering the empty strip mall for its newest Ocean State location. (At very least, a company spokesman confirms the company's looking for a spot in town.)

The prime piece of real estate along Atwood Avenue, next to Johnston Town Hall, has been home base to a long list of businesses and organizations.

Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena Jr. announced his bid for mayor in the now empty strip mall, which temporarily housed the Democratic Town Committee's headquarters. Polisena also celebrated his mayoral election victory in the building,

prior to its dismantling soon after.

"Two things I hate are strip malls and vacant buildings and I think the residents of Johnston agree with that as well," Polisena said via email earlier this week.

In July, Polisena weighed in on the project, which form nearly a year has lingered, quiet but strewn with debris, behind a tall chain-link fence, next to the heart of Johnston's government operations.

"Regarding the property next to Johnston Town Hall, I don't have a timeline but I believe it will be a plaza with a combination of restaurant and retail," Polisena said. "Almost any change is better than the way the property previously looked."

One of the brothers associated with the Grieco Auto Group car dealerships on Hartford Avenue,

Michael Grieco Jr. (with 266 Putnam Ave, LLC), has a controlling interest in the Town Hall Plaza project.

In July, Hillary Reynolds, a spokeswoman for Grieco, released a possible rendering for the project. She confirmed that the strip mall's past tenants — Supreme Gym & Café, a convenience store and the Democratic Town Committee — would not be returning.

"Plans for 266 Putnam Ave, LLC's new Town Hall Plaza, located at 1505 Atwood Ave. in Johnston, include a drive-through and five units total," Reynolds said in July. "The building is being fully renovated with all new HVACs and bathrooms, and the parking lot will be paved with landscaping. Completion is anticipated by April 2024."

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# Senior 'Spotlite'



**DOORS OPENED:** Judy Furtado lost her husband but had a friend who planned a visit to the Johnston Senior Center. The community she discovered was just the thing to lure this farmer's daughter to the full schedule of activities she found available on Hartford Avenue. (Photo courtesy Richard J. Delfino Jr.)

# Farmer's daughter wasn't born in a barn, but she's been tackling chores since age 3

By **RICHARD J. DELFINO JR.**  
Special to the Sun Rise

The Johnston Senior Center "Spotlite" this week shines on Judy Furtado. Judy started coming to the JSC one year ago, when she was asked to accompany a friend who wanted to inquire about services. She immediately recognized some familiar faces, fellow churchgoers who told her all the great things that were happening at the center.

She was invited to join that group for lunch that day, and has barely missed a day since then. Judy has lived in Johnston since 1979. Prior to then she lived two years in Panama City, where she accompanied her husband, who was in the Air Force.

Judy was born and lived her early years on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, which manufactured cheese. The farm was run by her grandfather, and then father and uncle. She claims her first "barn duties" began at the age of 3 years old.

She fondly remembers attending school in a one-room county schoolhouse. She loved that simple life on the farm, where she learned the value of hard work and the benefits of so much time outside with family.

After high school Judy pursued a Communications degree at Brigham Young University, and took courses in engineering. For many years, Judy worked as an assistant engineer. She was a technical writer, responsible for writing technical reports.

Judy and her husband raised three children here in Johnston. She was very involved in their school life, and she prides herself with reaching the position of RI State PTA President and being a member of the National Board of PTA.

Around three years ago her husband passed away, and her three children, all of whom live out of state, were concerned their mother was spending too much time alone and encouraged her to get involved.

That fact, along with her friend asking her to join in on her appointment, destined her to join the JSC community. She now enjoys bocce, day trips with friends, and lunch with that same group who initially invited her to join them.

She has even met a "special friend" who she enjoys spending time with outside the Center hours. Judy's life has certainly been "enriched" by spending time here at the Center.

**Editor's Note:** Richard J. Delfino Jr. serves as Executive Director of the Johnston Senior Center, at 1291 Hartford Ave., Johnston. The Johnston Sun Rise regularly publishes a senior profile, called "Senior Spotlight," submitted by the senior center.

## Johnston Senior Center Highlights

From the staff ...

The Johnston Senior Center is better than ever. We are offering more exercise programs and trips every week. We also have a book Club on the last Tuesday once a month. A Social worker/Medicare Counselor/Ship Counselor is also provided 5 days a week. Contact Madeline Ravenelle at 944-3343 Please come for a tour of the facility.

The Senior Center Club meets the last Tuesday of the month. There is no charge for Senior Center activities. They offer Bingo on Thursday and Friday. Lunch is served daily at 12 p.m. (with a suggested donation of \$3).

A Notary (Algeria Vaughn-Bayley) will be on the premises, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday, free of charge.

### Weekly Events

- Monday — Arts and Crafts
  - Monday & Wednesday — Hi Lo Jack
  - Tuesday — Quilting
  - Wednesday — Poker
  - Thursday — Mar Jong
  - Thursday & Friday — Bingo
- Offering more programs and trips every week:

### Events

The Johnston Senior Center and the Johnston Recreation Department have co-sponsored an 8-week "HI-LO" Jack League, on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m., to benefit the Senior Center and Johnston Youth Sports. It's almost over. Deadline to register was Sept. 22 and play runs thru Nov. 22. Prize money will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. For more details contact Mike at 401-272-3460.

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Tues. Nov. 28th @ 1:00PM

**KINGSTON, RI**  
Kingston Congregational Church  
2610 Kingstown Road  
Wed. Nov. 8th @ 10AM  
Wed. Nov. 29th @ 10AM

**NORTH PROVIDENCE, RI**  
North Providence Mancini Center  
(Members Only)  
2 Atlantic Boulevard  
Wed. Nov. 15th @ 1PM

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When attending in-person events, all staff and guests are required to follow state and federal COVID-19 safety guidelines.

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Wed. Nov. 8th at 1:30PM  
Fri. Nov. 17th @ 1:30PM

**PORTSMOUTH, RI**  
Atria Aquidneck Place  
125 Quaker Hill Lane  
Thurs. Nov. 9th @ 6PM

**CRANSTON, RI**  
Universal Wealth Management  
945 Reservoir Avenue  
Fri. Nov. 10th @ 10AM  
Mon. Nov. 13th @ 10AM & 5PM  
Fri. Nov. 17th @ 10AM  
Mon. Nov. 20th @ 10AM & 5PM  
Tues. Nov. 28th @ 10AM  
Thurs. Nov. 30th @ 10AM  
Fri. Dec. 1st @ 10AM or by Appt.  
Mon. Dec. 4th @ 10AM or by Appt.  
Tues. Dec. 5th @ 10AM or by Appt.  
Wed. Dec. 6th @ 10AM or by Appt.  
Thurs. Dec. 7th @ 10AM or by Appt.

**MIDDLETOWN, RI**  
Middletown Public Library  
700 W Main Road  
Tues. Nov. 21st 11AM -1PM

**MIDDLETOWN, RI**  
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Thurs. Nov. 9th @ 1PM

**NARRAGANSETT, RI**  
Narragansett Community Center  
53 Mumford Road  
Tues. Nov. 14th @ 11AM

**JAMESTOWN, RI**  
Jamestown Senior Center  
6 West Street  
Wed. Nov. 8th @ 8AM  
Wed. Nov. 15th @ 8AM

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**SCHOOL SPIRIT:** A group of Winsor Hill students and Panther Cubs from Johnston High celebrated Halloween on Tuesday morning with a themed bingo and pumpkin presentation. (Submitted photo)

# A Panther visits Winsor Hill, urges safe decision-making

By PETE FONTAINE

An interesting costume-clad character visited Winsor Hill Elementary School in Johnston mid-Tuesday morning. It was the Johnston High School Panther — a.k.a. Jayden Testa — who was accompanied by members of the Panther Cubs, an all-student offshoot

of SADD (Students Against Dangerous Decisions).

The Panther Cubs, who are under the direction of long-time JHS faculty member-school advisor Greg Russo, plan to visit a school each month of the academic year with special messages that are aligned with the season and/or holiday.

It was a rather appropriate visit centered around Halloween and the Panther

Cubs program was about the need to maintain Halloween safety. Likewise, the JHS group organized a Halloween Bingo and visited all four first grade classes.

And the visit, which was arranged by Russo through Winsor Hill Principal Maria Simeone and Assistant Principal Natasha Zito, concluded with the Panther Cubs visiting each of Winsor Hill's four first grade classes and enjoying pretzels

and apples and giving each student a pumpkin (generously donated by Jacavone's Garden Center on Atwood Avenue in Johnston).

School staff sent out a special thanks for the unique event to the Panther Cubs, Alessandra Pesare, Raylin Santos, Jiana Mitsoulis and Alexia DiLorenzo and teachers Mrs. Toppi, Ms. Englehardt, Mrs. Fleming and Ms. Hawbecker.

## Warwick Rotary 5k Turkey Trot Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>



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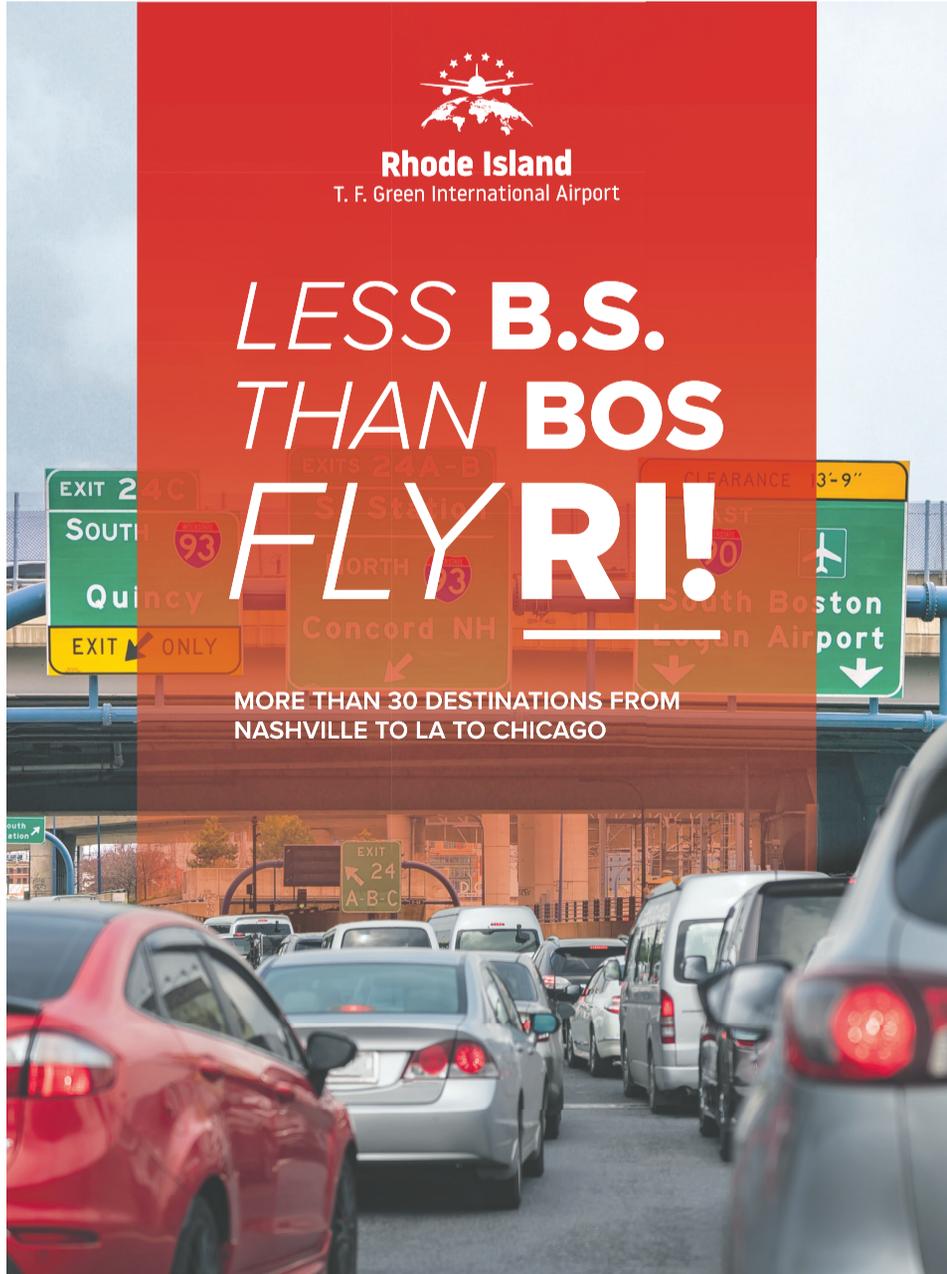




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- 12/16: Bella Restaurant Burrillville
- 12/17: Chelo's-Warwick
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**PROMOTED:** Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisen Jr. and the Johnston Police Department's top brass celebrated the promotion of Officer Joseph Anderson to the rank of Sergeant. (Photo courtesy Johnston Police)



# Anderson promoted to Sergeant

The Johnston Police Department announced the promotion of Officer Joseph Anderson to the rank of Sergeant.

"Today marks a significant milestone as Officer Anderson steps into his new role with the department," according to Johnston Police. "His dedication and leadership have been commendable, and we are proud to see him rise to the position of Sergeant. Please join us in congratulating Sergeant Anderson for his well-deserved promotion. His service, hard work, and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and we are confident that he will continue to serve with professionalism and integrity in his new role. Congratulations, Sergeant Anderson!"

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# JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

## RESISTING ARREST

Around 9:15 a.m., Oct. 28, Johnston Police responded to an address (redacted from the public report) in town to investigate a call regarding a "suspicious male party in the area."

Police located the man and identified him as Cory Terilli, 26, of 4 Magnolia Lane, Coventry.

Police did a background check. While performing the check, Johnston Police Patrolman Bryan Yepes positioned himself behind Terilli "to prevent an escape and to make an effective arrest in case there was an active warrant and he attempted to flee," according to the arrest report.

Dispatch confirmed Terilli had an active warrant out of the Coventry Police Department for Obstructing Officer in Execution of Duty.

Yepes asked Terilli to place his hands behind his back, "at which point he attempted to flee from the scene."

"I then physically guided Mr. Terilli to the ground and secured his left arm," Yepes wrote in the report.

Terilli was handcuffed and transported to Johnston Police Headquarters. He was secured in a cell until custody was turned over to Coventry Police.

## STOLEN VEHICLE

Around 2:35 a.m., Johnston Police Patrolman Aaron Blanco was on routine patrol when he spotted a white GMC SUV with no front registration plate parked at an address in town (the address was redacted from the publicly available report).

"While inspecting this vehicle, I noticed the windows to be fogged up as if somebody was inside," Blanco wrote in the arrest report. "I observed an individual who was later identified as Anthony Boulet, wearing all black with a hood over his head in the rear of the SUV."

Police identified the man in the car as Anthony Boulet, 24, of 2072 Smith St., Apt. 306, North Providence.

Police ordered Boulet to get "out of the vehicle and onto the ground for officer safety, as I believed he may have been breaking into the vehicle, until my backup arrived," according to the report.

He was handcuffed. "I asked Anthony if this was his vehicle to which he replied, 'I'll be honest with you sir, I stole this car,'" Blanco wrote in the report.

Boulet was placed in the back of a police cruiser. A check on the vehicle revealed it was in fact reported stolen. The suspect was transported to Johnston Police Headquarters for processing. He was charged with Possession of Stolen Vehicle or Parts. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

# 4-year-old shot in Cranston, father arrested & charged

By RORY SCHULER

A Cranston man has been arrested and charged following the "accidental" shooting of his four-year-old son, according to Cranston Police Chief Col. Michael J. Winquist.

The child was shot at their residence in Cranston on Oct. 31. At 10:12 a.m. the Cranston Fire Department received 911 calls that a four-year-old boy had been shot at 25 Queen St., according to police.

"The caller indicated the father was responsible for the shooting," Winquist said in a press release. "Patrol Officers arrived to find Michael A. Jones, age 33, holding his son with an apparent gunshot wound to his head."

The boy was transported by rescue to Hasbro Children's Hospital, where he remains in critical condition after undergoing emergency surgery, police said.

Jones was taken into custody and transported to Cranston Police Headquarters.

"An investigation conducted by members of the Cranston Police Special Victims Unit revealed that Jones was inside a second-floor bedroom of his apartment handling a loaded firearm described as a 9-millimeter handgun," police said. "According to Jones, he accidentally discharged the gun, causing a single round to travel through the wall and strike his son in the head in an adjacent room."

The child's grandfather, who resides on the first floor, called 911 for medical help.

Police executed a court-authorized search warrant at the home and report finding "a loaded 9-millimeter believed to have been used in the shooting."

Jones had been previously convicted of a felony assault was sentenced to a two-year suspended sentence and probation on June 1, 2022. The sentence prohibited Jones from possessing a firearm, according to police.

"How Jones acquired the gun remains under investigation," Winquist said in the press release.

He was to be arraigned at Cranston Police Headquarters on the following charges: Felony Assault, Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person (Convicted of a Crime of Violence), and Firing in a Compact Area. A prosecutor from the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office will argue Jones violated his suspended sentence, according to police.

"This case is particularly difficult for all involved given the age of the victim and highlights the need to keep firearms out of the hands of prohibited individuals," Winquist said. "A tragedy like this hits home with our first responders, many of whom have children of their own. Our thoughts are with the young boy and his family as he fights for survival."



**CHARGED:** Michael A. Jones, 33, of 25 Queen St., Cranston, was arrested and charged following the "accidental" shooting of his four-year-old son on Halloween morning. (Photo courtesy Cranston Police)

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# Amazon

(Continued from page 1)

"Despite various macroeconomic pressures delaying this project, such as industry-wide supply chain and inflationary challenges, we remain focused on its opening next year," according to McLaughlin. "We've spent nearly \$300 million on this project to date, which includes local investments in labor and supplies."

The Johnston Sun Rise asked Polisenia if he was frustrated by the repeated delays.

"I'm not frustrated, I'm thankful," he wrote via email earlier this week. "I don't know of any other municipality in Rhode Island that will receive a guaranteed cash infusion of over \$162 million over 20 years from one project — a project that has zero taxpayer dollars funding it, unlike some of the other subsidized projects we see like the Pawtucket Soccer Stadium."

"No updates since the news that came out in July," Polisenia said last week. "It should open sometime in 2024 before the holiday season."

On July 6, the Johnston Sun Rise published a story headlined "Shipment delayed? It matters when Amazon opens."

Both Amazon and Polisenia said they had no updates on the then-expected late 2023 opening. Two weeks later, Rhode Island Secretary of Commerce Elizabeth Tanner announced another pushback of the expected commencement of operations at the site and both Polisenia and Amazon confirmed the delay to local television news stations.

"I was informed when Secretary Tanner made the announcement, the same day the media informed the public, back on July 19th," Polisenia wrote via email.

The mayor has no doubt the facility will open and fulfill its promises to the community and local job-seekers.

"At almost 4 million square feet, it's one of the largest warehouses in North America," Polisenia explained. "When constructing something that gigantic, particularly after the supply chain issues and semiconductor shortage presented by the pandemic, it's understandable they were delayed. They are still on target to produce over 1,000 jobs and when Amazon begins the hiring process they will let the Town know. Most importantly, whether open or not, the Town receives its first payment from Amazon in January 2024."

The tax agreement approved by Town Council commences in 2024.

"Nothing is contingent upon open-

ing," Polisenia wrote. "Everything is coming Jan 2024. The first year payment and all of the community partnership benefits for the town and state."

The Community Partnership Agreement was approved by a unanimous vote of Town Council in April 2021 while Polisenia served as Vice-President, prior to his election as mayor.

The vast majority of Amazon's payments to Johnston should commence Jan. 1, 2024, delays or not.

However, according to the agreement, a half-million dollars in eagerly awaited payments to four community pillars — \$50,000 to Johnston youth sports; \$100,000 to the Johnston Senior Center; \$250,000 to the Johnston Municipal Land Trust, and \$100,000 for Johnston Memorial Park — are all contingent upon facility opening and full operation at the site.

It's unclear whether the \$50,000 will be split among various youth sports organizations in Johnston or if it will help fund youth sports through the town's Recreation Department.

"The youth sports was purposely left generic so the town has flexibility in its allocation," Polisenia said.

While that half-million dollars may be a very small portion of the total expected Amazon windfall, it represents a huge boon to these relatively leanly operating

town agencies.

"After speaking with (Amazon) I am confident I am not going to have to chase them down for 0.3%, less than half of one percent, of the agreement," Polisenia said. "They just want to be operational in the community before doing so."

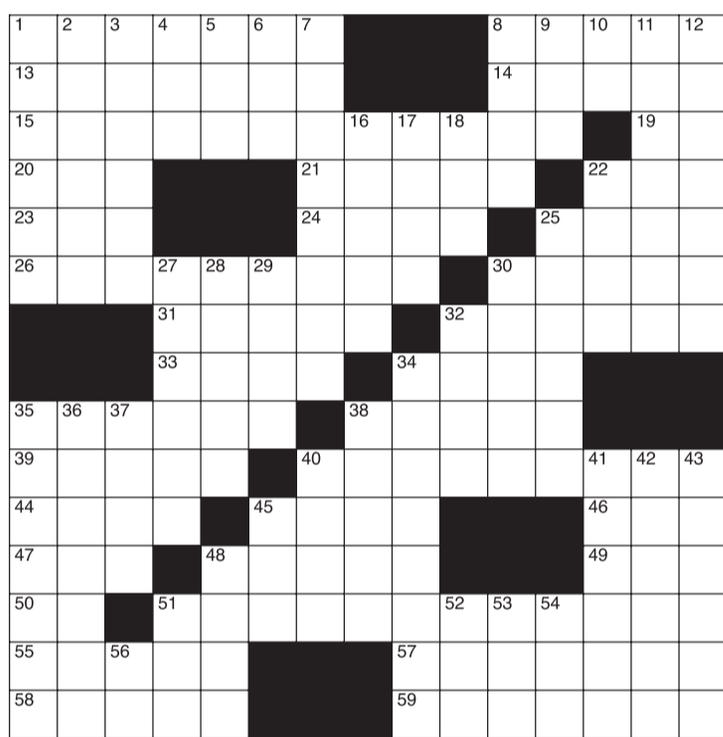
In the New Year, the town expects to receive the majority of Amazon's promised payments.

"The \$23.9 million community benefit agreement and the first \$5.7 million payment of the \$145 million tax agreement commence Jan. 1, 2024, regardless if the facility is open or not," Polisenia said. "The agreements are not contingent upon opening."

Polisenia said that "\$162.1 million of the town's total \$162.6 million commences when the calendar hit(s) Jan. 1 and will continue annually thereafter for either 10 or 20 years, depending on the benefit."

"This includes the annual payments of the \$145.6 million tax agreement, the \$11.6 million for school pathway programs and the \$5.3 million for public safety," Polisenia explained. "The other \$500k of the \$162.5 million has to be paid within, not after, one year of opening. So if they open May 2024 they have until May of 2025. If they open October 2024 they have until October 2025."

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Happen again
- 8. Large flightless birds
- 13. A type of account
- 14. Beyond what is natural
- 15. Beloved comfort food
- 19. Rural delivery
- 20. Belonging to us
- 21. Typical
- 22. Pie \_\_\_ mode
- 23. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 24. Not us
- 25. Discharge
- 26. Made empty
- 30. Fishing net
- 31. Fast-moving, harmless snake
- 32. Analyzed into its parts
- 33. In a way, chilled
- 34. Hindu queen
- 35. Circles around the sun
- 38. Used for emphasis
- 39. Reactive structures
- 40. Recommendations
- 44. Feel intense anger
- 45. Puke

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Vital public document
- 2. Disinter
- 3. Musical performances
- 4. After B
- 5. Every body has one (abbr.)
- 6. Utilize
- 7. In a way, disproved
- 8. Fisherman's tool
- 9. Of she
- 10. Trauma center
- 11. Commercial flyer
- 12. Administered medicine to calm
- 16. Popular R&B performer

- 17. Regretted
- 18. Leg (slang)
- 22. "Night Train" author
- 25. More supernatural
- 27. Baltimore ballplayer
- 28. Shoe parts
- 29. Scores perfectly
- 30. More lucid
- 32. Trim by cutting
- 34. Disreputable people
- 35. Dramatic behaviors
- 36. Disorder
- 37. Private box in a theater
- 38. More dried-up
- 40. Raw
- 41. In operation
- 42. Pillager
- 43. Butterflies with brown wings
- 45. Disallow
- 48. Own up
- 51. Hungarian city
- 52. A way to condemn
- 53. Tax collector
- 54. Lease
- 56. Not out

# More at Mohr Library

Mohr Library is offering extended programs for elementary-age kids afterschool.

Preschool Yoga with Ms. Pauline will be held Wednesdays Nov. 15 and Dec. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Register at mohrlibrary.org/forchildren.php or by calling 231-4980. Children will be guided into gentle movement exercises using the power of their imagination. They will also learn breathing techniques that calm and center them. It will be a time of joy, wonder and movement. Ms. Pauline is a certified yoga teacher practicing since she was 17 years old. A former school teacher, she began programs to bring yoga to children and teachers in schools throughout Rhode Island.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) is an opportunity for children ages 6 to 9 to experiment, explore and build with Ms. Melyssa, on Thursdays, Nov. 16 to Dec. 14 at 5 p.m. (except Thanksgiving, Nov. 23).

Art Smart for ages 8 to 12 will be held Wednesdays, Nov. 15 to Dec. 13 from 4-5:30 p.m. Art Smart for ages 5 to 7 will be Saturdays, Nov. 18 to Dec. 16 from 2-3 p.m. Registration is required and begins Nov. 6. See the library's website at mohrlibrary.org or call 401-231-4980.

Preschool Story Time started in Octo-

ber, on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and includes stories, songs and crafts. For kids 3-5 accompanied by a caregiver.

Babies and Books will be held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., from October through Dec. 5. It includes stories, songs, puppets and rhymes for children newborn to 2.5 years old, accompanied by a caregiver.

The Library offers help with technology, information, and finding books and media. They have fax service, self-service copying and public computers, and a Notary Public most evenings (call ahead to confirm). You can reserve quiet rooms and meeting space.

Drawing for adults will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursdays.

The Knitting and Crochet Group meets Fridays at 10 a.m.

Activities for middle-school and high-school age kids will be offered many afternoons. Kids should talk with our Young Adult Librarian, Marissa, for more information.

There is an ongoing book sale in the lower level, whenever we are open.

The Children's Library always has drop-in, self-directed activities for kids and families like crafts and scavenger hunts.

The Library is open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and beginning Sept. 9, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# LEGAL NOTICES

### CITATION

State of Rhode Island  
PROVIDENCE, SC.  
Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court

### PETITION TO FORECLOSE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION PM-2023-04573

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and ton HEIRS -AT-LAW OF NELLIE IANOCCELLI, AMELIA RUSSO, CLARA AMICHILA, ANNA AMICHILA, LAUREN AMICHILA, TONY AMICHILA, CARLO T. IANNUCELLI, SR; DOLORES BUSSICK, GLADYS AUSTEN, JOYCE PSILOPOULOS, ELVA VANNER, ANTHONY IANNUCELLI, BARBARA A. WOLFENDEN, JOAN COMELLA, LAWRENCE IANNUCELLI, LINDA IANNUCELLI, DONNA CATENZARO, MICHAEL IANNUCELLI, KENNETH IANNUCELLI, TAMMY M. SMITH, GAIL CARPINONE, GEORGE CARPINONE, DOMENICO IANNUCELLI, NELLINA IANNUCELLI, FERNANDO DIGREGORIO, THOMAS AMICHILA, ALBERT AMICHILA, FRANK AMICHILA AND THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ASSIGNS; and all other persons unknown or unascertained claiming or who may claim any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real estate involved which is or might become adverse to the Petitioner's right, title or interest therein as alleged, or which does or may constitute any cloud

upon Petitioner's title as set forth in Petition.

Whereas, a petition has been presented to said Court by ANTONIO ROCCHIO and FRANCESCO ROCCHIO, of 140 RESERVOIR AVE, CRANSTON, RI and said State, to foreclose all rights of redemption from the tax lien proceedings described in said petition in and concerning a certain parcel of land situated in the Town of Burrillville and in said State, bounded and described in said petition as follows:

That certain tract or parcel of land situated in the Town of Johnston, County of Providence, State of Rhode Island, and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning as a granite bound set as the Northeast corner of the within described tract of land; thence West-erly bounding Northerly on land conveyed by this Grantor to Nicola Tella One Hundred Sixty-Three and Sixty One Hundredths (163.60) feet to a granite bound; thence Southerly at an interior angle of 95° 40' bounding West-erly on a twenty-five (25) foot right of way Two Hundred Thirteen and Forty- Four One Hundredths (213.44) feet to a granite bound; thence Easterly as an interior angle of 84° 20' bounding Southerly on other land of this grantor Two Hundred Fifteen and Ninety- four One Hundredths (215.94) feet to a gran-

ite bound; thence Northerly by and with the line of a stone wall bounding Easterly on land now or formerly of Louis Lafazia Two Hundred Fourteen and Eighty One Hundredths (214.80) feet to the point and place of beginning, containing by estimation 40,000 square feet of land.

This conveyance is made subject to the following restriction. No fence shall be placed on said land over four (4) feet high within forty (40) feet of the street line.

Further identified as Assessor's Plat 24, Lot 7.

In addition, notice shall also be given by the publication of the Citation, once per week for three successive weeks on, **October 26th, November 2nd, and November 9th, 2023**, in the **JOHNSTON SUN RISE**, and the return date shall be **November 30th, 2023**.

WITNESS the SEAL of our SUPERIOR COURT, at Providence this 18th day of October, 2023.

/s/ Susan M Diggins  
CLERK

DOUGLAS H. SMITH  
140 Reservoir Avenue  
Providence, RI 02907

10/26, 11/2, 11/9/23

# ALL DONE BY KINDNESS



cherry hill manor nursing & rehabilitation center

# Opinion

## EDITORIAL

### Truly a place where hope resides

In the midst of multiple, overlapping crises that often result in the loss of housing for at-risk individuals, we are grateful to be able to report on organizations like the House of Hope, which shed a much needed ray of light upon a subject that all too frequently results in only despair and frustration.

For far too long, those experiencing homelessness and addiction were ridiculed and vilified as harbingers of their own demise — too shortsighted, too lazy, or too weak and careless to pull themselves out of the depths of darkness and back into a productive place within society.

That battle of poisonous perception is by no means won, but we have made leaps and bounds in humanizing the struggles that people go through every day; and recognizing that any one of us could be touched

by their tragedy given an unfortunate change in circumstance, or a sudden stroke of bad luck.

Advocates, like those who work at the House of Hope, go many more steps forward than simply not denigrating our most vulnerable and in-need populations. A feature running in this week's edition highlights one of their programs, a peer-to-peer mentoring program that takes those who had formerly been homeless or suffering from addiction, and lifts them up further; giving them roles of responsibility as torch-wielding shepherds of their former peers through the dark times towards a better, and more hopeful, tomorrow.

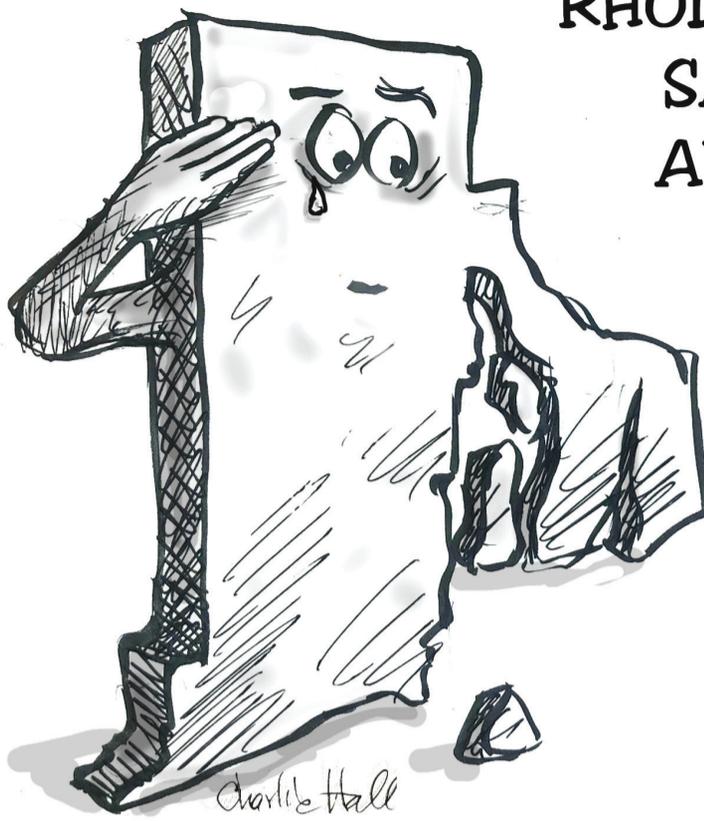
For anyone who has ever had a loved one in their life go through this struggle, whether with alcohol, drugs, gambling, or just the kind of fatigue that is brought on by financial challenges day-to-day, week-to-week, you know first-hand how important it is to offer them a glimpse of something to believe in, and hope for — a reason to keep going, and keep trying.

This extension of hope goes both ways. By entrusting and empowering those who have made it to the other side to become mentors and leaders, you provide them with a sense of purpose and importance to continue making good decisions and strengthening their own mind and spirits, so they can be strong for people who sit in the same spot they themselves may have been in just a short while ago.

A second chance is something special to witness, and it is something each of us would hope for if we ever found ourselves face-down after taking a symbolic stomach punch; the kind which life finds many creative ways to dole out.

To have an organization doing such important, angelic work in our own community is a true blessing, and we hope they can earn more widespread notoriety and support for how they are tackling these most difficult problems in our society; not by pretending they aren't our problem, but by meeting the problem where it lives, and offering kindness in places where such gestures could mean the difference between life, and death.

### RHODE ISLAND SALUTES ALL VETS



• WHERE TO WRITE:  
1944 Warwick Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02889  
RoryS@RhodyBeat.com

GUEST OP

## Rhode Island's education funding for MLL lagging, despite rapid population growth

By Jeffrey S. Hamill  
Special to the Sun Rise

Changing demographics present great educational challenges for Rhode Island's K-12 schools. Since 2015, the number of multilingual learners in our school districts have increased more than 60% and now make up 12.5% of our students overall. Multilingual learners are heavily concentrated; Providence alone accounts for more than half (50.6 percent) of the state's multilingual learners, and over 90% attend schools in just 10 districts. School districts in North Providence, Newport, and Cumberland have seen their numbers more than triple, while Central Falls became the first majority multilingual learner school district in 2023.

While a growing population, our multilingual learners are not performing well in school. Rhode Island's multilingual learners perform poorly compared to their peers nationwide in math and have very low levels of proficiency in both math and reading. Among Rhode Island districts, there are wide achievement gaps, with the worst outcomes in those districts with the highest numbers and concentration of multilingual learners. In some of our better-funded schools, multilingual learners perform at much higher levels. Improving educational outcomes for multilingual learners is achievable.

Historically the Rhode Island General Assembly has been slow to address these changing demographics and educational challenges with adequate funding solutions. Rhode Island had no separate state funding for multilingual learners until fiscal year (FY) 2017. When funding for multilingual learners was added to the state budget, the amount of money was capped, resulting in low lev-

els of per pupil spending. In fact, from FY 2017 to FY 2023, state funding for Rhode Island's multilingual learners ranked near the bottom of the nation. Recognizing this deficiency, for FY 2024, the General Assembly lifted the cap on funding and nearly quadrupled the allocation for multilingual learners. This increase is a positive start, but still leaves Rhode Island 28th (fifth lowest) out of 31 states and Washington D.C. that use a similar funding formula as ours.

When it comes to funding for multilingual learners, we still have a long way to go.

The conversation shouldn't stop there. Increased funding for multilingual learners should be part of a larger conversation about equity in education spending in Rhode Island. Our funding formula for education, first adopted thirteen years ago, made some progress, but not enough, for communities with the greatest numbers of economically disadvantaged students and lowest levels of property wealth. Since the start of the pandemic, hold harmless policies reversed this progress toward more equitable funding, with the largest percentage increases in education spending going to our wealthy, suburban communities. The state's funding formula for education has not worked as intended for the last three fiscal years and needs reform.

While foundational, funding alone is not the answer. If Rhode Island is going to continue to grow and prosper, we need bold changes to our educational system to improve outcomes for all students.

Editor's Note: Jeffrey S. Hamill, PhD, Public Policy Analyst, is a member of the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council.



<b>Publisher</b> John I. Howell Jr. - JohnH@rhodybeat.com	<b>Circulation</b> Leslie Paz
<b>Advertising Director</b> Donna Zarrella - Donna Z@rhodybeat.com	<b>Credit Manager</b> Lynne Taylor
<b>Editor</b> Rory Schuler - RoryS@rhodybeat.com	<b>Bookkeeping</b> Leslie Paz
<b>Sports Editor</b> Alex Sponseller - AlexS@rhodybeat.com	<b>Production Manager</b> Lisa Bourque Yuetner - LisaB@rhodybeat.com
<b>Journalists</b> Pete Fontaine	<b>Production Staff</b> Monique Rice - MoR@rhodybeat.com
<b>Advertising Representative</b> Christine Peabody - ChrisP@rhodybeat.com	<b>Spotlight Profile Writer</b> Jennifer Coates - JenniferC@rhodybeat.com
<b>Classified Advertising</b> Ida Zecco - Classifieds@rhodybeat.com	<b>Tel.</b> 401-732-3100 <b>Fax:</b> 401-732-3110

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### Work begins to bring the "Superman" building back to life



# SUN RISE SCOOPS

## Sun Rise Staff Reports

Friday, Nov. 10

### St. Rocco's Prayer Service

St. Rocco's School and Church will be holding a Veterans Day Prayer Service on the morning of Friday, Nov. 10. The event will begin at 9 a.m. at St. Rocco Church, 927 Atwood Ave., Johnston. The service will be led by the students. The public is welcome to attend.

Nov. 10

### OSDRI brings Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial to Gillette Stadium

Johnston-headquartered Operation Stand Down RI will display the Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial on the field at Gillette Stadium this Veterans Day Weekend.

This is the first time the Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial will travel outside of Rhode Island.

The event will be open to the public on Friday, Nov. 10 and Veterans Day, Nov. 11, from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. On Sunday, Nov. 12, it will be open from 9 a.m. until noon. At 11 a.m. on the morning of Nov. 10 a special opening ceremony will be hosted by the Patriots Foundation and Cross Insurance in honor New England's Gold Star Families.

"This is a big deal for the memorial as it is the first time Operation Stand Down RI has taken it on the road," said Dee DeQuattro, Founder of the Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial. "When I first came up with the concept for the memorial, one of the main goals was to spread awareness about the sacrifice of our nation's military. Displaying the memorial at an iconic New England location will attract new visitors and help spread awareness."

In addition to the Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial, OSDRI will also display the Invisible Scars of War Monument. This monument recognizes the pain and sacrifices of those Service Members who have succumbed to the invisible scars of war such as depression and PTSD and ultimately committed suicide.

The Boots on the Ground for Heroes Memorial was launched by OSDRI in 2015. The memorial displays 7,026 boots adorned with flags and name placards representing the lives of the of the U.S. service members killed in action post-911 in the Global War on Terror. The exhibition has been seen by thousands of visitors since its inception in 2015. Every fallen service member is included in the memorial; service members are alphabetized by state allowing individuals to locate friends and loved ones at the memorial.

The first three years the Memorial was displayed at Roger Williams Park in Providence on Memorial Day Weekend. In 2019, the memorial relocated to Fort Adams State Park in Newport for Memorial Day Weekend. The display at Gillette Stadium marks the first time the full memorial has ever been displayed outside Memorial Day weekend. Its display is sponsored by the Patriots Foundation, Cross Insurance and made possible by Operation Stand Down Rhode Island.

Nov. 11

### Veterans Through the Ages

The Hope Historical Society invites the community to the meeting on Sat., Nov. 11, 2 p.m., at the Howland Barn, 35 Ryefield Road, Hope. Local heroes and others who have served our country from the Revolutionary War period to modern times will be honored. Veterans will be recognized during the program. All are encouraged to bring photos, stories, and other memorabilia from the veteran's period of service. Military uniform is not required. For photos please identify the individual, the military branch in which they served, period of service, description of their service, and any honors awarded to them. All are welcome.

Intrigued by the topic but cannot attend "Veterans Through the Ages?" No worries! Post a picture and/or story on the HHS Facebook page: Hope Historical Society, Hope, RI. Pictures and stories

must be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting to be included in the program. Pictures or stories can also be emailed to the HHS at hopehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.

Nov. 11

### Native Orchids

The subject of the next Ocean State Orchid Society meeting will be Native Orchids, on Nov. 11, at 1 p.m., at Rocky Hill Grange, 1340 County Trail, East Greenwich (entrance at rear of building). Botanist Neela de Zoysa will be speaking to the society regarding New England's native orchids. We will have our usual "grow and show" (members show and discuss their current orchid collection). Light refreshments to be served. Public is welcome to join.

Nov. 11

### Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk

The tenth annual Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1-mile Kids' Run will be held again this year in Cranston. This is an annual event designed to bring honor and recognition to Veterans Day. Proceeds from the event will benefit programs for the school throughout the year and as a means of giving back to a worthwhile cause, Operation Stand Down RI.

The event also includes a "One Mile Kids Run!" This event will take place in the Park on a specially designed course! This race will begin at 8:30 a.m. The race is open to all elementary and middle school students. Cost for this race is \$10! T-shirts to the first 100 entries for this race.

Start and finish of the 5k race at the Park Avenue entrance to Roger Williams Park across from Park View Middle School. The 5k starts at 9:30 a.m. T-shirts to the first 800 entries for the 5k registrations. Post-race food and beverages. Awards are given to the top male and female finisher. Awards to the top men and women in each division: 8th grade and under, high school division, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80. Packet Pick up at Park View Middle School Gym: Friday, Nov. 10, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Race day registration and pickup begins at 7 a.m.

Nov. 11

### Holiday Bazaar

A fundraising Holiday Bazaar featuring food, a straw game, raffles, a silent auction, and many vendor tables will be held at St. Robert Bellarmine Church Hall (1804 Atwood Ave., Johnston) on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit St. Robert's Food Shelf and Outreach Ministries. Join us for fun and fellowship while helping our neighbors. For general information, contact Sandy at 946-3262 or Terry at 331-7075.

Nov. 18

### Armenian Evangelical Church Holiday Bazaar

The holiday bazaar be held on Sat., Nov. 18, from 12-7 p.m., at the church, 180 Oaklawn Avenue, Cranston. Half Roasted Chicken, Losh Kebab, Kofta, and Kheyman dinners will be served with pilaf, green beans, salad, and bread. American and Armenian pastries and delicacies including Choreg, Bourma, Paklava, Yalanche, Khadaif, Boreg, Stuffed Mussels and more, plus the always popular Penny Social. Please contact MaryAnn: (401)751-4568 with any questions.

Nov. 18

### Phillips Memorial Baptist Church Holiday Bazaar

The holiday bazaar will be held on Sat., Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, 565 Pontiac Ave., Cranston. From 9 to 10:30 a.m., coffee and goodies at the "Coffee Nook," and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., lunch "to go." Featuring basement bargains and treasures, toys, puzzles, games, books, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, needlework, "old-tiques," animal items and more. The church is handicapped accessible.

## NAMI-RI Offers Family Support Groups

The RI chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-RI) offers free support groups for families and friends of loved ones who are struggling with their mental health. The groups are led by trained facilitators who also have lived experience as family members themselves. The group meetings last about 1.5 hours, and everyone who participates in the meeting gets a chance to share. The other members of the group try to offer help and resources, when appropriate, based on their own experiences. More information and full schedule can be found at [namirhodeisland.org](http://namirhodeisland.org) or call 401-331-3060. No pre-registration for these monthly groups is necessary.

- First Thursday at 6 p.m. In-person only at the Rochambeau Library in the Community Room, Rochambeau Library, 708 Hope Street, Providence (NEW-starts Aug.)
- Second Tuesday at 5 p.m. In-person only at the Middletown Public Library in the Community Room, Middletown Library, 700 West Main Road, Middletown.
- Third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Meets via Zoom only. Please call 401-331-3060 or email [info@namirhodeisland.org](mailto:info@namirhodeisland.org) for the Zoom link.
- Fourth Wednesday, 6 p.m. In-person only at Hope Valley Grange, 71116 Main St., Hope Valley.

### Elks Lodge Essay Contest

The Smithfield Elks Lodge No. 2359 announced its annual Elks Americanism essay contest for fifth through eighth grade students. This year's theme is "What the Bill of Rights Means to Me."

The essay should not exceed 300 words, and must be typed or written legibly in ink. Students residing in Smithfield, Foster, Glocester, Scituate, Johnston or North Providence are encouraged to apply. The entrant must submit the essay for later than December 15, 2023 to the Smithfield Lodge of Elks No. 2359, 326 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, or it can be emailed to the

Lodge Americanism Chairperson.

Essays will be judged in originality, development of theme, mechanics, and neatness.

There are four divisions for judging essays: Division I – 5th grade; Division II – 6th grade; Division III – 7th grade; and Division IV – 8th grade. First, second, and third place winners in each division will move onto the district competition in January, and those winners will move onto the state competition in February. State winners will be sent to the Elks Grand Lodge in March. The first, second, and third place national winners will be selected and announced in July, 2024.

All entrants are required to submit a cover sheet which must be attached to the essay. More information and cover sheets can be obtained by contacting the Lodge Americanism Chairperson, Kristin Sullivan at [kristin\\_sullivan@me.com](mailto:kristin_sullivan@me.com).

### Soul of '71 Scholarship Fund

The Johnston High School Class of 1971 is raising donations for The Soul of '71 Scholarship Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation. A generous donor has offered a \$4,000 challenge! The donor will match all gifts to the Fund up to a total of \$4,000. The Class of 1971 initiated the fund on the occasion of its 50th reunion in 2021. Each year a scholarship will be awarded to a Johnston High School Senior planning to attend a college, university, trade or technical school. Donations are tax deductible according to your filing status. To donate, go to the following website: [www.rifoundation.org/funds/soul-of-1971-scholarship-fund](http://www.rifoundation.org/funds/soul-of-1971-scholarship-fund).

**Editor's Note:** Send submissions to Sun Rise Editor Rory Schuler at [rorys@rhodybeat.com](mailto:rorys@rhodybeat.com) or Front Desk Coordinator Ida Zecco at [idaz@rhodybeat.com](mailto:idaz@rhodybeat.com). Photos in jpg format are accepted and news can include community events, promotions, academic news and non-profit events. Email today and see your news in our column in the Johnston Sun Rise. Please include a daytime telephone number in case we require any further information.

## SCOOP OF THE WEEK



## JPD holds Thanksgiving Food Drive for OSDRI

The Johnston Police Department is collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to Operation Stand Down Rhode Island for Thanksgiving. A drop off box has been placed in the police department's foyer.

"Thanksgiving is around the corner," the Johnston Police Department posted on its social media accounts. So the department is collecting "canned and boxed food items at their headquarters to support our veterans in need."

"Any assistance is greatly appreciated, just stop in our front foyer to make a donation in our drop off box. We appreciate the support!"



THOMAS LONARDO + ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS INC. INTERIOR DESIGNERS & PLANNERS

■ Plaza  
(Continued from page 1)

The property has been fenced off since late last winter.

"Regarding the Town Hall Plaza project, Michael Grieco Jr. is involved and there will be all new tenants," Reynolds confirmed.

Michael Grieco's also leading a second strip mall project in neighboring North Providence along Mineral Spring Avenue.

"In addition, the recently opened project at 1599-1601 Mineral Ave. (owned by 1601 Mineral Spring Ave LLC) in North Providence includes two buildings," Reynolds explained. "Chipotle and AT&T occupy the first building, with Starbucks and Five Guys occupying the second building. One unit remains to be leased in the second building."

While the future occupants of Town Hall Plaza have not been finalized, a source connected to construction at the site confirmed that owners were in talks with national chain Harbor Freight Tools as a possible tenant.

According to the company's website history, their "journey began in 1977,

when Eric Smidt and his father launched Harbor Freight Tools." More than four decades later, the family-owned business now owns and operates more than 1,400 stores.

Harbor Freight confirmed they are looking for a spot in town.

"While I can confirm that we are interested and actively looking to open a Harbor Freight Tools store in Johnston, it is still early in the process so there is nothing else I can confirm," according to Communications Director for Harbor Freight Tools Craig Hoffman.

When asked directly if the company was considering Town Hall Plaza as its possible Johnston location, Hoffman said, "I can't ...yet. But please keep in touch."

Reynolds and Grieco did not return requests for comment by press-time.

Polisena said he has no direct knowledge of negotiations over Town Hall Plaza's future, but he'll surely be watching from his office window.

"I haven't had any discussions with anyone from Harbor Freight, but I would welcome them to town in the appropriate location," Polisena said. "We have many people in the trades in Johnston and I think more retail competition in any space only benefits the consumer."

**FUTURE THP:** Above, Hillary Reynolds, a spokeswoman for Grieco Auto Group, shared a rendering of what the future Town Hall Plaza may look like once it's completed next year. Below, the Town Hall Plaza site has been fenced off for nearly a year. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



# Hurd helps Winsor Hill kids



**FULL-SIZE CHECK:** David Cathey, the General Manager for Hurd Auto Group in Johnston, recently made a delivery to Winsor Hill Elementary School. While it wasn't a spanking new Chevrolet, Buick or GMC Truck, students were still impressed. Cathey dropped off a \$1,000 check that Winsor Hill Principal Maria Simeone (second left) said, "Will help a lot of our students" and "is part of the agency's unique Back Pack School Program." Also taking part in the presentation were Assistant Principal Natasha Zito (left) and Jennifer Wholey, who serves as president of Winsor Hill's PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization). (Submitted photo)



**VALUABLE VENDOR:** Danielle Knowlton of Knowlton & Sons was among the many valuable vendors that participated in Saturday's Class of 2026 at JHS.

## Class of 2026 populates Vendor Village

By PETE FONTAINE

**F**resh from their surprising and impressive win of Johnston High School's Homecoming Float competition, the Class of 2026 enjoyed another special success Saturday during its second annual Vendor Village.

Some three dozen area businesses set up their unique displays inside the spacious cafeteria which at times was filled with people looking for everything from bargains to holiday gifts to interesting gourmet

VILLAGE - PAGE 12

## Obituaries

In your time of need, the *Johnston Sun Rise* will print your loved one's full obituary for a small charge. The paper also places the obituary on our website, [johnstonsunrise.net](http://johnstonsunrise.net).

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

— Thank you

# LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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By JENNIFER COATES

The great and iconic French impressionist painter Vincent van Gogh is attributed with coining the phrase: "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together." These words could accurately describe the years of small things that have added up to a create a 28-year "success story" for the local, family-owned business, Jain's Laundry. Small things that have made life so much easier for the hundreds of patrons who have been bringing their laundry to this longtime business in Johnston for years and years.

Small things like automatic front doors so customers don't have to prop a door open every time they come in and out of this convenient laundromat. Small things like a vending machine of detergents, softeners and laundry bags for those who needed more than they thought. Small things like a change machine on-site, newly installed high-capacity dryers, a comfortable seating area to wait between loads and rows and rows of machines so there is never any need to "take a ticket"!

Best of all, but hardly a "small thing," is the presence of

Kaushal Jain who came to America with her husband Sripal Jain from Meerut, India many decades ago. Through hard work, dedication, and sacrifice, they have truly fulfilled the American dream of small business ownership. A testament to their diligence is also their remarkable son, Akshay, who obtained a Master's Degree in Bio-Technology at Harvard University. Through small things come great and remarkable results.

Jain's Laundry is a self-serve laundromat, but it also offers all the convenience of a wash-fold, same-day service. Here, the rates for this wash-fold service are unbeatable. For an incredible .69/pound, Kaushal will wash, soften, dry, and even fold your laundry - all in one day. This gangbuster price also covers the cost of the softener, bleach, soap and hangers! The math is simple enough - ten pounds of dirty clothes, dropped off in the morning and ready to go by day's end - all for less than \$7.00. In our cost-conscious world, these prices are unmatched.

If you are more the "do-it-yourself" type of person, you will also find a room full of coin-operated washers and dryers. There are large capacity machines available for all size loads, from 25 pounds to 65 pounds. The top loading machines are available here for only \$2.00 per load compared to \$2.50 in most other places.

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Jain's Laundry is found in the Plaza 44 shopping plaza on Route 44. It is open seven days a week - from 8:00am to 9:00pm, Monday through Friday, and 7:00am to 8:00pm on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 401-231-7019.

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## JHS UPDATE

### A homecoming full of curve balls

By ALEXIA DILORENZO  
Special to the Sun Rise

Johnston's annual Homecoming is an on-going tradition that dates back to 1967 when the high school relocated to this building from what is now Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School. This year marked the 56th anniversary of these festivities.

Each class participated in many different activities including Spirit Week, Pep Rally, the Annual Float Competition, the Homecoming Parade, Alumni Breakfast, Homecoming Game, and finally the Homecoming Dance.

Students celebrated the Pep Rally on Friday, Oct. 6. All fall sports players were organized, and classes decorated the gym for different themes. This was the prelude to the overnights held by each class to build Johnston's well-known legendary floats.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, floats arrived at the high school by 8:45 a.m. The four paper flower floats that are renowned throughout the state came for all to see at the high school.

The parade then kicked off by 10 a.m. traveling throughout Johnston with many people watching ardently from the sidewalks. After the parade, alumni, faculty, and the Johnston community enjoyed a delicious breakfast provided by Johnston's Lions Club!

This was then followed by the kickoff of the homecoming football game, with Johnston up against the Mount Hope Huskies. The Panthers ended the game with a 28-0 victory over the Huskies, being the first Homecoming victory since 2016.

During halftime, our 2023 Homecoming King and Queen would be crowned. This year threw a couple of curve balls, one of them having two queens and one king for our 2023 Homecoming King & Queen winners. This is only the second time in JHS history that this has occurred. The winners were Queen Hannah Lavergne, Queen Alessandra Pesare, and King Steven Finegan.

The night culminated with the homecoming dance, where students were able to come together as a community and celebrate the day's success! At the end of the night, the senior class was named Most Spirited Class from Spirit Week which had occurred during the week, and the sophomore class was announced the winners of the Annual Float Competition leaving the seniors in second place, the juniors in third place, and the freshmen in fourth place!

*Editor's Note: Alexia DiLorenzo serves as Johnston High School Student Council President. The Johnston Sun Rise regularly publishes stories submitted by members of JHS Student Council.*

## Last chance to register for Youth Basketball

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- Player evaluations will be held for team placement for players in grades 3-9, and will be held during the 2nd week of November. Emails will be sent out 2 weeks prior with dates and times

Forms available at [johnstonrec.com](http://johnstonrec.com). Register at the Recreation Office (at Johnston Memorial Park) Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm, or mail registration form and payment to Johnston Recreation Dept. - 1385 Hartford Ave. - Johnston, RI. Cash, check or money order accepted (we do not accept credit cards at this time)

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for more information, please visit [johnstonrec.com](http://johnstonrec.com)

Youth basketball registrations end this week! The Johnston Recreation Department is currently accepting registrations for our youth basketball program. If you are interested in joining, please have all forms in to the recreation office by Friday, Nov. 10. More info can be found at [johnstonrec.com](http://johnstonrec.com).

# JHS Panther of the Week



**POTW:** This week's Panther of the Week is Miguel Santamaria. Miguel was nominated by his English teacher, Ms. Lisa Fresolone. Ms. Fresolone said, "I am so proud of Miguel's progress in English class. I had the privilege of teaching Miguel last year as well. I see so much growth in his academics. He has stepped out of his comfort zone, showing dedication and courage in presenting his latest assignment to the class. Miguel has been putting tremendous effort into his school work, and his grades in my class reflect this. He is one of the most respectful, kind, and hard-working students I have had the honor of teaching." Miguel is a junior at JHS and is also a member of the boys soccer team. (Photos submitted by Matt Velino, Johnston High School Principal)

**Editor's Note:** This is the newest installment of an ongoing weekly series highlighting Johnston's amazing students. Staff at Johnston High School will be nominating students and submitting a caption and a photo for publication. You'll find each week's winning Panther within the pages of the Johnston Sun Rise.

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

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 FRI. DEC. 8- THE ISLANDER, WARWICK 5:30  
 SUN. DEC. 10- BELLA, GLENDALE 12:30  
 FRI. DEC. 15- THE BLUE ROOM, CRANSTON 6:30  
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**WATCH OUT ABEL:** Raising Cane's expects to open its new Johnston location in early January 2024. They've promised the first 20 guests "Free Cane's for a Year." (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

# Chicken fingers, chicken fingers & more chicken fingers

By RORY SCHULER

The giant blue banner across the building seeks new managers. The pay starts at more than \$20 per hour.

Raising Cane's pledges to open its first Ocean State location to start the New Year.

"Expected to open early January 2024," said Hannah Henderson, Senior Manager, Public Relations, Fry Cook & Cashier for Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers. "I will share an exact date with you once more firm, as well as what customers can expect on our opening day."

Raising Cane's has a famous reputation for tasty chicken fingers — in fact they only serve chicken finger meals — and also huge opening day giveaways.

"I can tell you we will be giving away 'Free Cane's for a Year' to 20 lucky customers!" Henderson said. "That usually

draws a crowd!"

Interested prospective employees can apply at [Workatcane.com](http://Workatcane.com).

The restaurant will share a shopping plaza along Atwood Avenue with Burlington, Pet Smart and Aldi.

"I am grateful to Raising Cane's for investing in the property off Atwood Avenue and giving us one more occupied building in the town," said Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena Jr. "I'm also happy they chose Johnston as their first location in Rhode Island. I wish them the best success."

Founder Todd Graves named his restaurant Raising Cane's after his Labrador Retriever Raising Cane.

The first store opened in 1996 near the North Gates of Louisiana State University. Since, Graves' empire has expanded across the country. The Johnston location will be the chain's first in Rhode Island.



**OUTSTANDING ORGANIZERS:** Erin Ferraro (left), a Special Education teacher at JHS and Advisor for the Class of 2026, joins students Olivia Iafate, Gianna Ferranti, David Roland, Bennett McClish, Cameron Veitech and Ryan Capraro welcomed people to Saturday's unique Vendor Village event. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

## ■ Village

(Continued from page 9)

food items.

The daylong event was coordinated by energetic and enthusiastic students, namely sophomore class officers headed by President Cameron Veitch, Vice President Bennett McClish, Secretary Ryan Capraro, Treasurer Jon Prata and reps Olivia Forgetta, Olivia Iafate, David Roland, Jacob Petit, Alexander Subriana and volunteers Alexandra Musa and Hollan Rodgers.

"Our students did a great job in organizing and presenting the Vendor Fair," said Erin Ferraro, who is one of two sophomore class advisors and a Special Education teacher at

Johnston High School. She shares duties with Tia Forgetta, a math teacher at JHS. "We are proud of the work they do."

Ferraro explained that funds raised from the Vendor Village event will be used to offset costs for the upcoming Semi Formal Dance that's scheduled for April 26 at Cranston Country Club.

As equally important, money raised from the Vendor Village event will benefit other important sophomore class activities such as Christmas Cheer, Teacher Appreciation and the 2024 Homecoming float.

Although the super sophs won the 2023 Homecoming Float competition with their unique and cleverly created "Monopoly Game" theme

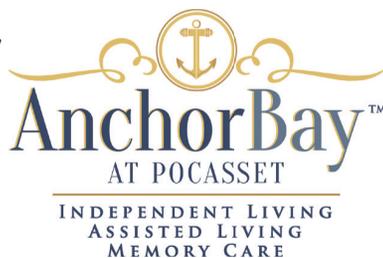
that featured moving train wheels and other colorful objects, there was somewhat of a downside to their first-place finish.

"The beautiful float was ruined as the result of a sudden downpour just after halftime of the football game," Ferraro offered. "All the wood used to construct the float and other items needs to be replaced and it costs between \$1,200 and \$1,500 to build the homecoming floats."

The weather forecast for Saturday, Oct. 7 was rain, but the Homecoming Parade went off as planned. Moments after the King and Queen were crowned, however, the sky opened and it poured rain all over the floats and decorations.

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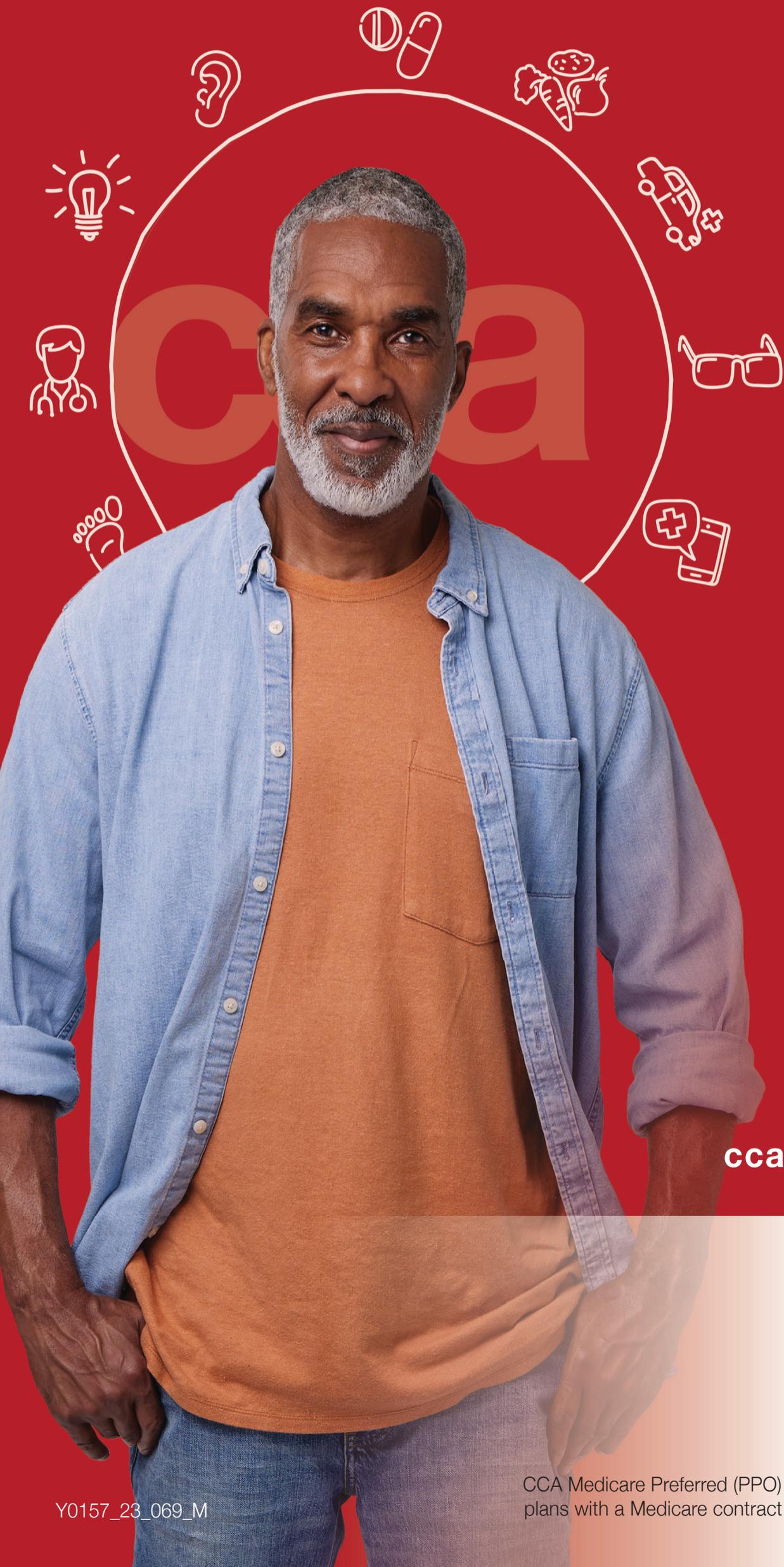


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## Tips to build a nest egg in a time marked by a high cost of living



A rise in the cost of living has presented challenges to millions of households across the globe. As the cost of everything from food to natural gas to fuel for vehicles has risen, many people have struggled to find ways to save money, especially for their long-term goals like retirement.

The term “nest egg” has long been associated with long-term financial goals like retirement savings or college tuition. But what are individuals to do if short-term costs get in the way of their long-term goals? There’s no magic formula for building a nest egg, but these tips can help anyone grow their savings despite the high cost of living.

- **Identify a specific, achievable goal.** Simply resolving to save “more” without attaching a figure that defines what “more” is can make it hard to build a substantial nest egg. Examine your finances, including what’s coming in each month (i.e., take-home wages) and what has to go out each month (i.e., housing and automotive costs, etc.). Document these expenses and then identify an achievable goal to build your nest egg. If necessary, trim some fat related

to monthly expenses that are not necessities so you can redirect funds to your nest egg. Cancel streaming services or cut back on dining out so those funds can be redirected to building a nest egg.

- **Take advantage of pre-tax opportunities to save.** Pre-tax opportunities to build a nest include retirement vehicles like a 401(k). With these plans, money is deducted from a paycheck before taxes, thus lowering workers’ immediate tax burdens (taxes are paid when funds are withdrawn) and enabling them to save more now. Some employers even match contributions up to a predetermined percentage, so enrolling in plans that offer employer match contributions can be an especially effective way to build a nest egg.

- **Begin living on a budget, and stick to it.** The idea of living on a budget may seem simple, but it’s less common than some may recognize. A 2023 survey from the online financial resource NerdWallet found that 83 percent of the more than 2,000 adults 18 and over who participated acknowledged they overspend. Perhaps more telling is that

84 percent of respondents indicate they have a monthly budget but exceed it anyway. Individuals who want to build a sizable nest egg are urged to work with a financial advisor to devise a monthly budget and then stick to it.

- **Save for emergencies.** A lack of emergency funds can quickly jeopardize a nest egg. Without a somewhat sizable savings account, individuals could be forced to borrow from their retirement accounts in emergency situations. That strategy hurts in more ways than one, as it both reduces the amount in the nest egg and also affects how much the nest egg can grow, as gains are greater when balances are higher. The NerdWallet survey found that 48 percent of respondents want to prioritize emergency savings, and that strategy can be vital to building a nest egg.

A sizable nest egg can help anyone live comfortably in retirement, and various strategies can help people grow their nest egg even as the cost of living remains high. MM23C501

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# Sports

## Lady Panthers headed to finals

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston girls soccer team took another step forward as it rebuilds its program as it

topped Tolman 2-1 to punch its ticket to the Division IV state championship game this Saturday at Rhode Island College. Alexia DiLorenzo got the

Panthers on the board but the Tigers would quickly respond to tie things up. Just before the halftime break, Olivia Iafrate would send a shot to the top left

corner of the goal from 18 yards out to give Johnston the game-winner thanks to a scoreless second half effort. The Panthers topped Tolman

3-1 in their regular season meeting but the Tigers scored first. The Panthers remembered that heading into this matchup

FINALS - PAGE 17



PLAYOFF WIN: Johnston players celebrate in the closing seconds. (Photos by Mike Zawistoski)

## Panthers top Tolman in playoff thriller

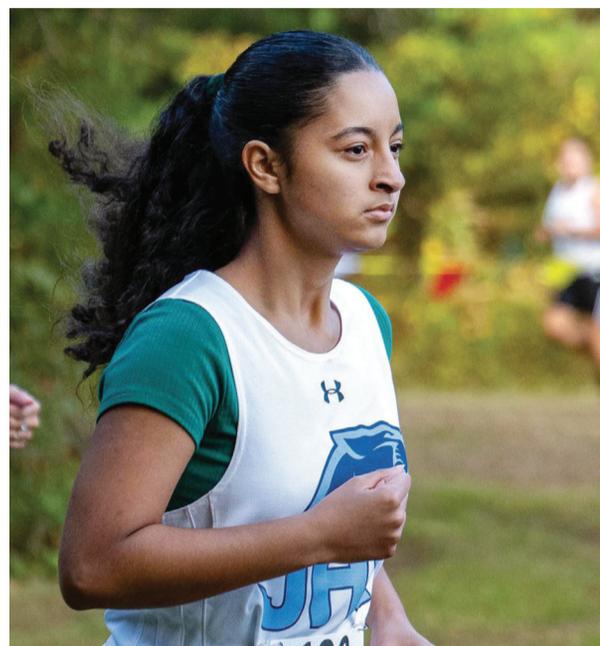
By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston football team edged Tolman 35-34 in a thrilling Division III Quarterfinal matchup last week to advance to the next round against Middletown.

Trailing 34-27 deep in the fourth quarter, Johnston running back Steven Finegan would rush for a touchdown. Instead of playing for the tie, the Panthers elected to go for the win on the 2-point conversion.

The risk paid off, as Finegan once again found the end zone to give Johnston the 35-34 advantage which was maintained the rest of the way. "It was just their confidence level. We kick the ball well, but we hadn't

PANTHERS - PAGE 16



BEST FOOT FORWARD: Anelee Fernandez. (Photos by Leo van Dijk/rhodyphoto.zenfolio.com)

## JHS cross country wraps up season

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston cross country team recently wrapped up its 2023 fall season. Although the Panthers did not reach the state championship, they did take part in some big meets and made some noise along the way.

JHS - PAGE 17



ON THE GO: Brenton Lang.



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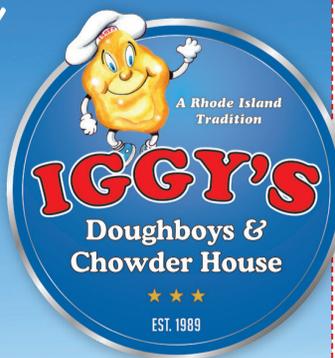
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## Legendary family

Jim Hopkins, former teacher-coach at Johnston High School who chairs the Panthers' prestigious Athletic Hall of Fame, welcomes Samantha and Beckie Mazzie – daughters of his late friend and Hall founder Gary V. Mazzie and Lee Mazzie, wife of his best friend and coaching colleague, to the recent 2023 induction. (*Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine*)



# COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, November 23, 2023  
12pm-2pm  
Iggy's Boardwalk Lobster & Clam Bar  
885 Oakland Beach Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889

RIPTA will have a special Thanksgiving schedule to transport families to and from Iggy's Boardwalk if necessary.



RSVP to Roberta Steinle at 401.468.4101 or [roberta.a.steinle@warwickri.com](mailto:roberta.a.steinle@warwickri.com), or Daniel Friel at 401.889.5396 or [dfriel@hendricken.com](mailto:dfriel@hendricken.com)



HAULING IT IN: Yadier Grullon picks up some yards.

## ■ Panthers

(Continued from page 15)

been missing on the 2-point conversions. There are a lot of things that can go wrong with a kick, if you get some pressure it can change everything. Steve had the option to run or pass and he kept it. We felt that we wanted to get our best athletes in the action," said Johnston head coach Joe Acciardo.

It was a see saw battle throughout as the clubs exchanged leads. Finegan had a career performance for the Panthers, as he rushed for two touchdowns and returned an interception the distance on defense.

"He always comes up big. He's not only a good player for us, but whether he's making a play or not he has to be accounted for. He's not very big but he's a monster. He makes plays, he plays with emotion, and he makes the kids want to play harder. He's the heartbeat

of the team. He brings the best out of everybody else," Acciardo said.

Dean Paris also scored for the Panthers in the second quarter while Michael Abruzzi hauled in the game-sealing interception in the fourth.

Next up for the Panthers is Middletown, who eliminated defending champion Moses Brown 21-14.

The Panthers will be the underdogs once again, but Acciardo likes his team's chances as long as it plays its best game of the season.

"They're a good team and they're playing very good ball. We had some mistakes, some that we hadn't had all season so we have to clean those up. We have to play the best we've played all season regardless of who we're facing," Acciardo said. "We have to play four quarters of good football. Every week people pick someone to win other than us, but it's worked out. I like being the underdog."

Kickoff is slated for 6 p.m. at Gaudet Middle School on Friday night.

## Finals

(Continued from page 15)

which helped them battle to a lead early.

"We knew what we were getting into with this team. We knew it wasn't going to be easy, we knew it wasn't going to be a blowout. We knew that it wasn't going to be like any other game that we played in this season," said Johnston coach Toni Scavitti.

After being upset in the semifinals last season, the Panthers returned much of the same lineup and have used that disappointing finish as fuel throughout this comeback campaign, and they now sit just one win away from hoisting the championship plaque.

"It helped put their mind at ease, they knew what to expect going into the game. They had different expectations this time around, they got it out of their system last year," said Scavitti, who also felt that the team not getting a bye helped its cause. "Playing in the quarterfinals this year. Not having a first round bye actually worked in our

benefit. Having that quarterfinal game kept that momentum and helped ease their nerves."

The Panthers will be taking on Rogers in the finals, who pulled off a big upset by taking down top-seeded Providence Country Day on the other side of the bracket. The Panthers went 2-0 against Rogers in the regular season, winning by scores of 2-0 and 1-0.

Scavitti expects the Vikings to come out with revenge on their minds.

"Going into it, the girls are definitely not going to be taking this lightly because they know that Rogers is going to be coming for blood. We were two of their three losses, so they know it's not going to be a piece of cake going into the finals," said Scavitti.

With so many seniors on the team, Scavitti was also thrilled to see them finally get a chance at a title.

"They are so excited and as soon as it was over, you just saw all of their faces light up," said Scavitti. "We have nine seniors, nine senior starters, we have the entire team back. To see them get that opportunity that they didn't get last year was amazing."



ONE MORE WIN: Johnston players swarm the ball. (Submitted photo)



LEADING THE WAY: Johnston's Ryan Capraro.

## JHS

(Continued from page 15)

Burrillville High School hosted its annual cross country invitational and a number of local runners made the trip as the teams got geared up for some of the biggest races of the year, as the Class Championships took place the following weekend and then the state championships the week after at Ponaganset High School.

Here are some of the local results from the invitational:

### BOYS

Ryan Capraro led Johnston, followed by teammates Brenton Lang and Logan Finelli.

Cranston East finished in eighth place as a team while West took 11th overall.

East freshman Cohen Brinker finished ninth for the Bolts while Matthew Petit

led West with a 13th place finish. Cameron Felici wrapped up 22nd for East, followed by West's Elijah Curran in 42nd. Freshmen Aidan Gosselin and Levi Soch finished 50th and 51st, respectively, while West's Henry Prendergast took 55th.

Nathan Gong placed 67th for the Bolts while teammate Travis Dureault took 79th, followed by West's Nate Dorrance at 80th. Jose Mirabel finished 86th for West, while Angel Guzman took 92nd for East. West's Ryan Stoloff cracked the top 100, finishing at 96 overall.

### GIRLS

West's Lilliana Prendergast finished 12th to lead Cranston on the girls side, followed by teammate Talia Petit in 30th and East's McKenzie Rose in 31st. Jessica Chin placed 37th for the Bolts, followed by teammate Caroline Brennick in 77th. Johnston was led by Amelia Healy.

# Business Card DIRECTORY

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# Tautog bite outstanding, get out and fish

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

Fishing for tautog (also called black fish) has been outstanding in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The fish are abundant and quite large.

Anglers are allowed just one trophy fish, 21 inches or larger, the minimum size is 16 inches. The enhanced fall season runs Oct. 15 to Dec. 31 with a five fish/person/day limit and a ten fish boat limit for private recreational vessels.

### Here are what tautog sharpies have been saying

Ian Lumsden of Red Top Sporting Goods, Buzzards Bay, MA said, "Tautog fishing is on fire. Anglers are fishing areas such as Cleveland Light and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy with great success. We had two customers catch nine pound fish this week."

"Tautog fishing has been very good. Still some big fish in the Bay but they are starting to move out front," off Narragansett, Jamestown, Newport and the Sakonnet River said Greg Vespe of Tiverton.

Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown, said, "We weighed in an 8.3-pound fish and two ten pound fish this past weekend, so the fish are very large with anglers catching their limit."

Jeff Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren and mate on K & M Coastal Charters, said, "Right now, we have a well-balanced tautog fishery with large fish to small fish and everything in between. We caught some nice seven to nine pound fish off Newport last week and Capt. Kurt Rivard of K & M Coastal Charters, Warren caught a 14-pound fish using a jig off Newport on a small piece of structure. It was the only fish caught on that structure."

### Tautog tips

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

Boat placement is important. Find structure, estimate wind/drift

direction and anchor up current from where you want to fish and drift back to the spot as the anchor is setting. Once in position fish all sides of the boat. Cast a bit to cover as much area as you can. If still no bites let some anchor line out to change your position, if still no bites it is time to move the vessel. Many tautog experts now deploy electric motors with GPS based lock spot rather than deploying an anchor.

Tautog baits. Green crabs or Asian crabs are the baits of choice in the fall. 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.

Tautog rigs should have as little hardware as possible to avoid bottom tie-ups. I make single hook rigs with about 7 or 8 feet of monofilament line and attach it to the main braid line directly with a dropper loop for a pre-snelled 'Lazar Sharp' brand hook (you need sharp hooks to get through tough tautog lips). The loop is about five inches above the sinker. Anglers are also using tautog jigs tipped with crab with equal (and often) better success. The jigs are made in a variety of colors mimicking Asian crabs, baby lobsters, green crabs (whole or cut in half). And, to reduce bottom tie ups by 50 percent I use an egg sinker rig when in heavy structure.

### Where's the bite?

Striped bass, bluefish. "The striped bass bite was still fairly good with smaller fish being caught along with perch in brackish waters up in our rivers and estuaries," said Jeff Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren.

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence, said, "Customer Jeff Spicer caught a 31-inch striped bass from India Point Park, Providence. Anglers are using top water lures with success with 1.5-ounce soft white plastic lures working well for distance. However, the fish are smaller than they have been earlier this fall."

Expert shore fly fisher and instructor Ed Lombardo said, "Fished the Narrow River (Narragansett)



**BIG TAUTOG BITE:** "Capt. Kurt Rivard of K & M Coastal Charters caught this 14 pound tautog last week with a jig when fishing off Newport," said Jeff Sullivan. (Submitted photo)

last Thursday. Lots of bait and birds working the whole time I was there. As always, I used my Ed's Flies, hot pink and an assorted color dark burgundy marabou tail. I caught two keepers. Water exceptionally clean and clear."

Declan O'Conner of Breachway

Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "Fishing off the beaches the action has been coming at dawn or dusk. The striped bass have been smaller with mostly school bass with an occasional 35-plus inch fish. There have been very few bluefish in the mix of blitzing fish."

Tautog fishing has produced for anglers this week in the Bay and along our ocean coastal shore from the Sakonnet River to Watch Hill.

O'Connell of Breachway Bait & Tackle said, "Tautog reports have been solid with some great seas and some solid fishing."

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# Real Estate Transactions

## Coventry

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
2 Englewood Rd	Desautel, David J and Desautel, Mercedes R	Spivack, David A and Tait, Lauren R	10/17	\$420,000
6 Enzo Dr Lot 6	Slaughter Ft and Slaughter, Carlo	Poulin, Monika	10/18	\$410,000
6 Glenwood Dr	Perry, Dean F and Perry, Rhonda	Calise, Salvatore and Calise, Kelsey	10/19	\$425,000
12 Lane D	Bernard, Claire A	Leite, Robert and Leite, Janet	10/17	\$101,000
13-17 Hazard St	Mocker, Robert E	East Coast Prop LLC	10/18	\$1,723
19 Lear Dr	Black, Jacqueline	Tempo Holdings LLC	10/16	\$25,000
52 Acres Of Pine Rd	Bernatonis, Alex B	Chofay, Robert P	10/19	\$445,000
109 Rock Hill Rd	Lafleur Jr, Leonard J	Rhode Is Custom Bldrs LLC	10/16	\$110,000
385 Read School House Rd	Picone, Anthony V and Picone, Nancy L	Seaman, Kristen A and Downs, Patrick K	10/16	\$400,000

## Cranston

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
10 Squantum St Lot 1	Dodge Lillian M Est and Dodge, Karen	Dodge, Stuart J and Dodge, Lorena A	10/19	\$320,000
10 Squantum St Lot 2	Dodge Lillian M Est and Dodge, Karen	Dodge, Stuart J and Dodge, Lorena A	10/19	\$320,000
38 Arlington Ave Lot 25	Moua, Ha	Sotero, Ruben and Resto, Ana	10/20	\$380,000
38 Arlington Ave Lot 26	Moua, Ha	Sotero, Ruben and Resto, Ana	10/20	\$380,000
38 Magnolia St Lot 5	A G Const Inc	Mercier, Michael R	10/18	\$560,000
38 Magnolia St Lot 6	A G Const Inc	Mercier, Michael R	10/18	\$560,000
42 Victoria Ave Lot 289	Shorter, Jennifer	Decker, Makaila	10/18	\$350,000
42 Victoria Ave Lot 290	Shorter, Jennifer	Decker, Makaila	10/18	\$350,000
42 Victoria Ave Lot 286	Shorter, Jennifer	Decker, Makaila	10/18	\$350,000
53 Hemlock Ave Lot 11	Natareno, Rashar and Laroche, Kiara N	Spitznagel, Sheila A and Spitznagel, Kenneth E	10/20	\$369,900
53 Hemlock Ave Lot 12	Natareno, Rashar and Laroche, Kiara N	Spitznagel, Sheila A and Spitznagel, Kenneth E	10/20	\$369,900
56 Monument St	Southworth, Joshua S	Krueger, Michael A	10/19	\$435,000
84 Concord Ave	Brown, Robert E and Dandridge, Jennifer	Duarte, Shawn	10/16	\$347,500
88 Warren Ave	Molden George E Est and Molden, Robert L	Ackroyd, Luke J	10/17	\$225,000
107 Woodbine St	Chen, Bao L	Contreras, Domingo V	10/20	\$350,000
111 Narragansett St Lot 630	Nickerson, Edith L	Chisholm, James R and Chisholm, Sandy	10/18	\$480,000
111 Narragansett St Lot 631	Nickerson, Edith L	Chisholm, James R and Chisholm, Sandy	10/18	\$480,000
111 Narragansett St Lot 629	Nickerson, Edith L	Chisholm, James R and Chisholm, Sandy	10/18	\$480,000
112 Dunedin St	Gasbarro, Elizabeth	Ponce, Michael J	10/20	\$350,000
117 Julia St	Soukthavone, Louis	Zukauskas, Jane M	10/16	\$395,000
199 Gladstone St Lot 129	Danella, Eva	Sanchez, Conrado and Benitez, Dilaine R	10/19	\$320,000
199 Gladstone St Lot 132	Danella, Eva	Sanchez, Conrado and Benitez, Dilaine R	10/19	\$320,000
325 Northup St Lot 155	Ms & Y Trucking LLC	Dehermandez, Yenersi N	10/19	\$400,000
325 Northup St Lot 156	Ms & Y Trucking LLC	Dehermandez, Yenersi N	10/19	\$400,000
1455 Park Ave Lot 2823	A Lisi LLC	Balkun, Daniel	10/19	\$685,000
1455 Park Ave Lot 2822	A Lisi LLC	Balkun, Daniel	10/19	\$685,000
1455 Park Ave Lot 269	A Lisi LLC	Balkun, Daniel	10/19	\$685,000

## East Greenwich

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
12 Middleberry Ln Lot 12	Middleberry Assoc	Almond, Chase	10/20	\$287,008
78 King St	Beecher, Yvonne and Ryder, Thomas	Disegna, Ross P and Saint Ours, Matthew M	10/18	\$465,000
79 Duke St Lot 1	Rioles, Ryan	Lattmann, Alexander	10/18	\$295,000
125 Lynn Cir	Chemmalil, Letha	Mako Enterprises LLC	10/18	\$625,000
500 Carrs Pond Rd	Rmac T and Us Bank Na	Barbosa, Amanda F and Barbosa, John F	10/19	\$610,000

## Exeter

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
6 Short Rd	Van Amersfoort, Jennifer L	Saceldo-Cespedes, Rafael	10/20	\$300,000

## Johnston

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
7 Angell Ave	Mgj Hm Cap Solutions LLC	N-Maldonado, Miguel E and Santiago-Medina, S	10/24	\$360,000
1285 Hartford Ave Lot 7	Donald David Bianco RET and Mcnamara, Stephanie M	McWilliams, John and McWilliams, Barbara	10/19	\$455,000
1603 Plainfield Pike Lot G1	Reynoso, Marc A	Drolet, Heather	10/18	\$295,000

## Warwick

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
1 Willow Glen Cir Lot 124	Poulin, Monika	Pimental, Andrew and Wolslegel, Krista	10/17	\$300,000
1 Willow Glen Cir Lot 81-8	Grimshaw, Brian R and Grimshaw, Christopher G	Gauthier, Lynn	10/17	\$285,000
12 Dartmouth Ave Lot 26	Correia, Philip J	Fraser, Christopher N	10/20	\$442,500
12 Dartmouth Ave Lot 27	Correia, Philip J	Fraser, Christopher N	10/20	\$442,500
20 King St Lot 182	Kane Jr, John F	Bard, Ryan R and Bard, Michael	10/17	\$294,000
20 King St Lot 183	Kane Jr, John F	Bard, Ryan R and Bard, Michael	10/17	\$294,000
23 Alger Ave Lot 6	Musen, Michael A and Larocca, Fernanda M	Cah LLC	10/16	\$725,000
23 Saint Claire Ave Lot 147	David L Chartier Lt and Chartier, Renee C	Vincent, Keith E	10/18	\$300,000
23 Saint Claire Ave Lot 146	David L Chartier Lt and Chartier, Renee C	Vincent, Keith E	10/18	\$300,000
25 Alger Ave Lot 6	Musen, Michael A and Larocca, Fernanda M	Cah LLC	10/16	\$725,000
33 Oakdale St Lot 125	Auclair, Melissa	Holgate, David and Holgate, Tiffany	10/20	\$500,000
33 Oakdale St Lot 126	Auclair, Melissa	Holgate, David and Holgate, Tiffany	10/20	\$500,000
35 Bowen Briggs Ave	Mulhearn Jr, John J	Pedro, Antonio C and Saieta, Donna	10/18	\$390,000
51 Quaid Ln	Lattenist, Younes and Delmarquette, Anne	Routly, Ciara S and Kubic, Dylan J	10/16	\$508,000
55 Varnum Dr	Besenia Rodriguez Lt and Rodriguez, Besenia	Ott, Marian	10/20	\$817,000
56 Arden Ct	Sammour Hasbun, Jorge E	Nunez, Julio and Nunez, Monitha	10/16	\$390,000
59 Yellowstone Ave	Engle, Jennifer	Greaves, Nicholas and Greaves, Colette	10/17	\$455,000
67 Knowles Dr	Florio, Madeleine E and Florio, John W	Wilson, Brittany J	10/16	\$380,000
68 Pinehurst Ave Lot 33	Lrg Lt and Gay, Linda G	Holley, Robin M and Holley, Anthony W	10/17	\$340,000
68 Pinehurst Ave Lot 32	Lrg Lt and Gay, Linda G	Holley, Robin M and Holley, Anthony W	10/17	\$340,000
68 Pinehurst Ave Lot 31	Lrg Lt and Gay, Linda G	Holley, Robin M and Holley, Anthony W	10/17	\$340,000
78 Mawney Ave	Jackson, Renae L	Sofikitis, Niki G	10/20	\$310,000
83 Zachariah Pl	Bui, Phong L and Nguyen, Thuy P	Mazzucco, Kassi	10/19	\$369,000
100 Winnisquam Dr	Durand Transport LLC	Auclair, Melissa and Clark, Derek	10/20	\$735,000
111 Greenfield Ave Lot 77	William G Coningford Lt and Coningford, William G	Coningford, David G	10/17	\$225,000
111 Greenfield Ave Lot 75	William G Coningford Lt and Coningford, William G	Coningford, David G	10/17	\$225,000
111 Greenfield Ave Lot 76	William G Coningford Lt and Coningford, William G	Coningford, David G	10/17	\$225,000
114 Wilbur Ave Lot 222	Moss Home Solutions LLC	Shearer, Nicole	10/16	\$425,000
114 Wilbur Ave Lot 223	Moss Home Solutions LLC	Shearer, Nicole	10/16	\$425,000
120 Pilgrim Pkwy Lot 1	Campbell, Barbara A	Wray, Douglas A	10/18	\$148,000
141 Edaville Ct Lot 141	401homebuyers LLC	Greenhalgh, Susan J	10/16	\$357,000
156 Tiernan Ave Lot 159	Sabetta Dorothy C Est and Sabetta, Thomas S	Sanders, Darlene M and Sanders, Scott E	10/20	\$335,000
156 Tiernan Ave Lot 158	Sabetta Dorothy C Est and Sabetta, Thomas S	Sanders, Darlene M and Sanders, Scott E	10/20	\$335,000
200 Post Rd Lot 209	Barbara A Wylie Relt and Wylie, Barbara A	Obrien, Riley and Gallagher-Obrien, Maura	10/16	\$250,500
204 Sefton Ave Lot 9	Franco S Petrone T and Petrone, Franco S	Sullivan Jr, Michael and Sullivan, Kelly	10/20	\$460,000
204 Sefton Ave Lot 10	Franco S Petrone T and Petrone, Franco S	Sullivan Jr, Michael and Sullivan, Kelly	10/20	\$460,000
204 Sefton Ave Lot 8	Franco S Petrone T and Petrone, Franco S	Sullivan Jr, Michael and Sullivan, Kelly	10/20	\$460,000
206 Asylum Rd	Habershaw, Robert	Geremia, Linda	10/20	\$340,000
340 Asylum Rd	Horace Sr, Reuben W and Horace, Lady-Zoe	Samuelian, Debra	10/17	\$440,000
348 Brookline Dr Lot 97	Hart, Ian and Pettini, Meghan	Weedon, Carolyn A	10/20	\$825,000
348 Brookline Dr Lot 92	Hart, Ian and Pettini, Meghan	Weedon, Carolyn A	10/20	\$825,000
348 Brookline Dr Lot 98	Hart, Ian and Pettini, Meghan	Weedon, Carolyn A	10/20	\$825,000
348 Brookline Dr Lot 96	Hart, Ian and Pettini, Meghan	Weedon, Carolyn A	10/20	\$825,000
348 Brookline Dr Lot 99	Hart, Ian and Pettini, Meghan	Weedon, Carolyn A	10/20	\$825,000
625 Sandy Ln	Nelson, Susan M	Peterson, Linnea L and Iozzi, Jennifer R	10/20	\$355,000
1188 Warwick Neck Ave Lot 21	Krugliak, Betsy	Ostrowski, Benjamin and Bauman, Jaci	10/16	\$890,000
1188 Warwick Neck Ave Lot 20	Krugliak, Betsy	Ostrowski, Benjamin and Bauman, Jaci	10/16	\$890,000
3399 Post Rd Lot 27,	Coulombe, Thomas R	Brierty, Brooke E	10/17	\$268,000
4162 Post Rd Lot 6	Ripa Jr, Eugene T and Ripa, Helen	Burns, Roberta T	10/19	\$265,000

## West Greenwich

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
10 Bailey Dr	Britt, Gary W and Britt, Marissa F	Difranco Jr, Michael and Difranco, Ryan	10/20	\$55,000
92 Mohawk Trl	Joslin, Oliver and Joslin, Vivian D	Moss Home Solutions LLC	10/18	\$168,000

## West Warwick

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
9 Kristee Cir Lot 9	Jassal, Manpreet S and Jassal, Manisha	Cirelli, Stephen D and Cirelli, Lynn M	10/20	\$242,900
9 Quill Dr	Corona, Luis E and Corona, Waleska	Schiemann, Cody R and Schieman, Jacqueline	10/23	\$405,000
125 West St	Vincent, Elaine A	Royal Housing Invs LLC	10/24	\$456,000
164 Brookside Ave	Santangelo, Samantha and Stours, Matthew	Costick, Elaine M	10/18	\$358,000

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# RhodyLife



## Rhode Island firefighters turn up the heat again

**MUSCLES BEHIND THE CALENDAR:** Johnston firefighters and bodybuilders Cory (left) and Brandon (right) Woolley were the driving force behind the calendar's revival and posed on the cover with tools in hand.

### Calendar proceeds to benefit Izzy Foundation work to help families of pediatric patients



By KEVIN FITZPATRICK

In this cynical age, when our itineraries are delivered so lifelessly straight to our pockets, let us take a moment to be grateful for the unique blend of wholesomeness and suggestiveness found in the sexy firefighter calendar. Imagine being reminded to visit the dentist not by a ping and a dull gray box, but by a smiling, shirtless man carrying an axe. What a dream.

For six years, Rhode Island has gone without monthly fixes of hunky men in turnout pants. But Rhode Island, I tell you your patience has not been in vain. In this New Year, all across the Ocean State, the RI Heat Firefighters Calendar will grace the walls of bar rooms, break rooms, and your fun aunt's refrigerator. And should the thought of this project make you a teensy bit uncomfortable, then let this ease your mind. It's for charity. All proceeds from the calendar will benefit the Izzy Foundation, which provides services for the families of pediatric patients in Rhode Island hospitals.

The revival of this long missed Rhode Island tradition is in the hands of North Providence fire captain and professional photographer Sean McNulty. Having worked on both sides of the camera for calendars past, McNulty is uniquely qualified for the endeavor. McNulty photographed for three former Rhode Island Firefighters calendars and featured as a model himself in the 2006 edition.

"People get caught up in the view of us as just firefighters," McNulty says. "But we're also very community minded and engaged and that's a side of us not a lot of people see."

It was McNulty who chose the Izzy Foundation to be the beneficiary of this year's calendar proceeds. After having seen the good work the Izzy Foundation did for the families of pediatric patients, he said choosing them was a "no brainer."

"I worked on a critical care transport team at RI Hospital for 11 years," McNulty said. "We spent a lot of time in Hasbro [hospital] and I saw what the foundation does for the families. It provides services and support for them. Makes sure they have meals, creature comforts as they go through something as traumatic and taxing as having a child with cancer."

The Izzy Foundation has worked in Rhode Island hospitals since 2011, providing a plethora of services for families facing the trials of pediatric care. They build spaces for families to be comfortable and safe in hospitals; they provide scholarships to survivors of pediatric cancer; they provide support groups for families; and much more.

# Rhody TREASURES

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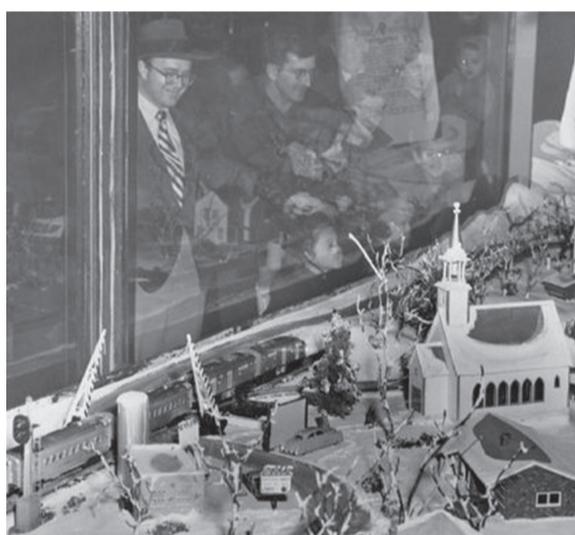
## Why do trains remind us of Christmas?



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

With the holidays fast approaching, some vintage toys we have in the gallery and coming up for auction in December struck me with a bit of nostalgia: a large collection of model trains. Consigned from a single owner, big names include Lionel, MTH and RailKing. I don't know about you, but I can't look at a trainset and not think of Christmas trees, elaborate holiday storefronts, and the Polar Express. It's like they put me on the fast track back to my childhood. But why is that?

While trains might not be considered much of a modern marvel today, back in the 1800's Americans were excited to begin crisscrossing the continent on new railways; it was considered the latest in transportation technology. People of all ages were fascinated by the great, steaming beasts chugging over vast rivers and through steep mountains. Naturally, a cultural phenomenon such as this inspired children's toys, and at the turn of the century a young man named Joshua Lionel Cowen combined the concept of a toy train with electricity (another cultural phenom of the



time) to make the first ever electric train, the *Electric Express*.

Which, oddly enough, wasn't designed to be a toy at all. It was meant to be a store display attracting consumers to the other electric novelties he produced. The public, however, didn't care as much for his electric fans, and the requests rolled in for his electric trains instead. This is how the Lionel Corporation became best known for its Lionel trains.

Riding off the success the *Electric Express* train had in store displays, Joshua Lionel Cowen pushed shop owners to showcase his electric toy model trains in their annual Christmastime storefronts. Additionally, advertisements promoted model trains as the perfect gift to unite father and son and bring the family together. It worked, and this marketing genius is the reason why over 100 years later, I (and probably you) still think of Lionel trains when think of Christmas – and vice versa.

While technology and the public's fascination may have shifted away from trains in the last few decades, their place in history as a symbol of American determination and imagination remains.

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David Ensor (James Hennessey), Jack Clarke (Guard), John Cormier (Guard), Gabriel Graetz (Syd Armfield), Steve Kidd (Harry); In doorway: Steven Liebhauser (Doctor), Bruce Kaye (Governor) in "Hangmen" at Gamm Theatre. (Photos by Cat Laine)

## Gamm's "Hangmen" — black comedy at its best

Theatre Review by **DON FOWLER**

Gamm's Artistic Director, Tony Estrella, is the perfect person to direct Martie McDonagh's black comedy, "Hangmen."

He has seen the play on Broadway and in London, and "Hangmen" is the fifth production of McDonagh's works produced by him at the Warwick theatre.

Estrella has consistently accumulated outstanding actors, and "Hangmen" follows suit.

Gamm veteran Steve Kidd is Harry Wade, the perfect hangman, now retired from the job after capital punishment is abolished in England, and owning a pub with his wife (The wonderful Karen Carpenter) and daughter (Newcomer to Gamm, Abigail Milnor Sweetser). Wade is considered the Number 2 hangman in England.

The play opens with Harry performing his last hanging. Was the man innocent? Did cocky Harry care?

The regulars gather at Harry's pub where a lengthy discussion of capital punishment takes place. A local reporter interviews Harry, who puts down the Number 1 Hangman.

A mysterious, menacing stranger enters the pub, looking to rent a room. John

Hardin plays him as a manic, uncontrollable threat, leaving the characters and the audience to question his intentions.

While the first act drags a bit, it sets the stage for a terrific, mind-blowing second act, filled with surprises.

There's a possible kidnapping, a threatened murder, coercion between the menacing stranger and Harry's fired former assistant. Why he was fired sets the stage for one of the funniest moments in the play.

And then, when you think the situation can't get any crazier, one more character shows up. I won't tell you who, but I will say that veteran actor Jim O'Brien brings down the house with his few minutes on stage.

There is much to ponder in this play, which takes on the serious subject of capital punishment in a dark, farcical fashion.

Jessica Hill Kidd has designed the perfect upstairs/downstairs set that allows smooth transitions of the action and gives you the feeling that you are sitting in that English pub.

"Hangmen" is the best thing I've seen this year.

You can see it through November 26 at Gamm Theatre 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick. Call 723-4266 for reservations.

## Calendar

(Continued from page 21)

On their Instagram on November 2, the Izzy Foundation had this to say to the firefighters:

"Thank you so much to RI Heat Firefighters Calendar for all of their incredible hard work in putting this together to help our patients and their families! YOU ARE IZSPIRING!"

The impetus for this project, according to McNulty, can be credited in no small part to Brandon and Cory Woolley. Body builders as well as Johnston firefighters, the twins' appearance in the 2023 calendar serves as their induction into a family legacy. Both their older brother and their father have participated in calendars past.

"[The Woolley Brothers] have been after me for the last four years," McNulty said.

Cory Woolley has plenty to say about the enthusiasm of all the participants.

"Everyone was very involved all together, talking about how we can make it bigger, better," Woolley said. "The guys were really on board once we found out it was for the Izzy

Foundation."

In casting and shooting "The Guys," McNulty was acutely aware that removing one's turnout coat and helmet to pose for a camera doesn't come naturally to everyone, and sought out those who were most comfortable taking part.

"There used to be a try-out, they'd basically put out a cattle call. It's kind of daunting," McNulty said. "I recruited guys that I know, a lot of younger guys that inquired about it, and basically word of mouth. I wasn't gonna force anyone to try out."

The Guys were also afforded plenty of creative freedom during shoots. The shoots showcased each firefighter's interests and personality, which in turn provided McNulty with opportunities for truly dynamic and expressive photos. McNulty recalls a photo of Lieutenant Danny Wright from North Providence, a former boxer who wanted to showcase his history in the ring.

"We fooled around with the smoke machine and we just happened to get the right shot when the smoke cleared enough," McNulty said. "We aced it."

McNulty was also particularly proud of a shoot taken at Beavertail Light-house.

"It just so happened it was an overcast day, bright overcast, so I didn't have to use a lot of fill light," McNulty said. "We got basically the outline of the Beavertail light behind us. It came out really cool."

The calendar was officially unveiled with a party at Moonshine Alley in Providence on November 2, and McNulty says it's been gaining traction since. They're hoping to keep growing hype for the project into the holiday season with a Christmas blowout and some bar crashes (with prior permission).

To see where The Guys are going next, follow them on Facebook at RI Heat firefighter's calendar, on Instagram @RIHeatfirefightercalendar, or email at riheatffcalendar@gmail.com.

Calendars are selling for \$20 each available at Mangiamo Deli in North Providence and Salon Serendipity in Smithfield, with more locations coming soon, to be announced on social media.

# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local Adoptable Loveable

## Jack



Photo credit: Lynn Martin

Jack is a big fluffball who can't wait to be part of a family! He is a little shy when you first meet him but warms up once he is comfortable! He is a three year old Retriever mix with a beautiful cream colored coat and he is oh so handsome! Jack would love to have a fenced in yard so he can run and play fetch, so please keep that in mind. If you have another dog friendly dog a successful meet and greet is required. He is available at the RISPCA. Please contact them for more information about how you can meet this gorgeous boy! Call 401-383-1900 or visit [www.rispc.org](http://www.rispc.org)

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