

## Memories bob to the surface



**FINAL CLASS:** The Rockland "Class of 1916" photo shows Helen O. Larson in the front row, third from right.

## Recalling the drowned hamlets of Scituate

By RORY SCHULER

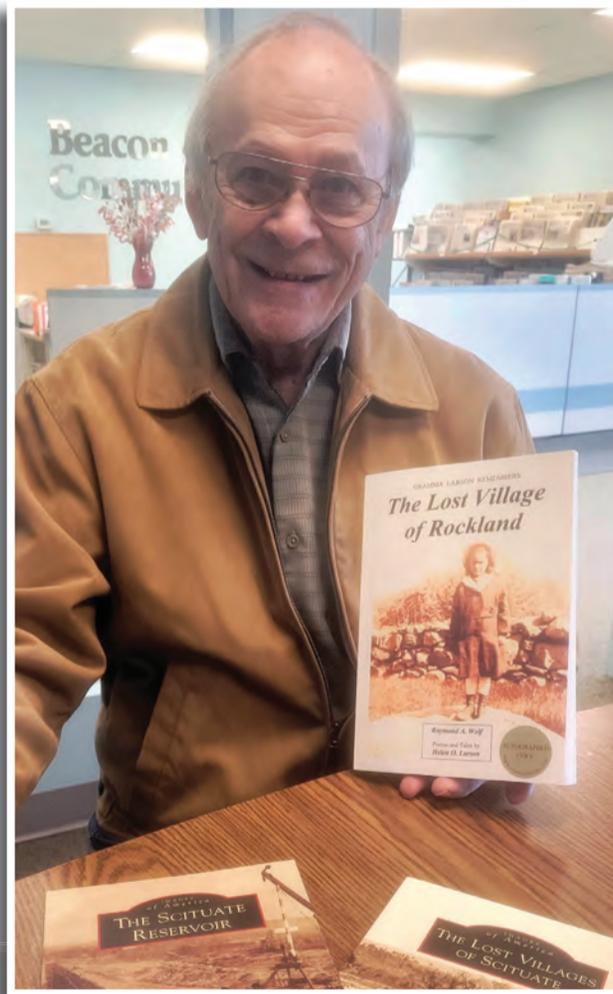
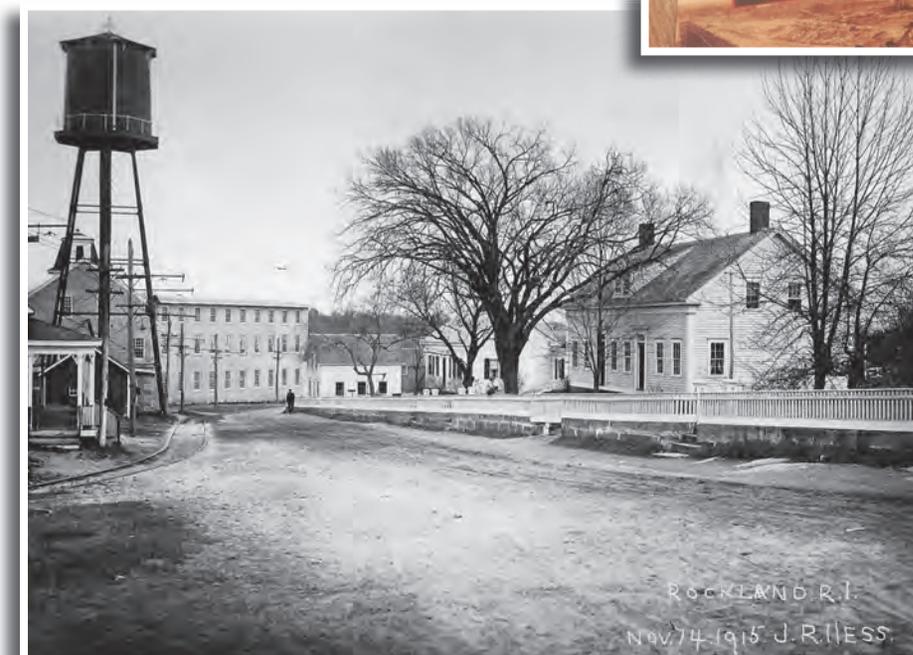
**H**elen O. Larson scrawled her first poem on the schoolhouse chalkboard as the building was dismantled.

About a century ago, someone bought Rockland's school for \$12, Larson told her son. It was torn down and carried away before the whole village was sunken underneath Rhode Island's new reservoir.

"My mom used to tell me a lot of stories about her village getting torn down," recalls Larson's son, author Raymond A. Wolf. "Neighbors moving away, one at a time, never to be heard from again. They communicated via post card back then."

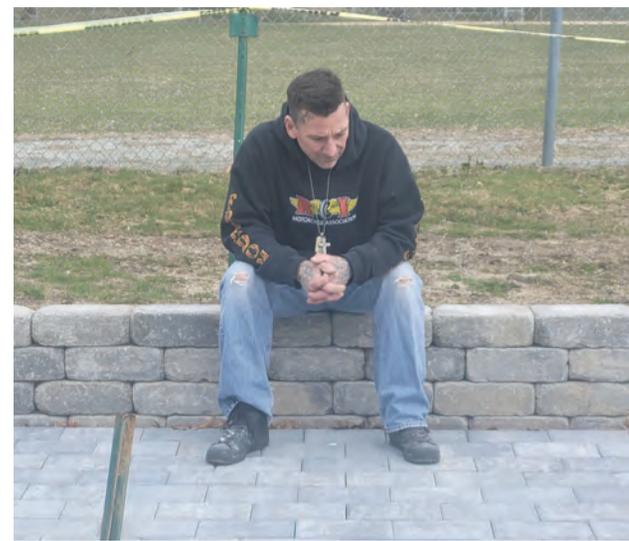
But nearly everyone they knew would soon have a new address.

RESERVOIR - PAGE 8



**AUTHOR & TOUR GUIDE:** Local author Raymond A. Wolf holds his newest book. In April, he'll guide his final tours of the "Lost Villages" on Sunday, April 14. (Beacon Communications photo by Rory Schuler)

**MILL WE MEET AGAIN:** The Rockland Mill was first built in 1812. It was among the many buildings razed and carted away before the filling of the Scituate Reservoir. (Photos courtesy Providence Water archives, via author Raymond A. Wolf)



**LOST TOO SOON:** David Viens visits the site of a future memorial to his son Dillon and other Johnston youngsters lost too young at Johnston's Memorial Park. Two years ago, Dillon lost his life when he was accidentally shot with an improperly stored gun belonging to the relative of a friend. David Viens hopes legislation passes the Rhode Island House and eventually reaches the governor's desk. One day, he also hopes the bill, once adopted, may be named for his son. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

## Gun bill one step closer to becoming RI law

### Where do Johnston, Cranston & Warwick's state Reps stand on Safe Storage Act?

By RAYMOND BACCARI  
Special to the Sun Rise

Rhode Island is one step closer to enacting a safe storage law. The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Pam Luria, cleared the Rhode Island Senate 28-7 on Tuesday, March 19. It now heads to the House, where companion legislation is sponsored by state Rep. Justine Caldwell. To get an idea of this bill's fate in the House, representatives who represent the communities of Cranston, Johnston and Warwick, where Beacon Communications publishes, were contacted to see how they would vote on this legislation during a floor vote.

A total of nine representatives represent a district or a part of a district in Cranston; Johnston has four and Warwick has seven, which includes House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi. Cranston's delegation includes state Reps. Charlene Lima, Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung, Brandon Potter, Jacquelyn Baginski, Arthur Handy, Joseph McNamara, David Bennett Robert Quattrocchi and Edward Cardillo Jr.

Responses consisted of a mixture of answers ranging from some strongly supporting the bill to several who said they were undecided.

Speaker Shekarchi who will have a major role in the bill's fate, didn't provide specifics on his view of the bill, whether it would get a floor vote and how he would vote on it, but said, "We are in the process of reviewing the voluminous testimony on many gun-related bills heard earlier this month before the House Judiciary Committee. As always, the House will afford this significant issue a careful and deliberative review in the coming weeks."

The representatives who have part of Cranston in their district, said they are a 'yes' vote on this bill are Potter, McNamara and Bennett.



# Senior 'Spotlite'



**FARM GIRL:** This week's Johnston Senior Center Spotlite shines on Sally Hicks, a regular marker-ace at the Bingo tables. (Photo courtesy Richard J. DelFino Jr.)

# Johnston Senior Center Highlights

From the JSC Staff

Our Senior Center gives our all, to make our members feel welcome and enjoy the time they spend here. Along with the activities, Lunch is served daily. Bingo is every Thursday and Friday at 2 p.m. Looking forward to seeing you. Together we will bring our Center back to life and make it better than ever. Thank you to all our members.

**Weekly Fun**

- Monday — Arts and Crafts
- Monday & Wednesday — Hi Lo Jack
- Tuesday — Quilting
- Wednesday — Poker
- Thursday — Mar Jong
- Thursday & Friday — Bingo

**Upcoming Activities**

- Mondays — Walk away the pounds, 9-9:30 a.m.; Arts & Crafts, 10:30 a.m.; Hi Lo Jack, 12:30 p.m.; Yoga & Pilates w/Fran, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday — Walk away the pounds, 9-9:30 a.m.
- Wednesday — Walk away the pounds, 9-9:30 a.m.; Quilting, 9:30 a.m.; Zumba, 10 a.m.; Fit & Strong -Chair, 11 a.m.
- Thursday — Walk away the pounds, 9-9:30 a.m.; Mahjong, 9:30 a.m.; Chair Yoga, 10 a.m.; Bone Builders, 11 a.m.
- Friday — Walk away the pounds, 9-9:30 a.m.; Line Dancing, 10 a.m.; Fit & Strong-Chair, 11 a.m.

**Trips & Events**

- Tuesday, April 9, Ballroom Dancing, 1-3 p.m. Come join the fun
- Tuesday, April 9, Class w/Deb, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 10, Class w/Deb, 2 p.m.
- Thursday, April 11, Capital Ridge Cooking w/Lucy, 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 16, The Drum Group, 1-2 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 17, Rhode Island Legal Services, 1 p.m.
- Saturday, April 20, The Follies w/Fran, 12-4 p.m., Lunch & Show (\$25 per person)
- Monday, April 22, Phantom Farms, 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 30, Book club w/Mary, 10 a.m., Convent of Water by Abraham Verges

## The tractor's still broke, but Sally hasn't quit

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

The Johnston Senior Center Spotlite this week shines on Sally Hicks, who is a regular here, two days a week, at the Bingo tables. She, along with some friends, get here early to secure their favorite location, which usually starts with coffee and some homemade pastries, and a hand of cards. Sally is well known for her hand-crafted array of items, which display her artfulness and creativity. She can be counted on to gift a handmade craft to commemorate a special event in someone's life. She is also known to pass out homemade baked goods to members at her table and the many friends and passersby on Thursdays and Fridays. Many of her handmade gifts are

donated to the Center and become sought after prizes for various fundraising raffles. When Sally was very young, she worked at her mother's diner, The Hope Diner, in Scituate. In 1959, she married, and joined her husband on the family owned dairy farm. It was there and then she learned to work the farm, caring for many animals, most importantly the more than 200 dairy cows which were milked daily. She and her husband raised six children, as well as purebred Australian Shepherds. Sally also found time to serve many civic organizations. She was a 4H leader, a member of the Masons Organization, supporting the Shriners, as well as a member of the Scituate Arts Fair Committee and a participant. Her husband passed in 1995, and soon after she and a friend became interested in racing and traveled

throughout New England on the race circuit. Sally even tried her hand at politics, running for the Town Council in Scituate. Today, Sally still lives on that dairy farm that provided her with much happiness and many years of hard work, none of which she would change for anything. Sally certainly has not let time slow her down, nor has it slowed her zest for living, and experiencing relationships that bring her happiness, along with opportunities to make others happy. Thank you Sally, for always helping the sun shine within these walls. **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 Spotlite," submitted by the senior center.



**ATTENTION JOHNSTON VOTERS**

**VOTING INFORMATION**

**THE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024**

EARLY IN PERSON VOTING IS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE JOHNSTON TOWN HALL LOBBY MONDAYS-THURSDAYS 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, FRIDAYS 8:30 AM- 3:30 PM EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS. THE LAST DAY FOR EARLY VOTING IS APRIL 1ST FROM 8:30 AM AT 4:00 PM

**THE APRIL 2, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN JOHNSTON WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING POLLING LOCATIONS ONLY:**

PRECINCTS 1602 & 1603	SIMMONS VILLAGE COMMUNITY HALL, 339 SIMMONSVILLE AVE.
PRECINCTS 1601 & 1604	N. A. FERRI MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA, 10 MEMORIAL AVE.
PRECINCTS 1606, 1607 & 1608	AIME J. FORAND COMMUNITY HALL, 8 FORAND CIRCLE
PRECINCT 1609 & 1610	GRANITEVILLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA, 6 COLLINS AVE.
PRECINCTS 1605, 1611 & 1612	BROWN AVE. SCHOOL CAFETERIA, 14 BROWN AVE.
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The polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. You can view your Voting Location District, the District Map, and a sample **Presidential Preference Primary Election Ballot** by visiting [vote.sos.ri.gov](http://vote.sos.ri.gov)

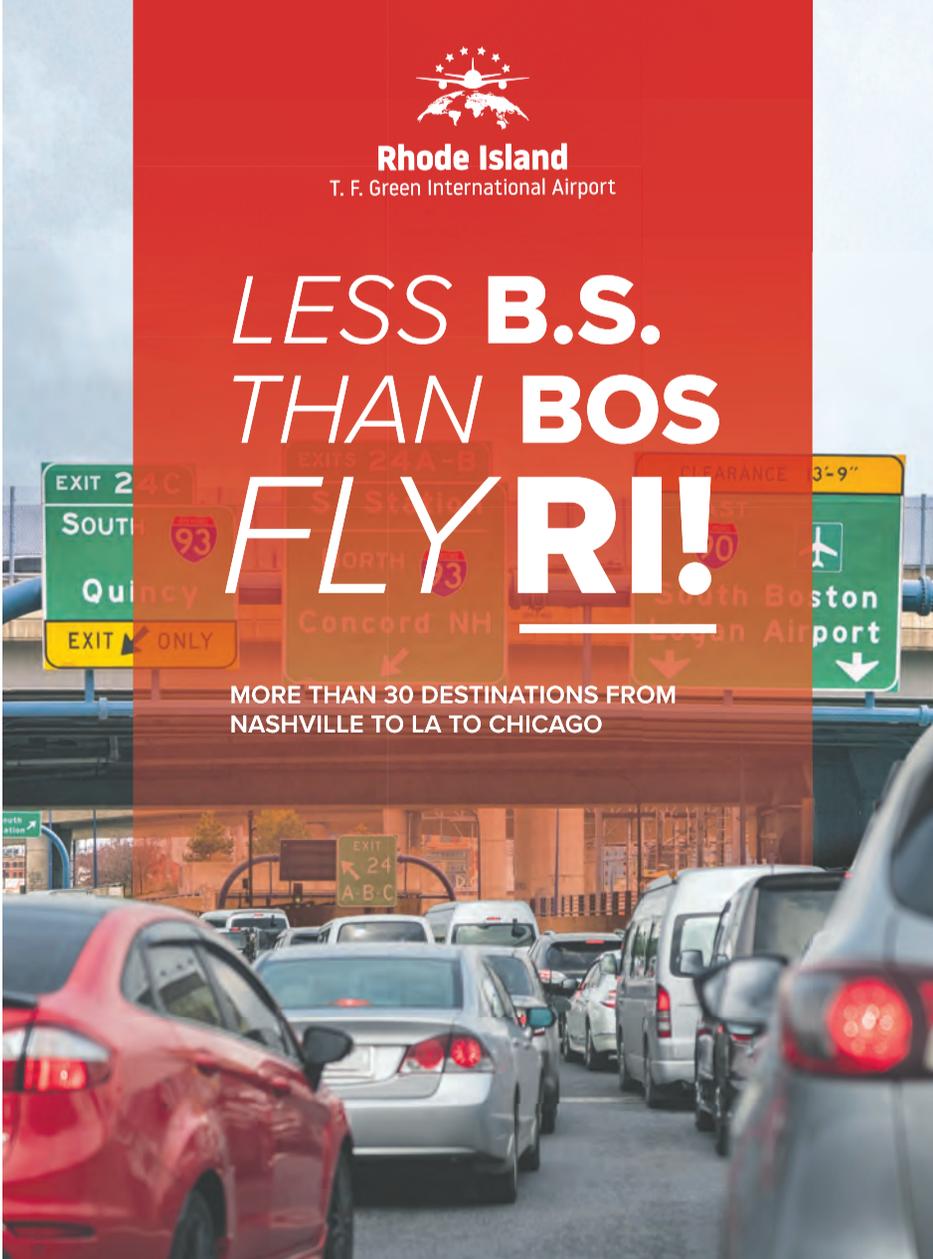
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# An egg hunt for all



The Rhode Island Accessible Beeping Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Johnston High School. More than 150 people participated, including children who are visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing and their siblings. Despite the rainy weather, a series of egg hunts took place in all throughout the high school. The beeping eggs were provided and crafted by the Rhode Island Bomb Squad.

The event was organized by the Rhode Island Parents of Blind and Visually Impaired Children (RIPBVIC) and Rhode Island Hands & Voices (RIH&V) with support from the Rhode Island Lions Sight Foundation, Rhode Island Early Detection Intervention program, Rhode Island Parent Information Network, the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers, the Rhode Island Bomb Squad, IN-SIGHT, and Camp Mauchatea.

## ■ Gun

(Continued from page 1)

"I support that bill and I'm happy to see the General Assembly continue to embrace common sense gun safety measures," Potter said.

Potter also emphasized the desperate and urgent need for an assault weapons ban in Rhode Island.

McNamara, when explaining his support for the bill, cited how Connecticut has an identical law on the books, saying, "I have friends that live in Connecticut that are very strong second amendment supporters and gun owners, and it's almost identical to Connecticut and they support it. They don't find it over burdensome. I think it will make us safer."

Baginski is currently undecided on the bill.

"I do think that reasonable measures to ensure gun safety are appropriate, but I haven't made up my mind about this bill yet," Baginski said. "I'm still considering all of the emails and phone calls I'm getting from my constituents. I'm not sure how I'll vote on this one if it comes to the floor."

### Lima has questions of bill

Lima is also under the "undecided" column on this bill at the moment, but added that she has a few concerns.

"One of them, it says 'when not in use, has to be stored.' I don't know what that means, 'when not in use,' because when would you be using a gun in your house?" Lima asks.

Lima questioned if the bill would apply to someone who lives alone and doesn't have children. Lima said that she has received emails from constituents at a ratio of "three to one" who do not want the bill to pass.

She said, "A lot of people who don't have kids are saying, 'Why do I have to lock them up?' 'How do I defend myself if someone breaks in to my home when I'm home? You're going to delay me getting my weapon to defend myself.' So those are some of the questions I want to ask. There's a type of gun where it's fingerprinted to you only, so only you could use it. Somebody said that's considered safely stored. Well is it? I don't know - that's an up-in-the-air question."

Hany co-sponsor of the bill said, "I think anything that slows someone down at getting the firearm out is going to reduce the risk of suicide, primarily from the perspective of a child or someone other than the owner getting hold of the gun."

On the concern of whether a gun owner could be restricted when de-

fending themselves during a home invasion because of this bill, Handy said, "The idea here is not to create something that's super hard to get into, but it does protect it from others. I would actually say those folks are also partially protected from someone breaking in and taking their gun and using it against them."

"Nobody's bringing up massive numbers of stories of home invasions where someone wasn't able to get their firearm because [it] was stuck in a safe," added Handy. "I'm sure there's a story out there, but it is going to be an anecdote of very narrow proportions — very narrow frequency."

At the time of publication, Cardillo Jr., Fenton-Fung and Quattrocchi did not respond to a request for comment.

### Johnston delegation weighs in

Johnston's delegation consists of Cardillo Jr. and state Reps. Gregory Costantino, Deborah Fellela, who is also listed as a cosponsor, and Ramon Perez.

Perez is currently undecided. He said he is "very pro-second amendment," but wants to hear the arguments before deciding how he's going to vote.

Costantino did not respond to inquiries regarding his stance on the bill and how he'd vote on it.

Fellela introduced similar legislation last session called "Dillon's Law," named after Dillon Viens, a 16-year-old Johnston resident who was killed in February 2022 after the discharge of a firearm in a home located on Cedar Street in Johnston. In that incident, police said the homeowner, who owned the gun, was not home. A juvenile was also charged with manslaughter.

Fellela said that in the past she "kind of stayed neutral" on the topic of a safe storage law years ago, but Viens' death changed her perspective.

She said, "That was a definite tragedy and it definitely shed light on my opinion of that legislation."

Fellela responded to some of the concerns that have been raised about Caldwell's bill by critics, such as what would happen in the event of a home invasion.

"I wish there was some kind of a carve-out for that," she said. "I do see both sides to it. I think my main thing was that this gentleman wasn't at home at all and he left those guns out, that seems like a red flag to me, that they should be locked."

Fella also talked about conversations she has had about the bill with constituents who are pro-second amendment and the possibility of the aforementioned carve-out.

### Favors amendment

"I've talked to a lot of gun owners because this community here is very pro-gun here," Fellela said. "And some of them that I've talked to, they're fine with the bill. They said that they keep their guns locked anyway, [and] that they don't have an issue with that. So that's a tough thing, that certain little tweak there that could be, maybe amended."

As for if she would introduce that amendment, Fella said, "I probably wouldn't, but I bet there will be some that would do that." If the amendment were introduced, Fellela said, "I think I could support that amendment, yes, I think I would support that."

The concern of a gun owner's way to defend themselves if their house is being broken into is one of several concerns brought up by those who are pro-second amendment. Another criticism is enforcement, which was raised by Glenn Valentine, vice president of the Rhode Island Firearms Owners' League.

"This, like most other legislation in [Rhode Island], will go unnoticed and only be an issue at the point of enforcement since folks in [Rhode Island] don't sit at their computers and refresh their computer screens, catching what changes the Rhode Island General Assembly made to our general laws," Valentine said. "We already have law in [Rhode Island] that addresses this issue of prohibited persons and unauthorized access to a firearm. Now we'll have a law that severely limits the ability [of] a [homeowner] to access a firearm in a self-defense situation. What's the harm in having an accessible firearm in a home without minors and prohibited persons?"

### Where Warwick Reps stand

Warwick's delegation includes McNamara, Bennett, Shekarchi, Patricia Morgan, Camille Vella-Wilkinson, Joseph Solomon Jr. and Evan Shanley.

Shanley said he plans to support the bill. Solomon Jr. did not indicate as to how he views the bill or would vote, saying, "I'm in the process of reviewing the testimony and discussion from the committee meeting. Additionally, I will be speaking with my constituents throughout the process."

Morgan said that she plans to vote against the bill.

Vella-Wilkinson did not respond for comment.

Firearm owners who don't store their weapons, which is classified as a civil offense in this bill, would first be fined \$250. A second offense is a \$1,000 fine and any offenses after could result in a fine of up to \$500 along with a prison sentence of up to six months.



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image: First Lutheran Cemetery (EG #73), East Greenwich

# JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

## Police nab Chanel larceny suspect

Sun Rise Staff Reports

A Providence man has been charged in the theft of \$10,000-\$15,000 in designer glasses.

Around 10:05 a.m., Jan. 18, Johnston Police were dispatched to OP-TX Rhode Island, at 1277 Hartford Ave., for the report of a larceny.

Police spoke to the business owner who told them a "black male wearing a yellow toke, black jacket, and black pants, entered the store and immediately went by the check-in at the front desk," according to the incident report.

The man allegedly walked directly the Chanel eyeglass section of the store and grabbed "numerous pairs" of Chanel frames from the store display shelves, stuffing them into his bag.

The theft was captured on the store's video surveillance system.

"Once workers witnessed the male shoplifting, he immediately ran out the front door," Johnston Police Patrolman Zachary M. Estrella wrote in the report. "The male subject was seen crossing Hartford Avenue on foot and heading east towards Providence."

The business provided a security camera screenshot to police. They estimated the value of the stolen frames between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

On Feb. 14, police made an arrest in the case.

"This suspect has been identified and arrested," Johnston Police posted on social media. "We appreciate the public's assistance in this case."

Around 3:30 a.m., Feb. 14, a suspect was transported to Johnston Police Headquarters. Police identified the alleged shoplifter as Joseph Willie Moten, 49, of 528 North Main St., Providence.

Moten was charged with Larceny Over \$1,500 (a felony) and also faces a Habitual Offender-Shoplifting felony charge, according to Johnston Police.



**FRAME JOB:** A Providence man has been charged in the theft of between \$10,000 and \$15,000 in designer sunglasses from a Johnston store. Johnston Police posted this image on social media, taken from the store's surveillance footage, in an attempt to identify the suspect. (Photo courtesy Johnston Police)



**TIME SERVED:** Johnston Police Detective Steven Lopez, center, has retired, after a career that spanned "parts of five decades." He joined the JPD in 1988. (Photo courtesy JPD)

## JPD recognizes Detective's service spanning five decades

Last week, Johnston Police recognized the retirement of one of the town's longest serving peace officers. "Today marks the official retirement of Detective Steven Lopez from the Johnston Police Department," JPD announced on social media. "With a career spanning parts of five decades, Detective Lopez has been a constant in our community since joining the department in 1988."

Lopez wore many hats in Johnston. "With more than 35 years of dedicated service, he has embodied distinction and pride in his various roles, including community police officer, school resource officer, D.A.R.E. program mentor, Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy training officer, detective, assigned to the FBI Safe Streets Violent Gang Force, and most recently, as juvenile detective," according to

the JPD. Lopez has been the recipient of numerous honors over the decades. "Throughout his tenure, Detective Lopez has been honored with the Mayor's Medal and received numerous commendations for his commitment," according to JPD. "His institutional knowledge and loyalty will leave a lasting impact on our department." If you see him around, let him know you appreciated those years spent protecting public safety in Johnston.

"Please join us in expressing our gratitude for his service and wishing him the very best in his future endeavors," JPD urged residents. "Thank you, Detective Lopez, for your dedication to keeping Johnston safe."

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# JOHNSTON POLICE LOG

## Sun Rise Staff Reports

### CONSPIRACY

Around 9 a.m., Feb. 4, Johnston Police responded to the Home Depot, 100 Stone Hill Drive, for the report of two shoplifting suspects in custody.

After arriving at the store, Johnston Police spoke to a loss prevention employee who had the two suspects waiting in an office.

Police identified the suspects as Paul Manuel Souza, 42, of 504 Warren Ave., East Providence, and David Petrucci, 66, of 39 Sophia St., Providence.

According to store security, Petrucci walked into the store with no merchandise and made his way to the Lumber Department. The second suspect, Souza, allegedly walked into the store and grabbed a RIDGID Nail Gun, valued at \$219, along with a bundle of roof shingles.

The two men met at the front of the store, and Souza allegedly handed the merchandise off to Petrucci, who had a receipt "on his person from a previous purchase, which included the same nail gun," according to the arrest report.

The store issued a \$219 refund to Petrucci's debit card at the service desk. That's when loss prevention stepped in, and escorted the men to a back office.

Police arrested both men and charged them with a pair of misdemeanors: Obtaining Money By False Pretenses (less than \$1,500) and Conspiracy. Both men also received No Trespass Orders from Home Depot.

Souza and Petrucci were both arraigned before Justice of the Peace Daniel Connors, who set bail for each at \$1,000 personal recognizance. They both received Third District Court summons.

### NO LICENSE

Around 11:50 a.m., Jan. 4, Johnston Police Patrolman Matthew A. Lonardo was patrolling the area around 1100 Atwood Ave. when he spotted a gold Camry with "heavy window tint" traveling south. He initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Atwood and Shaw avenues.

Police identified the driver as Robinson Giron Natareno, 24, of 32 Viola St., Apt. 2, Providence. He told police the vehicle had the "window tint when he purchased it approximately a year ago."

Procedural checks revealed Robinson did not have a driver's license. He was cited for Unlawful Install of Windshield and Window Sunscreen Film and Driving Without a License.

"Due to Robinson not having a license and no one to pick up the vehicle, the vehicle was towed ... for safekeeping," Lonardo wrote in the summons report. On Jan. 26, Lonardo was advised that this was Robinson's fifth offense for Driving Without a License.

### SHOPLIFTING

Around 10:45 a.m., Feb. 29, Johnston Police were dispatched to the Walgreen's drug store at 1583 Atwood Ave. for the report of a larceny. The store manager told police that "two unknown Hispanic females" went to the baby formula aisle, "taking all that was on the shelf." The pair then, allegedly, walked to the medicine aisle, where they took "Tylenol 100-count."

"Both females used reusable shopping bags to conceal all the products before passing all points of purchase with the items," police wrote in the report.

Store employees told police the women "possibly left through the back parking lot and proceeded onto Cherry Hill Road in an unknown direction."

According to a supplemental narrative by Johnston Police Detective Michael A. Protano, the two women "depicted in the video footage from Walgreens matched the description of a group of females I have seen before that were involved in shoplifting rings throughout New England."

According to the report, compiling information gathered between North Attleboro Police Department and retail stores like Ulta and Macy's, that "several suspects from Providence ... were responsible for at least (14) incidents in North Attleboro between April 2023 and December 2023."

Protano estimated the total value of merchandise stolen from Macy's and Ulta at approximately \$93,138 (he referred to a North Attleboro Police report). He compared images from the Johnston incident and concluded they were looking for the same suspects. Police searched the Flock camera database, which has been compiling the license plate information of nearly 200,000 vehicles each month.

Police identified one of the suspects as Adrianna Consuegra, 18, of 654 Plainfield St., Apt. 2, Providence. The second suspect may be a minor, according to the incident report. Johnston Police issued an arrest warrant for Consuegra on misdemeanor Shoplifting and Conspiracy charges.

On March 17, Rhode Island State Police arrested Consuegra on the active JPD arrest warrant and turned her over to Johnston Police. She was held without bail, as a bail violator, and transported to the ACI Women's Intake Center with a Third District Court date.

### DRUG ARREST

Around 5:30 p.m., March 19, Johnston Police Patrolman Matthew D. Murphy was at a fixed traffic post on Hartford Avenue when he spotted a gray Audi A4 pass his location traveling in the passing lane.

"I observed the vehicle to be tailgating the vehicle positioned directly in front of it, less than one car length's distance away," Murphy wrote in the arrest report.

The vehicle's passenger's side tires also allegedly crossed the dotted white line, into the other travel lane. Murphy initiated a traffic stop near the intersection with Hopkins Avenue.

Police identified the driver as Daniel R. Thibeault, 41, of 62 Chapman St., Putnam, Connecticut.

After running a criminal background check, Murphy discovered the driver had two active Superior Court arrest warrants stemming from a Possession of Schedule I to V (less than 20 grams) drugs.

Thibeault was taken into custody. He had a dog in his car, which was secured by police, and placed in another patrol cruiser that arrived on the scene to assist.

Police searched Thibeault's vehicle once he was taken into custody, since the vehicle was to be towed from the scene. Following the search, Murphy found "a small black bag with a zipper and a lock on it, stored underneath the driver's side front seat of the vehicle."

According to police, Thibeault initially denied any knowledge about the bag. The driver later told police that the "black bag contained fentanyl."

Police put the bag back where it was discovered, and Rhode Island State Police were called to the scene with a drug-sniffing K-9 partner. The K-9 "alerted on multiple areas of the vehicle, particularly in the driver's side front ... where the black bag was located."

The bag was removed again, and opened. Police report finding three small "bricks" of a white powder-like substance inside, which resembled fentanyl.

The vehicle was towed to the back lot at Johnston Police Headquarters.

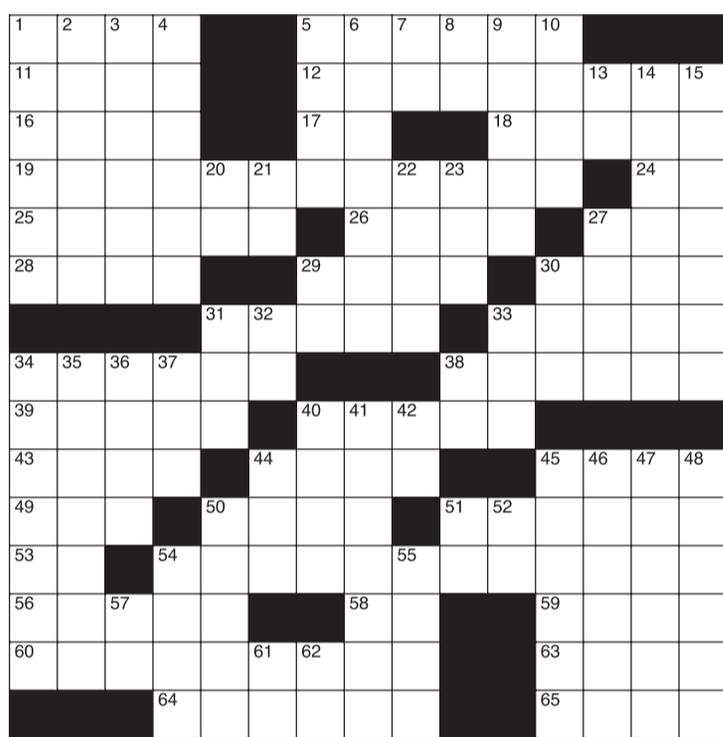
Thibeault was also transported back to Johnston Police Headquarters where he was processed and police conducted an "unclothed search." In addition to his two active arrest warrants, Thibeault was charged with Manufacturing/Possession/Deliver Schedule I/II Drug, a felony.

### FUGITIVE ARREST

Around 5:18 p.m., March 24, a suspect responded to Johnston Police Headquarters to complete a statement in reference to a recent incident. A background check revealed the suspect, Eric J. Snead, 47, of 46 Arch St., Providence, had an active Extraditable Arrest Warrant out of Attleboro, Massachusetts, for Forgery.

Johnston Police Dispatch contacted the Attleboro Police Department, which confirmed the warrant and advised they would extradite Snead. Snead was processed, read his rights and held pending arraignment as a fugitive from justice.

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



### CLUES ACROSS

- Database management system
- Medical procedures
- Clapton, musician
- Defender
- Exert oneself
- Indicates position
- Quay
- Atrocities
- A way to address an adult man
- Ends
- Unable
- Taxi
- Gratuities
- A famous train station
- Japanese persimmon
- Sours
- Beneficiary
- Baseball official
- Confused situation
- Unworldly
- Yemen capital
- Type of soil
- Beloved beverage \_\_\_-Cola
- Lying down
- Angels
- Fail to amuse
- Collapsible shelter

### CLUES DOWN

- Show a picture of
- Small sultanate
- Unfortunate incident
- A way to ski
- Abba \_\_\_, Israeli politician
- Observed
- "Westworld" actor Harris
- Belonging to me
- Shoelace tube
- Takes to civil court
- Early multimedia
- Produces anew
- Horse races
- Of I
- Equally
- Changes color
- A place to stay

- Town in Galilee
- Mathematical figure
- Klingon character
- They \_\_\_
- Atomic #58
- Showed up extinct
- Loosen grip
- Unpleasant smell
- Innermost membranes enveloping the brain
- Esteemed college "league"
- Partner to Pa
- Small American rail
- A salt or ester of acetic acid
- Sodium
- Military figure (abbr.)
- Lighted
- Paid to get out of jail
- All of something
- Ohio city
- More abject
- A radio band
- Scientific development (abbr.)
- Monetary unit
- Scored perfectly
- A punch to end a fight
- The Golden State (abbr.)
- The Beehive State (abbr.)

be kind  
 anyway.



cherry hill manor nursing & rehabilitation center

# Opinion

EDITORIAL

## Lessons of Easter stand out in today's world

With the advent of Easter Sunday approaching this weekend for all of our observing Christian readers, it seems an appropriate time in light of recent events to dig deeper into the themes that have made Easter an enduring and celebrated holiday, and why these themes matter in our modern world.

Regardless of whether you actively practice the Christian faith or believe in the gospel associated with the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, there exists an underlining feeling of hope and renewal associated with this time of year — the coming of spring, warmer weather, flowers and green buds

popping up on tree canopies — that can act as a salve to restore the mind, body, and spirit.

Especially in

recent times, we have been given so many reasons to withdraw into darkness, an impulse brought on by various tragedies, inconveniences, and general negativity seen in the world around us.

Bridges collapsing (like seen in Baltimore this week) or causing day-to-day chaos for commuters, gun violence shocking the Warwick community, scams targeting our most vulnerable residents, political distrust and hatred flung between former friends and neighbors due to the impending Presidential Election. All of these sources of pain can make us feel as though our world has been forsaken, and forgotten.

But as we have seen countless times over the course of our own lives, these acts of death, despair, and destruction, and the defeatism that is generated as a result, is only one side of a coin.

Look a little closer, and you will always find people helping one another, coming together despite differences to make the world a little better. You will see happy couples beginning a lifelong journey of parenthood together, young adults earning certification in a trade program that will blossom into a fruitful career, businesses celebrating milestone anniversaries with customers they've known for decades, and a million little kind gestures and supportive embraces in between that will never make the nightly news.

If Easter teaches one thing to its faithful believers, it is that an ultimate good follows an act of ultimate evil, and that no act of malice can overcome this reaction of benevolence.

While we do not endorse one faith above any other at our publications, we find the hopeful and enduring message of Easter to be one that we can all find some comfort in. We hope all members of our communities enjoy a safe and happy Easter weekend, and find some of that hope in whatever form it may take.

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

LETTERS

## Why should solar company get more time?

Dear Fellow Johnston Residents,

On Tuesday, April 2, 2024, the Johnston Planning Board will consider extending the timeline on their decision from March 3, 2022, relative to (Cranston-based) Green Development's Master Plans for industrial solar arrays located in the last remaining large parcels of residential area here in our town.

On that day two years ago, the Planning Board quickly voted to approve FIVE (5) Green Development Master Plans. These plans included the installation of over 111,000 solar panels on 324 acres of woodlands, natural habitat and former farmland along Winsor Avenue, Rollingwood Drive, Elmgrove Avenue and Harilla Lane. This land is zoned for residential use and should not be used for industrial purpose.

The solar projects, known as Winsor I, Winsor II, Winsor III, Elmgrove II and Harilla I, were rejected by the Johnston Zoning Board for Special use permits in 2022. Green Development came back before the Zoning Board again in 2023 for Winsor III, (the largest of the projects) and was again denied in January, 2024.

Green Development is now requesting an extension on these plans so that they can keep coming before Zoning Board again and again, hoping for poor attendance and minimal opposition so their destructive projects can get approval. Why should they be given more time to go back before the Board? The Board has repeatedly denied these applications.

These applications take vacant, residentially zoned land in Johnston, wipes out green space, blankets the ground with solar panels and installs lithium batteries for power storage. The proposed solar installations are vast and will have a devastating impact on the land that will never recover in our lifetime. These types of projects belong on land zoned for industrial and commercial purposes ONLY and are NOT intended for residential use. Please attend the Planning Board Meeting on April 2, 2024 at the Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue at 6 p.m.

Thank you in advance for your opposition to industrial solar development in residential areas and your support for the preservation of Johnston's quality of life. Residents pay more than their fair share of taxes. The town must take our concerns into account and deny this extension for this project.

We look forward to your attendance at this very important public meeting.

Thank you,

Stop Johnston Solar

**Editor's Note:** The neighborhood group Stop Johnston Solar was formed two years ago in opposition to Cranston-based Green development's plans to clear trees and install thousands of solar panels on more than 300 acres of undeveloped, mostly wooded land.

## H.E.R.O. stands for helping, encouraging, and respecting others

I am part of the administrative team at N.A. Ferri Middle School in Johnston. Ferri serves approximately 750 students in Grades 6-8. At Ferri our mission is to develop respectful and responsible students who lead with integrity, dedication, and effort. To fulfill this mission we host H.E.R.O. month each March.

H.E.R.O. stands for helping, encouraging, and respecting others. It is a month dedicated to bullying prevention, team building, and positive decision-making. Students engage in a variety of activities throughout the month including team-building STEM activities. This year's activities include the Cup Stacking Challenge and Card Tow-

ers. Other activities include a poster contest, a costume contest, and a quiz. At the end of the month we host a brunch for students who have been recognized as heroes around the school.

To aid us in this endeavor, we are reaching out to see if you would be willing to donate a gift card/certificate to purchase the necessary materials for the activities or as prizes/incentives - or- if you would be willing to donate foods/beverages for the brunch that is to take place. We want to recognize students for their actions and want them to celebrate that success throughout the community.

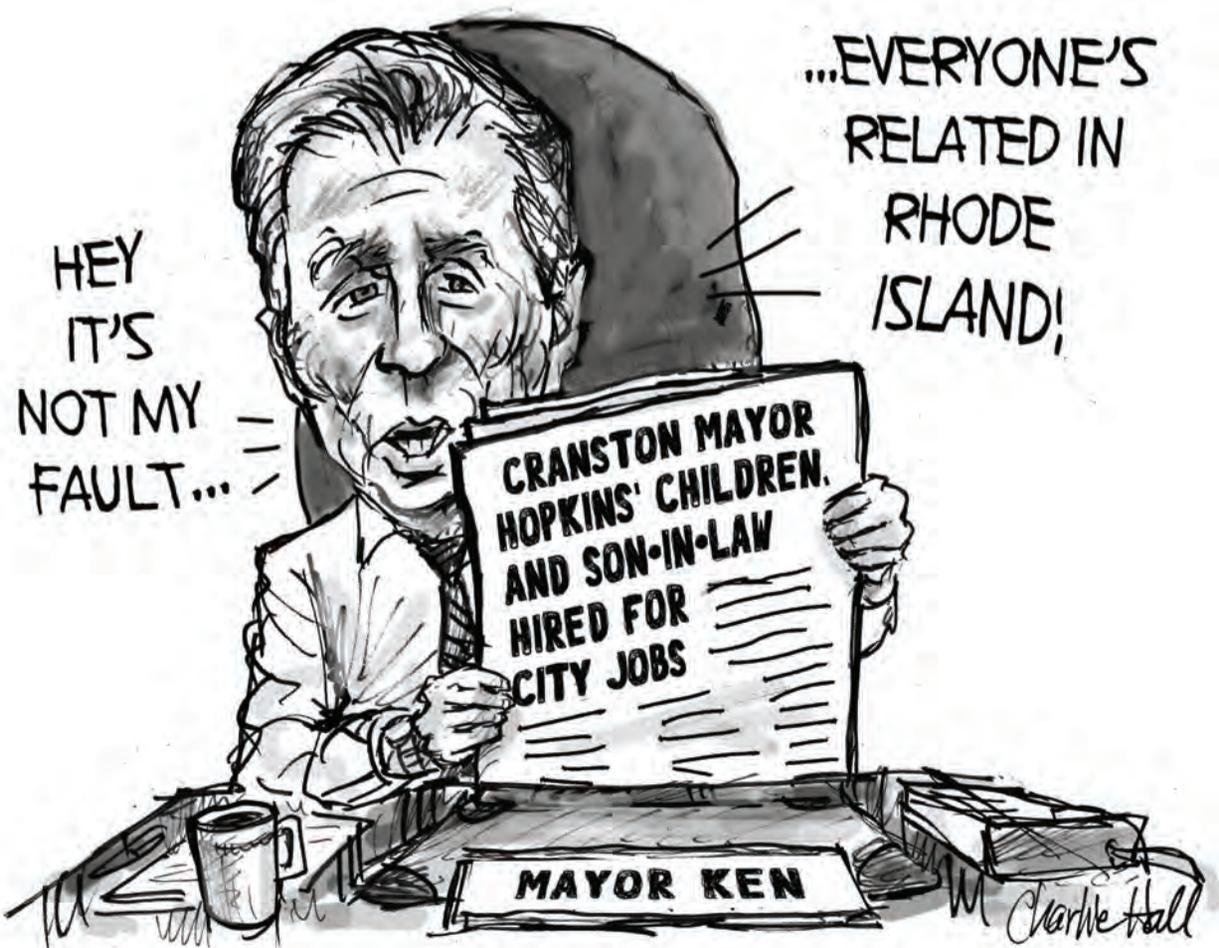
Partnering with local establish-

ments like yours is a great way for them to do that. With the help of individuals like you, we can make this program a success.

I am able to pick up all that you are willing to offer to help the success of this effort. Donations can also be sent via mail or they can be dropped off at N.A. Ferri Middle School 10 Memorial Ave. Johnston, RI 02919. On behalf of the school I would like to welcome you to our Ferri family and thank you for the support. It is truly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Fred Skipworth,  
Nicholas A. Ferri Middle School  
Assistant Principal



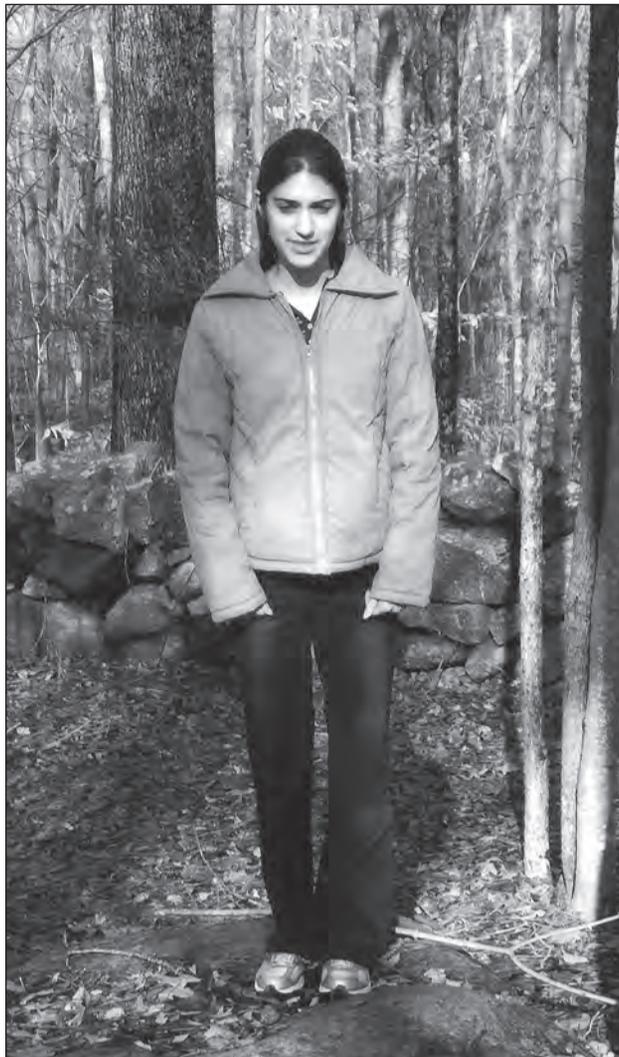
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**PAST & PRESENT:** Ocean State poet Helen O. Larson, at eight years old, poses for a photo in 1918, standing on a rock at the family farm. Two generations later, her granddaughter, Ashlee Wolf stands on the same rock. (Photos courtesy Raymond A. Wolf)



**OLD SCHOOL:** Raymond A. Wolf found a photo of the Rockland School, where Helen O. Larson wrote her first poem, "The Old School House," on the blackboard, on an old post card.



**MEMORIES IMMORTALIZED:** The Rockland Store was one of four in the village, according to author Ray Wolf's recollections of stories told by his mother, one of the town's natives. His mom, Helen O. Larson, would walk to the store, shop for her mom, and walk back home carrying the bundles in her tiny arms.



James A. Diossa  
Rhode Island General Treasurer

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CollegeBound Saver is a program of the office of Rhode Island General Treasurer, James A. Diossa.

## Reservoir

(Continued from page 1)

### Rising Water

"On April 21, 1915 a public law was approved by the General Assembly to create the City of Providence Water Supply Board," Wolf writes to begin his newest book, "The Lost Village of Rockland: Poems and Tales by Helen O. Larson." "The board was given the power to condemn, by eminent domain, five villages in Rhode Island to build the Scituate Reservoir. They were: Ashland, Kent, Richmond, Rockland, and South Scituate."

The government reclaimed nearly 15,000 acres. "Because of the growth of Providence and a few extremely dry years the city was in bad need of more and clean water," Wolf wrote in his book's introduction. "Condemnation notices were sent out in December 1916 and the reservoir began storing water on Nov. 10, 1925." According to Wolf, the reservoir still "supplies water to 60 percent of Rhode Islanders."

### Mother Knew

Wolf wanted to capture the voice of his mother, who

he lost nearly 20 years ago. His new book mostly features her poetry, with historical photos from the village where she spent her earliest years.

"She tells her story of growing up in a small New England village in the early 1900s," Wolf explains. "She writes about having to suffer the agony of seeing her village vanish. Through her poetry, she tells stories of her childhood and of the heartache she endured as each family moved away ... The village was fated to be one of five that were destroyed. The buildings auctioned off one by one. Her friends' and neighbors' houses, the mill where her dad worked, the country store where she shopped for groceries for her mother, her beloved school and the church she attended every Sunday."

Rockland was the most bustling of the five drowned hamlets.

"Rockland had three mills, five stores — the post office was in one of them — two churches and two barber-shops," Wolf said, describing his mother's hometown. "It was the largest village of the five; all the others had one mill, one store."

RESERVOIR - PAGE 9



## Public Notice Town of Johnston Public Hearing

**A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON:**

**Monday, April 8th, 2024 AT 7:00 PM**  
The meeting will be held at the Johnston Municipal Court Building located at 1600 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919

The Johnston Town Council will conduct a Public Hearing pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 44-3-9 concerning proposed Ordinance 2024-5, an ordinance authorizing a Revised Tax Stabilization Agreement ("Agreement") between the Town of Johnston and Amazon.com Services, LLC/Owner for real property located in the Town of Johnston identified as Assessor's Plat 54, Lots 39, 40, 42, 54, 61, 75, 89, 90, and 93, located at Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI, consisting of approximately 195 acres of land. Said Agreement shall also include any improvements constructed on the property and any and all personal property located thereon. Said public hearing shall be held on **April 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Johnston Municipal Court Building located at 1600 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919.

The meeting place is accessible to the handicapped in conformance with R.I.G.L. 42-46-2. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Office of the Town Clerk at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date.

**Johnston Town Council**  
Robert V. Russo,  
President

**Attest:**  
Vincent P. Baccari, Jr.,  
Town Clerk

3/28/24

### CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

Docket No. BR17P0841PM

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court

Bristol Probate and Family Court  
Office of Register Suite 240  
40 Broadway  
Taunton, MA 02780  
(508)977-6040

In the matter of:  
The Avielle J. Hernandez  
Revocable Trust

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by:  
David A. Schwartz (Trustee)

requesting allowance of the First and the Second and Final Accounts as Trustee and any other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 04/26/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appear-

ance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Katherine A Field,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 13, 2024

Thomas C Hoye, Jr.,  
Register of Probate

3/28/24

### Town of Johnston Planning Board REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024 6:00 P.M.  
Johnston Senior Center  
1291 Hartford Ave.  
Johnston, RI 02919

#### I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### III. NEW BUSINESS

**PB 24-10- Compass Stone & Tile, Inc. 1763 & 1765 Plainfield Pike. AP27 Lots 165 and 227. A Public Hearing on a Minor Land Development with Unified Development Review to establish a countertop fabrication business with outside storage in a B-2 zone.**

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

**PB 22-05- Winsor I. 112 Winsor Avenue. AP 59 Lot 15**  
**PB 22-04- Winsor II. 86 Winsor Avenue. AP 60 Lots 2, 20 and 86**  
**PB 22-03- Johnston Winsor III. 46 Winsor Avenue. AP 60 Lot 4**  
**PB 22-02- Johnston Harilla I. 28 Harilla Lane. AP 51 Lots 9 & 11**  
**PB 22-01- Johnston Elmgrove II. 25 Elmgrove Avenue. AP 51 Lot 4**

A request in accordance with RIGL 45-23-40 (g) for a one (1) year extension of the Master Plan approval for the reference projects.

**PB 17-15 SASA-29 Pleasant Street. 1056 Atwood Avenue. AP 24 Lot 9. A request in accordance with RIGL 45-23-40(g) for a one (1) year extension of the Master Plan approval for the reference projects.**

**PB 24-09 Alexandria Way. Adjacent to 29 Taylor Road. AP 30 Lot 16. A Board vote to ratify the action of the Administrative Officer in calling the performance bond.**

**PB 24-11 Mill Street Apartments. 64 Mill Street. AP 4 Lot 311. Status update and review of Preliminary Plan as a result of the change in ownership. Discussion as to whether the project needs to appear before the Board again. Vote possible.**

**PB 23- 12 – Zoning Update. Discussion and review of draft zoning ordinance. Major restructuring of the ordinance was required because of the changes and the failure to update the ordinance over the past years when changes were made to state law.**

#### V. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#### VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT & SPECIAL ITEMS

**Presentation. Overview and discussion of state law changes to RIGL 45-23. Land Development and Subdivision Review and RIGL 45-24. Zoning Enabling. Note – revised Land Development Regulations were adopted at the February 6, 2024 meeting**

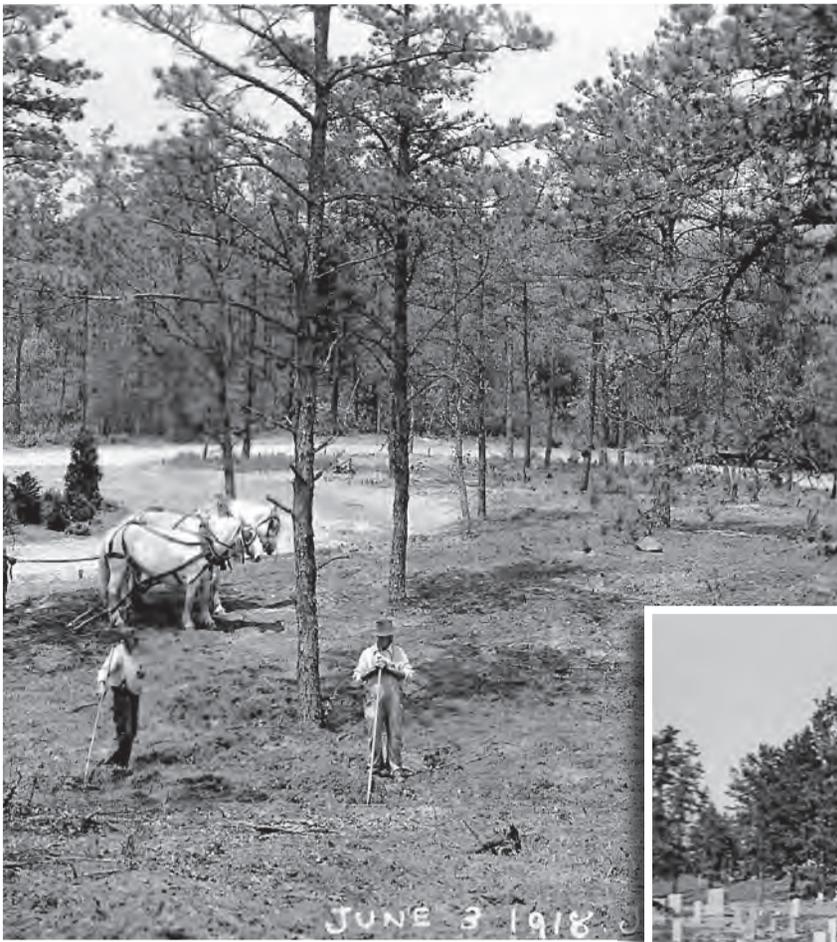
#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

*The Planning Board Agenda and Minutes are available for review at <https://clerkshg.com/johnston-ri> or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Planning Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.*

*Items not heard by 9:00 p.m. may be continued to the next Regular Meeting or a special meeting at the discretion of the Board.*

*Facilities are handicap accessible. Interpreter services may be requested from TTD (401) 792-9642 at least 72 hours in advance.*

3/21, 3/28/24



**WHERE THE BODIES WERE BURIED:** Before the villages were submerged, their cemeteries contained more than 1,500 graves. According to author Raymond A. Wolf, crews readied the grounds where most of the bodies were relocated. Around 500 bodies were interred in other towns, by request of the deceased's relatives.



## The Tour

For years, Wolf has been guiding bus tours of "The Lost Villages of Scituate" (he also wrote a book by that title). On April 14, he plans to deliver his final "Lost Villages Tour."

Wolf plans to lead three tours that Sunday, and has been contemplating a fourth (so far, he's been booking for a tour at 10 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m.).

"I am retiring from conducting bus tours," Wolf said last week.

The "Lost Villages Tour" will focus on more than 25 points of interest.

The 90-minute tours will leave rain or shine from Hope School Playground, 391 North Road (Route 116), in Hope. Call 401-821-0016 or email [thewolf@cox.net](mailto:thewolf@cox.net) to book a seat. Seats are \$59 per person, in advance. No food or drinks are allowed on the bus (bottled water only). For more information, go to [www.raywolf-books.com](http://www.raywolf-books.com) and go to "TOURS."

**NEW DIGS:** Once completed, the "New Rockland Cemetery" covered the entire hill. (Photos courtesy Providence Water archives, via author Raymond A. Wolf)

## Reservoir

(Continued from page 8)

### The View

While his mother was still alive and writing, Wolf would get special permission from the Providence Water Supply Board to pass through a locked gate. He'd take his mother, and a lawn chair, to the water's edge.

She'd sit and reflect on the lost towns, of which only the stone foundations and rock walls remain, nearly 40 feet below the water's surface.

"I'd take my mom up there and she would point out where she used to play," Wolf said.

He reflected on the Scituate Reservoir's mirror surface. "I see a village down there, just to the right of the causeway," Wolf said. "I see cars driving around and horses. Cars coming down into the village, there, that one's Ashland."

He pictures his mother's childhood village, "about 200-300 feet out in the water; 37 feet underneath the surface ... and the stores, the post office, my mom's house. All the houses were painted white."

On a page opposite his mother's portrait, circa 1940, Wolf shares the story of his mother's first poem.

"She recalls the school house, that she loved, sold for only twelve dollars," he wrote. "She wrote her first poem, The Old School House, on the blackboard as the workers were tearing it down. She was only twelve years old at the time but it was the beginning of a lifetime of writing poetry."

Her inaugural poem, "The Old Schoolhouse," is included inside Wolf's new book.

Wolf's family farm, perched upon a hill, survived, overlooking the reservoir's massive footprint.

# Worship with your family this Easter



## St. Robert Bellarmine Church

Rev. Richard A. Narciso, Pastor  
Deacon Joseph P. Tumminelli  
Rev. John LaPointe, Pastor Emeritus  
1804 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI  
401-232-5600

[srbp1804@aol.com](mailto:srbp1804@aol.com) • [strobertyparish.org](http://strobertyparish.org)

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Holy Thursday, March 28 - 7 p.m.  
(After Mass, the church will remain open until 10 p.m.)

Stations of the Cross - Friday, March 29 - 3 p.m.

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - Friday, March 29 - 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil Service - Saturday, March 30 - 7 p.m.

Easter Services  
Sunday, March 31 - 8, 10, and 11:30 a.m.

## St. Rocco Church

Rev. Angelo N. Carusi  
927 Atwood Avenue Johnston  
401-942-5203  
[churchofsaintrocco.org](http://churchofsaintrocco.org)

Morning Prayer - Holy Thursday, March 28 - 8 a.m.

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Holy Thursday, March 28 - 7 p.m.  
(church will remain open until midnight)

Morning Prayer - Friday, March 29 - 8 a.m.

Stations of the Cross & Procession  
Friday, March 29 - 3 p.m.

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion &  
Veneration of the Holy Cross  
Friday, March 29 - 7 p.m.

Morning Prayer - Saturday, March 30 - 8 a.m.

Easter Vigil Service - Saturday, March 30 - 7:30 p.m.

Easter Bi-Lingual Service (English & Italian) -  
Sunday, March 31 - 8 a.m.

Easter Services  
Sunday, March 31 - 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

## 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

Say you saw it  
in the

JOHNSTON

Sun Rise

*"I see a village down there, just to the right of the causeway... I see cars driving around and horses. Cars coming down into the village, there, that one's Ashland."*

Author Raymond A. Wolf

# POLAR PANTHERS



JSHS Special Educator Stephanie Galasso



**POLAR ICE:** Students, educators, family, and staff from the entire district showed up to support inclusion and Unified sports programs in Johnston. (Photos courtesy Johnston Public Schools)



JSHS Special Educator & Unified Basketball Coach Jennifer Sparks



JSBS Special Educator Julie Giorgi, James Giorgi, JSBS Assistant Principal Rachel Salvator, and JSBS Special Educator Tara D'Urso



It was freezing and wet on the beach. So why not jump in the water? "A little wind and rain didn't stop Johnston from showing up for the Polar Plunge!" Johnston administrators posted to the school's social media accounts. "Johnston Public Schools raised over \$5,000 for Special Olympics."

Students and staff gathered at Roger Wheeler Beach in Narragansett to take the Unified Champion Schools Special Olympics Polar Plunge on Saturday, March 23.



**ON YOUR MARKS:** Athletic Director Justin Erickson waves the new Johnston HS flag to start the day.



District APE Michelle Brennan and her son, JSBS student Logan Brennan



**FROM THE TOP:** The JSBS Leadership Team includes Dr. John Mendelsohn, Assistant Principal Rachel Salvatore and Principal Matt Velino. (Photos courtesy Assistant Superintendent Edda Carmadello)



JSBS Special Educator and Unified Basketball Coach Savannah Bissitt and Jayannah Rollins

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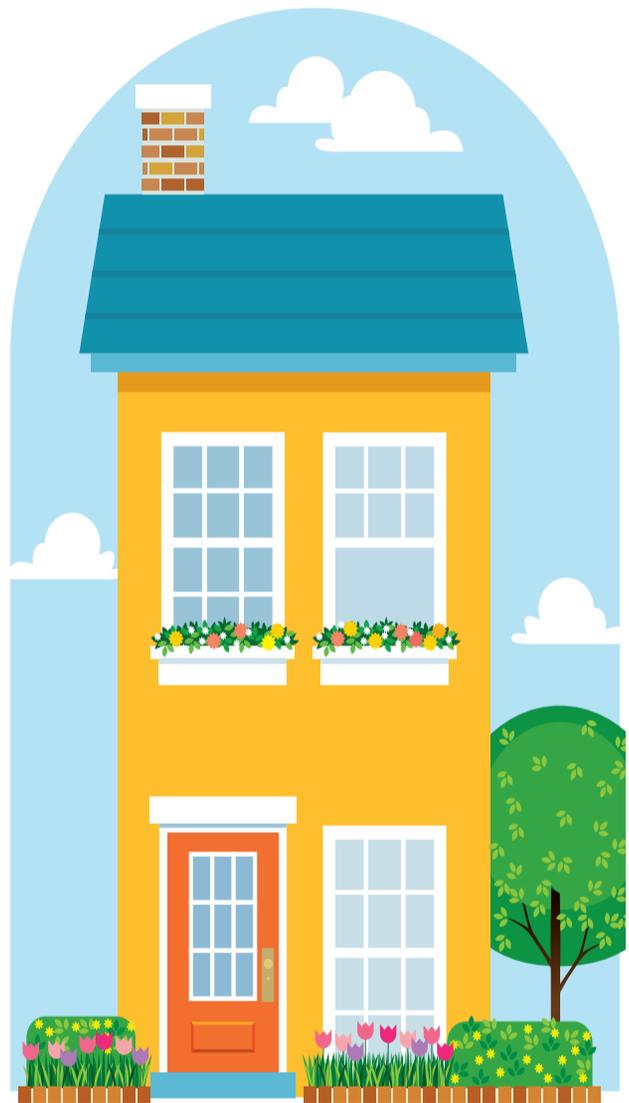
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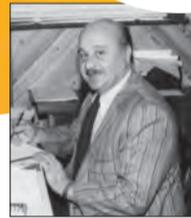
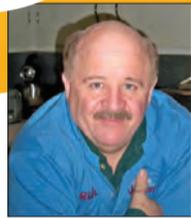
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# SUN RISE SCOOPS

## March 30

### Easter Bunny

On Saturday, March 30, the Easter Bunny is coming to Johnston!

Enjoy pastries and refreshments with the Easter Bunny from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Harford Ave., Johnston.

The event is free and each child will receive a gift from the Easter Bunny. Please bring a camera. The Rec Department issued a special thank you to event sponsor Citizens Bank. For more information, visit [johnstonrec.com](http://johnstonrec.com).

## April 5

### Love Bash for Humans

The Potter League has scheduled its Premiere Spring Fundraiser, "Love Bash for Animals." The event will be held on Friday, April 5, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., at the Windham Newport Hotel, 240 Aquidneck Ave., Middletown, for an unforgettable celebration. Prepare for an enchanting evening filled with a cocktail reception, seated dinner, thrilling silent and live auctions, and a firsthand look at the life-saving programs and services provided by the Potter League. Get ready to Sit, Stay, Bid! Our mobile silent auction is already underway, offering exclusive items and experiences until Friday, April 5.

Show your love and support by adding a loved one or pet's name to our Tree of Love for just \$15. Each heart-

shaped tag, beautifully inscribed, becomes a symbol of compassion and commitment to animals in need. And remember, you don't have to attend to purchase a heart. Tickets are priced at \$150 each, with tables of 10 available for \$1,500. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.LoveBashforAnimals.com](http://www.LoveBashforAnimals.com) or call 401-846-0592. Cocktail attire is recommended, and complimentary parking will be provided. Please note that this event is exclusively for humans.

## April 13

### Scitua-istory Program

The Hope Historical Society is hosting an open forum/Scituate and Memorabilia and Artifacts Program on Saturday, April 13, at 2 p.m., at the Howland Barn, 35 Ryefield Road, Hope. The Hope Historical Society invites the community to participate in the "Scituate Memorabilia and Artifacts" meeting celebrating all things Scituate. HHS invites members and guests to display, discuss, and share their memorabilia and artifacts. The HHS will also provide a preview of the Scituate Historic Signage Project; "The Scituate Heritage Trail". Intrigued by the topic but cannot attend "Scituate Memorabilia and Artifacts"? You can still share by posting a picture and/or story on our Facebook page "Hope Historical Society, Hope, RI". Pictures and stories must be posted at least 48 hours before the meeting to be included in the Open Forum. Not a Facebook user? Pictures or stories can be emailed to the HHS at [hopehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:hopehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com).

## April 13

### Gridiron Girls Camp

The First Gridiron Girls Camp in RI will be offered on Saturday, April 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Johnston High School, 345 Cherry Hill Road, Johnston. Dr. Jennifer Welter, the first woman to have coached in the NFL with the Arizona Cardinals football team, will be hosting her famous all girls football camp. This is an opportunity to explore a new avenue in sports for our young ladies. It is free! Participants must register! Be a part of history! Registration at: [www.jenwelter.com](http://www.jenwelter.com) or text/call Randy Phillips at 401-339-8511, [coach1randy@gmail.com](mailto:coach1randy@gmail.com) with any questions.

## April 20

### Fishing Derby

The Johnston Parks & Recreation Department will hold its 2024 Fishing Derby for children ages 4-12 on Saturday, April 20, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Johnston Memorial Park. The derby will include awards for individual achievement and will be free to enter. Johnston Rec reminds participants: "Please remember this derby is meant for the kids ... let the kids do all the fishing. You can help cast and release the fish if necessary."

Derby organizers ask that participants bring bait and fishing poles, and "most of all, have fun!"

## April 20

### Cemetery Cleanup

On Saturday, April 20, the Johnston Historical Society will be hosting a cemetery clean-up as part of the state-wide "Historical Cemetery Awareness Event." This event is sponsored by the State Historical Cemetery Commission in collaboration with the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission. The Society will be cleaning Johnston Historical Cemetery #21, the Governor King / Borden Lot. The cemetery is located at the corner of Hartford Avenue and Winfield Road, in the vicinity of Winsor Hill School. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers should take rakes and gloves. For any further information, please contact the Society at 231-3380.

## May 4

### St. Rocco 60th

St. Rocco School, 931 Atwood Ave, will host a 60th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, May 4. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. A reception will follow in Café Rocco after Mass. Looking for alumni, family and friends to join us in celebrating 60 years! For more information, call St. Rocco school office at 401-944-2993. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

## May 5

### Victorian Tea

The Johnston Historical Society will host a Victorian Tea at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 5.

The location for the Victorian Tea will be the picturesque Historic Andrew Harris House yard and garden at 216 Morgan Ave., Johnston.

Tickets are \$35 per person, and there's limited seating. All proceeds will benefit the Johnston Historical Society.

Price of admission includes three different "teas," finger sandwiches, mini pastries and much more. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Anthony Ursillo at 401-764-5901 or e-mail [aursillo401@gmail.com](mailto:aursillo401@gmail.com).

The event will be held rain or shine (no refunds for tickets). Victorian attire is optional.

## May 11

### Historic Yard Sale

On Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., the Johnston Historical Society will host a Yard Sale at the JHS Museum, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston. Please, no early birds.

**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 [idez@rhodybeat.com](mailto:idez@rhodybeat.com). Photos in jpg format are accepted and news can include community events, promotions, academic news and nonprofit events. Email today and see your news in our column in the Johnston Sun Rise. Please include a daytime telephone number in case we require any further information.

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## Seizing the Moment

### Why Now is the Prime Time to Sell Real Estate



By Jennifer Cosgrove O'Leary

In the realm of real estate, timing is often paramount, and for many homeowners, the current market conditions present a golden opportunity to sell. From favorable economic indicators to shifting demographics, several factors have converged to create an unprecedented moment for selling property. In this article, we'll explore why now is perhaps the best time in our adult lives to sell real estate and how homeowners can capitalize on this advantageous window of opportunity.

**1. Historically Low Inventory:** The real estate market is currently experiencing historically low inventory levels, meaning there are fewer homes available for sale than there are buyers seeking properties. This imbalance between supply and demand has created a seller's market, where homeowners have the upper hand in negotiations and can command top dollar for their properties. Currently, Rhode Island has about a month of single-family home inventory for sale. A six month supply is necessary for a balanced market.

**2. Strong Buyer Demand:** Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, buyer demand for homes remains robust. This heightened demand, coupled with limited inventory, has led to increased competition among buyers, driving up home prices in many markets.

**3. Rising Home Values:** Home values have been steadily appreciating in recent years, with many homeowners seeing significant gains in equity. Selling your home now allows you to capitalize on this appreciation and unlock the equity you've built up over time. By selling at the peak of the market, you stand to realize a substantial return on your investment and potentially walk away with a sizable profit.

**4. Changing Lifestyle Preferences:** The COVID-19 pandemic has prompted many people to reassess their living situations and prioritize factors such as space, comfort, and flexibility. As remote work becomes more prevalent and urban amenities lose their appeal, suburban and rural areas are experiencing increased demand from buyers seeking larger homes, outdoor space, and a better

quality of life. If your property offers these coveted features, now is an opportune time to sell.

**5. Optimal Selling Conditions:** Spring and early summer traditionally mark the peak homebuying season, as buyers emerge from winter hibernation and embark on their house-hunting journey. The warmer weather, longer days, and blooming landscapes create an ideal backdrop for showcasing your home and attracting potential buyers. By timing your listing strategically, you can capitalize on the heightened market activity and maximize your chances of a successful sale.

For homeowners contemplating selling their properties, the current market conditions present a unique window of opportunity to capitalize on strong buyer demand, limited inventory, and rising home values. By leveraging these favorable conditions and timing your listing strategically,

you can maximize your equity, secure a lucrative sale, and embark on your next chapter with confidence. Now truly is the best time in our adult lives to sell real estate, and savvy homeowners would be wise to seize the moment and make the most of this unprecedented opportunity.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Jennifer Cosgrove O'Leary is one of the top 10 Realtors® (as certified by Real Trends) in the state of Rhode Island and the Co-Owner/Broker of Greenwich Bay Brokers. She is the only Certified Divorce Real Estate agent in the state. Jennifer leverages her years of interior design experience, as well as her degree in occupational therapy to provide guidance on the critical aesthetic and ease of use elements that are part of the home buying and selling process.

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By **JENNIFER COATES**



Meet the dedicated team of professionals at Specialty Home Care Services, Inc, Alicia Lima (Recruiter/Coordinator), President Anne Shattuck, Deb Guglielmo (Office Manager) and Mary French, BSN, Registered Nurse.

There comes a time in life when our own needs, or the needs of our loved ones, exceed our ability, time, and resources to meet them. Perhaps that need is for just light housekeeping and assistance with activities of daily living such as dressing and bathing. Perhaps that need is for doing the laundry or preparing meals and picking up that necessary prescription. Perhaps that need is for companionship and conversation.

As we age, basic tasks that we used to do independently and with ease often become difficult to manage on our own. This is the time to call in the help of Specialty Home Care Services, Inc., an agency that has been caring for people in their homes for over 20 years; an agency that helps carry the weight of aging gracefully with compassion and care.

There is no better team of dedicated professionals than can be found at Specialty Home Care Services (SHCS) with its offices in both Johnston and Worcester, MA. President Anne Shattuck, one of the founders of the agency, leads a closeknit team of women who devote their time and talents to coordinating care for their many clients.

This care begins with a first call to the office where one will hear the friendly voice of office manager Deb Guglielmo. Deb will walk you through the steps of eligibility such as insurance coverage and private pay rates ~ she is an excellent resource for those navigating this experience for their first time or when the client's level of care and need for services have changed.

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Specialty Home Care Services does NOT provide medical care of any kind, instead, they provide comfort, basic care, and companionship so their clients can remain in their own home.

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and passionate about the people they serve.

Specialty Home Care Services is set apart from other agencies because of both this committed team of professionals and the way they care for the clients who come to them by way of personal referral or select insurance providers.

To get more information about how Specialty Home Care Services can help you or your loved one, contact the office at 401-455-0111 or visit them at 1395 Atwood Avenue, Suite 105 in Johnston, RI. To reach them in Worcester, call 508-366-1330.

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# Sports

## Ready for spring

An early look at Johnston's spring teams

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The spring sports season is nearing with regular season games beginning in the next two weeks. Here is a look at Johnston's teams as they gear up for the year.



HITTING THE DIAMOND: Arianna Velasquez last year. (Photo by Alex Sponseller)

**Baseball**

**Last year's finish:** 4-14 (missed playoffs)

**Key returners:** Steven Finegan, Chris Civetti, Kevin Biscelli, Armani Arias, Dean Paris, Dylan Guernon

**Key losses:** Derek Salvatore, Dylan Martins

**Outlook:** The Panthers endured a tough 2023 as they rebuilt their roster, relying heavily on new faces to carry the load. Johnston enters this season with many returning players and is set to take a step forward. The Panther offense should be productive early, but the pitching staff will need to find answers as it struggled throughout last season.

■ SPRING - PAGE 16



AWARD WINNER: Johnston's Neari Vasquez this past season. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

## Vasquez leads RIBCA's division award winners

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Rhode Island Boys Basketball Coaches Association unveiled its division and league award winners and a handful of Johnston hoopsters made the list.

Leading the way was Johnston's Neari Vasquez, who was named to the Division II Second Team as well as the All-League First Team, along with teammate Jayden Testa. Branden Testa made the All-League Second Team

■ VASQUEZ - PAGE 16

## Johnston Youth Wrestling puts on show at King of the Mat

By ALEX SPONSELLER

Johnston Youth Wrestling traveled to New Hampshire to participate in the annual King of the Mat youth tournament, which features some of the best grapplers in New England, and would put on a show as four wrestlers placed.

Cameron Regnault and Walter Borden took home wins in the 10-U division. Logan Martins took second at 19-U and Alex Becancur finished second in the 8-U group.



■ SHOW - PAGE 16

KINGS OF THE MAT: The Johnston Youth Wrestling program. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)



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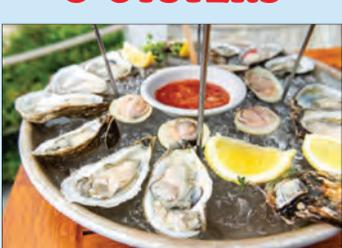
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■ **Spring**  
(Continued from page 15)

Dylan Guernon will be the team's most experienced hurler to begin the spring.

**Softball**

**Last year's finish:** 11-4 (fell in 2nd round of DII losers bracket)

**Key returners:** Haley Boudreau, Alexia DiLorenzo, Arianna Velasquez, Ava Waterman

**Key losses:** Janina Mazzulla, Hannah Calabro

**Outlook:** The Panthers returned to the playoffs last season with a star-studded cast and are eyeing another trip to the postseason in 2024. The Panthers lost a large senior core but return plenty of talent, with DII Bridgeport commit Arianna Velasquez returning at shortstop and last year's freshman phenom Haley Boudreau to the circle. Johnston will need some young players to fill in the rest of the lineup, but the team's pitching and fielding will make it a force in Division II.

**Girls Lacrosse**

**Last year's finish:** 4-9 (missed playoffs)

**Key returners:** Olivia Iafate, Kaylee Poole, Hannah LaVergne,

Samantha Marcotte, Riley Guenette  
**Key losses:** Dariana Carrascoza  
**Outlook:** The Panthers are returning a big senior core that will be hungry to reach the Division III Playoffs this spring. Leading scorers Hannah LaVergne and Kaylee Poole are set to lead the way once again while goalie Riley Guenette is back in the cage. Olivia Iafate is also in the mix after a breakout season as a freshman last year. With most of last year's team returning, the Panthers are primed to be a factor in the division.

**Boys Volleyball**

**Last year's finish:** 13-0 (won DIII Championship)

**Key returners:** Ryan Carvalho, Santo Diraimo, Cristian Gonzalez

**Key losses:** Josh Philbrick, Jacob Muller, James Guilmette, Josh Galaes

**Outlook:** The two-time defending Division III champs will have a new look this spring as they graduated nearly their entire roster from last season's powerhouse unit. Although the Panthers will be relying on an entirely new lineup, their championship mettle should help keep things steady as the players gain experience, especially in the early going.



**TOP DOGS:** Logan Martins, Cameron Regnault, Walter Borden and Alex Betancur show off their trophies from the King of the Mat tournament.

■ **Show**

(Continued from page 15)

Regnault and Borden were thrilled to reach the top of the podium in such a competitive tournament.

"It was crazy, it was one of the best feelings that I have ever felt. Considering how big the tournament is, I knew I was well accomplished and I deserved it," said Borden.

Regnault added: "It was crazy because when I won, the whole team was there for me, cheering me on. It was a great moment."

The pair also took home third place finishes in the state tournament while Betancur placed second.

It was a strong showing for Martins as well. The Johnston High junior is coming off a fourth-place finish at the high school state championships and has been involved with Johnston Youth Wrestling since the third grade. He still continues to wrestle for the organization while assisting the coaching staff as it guides the youngsters.

It was the third year that Johnston competed in the regional tournament, and the

first time that it saw its grapplers reach the podium. The team has grown closer throughout the winter, which paid dividends down the stretch in the big tournaments.

"The chemistry, they stand together and watch each other's matches. At King of the Mat, that is what stood out. They came together as one and winning a tournament that big really validated our program," said coach Joe Regnault.

Johnston High Coach John Antonucci has also been keeping a close eye on the program and is excited to help develop a feeder system for the future. The program hosted more than 40 grapplers this season.

"Of all the teams there, I'd bet that we had the most support of anyone. We have great kids, great parents, and we try to make it fun. That's what it's about, building a program that brings kids from here to (Johnston High School)," said Antonucci.

Johnston Youth Wrestling will next be hosting a spring program running on Tuesdays starting on April 23. For more information, check out the program's Facebook page or email it at [Johnstonyouthwrestling@gmail.com](mailto:Johnstonyouthwrestling@gmail.com)

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**ALL-LEAGUE:** Johnston's Michael Carlino this past season.

■ **Vasquez**

(Continued from page 15)

for the Panthers, while teammate Michael Carlino made the third team.

Here are some other locals that made the list:

Hendricken's James Caldarella was named to the Division I First Team while Jakob Reyes made the second team. Hendricken coach Jamal Gomes was named coach of the year.

Caldarella and Reyes were named to the Division I All-League First Team, while teammate Michael D'Ambra made

the second team and Will Mascena the third.

Pilgrim's Dylan Vale made the DII All-League First Team while teammate Carter Clifton made the third team, along with Toll Gate's Dylan Perreault.

Cranston West senior captain Jaymien Aponte was named to the Division II Second Team as well as the DII All-League First Team.

West's Ryan Zarrella made the All-League Second Team while teammate Adreyan Perez made the third team.

East was led by Albert Kesse, who made the Division I All-League Third Team. The Thunderbolts received the Sportsmanship Award as well.

# Preseason thoughts on upcoming spring

**W**e've made it to spring. Now, I will be taking a deeper dive into our teams in next week's column as I continue to research and speak with coaches regarding the upcoming season, but let me at least start by giving you a general idea of what we have cooking with our clubs here at Beacon Communications and a few of the top stories I am watching as we gear up.

In terms of baseball, the top team to watch is Bishop Hendricken.

The Hawks were the favorites heading into the playoffs last year and fell victim to eventual champion Cumberland, who pulled off one of the biggest upsets in the state for the entire sports calendar.

Fortunately for Hendricken, it returns a lot of that same lineup and should be viewed as a shortlist contender once again.

Sure, ace Alex Clemmey is off to the pros, but plenty returns. Griffin Crain, Jack LaRose, Ryan Thompson, to name a few of the key players that will be back.

This is a deep lineup that is built to last, even without last year's phenom on the mound.

Softball is probably my favor-

ite sport to cover in the spring and we are once again in for a bunch of fun races in the coming months.

Both Pilgrim and Cranston West are contenders in Division I and both are in similar spots heading into the year.

Pilgrim lost Gatorade Player of the Year Alyssa Twomey who is up at Providence College while the Falcons lost their ace in the circle in Paige Cote. Each team has some big time players returning. Pilgrim has players like Marin Prest, Genna D'Amato and Audra McDonnell while West has Siena Nardelli and Sofia Marella.

The question will be how the other teams in the division look. Pilgrim and West will once again be as good as any team they come across, but how will Coventry, Bay View and La Salle all pan out? Division I is a dog-fight each year and is shaping up to be no different in 2024.

Cranston East is also returning a big core from last year's team that made some noise in its new division. How far can the Bolts go now as one of the more experienced teams in DIII? Johnston will also be returning much of its playoff roster and

## My pitch



by  
**ALEX**  
SPONSELLER  
SPORTS EDITOR  
  
ALEXS@  
RHODYBEAT.COM

can be a factor.

For lacrosse, I am stoked to see the Pilgrim and Toll Gate boys go at it.

The Pats were the reigning DIII champs last season and reached the DII finals after moving up. Toll Gate turned things around and reached the playoffs in DII as well, which was exciting as we got to see a new Warwick rivalry emerge.

A few years back, I caught some flack for saying that the DIII Pats could hang with DI teams. Sure, DII is different than DI, but the fact that they made it to the finals proved my point, and Pilgrim should be right back in the championship mix with Ryan Barlow and Braxton

Bragg back on the field. Cooper Grossguth will be leading the Titans as they look to remain a factor in the division.

On the girls side, the team to watch is Toll Gate, who will get Adeline Areson back.

Areson just led the Titans to a basketball championship, but lacrosse may be her best sport and now she is back and fully healthy. The lax team is a bit further off than the basketball team was. The basketball team reached the semis in her absence the year before while the lacrosse team is coming off a one-win season.

Regardless, adding a player of that caliber while building on last year's experience should allow Toll Gate to take a step forward. Maybe even a big step.

We have a few boys volleyball teams that are going to be looking to make statements.

The two-time defending Division III champion Johnston returns to its division after some speculation of a potential jump up to DII. Ultimately, it looks like standing still will be for the best, as the Panthers graduated a significant chunk of their lineup.

Josh Philbrick, Jacob Muller,

Mouhamadou Marone, Josh Galleas, Sam Cambranes, Anthony Corsinetti and James Guilmette all graduated. The team will be doing a full roster reset this spring.

However, this team had plenty of depth last year and never skipped a beat when subs were called in and out. Will the Panthers maintain their spot among the division's elite, or will they take a step back and have to climb the mountain from the bottom?

Cranston West reached the Division II finals last season and what was impressive was the team's desire to be in Division I. The season before they struggled in the top division and the players felt that they should have stayed.

The Falcons will be back in Division II, which may ruffle their feathers (pun intended), but West will have a chance to return to the championship game. Aidan Hay is gone, but Christian Mak and Christopher Harvey return. Depth will be the question with this group beyond its top three or four players, but West absolutely has a chance to be in the championship mix again.

## RIC athletes make LEC All-Academic team

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Thirteen Rhode Island College student-athletes were named to the 2023-24 Little East Conference Winter All-Academic team as announced by the league office.

Student-athletes earned recognition on the all-academic teams based on the following criteria: at least a sophomore

in academic and athletic standing and a minimum cumulative grade point average of a 3.3. The conference office honored student-athletes in the following sports that RIC sponsors: men's and women's basketball, men's and women's track & field and women's swimming.

The following student-athletes were recognized:

Women's Basketball: Sophomore Elli Cox (Deerfield, N.H.), sophomore Claire Greene (Storrs, Conn.), junior Madison Medbury (Scituate, R.I.) and junior Angelina Nardolillo (Hinsdale, N.H.).

Women's Swimming: Senior Rebecca Fyrer (Cranston, R.I.), senior Meghan Laflamme (Smithfield, R.I.), sophomore Olivia Landry (Lincoln, R.I.), senior Marta Matzko (Rumford, R.I.) and se-

nior Anna Vygoder (Lincoln, R.I.).

Men's Track and Field: Sophomore Shamus Culhane (North Kingstown, R.I.) and senior Christopher McCarthy (Cranston, R.I.).

Women's Track and Field: Sophomore Milana Melvin (Johnston, R.I.) and sophomore Valeria Uribe Calderon (Central Falls, R.I.).

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# Atlantic Herring hurting, fish mangers look for solutions

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

Atlantic Herring numbers are down, way down. According to NOAA Fisheries, the stock is overfished. In 2022 overall commercial landings totaled 9.3 million pounds, by comparison, a decade prior in 2013, commercial landings totaled 206 million pounds. Additionally, a 2022 management track stock assessment estimated that the SSB (Spawning Stock Biomass) in 2021 was 39,091 mt, which is approximately 21 percent of the biomass target.

A close relative of Atlantic Herring (and they often travel together in the open ocean) are Alewife and Blueback Herring, collectively known as river herring. They are often referred to as buckies locally.

At a public hearing last week in South Kingstown, Rich Hittinger, 1st vice president of the RI Saltwater Anglers Association, said, "River herring serve as forage for larger fish such as striped bass, bluefish and tuna as well as prey for osprey, seals, otters and whales. They are extremely important to the recreational fishing community."

Rivers provide access to freshwater spawning areas for river herring, and in the spring and summer our estuaries provide a place for juveniles to grow who then move out to sea in the fall.

Our coastal states have spent millions of dollars to remove dams and build fish ladders to facilitate these fish returning to our rivers to spawn. But because they are often caught as by-catch from boats targeting Atlantic Herring (or for some other unknown reason), many river herring never even make it back to mouth of our rivers to make the trip up the river to spawn.

To address declining numbers of Atlantic Herring and river hearing the New England Fishery Management Council is revising the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and is hold-



ing scoping meetings for the public to weigh in on Amendment 10 to the plan that aims to minimize user conflict, contributes to optimum yield and supports rebuilding of Atlantic Herring as well as enhancing river herring and shad avoidance and catch reduction.

At the hearing last week about ten people testified, eight recreational anglers and river keeper organizations and two commercial fisheries. Each of the river groups or state fish managers testifying pointed to the decline of river herring. For example, the Narrow River Preservation Association relates on their website (<https://narrowriver.org/river-herring/>), that river herring counts slipped below 5,000 in 2022 and 2023 in the Narrow River. At their peak in the year 2000

at the Gilbert Stuart stream fish ladder almost 300,000 fish were counted.

Jack Peters from the Riverside area of East Providence, RI, said, "My father was a Penobscot Indian. We moved here in the early 60's. My father taught us to distinguish what herring and shad had eggs in them and those that did not. The males we kept as garden fertilizer, and the females were released back into the water above the dams. We also would keep some to eat, often pickling them for consumption. Today it is illegal to take a river herring but even if you could take them there are so few around. River counts in the East Bay, where I have volunteered to count them for over 40 years, are down. From counts in the 1,000's to counts of four or five

fish or no fish at all in some rivers."

Five river council or coalition members gave testimony at the hearing, four from Rhode Island and one from Connecticut. All related the same story, river herring counts are down. And, many related that a buffer zone to push back mid-water trawlers during peak river herring runs would prevent by-catch of river herring and that Amendment 10 of the Atlantic Herring management plan should consider such provisions.

However, not everyone believes that mid-water trawlers fishing for Atlantic Herring are the problem. Chirs Brown, who first fished for Atlantic Herring with his grandfather, and sometimes trawls for them today out of Pt. Judith, RI, said, "When fishing for Atlantic Herring we catch very few river herring, a basket of fish at the most. So, trawlers are not the problem. I have been asking NOAA for a vessel observer for a year now and have not received one to observe our catch and by-catch."

We are still in the public comment period for Amendment 10. Anglers can comment at remaining public hearings or comment at a webinar being held Monday, April 22, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Written comments are also being accepted until 8 a.m. (EST) on Tuesday, April 30. For information and instructions on how to comment visit <https://www.nefmc.org/management-plans/herring>

### 'Gathering On a River' at Whalers Brewing, Sunday, April 28

Rhode Island Trout Unlimited Chapter 225 will hold a Gathering on A River, Sunday, April 28, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Whalers Brewing Company in Peach Dale, RI. Learn about rivers and fish conservation, fly tying and fly fishing, have a pint and meet important conservation groups as river herring migrate right under your feet. In addition to event sponsor

RI Trout Unlimited, event partners include Friends of the Saugatucket, River Herring Coalition, Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association, RI Land Trust Council, Rosie's Bait & Tackle, United Flytys of RI, and Hardy/Grey Fishing.

### 2024 Striper Kickoff April 6th

Saltwater Edge, the bait and tackle online store and shop at 1315 West Main Road. Middletown, RI will hold their annual Striper Kickoff on Saturday, April 6, starting at 9 a.m. Manufacturers of rods, reels and lures will be on hand as well as specials and raffles throughout the day.

The Saltwater Edge provides gear, passion, and expertise from bonefish to bluefin. You can find out about where to park for the event, how to obtain an entry ticket prior to opening and more at <https://saltwateredge.com/blogs/saltwater-edge/2024-striper-kickoff>.

### Where's the bite?

Freshwater fishing. Anglers are advised that the trout fishing season ended Feb. 29 in RI and re-opens again on Saturday, April 13. Vincent Cataldi of Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle, North Kingstown, said, "The largemouth bass bite along with crappie and pickerel has been very good. Ryan Park, North Kingstown has been producing particularly well for anglers." It is time to renew or get freshwater fishing license and trout stamps for the new season too. For freshwater fishing information in Connecticut visit <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/Freshwater/Freshwater-Fishing>; in Massachusetts visit [Freshwater Fishing | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/freshwater-fishing); and in Rhode Island [www.dem.ri.gov/fishing](http://www.dem.ri.gov/fishing).

Saltwater. Anglers continue to find school striped bass in estuaries. If you want to try your hand at tile fishing and/or cod fishing visit [www.islandcurrent.com](http://www.islandcurrent.com) and [www.francesfleet.com](http://www.francesfleet.com)

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ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
5 Peach Tree Ln	Andrews, Karen T	Peterssen, James M	3/4	\$80,000
16 Lane 7	Degnan Karen J Est and Turner, Pattie	Cook, Matthew	3/8	\$12,000
21 Westcott Way Lot 12	Apponaug Properties Inc	Gallagher, John and Gallagher, Lori	3/5	\$680,000
28 Wescott Way Lot 28	Apponaug Properties Inc	Izzo, Barbara L	3/8	\$909,162
61 Niblick Cir Lot 61	1900 Capital Tli	J & M Home Buyers LLC	3/8	\$190,000
69 Reservoir Rd	Michaud, Patricia A	Ratelle, Mary	3/8	\$100,000
211 Tiogue Ave	Steve Housing LLC	Rivera Bldg Ent LLC	3/8	\$450,000
4112 Flat River Rd	Ratelle, Mary	Farias Properties LLC	3/8	\$182,500
4112 Flat River Rd	Ratelle Roger A Est and Ratelle, Mary E	Farias Properties LLC	3/8	\$182,500

## Cranston

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
9 Eliot Rd	Simeone, Nicholas R	Little, Shawna and Winkler, Tyler	3/4	\$415,000
15 Nickerson St Lot 4	M&a Family Rlty LLC	Kalhofer, Victoria R and Kalhofer, Ellen R	3/5	\$450,000
15 Nickerson St Lot 3	M&a Family Rlty LLC	Kalhofer, Victoria R and Kalhofer, Ellen R	3/5	\$450,000
46 Circuit Dr	Kyltiff Invest & Consulti	Kolker, Seth B and Joelson, Sarah F	3/6	\$703,000
72 Longview Dr	Shekerow Rose M Est and Shekerow, Scott J	Shekerow, Scott	3/5	\$420,000
80 Mauran St	Barr 2nd, Richard A and Barr, Victoria L	Hernandez, Jacinda and Kamara, Bakary	3/5	\$440,000
200 Mayfield Ave Lot A1	Salvadore, Carla A	Gosai, Saurabh	3/5	\$349,500

## East Greenwich

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
4 Violet Ct Lot 4	Middleberry Assoc	Moses, Brian K and Hanley-Stansfiel, Sandra L	3/8	\$250,000
21 Westcott Way Lot 12	Apponaug Prop Inc	Gallagher, John and Gallagher, Lori	3/5	\$680,000
40 Hill Dr	Dealmo, Debra	Roussel, Lauren O and Roussel, Breton N	3/8	\$1,350,000

## Exeter

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
145 W Shore Dr	Tuck, Lisa A	Robins Reantals LLC	3/11	\$290,000

## Johnston

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
3 Alvina Dr	Ferro, Tina M	Civetti, David A	3/8	\$500,000
6 Byron Randall Rd Lot 1	Oak & Pallet LLC and Difilippo Const LLC	Henry Jr, Russell and Henry, Charlene	3/8	\$875,000
30 Linwood Dr	Tortlani Martha Est and Tortlani, Robert A	Salguero, Jose E and Herrera, Juan C	3/6	\$450,000
116 Putnam Pike	Gerorge F Burdett RET and Burdett, George F	Semedo, Jennifer	3/8	\$265,000
1041 Atwood Ave	Dick, John	C&c Realty Associates LLC	3/12	\$700,000

## Warwick

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
3 Chambly Ave Lot 164	Js Prop Mgmt LLC	Merolla, Matthew and Mcgovern, Julia	3/8	\$400,000
3 Chambly Ave Lot 163	Js Prop Mgmt LLC	Merolla, Matthew and Mcgovern, Julia	3/8	\$400,000
4 Rodney Rd	lab LLC	Mccall, Jazlyn Q and Mccall, Anthony T	3/7	\$435,000
6 Wilbur Ave	Still, Tarra	Plumb, Paige	3/5	\$367,000
13 Bigelow Cir	Wolicki, Marilyn A	Leskinen, Sonja	3/5	\$433,000
20 Noyes St	Arena, David and Arena, Nicole	Coppa, Jesse and Coppa, Jaime	3/5	\$470,000
25 Pequot Ave	Morris Jr, Leo A	Morris, Joshua A and Siconio, Sarah	3/6	\$200,000
26 Winston Ave	Vergason, Paul D and Corvese, Michael A	Brustein, Steven J	3/8	\$421,000
29 Moccasin Dr	Paras, Lewis J and Paras, Gail E	Arvidson-Burde, Justin T and Arvidson-Burde, Sadie J	3/6	\$380,000
30 Manson Ave	Mennillo, Dana A and Mennillo, Kathleen	Bautista, Manuel R	3/8	\$340,000
32 Lockhaven Rd	Kraniak, Matthew	Frazier, Nattharika and Frazier, Jacob J	3/4	\$405,000
44 Hoyt St	Irma E Raymond T and Poy, Michele L	Lombardo Jr, Michael J	3/4	\$365,000
51 Capron Farm Dr Lot 21	Griffin, Samantha L and Griffin 3rd, Robert F	Carreiro, Melissa M and Zinter, Shannon L	3/8	\$506,500
51 Capron Farm Dr Lot 20	Griffin, Samantha L and Griffin 3rd, Robert F	Carreiro, Melissa M and Zinter, Shannon L	3/8	\$506,500
61 Fuller St	Ursillo, Jeffrey	Craftsmen Hm LLC	3/8	\$320,000
71 Ash St	Brennan, Joseph	Papillon Hm Solutions LLC	3/8	\$225,000
143 Chambly Ave Lot 194	Cook, Eric	Crossman, Michael and Cassidy, Sara	3/6	\$430,000
143 Chambly Ave Lot 195	Cook, Eric	Crossman, Michael and Cassidy, Sara	3/6	\$430,000
167 Lancaster Ave	Carol A Kremer T and Stiles, Kevin P	Frank B Mazzulla Lt and Mazzulla, Frank B	3/5	\$465,000
228 Alvin St	Therault, Sophia J	Rwr Re Invest Grp LLC	3/8	\$325,000
283 Milton Rd	Elevator Prop Inc	Kotsiopoulos, Dimostienis and Kotsiopoulos, Vasiliki F	3/5	\$450,000
400 Narragansett Pkwy Lot ND5	Peckham, Mark and Duclos, Janice	Smith, Craig A	3/6	\$260,000
471 W Shore Rd Lot 4	Medeiros, Anthony	Andrade, Quamee and Hazard, Maria	3/8	\$255,000

## West Warwick

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2 Harding St	Botello, Darlene M	Anzevino, Alfred and Kelly, Michael	3/11	\$362,000
51 Turner Dr	Arthur J Brown RET and Brown, Arthur J	Forcier, Kelsey M and Maynard 4th, Josph L	3/8	\$475,000
56 Oakland Dr	Carr, John J and Carr, Patricia C	Gay, Davi	3/6	\$375,000
110 Cochran St	Wistey, John G and Wistey, Teresa Y	Barreto, Bruno A	3/8	\$161,000

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# Teatro ECAS presents “Love, Magic, Humor and Tenderness” (La Ternura)



The Queen and her daughters: Emeyra De Jesús (La Princesa Rubi), Francis Parra (La Reina Esmeralda) & Jennifer Moreta (La Princesa Salmon) (Photo by Xavier Delbrey courtesy of Teatro ECAS)

Theater Review by  
IDA ZECCO

Teatro ECAS, New England’s Spanish language theater, presents the United States premiere of *La Ternura*, written by Alfredo Sanzol and directed by Basilio Álvarez with music by Gabriel Figueroa, March 21 - 31, 2024. The play features Francis Parra, Emeyra de Jesus, Jennifer Moreta, Carlos Dominguez, Johnny Paulino and the return of internationally-renowned actor Francisco Gattorno.

*La Ternura* is a captivating tale of magic and destiny. An Elizabethan-inspired production about Woodcutters and princesses, brilliantly and ingeniously brimming with humor. Envision

a life of freedom, away from men (which is the intent of Queen Esmeralda for herself and her daughters), but destiny has other plans. Queen Esmeralda and her princess daughters, Rubi and Salmon, unknowingly choose an island inhabited by a Woodcutter, El Leñador Marron, and his sons, Verdemar and Azulcielo, who’ve vowed to shun women. As their worlds collide, *La Ternura* weaves a tale of gender, isolation, and the unpredictability of life’s course.

In an interview, playwright Alfredo Sanzol explains: “*La Ternura* is a romantic adventure comedy in which I try to tell that we cannot protect ourselves from the damage that love produces. That if we want to love we have to risk

suffering. And parents cannot protect their children from the suffering of life because that endangers the experience of a full life. The show is called *La Ternura* because it talks about the strength and courage to express love. Tenderness is the way in which love expresses itself. Without tenderness, love is not seen. Tenderness is caresses, listening, small gestures, smiles, kisses, waiting, respect, delicacy. A society without tenderness is a society at war.”

Teatro ECAS’ Artistic Director, and featured actor in the play Francis Parra adds, “*La Ternura* is a work that, not by simple chance, has been on the Madrid theater billboard for 7 years. It is a text written with poetic language, in a very funny tone, in the best style of Shakespeare’s sitcoms and the Spanish Golden Age. A work full of dialogues that give elegance and value to our Spanish language.” Parra plays a brilliant Queen Esmeralda as she attempts to shield her daughters from men with her plethora of creative plans.

Princesses Rubi and Salmon, the Queen’s daughters, played by Emeyra De Jesus and Jennifer Moreta are enchanting, funny and captivating in their roles as they try to adhere to their mother’s plans while struggling with their own hearts’ desires. It is when the three women decide to disguise themselves as shipwrecked soldiers in order to hide their identity from the Woodcutter and his sons that Queen Esmeralda’s plans begin to unravel.

Francisco Gattorno’s insouciant Woodcutter, El Leñador Marrón, is a perfect match to Parra’s fiery Queen Esmeralda. Their steadfast resolve to protect their children backfires in the most wonderful ways. Their performances are both engaging and charming as even the best

laid plans of their own making dissolve before them.

Johnny Paulino as the handsome, macho Verdemar and sweet, innocent Carlos Dominguez as his younger brother, Azulcielo, provide side-splitting performances. The raucous hilarity results when the Verdemar and Azulcielo begin to question their own sexuality and sanity when they find themselves strangely attracted to the shipwrecked soldiers.

The entire ensemble is thoroughly entertaining in both their endearing depiction of their characters and their spot-on comedic timing.

The set design, a forest created from muslin, tissue paper and glue with dazzling lighting created the perfect backdrop of this production!

Even if you do not speak or understand Spanish, the super-titles screen with English sub-titles of the play’s dialogue, perched above the stage, is unobstructive and does not diminish the audience experience. This reviewer strongly encourages other actors, students of the performing arts and those who enjoy great theater, to run, not walk to the ECAS box office. The play runs through March 31. Do not miss this production! It is thoroughly enjoyable!

**When:** Through March 31  
Thursday & Friday 7 pm  
Saturday at 3 & 7pm  
Sunday at 3pm  
Special Student Matinees:  
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**Tickets:** Starting at \$30  
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www.teatroECAS.org



The Woodcutter and his sons: Carlos Dominguez (El Leñador Azulcielo), Francisco Gattorno (El Leñador Marrón) & Johnny Paulino (El Leñador Verdemar) (Photo by Xavier Delbrey courtesy of Teatro ECAS)

## Life is good

I do not remember time moving this fast when I was younger. I had a carefree life, albeit with 5 kiddos with disabilities. Each day was full and generally enjoyable. Now that I am older, time gets away from me.

The whole month of February was spent looking forward to son Steven’s wedding. Pssshhhhh. February was gone!

Now that it is March, all I have been concentrating on is Easter: discussions with Hubby about what delicacies he will cook, including what scrumptious desserts will be included, and trying to come up with personalized Easter baskets for each of the grandkids. Francis’ kids get practical gifts like sci-

ence books and puzzles, along with non-sugary, healthy treats. For Dinora’s children, a treat filled Spider-Man basket, a candy and make-up basket for my teenage granddaughter and a basket filled with protein snacks for my teenage grandson who is a serious wrestler in high school. Steven’s daughter, Rosie, is the easiest to please, and any combination of small toys, dolls and candy thrill her.

Now that the Easter preparations have been completed, I look back and realize that another month has gone by with a singular focus. Where did March go? I was so preoccupied by thoughts of Easter that I did not do much of anything else,

### Life Matters



with  
LINDA PETERSEN

and another month has gone pssshhhhhhh!

Realizing that time moves so fast, along with the fact that I am getting older, I have come to the realization that I need to

stop and smell the virtual roses. In preparation for spring, starting an indoor garden should be fun. Tiny flower seeds will be used, putting them in small starter pots, and setting them on the windowsill in the sun.

I plan to be more observant and complimentary of others. Yesterday, the looks of a woman in Walmart shocked me. She honestly looked like a caveman, hulking and bent over as she walked, with very hairy arms and face. Her eyebrows were so hairy that they formed one big arch over her eyes. Her face seemed to be in a permanent growl, and I was taken aback at her appearance. She had some blonde braids amidst her hard

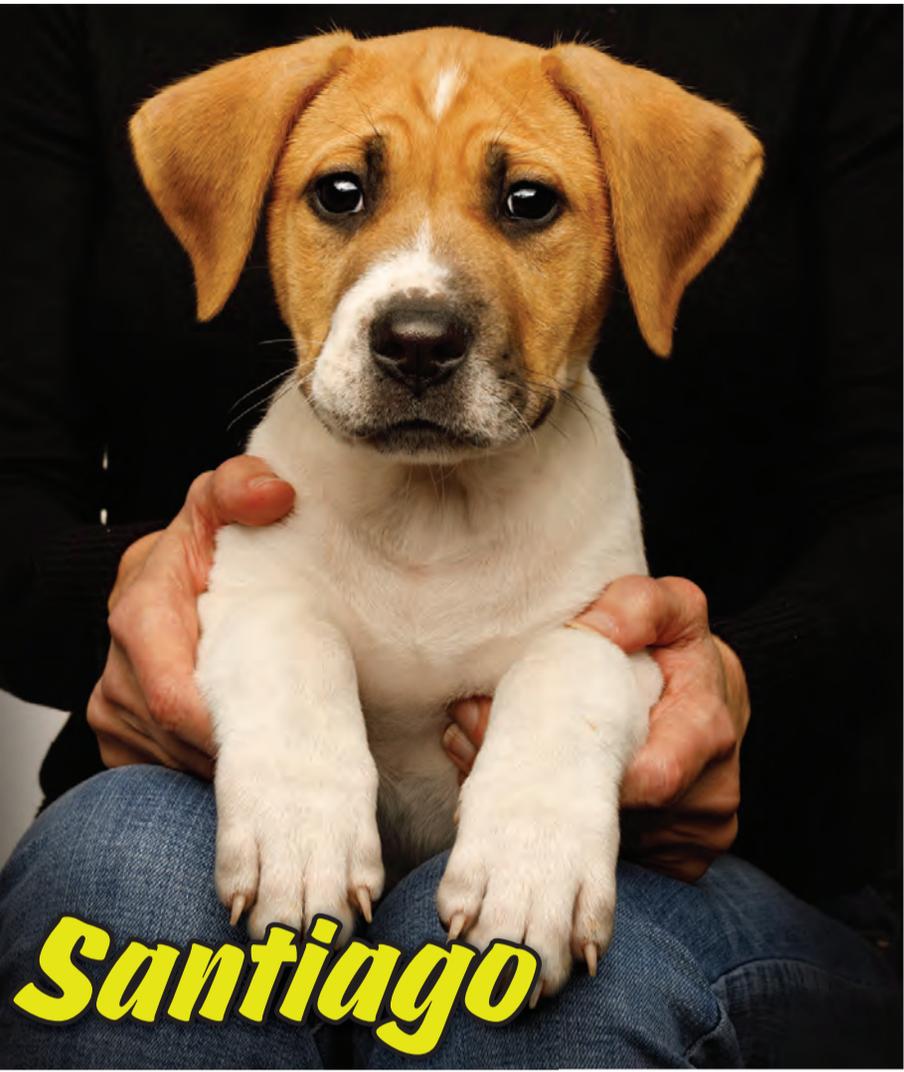
to manage, tangled hair. Overcoming my reluctance, I smiled a broad smile and told her how much I liked her braids. At first she looked shocked that I had spoken to her, but then she smiled brightly and giddily said thank you. She seemed to walk out of the store with a bounce in her lunging steps. The interaction was a positive experience for both of us, and I realized I need more daily affirmations to make each day count.

Easter will come and go, but the whole month will not be devoted to this singular event. I will look for something positive to do or say every day because every day of my life is good.

# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local  Adoptable  Loveable



## Santiago

Photo credit: Ron Schmidt Photo

Have you been searching for some puppy love, well here you go! Meet Santiago, this little chunky boy is everything you could ever want. He's fun, playful, smart, currently in a foster home with children and ready to be a part of your family! He is a mixed breed, Mom is a medium size so best guess is he will be about the same. Contact Go Fetch Rescue via email at: [info.gofetchrescue@gmail.com](mailto:info.gofetchrescue@gmail.com) Santiago can't wait to meet you and show off his awesome puppy skills!

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



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Saturday

11:00 am- Dusk

**MARCH**

# 30

## See it at the

with Joyce & Don Fowler

# Movies



### Warwick Showcase

#### GHOSTBUSTERS: FROZEN EMPIRE

\*\* 1/2  
(Gimmicky, Gadgetry, Ghostly)

Capitalizing on a gimmick, The Ghostbusters return once again with all their gimmicks and gadgets, featuring a new generation and an appearance from the originals.

If you like this sort of thing, which apparently two full houses of the younger set seemed to, then go see this noisy, cluttered gobbledygook of a movie.

It opens with scenes of the 1904 Firehouse being frozen in place, followed by a current ghost-chase through the streets of New York City, where more than the ghosts are destroyed, to endless attempts to stop the world from being frozen, to one big final battle, where the original ghostbusters join Paul Rudd and his new family to defeat evil and restore NYC (That which they didn't destroy) to normalcy.

#### WILLIAM SHATNER: JUST CALL ME BILL

\*\*\*  
(Bill's Thoughts and Recollections)

You've got to love William Shatner. At 93 years old, he still performs, still ranting philosophically, and still marveling at being the oldest human to fly off into space.

This documentary centers completely around Shatner sitting in his chair, telling his life story, and commenting on everything from masks actors wear to loneliness and death.

In the background we see photos of his acting career from the early years, through Star Trek, through Boston Legal (I'm Denny Crane) to some of his latest stage appearances.

Although there are chapters specifying certain topics, Bill tends to ramble a bit as he lets you know what he thinks about life.

If you are a Shatner fan, you'll love it.



Regina King as Shirley Chisholm in "Shirley"

### NETFLIX

#### SHIRLEY

\*\*\*\*  
(Important History Lesson)

This well-made, important history lesson should be seen by every high school civics student.

Regina King plays Shirley Chisholm with all the integrity and passion of the first black woman to win a seat in Congress who runs for president in 1972.

She campaigns with little money, a green staff, and lacking the support of her Democratic contenders for the office.

The film concentrates on her attempt to gain the necessary votes at the Democratic convention, where it is politics as usual as fellow candidates use familiar tactics to gain the number of votes needed to be put on the ballot.

It was also the year that 18 year olds were given the right to vote.

Shirley bucks the system, disagrees with her advisors, fights for her beliefs and eventually is beaten down, but not before opening the doors for other Black women to follow.

Was she before her time?

Unfortunately, yes, but she did remind people what was possible.

The movie is well constructed, acted, and directed.

Not only should it be shown in the classroom, but those of us who lived through the Nixon years should see it.

### AVON

#### PERFECT DAYS

\*\*\*  
(Psychological Study)

This charming little film from Japan is about a public toilet cleaner who lives a simple routine existence.

He wakes daily at the same time, brushes his teeth, drinks coffee from a machine, and cleans toilets. In fact, the first 15 minutes shows him meticulously cleaning a variety of the structures throughout the city.

Unexpected visits from his past disrupt his routine, but his beautiful attitude leads him to a peace of mind few people have found in their lives.

Simple? Yes. But beautifully portrayed by Koji Yakusho.

# Rhody TREASURES

ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • CONSIGNMENTS • ESTATES • VINTAGE

## The 2024 Baltimore Antique Arms Show



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



Every March the Maryland Arms Collectors Association holds their annual antique arms show at the state fairgrounds in Timonium, Maryland. It's a great time to search the show tables for interesting things, learn something new, and most importantly visit with like-minded friends and see people after a long winter. This year's show didn't disappoint. It truly is the best show of the year for me based upon the material that is for sale - I like the early stuff!

I drove down very early on Friday morning and arrived before the show opened for dealers. With most of them lined up waiting to get in it was an opportunity to find friends in line and chat a bit. Set-up is always a little chaotic as dealers make their trips in and out to gather their goodies to put out for sale, but it wasn't too long before they were open for business. I normally wait a bit to walk the isles, but this year I got right into it. My age is catching up with me as my feet were killing me by Friday evening, but it was well worth the first

walk around. I saw some cool early muskets, swords, as well as accoutrements I hadn't seen before.

The evenings are a chance to have dinner with folks and return to the hotel lobby for a few cocktails and banter with fellow collectors and

museum people. Both evenings I was there, we had some very interesting conversations about Revolutionary War canteens, arms, and other things that might bore the crap out of many people, but I found it fascinating, educational, and entertaining.

There is a worry in the collecting community that there are a lot of older folks and not a lot of younger people coming to the shows; There is a lot of attrition with some of the older dealers retiring or passing on. While most of the dealers are older, I always watch the crowd to see if there are younger people wandering the show. This year, the crowds were rather large, and the isles were filled with people. I saw many in their 20s to 50s, which was a positive sign the shows will go on. It does seem to me that a lot of the younger folks are collecting World War II and not the earlier material, although I did see some with Civil War items in their hands.

As I wanted to get home and see my wife and dogs, and get some work done before Monday morning, I left early Sunday with a slight hangover and a lot to ponder on the drive back. All in all, this year's show was a lot of fun and well worth going. It was well attended by dealers as well as show goers, and I look forward to returning next year for more good historical stuff and evening shenanigans!

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# Challenging "Wolf Play" at Wilbury

**Theatre Review**  
by **DON FOWLER**

Robin (Beth Alianiello) adopts a Korean 6 year-old on the internet without telling her wife (Allen Zahniser). Ash is upset and initially rejects the child.

Peter (Jeff Ararat) rues his decision to give up the child when he discovers his adopted son will be raised without a father.

There is conflict within the family as Robin's brother trains Ash for her pro boxing debut while interfering with the family dynamics.

The child copes with the conflict by retreating into a wolf-like existence.

It all leads to conflict among the modern day family and be-

tween the family and the family that gave him up.

Author Hansol Jung leads the audience toward their own conclusion.

That is the essence of this 90 minute, one-act, allegorical play under the able direction of Marcel A. Mascaro.

How it is presented is at times brilliant, and at times confusing.

Sara States serves as the narrator and puppet master for Peter, who is portrayed like Olaf in "Frozen," as a puppet.

The lesbian couple struggle with their roles in raising the child, with Robin resenting Ash for taking more interest in the child, while she feels like a maid.

Meanwhile the child takes on

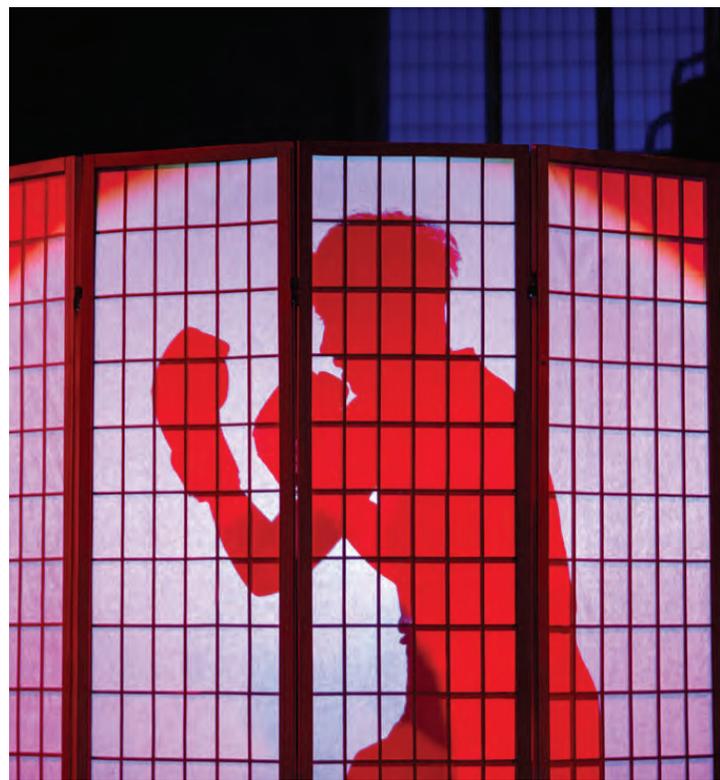
more wolf-like qualities, trying to cope with the situation. Ash's role as a boxer gives her a more masculine image. At the beginning of the play, I thought she was husband, not wife, to Robin.

At one point in the play she asks, "Do people do this?" While some of the dialogue and actions on the surface lead me to ask the same question, if I look at the play from all allegorical angles, I must conclude that they do.

Want something different and challenging?

Go see "Wolf Play" at Woodbury, playing through April 7.

Check [thewilburygroup.org](http://thewilburygroup.org) for tickets. Located in the Water-fire building in Providence.



Ellen Zahniser in "Wolf Play" at Wilbury Theatre Group. (Photo by Erin X. Smithers courtesy of Wilbury Theatre Group)



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