

Cranston Herald

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Hopkins vs. Ferri

Fenton-Fung concedes; General Election race set after contentious mayoral primary

By RORY SCHULER

It was a dirty Republican Primary in the city of Cranston. In the end, the incumbent mayor pulled out enough votes to secure his spot on the November ballot. Late Tuesday night, all the votes were cast and most were counted as Cranston

State Rep. Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung delivered her concession speech before family and friends gathered at the Asia Grille in Garden City Center. Both Fenton-Fung and incumbent Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins turned out to vote early Tuesday morning with family.

ELECTION - PAGE 4

PRIMARY VICTORY: Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins met his supporters at St. Mary's Feast Society on Phenix Avenue Tuesday following his Primary Night win. (Cranston Herald photo by Barbara Polichetti)



A GENERAL AT 109 YEARS YOUNG: Cranston resident Henry Polichetti, the second oldest World War II veteran in the country, was made an honorary Brigadier General in the R.I. National Guard by retired Lt. Gen. Reginald A. Centracchio in Cranston Historical Society ceremonies Friday. Here, Sen. Jack Reed, who was also honored, bestows the award. (Cranston Herald photos by Barbara Polichetti)

BIPARTISAN TIME MACHINE

Surprise promotion of 109-year-old veteran caps Cranston Historical Society gala

By BARBARA POLICHETTI
Special to the Herald

The Cranston Historical Society celebrated its 75th anniversary in style Friday with an evening gala that drew more than 150 people, including past and present state leaders and dignitaries. Guests gathered under scalloped white tents on the lawn of the Sprague Mansion to enjoy a light supper and to applaud special award recipients who were being honored for their contributions to the community. They included U.S. Sen. Jack Reed, former House Speaker Nicholas Mattiello, Comprehensive Community Action President Joanne McGunagle, Warwick Beacon Editor John

Howell, and 109-year-old World War II veteran Henry Polichetti. The event was intended to be a major fundraiser for the Society, which is looking to continue its preservation work in the city. "The support of the community is essential to the work that we do," Historical Society President Sandra Moyer said in a prior interview. Formed in 1949 by residents who wanted to help the public learn about Cranston's rich history, the Historical Society owns the 18th century Joy Homestead on Scituate Avenue and the stately Governor Sprague Mansion on Cranston Street.

HISTORY - PAGE 4

THE BOSS & HIS BETTER HALF: Warwick Beacon editor and former Cranston Herald publisher John Howell with his wife, Carol.



Cranston cannons find new home

By ADAM ZANGARI

The Cranston Historical Society, alongside members of the Rhode Island National Guard, gathered at Sprague Mansion on Sunday to celebrate the Historical Society's procurement of two Civil War-era cannons. The two cannons were built in 1845 and 1847, and were displayed at Rolfe Square from 1924 until the early 1990s, when they were removed for fear of future damage. Now, they are sitting as centerpieces of the Historical Society's exhibit on Cranston's past, visible as soon as one enters the barn on the property of the mansion. Though the cannons likely never saw action in the Civil War because of their age, according to the Cranston Historical

Society's Gregg Mierka, they likely would have been used to train Rhode Island regiments for combat. They may, however, have been used in the Mexican-American War, which lasted from 1846 through 1848. Mierka credited Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio for helping the Historical Society procure the cannons and making sure that they stayed in a safe place in the city. "When this whole process started back in '94, what I did was suggest they put the two cannons in City Hall, but they didn't have the room," Mierka said. "Then, Gen. Centracchio is the one who suggested bringing them to the Sprague Mansion ... in the end, I think this is a perfect place."

CANNONS - PAGE 11

CANNON CLOSE-UP: The cannon, Governor Sprague Mansion Resident Manager Gregg Mierka explained, was operated by five men. If they were working together well, he said, they could fire one shot every 20 seconds. (Cranston Herald photos by Adam Zangari)



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Cranston Chatter

Sept. 11, 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be held on Wed., Sept. 11 at 6 p.m., Riverpoint Community Park, 110 Hay St., West Warwick (along the West Bay Bike Path). The public is invited to mark the 23rd anniversary of those lost lives, survivors and our local heroes in the tragic event of 9/11/2001. Clergy representation, RI's Veterans Councils and Organizations, Scout Troops, RI Young Marines, Public Safety Honor Guards, Cadets, School Bands and Choruses are encouraged to participate on this solemn occasion of reflection and collective resilience among our American people.

CHATTER - PAGE 10

Bolts finish strong preseason



The Cranston East football team beat Moses Brown 14-0 in its injury fund game to wrap up a strong preseason.

Sports, page 20

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**Cranston
Herald**

CRANSTON POLICE LOG

SIMPLE ASSAULT
At 9:27 p.m., Sept. 9, Cranston Police Officers arrested Markea Smith, 31, of 70 Warwick Ave., Apt. 301, Cranston, for one count Simple Assault and one count Disorderly Conduct. At the same time, Cranston Police Officers also arrested Christina Lucas, 30, of 198 Eldridge St., Cranston, for one count of Domestic Disorderly Conduct. The arrests were the result of a disturbance call at 55 Beacon St. According to Cranston Police, Smith and Lucas were awaiting arraignment.

DOMESTIC SIMPLE ASSAULT
At 10:11 a.m., Sept. 9, Cranston Police Officers arrested Joseph M. Hopkins, 18, of 6101 Post Road, No. 65, North Kingstown, for Domestic Simple Assault, Domestic Disorderly Conduct, Obstruction and a 3rd District Court Bench Warrant. The arrest was the result of a suspicious persons call on Oaklawn Avenue. Hopkins was transported to 3rd District Court.

WILLFUL TRESPASS
On Sept. 8, no time given, Cranston Police Officers arrested Christopher Bruno, 28, of 96 Ralph St., Providence. Police charged Bruno with one count of Willful Trespass. The arrest was the result of a call for service and subsequent investigation at Arlington Auto, 1211 Cranston St. Bruno was arraigned before a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

BURGLARY, FELONY ASSAULT & WEAPONS CHARGE
Around 10:47 p.m., Sept. 7, Cranston Police Officers arrested Jaden A Thomas Bourgeois, 18, of 66 Waterman Ave., Apt. 2, Cranston, for burglary, felony assault, weapons other than a firearm and conspiracy. The arrest is the result of a home invasion investigation. Bourgeois was awaiting arraignment, according to Cranston Police.

SIMPLE ASSAULT
Around 10:47 p.m., Sept. 7, Cranston Police Officers arrested David Steere, 45, no address given (homeless), Cranston, for a CPD arrest warrant for simple assault. The arrest is the result of a Tiverton arrest warrant pick up, according to Cranston Police.

DUI
Around 2:13 a.m., Sept. 8, Cranston Police Officers arrested Saba Firmin, 43, of 91 Oaklawn Ave., Apt. 100, Cranston, for Driving Under the Influence, blood alcohol concentration (BAC) unknown, and cited for Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test (breathalyzer refusal). The arrest was the result of a crash investigation at the intersection of Phenix and Atwood avenues. Firmin was awaiting arraignment, according to Cranston Police.

WARRANT ARREST
Around 8:02 p.m., Sept. 7, Cranston Police Officers arrested Luis Cruz Martinez, 38, of 60 Sumpter St., No. 1, Providence, for a Superior Court Full Bench Warrant. The arrest was a result of a traffic stop at Cranston and Cutting streets. Martinez was transported to the ACI, according to Cranston Police.

DOMESTIC SIMPLE ASSAULT
Around 9:08 a.m., Sept. 7, Cranston Police Officers arrested Nina Pineyro, 24, of 50 Crest Drive, Cranston, for Domestic Simple Assault and Domestic Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a pickup on an arrest and affidavit warrant at the Rhode Island State Police (RISP) Hope Barracks. Pineyro was awaiting arraignment, according to Cranston Police.

GHOST GUN ARREST
Around 12:10 p.m., Sept. 7, Cranston Police Officers arrested Chace Ahlborg, 32, of 940 Quaker Lane, Warwick, for License or Permit Required for Carrying a Pistol-Other Weapons Prohibited (Ghost Gun), four counts of Large Capacity Feeding Devices Prohibited, Domestic Simple Assault and Domestic Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a call for a disturbance at 455 Meshanticut Valley Parkway. Ahlborg was awaiting arraignment, according to Cranston Police.

DUI
At 10:29 p.m., Sept. 6, Cranston Police Officers arrested Carlos Moreno Verdugues, 54, of 168 Elmdale Ave., Providence, for driving under the influence (BAC greater than 0.15; with readings of 0.163, 0.207, and 0.190 BAC, according to Cranston Police). The arrest resulted from the driver nearly hitting a pedestrian at the Greek Festival on Oaklawn Avenue, according to Cranston Police. Verdugues was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released.

DUI
At 11:02 p.m., Sept. 6, Cranston Police Officers arrested Dylan F. Cahill, 34, of 83 Freedom Drive, Cranston, for driving under the influence (BAC unknown) and breathalyzer refusal. The arrest "followed a traffic stop conducted by Major Patalano and Chief Lynch," according to Cranston Police. Cahill was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released.

SIMPLE ASSAULT
At 1:19 p.m., Sept. 6, Cranston Police Officers arrested Angelena Forese, 22, of 78 Perkins Ave., for two counts of simple assault and disorderly conduct. The arrest was the result of disturbance call at 99 Park View Blvd. Forese was held for Arraignment by a Justice of the Peace.

DOMESTIC SIMPLE ASSAULT
Around 2:47 p.m., Sept. 6, Cranston Police Officers arrested Donald Bratini, 26, of 155 Oxford St., Apt. 1, Cranston, for one count of domestic simple assault, and one count of domestic disorderly conduct. The arrest is the result of a disturbance call on Oxford Street. Bratini was awaiting arraignment.

DUI
Around 8:45 p.m., Sept. 5, Cranston Police Officers arrested Dcire Garcias, 36, of 74 Bolton St., Cranston, for one count of driving under the influence (BAC unknown), and one count of refusal to submit to a breathalyzer test. The arrest is the result of a cell phone caller reporting an erratic operator on Budlong Road. Garcias was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

DOMESTIC ATTEMPTED B&E
At 4:13 p.m., Sept. 5, Cranston Police Officers arrested Heriberto Guelen, 39, of 28 Lincoln St., Pawtucket, for Domestic Attempted Breaking and Entering and two 3rd District Court Bench Warrants as a result of a suspicious activity call at 80 Victoria Ave. Guelen was held for morning court, according to Cranston Police.

ATTEMPTED LARCENY
At 3:15 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Jayzon Snead, 19, of 66 Huber Ave., Apt. 3, Providence, for Attempted Larceny (greater than \$1,500) and Conspiracy. The arrest was the result of a call for service at 190 Marjoram Dr. Snead was arraigned by a Justice of the

Peace and remanded to the ACI.

DOMESTIC VANDALISM
At 5:55 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Yael Oliva-Olmos, 21, of 98 Prudence Ave., Providence, for Domestic Vandalism and Domestic Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a call for service at 149 Forest Ave. Oliva-Olmos was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT
At 7:24 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Francisco Hernandez Consuegra, 28, of 11 Thackeray St., Providence, for Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a call for service at 92 Lawrence St. Consuegra was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

At the same time, Cranston Police Officers also arrested Pedro Espinola Marte, 28, of 92 Lawrence St. Cranston, for Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a call for service at the aforementioned address. Marte was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

SHOPLIFTING
At 7:24 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Amia Maria Marin, 21, of 89 South Bend St., Apt. 1, Pawtucket, for Shoplifting. The arrest was the result of a call for service at Sephora, 142 Hillside Road. Marin was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

SHOPLIFTING
At 8 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Ashley Dilorenzo, 32, of 50 Niverville St., Johnston, for Shoplifting and a 6th District Court Bench Warrant. The arrest was the result of a call for service at Walmart, 1776 Plainfield Pike. Dilorenzo was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and remanded to the ACI, according to Cranston Police.

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION OFFENSE
Around 12:02 p.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Michael Shutt, 58, of 575 Dyer Ave., A11, Cranston, for Sexual Offender Registration Required. The arrest was the result of a pickup on an arrest and affidavit warrant issued by the Cranston Police Special Victim's Unit at the aforementioned address. Shutt was awaiting arraignment, according to Cranston Police.

DOMESTIC VANDALISM
At 3:45 a.m., Sept. 4, Cranston Police Officers arrested Luna Garcia, 18, of 41 Hoffman Ave., Cranston for Domestic Vandalism/Malicious Injury to Property and Domestic Disorderly Conduct as a result of a disturbance at the aforementioned residence.

At the same time, Cranston Police Officers also arrested Krystal Garcia, 26, of 41 Hoffman Ave., Cranston, for Domestic Simple Assault and Domestic Disorderly Conduct as a result of a disturbance at the aforementioned residence.

Following the same incident, Cranston Police Officers also arrested Osman Garcia, 51, of 41 Hoffman Ave., Cranston for Domestic Simple Assault and Domestic Disorderly Conduct as a result of a disturbance at the aforementioned residence.

All three were held for morning court, according to Cranston Police.

DOMESTIC SIMPLE ASSAULT
Around 3:54 p.m., Sept. 3, Cranston Police Officers arrested Jose Trinidad, 19, of 122 Stone Drive, Cranston, for one count of Domestic Simple Assault and one count of Domestic Disorderly Conduct.

At the same time, Cranston Police Officers arrested Santiago Devers, 40, of 500 West 145th St., Apt. 2, New York, New York, for one count of Domestic Simple Assault and one count of Domestic Disorderly Conduct.

The arrests were the result of a disturbance call at the aforementioned address. Trinidad and Devers were arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released, according to Cranston Police.

EMBEZZLEMENT
Around 12:46 p.m., Sept. 3, Cranston Police Officers arrested George Furness, 59, of 129 Sawyer Ave., Seekonk, Mass., for Embezzlement/Fraudulent Conversion Over \$100. The arrest was the result of a pickup at the Tiverton Police Department on an arrest and affidavit warrant out of the Cranston Police Department.

DOMESTIC SIMPLE ASSAULT
At 1:46 p.m., Sept. 2, Cranston Police Officers arrested Emal Hotak, 39, of 18 Byron St., Cranston, for Domestic Simple Assault and Domestic Disorderly Conduct. The arrest was the result of a call for service at 18 Byron St. Hotak's arraignment was pending arrival of the Justice of the Peace, according to Cranston Police.

DRUG POSSESSION
At 5:26 p.m., Sept. 1, Cranston Police Officers arrested Vannak Peou, 51, of 152 Linwood Ave., Providence, for Possession of Schedule I-V (Crack Cocaine), Obstructing an Officer in the Execution of Duty, Driving with Suspended/Revoked/Cancelled License (4th or Subsequent Offense), and a Superior Court Bench Warrant. The arrest was the result of a motor vehicle stop on Harris Avenue. Peou was arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and remanded to the ACI, according to Cranston Police.

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John Howell, Publisher Emeritus

Publisher Joy Fox - Publisher@BeaconMediaRI.com	Classified Advertising Ida Zecco-Classifieds@rbodybeat.com
Editor Rory Schuler-RoryS@rbodybeat.com	Production Manager Lisa Bourque Yuetner-LisaB@rbodybeat.com
Sports Editor Alex Sponseller-AlexS@rbodybeat.com	Production Staff Monique Rice-MoR@rbodybeat.com Ashley Mariani-AshleyM@beaconmediari.com
Advertising Director Doma Zarrella-DonnaZ@rbodybeat.com	Credit Manager Lynne Taylor
Advertising Representatives Melissa Miller - MelissaM@rbodybeat.com Linda Nadeau - LindaN@rbodybeat.com Linda Quagliari - LindaQ@rbodybeat.com Suzanne Wendoloski - SuzanneW@rbodybeat.com	Bookkeeping & Circulation Leslie Paz Andujar
	Spotlight Profile Writer Jennifer Coates-JenniferC@rbodybeat.com

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Outdated comprehensive plan updates approved

Cranston Plan Commission passes revisions amid debate on future land use

By GEOFF DECKER
Special to the Herald

Cranston's Plan Commission recently approved updates to the city's comprehensive plan, moving one step closer to meeting a state-mandated deadline.

The vote of approval was expected. It followed weeks of deliberation between the Plan Commission, the city's planning department and an external consulting firm, all working to bring the plan in line with updated standards since last approval in 2012.

Jason Pezzullo, Cranston's planning director, said the approval paves the way for the plan to be sent to Cranston's City Council, which could begin outlining its own approval process at its upcoming Sept. 23 meeting. In the coming weeks, the city will be seeking greater public engagement through a survey, advertisements and an event.

The meeting at City Hall, in the third floor's council chambers, was attended by city planning staff, appointed commissioners and members of the public. It was streamed online and is available for viewing on Cranston's YouTube channel.

Why it matters

If you've ever wondered what your neighborhood will look like 10 or 20 years from now, Cranston's comprehensive plan is a good place to start for answers.

A comprehensive plan serves as a guide for addressing big questions about the future: How and where should Cranston build more housing? How many homes should it build on certain lots of land? Which parts of town need bike lanes?

Yet Cranston's comprehensive plan has been outdated since 2017, according to state guidelines.

The process to update the plan began in September 2023, in response to a new state law requiring all Rhode Island municipalities to revisit and receive approval for their comprehensive plans every 12 years. Cranston is one of 11 cities and towns in Rhode Island with expired plans.

At the meeting, Ashley Sweet, of Weston & Sampson, the firm hired to help Cranston, said not much is changing in terms of the plan's core components, known as "goals, policies and actions" in planning parlance.

"The goals, policies and actions that you've been operating under for previous years stay in place, almost in their entirety," said Sweet.

She noted that the comprehensive plan does have new "goals, policies, and actions" — specifically in the areas of energy, natural hazards and climate change — which are required by the state.

Last Minute Change

One final amendment to the plan followed Sweet's remarks.

Steven Frias, a member of the Plan Commission, proposed to rezone land near Alpine Estates, a western Cranston subdivision where residents have fought denser development for years.

The Alpine Estates land-use debate is focused on three land parcels abutting the suburban subdivision, enough to build just a handful of homes. It represents a small fraction of residential development projects underway in

other parts of western Cranston.

Yet opponents say the city has not sufficiently planned the infrastructure to accommodate construction of four additional homes on the parcels. In particular, they cite limited capacity at nearby elementary schools.

Earlier this year, it caught the attention of Mayor Ken Hopkins, who backed the local residents' cause and vetoed a City Council effort to push through higher-density development.

Alpine Estates residents attended last week's meeting to voice support for Frias' amendment. Janice Cataldo, part of a residents group that has fought the rezoning for years, said "there's no way to stop" development pressures in other parts of western Cranston. She urged commissioners to support Frias' amendment as a small way to manage growth in the area.

"You can stop this," she said.

The Plan Commission ultimately voted to pass the amendment, but not without opposition. The lone objection came from Robert Coupe, vice president of the commission.

"Western Cranston has probably hundreds of lots worth of land that are zoned for development," Coupe said. "A handful of parcels is not going to change what happens to the realignment of schools."

Energy Matters

At the meeting, Sam Brusco, a Cranston resident, an energy consultant and self-described "amateur traffic engineer," who made headlines for his efforts to curb speeding near his Edgewood home, raised concerns about the city's plans for renewable energy. He said the city should be more strategic about where and how it installs solar panels within its built environment.

"It pretty much just talks about solar farms," said Brusco. "What about roofs that are already on developed land, some of which the city owns?"

Cranston Cares wraps seventh cleanup at Wildflower Park

By PAM SCHIFF
Special to the Herald

Slowly making their name known throughout the city, Cranston Cares completed their seventh park/playground adoption cleanup on Sunday, Aug. 25.

A group of 15 volunteers gave up a Sunday to come together and clean up the small park in Western Cranston.

With all paint supplies graciously donated by Sherwin Williams of Warwick, the group, painted, trimmed trees and picked up trash.

Cranston Cares is a 501c-3 organization that was founded in memory and honor of Cranston native Sgt. Adam DeCiccio.

Adam was a veteran who dedicated his life and actions to helping fellow veterans overcome their life hurdles and demons. Following Adam's mantra of "deeds not words" Cranston Cares has donated over 500 turkeys to veterans and active military families, they've given over 2,500 toys in their annual toy drives, they've adopted seven parks and playgrounds throughout Cranston and they've donated to several Cranston schools for "bonus" projects that

they regularly could not have afforded.

Co-founder of Cranston Cares and life-long friend of DeCiccio, Ed Brady was very proud of the hard work everyone put in.

"I do think the goal of something like today is we can be the change," he said. "We need to come together. Cranston is not democrats. we are not Republicans. We are Cranston. How do we properly unify the city? Time."

The younger volunteers, Jovanna and Frankie Renzulli Martins, were happy to be part of the project.

"I love painting and I was so happy that a little bit of paint makes a big difference," Jovanna said.

Frankie, was also enthusiastic.

"Helping is always fun, and I hope I can always be a helper," he said.

The group spent about three hours working to make the small improvements.

For more information about Cranston Cares, go to their website, cranstoncares.org.

Editor's Note: Pam Schiff, a Cranston resident, is a regular contributor to the Cranston Herald.



COMMUNITY FIRST: Above, volunteers happily gave of their Sundays to help clean up Wildflower Park in Western Cranston on Sunday, Aug. 25.

CROWD CLEANUP: Below, from left to right, Frank Ritz, Nicole Renzulli, Chris Pa-plauskas, Frankie and Jovanna Martins, Ed Brady, Taylor Brady, Justin Erickson, Caden Baum, Chris Buonanno, Brittany Allen, Victor Coelho, Gloria Romano, Richard Cam-popiano and Anthony Melillo. (Cranston Herald photos by Pam Schiff)



I-95 SOUTH OVER ELMWOOD AVE WEEKEND CLOSURES



The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) will replace the I-95 bridge southbound over Elmwood Avenue on the weekends of September 13 and September 20 using rapid bridge construction. During this operation, I-95 southbound at Elmwood Avenue will be reduced to two lanes and northbound will be reduced to 3 lanes. The bridge replacement will start at 8 p.m. Friday night and re-open at 5 a.m. on Monday morning for the morning commute. Travelers are advised to expect delays and plan alternate routes. More information and detour maps can be found at: www.ridot.net.



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■ Election

(Continued from page 1)

After 8 p.m., when the polls closed, they both joined with supporters and awaited poll results.

Early unofficial results (with 100 percent of precincts reporting), showed Hopkins with 3,470 votes (or 58.5%) and Fenton-Fung with 2,466 votes (or 41.5%).

Hopkins's crowd packed the St. Mary's Feast Society on Phenix Avenue.

He arrived just after 8:30 and declared, "Cranston, I love you!" He lamented Fenton-Fung's "negative campaigning" and said his family, faith and friends got him through.

Noting that he inherited a deficit when he took office, Hopkins said, "I fixed it."

Fenton-Fung's husband Allan Fung was the city's previous mayor. Once allies of Hopkins, the Fungs decided to give the sitting mayor a tough primary race.

"That's what a leader does ... they don't complain, they don't look back," Hopkins told his cheering supporters Tuesday night.

At the Asia Grille, Fenton-Fung spoke to a hushed room.

The Concession

The candidates sparred for months. It was a race of accusations, counter-accusations, impromptu press conferences and vicious mailers.

"I want to thank all of my supporters — it's been phenomenal," she told her family, friends and political allies. "You guys have been so awesome, been by my side and we're going to be super excited from here on out just looking at what we can do to help Cranston, help this city succeed, we'll see how this goes in the months and years in the future but I really do want to congratulate [Hopkins]."

Fenton-Fung stopped short of endorsing her opponent and fellow Republican.

"I have real concerns ... So before I throw my support behind anybody, I really want to see how that plays out over the next days and weeks," she said. "I mean, look, I took out the speaker in 2020, and I thought this race would be a bit more about the corruption, what's gone on at City Hall. I'll be honest — I don't feel that I can support anybody tonight until I see more of what's going on with that entire situation."

She referenced a recent lawsuit filed against the mayor accusing him of motor vehicle theft. The Hopkins campaign has vigorously denied any wrongdoing.

The General

Hopkins entered the St. Mary's Feast Society to Pat Benatar's "Hit Me With Your Best Shot."

He will now face City Councilman Robert Ferri, the endorsed Democratic nominee.

Ferri was a Republican, but in April 2022, he switched parties to give the Democrats majority control of City Council (the Democrats currently hold a 6-3 majority on City Council).

Hopkins's November opponent released a statement Tuesday night.

"With the contentious, and at times embarrassing for the city's reputation, Republican primary election behind us, I welcome Ken Hopkins to the general election, and

invite him to run a clean campaign focused on the issues facing the voters of Cranston," Ferri said. "When I first ran for office in 2020, it was because I lived by the belief that good people can get involved and solve problems for people in government. I am running for Mayor because we need a leader who will make our city work for its residents."

Ferri took the opportunity to fire a few opening salvos. "Simply put, if I thought things were working well in our city, I wouldn't be running," Ferri continued. "I will wake up everyday to make life better for parents, seniors, homeowners and renters. Ken seems more focused on taking care of himself and his friends who he owes favors to."

Ferri pledged to listen to voters.

"My message to the Republican primary voters of Cranston is that if things didn't turn out today as you wished they had, I'd be honored to earn your support on November 5th," he concluded.

At the Polls

"It was a smooth Primary Election Day throughout Cranston," Nick Lima, Cranston's Registrar and Director of Elections, reported from the frontlines around 8:30 p.m. "Over 10,000 Cranston voters cast ballots in these important primaries between Election Day, mail ballot, and early voting."

According to Lima, Primary Day in Cranston was "smooth." Most of the evening's races were decided by 9 p.m., though a few will be decided over the next few days as provisional, limited and manual count ballots are tallied.

"Overall, turnout was fairly light, well below 20%, and as numbers continue to come in this evening, the state Board of Elections will announce unofficial results on its website, and final, official results in the days to come," Lima said. "Meanwhile, our office will be working diligently in the days ahead to fully close out the Statewide Primary, and will then immediately switch gears to the conduct of the Nov. 5, 2024 General Election."

Late Tuesday evening, he estimated a 17 percent turnout across the city.

As of the Herald's deadline, early results were transmitted to the state board of elections along with partial mail ballots. It will take a couple more days to tabulate the day-of drop box ballots plus additional provisional mail ballots.

"The Primary is important, and it is a good warm up for us to get ready for the General Election in November," Lima said.

The city initially had a shortage of poll workers, but quickly overcame the deficit in help and approached the Primary with a full staff.

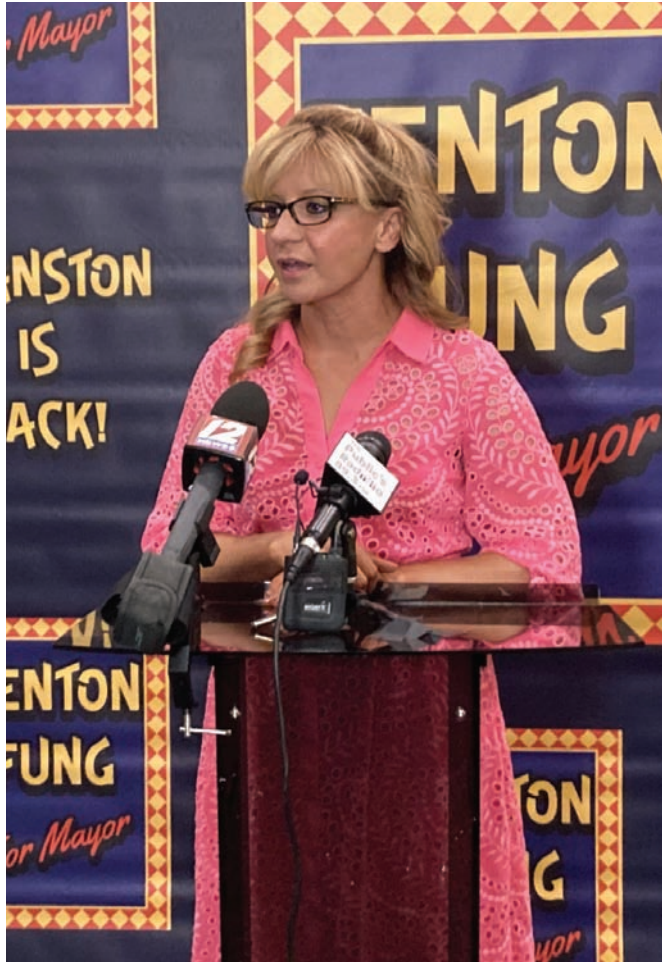
"We had a great crew today too. We had over 260 poll workers plus another three dozen support personnel," said Lima. "And we're hiring for the General. We will need another 50 poll workers for November."

Rest of the Ballot

While several races were still too close to call at press-time, others were decided as Cranston's polls reached 100 percent-reporting.

Patricia Morgan will be Rhode Island's Republican candidate for U.S. Senator, running against the Ocean State's junior Senator, Democrat Sheldon Whitehouse, in the General Election.

Cranston City Councilor Lammis J. Vargas was locked



TOUGH RACE: Cranston State Rep. Barbara Ann Fenton-Fung delivered her concession speech before family and friends gathered at the Asia Grille in Garden City Center. (Cranston Herald photo by Adam Zangari)

in a tight race with Darrell A. Brown in the Democratic primary for state Senator (District 28-Cranston, Providence), the seat being vacated by current Cranston state Sen. Josh Miller.

Vargas and Brown were leading opponents Melissa Carden, John F. Croke Jr. and Bernice Morris. That race may take several days to definitively decide (in Cranston, Vargas had 709 votes, or 33%; Brown had 700 votes, or 32.6%; but Vargas had a healthy lead in Providence, where only 68% of the precincts had reported by press-time).

The Democratic Primary race for District 42 State Representative was also a nail-biter. Incumbent State Rep. Edward T. Cardillo Jr. struggled to maintain a lead over Kelsey K. Coletta (the third opponent, Dennis D. Cardillo Jr., likely ran third).

Incumbent State Rep. Charlene Lima held out a small lead over challenger Giona A. Picheco in the District 14 Democratic Primary.

Incumbent State Rep. Brandon C. Potter secured a healthy lead over his Democratic Primary opponent Joseph R. Graziano.

Editor's Note: Herald Publisher Joy Fox and contributors Adam Zangari and Barbara Polichetti contributed to this report. The results in this story are early, unofficial tabulations. Look for final official results in next week's edition.

■ History

(Continued from page 1)

The sprawling white clapboard mansion was the birthplace of Governor William Sprague III and his nephew, Governor William Sprague IV. Both properties are available to the public as museums and event venues.

Former Cranston Mayor John O'Leary, a member of the Historical Society and chairman of the committee that organized Friday's gala, noted that it was fitting that the mansion serve as the backdrop for the festive evening. There were lots of hugs and laughter as guests greeted each other — many of whom knew each other from their roles in public office or community service leadership.

Members of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) were on hand to present colors and were also joined in leading the Pledge of Allegiance by members of Troop 66 (Garden City) of the Boy Scouts of America.

Award recipients received special citations of appreciation from Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins as well as commendations from the General Assembly and personalized plaques from the Historical Society.

Dignitaries in attendance included current and past members of the General Assembly, municipal leaders, and former mayors from both Cranston and Warwick. O'Leary noted that there were too many notable guests to recognize by name, but that the crowd represented years of dedication to public service and support for the Historical Society.

The evening's honorees (in alphabetical order) were retired R.I. National Guard Lt. Gen. Reginald A. Centracchio; John Howell, editor of the Warwick Beacon (and former publisher of the Cranston Herald); State Sen. Frank S. Lombardi; Nicholas Mattiello, former speaker of the R.I. House of Representatives; Joanne McGunagle, president & CEO of Comprehensive Community Action Programs (CCAP); U.S. Navy World War II Veteran Henry Polichetti who is 109 years young; U.S. Sen. Jack Reed; the White Family Foundation; and the Honorable Frank J. Williams, retired Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

There were moments when the evening was a bit of a bipartisan time machine. At one point, O'Leary, a Democrat who served as Cranston's mayor from 1999 to 2003, was busy chatting with current Mayor Hopkins who is a Republican. Nearby, former GOP Cranston Mayor Michael A. Traficante, 85, was getting hugs from just about everybody. A former teacher and football coach, Traficante was elected mayor in 1985 and served 14 years. He is currently chairman of the Cranston School Committee and is running for the Cranston City Council, where he got his political start in the late 1970s.

Two past Warwick mayors — Republican Scott Avedisian and Democrat Joe Walsh — mixed easily in the crowd, reflecting on how Cranston and Warwick have a long history of working together to support worthwhile community causes such as the Historical Society.

Some of the loudest applause of the evening went to Cranston resident Henry Polichetti who, at age 109, is the second oldest World War II veteran in the country. Leaning only slightly on a cane, he walked to his seat under his own steam and was visibly moved by the reception he received.

Polichetti appeared most surprised when Centracchio took the podium (after receiving his own award) to jokingly announce that while it may take the military a long time to get certain things accomplished, it always gets the job done.

Having said that, he "promoted" Mr. Polichetti, a Navy veteran, to the honorary title of Brigadier General in the Rhode Island National Guard.

Reed, who visited Mr. Polichetti on his 109th birthday in July, pinned a special silver star to his lapel while the audience stood and applauded.

In starting the evening's program, O'Leary thanked the Cranston Historical Society for the organization's long history of volunteerism and for choosing to mark its own anniversary by honoring other contributors to the community.

"Your work inspires us to cherish our past while (continuing) to strive for our future," he said.

Editor's Note: Barbara Polichetti, a Cranston resident, is a regular contributor to the Cranston Herald. She's also Henry Polichetti's daughter.

DOWN MEMORY LANE: Joanne McGunagle, president and CEO of the Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP), reminisces with former Cranston Mayor Michael Traficante. (Cranston Herald photos by Barbara Polichetti)



MAYOR O'LEARY: Ex-Cranston Mayor John O'Leary, a Society member and chair of the special event committee, said the society's work inspires the public to cherish the past while striving for the future.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Members of the JROTC program at Cranston High School East and Troop 66 of the Boy Scouts of America helped lead the Pledge of Allegiance with the historic Sprague Mansion in the background.

POCASSET RIVER PROJECT

Flood of federal money

Feds announce \$48.5M for flood prevention in Cranston & Johnston

By RORY SCHULER

The federal government plans to help buy more than 100 properties in Johnston and Cranston, and demolish 134 structures in the Pocasset River’s expanding floodplain.

When it rains hard in Johnston and Cranston, the river often overflows its banks. Floodwaters spread from the tributary outward into business districts and residential areas.

The lobbying efforts of town and city officials in both municipalities may be paying off. The state’s federal delegation recently announced the launch of the Pocasset River Flood Damage Reduction Project, and pledged nearly 50 million taxpayer dollars toward its implementation.

“Through Senator Reed and the rest of the Rhode Island delegation, the Pocasset River project can receive up to \$48.5 million in funding, beginning with \$12 million already secured by Senator Reed,” said Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. “These projects include funding for some buyouts, infrastructure improvements and flood barriers. The project itself is being coordinated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.”

The delegation, which includes U.S. Sens. Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse and Reps. Seth Magaziner and Gabe Amo, all Democrats, circulated a press release on Aug. 21, announcing the results “building on years of work to assist flood-prone residents in the Pocasset River Watershed.”

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) “has been authorized to implement the Pocasset River Flood Damage Reduction Project,” according to a joint press release from all four legislators.

The delegation said they “will work together to make additional federal funding available for the program in the years ahead to provide support for the Pocasset River Flood Damage Reduction Project and advance flood prevention infrastructure upgrades and initiatives in the hardest hit areas.”

“The Pocasset River routinely floods areas of Cranston and Johnston with flood damage becoming more frequent in recent years,” acknowledged the delegation. “Flood prevention and mitigation upgrades made possible by this federal funding will protect the safety of Rhode Islanders and help minimize damage to homes in Johnston and Cranston during significant rainfall events. Johnston and Cranston have teamed up to sponsor this project, which will be implemented by Rhode Island NRCS in partnership with the Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts (RI-ACD).”

Cranston city officials and Johnston town officials will eventually meet to plan how best to spend the flood money, according to the Cranston mayor’s office.

“A majority of this project and funding will be implemented by Rhode Island NRCS in partnership with the Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts (RIACD),” said Zack DeLuca, a spokesman for Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins. “A meeting will be held between the cities of Cranston and Johnston, and the representatives of the NRCS to finalize an action plan between all parties.”

Polisena has been warning residents for more than a year that house buyouts were coming. Some homes will be purchased and demolished for the creation of flood mitigation fixtures. In

2021, the NRCS visited Johnston’s Belfield Drive to show off a similar home buyout project. The project may have ultimately helped some, but it didn’t prevent residents of Belfield Drive from being cut off from the rest of civilization after heavy winter rainstorms in late 2023.

“One example of how this federal money will be used is to assist with residential relocation,” DeLuca explained. “Approximately \$275,000 is set aside for relocation assistance, and the mayor’s office and city have been in contact with individuals along the Pocasset who have inquired about potential property buyouts and relocation opportunities following the impact of last winter’s rainstorms.”

In Cranston and Johnston, thousands of residents watched the Pocasset creep into homes.

“Our federal delegation continues to deliver for the residents of Rhode Island,” Polisena said. “I’ve seen firsthand how so many have been forced from their homes, lost priceless personal possessions and incurred thousands of dollars in damage, all due to flooding. With this federal funding, residents now have much needed resources to help fight the severe and pervasive effects of climate change that impact their daily lives.”

According to the federal delegation, “a 2008 NRCS study of the Pocasset River Watershed produced recommendations for the plan moving forward today to help residents hardest hit by flooding with voluntary property buyouts.”

The federal delegation has effectively fought for Johnston and Cranston, according to officials in both municipalities. Reed and Whitehouse both have influential roles in key committees.

“Rhode Islanders living in the Pocasset River Watershed deserve the peace of mind of knowing that their families and homes are safe,” said Sen. Reed. “I’ve been working on the federal level for more than two decades to channel resources and support to residents in Johnston and Cranston who have been negatively impacted by flooding resulting from significant rainfall events.”

Reed serves as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

“As climate change worsens, we know that flooding like what Rhode Island saw earlier this year will only continue to intensify,” Reed said. “This federal funding will finally advance critical projects and programs to relocate flood-prone residents, restore natural floodplains that have been built over, and create new flood-related infrastructure to keep back rising waters.”

“Flooding has become a recurring nightmare for residents who live in the Pocasset River floodplain,” said Sen. Whitehouse. “The Pocasset River Flood Damage Reduction Project is off to a strong start, and I look forward to unlocking more funds to make Rhode Island more resilient to flooding — all while keeping pressure on the fossil fuel interests behind this climate crisis.”

Whitehouse is a senior member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

“With our state experiencing an increase in flooding events as a result of climate change, it’s critical that we’re doing everything we can to help Rhode Islanders prepare for future storms,” said Rep. Seth Magaziner. “These federal funds will help prevent damage to homes and businesses and protect the infrastructure we all rely on.”

“Every community in Rhode Island deserves protection from the devastat-

ing effects of severe storms and floods,” said Rep. Gabe Amo. “I thank my colleagues for their dedicated work to secure federal resources that can help residents in flood-prone areas along the Pocasset River reduce costs associated with this damage.”

“We are grateful to receive this project funding and support from the USDA, NRCS and representatives of our federal delegation,” Cranston Mayor Ken Hopkins said. “Flooding along the Pocasset River has become a perennial issue with the increased frequency of extreme weather events. Investing in these strategies to protect Cranston’s riverfront neighborhoods is crucial to preserve our residents’ quality of life.”

This project was authorized through the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (P.L. 83-566) and will be used to restore the Pocasset River’s 100-year floodplain by offering homeowners in Johnston and Cranston neighborhoods voluntary property buy outs, allowing them to relocate out of flood-prone areas. As additional funding becomes available, the Pocasset River floodplain in those areas could then be restored to provide flood attenuation, community open space, recreational benefits and wildlife habitat. The project will be rolled out incrementally by NRCS and officials expect to begin outreach to eligible neighborhoods one at a time as funding becomes available.

“Floodplains can provide significant protection from flood damages to downstream landowners,” said Phou Vongkhamdy, Rhode Island State Conservationist for NRCS. “This project would significantly limit future uses of land in this floodplain area to make it available to store flood water and provide open space and other community benefits.”

“RIACD looks forward to helping Pocasset River watershed residents get relief from flooding problems that have plagued them for a number of years,” said Richard Went, RIACD president.

The USDA estimates the project will help “nearly 1,000 residents and reduce average annual flood damages in impacted neighborhoods by around \$3.1 million.”

“As recently as this January, flooding from the Pocasset River displaced or cut off access to dozens of Rhode Islanders from their homes in Johnston and Cranston and resulted in

millions of dollars in damages to homes and properties,” according to the Rhode Island federal delegation press release.

They said the project, carried out by NRCS in coordination with Johnston and Cranston, will include the “acquisition of more than 100 properties located within the 100-year floodplain and demolition of 134 structures located on the properties, resulting in a net restoration of 38.5 acres of floodplain.”

Funds will also be spent on the “dry floodproofing of 25 structures,” “construction of a bypass culvert along Simmons Brook,” and “removal of a debris dam at the confluence of Simmons Brook and the Pocasset River,” according to Rhode Island’s federal delegation.

Laura M. Krohn

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Gaspee ‘family’ ready for a lot of ‘fun’ work

By **BARBARA POLICHETTI**
Special to the Herald

If working hard can be a lot of fun, then the Gaspee Days Committee is a prime example. The volunteer committee is responsible for the planning of the popular Gaspee Days Parade and all the other events that draw tens of thousands of visitors to Pawtuxet Village every year for historic Gaspee Days. Somehow, these volunteers manage to have a lot of fun in the process, and that spirit showed last week when the group installed new officers for its 60th season.

The installation ceremony, held at the Aspray Boat House, had a formal beginning with a presentation of colors by the Pawtuxet Rangers in their 18th-century militia attire. Cranston Mayor Kenneth Hopkins swore in the new officers, and commendations were given by Warwick Mayor Frank Picozzi and State Rep. Joseph McNamara.

After the formalities, however, the evening was mostly an informal supper among friends.

“This really is a family,” said Erin Flynn who is taking on the role of president, a position she held in the past. “The generosity of time that we receive from our committee members is a gift. We have what so many people want to create – a sense of community.” Flynn succeeds fellow long-time committee member Steven Miller as president for the 2024-2025 season.

Flynn said that the committee, which is always welcoming new members, consists of approximately 35 people, which is not much when you consider all they do. The group organizes all the public events that celebrate the historic burning of the H.M.S. Gaspee, a British ship that ventured near Namquid Point in Warwick in 1772.

The month-long celebration of patriotism includes a three-day arts and crafts festival, an outdoor concert, a road race, fireworks and a colonial encampment. The festivities culminate with the parade and a reenactment of the burning of the Gaspee.

“Getting involved is a great way to meet your neighbors while donating your time to a nonprofit,” Flynn says in her official inaugural message posted online at www.gaspee.com/about/president.

This year’s officers are:

President - Erin Flynn
1st Vice President - Natalie Abernathy
2nd Vice President - Lisa Zavala
Recording Secretary - Gina Dooley
Communications Secretary - Jan Rooney
Treasurer - Ann Marie Richards
Treasurer in Training - Amanda Tilley
Past President - Jerry Peshka
Directors - Jennifer Kiious, Judy Hoffman, JoAnn Niksa and Maria Lena-Wilson



THE RANGERS ARE IN: The Pawtuxet Rangers standing at attention during the installation of officers. (Herald photos by Barbara Polichetti)



PRESENTING THE COLORS: Members of the Pawtuxet Rangers get ready to present colors at last week’s installation of new officers of the Gaspee Days Committee.



PASSING THE BRIEFCASE: Erin Flynn, president for the 2024-25 season, makes it official by holding the ‘presidential’ briefcase relinquished by past president Steven Miller.



FAMILY FUN: You’re never too young to start. Families of committee members gathered for an informal supper at the Aspray Boat House after the installation – with almost everyone sporting Gaspee Days attire.



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Mayor hosts annual senior picnic at Sprague Mansion

By **BARBARA POLICHETTI**
Special to the Herald

Warm September sunshine and the spacious lawn at the historic at the historic Sprague Mansion helped make the perfect setting for a picnic last Friday. Fortunately, it was the day of the annual mayor’s picnic in Cranston, and the day brought lots of smiles to the more than 120 participants who gathered under big white tents to say goodbye to summer in style.

The menu included barbecued chicken breast, buttered corn, hot dogs ,and cucumber and tomato salad. The seniors were served by students in the ‘Medical Pathways’ program at Cranston High School East who happily started things off by delivering trays of Del’s Lemonade to each table.

“It’s just a great community event,” said Steven Craddock, director senior services in Cranston. “We’re lucky to have the student volunteers here as well, because they really help make this a truly multi-generational event that everyone can enjoy.”

Mayor Kenneth Hopkins, the day’s official host, said annual traditions, such as the picnic, help make Cranston a great place to live. “It really is about quality of life,” he said, “as he visited with people. “We have events for people of all ages, whether it’s the senior picnic or the opening day of softball for youngsters. It’s all part of what makes living in Cranston so special.”

If clean plates were a measure, the picnic was a huge success, ending with slices of fresh watermelon and an ice cream truck.

Editor’s Note: Barbara Polichetti, a Cranston resident, is a regular contributor to the Cranston Herald.



READY TO EAT: About 120 seniors participated in the annual event hosted by the Mayor of Cranston. This year it was held on the sprawling back lawn of the historic Sprague Mansion in Knightsville. (Herald photos by Barbara Polichetti)



WHEN LIFE HANDS YOU LEMONADE: Eddie Borbe, who holds weekly karaoke sessions at the senior center with his wife, Margie, was ready to relax with his Del's lemonade.



SERVICE WITH A SMILE: Students in Cranston High School East's Medical Pathways program volunteered as servers.



FUN TOGETHER: Friends Lucia DiPalma (left) and Loni Hooper.



DRIVING THE TRUCK: Who wants ice cream? The city arranged to have the “Moo Mobile” on hand for people to pick the dessert of their choice.



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KEEPING UP THE TRADITIONS: A group dressed in traditional Greek clothing dances in front of the Perdikakis Family Pavilion, set up on the southern side of the church. (Cranston Herald photos by Adam Zangari)

Greek Festival packed

The 38th annual Greek Festival, held at Cranston's Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, wrapped up with a bang on Sept. 8. The three-day celebration of Greek culture saw good weather- unlike last year, when the final day saw torrential rain- and a large crowd. Thousands of people flocked to the church, with tents set up throughout the church's property with Greek food, pastries, music and other goods.



THE GRILLMASTERS: Chefs George Masganas (left) and Dean Andreikos flip pitas for festivalgoers looking for dinner on Sunday.



BELTING IT OUT: Georgios Karatzas leads the crowd at the pavilion in a Greek song, backed up by Athenian Entertainment.



GREEK SWEETS: Anna Falcone puts the finishing touches on a large order of loukoumades- fried dough drizzled in honey and sprinkled with cinnamon and walnuts- for a customer.

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Hot Dog w/ Fries **\$5.99**

Burger & Fries **\$5.99**

Chicken Tenders w/ Fries & Sauce **\$5.99**

Kids Meals come with a Loli-Pop

SANDWICHES

Hot Lobster Roll **\$29.99**

1/2 lbs., Fresh! grilled bricche & drawn butter

Lobster Roll **\$27.99**

100% Real Lobster

Hamburger **\$8.99**

6oz. black Angus

Cheeseburger **\$9.99**

Tommy Burger **\$10.99**

w/ lettuce, tomato, cheese, bacon, & 1000 Island

Filet of Fish **\$14.99**

w/ lettuce, tomato, tartar, & lemon

Clam Roll **\$22.99**

Whole Bellies **\$16.99**

Tender Strips **\$16.99**

Scallop Roll **\$16.99**

Bay Scallops **\$16.99**

Fish Tacos (2) Mahi-Mahi **\$14.99**

w/ lettuce, pico de gallo, spicy tartar

Shrimp Tacos (2) **\$14.99**

w/ lettuce, pico de gallo, spicy tartar

2 Ball Park Hot Dogs **\$8.99**

All beef

Extras: 75¢ each

Onions - Lettuce/Tomato - Bacon - Cheese

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE

CONSUMER ADVISORY WARNING FOR RAW FOODS: IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WE ADVISE THAT EATING RAW OR UNDERCOOKED MEAT, POULTRY, OR SEAFOOD POSES A RISK TO YOUR HEALTH.

REVISED 6/6/24

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. 8% RI SALES TAX NOT INCLUDED.

Say you saw it in the Cranston Herald

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Who is ‘responsible’ for school gun violence?

The more things change in America, the more other things seem to stay the same. In the case of gun violence at and within our schools, however, there is a mountain of evidence to back up the assertion that things have only gotten worse.

The recent shooting at an Atlanta, Georgia suburban high school that left four dead and four others injured will unfortunately become just another statistic in America’s ongoing epidemic of gun violence targeting young students and teachers. As we have seen in shootings in Parkland, Fla., Uvalde, Texas, and all the way back to Columbine in 1999, the perpetrator was also a young man (in this case, unbelievably just 14 years old) who was able to acquire a firearm and use it to sow life-altering destruction.

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

The issue is one of the most raw and tender exposed nerves in our culture today. And yet, while politicians and partisan talking heads continuously fuel a toxic and largely ineffective war of words that seems to only further polarize people farther apart from one another, teachers, students, parents, and law enforcement officials are fighting a real war against anticipatory dread as they try to prepare for the unimaginable, and pray that their community will not be the next to show up on the nightly news.

The issue is far too complex and varied to parse out in any one column, or a dozen columns for that matter. Instead, we would like to focus in one element of the gun violence argument that seems to generate more consensus than caustic contrarianism.

Access.

How can a 14-year-old be legally given a weapon with the power to kill dozens with a single magazine? How can unfettered access to such weapons, legally gifted to literal children, be considered a Constitutional right when our founding fathers parried with flintlock pistols, and fought the war for independence with smooth-bore muskets?

A father gifting their son a bolt- or pump-action, .22 caliber hunting rifle — whether to shoot targets at a range, to go small-game hunting, or just to learn about proper responsibility in wielding a gun, is one thing — you could even argue it is a responsible thing. But to provide a weapon that would have outclassed the majority of service rifles used in the Vietnam War to a troubled teenager without providing any of the proper guidance on the immense responsibility required when wielding such a powerful object should absolutely not be protected as a right. As is thankfully happening in a response to the Georgia shooting, that parent should be prosecuted as a criminal, who enabled an act of violence due to their negligence.

The consistent chorus of dissidence we hear time and time again when the topic of better gun control legislation inevitably comes up in the wake of one of these tragedies is that “responsible gun owners” are victimized by such measures. But the simple fact of our modern reality is that irresponsible gun owners are opening the door for some of the most heinous and despicable acts seen in the 21st century.

According to EveryTown For Gun Safety, from 2013 to 2022, there have been 720 incidents of gunfire on the grounds of a preschool or K-12 school, and roughly 75% of those shooters who were under the age of 18 when they committed the act acquired the firearms used in the shooting from their own home, or from the home of a close relative.

Safe storage laws and universal, mandated background checks do not deny your ability as an adult to possess a firearm, but they do prevent them from falling into the hands of someone who will use them for ill intent. Red flag laws that allow a reasonable legal process to remove guns from demonstrably dangerous or at-risk individuals do not create a slippery slope to having everyone’s guns taken away.

If this nightmarish scenario is to ever be stabilized, so-called responsible gun owners need to stop making excuses for those fellow gun owners among them who fail to take that responsibility seriously, and come to the table on enacting national laws to prevent their mistakes from ending the lives of innocent men, women, and children.

GUEST OP

Apalachee High School statement from FSRI CEO

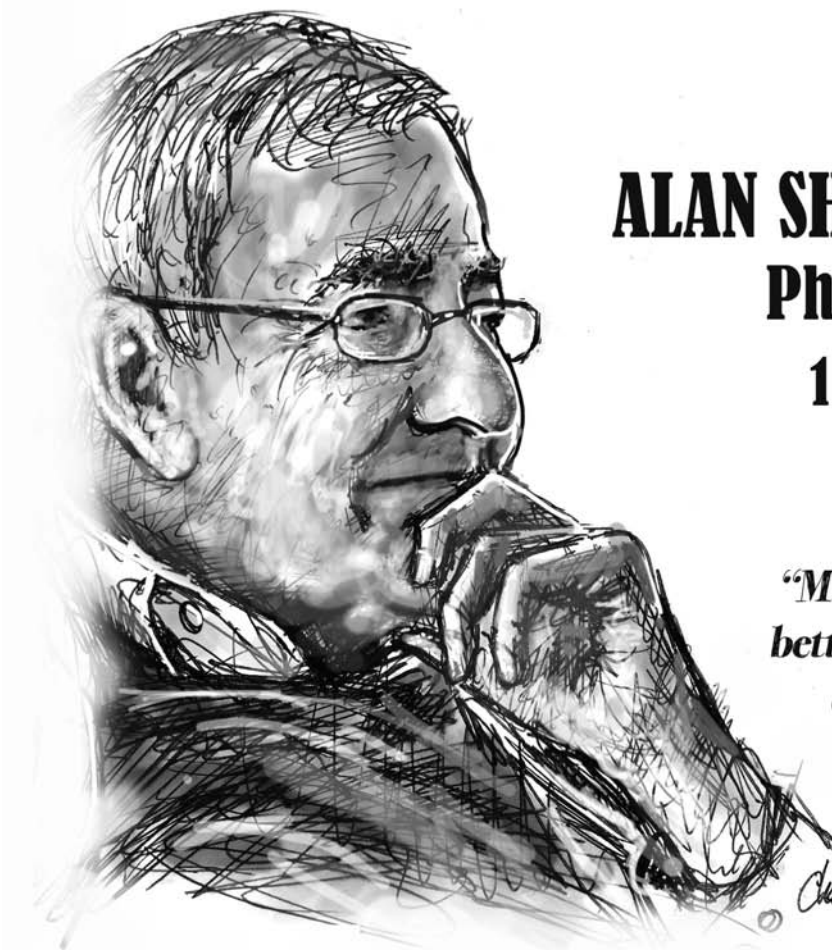
By MARGARET HOLLAND MCDUFF

It is with an unbearably heavy heart that I write the following words: On Sept. 4, our nation experienced the 45th school shooting this year, with four dead and nine hospitalized. So far in 2024, a total of 50 of our finest educators, students, children have been killed. And like many of these incidents before, a young person — a teenager of 14 years — is responsible for this violence.

To the families and friends of the fallen, I am one of the many Rhode Islanders whose hearts are broken by this senseless tragedy. I am so very sorry for your loss. Beyond being sorry, I commit myself to taking the actions needed to prevent this from happening again, over and over. And I call on my colleagues and peers in this state, families with children, as well as all of our neighbors across the country to join me in action — to go beyond “thoughts and prayers.”

The first step is sensible gun control — keeping assault rifles out of the hands of our kids. But this is not the only step. We need to get serious and make real changes and investments in children’s mental health – which is at emergent levels now and has been for some time. During the decade before 2020, our youth faced persistent sadness, hopelessness, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors at staggering rates. And COVID’s academic disruption and social isolation further exacerbated those conditions. Study after study has shown that our kids’ levels of anxiety and depression continue to skyrocket. We need to change the status quo radically, or these tragedies will continue.

Here’s what I suggest: 1) Require that every child and teen get a mental health check, just like an annual physical, each year and those identified as needing support be immediately linked with their family, to behavioral health services in their community. 2) Increase in-school mental health supports for kids. Teachers are not trained to address the types and levels of concerns that kids are bringing with them to the classroom every day; get more child and family behavioral health professionals into the schools to help our struggling kids. 3)



ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN Philanthropist 1931 - 2024

“Making the world a better place one good deed at a time”

LETTERS

Superintendent's message to the community

Dear Cranston Public Schools community,

Welcome Back to School! I’m thrilled to welcome you to the 2024 school year! Our school district has been around since 1828, and while much has changed since then, the excitement of a new school year remains the same.

This year promises growth, learning, and new experiences for all our students. Our staff worked hard all summer to prepare. Teachers have created welcoming classrooms and engaging lessons. We want every student to feel important and have the support they need to succeed.

We have an exciting year ahead, and everyone’s involvement is key! It’s important for students and teachers to be in school every day. Kids learn best when they’re in school on time, all day, every day they’re healthy. Students who arrive late feel disorganized and disconnected from class activities. No amount of make-up work can replace being present for lessons and classroom engagement.

We encourage families to get involved:

- Attend school events
- Join parent organizations
- Help with classroom and school activities
- Keep in touch with teachers and principals

If you’re struggling or need support, please let us know. We have many resources to help our students and families. Cranston’s community support is also vital. Our students and their families are an important part of our city.

They volunteer at events and work in local businesses. Our schools provide support for families beyond just education. We’re proud of our students, our educators, the opportunities we offer and the high-quality education we provide.

We’re working hard to improve our school buildings. Many of our schools were built nearly 100 years ago, but we’re creating modern 21st-century learning spaces for our current students.

We’re excited about:

- A new Gladstone Elementary School is being built
- The new Garden City Elementary School is starting its second year
- Finishing updates at Eden Park Elementary School that began in 2019 with our Pathfinder Project

Our schools make Cranston special, and we’re grateful for your support.

Here’s to a wonderful school year! Together, we’ll make this year one of discovery, achievement, and celebration. We look forward to the amazing things our students will accomplish.

Sincerely,

Jeannine Nota-Masse
Superintendent, Cranston Public Schools

Welcomed back to school with gunfire

Rife training for new officers will occur during the first week of September.

Pistol Qualifications will occur, Monday through Friday during the three remaining weeks of September.

Take a ride over to Cranston West and you can hear the War-like Gunfire firsthand and experience what the children are exposed to in a supposedly “Healthy Learning Environment.”

I know that the News Media will continue to hold the politicians of Cranston accountable on their solutions concerning the Gun Range issue. “To Walk the Walk not just Talk the Talk.”

Regards,

Patricia Schoeninger
of Cranston

To the Editor,

I am a Cranston resident and have lived in my home for 47 years, which is located two blocks from the Cranston Police Gun Range.

For the entire month of September, the children attending Cranston West will be “Welcomed back to school” hearing war-like gunfire in their classrooms, school grounds and athletic fields.

This is the CPD gun range schedule that was posted for the month of September 2024:

Police Shooting Range Schedule

Please be aware that this schedule is subject to change when special training is required.

September 2024

The Cranston Police range may be in intermittent use will be in regular use.

GOV. MCKEE ANNOUNCES THAT GRANTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY BRIDGE CLOSURE



Chatter (Continued from page 1)

Sept 14, Paws in the Park Rhode Island SPCA's annual dog walk will be held on Sat., Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Goddard Memorial State Park, 1095 Ives Rd., Warwick. This family friendly dog walk attracts hundreds of pet owners and their dogs each year. Activities include a dog walk through scenic Goddard Park, a vendor marketplace, food trucks, canine costume contest, raffle baskets, kids' activities, and much, much more! To register, visit www.givebutter.com/pitp24.

Sept. 14, Air Jam Inflatables Festival will be held on Sat., Sept. 14, at 11:30 am, Mulligans Island, 1000 New London Ave., Cranston. For more information: www.ri-nightmarket.com.

Sept. 14, NAMI-RI Virtual Mental Health Program on Sat., Sept. 14, at 3 p.m., the local chapter of the National Alliance of Mental Illness will offer a Family-to-Family course. The in-person program will be held at St. Lucy's Catholic Church, 909 W. Main Rd., Middletown. This is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others and friends of people with mental illness. To register or for more information, call: 401-331-3060, email beth@namirhodeisland.org or visit namirhodeisland.org

Sept. 14, 16th Annual Meeting 2024 Archives Presentation will be presented by The Hope Historical Society on Sat., Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Howland Barn, 35 Rye-field Road, Hope. The community is invited to join the kick off of a new program year. The election of Hope

Historical Society officers, collection of dues, and presentation of the Ernest F. Gifford Outstanding Contributor Award will occur during the Annual Meeting with the Archives Presentation to follow. The Archives Presentation will include Hope Jackson Fire Department and Remington's Dairy artifacts acquired over the past year and several other interesting items.

Sept. 16, West Bay Chorale Open Rehearsal extends an invitation to the public on Mon., Sept. 16, at 7 p.m., at St. Kevin's Church, 333 Sandy Lane, Warwick. There will be a social meeting at 6 p.m., followed by registration at 6:30 p.m. Current and new singers interested in joining the Chorale please join and learn details about the exciting upcoming concert season. All voice parts are open; Tenor voices are especially needed. Full rehearsal will begin at 7 p.m. All current singers and those interested in joining must be vaccinated and boosted as recommended and show proof of vaccination. Masks will either be required or recommended, depending on Rhode Island Covid regulations. Other pertinent information regarding COVID related rules will be shared. Please visit the West Bay Choral website: westbaychorale.org or email at: info@westbaychorale.org, or contact Chorale Artistic Director Eric Vandervort at 401-751-1525 for more details.

Sept. 17, Voter Registration/Registration Confirmation Support is being sponsored by the RI League of Women Voters in collaboration with the Cranston and Warwick Boards of Canvassers on Tues., Sept 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 to 8 p.m., at both the Cranston (Sockanosset

Cross Road) and Warwick Central Libraries (Sandy Lane). They will personally assist U.S. Citizens regarding voter registration and/or confirmation of registration. They will also help voters to apply for a mail ballot. Covid's silver lining, the no-excuse-needed mail ballot lets you vote at your convenience and probably at your kitchen table. Just mail it back in its free-postage envelope or place it in any city or town hall's drop box by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5.

Sept. 17, Cranston Historical Society Meeting, will take place at 1351 Cranston St., Cranston, at 7 p.m. CHS membership meeting open to the public featuring a presentation on the 75th Year History of the Cranston Historical Society by President Sandra Moyer. Light refreshments.

Sept. 22, Annual Fall Fest at Mulligan's Island hosted by Cranston Police Dept. Cares will take place on Sun., Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mulligan's Island, 1000 New London Ave., Cranston. Featuring the World Premiere Band. Information: 401-477-5062.

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

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

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

Every Thursday Cranston Farmers Market (weather permitting) 5 to 6:30 p.m., at

the Bain Track, 135 Gansett Ave., Cranston. Free and open to Cranston residents only, while supplies last. Residents are encouraged to bring their own bag. Please contact Ivy at iswinski@comcap.org for more information. The Farmers Market will be held through Thurs., Aug. 15.

Every Thursday, Pick-Up Hockey 55 and older, coed: \$5pp. Thayer Ice Rink, 975 Sandy Ln., Warwick, from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. Full Equipment required. For more information contact: Lon Krueger 302-229-3457 or bethlon@verizon.net.

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

Every Saturday, Pawtuxet Village Farmer's Market, thru Sat., Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, 60 Rhodes Place, Cranston.

PSA Free Gun Locks at Cranston Public Library Secure storage of weapons is now the law in Rhode Island. A Free Gun Lock and Securing Weapons Safely information is available at the Reference Desk at the Central Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Rd., Cranston. Stop by for a free gun lock and literature on how to securely store weapons. Doing so will save lives and make our communities safer. Residents from all RI communities are welcome. This event is not endorsed by or affiliated with the Cranston Public Library.

Oaklawn Grange Used Clothing Donation Shed 24 Searle Ave., Cranston, is in need of used clothing item donations, Only accepting: Used Clothing, Shoes, Sneakers, Belts, Purses, Linens, Pillowcases, Blankets, Curtains, and Stuffed Animals. Items must be in useable condition. Donations will be distributed as whole garments locally and worldwide. Contact oaklawn-grangeinfo@gmail.com for more information.

Humans of Cranston is now accepting nominations! We've featured 19 resident stories in a Herald column, on OneCranston HEZ social media, and in a book with the goal of highlighting and celebrating residents' community involvement, diversity, and unique life perspectives. This is an initiative of the OneCranston Health Equity Zone at CCAP in partnership with the Cranston Herald and local photographer, Tim McFate. If you know a Cranston resident who has a story to tell, please nominate them via this form: <https://forms.microsoft.com/r/s8cnBuGhtB> Questions? Contact JB Fulbright, Community Outreach Coordinator for the OneCranston HEZ at jfulbright@comcap.org.

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

Volunteer with NAMI-RI The RI chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness is seeking volunteers to facilitate family programs in 2024. Free training is required and available for interested persons with loved ones struggling with mental health. Our grassroots volunteers, work every day to provide help and hope to millions of Americans. For more information about our family programs and volunteer training, email beth@namirhodeisland.org, call the NAMI-RI office 401-331-3060 or visit our website at www.namirhodeisland.org.

Hearts for Hospice - Visiting Nurse Home and Hospice (VNH&H) is asking for individuals to support their hospice programs by giving \$20 or more to their Hearts for Hospice campaign. People can dedicate their gift to a loved one who is always in their heart; all dedications are listed on the organization's website. You can make your donation at www.visitingnursehh.org/giving/ or by calling 401-682-2100 extension number 1631.

Editor's Note: To submit your news to The Chatter, send text and photos to Ida at idad@rhodybeat.com. Items can include community events, promotions, academic news and non-profit events. Email today and see your event in our column in the Cranston Herald.



CITY OF CRANSTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Cranston 2024 Comprehensive Plan

There will be a Public Hearing on proposed **Ordinance No. 09-24-01** to consider the adoption of the proposed **Cranston 2024 Comprehensive Plan**.

The 2024 Comprehensive Plan (Phase 1 of 2) is a complete and substantial update to the existing 2012 Comprehensive Plan. The 2024 Comprehensive Plan includes two new chapter elements as required by State law: Energy and Natural Hazard Mitigation. The Goals and Policies and Action Items from the 2012 Plan are largely carried over intact unless they were considered defunct or no longer consistent with State Law.

The public hearing will be held in the Cranston City Hall Council Chambers, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, RI on **Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.** before the **Ordinance Committee**. Interested parties are encouraged to attend or may participate via Zoom by clicking on the link below or by phone by calling any of the numbers listed below:

Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/98943805703?pwd=ZvTxxzeDcrfPWmh8fzWf8S4HLOdPDs.1>
Passcode: 050895

Or One tap mobile :
+13052241968,,98943805703# US
+13092053325,,98943805703# US

Or Telephone:
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US

Webinar ID: 989 4380 5703
International numbers available:
<https://zoom.us/j/aeEUKVfmrV>

An additional public hearing will be included as part of the agenda for a Special Meeting of the Cranston City Council on **Monday, September 30, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.**

The full text of the Cranston 2024 Comprehensive Plan is available for review at the City Clerk's Office and the Planning Department, Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, Cranston, R.I. during normal business hours. It can also be downloaded in PDF format in its entirety from the city's website at: https://web.cranstonri.org/ClerkDocs/2024Ordinances/Proposed/09-24-01_2024CompPlan.pdf

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 45-22.2-8(c)(1)(v) the proposed Cranston 2024 Comprehensive Plan may be altered or amended prior to the close of the public hearing without further advertising, as a result of further study or because of the views expressed at the public hearing, provided that any such alteration or amendment must be presented for comment in the course of the public hearing.

Lammis J. Vargas, Chair
Ordinance Committee

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC
City Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

PROBATE COURT OF THE CITY OF CRANSTON NOTICE Of Matters Pending and For Hearing In Said Court On the dates specified in notices below at 9 A.M. for hearing said matters Cranston City Hall 869 Park Ave, Cranston, RI 02910 3rd Floor, Council Chambers	
AMARAL, DANIEL R. ESTATE Petition for Probate of Will; for hearing September 26, 2024	RI; Cranston, RI; for purposes set forth, now on file, wherein said property is more fully described for hearing September 26, 2024
HARWOOD, MARK P. ESTATE Petition for Probate of Will; for hearing September 26, 2024	VELURY, ANSHUMAAN RESIDENT WARD Petition for Guardianship; for hearing September 26, 2024
MAK, SAMNANG RESIDENT WARD Petition for Guardianship; for hearing September 26, 2024	MAZIKI, JR., ALEX E. ESTATE Maureen M. Mazika has qualified as Executrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the probate clerk within the time required by law beginning September 12, 2024
MCKENNA, FRANK O. ESTATE Petition for Probate of Will; for hearing September 26, 2024	WHITE, LESTER FRANCIS ESTATE Nicole R. White has qualified as Executrix; creditors must file their claims in the office of the probate clerk within the time required by law beginning September 12, 2024
O'CONNOR, KATHRYN ESTATE Petition for Probate of Will; for hearing September 26, 2024	Individuals requiring assistive listening devices are requested to contact the office of the city clerk at 461-1000 ext 3197 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.
PARENTEAU, WILLIAM F. ESTATE Petition for the Sale of Real Estate located at 9 Nickerson St., Cranston,	Tracy Nelson Clerk of the Probate Court 9/12, 9/19/24

CRANSTON BOARD OF CONTRACT AND PURCHASE AGENDA
<i>There will be a meeting of the Board of Contract and Purchase on September 17, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Pursuant to City Council Ordinance, the following advertises the agenda for that meeting. All matters listed are subject to a vote and/or final action by the Board unless otherwise noted.</i>

BID AWARDS:
Baseball Infield Renovations to Cranston Stadium and Cranston High School West **Under Review**

CHANGE ORDERS:
Amend contract with Haytham Awad for Construction Inspection Services in the amount of \$10,000 to continue services through the construction season.

BID WAIVERS:	
Police Department	Grogan-Marciano Sporting Goods \$638.20
Police Department	CovertTrack Group, Inc. \$1,200.00
Police Department	Fit 2 Serve \$3,000.00
Police Department	GaRel Manufacturing \$4,000.00
Police Department	Greenwich Valley \$4,000.00
Senior Services	Cranston Country Club \$2,514.96
Senior Services	Cranston Country Club \$4,620.00

Mark J. Marchesi, Purchasing Agent

CRANSTON WORSHIP

Anchor Baptist Church
New Meeting Place
868 Reservoir Avenue
Pastor Alex Martinez
632-9672
www.sermonaudio.com/anchorbaptist

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Parish
175 Oaklawn Avenue
401-941-4188
Sunday Liturgy 9:30am
www.annunciationri.org

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

Assemblies Of God The Solid Rock Church
1753 Phenix Avenue
Rev. Richard K. Leahey
827-0770
www.solidrockchurchag.com

Christadelphian Ecclesia
2104 Cranston Street
441-7432
www.christadelphia.org

Church Of The Ascension (Episcopal)
390 Pontiac Avenue
Pastor Santiago Rodriguez
Pastor Sarah Saxe
Sun 10 am (English)
Sun 12pm (Spanish)
461-5811
www.ascensioncranston.org

Church Of The Transfiguration
1665 Broad Street
461-3142
Sunday 10 am
Holy Eucharist

Edgewood Congregational Church
1788 Broad Street
461-1344
Sunday 10 am w/coffee hour
www.edgewoodchurchri.org

Faith Chapel Lutheran Brethren
43 Scituate Ave.
Rev. Michael Natale
944-2771
www.faithchapelri.org
Sunday Worship 10am

Gateway Pentacostal Fellowship
711 Park Ave. (rear)
Pastor Russell Farmer
467-3830
www.gatewayupc.org

Grace Bible Church
116 Rolfe Street
481-0030
www.gbcri.org
9 a.m. Sunday Worship
7 p.m. Wednesday Prayer

Holy Apostles Church
800 Pippin Orchard Road
Very Reverend William J. Ledoux
946-5586
www.holyapostles.com

New Beginings Christian Church
122 Laurens St.
Mario J. Nadich, Pastor
787-0725

Oak Lawn Community Baptist Church
229 Wilbur Avenue
944-0864
www.olcbbaptistchurch.com

Pawtuxet Baptist Church
2157 Broad Street
Rev. Irving Scoby
461-3635
pawtuxetbaptist@verizon.net

Peoples Baptist Church
1275 Elmwood Avenue
Pastor Mark Lindsay
www.PeoplesBaptistChurch.org

Phillips Memorial Baptist Church
565 Pontiac Avenue
467-3300
Handicapped accessible
www.phillipschurch.org
Rev. Dr. Amy Chilton, Pastor
Affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island and the USA
Member of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptist (AWAB)
Facebook: @PhillipsChurch
Church Office Hours:
9:00 am – 1:00 pm (Mon. – Fri.)
Worship is at 10:00 am on Sunday

St. David's On-The-Hill Episcopal Church
200 Meshanticut Valley
Father Edward Beaudreau
942-4368
www.stdavidsonthehill.net

St. Matthew Church
15 Frances Avenue
Rev. Ronald J. Bengford
461-7172

St. Patrick Catholic Church
2068 Cranston Street
Fr. Roger Durand, Pastor
SaintPatrickCatholicChurch.org
Sat. 5pm, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30

Saint Paul Church Of Edgewood
1 St. Paul Place
461-5734

Shepherd Of The Valley United Methodist Church
604 Seven Mile Road
Rev. Katherine Mitchell
821-8217
www.sovumc.org

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

Woodridge Congregational United Church Of Christ
546 Budlong Road
Rev. Scott Spencer
942-0654
woodridgechurchri.org

Word & Prayer Fellowship
828 Oaklawn Ave.
Pastor Chick Salibby
www.wordandprayer.org

Word Of Life Covenant Church
1308 Phenix Avenue
944-1163
thewordofflife.net

■ Cannons

(Continued from page 1)

The cannons, Mierka said, had a special connection to William Sprague IV himself, Rhode Island's governor from 1861 through 1863.

In addition, Sprague was the only Union governor to see combat during the Civil War, fighting at the Battle of Bull Run.

"He wasn't injured [but] he had three horses shot out from under him," Mierka said. "Sprague ordered the cannons to train Rhode Island artillerymen, and Rhode Island artillerymen were some of the best in the Union."

Sprague, he said, was one of three governors that Civil War era President Abraham Lincoln, Vice President Hannibal Hamlin and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton knew they could count on for the utmost support, alongside the governors of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

There alongside Historical Society members was Rhode Island National Guard Lt. Col. Katherine James, who ad-

ressed the crowd on the meaning of the cannons to those in uniform today.

"This monument before you is a tribute to their unwavering dedication," James said. "We stand in gratitude for the selflessness and the sacrifice of the men and women who proudly wore the nation's uniform and made the ultimate sacrifice so that future generations of Rhode Islanders could relish the freedom we enjoy today."

Former Cranston Mayor John O'Leary, representing current Mayor Ken Hopkins, said that after seeing the cannons removed from Rolfe Square during his time as mayor, seeing them displayed again was a great sight.

"I remember they were subjected to some vandalism and there was great worry about the future," O'Leary said. "And then General Centracchio saw to it that they were refurbished and repaired. So it's a great honor for me to represent the mayor at this time that they're coming back to the City of Cranston."

For his work in procuring the cannons, Centracchio gave Mierka a "challenge coin" to represent his gratitude and respect for him.



JOB WELL DONE: Maj. Gen. Reginald Centracchio presents Cranston Historical Society's Gregg Mierka with his challenge coin, honoring him for his work in procuring and protecting the cannons. (Cranston Herald photos by Adam Zangari)

Rhode Island loses legendary philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein at age 93

Cranston Herald Staff Reports

Alan Shawn Feinstein, who urged thousands of students to do good deeds and rewarded them for doing so and whose name is on so many schools throughout the state, died Saturday at the age of 93. He lived in a modest home in the Edgewood section of Cranston.

A Feinstein visit to a school was a big event. The kids knew him and when he arrived in a school auditorium he was greeted with excited cheers.

Rhode Island House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi and Senate President Dominick J. Ruggerio released a joint statement: "Mr. Feinstein was a Rhode Island treasure and his philanthropy and generosity will live on for generations. Thousands of students throughout the state accepted his challenge to perform good deeds and focus on their educational future. He was a great source of inspiration to Rhode Islanders of all ages and he will be truly missed."

He frequently wore a gold jacket to such gatherings where he talked

about the impact of good deeds and how one person can change things for the better. Feinstein lived by what he preached, donating millions of dollars through the foundation he established to Alan Shawn Feinstein schools and scholars as well as to fighting world hunger.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of my constituent and friend, Alan Shawn Feinstein, whose love and generosity impacted the lives of generations of Rhode Islanders," said state Rep. Joseph M. McNamara (D-Dist. 19, Warwick, Cranston). "I met him in 1976 when I opened my first ice cream shop, Joe's Dairy Shop in Cranston, and we developed a friendship over the years as his children grew. He was always warm and down-to-earth, encouraging children and adults alike to do good deeds, and challenging us all to make the world a better place. Students, schools, and all of Rhode Island are a little bit better because he lived here. His loss will be profoundly felt and I will personally miss him."

U.S. Senator Jack Reed's office referred to Feinstein as "a champion for education."

"Alan Shawn Feinstein was a transformational philanthropist," Reed said. "He uplifted countless students through the Feinstein Foundation and Feinstein Junior Scholar program, helping to feed millions around the world through initiatives with leading universities across our region, and serving as a fixture of our communities for decades. Above all, Alan urged us all to be kind and compassionate toward one another. He knew that good deeds reverberate throughout our neighborhoods and that every one of us can make a difference."

Alan Shawn Feinstein was such a public figure that we're asking readers to share their stories and thoughts about him. Email us, leave a note on our Facebook page or write us a letter to the editor (at rorys@rhodybeat.com).

"Alan will be sorely missed," Reed said. "His memory will live on through the countless lives he touched and improved. His dedicated and thoughtful approach to making the world a better place will continue to inspire us. My thoughts are with the entire Feinstein family."



A HIT WITH KIDS: Clad in his gold jacket, Alan Shawn Feinstein addresses Aldrich Junior High students in this photo from 2014. Feinstein, who urged thousands of students to do good deeds and rewarded them for doing so and whose name is on so many schools throughout the state, died Saturday at the age of 93. He lived in a modest home in the Edgewood section of Cranston. (Cranston Herald file photo)

Another celebration of veterans occurring this year, Mierka said, was the 100th anniversary of the Rolfe Square Monument where the cannons once stood.

The anniversary, Mierka said, was just as important to him as the procurement of the cannons.

"We have to hope that in the future, there will be more connections to history and the defense of the country," Mierka said. "These cannons represent that, and the Rolfe Square monument represents that."

The cannons, Mierka said, would likely not be displayed at Rolfe Square again, due to concerns about damage from the weather and potential vandalism. Instead, they will stay stored with the Historical Society, and join other objects representing Cranston's contributions to the history of the country.

OBITUARIES

Alan Shawn Feinstein

Alan Shawn Feinstein, 93 passed away Saturday, September 7, 2024. He was the husband of Prataornporn "Pat" (Chiemwichit) Feinstein, M.D. for 61 years. He was the son of Louis and Lillian (Pector) Feinstein, father of Leila Feinstein (Chaka Forman) and the late Ari and Richard Feinstein, grandfather of Louis and Arielle Feinstein, Chaya, Sakai and Desmond Forman. He was the brother of the late Joel Feinstein, Sandra Gamm and the uncle of several nieces and nephews.



Mr. Feinstein was a graduate of Boston University and Boston Teachers' College. He taught schools at Mansfield and Newton, MA and Bristol, RI. He became concerned about World Hunger in the 1980's, believing "No one should ever go hungry" which led to his association with Brown University's World Hunger Program after retiring from teaching. The Feinstein Foundation was founded in 1991 with emphasis on Community Service in universities and schools. He encouraged students to do good deeds and help those in need.

He was awarded honorary doctorates by Providence College, Salve Regina University, Johnson and Wales University, Roger Williams University, Rhode Island College, University of Rhode Island and New England Institute of Technology. He was also the recipient of many Distinguished Service Awards for his philanthropy (The American History Society, The American Red Cross, The Rhode Island Hall of Fame, The President's Medal at Brown University and Rhode Island College) and named Rhode Island Citizen of the Year by the March of Dimes.

Relatives and friends are invited to his funeral service, Saturday, September 21, 2024, 10:00 am at the Historic Chapel in Swan Point Cemetery, 585 Blackstone Blvd., Providence.

Burial will be private.

Those unable to attend the service may join via livestream. Memorial contributions in his honor may be made to The Feinstein Foundation, 37 Alhambra Circle, Cranston, RI 02905

For online condolences please visit: www.sugarmansinai.com.

Patricia Childers

Patricia Childers died peacefully on Friday, August 30, 2024 in her own bed surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Rhode Island, 1932. She was an Army BRAT, moving often and spending a few years in Korea. Patricia remembered attending war crime trials in Germany, and at a young age, knew the significance of that day. She graduated from the 1st class of Boston College School of Nursing in 1955. Patricia worked at Boston Children's Hospital and also taught nursing. She met her husband, Dr. Henry Childers, Jr. and married in 1955. Together they founded the Cranston Animal Hospital on Park Ave., Cranston in 1956. They moved to Edgewood, raised 5 children, and resided on Bluff Avenue for 58 glorious years.



She ran the Cranston Animal Hospital and her five children. Patricia was the glue that held everything together. Pretty much the women behind the curtain that made everything run smoothly.

Patricia was predeceased by Henry, only by months. They would have celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in January. She leaves a daughter Patricia Childers and her son Oliver; son Henry Childers IV, his wife Nina and their sons Henry V and Max; daughter Alyce Childers; daughter Caroline Childers Audet, her husband Jeff and their children Clayton, Jax and Emma; and sons, the late Henry Childers III and the late John Childers.

She also leaves her sister-in-law Sally Redihan who has been a wonderful confidant for 75 years. Patricia's cats and dogs miss her dearly, still waiting for her on the bed.

A visitation was held from 4-7 pm on Friday, September 6, 2024 in the Fagan-Quinn Funeral Home, 825 Boston Neck Rd., North Kingstown. Relatives and friends were invited to a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 am on Saturday, September 7, 2024 in St. Bernard Church, 275 Tower Hill Rd., North Kingstown. Her burial was privately held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations can still be made in Patricia's honor to the Cranston Animal Shelter at 920 Phenix Ave, Cranston, RI 02921.

Kindly visit the Fagan-Quinn Funeral Home online for complete obituary, service details, and online condolences, www.TheQuinnFuneralHome.com

Obituaries

In your time of need, the *Cranston Herald* will print your loved one's full obituary for a small charge. The paper also places the obituary on our website, cranstononline.com.

Should you desire our services, kindly inform your funeral director, or call (401) 732-3100 or email 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.

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Who's Who and Who's New in Cranston Public Schools

Who's New

Rhodes Elementary School:

We're pleased to announce that Ms. Heather Breton is the new principal of Rhodes Elementary School. Ms. Breton is a life-long Cranston resident and attended Cranston Public Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade. For the past 20 years she taught second grade at Garden City Elementary school. Beginning in 2020, she became a district Instructional Coach, working with teachers to incorporate technology and small group instruction into their classrooms. She was very involved with the transition to the new Garden City Elementary School, where she was part of the design planning and the instructional planning for Project Based Learning (PBL). In addition to her classroom teaching, she has served as co-chair of the School Improvement Team, coordinated a parent workshop on the Science of Reading, and was a pilot teacher for the district to implement blended and personalized learning in the classroom, working with the Highlander Institute as a Fuse Fellow to coach educators in Jamestown as they also implemented blending and personalized learning with their students.

"I am committed to fostering a positive and collaborative learning environment, and I believe that it's important to build strong relationships with students, staff and parents as they are all invaluable assets to the school community," she said.

Ms. Breton is very excited to be joining the school community at Rhodes, and shared the following with us, "I am very excited to be the principal at Rhodes and be part of an amazing team and community. I look forward to working with everyone to create an exceptional learning experience for our students."

RHODES: Heather Breton, the new principal of Rhodes Elementary School

Stadium Elementary School:

We are thrilled to have Mr. Derek Gustafson at the helm of Stadium Elementary School this year. He was most recently an assistant principal at Western Hills Middle School. Mr. Gustafson began teaching in 2009 at a charter high school as a health and physical education teacher. He recently shared a little bit about his career journey with us, saying, "In 2015, I had the pleasure of coming to work in Cranston where I attended school from kindergarten through 12th grade. I was a health and physical education teacher at Gladstone Elementary and then in 2020 I began as an assistant principal at Western Hills Middle School."

Students spend so much time at their school and Derek feels it is necessary to create a welcoming environment where students want to be there on a daily basis. He feels it is imperative as a school leader to foster a school community where students are safe, comfortable and able to learn. Students, teachers and staff are the heart and soul of the school building and Derek is thrilled at the opportunity to support them in the learning community and educational process.

"I am beyond excited to join the incredible team and school community at Stadium Elementary," he said.

STADIUM: Derek Gustafson, the new principal of Stadium Elementary School

Western Hills Middle School:

We are so pleased to welcome Mr. Mark Thibault to Western Hills Middle School where he will be an assistant principal. Mr. Thibault comes to us from outside the district and he shared a little bit about his background with us.

"I received my Bachelor of Science from the University of Rhode Island, my Master of Arts in Human Development from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, and my Master of Education in School Leadership from Providence College," he said. "I have enjoyed working with students in various settings throughout the last three decades. I began my career at Ocean Tides Child & Family Services. I worked in an alternative learning program at the East Providence School District. I served as the district's crisis prevention instructor and later operated a conflict resolution center at the East Providence High School. Most recently, I served as the Vice Principal of Student Life at Saint Raphael Academy for the last 11 years. I also coached youth sports and was the Assistant Boys' Soccer Coach at Saints from 2014 to 2019."

Mr. Thibault shared with us some of the things he enjoys when he's not at work.

"My wife, Brenda, and I have three adult children and one granddaughter," he said. "I enjoy hiking, traveling, beaches, and dogs. I also like watching New England sports teams and RI FC. Most of all, I enjoy watching students compete in athletic events or showcase their talents in theatrical performances. As a former high school soccer coach and administrator, I know firsthand the Cranston School District's rich history of athletic excellence."

Marc is very excited to be at Western Hills Middle School.

"My goal as a school leader has always been to build authentic relationships based on trust, respect, and integrity," he said. "I aim to foster a positive learning environment that values each person's unique strengths and promotes growth and a sense of belonging. I am passionate about working collaboratively with students, parents, colleagues, and community members to ensure every person in our school community achieves their true potential."

WESTERN HILLS: Marc Thibault, the new assistant principal of Western Hills Middle School

Welcoming Week



BEING SILLY: All ages got to have fun at the annual Camp Carnival where campers can pie their favorite counselors. (Submitted photos)

YMCA
branches
introduce
programs,
show off
facilities to
newcomers



CULTURAL DISPLAY: A multi-cultural display will welcome Kent County YMCA visitors.

By
**JOHN
HOWELL**

The Greater Providence YMCA is on a mission next week to welcome people from around the world and across the state. That's the reason for wall-size global maps at the Y's six branches as the organization celebrates Welcome Week, Sept. 13-22.

Karen Santilli, CEO of the Greater Providence YMCA, is looking for first time visitors as well as members to place dots or pins on the maps as part of introducing themselves to the community. And, by all means even if you're not a recent Rhode Island resident or an Ocean State native, you're welcome.

"If you're not a current member, stop in and check it out," said Santilli. To boot, the Y offers incentives to both members welcoming new members and to prospective members.

During the week current members can earn one month of free membership for each person they refer who signs up to be a member at any GPYMCA branch, while new members will benefit from a waived joining fee (\$97 for a family and \$66 for a single membership). To take advantage of the promotion new members must sign up in person at the branch they want to join.

Naturally, the Y is seeking to build membership that took a hard hit during the pandemic when it closed many programs at its branches and laid off more than 400 employees.

■ YMCA - PAGE 16



WELCOMING NEWCOMERS: The Cranston YMCA at 1225 Park Ave. encourages newcomers to visit.

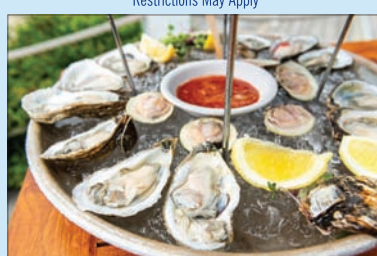
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BEETLEJUICE BEETLEJUICE

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Joyce & Don
Fowler

Movies

WARWICK SHOWCASE

BEETLEJUICE BEETLEJUICE

(Sequel-36 years later)

It is never too late for a sequel, even if most of the audience wasn't born when the original was released.

Tim Burton's macabre mind again works overtime in this weird look at the strange creature who appears when you say his name three times.

Michael Keaton reprises the role, and he is as good as ever, even if he is not given enough time on screen to do his thing.

This time around three generations of women return to the eerie house that Beetlejuice haunted.

Winona Ryder returns as the mother of a doubting daughter, who can't accept her mother hosting a paranormal TV show.

The plot gets a bit muddled at times as Beetlejuice becomes both the predator and the prey.

There are great special effects and fascinating characters, including a woman who returns from the afterlife by stitching her body back together, and the adorable Bob.

The movie takes us to the weird world of the afterlife and finally to a church where a bizarre marriage is about to take place, while in the background "MacArthur Park" is blasted out. The strange line "someone left the cake out in the rain" is given new interpretation as the movie concludes in complete chaos.

While not as good as the original, but better than the Broadway musical, "Beetlejuice Beetlejuice" is fun to watch with all the fascinating characters and special effects.

Just don't try to make any sense out of it.

Roger Williams Park Zoo hosts
Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular: Trivia Edition,
Sept. 27-Nov. 2

Photos courtesy of the Roger Williams Park Zoo. These images are representative of previous years and not specific examples from the 2024 Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular.

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New England's favorite fall tradition unveils a brand-new twist this year at Roger Williams Park Zoo's Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular—Trivia Edition, presented by Citizens.

Guests will trek through the captivating world of tricky trivia as they embark on a journey through brain-teasing questions while strolling past 1000s of creatively carved pumpkins.

From pop culture to sports to history, they can test their knowledge and enjoy the magic of fall at Roger Williams Park Zoo.

All tickets are timed, available only online, and must be purchased in advance (except sensory nights).

Ticket Information

Prime Nights (Friday, Saturday, Sunday): Tickets must be purchased online in advance. Adult: \$22 | Child (ages 2-12): \$19 | Toddlers 1 and under: Free

Value Nights (Monday through Thursday): Tickets must be purchased online in advance. Adult: \$19 | Child (ages 2-12): \$16 | Toddlers 1 and under: Free

Member Discounts: Zoo members save \$2 off adult tickets and \$1 off child tickets every night. Tickets must be purchased online.

Special Nights

Family Fun Nights: Oct. 8 and 9, 6-8 p.m. (*the line will shut down at 7:45 p.m.). Enjoy a meet-and-greet with the 501st Star Wars Costume Club before starting on a

pumpkin adventure. Included in the price of admission.

Sensory-Friendly Nights: Oct. 22 and 23, from 5-6 p.m. Designed for individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and sensory processing differences, this special night features 5,000 illuminated pumpkins without music or special effects. Discounted tickets for sensory-friendly nights are available for purchase in person only at the Zoo's admissions booth.

The Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular is open rain or shine. In the case of light to moderate rain, the event will continue as scheduled with no refunds or rescheduling. Please check the zoo's website or Facebook page for updates.

Proceeds from the Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular support Roger Williams Park Zoo's ongoing animal care, educational programs, and conservation initiatives. Thank you for contributing to our mission to save wildlife and wild places!

For information and to purchase tickets: <https://www.rwpzoo.org/jols>

Roger Williams Park Zoo is Rhode Island's number one outdoor family and tourist attraction and a leader in conservation efforts undertaken by a zoo of its size. As leaders in conservation and animal care – we create engaging experiences that empower guests to join us in conserving wildlife and wild places. Roger Williams Park Zoo is supported and managed by the Rhode Island Zoological Society and is owned by the City of Providence.



GAMMA RAGE
(Submitted photo by James Lastowski)

Gamma Rage gives off serious amplification with self-titled debut album

By ROBERT DUGUAY

It's no secret that Providence has had a vibrant rock music scene for a very long time. Just go out to any venue in the city, or in the surrounding areas, on a weekend night out, and you're bound to see a group of musicians with loud riffs, pulsating drums and an emphatic sound. Every once in a while, a few established folks within this community get together to start a fresh new project. Gamma Rage is a prime example of this. Led by Cranston native Malysa BellaRosa on vocals and featuring guitarist Chris Devona, bassist Dwayne Voelker and drummer Joe Rousseau, this quintet has an approach that echoes '70s heavy metal and fuses it with a modern alt-rock vibe. Their upcoming self-titled debut album that's due out on Sept. 13 is a stellar example of this.

Along with most of the core members being involved in each track, they also had a few special guests involved. These include guitarist Andrew Labossiere from the Pawtucket alt-rock trio Eclectic Electric, fellow local guitar wizard Adrian Greenbaum, drummer Mike DelleFemine from the Providence rockers Kyodie, drummer Eric Lindahl, who is formerly of the local metal act Throne of Saturn, and the late drummer Nick Iddon with the album being one of the last recordings he was a part of before his untimely passing in 2022.

"I am so excited about this album," BellaRosa says. "It has been a long time coming. We have one cover song on here, 'Glory Box' by Portishead that is one of my favorite songs of all time! Another one of our songs, 'Wake Me', was mixed at Invada Studios, a brand new recording studio situated in a historic building in the heart of Bristol, England. It was born from the ashes of Geoff Barrow's SOA

Studios, who was home to Portishead for over 20 years."

"A bunch of the songs were recorded at Mad Oak Studios in Boston with most of them being mixed by Ben Grotto," she adds. "I think this album sounds amazing and I'm super impressed with the quality of it. Our current drummer Joe Rousseau doesn't appear on the album, but Nick Iddon is on more than half of these songs and his drumming is impeccable. That makes this album even more special."

Along with the two tunes BellaRosa mentioned, there are numerous others within the album that are worth checking out. This includes "Gloom," which has a serious stoner rock aesthetic with sheer emphasis that has Iddon's drumming serving as the rock solid foundation. "Scorch-er" lives up to its name with a consistent amount of energy coming through the instrumentation and arrangements from beginning to end. With an outlying structure, "SCP 3000" has a unique dynamic that's created from both DelleFemine and BellaRosa. Their alternating vocals make for a nice departure from the rest of the record while adding a different tone.

In celebration of their full-length debut, Gamma Rage is having a release show at the News Cafe on 43 Broad St. in Pawtucket on Sept. 20. Adapter Adapter, Magic Thinking Ape and Ambergris are going to be rounding out the bill with the party starting a little after 8 p.m. If you're looking to listen to the album ahead of the gig, log onto Gamma Rage's Bandcamp page at gammaraage.bandcamp.com on the day of the release. While you're at it, follow the act either on Facebook at facebook.com/GammaRage or on Instagram at instagram.com/gammaraageband. Make sure to dive into this record when it comes out because it's an absolute ripper.

2 hospital inmates left to own devices, meet their demise

Within the written Public Laws of Rhode Island, in its "Act for the Restraining and Care of the Insane," those residents hospitalized with mental illness are referred to as "lunatics" and "mad persons." Restrained at institutions allegedly for their own safety as well as that of others, some inmates were allowed to simply depart for days or weeks at a time at their leisure.

Inmates of the Rhode Island State Hospital for Mental Diseases in Cranston were allowed to temporarily leave the hospital grounds for visits to area attractions, day trips or extended stays at the homes of family members. These excursions were permitted by way of a parole card issued by hospital authorities.

Twenty-three-year-old Lester Howard Matteson, the son of William and Elizabeth (Vaughn) Matteson and a former Navy sailor, was admitted to the State Hospital for Mental Diseases in Feb. of 1932. William Matteson was a fireman who lived with his wife and five children at 1411 Main St. in West Warwick – a home which Lester frequently left the hospital to go and enjoy long stays during the seven months he spent as an inmate at the insane hospital.

Nineteen-year-old Roy Soucie, son of Edmund and Annie (Pelletier) Soucie and a former odd jobber, had been admitted to the hospital from his

Back in the Day



by
KELLY SULLIVAN

home at 2 Pontiac Ave. in Natick in 1930. He also returned home often to spend significant periods of time away from the hospital. On the afternoon of Sept. 5, 1932, Soucie and Matteson were given permission to leave the hospital grounds together in order to visit Roger Williams Park in Providence. The men left on their adventure – and never returned to the facility.

The following day at about 5 p.m., 17-year-old Mary Lombardi, daughter of Vincenzo and Felicia Lombardi of Wakefield Avenue in Natick, took her two little brothers and a young male neighbor, Benjamin Straight, to a swimming hole in the woods along Palmer's Brook near the Cranston-West Warwick line. There, Mary sighted a man lying on the bank of the

river as if sleeping, and another floating lifelessly in about 4 feet of water. Mary left the location and police were notified.

Matteson had his head rested upon two rolled up sweaters. Soucie's body was removed from the brook. Both men were fully dressed except for their sweaters, which cradled Matteson's head. Inside their pockets, police found the parole cards for Roger Williams Park, which was situated about eight miles away. The medical examiner determined that Soucie had drowned and that Matteson had pulled himself out of the water and up the hill where he expired from exhaustion.

Soucie was laid to rest in Saint Joseph's Cemetery in West Warwick. Matteson was buried in Saint Mary Cemetery in West Warwick. It couldn't be determined what made the two men wander into the brook fully clothed although they may have done so in the dark by accident. It was estimated that their lives had expired either early that morning or the previous evening. They may have been attempting to make their way through the darkness back to the State Hospital for Mental Diseases, where someone had made a fatal error in allowing them to leave the grounds unsupervised.

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

ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local Adoptable Loveable

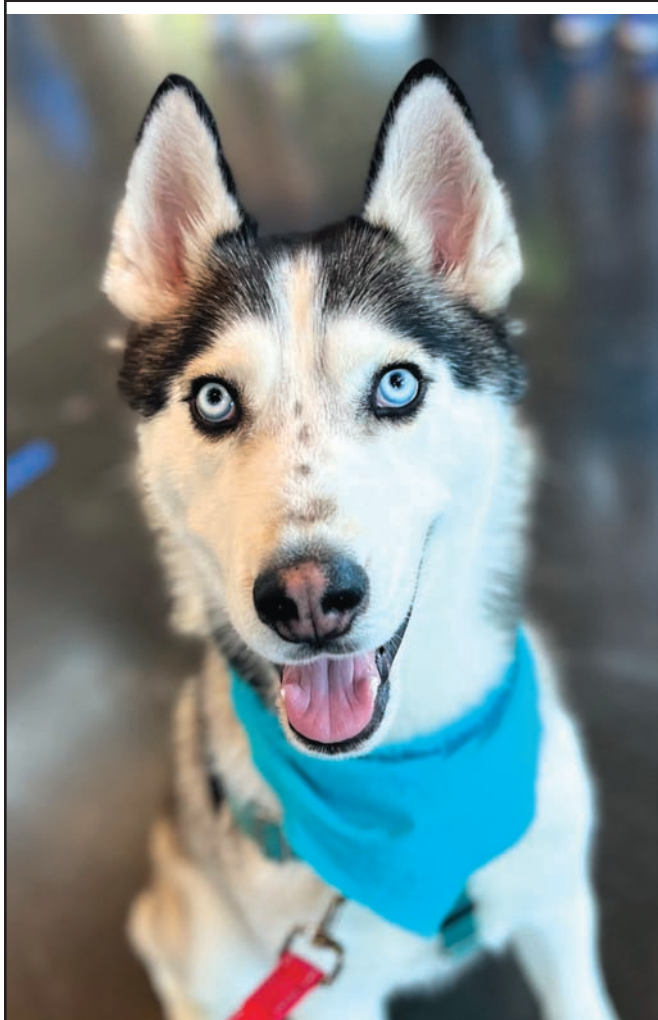


Photo credit: Donna Normand

Ken

Attention Husky lovers!! This handsome boy appropriately named Ken because he is a doll, is ready to join your family! Ken is a year and a half old with the brightest blue eyes you've ever seen! He has that Husky zest for life and he loves to be active! He'd love a big fenced in yard or a hiking partner, he's ready for life's adventures with you! If you have been searching for a true beauty and a pup who will be your loyal, loving companion then Ken is waiting for you at Rhode Home Rescue. Please contact them at rhodehomerescue@gmail.com or visit their website for more information at www.rhodehomerescue.org for more information. Get ready to live life to the fullest with Ken by your side!

If you are thinking of adopting or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at animaltalk1920@gmail.com



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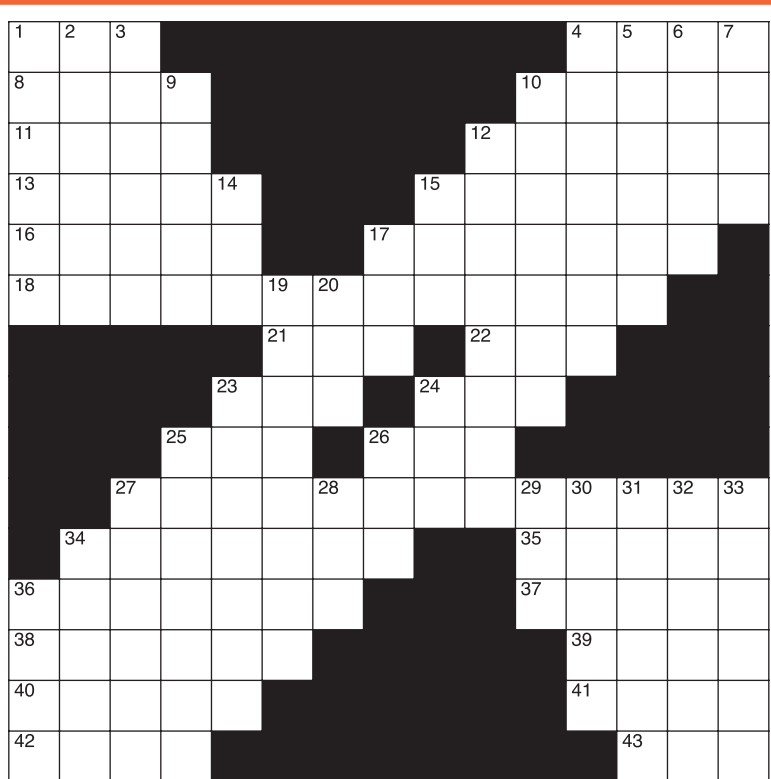
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AT HOME IN THE POOL: Youthful swimmers (above) exhibit their enthusiasm for the sport in this photo from the Cranston YMCA website.

BEING CREATIVE: Lillyana Gonzalez (left) is delighted with what she's created at the kids' program at the Kent County YMCA. (Submitted photos)

CROSSWORD
PUZZLE CORNER



- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Engine additive
 - 4. A type of test
 - 8. Curtail
 - 10. Irish surname
 - 11. The opposite of good
 - 12. Got rid of
 - 13. Central parts of a church building
 - 15. Stylistically
 - 16. Intestinal
 - 17. Negative potential outcomes
 - 18. Lived up to a standard
 - 21. Snag
 - 22. Time units (abbr.)
 - 23. Ad ____
 - 24. "Partridge" actress Susan
 - 25. For each
 - 26. ____ Paulo, city
 - 27. League titles
 - 34. More intensely black
- 35. Slang for lovely
 - 36. Petrarch is known for them
 - 37. Old Eurasian wheat
 - 38. Body part
 - 39. Swedish rock group
 - 40. They're worth avoiding
 - 41. Rising and falling of the voice
 - 42. Wings
 - 43. Enzyme import for respiration

CLUES DOWN

 - 1. Idyllic
 - 2. South Pacific island nations
 - 3. Shrub of the olive family
 - 4. Boundaries
 - 5. Encircle
 - 6. Weights
 - 7. Samberg is one
 - 9. Sheep sound
 - 10. European country
- 12. Respected group of people
 - 14. Trigraph
 - 15. Prosecutors
 - 17. Assign a nickname
 - 19. Huge size
 - 20. Partner to cheese
 - 23. Fastballs
 - 24. Principle underlying the universe
 - 25. Distinct units of sound
 - 26. Title of respect
 - 27. Against
 - 28. Foot (Latin)
 - 29. One point east of due south
 - 30. Concerning the blood
 - 31. Type of pentameter
 - 32. North American peoples
 - 33. Layers of rock
 - 34. Georges ____, French philosopher
 - 36. Lengthy tale

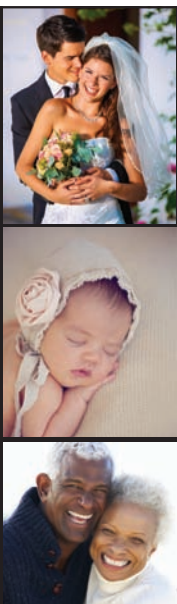
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■ YMCA
(Continued from page 13)

Santilli says the membership "is slowly but surely" building. The Y's six branches have a combined membership of 32,153. Kent with 117 acres off Centerville Road in Warwick is the largest of branches with 9,302 members. Cranston has 5,104 members.

But there's more to Welcoming Week than building membership.

"It's a meaningful way to express our gratitude to our current members for their ongoing support," said Santilli. In addition she said the celebration, "Allows us to welcome new individuals and families into our community and invite them to experience the wide range of programs and services the GPYMCA provides. Our goal is to foster a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone can benefit from a healthy lifestyle and a strong community connection."

So what can newcomers expect to find at the Kent branch?

Branch director Scott Medeiros said there would be activities planned for group exercise classes, child care, voter registration

on Sept. 16, cultural food tasting on Sept. 18 from 4 to 6 p.m.; field trips, cultural displays and, of course, the map.

While summer weather lingers, the Kent Y spray park is closed for the season. The park was a welcome attraction to newcomers this summer. Asked what he thought would be of interest to families new to the Y, Medeiros focused on child care while parents work out.

"There is something for everybody," he said. The Y also offers financial aid for its programs and memberships.

The Cranston YMCA located at 1225 Park Ave. likewise has a range of activities to celebrate Welcome Week. The Cranston Y is widely known as the Ocean State's first adaptive fitness facility with a range of adaptive equipment. The Y was a competitive-size indoor swimming pool and offers cardio and strength training circuits, group exercise classes and indoor basketball courts.

As for the global map, Medeiros said, the intention is to illustrate the diversity of the Y and its inclusiveness.

"Join our community in placing a pin in the country that signifies your ethnicity, or a county that signifies nationality," Medeiros urged.



GREAT TO COOL OFF: In addition to an indoor swimming pool, the Kent County Y branch offers a spray park and pond swimming.





CHUCK WENTWORTH
(Courtesy of Rhythm & Roots)

Chuck Wentworth’s legacy lives at Rhythm & Roots

Festival dates announced for 2025

By DON FOWLER

For the past 26 years, Chuck Wentworth gave his time and energy to making the annual Labor Day weekend Rhythm & Roots Festival one of the best music festivals in Rhode Island.

With Chuck’s untimely passing in April, hundreds of volunteers, as well as GoodWorks Entertainment, picked up the gauntlet to help continue the tradition.

This year’s festival saw record attendance and outstanding talent, from festival regulars like Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys and Pine Leaf Boys to newcomers like Larkin Poe and Drive-By Truckers to music icon Emmylou Harris.

The Chuck Wentworth Foundation was announced at

the festival, as the founder of the event was honored.

The foundation hopes to support young musicians by providing instruments, offering music lessons and organizing musical showcases.

Chuck’s daughter, Caitlin, organized the foundation and established a website, www.chuckwentworth.com, to raise funds and inform the public.

People are encouraged to visit the website to sign up for the newsletter and contribute to the foundation. Caitlin is asking for silent auction items, raffle baskets and volunteers with fundraising or event planning experience.

GoodWorks announced the dates for next year’s festival to be held again at Ninigret Park in Charlestown on Aug. 29, 30 and 31. The festival will begin at 1 p.m. all three days.

Edgewood Community Picnic this Sunday

By DON FOWLER



Edgewood Congregational Church is located at 1788 Broad St. (Photo courtesy of edgewoodchurchri.org)

The Edgewood Congregational Church is holding a Community Picnic this Sunday, Sept. 15 at 11 a.m. on the church grounds at 1788 Broad St. in Cranston.

The historic building has become a vibrant hub in the neighborhood, serving three congregations, three scout troops, two schools (You Rock! School of Music and the Rhode Island Chess School) a Tai chi group, and numerous community and support groups, including AA.

Join church and community members from Edgewood and nearby Providence and Warwick and meet your neighbors you may or may not already know.

Meat, veggie items and drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring a dish to share.

The church building has been a gathering place for a variety of activities over the years. Most recently it opened Lydia’s Closet, over six rooms of low-cost items for sale, including clothing, furniture, household items, books and much more.

The church has formed a planning group to envision the building’s future, seeking ways and means to be even more of a community resource and asset, making the facilities more accessible for everyone, from children to senior citizens.

Come and join us.

Some tipping points

This past weekend, my husband and I went to the Cape to celebrate his birthday. It’s one of our favorite spots and has been ever since we honeymooned there so many years ago.

The hotel we stayed at was beautiful, and the best part was that breakfast was included. It was my favorite kind of breakfast, where I could make my own waffle and decorate it with all kinds of icing—lemon/lime, cherry, chocolate. I even wrote “Happy Birthday Hubby” on the waffle and smothered the edges with whipped cream. The breakfast buffet also had crispy bacon (my favorite!) and lots of fresh fruit. It was such a delicious start to a special day.

When we left the hotel room, my husband, as usual, left a five-dollar tip in front of the television for the maid. It got me thinking about how much the tip should be these days, especially since so many people pay with credit cards and rarely have cash, me included. After doing a bit of research online, I found that the suggested tip for a maid is typically two to three dollars per night, so his five dollars was right on target.

I also learned that it’s best to leave the tip every morning to ensure that the maid who actually cleans the room gets it. This cleared up a concern I’ve always had—what if one maid works Monday through Friday and another on the weekend? If we only leave the tip on Sunday when we

Life Matters



with
LINDA PETERSEN

check out, the weekend maid benefits, but the one who works all week might not. Unless, of course, the maids have some kind of agreement to share tips, similar to how waitresses sometimes do. This new understanding makes a lot of sense and helps ensure fairness.

I was a waitress for almost 10 years at Newport Creamery, first at Midland Mall, and then in Newport after I got married and moved to Portsmouth. Tips were an essential part of our wages since the restaurant paid us much less than minimum wage at the time. Being smiley, conscientious, and quick on my feet, I was fortunate to earn a high percentage of tips, which really helped. It was a great feeling to know my hard work was appreciated and rewarded, and I loved to watch the change add up. Because the bulk of the customers sat at the counter, and because this happened some 50 years ago, the tips

were generally in change, although every now and then a one-dollar tip would appear, causing a little skip in my heartbeat. Because I would wait on 100 or so customers, the tips added up to be quite a bit. Also, we had an understanding that tips left by customers after our shift ended would be saved and given to us. It was always exciting to go into work and find a little plastic cup filled with four or five dollars in change waiting for me. I would have great fun at home rolling the coins, celebrating with each 20 dollar roll of quarters.

It seems the percentage of suggested tipping has gone up, with 20% being the average. To facilitate tipping for people who do not excel in math, the restaurants now put suggested tip amounts on the bottom of the receipt so it can easily be added to the bill when using a charge card, usually providing amounts for 15%, 20%, and 25%. Easy peasy.

Tipping seems to be more common now, even at fast food places. I always assumed the workers were getting at least minimum wage, so it doesn’t feel like a necessity, but I usually go along with it because, well, I’m compliant by nature. I tipped when I picked up a pizza the other day, when I treated hubby and me to ice cream sundaes, and even at the Chinese take-out. I guess, in a way, I’m paying it forward for all those tips I earned so many years ago.

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BACK TO SCHOOL IN CRANSTON



LAST FIRST DAY: Ava Thurber, CHSW class of 2025, celebrates her "last first day" of school. (Photo courtesy Cheryl Richard Thurber)



SENIOR ON BOARD: Alex Tremblay decorated his car to celebrate the first day of senior year at Cranston West. (Photo courtesy Sigurborg Ragnarsdóttir)



LUCKY SEVEN: Anna Lovenbury on her first day 7th grade at Western Hills. (Photo courtesy Angela Smith Lovenbury)

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Cranston Herald asked readers to send in their back to school photos. The response was amazing. This is already our second full page of photo submissions. If you have a back to school photo you'd like to share, please send it in. There's still time. We'll run a photo spread each week for the first month of school if we get enough submissions. Send photos to Herald Editor Rory Schuler at rorys@rhodybeat.com.



SCHOOL'S BACK IN: From left to right: Nina Mitchell starts 7th grade at Western Hills, while Molly and Sadie Mitchell head off to Cranston West for 9th and 12th grade. (Photo courtesy Chryssa Mitchell)



OAK LAWN K: Demetra Moschetti (L-Kindergarten Teacher Assistant) and Dayna Cianci-Hudick (R-Kindergarten Teacher) on their students' first day at Oak Lawn Elementary. (Photo courtesy Demetra Psilopoulos Moschetti)



MIDDLE SCHOOL: Emmaline Stevens on her first day of grade 6 at WHMS. (Photo courtesy Sarah Sousa Stevens)



ENTHUSIASM CURBED: Eleanor Thomas, 3rd Grade, and Anna Thomas, 1st Grade, show off their backpacks on their first day at Oak Lawn School. (Photo courtesy Camille Pietros Thomas)



BULLDOG PRIDE: Emmalee Letendre, 5th grade, and Kira Marsocci, 2nd Grade, show their "bulldog pride" at Garden City Elementary. (Photo courtesy Kristine Hebert)



JUNIOR INCOMING: Ryan Thurber begins junior year at CHSW. (Photo courtesy Cheryl Richard Thurber)

BACK TO SCHOOL IN CRANSTON



STARTING NINTH GRADE: Kylee Letendre starts 9th grade at Cranston West High School. (Photo courtesy Kristine Hebert)



SOPHOMORE START: Lily Stromberg poses for a photo ahead of her sophomore year at Ponaganset High School. (Photo courtesy Lori Stromberg)



THE BROTHERS ARE BACK: Liam and Patrick DeRosa begin their senior and sophomore years at CHSE. (Photo courtesy Brianne DeRosa)

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By JENNIFER COATES

The expression “Home is where the heart is” is an oft-repeated phrase that is both familiar and evocative to all who hear it. Whenever these words are uttered, they immediately evoke the sentiment that no matter where life takes you, you can be “at home” as long as you are surrounded by the people and things you love. Home can truly be wherever you rest your heart.

As we age, the concept of “home” will often change. Perhaps we are no longer able to remain in the home where we raised our families. Perhaps we need more help than the independent lives we once led. Perhaps we need to eschew the possessions we once accumulated in our homes and embrace a simpler life, instead savoring time spent with loved ones and making new acquaintances. Life and “home” may change, but they can also be better as we go along.

“Life getting better” and creating “places where the heart can settle in” are part of the mission of The Preserve at Briarcliffe. The Preserve is the newest addition to the Briarcliffe family. Opened in June of 2021, this thoughtfully designed senior living residence is home to seniors looking for this simpler, stress-free life. A life of security, peace of mind, comfort, opportunity, and freedom. A “new” home that caters to their every want and need.

Each of The Preserve’s sixty-six apartments is designed to meet the specific needs of those who are either completely independent or who require assistance with such basic needs as medication management or help with simple, everyday activities. It is the ultimate in senior living, known in the industry as a Continuing Catered Retirement Community (CCRC).

The Preserve’s apartments come in six different floor plans including 330 square foot studio apartments and one-bedroom units. Each apartment has a kitchenette (complete



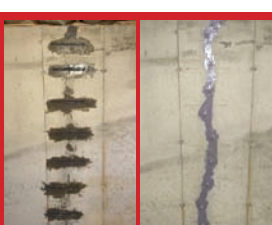
The Preserve at Briarcliffe is a warm, inviting retirement community located in Johnston. If you or a loved one is considering a new home, visit one of their apartments, including this studio apartment with its thoughtfully-planned bathroom and kitchenette.

with quartz countertops, small-scale refrigerators, and a microwave), “European-style” bathrooms for safe and easy access (complete with barrier free showers, grab bars and two emergency alarm pull stations), wheelchair-width doors for those with mobility challenges, and access to the outdoors. Each apartment is individually controlled for heat and air-conditioning. Every room is bathed in natural sunlight.

Every amenity here at The Preserve has been carefully curated. Restaurant-style dining with restaurant quality food, housekeeping, landscaped grounds to explore, a full-service

salon and fitness center, laundry service and cozy lounges where scheduled activities and entertainment are held. There is a library and game room for family gatherings. Though transportation is provided, there is hardly ever a reason to leave!

Now is the time to schedule a tour of your “new home” at The Briarcliffe, Preserve located in a leafy corner of the city at 54 Old Pocasset Road. To arrange for your tour, call Stefany Reed at 401.944.2450 ext. 202 or visit their informational website at www.briarclifferi.com.



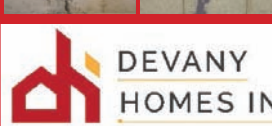
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Sports

Bolts close out strong preseason

East football takes down Moses Brown in injury fund

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Cranston East football team is looking to make some noise in its new division this fall and has done just that in the early going, as it topped Moses Brown 14-0 in last week's injury fund exhibition to close out the preseason.

East has been rebuilding since the departure of longtime coach Tom Centore and is coming off a one-win season last year. The Bolts were dropped to Division III in the Rhode Island Interscholastic League's latest alignment and also hired new head coach Jim Cook, who helped revitalize Ponaganset's program.

Although the injury fund contest did not count toward either team's record, the Bolts turned heads as they were in control from start to finish against the Quakers, who reached the playoffs last season and won the DIII Super Bowl back in 2022.

"We made a ton of mistakes and we need to get better every week, but they played together. They played as a team so I'm proud of that," said Cook, who has seen the team start to turn the corner as the regular season gets set to kick off this week. "It was a tough transition (in the first practices), but once we started getting over that



READY TO ROLL: East's Saqari Monroe (31) and Logan Enos (54) last week. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

■ BOLTS - PAGE 20



WELCOME HOME: West's Brooklyn Carreiro (left). (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

Falcons win home opener

By ALEX SPONSELLER

After dropping a tough opening day decision to Westerly, the Cranston West girls soccer team would bounce back to hold off Lincoln 2-1 in the home opener last week.

West got on the board early when junior Saniyya Chase found the back of the

net. Chase would double the West lead late in the half with a header to give the Falcons the 2-0 advantage.

Although the Lions got on the board in the second half and pressured the West defense down the stretch, the Falcons

■ FALCONS - PAGE 20

Athlete of the Week: Saniyya Chase

The Cranston Herald's first Athlete of the Week of the fall is Cranston West junior soccer player Saniyya Chase. After a breakout season in basketball as a sophomore, Chase is now making noise in soccer as she has accounted for three of the team's first five goals of the year through two league games. Chase scored the team's only goals in its home opener against Lincoln last week.



Roundup: East boys power past Kilties

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Cranston East boys soccer team rolled past Mt. Pleasant 5-1. The Bolts were led by Fabricio Mariscal with a pair of goals while Mateo Zurita, Gabriel Leon and Jeff Derosier also found the back of the net.

Alvaro Ortega-Reyes earned the win, allowing one goal and stopping 5 shots.

The Bolts improved to 2-1-1 with the win.

West 1, Mt. Hope 1

The Falcons and Huskies played to a tie last Friday night. West got its lone goal from Tyler Gesualdi while Alex Arroyo recorded an assist. Keeper Jack Payne made 5 saves in net.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL West 3, Cumberland 1

The Falcons earned a win on Monday night and were led by Olivia Venagro, who registered 7 kills, 4 aces and 16 assists. Sarah Crowley added 12 kills in the win as well.



TWO GOALS: East's Fabricio Mariscal, who scored two goals against Mt. Pleasant. (Photo by Mike Zawistoski)

Keeping the regular season local

I've got to admit, I am not a fan of out-of-state football games at the high school level.

Sure, there is certainly a level of intrigue watching our teams square off against other teams that we are often unfamiliar with. I am not saying it's all bad. But, it's becoming more prevalent each passing season and I am not thrilled with it.

Now, Hendricken and La Salle always play out-of-state opponents, but this year, each of their schedules is a near 50-50 mix of Rhode Island and other states. Some of it from my understanding is a push to level out the playing field in Rhode Island, which I believe is utterly ridiculous.

My pitch



by
ALEX
SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR

ALEXS@
RHODYBEAT.COM

It is an old topic that I have discussed in several of my columns, but I still roll my eyes when hearing people try to remove these two teams from the RIIL. I was totally against the state championship division that the league came up with a few years back, and I was

thrilled this fall when the new alignment opened up Division I from the 4-team layout it assumed in the previous alignment. I hate small divisions, to be frank.

Look at Central last season. Although the Knights were unable to seal the deal against the champion Hawks, they played them tight in each game and were a bounce or two away from pulling off the upsets, including the state semifinals where they took them to overtime. North Kingstown also played the Hawks tough in their regular season meeting which required a fourth-quarter push from Hendricken to get the job

■ PITCH - PAGE 21

Shellfish Advisory Panel meeting coming up

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

The Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council will hold their Shellfish Advisory Panel meeting Wednesday, September 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Topics on the agenda include shellfish harvest seasons for Greenwich Bay, Bissel Cove/Fox Island and Bristol Harbor; DEM Office of Water Resources, Shellfish Program water quality update FYI only or recommendation for future agenda items; and Providence River SMA 2024 harvest summary update FYI only or recommendation for future agenda items.

For agenda details and background information visit the Division's calendar page, go to Sept. 18, at Public Meetings Calendar | Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (ri.gov).

This meeting will be in-person for Panel members and those wishing to attend in-person at the URI Bay Campus, Coastal Institute, Hazard Room, South Ferry Road, Narragansett.

The Zoom webinar link for the meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940205762?pwd=ARLF8SzQnRPyEpTDRhmymX1DQb0RMS.1> [us02web.zoom.us]. The dial in listen only number for the meeting is 1-929-205-6099.

Fly fishing classes for adults

The Aquatic Resource Education Program of the RI Department of Environmental management will hold their annual adult Introduction to Saltwater Fly Fishing Workshop, Saturday, Sept. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Narrow River, Narragansett at the Sprague Bridge parking area. Volunteer instructors start at 8 a.m.

Learn fly casting, knots, fly choice and more from some of the area's best fly instructors. Instruction on land in the morning then you get to test your newly learned skills fishing in Narrow River in the afternoon.

All equipment will be provided including fly rods, reels, and waders (if reserved). The cost of the program is \$30/person which includes a box lunch.

I took this introductory session two years ago and learned how to fly fish. And then caught fish on a fly rod that afternoon. No fish guaranteed but this is a program worth considering.

Expert fly fishing guide Ed Lombardo will lead volunteer instructors from fly fishing clubs throughout the region.

To register email Kimberly Sullivan at Kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov or call her at 401.539.0037.

Massachusetts Summer Flounder Fishery Closure

Effective Sept. 6, commercial fishing vessels are prohibited from landing summer flounder in Massachusetts for the remainder of the 2024 fishing year, unless additional quota becomes available through a transfer and is announced in the Federal Register.

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries closed the state fishery starting on Aug. 28, 2024. So, NOAA is closing the Federal summer flounder commercial fishery in Massachusetts to align with the closure of the state fishery and promote consistency between state and Federal management measures.

For more details, read the Federal Register website at Federal Register :: Public Inspection: Fisheries of the Northeastern United States: Summer Flounder Fishery; 2024 Commercial Quota Harvested for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Where's the bite?

Freshwater. The largemouth bite is good a night when cooler and in the day in the lower water column as the water is warm on the surface. This is changing as the water is cooling.

Striped bass, bluefish, bonito. East End Eddie Doherty, Cape Cod Canal fishing expert and author, said, "Fishing had slowed down until last weekend's new moon changed our luck. Birds are diving for bunker with loads of rain bait everywhere as fish are breaking up and down the Canal. "Wild Willi" Williams was bouncing a green mack Savage off the bottom a couple of hours before first light when he was hit hard as an intense battle ensued and he fished a 27-pound striper to the rocks through the east flood tide, then reeled in another linesider that weighed 20 pounds."

"Inshore fishing for Striped Bass and Hickory shad has been very poor to say the least this year. We fished Narrow River yesterday, the Breachway last week ,the three of us fished very hard, many spots that usually hold fish, but nothing, not even a strike! The bait has finally arrived but no fish. Some of my friends who fish the beach at night have had some success, but not that well. Hopefully, the best times are ahead, mid-September to December," said Ed Lombardo, expert fly fishing guide

"Mixed reports of bonito and false albacore popping up along the south shore out to Block Island. Various colored epoxy jigs and metals seem to be working well. Still a larger volume of bonito around than albies. Stripers are moving around chasing



TAUTOG BITE: John Migliori with the 7.42 pound, 21-inch tautog he caught from shore this weekend on Aquidneck Island. (Submitted photo)

bait. Some bigger fish are being caught in the pond. They have been eating soft plastics and top water spoons. Eels at night seem to still be producing well. Around the Charlestown Breachway the bite is best at night. Schools of bass have been seen cruising through during the day. Bait is all over the place, rain bait, silver sides, peanut bunker, bunker, mullet, snapper and more," said Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown.

Fluke (summer flounder), black sea bass and scup. The black sea bass bite off Newport was good this week with keeper size fish being caught in the Rose Island area, Brenton Reef and off the Sakonnet River. "The fluke reports held up strong this week with anglers still doing well locally with a few nice size fish over 5 lb's coming in," said O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle.

Tautog. I fished for tautog in the General Rock area last week and caught just short tautog (under the 16-inch minimum size),

monster scup and multiple black sea bass. Angler John Migliori of Aquidneck Island caught a 7.46 pound, 21-inch tautog this weekend from shore. It was his first keeper of the year.

Bluefin tuna. The school bluefin tuna bite continues to be good offshore. "Tuna reports have been good for those that have been able to get out. Still a fair amount of bluefin in close with a few larger ones around. Yellowfin have been on the outskirts with anglers occasionally hooked them. Mahi can be found on high flyers and around floating debris," said O'Donnell.

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



FLY FISHING EXPERT: Fly fishing sharpie Ed Lombardo will lead an expert team of fly instructors at a workshop later this month.

Macera named LEC Player of Week

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Rhode Island College fifth-year Lauren Macera (Cranston) and freshman Haylie Peacock (West Gardiner, Maine) were recognized for their respective performances in a pair of Anchorwomen wins in women's tennis last week.

Macera was named the Little East Women's Tennis Player of the Week. She went 2-0 at No. 1 singles and 2-0 at No. 1 doubles as RIC bested Curry, 9-0, on Sept. 5 and Bridge-water State on Sept. 7. For the season, she is 3-0 at No. 1 singles and 3-0 at primarily No. 1 doubles.

Peacock was named the Little East Women's Tennis Rookie of the Week. She went 2-0 at both No. 4 singles and No. 2 doubles. Peacock is 3-0 at primarily No. 4 singles and No. 2 doubles on the season.

Head Coach Adam Spring's team is 3-0 over-

all and 1-0 in the Little East.

Oliver named runner of week

Rhode Island College junior Haley Oliver (Coventry) was named the Little East Women's Cross Country Runner of the Week for her performance at the Trinity Invitational on Sept. 7.

Oliver finished sixth (19:49.60) over the 5k course among a field of 130 runners at Wickham Park on Saturday.

RIC finished 11th (11 teams) with a team score of 300.0. Connecticut College won the event with a team score of 45.0.

In upcoming action, Rhode Island College will compete at the UMass Dartmouth Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 21 (noon).

RIC volleyball falls to Westfield
Freshman outside hitter

Olivia Rollinson (Coventry) totaled a career-high 13 kills as Rhode Island College suffered its first setback of the season in a 3-1 loss at Westfield State on Saturday afternoon.

Rollinson's career afternoon was not enough to help the Anchorwomen past the Owls as the hosts were led by junior outside hitter Hanna Nihill's (Chandler, Ariz.) 13 kills.

Owls' first-year outside hitter Sydney Cummins (Nicholasville, Ky.) had herself a day, registering a career-high 12 kills to go along with 13 digs.

RIC sophomore setter Grace Luchka (North Scituate) nearly tallied the first double-double of her career with 14 assists and nine digs in just two sets.

Sophomore outside hitter Sarina Marines (Cranston) also just missed a double-double with nine kills and a team-best 17 digs.

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BREAKOUT CANDIDATE: East freshman Amias Reed returns a punt.

■ Bolts

(Continued from page 20)

hump, guys started to buy in and get better. Now they're playing hard for us."

Leading East this season will be returning big men Saqari Monroe and DionAndre Brown. Each will be mainstays on the defensive line while Monroe will be a half-back on offense. Brown has also been contributing on special teams.

"They run our defense. We need them to have a big season for us up front since our linebackers and secondary are very young. We'll need them to play assignment football," said Cook.

The Bolts will be looking at some new faces to emerge in the lineup as well. Quarterback Jovany Gonzalez was sharp in last week's exhibition as he steps under center, taking over a position that was uneven last fall. Gonzalez connected with freshman

Amias Reed for a touchdown to get the Bolts on the board. Reed was a steady contributor as a receiver and returner on special teams.

"We have a ton of young talent all over the field so we're looking forward to working with them, the future is bright here," Cook said.

Gavin Boylan put the exclamation point on the win when he returned an interception for the score as time ran out on the clock to make it 14-0.

East will open the season by hosting Narragansett on Friday night at Cranston Stadium. Cook hopes the strong preseason will instill some early confidence in his group as it looks to find a home in DIII.

"(It's going to be about) them starting to learn how to win and believe that we can compete with every team we're facing this year. We're going to have obstacles, ups and downs, we just need to keep playing," Cook said.

■ Falcons

(Continued from page 20)

were able to hang on to secure their first win of the year.

"It was good to start off with a goal and we were able to hold them off in the end. We played a good first half but just need to clean up the second half. We just wanted to win, we were coming off a loss and really wanted this," said Chase, who credited teammate Guilia Dorsey on setting up the highlight reel header. "It was a great shot by Guilia, but I was just there."

West's four-year starter Oceanna Orlandi finished the day with 8 saves in net.

The Falcons endured a rebuilding year in 2023 but improved as the season wore on to finish with three wins and a playoff berth. With plenty of returning upper-classmen in the fold, including some key players at all positions, Chase believes

that the team has the depth and connection to make a run in DI.

"We have really good team chemistry, we all like each other and we work well as a team. We work well together, we talk, we have fun, it's a family. Everyone can play at the varsity level here and everyone plays their role," said Chase.

Although West was happy to get its first win, the late surge by the Lions was also a wakeup call moving forward.

"It made us aware that we had to play cleaner in the back and hold possession more, have cleaner passes. We're playing some really good competition this year and we're going to have to play cleaner," Chase said.

The team faced off Bishop Feehan in a non-league game on Saturday and tied 0-0. Chase and Sarah Pimental scored for West in the opener against Westerly. The Falcons were back in action on Tuesday night against Cumberland, but the results were unavailable at press time.



FIRST WIN: West senior captain Sarah Pimental.



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