

## Johnston High School Exterior Rendering

# A new JHS, but for fewer students?



**NEW JHS:** SLAM gave the Johnston School Building Committee an update on the new Johnston High School. Here's a look at what the finished product may look like. (Photos courtesy SLAM and Johnston Public Schools)

By **RORY SCHULER**

The town plans to build a new high school, but for 80 fewer students than the old school.

Around 840 students attend Johnston High School this year, but projections show that number will plummet over the next four years.

But just a few hundred yards away from the school, a developer is building 28 “market rate units” in a condo development at 1767 Atwood Ave (one of many brand new housing construction projects greenlit in the

Ocean State in the wake of looser building and zoning regulations meant to address the ongoing “housing crisis”).

### The Numbers

Johnston and other Ocean State municipalities are required to follow strict specifications for school building projects. The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) dictates almost every detail, from the size of the over school to the size of gymnasiums and auditoriums (based mostly on school enrollment figures).

“The high school currently has about 840 students attending,” according to Johnston Public Schools Superintendent Bernard DiLullo Jr. “The planned building will be built for 761 as NESDEC (New England School Development Council) projections show our enrollment to begin to decrease in the 2025-26 school year reaching 761 in the 2028-29 school year. RIDE requires these projections to be submitted with Stage 2 to determine the reimbursable allowance for a new structure.”

JHS - PAGE 10

# A little help

## OSDRI hosts event providing over 200 veterans with what they need to get by

By **BARBARA POLICHETTI**  
Special to the SunRise

Some of their strides may be a bit slower, but many of the uniforms still fit as generations of veterans showed up at Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI) in Johnston last week for its annual outreach event.

The two-day event, held at the Anthony DeQuattro Veterans Service Complex off Hartford Avenue, offers veterans access to a wide variety of much-needed services and goods. Nearly 200 veterans filled the grounds, many wearing combat ribbons, service badges or uniform hats. There was a wide range of ages, but no gap in camaraderie as they greeted each other with handshakes and hugs, as they shared memories of time in the military. And many of them still fight a common war — the battle to succeed in civilian life.

“We see different needs across different generations of veterans,” said Kasim J. Yarn, director of Veterans Affairs for the State of Rhode Island.

Some, he said, may need help with health-care and retirement issues; others may need

housing. And there are many who struggle with addiction and mental health issues that are unseen scars of combat.

Erik Wallin, executive director of OSDRI, said the outreach event is intended to give veterans one place they can go to access all types of assistance.

“For over 30 years, we have hosted this event and each year we tailor the event to address the needs of today’s veterans,” Wallin said. “Whether the veteran is struggling with unemployment, homelessness or any other issue, OSDRI is here to give a hand up” and help all veterans get the resources they need.

He said the organization appreciates the participation of the wide variety of organizations that were on hand to help. The long list of providers — many of them state agencies — had staff available to provide information and resources to deal with needs such as housing, transportation, legal advice, employment assistance, financial support and much more. There was even a mobile dental clinic run by Thundermist Health Care.

Some of the booths provided supplies and



**THE WAY TO A VETERANS HEART:** A hearty hot lunch helped warm up the damp day. (SunRise photos by Barbara Polichetti)

VETS - PAGE 4





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JHS

Panther of the Week

**POTW:** This week's Panther of the Week is Lucas Anderson. Lucas is a senior at Johnston High and is currently the Student Council President and Class Valedictorian. Lucas was nominated by the Student Council advisors, Ms. Hanna Awwad and Ms. Tia Forgetta. Ms. Awwad said, "Lucas is not only an invaluable member of the Student Council but of the entire Johnston community. He is a role model and a leader, working tirelessly to uphold our Homecoming traditions and ensure that his peers have lasting memories. The success of our Homecoming festivities is attributed largely to his attention to detail, time management, and dedication to our school."

Ms. Forgetta said "Lucas has been essential in the planning and execution of Homecoming festivities for JHS. Without hesitation, he takes on his responsibilities, all while maintaining a job, Honor Roll grades, AP classes, and

a schedule that includes 6 college credit courses. From Spirit Week to Pep Rally and the Homecoming Parade, Lucas has led his Student Council members to the successful tradition of Johnston Senior High School's Annual Homecoming Parade." The Homecoming Parade starts at Johnston High at 10 a.m. Following the parade will be a breakfast in the JHS cafeteria sponsored by the Johnston Lions Club. The Homecoming game kicks off at 1 p.m. (Photos submitted by Matt Velino, Johnston High School Principal)

**Editor's Note:** This is the newest installment of an ongoing weekly series highlighting Johnston's amazing students. Staff at Johnston High School will be nominating students and submitting a caption and a photo for publication. You'll find each week's winning Panther on Page 2 of the Johnston Sun Rise.

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# Signs, signs, everywhere signs

By **RICHARD J. DELFINO JR.**  
Special to the SunRise

A large digital messaging sign sits out at the entrance to the Johnston Senior Center on Hartford Avenue, high-lighting events, and soliciting requests for volunteers in various capacities. About ten months ago, while she was driving up and down Hartford Avenue, Connie Bogan, who also lives in the area, thought she would inquire about that constant request for volunteers that rotates in the messaging.

Almost immediately, she joined the ranks of volunteers, and is now a dedicated member and fixture here, serving meals, clearing tables, and with a smiling face, doing whatever is asked of her. Connie enjoyed the people she was interacting with, joined the Center, and when not volunteering, participates in programs offered here at the Center. She was surprised to see so many “younger, older adults,” something we have focused on recently, that is attracting those closer to 55, the eligible age for membership here at the Center.

Connie now spreads the word that the JSC is a great place to be a part of, whether you are volunteering or participating in all the great things offered here at the Center. Connie, who worked at Target, lives close by here in Johnston, with her husband. Together they have four children, and five grandchildren. We here at the JSC are very happy Connie saw that message and answered the call. Please know, whatever your time and talent, we can put it to good use here at the JSC.

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



**THE SPOTLITE:** This week’s Johnston Senior Center’s Senior ‘Spotlite’ shines on Connie Bogan. (Photo courtesy Richard J. DelFino Jr.)



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# Vets

(Continued from page 1)

goods such as new bed pillows, boots, clothing and rucksacks. A hearty, hot lunch was also served, making the event grounds feel like an open-air mess hall. On Friday, Gov. Dan McKee and other state officials showed up to help staff the buffet line and serve those who have faithfully served their country.

"I think how we treat our veterans says a lot about who we are as a nation," Yarn said.

**Editor's Note:** Barbara Polichetti, a Cranston resident, is a regular contributor to the Cranston Herald and Johnston SunRise. Contact Polichetti at bpolichetti@gmail.com.

**ON THEIR SLEEVES:** Veterans wore badges and patches to identify their roles in the military – and in their civilian lives. (SunRise photos by Barbara Polichetti)




**OLD PALS:** Comrades and friends. Many attending Operation Stand Down met up with old friends.

**TOP ATTENTION:** Gov. Dan McKee (right) and Secretary of State Gregg Amore arrive in time to help serve lunch.



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## Grant boosts music program

Representative Deborah A. Fellela was on hand at JHS to present a legislative grant check for \$1,000 to Ronald Lamoureux, Executive Director of the Johnston School Music Association (JSMA). Lamoureux is also Johnston’s Director of Music. He cites the support of Representative Fellela as “invaluable and consistently strong. She has helped us build a very large collection of instruments that is unmatched by any program in the state.” Pictured from left to right: Lauren Dixon, Katelyn Loffler, Hailee Joyal Weiss, Lamoureux, Representative Fellela, Choral Specialist Kerri Thurber, Emily Paul, Neriah Nhar-Matko, and Principal Matthew Velino. *(Photo by Jesse Santillan)*

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**LENDING A HAND:** Jennifer Benitez of Family Service of Rhode Island, with Robert McAuliffe, Executive Manager, Grieco Automotive Group. *(Submitted photo)*

## Grieco provides support with school supply drive

Grieco Automotive Group’s dealerships in Johnston, East Providence, Middletown, and Seekonk, MA, have once again rallied together to collect new backpacks and essential school supplies in support of Family Service of Rhode Island (FSRI). The donations provided much-needed resources to local families, ensuring students have the tools they need for a successful school year.

“Our team is passionate about giving back and supporting the communities where we live and work,” said Michael Grieco, Jr. of Grieco Automotive Group. “Thanks to the generosity of our customers and employees, we were able to make a meaningful impact, helping students across the region start the school year equipped for success.”

About Family Service of Rhode Is-

land:

Family Service of Rhode Island’s (FSRI) mission is to advance equity, opportunity and hope in the communities throughout the state. Providing services in 39 cities and towns throughout Rhode Island, FSRI’s programs have grown to meet the changing needs of the community and address the gaps in services that emerge.

**About Grieco Automotive Group:**

Grieco Automotive Group boasts six dealerships in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, six dealerships in Florida and one dealership in California. They’ve received multiple #1 rankings for volume sales, certified pre-owned sales and service. Many of the Grieco franchises have also won numerous manufacturer awards including those for customer satisfaction as well as President’s Awards.

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## Santa's Doggie Workshop to bring Xmas spirit to local K-9s

Johnston welcomed a new business in town as Santa's Doggie Workshop held its ribbon cutting in a recent ceremony. The business offers pet grooming and is led by two experienced groomers with over 23 years of experience, along with a day care staff which will allow free play and socialization for local K-9s. It is doggie day care with a twist, as it is Santa themed with Christmas spirit year round. *(Submitted photo)*



**RESTOCKING:** Front left to right: Nick Acquaviva, Susie Cuellar Daza, Karin Gorman Candidate for Senate District 25, Sandra Taylor, Richard Fascia Candidate for Rep District 42, & Nick Grasso Candidate for Rep District 43. Back left to right: Laura Colannino, Walter "Otto" Thierfelder, & Lance Niles. *(Submitted photo)*

## JRTC and Republican candidates help replenish OSDRI's pantry

The Johnston Republican Town Committee and candidates learned from reading the Johnston Sun Rise that Operation Stand Down RI urgently needs to restock its food pantry.

Additionally, JRTC Chairman Sandra Taylor became aware of OSDRI's challenges directly from Tim Ruel, an OSDRI Case Manager and the Chairman of the Cumberland Republican Town Committee. Tim stated, "Their supplies are down to pasta and canned vegetables. They urgently require protein and other items."

The request was a motivating factor to organize a food drive for the upcoming JRTC meeting to quickly help restock the OSDRI pantry. JRTC members and candidates; Karin Gorman for Senate District 25, Richard Fascia for Rep District 42, Nicola "Nick" Grasso for Rep District 43, and Peter Tremenz tozzi for Rep District 44 generously donated grocery store gift cards and canned goods, which were then delivered to OSDRI. This initiative provided us with an opportunity to understand OSDRI's role in supporting our veterans. Whether it be housing, employment & training, legal assistance or basic human needs, the OSDRI depends on community contributions and grants.

Our veterans have earned our thanks, and supporting them in their time of need is the very least we can do. To learn more about OSDRI and how to help, please visit [www.osdri.org](http://www.osdri.org). To learn about the JRTC, please visit [www.johnstonri.gop](http://www.johnstonri.gop).

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# Opinion

## EDITORIAL

# Honor flights represent the best in us

This Sunday, the 31st Rhode Island Honor Flight will depart from T.F. Green International Airport, ferrying dozens of United States military veterans along with their caregivers and loved ones to experience an often once-in-a-lifetime trip as guests of honor to some of the most hallowed ground for servicemen and women.

It is hard to overstate how important these trips are to show proper gratitude to our veterans for the sacrifices they made during their military careers, but the results of these efforts are put on vivid display in their expressions and comments they make during the departure and in reflecting on the trip afterwards.

For some, it is a cathartic experience that helps them deal with lingering trauma; allowing them to truly experience emotions regarding their service that they may have been bottling

- **WHERE TO WRITE:**  
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up for decades. For others, it is simply a nice reminder that there are people in their community who care enough to organize these trips simply to try and make them happy, and show that they are seen.

The importance of these trips is also put into perspective by the fact that two veterans who had been slated to take the journey this year actually passed away prior to being able to embark. Quite literally, time is running out for some of these men and women who gave so much of themselves to be properly recognized and appreciated; particularly those few remaining who served in World War II or the similarly dwindling numbers who fought in the Korean War.

The efforts made by former Providence Fire Chief, George Farrell, and the volunteers and donors who make these flights possible, cannot be commended enough. It is a task that would not happen without a tremendous amount of time and care being put into figuring out logistics, and being able to adapt and tackle challenges and changing circumstances as they occur — all without any thought being given to whether or not they will receive credit or compensation for those efforts.

To have organized over 30 of these flights in just over 10 years since the program began is a Herculean effort, and represents something that all of Rhode Island can be incredibly proud of.

While we may debate the politics and maneuvering that our country engages in which leads to or responds to conflict occurring throughout the world, we do well to remember that the people who answer the call to serve in those conflicts are our friends, neighbors, family members, and fellow Americans who believe in something greater than themselves.

To honor them and their service is to honor all of us, and the ideals of this nation, which remain worth fighting for.



# Community colleges are launchpads for students seeking to build better futures

**By ROSEMARY COSTIGAN**

In an era where the cost of higher education continues to rise, community colleges remain a critical gateway to opportunity for millions of students. These institutions provide affordable, accessible, and high-quality education, enabling students from diverse backgrounds to pursue their academic and career goals. However, community colleges often operate on limited budgets, making private philanthropic gifts essential in driving innovation and expanding access.

Community colleges serve as the bedrock of higher education for many students who might otherwise be unable to pursue postsecondary education. With their open-access mission, community colleges are uniquely positioned to serve students from all walks of life, including those from underserved and underrepresented communities. At institutions like the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), which enrolls nearly 18,000 students in degree and certificate programs annually, the mission is clear: to provide accessible, high-quality education that leads to strong learning outcomes and successful career pathways.

However, the challenges facing community college students can be significant. Many students arrive underprepared for the rigors of college-level coursework, requiring additional support to succeed. Moreover, financial barriers can impede student progress, leading to lower retention and graduation rates. To address these challenges, innovative programs and substantial financial support are necessary to ensure that

every student has the opportunity to succeed.

The CCRI Advantage program, inspired by the City University of New York's (CUNY) successful "CUNY Start" initiative, is a bold response to the challenges facing community college students. This seven-week immersive college success program provides personalized academic coaching, targeted tutoring, and comprehensive support services to help students transition seamlessly into credit-bearing coursework. By focusing on the critical first weeks of college, CCRI Advantage aims to increase student retention, boost academic achievement, and shorten the time to graduation.

This program is more than just a stepping stone; it's a launchpad for our students. By providing tailored support from day one, CCRI Advantage exemplifies our commitment to innovative approaches that meet our students where they are.

Understanding the power of community colleges and CCRI Advantage, an anonymous donor generously gifted CCRI \$2 million to fund a three-year pilot program, commencing this fall. This groundbreaking gift — the single largest private gift in the college's 60-year history — exemplifies how targeted philanthropy has the power to transform lives today, tomorrow and long into the future.

This gift will cover the cost of tuition, laptops, course materials, transportation, and other incidental expenses for participating students. By eliminating financial barriers, the program ensures that students can fully engage in their studies and prepare for college-level courses without incurring additional costs.

or accumulating non-transferable credits.

This philanthropic investment is more than just a financial contribution; it is a powerful endorsement of the critical role that community colleges play in the higher education landscape. For too long, gifts of this magnitude were limited to four-year institutions, but this donor saw the potential for an outsized impact in expanding equity and access to higher education.

The success of CCRI Advantage has the potential to influence community college education across the country. As the largest single community college in New England, CCRI is at the forefront of redefining what community colleges can achieve, particularly for students from diverse and underserved backgrounds. The program's focus on personalized support and its comprehensive approach to student success is a model that other institutions can emulate.

As CCRI celebrates its 60th anniversary, the launch of CCRI Advantage and the historic \$2 million gift that supports it are powerful reminders of the transformative potential of community colleges. These institutions are not just stepping stones; they are launchpads for students seeking to build better futures for themselves and their families. By investing in programs like CCRI Advantage, philanthropists can play a vital role in ensuring that community colleges continue to fulfill their mission of providing accessible, high-quality education to all.

*Rosemary Costigan is Interim President of the Community College of Rhode Island.*

## and showman

many good works and served as mayor of Bridgeport, Conn.) I suspect you'll be getting some blow-back from his fans, but it won't be deserved. You were just practicing good journalism.

Gene Emery, of Cranston

# JOHNSTON Sun Rise

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John Howell, Publisher Emeritus

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# SUNRISE SCOOPS

## Sept. 26

### Savor the Flavors of RI for Special Olympics

Savor the Flavors of Rhode Island Event Benefitting Special Olympics is scheduled for Thurs., Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m. (General Admission), 5:30 p.m. (VIP Admission), Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, 60 Rhodes Place, Cranston. Indulge in a delectable tasting event celebrating the Ocean State’s finest cuisine and beverages. This fun-filled evening includes delicious samples from over 40 local restaurants, bakeries, breweries, and distributors; music, and an exciting auction featuring signature items, while supporting the athletes of Special Olympics Rhode Island. Tickets: \$75 General admission or \$150 VIP Admission. For tickets and information: [give.specialolympicsri.org/ge/24savor](http://give.specialolympicsri.org/ge/24savor).

## Oct. 1

### JRTC Meet and Greet Johnston Republican Candidates

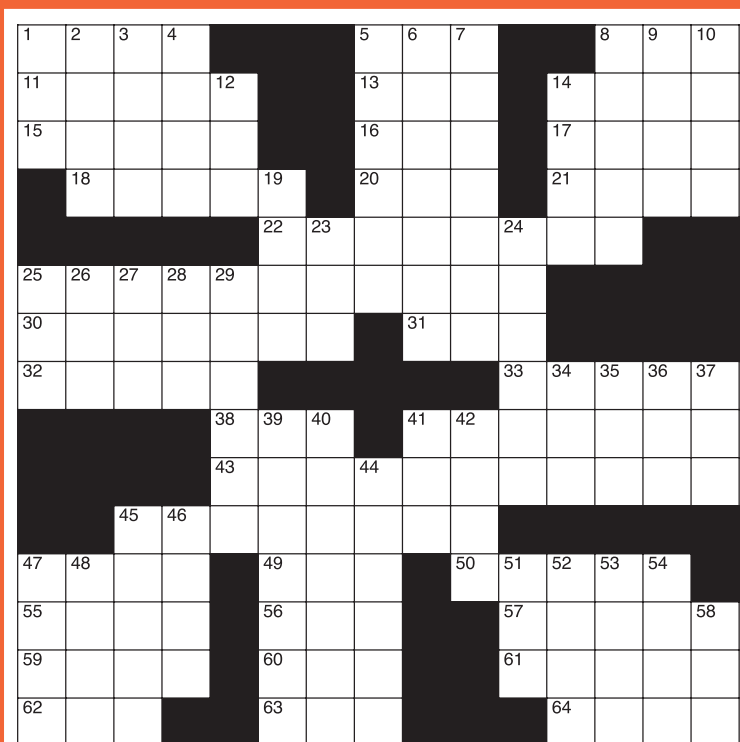
The JRTC extends an invitation for the community to meet and greet the Johnston Republican Candidates. This is a complimentary, community event with light appetizers and a cash bar, taking place on Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 6 to 8 p.m., at A Taste of Italy Deli & Caffe, 1302 Atwood Ave., Johnston. For more information please visit [www.johnstonri.gop](http://www.johnstonri.gop).

## Oct. 1

### Photographic Society of Rhode Island (PSRI)

Photographic Society of Rhode Island (PSRI) will hold its meeting on Tues., Oct. 1,

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



#### CLUES ACROSS

- Unequaled
- \_\_\_-fi (slang)
- Synthetic resin
- Chadic language Bura-\_\_\_
- Influential come Election Day
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- European river
- Earn a perfect score
- Horizontal passage
- Barely sufficient
- Dekaliter
- Goo Goo Dolls hit
- Australian city
- Female servants
- Plumbing fixtures
- Tooth caregiver
- Book of Esther antagonist
- Say aloud
- Thyrotrophic hormone
- Absolute
- Untimely
- Area or neighborhood
- Juicy fruit
- Expresses distaste, disapproval
- S. American rodents

#### CLUES DOWN

- Barrels per day (abbr.)
- Body parts
- Invests in little enterprises
- Rock legend Turner
- Dug into
- Laughed
- Northern European nation
- San Diego ballplayer
- Eight
- Substitutes (abbr.)
- Moved swiftly on foot
- Compensated
- Volcano in the Philippines

- Swedish rock group
- Influential American president
- Volume
- Begged
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Good friend
- Body part
- Tableland
- Speak ill of
- One who publishes
- Expression of bafflement
- Macaws
- Matchstick game
- We all have our own
- Divinatory
- Explosive
- Follows sigma
- Sea eagle
- Type of bread
- Bit used with a set of reins
- Time away from work
- Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- Lots on your plate (abbr.)
- Actor Brosnan
- It's part of packaging
- Towards the oral region
- Public Theater creator Joseph
- Ancient Syrian city
- Swiss river
- Mollusk
- A French abbot
- Hoagies
- Not present (slang)

at Lakewood Baptist Church, 255 Atlantic Ave., Warwick. Social time starts at 6:30 p.m., the meeting is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. It will be the 1st Open Competition of the new year. The competition will include black & white prints, color prints, digital images and slides. You can find more information about the Club at [www.psri.us](http://www.psri.us)

## Oct. 5

### Celebrating the Life of Dillon Viens

The family and friends of Dillon Viens plan to gather at Johnston Memorial Park from noon to 4 p.m. on Oct. 5 for a celebration of Dillon’s life. Event organizers promise free food and drinks.

## Oct. 5

### Project Linus of RI Fall Blanket Making Day

Project Linus of RI invites the public to participate in their Fall Blanket Making Day on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at William Hall Library, 1825 Broad Street, Cranston. Join Project Linus to learn to make a blanket, knot, crochet, and/or tie fleece and meet other “Blanketeers.” Bring a sewing machine if making a quilt or starting a new project with available materials. Snacks provided. Project Linus is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization. For more information email Martha at [esh-oles@aol.com](mailto:esh-oles@aol.com)

## Oct. 5

### St. Francis Xavier Academy Alumnae Homecoming

St. Francis Xavier Academy Alumnae Association will hold its annual Homecoming Mass and Luncheon, Sunday, Oct. 20. Mass at 11 a.m., at St. Timothy Church, 1799 Warwick Ave., Warwick, followed by lunch at The Crown Plaza, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick. Scholarships for student attending Catholic high schools will be announced that day. or more information email [SLA.Alum@gmail.com](mailto:SLA.Alum@gmail.com)

## Oct. 11

### Johnston Youth Basketball 2024 Early Registration

Johnston Recreation Dept. is holding early registration for Youth Basketball 2024, boys and girls, grades 1 – 8. Register on or before Friday, Oct. 11 for \$110 individual and \$90 each sibling. After Friday, Oct. 11, \$120 individual and \$100 each sibling. All registrations end on Friday, Oct. 25. Register at the Recreation Office, Johnston Memorial Park, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration forms can be mailed to: Johnston Recreation Dept., 1385 Hartford Ave., Johnston, RI 02919. Cash, check or money order only, credit cards are not accepted. Sponsors and coaches needed. For more information and registration forms, go to: [johnstonrec.com](http://johnstonrec.com).

## Oct. 12

### Hope’s Connection to Ann & Hope Dept. Stores

Hope’s Connection to Ann & Hope Department Stores will be presented by The Hope Historical Society on Sat., Oct. 12, at 2 p.m., at the Howland Barn, 35 Ryefield Road, Hope. David Lawlor, an award-winning filmmaker and documentarian, will be the speaker. He will visually connect Hope to the Brown Brothers, the massive Ann & Hope Mill in Lonsdale, RI, and the retail leader, Ann & Hope department stores.



## Legal Notice Town of Johnston Adopted Ordinances

At a recent meeting of The Johnston Town Council, the Council did adopt the following Ordinance effective immediately:

#### Ordinance 2024-12

An Ordinance amending Chapter 98-24 Entitled “Excessive Dog Barking Ordinance” of the Town of Johnston Code of Ordinances.

Said Ordinance is on file and available for review in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Johnston Town Council  
Robert V. Russo  
President

Attest:  
Vincent P. Baccari, Jr.  
Town Clerk

9/26/24

## LEGAL NOTICES

#### Town of Johnston

Notice is given pursuant to Rhode Island General Law § 3-5-17 that the Johnston Town Council, sitting as the Liquor Licensing Commission under Title 3 Chapter 5 of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, as amended, shall hold a Public Hearing on **October 15th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Johnston Municipal Court Building, 1600 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, RI.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider the following application for a liquor license.

Applicant:	Milagro Murphy
Business Name:	Realii's Fine Italian Cuisine
Transfer From:	Realii's Fine Italian Cuisine/James Realii
Location:	79 Putnam Pike, Johnston, RI 02919
License Type:	Class BV-Full - Liquor License-Transfer of Ownership

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

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

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

9/26, 10/3/24

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# Johnston SunRise



# ‘High Voltage’ Farrell ready for 31st Honor Flight

By JOHN HOWELL

George Farrell estimates he’ll have been up for 24 hours before veterans arrive this Sunday at 5:30 a.m. at TF Green Airport for departure on a day-long Honor Flight to our Nation’s Capitol. That’s the way it has always been.

Farrell will be at his computer Saturday, making phone calls and even checking the airport perimeter to ensure everything runs like clockwork.

Farrell, a retired Providence Fire Chief who started the RI Fire Chiefs Honor Flight Hub in November 2012, doesn’t expect this Sunday to be any different. Of course, it will be different, as is every Honor Flight. With the exception of two years during the pandemic, Farrell has organized an Honor Fight every year and in some years more than one.

Sunday’s flight, his 31st, has been codenamed “High Voltage.”

Farrell won’t tell you that these have been “his” flights. He puts the spotlight on flight sponsors, the volunteers; the “Providence” airport; the Transportation Security Administration (TSA); his team, many of whom have been with him since the start; the RI Professional Firefighters Pipes and Drums, who make the sendoff special; Wayne P. Morse, who has provided breakfast for all of the flights expect the first; and most importantly the veterans. There will be 58 veterans aboard Sunday.

World War II veteran Aniello DiMeglio, 97, and Korean War veteran, Antonio DeAugiar Jr., 94, both of North Providence, will participate in a Wreath Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier when the flight visits Arlington National Cemetery.

Additionally, six Korea War, 35 Vietnam War and veterans who served during the Cuban Missile Crisis, at Guantanamo Bay Cuba, Iraq and in Granada will be aboard. Rounding out the 104 people on board are the veteran guardians.

As a retired fire chief, Farrell is well cast for his role. He knows how to be prepared for the unexpected and what it takes to meet deadlines. Flight High Voltage has been in the planning for many months. He bought the first of 24 Southwest Airline tickets on Jan. 24. Southwest came through with a grant for an additional 30 tickets and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 42 that has sponsored prior flights stepped up as the flight sponsor. He bought more tickets. Everything was a go.

And then came what couldn’t have been foreseen. In recent weeks two veterans scheduled for the flight died and another ducked out because of health reasons. Farrell’s incident command system kicked into gear. Individual schedules needed adjusting so the team would know where each of the veterans would be at all times. There are such considerations as medications, food allergies, and emergency contact information for each flight member.

Then there was the super adjustment. Usually honor flights are scheduled for Saturday. That was the plan for High Voltage until Southwest canceled its early morning Saturday DC flight from Rhode Island.

“We could have taken a later flight, but there just wasn’t the time [to visit the Washington memorials and Arlington National Cemetery],” said Farrell. The decision was made to depart Sunday morning. That wasn’t easy. Scheduling of buses and events needed to be changed across the board including the booking at the Sheraton/Biltmore Hotel for the flight dinner and mail call, a highlight for the vets and the Honor Flight team as well.

Karen Casale will do mail call on Sunday, handing out 129 pounds of letters and photos compiled individually for each veteran by Julie Latessa. Farrell mailed the package of letters last week to the hotel. It wouldn’t work to have a mail call with no mail.

A change to Sunday, however, meant no evening flight to Rhode Island from Washington Airport. They would have to depart from Baltimore, meaning more adjustments from incident command. That flight returns to Green at 10 p.m.

In an email that went out Saturday to the team and guardians who will accompany each of the veterans, Farrell outlined the schedule, thanked those who have had a part in making the flight possible and added his own recommendation.

“Be present for them [the veterans],” he wrote. “This is their moment.”

“Watch their eyes, listen to their voices, and see what they see. It is right there ... it is their history, their life, be grateful that you have this moment in your life too.”

“At the end of the day, when your veterans tell you that this was one of the best days of their life, it will be at that moment that you know that you have accomplished our Honor Flight mission.”



**HIGH VOLTAGE LEADERSHIP:** George Farrell strikes up the band (a fife and drums corps) in 2022 as veterans entered the terminal at T.F. Green International Airport. (*Johnston SunRise file photo*)

## Obituaries

### William “Bill” Beaulieu



William “Bill” Beaulieu, 57, of Cape Canaveral, Florida, passed away peacefully on July 24th, 2024. In his final moments, he was surrounded by his loving family and friends. He was a man of immense humor and deep love for his country.

Bill is survived by his partner, Bette Smolos; his sons William Beaulieu II of Dallas, Texas, and Kevin Beaulieu (Valerie) of Buffalo, NY; his siblings Christine Beaulieu and Carol Beaulieu-Gonsalves of Greenville, RI, Robert Beaulieu (Karen) of Hernando, Florida; and his sister-in-law, Susan Beaulieu of Cranston, Rhode Island. Bill is also survived by Barbara Beaulieu of East Greenbush, NY, his former spouse and the mother of their two sons. Bill also leaves behind many cherished cousins, ten beloved nieces and nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Beaulieu Sr. and Norma (Jeschke) Beaulieu, and his brothers, Joseph Beaulieu Jr., John “Jack” Beaulieu, and James Beaulieu.

Bill was born on June 21, 1967, in Johnston, Rhode Island, to Norma and Joseph Beaulieu Sr. He grew up on Manuel Avenue in a quaint neighborhood with his six siblings. Every Christmas, the Beaulieu family would travel far and wide to celebrate together in the house where he was raised. They shared traditional New England lobster boils, often accompanied by their father’s homemade bread rolls, which added a special touch to their gatherings.

At the age of 21, Bill joined the Air Force, a decision that would shape his life and his sons’ lives. A combat veteran in Operation Iraqi Freedom, he dedicated 20 years of service to the Air Force stationed in California, Texas, New Jersey, Japan, and South Korea. His example inspired his two sons, Will, a U.S. Army veteran, and Kevin, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, to follow in his footsteps, a testament to the impact that Bill had on their lives.

Bill loved the beach. Growing up in Rhode Island, he developed a lifelong affinity for the ocean. In recent years, he cherished his life in Cape Canaveral, where he enjoyed watching rocket launches, relaxing on the beaches, diving, cooking, tending to his garden, golfing, and spending time with his friends and his partner, Bette.

Bill’s passing leaves a void that cannot be filled. He will be remembered for the distinct mark he made on those around him. His memory will endure in the hearts of those who knew him, and his presence will be deeply missed. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the memories he created.

To honor Bill’s life, a committal service including military honors will take place on Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 12:30 PM at the Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery. For messages of condolence please visit [www.anderson-winfield.net](http://www.anderson-winfield.net)

### Clifford A. Yuettner



Clifford A. Yuettner, 90, passed away Thursday, September 19, 2024 at his home surrounded by his family. He was married to his beloved late wife Nancy for 64 years. Born in Providence, he was the oldest child of the late Clifford O. and Mabel Viola (Levesque) Yuettner.

Clifford served in the US Army as a supply handler stationed in Germany followed by five years in the Army Reserve.

He worked as a telephone systems technician for New England Telephone until retiring. He was an avid boater who spent a lot of time on the water with his family over the years. He and his late wife were also avid campers and were members of a local camping group traveling to different campgrounds all over the northeast. They spent much of their retirement living in Alabama before returning home to Rhode Island.

Clifford was the loving father of Cheryl Goulet (Phil), Steven Yuettner, Timothy Yuettner (Lisa), Rebecca Warner (Michael) and the late Keven Yuettner (Jerry Girouard); dotting grandfather of nine grandchildren Craig, Marie, Kimberlie, Karl, Bryan, Jessica, Aubrie, Christopher and his beloved late granddaughter Shauna; great-grandfather of seven, and great-great-grandfather of one. He was the brother of Arva Scungio (Al) and William Yuettner (Carolyn). He was deeply loved and will be missed tremendously by all those who knew him.

Visitation will be Saturday, September 28, 11a.m.-1p.m. at Thomas & Walter Quinn Funeral Home, 2435 Warwick Ave., Warwick. Interment at RI Veterans Cemetery will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Lung Association, 55 W. Wacker Dr., Suite 1150 Chicago, IL 60601 will be greatly appreciated.



## Obituaries

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

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

– Thank you

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**NEW AUDITORIUM:** The plans call for a new auditorium at the new Johnston High School. Check out more images from the school on the next page. (Photos courtesy SLAM and Johnston Public Schools)

### ■ JHS

(Continued from page 1)

On Sept. 17, the Johnston School Building Committee received an update on the project. Members of the Colliers (project managers) and SLAM (engineers and architectural design) teams delivered the “new Johnston High School Schematic Design Update.”

According to a slide presentation from SLAM and Colliers, the new high school will be about 150,000 Gross Square Feet (GSF). The district faces a Stage 3 school construction plan submission deadline (to RIDE) at the end of October.

Earlier this month, on Sept. 3, the School Building Committee received an update on the nearby elementary school building project. That same night, they also set a special meeting for Tuesday, Oct. 22, to review and possibly approve the Stage 3 submission for the Johnston High School.

#### The Timetable

It may be about three years before new students occupy the new Johnston High School.

“The projection right now is for the new high school to open in the fall of 2027,” DiLullo said last week. “It will be a new facility attached to our current gymnasium which will be completely renovated.”

The current building has reached the half-century mark, and town voters passed a \$215 million school funding bond (Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena Jr. promised voters the bond would be paid for by annual payments from Amazon and would not result in tax increases).

#### Career Education

“The new building will give us the flexibility to add and improve Career and Technical programs as well as updated classrooms and science labs,” DiLullo explained. “The building will have modern common spaces such as a media center, dining commons and auditorium that meet the current needs of our students, staff and the community.”

Schools across the state are trying to reduce out-of-district enrollment numbers by bringing students back to the district with newly innovated career pathway programs.

“I’ve instructed the school department that it must present the town a plan on how it will implement the new CTE programs while maintaining a similar operating budget of their current level,” Polisena said. “They’re actively working on that and I have complete and total faith they’ll get it done.”

In its tax incentive agreement with the town, Amazon pledged financial support of future career programs in Johnston.

“As I’ve said many times before, I have no say in the school department but I think this would be a great opportunity to

make Johnston High School like Cranston West and place a greater emphasis on trades,” Polisena wrote via email earlier this week. “If done correctly, I think Johnston, with its centralized location, would have a unique ability to not just retain current students that are leaving to go out-of-district but also attract new students from outside of Johnston too (which we would be paid for).”

#### The Size

Some School Building Committee members have raised concerns at past meetings about the new school’s reduced capacity.

“As the architects pointed out in the meeting, there is room for more in the building as well as space on the campus to expand if necessary,” DiLullo said.

The mayor had hoped to build the new school with a little room to grow.

“I think it’s troubling RIDE is not allowing us to overbuild, but nothing surprises me with RIDE anymore,” Polisena said Wednesday morning. “It’s pretty disturbing that’s what RIDE is forcing on us, but time will tell if this presents a problem.”

#### The Plan

Planners have decided to retain the current JHS gymnasium, because it’s much larger than current RIDE specifications would permit. The new school will be built over a portion of the current parking lot, between the gym and the football field.

“Regarding the specs of the school, the gym will be refurbished as RIDE doesn’t allow for gyms that large to be reimbursed if built new,” Polisena said. “The fields will also stay in their current places. The front of the high school will flip from facing Cherry Hill to Atwood Avenue.”

#### Topping Off

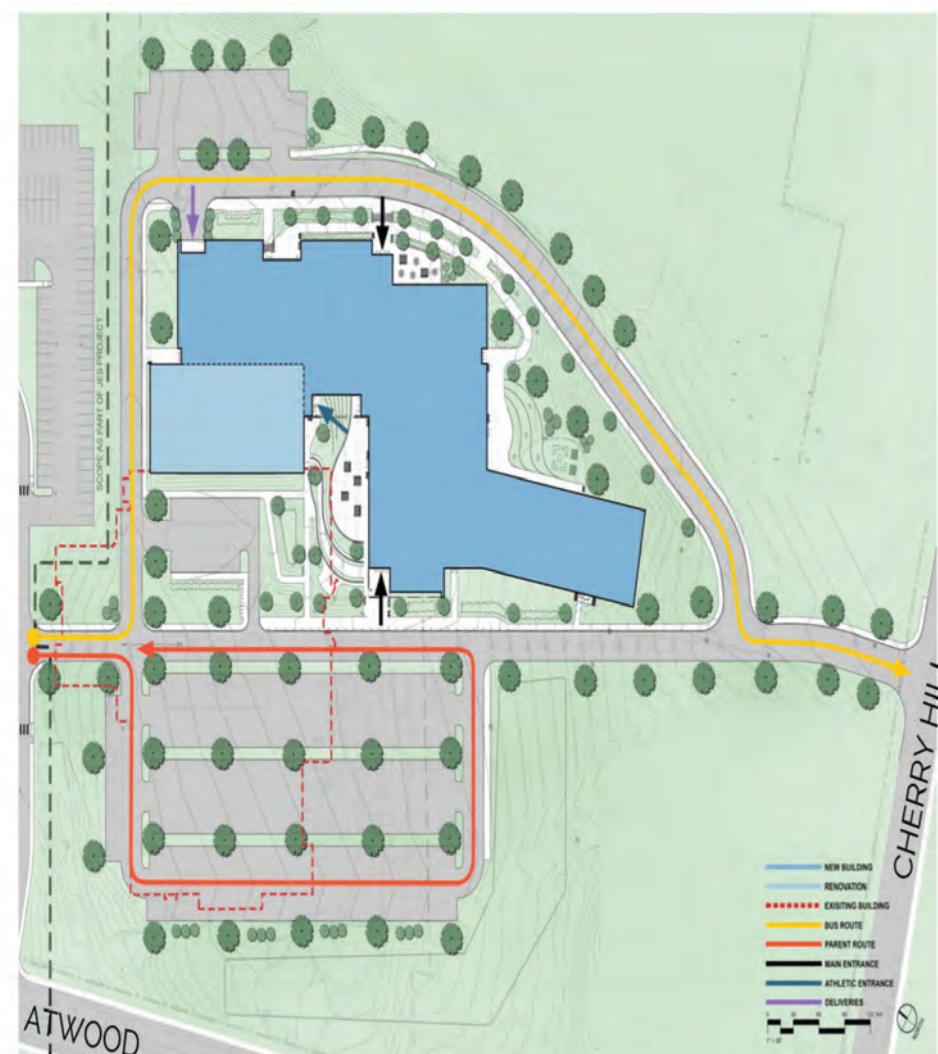
The same day as the planned special meeting, on Oct. 22, the town plans to hold a special topping-off ceremony for the new elementary school (behind the town’s indoor recreation center on Atwood Avenue, just up the street from the high school).

The ceremony — “where the final steel beam will be placed then they will start to enclose the structure,” according to Polisena — will likely be held during the school day, so students can add their signatures to the beam.

So far the elementary school project has been on-time and on-budget, according to Polisena.

“We need to rethink the current traditional model of education and place more of an emphasis on teaching these students life-skills, which will not only help them in any career they choose, but in other everyday life settings too,” Polisena said. “I am a firm believer that even if a student would like to go to college, they should be required to take some sort of a trade through CTE.”





**THE NEW JHS:** SLAM gave the Johnston School Building Committee an update on the new Johnston High School; they delivered a slide presentation including these floor plans. Here's a look at what the interior of the new school, slated to open in 2027, may look like. (Photos courtesy SLAM and Johnston Public Schools)

Johnston High School Floor Plans



Johnston High School Floor Plans



Johnston High School Floor Plans



# Cherry Hill Grille

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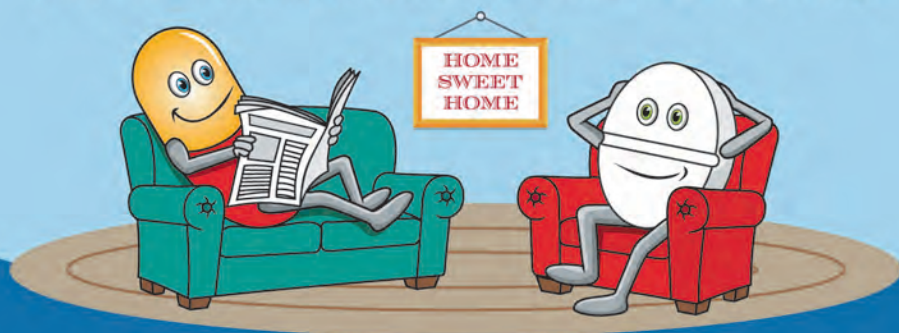
- Honeycomb Tripe
- #1 Snail Salad
- Tender Calamari
- Veal And Peas
- Fresh Veal Parmesan
- Smelts, Garlic Butter/Peppers
- Whole Belly Clams
- Stuffies
- Steamers
- Portuguese Little Necks
- Spaghetti, Penne, Angel Hair, Linguini, Papadelle, Rigatoni Daily
- Sausage, Rabe, Beans
- Baby Octopus Salad
- 4 Homemade Soups Daily
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Councilman Ed Ladouceur & Senator Anthony Deluca

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Saturday Vigil at 5:15 PM  
Sundays at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM

As has been the case, Mass will not be celebrated at either parish on Thursdays.

Schedules for Thanksgiving, the Immaculate Conception, Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God to be announced.

Schedule changes that will go into effect on Sundays after January 1, 2025 will be published at a later date.  
Mass intentions for Sundays in 2025 are not yet being scheduled.

The Mass Intentions scheduled for Wednesdays through Our Lady of Grace Church will be combined with the Mass intentions offered on Wednesdays at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

The Mass intentions scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays through St. Robert Bellarmine Church will be combined with the Mass intentions offered on those days at Our Lady of Grace Church.

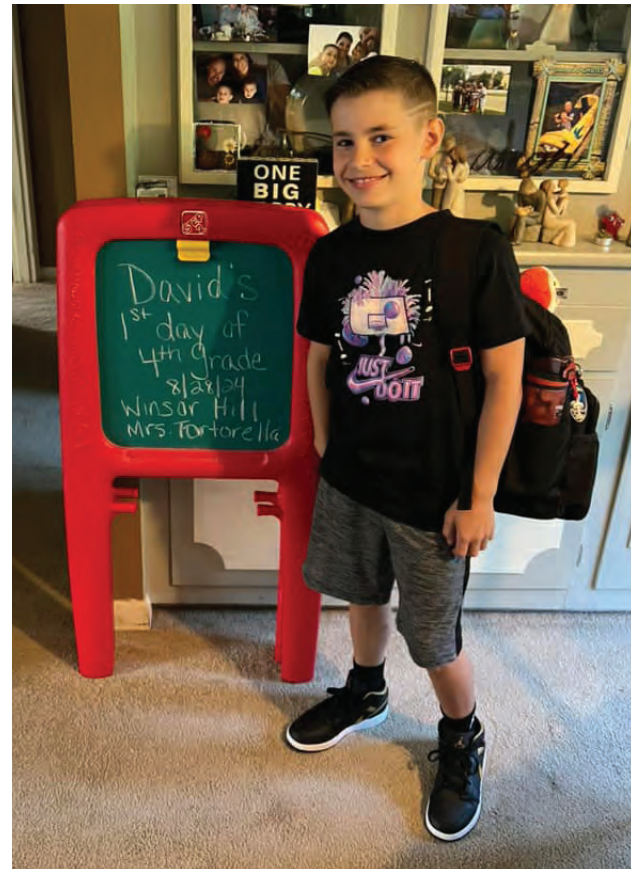
**In the service of the Lord,  
Fr. Richard Narciso and Deacon Jay Gardner**

# BACK TO SCHOOL IN JOHNSTON

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Johnston SunRise asked readers to send in their back to school photos. As usual, Johnston parents did not disappoint. We had more than 50 submissions. We'll run as many photo spreads as we need to run them all. Check out the photos on this page and pages 13 & 15 of this week's edition.



**FIRST DAY:** Joseph LaNinfa poses on his first day of school. (Photo courtesy Jamie LaNinfa)



**BACK TO THE HILL:** David Fontaine 4th grade Winsor Hill (Photo courtesy Dawn Fontaine)



**FINN & WYATT:** Finn and Wyatt DeSanto (Photo courtesy Molly Hemberger DeSanto)



**SECOND GRADE START:** Wyatt Cull, Grade 2, Winsor Hill (Photo courtesy Brittany Cull)



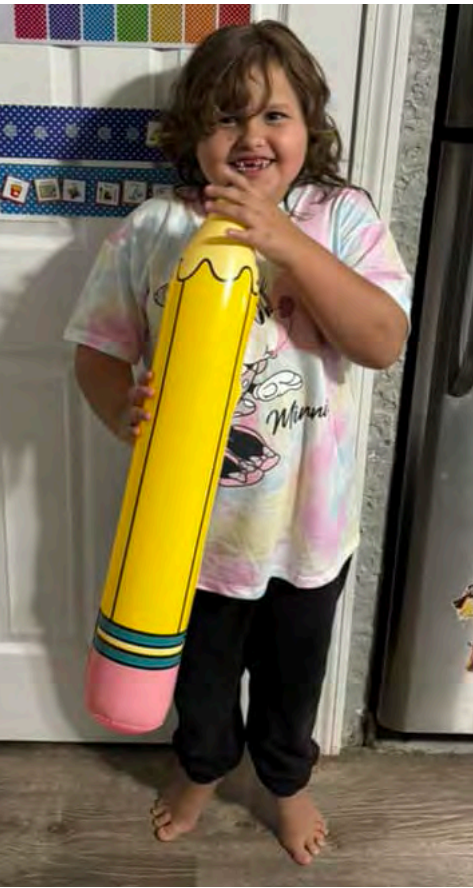
**THE CREW:** The "Brown Ave bus stop crew" pose together on the first day of school (Photo courtesy Karlie Sundberg)



# BACK TO SCHOOL IN JOHNSTON



**A NEW ERA:** Alexander Santaniello is in his "4th grade era." (Photo courtesy Stephanie Santaniello)



**NO. 2 PENCIL?** Francesca Bianchi, 2nd grade (Photo courtesy Taylor Bianchi)



**STARTING PRE-K:** Luciana Bianchi had her first day in Pre-K (Photo courtesy Taylor Bianchi)



**HER BIRTHDAY TOO!** Jaelyn Duarte celebrates her 9<sup>th</sup> birthday on her first day of 4<sup>th</sup> grade (Photo courtesy Kelly Rose Caffrey)



**THE SIXTH:** Victoria Arriaza her first day of 6<sup>th</sup> grade (Photo courtesy Cristi Vargas Arriaza)

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U	R	I	N	A	L	S					
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# LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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By JENNIFER COATES

Nelson Mandela once penned the words: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." The idea that education is the way to "change the world" by nurturing and enriching the minds of the youngest among us is the mantra of Rhode Island's Dreamland Learning Centers. This family of childcare centers, located in Johnston, Pawtucket, and West Warwick, is dedicated to this goal and mission. Schedule your tour today to see how one of these centers could help support your family.

The local Dreamland Learning Center in Johnston is a comfortable, homey, and cheerful center where learning is fun and where every space is designed to stimulate the growing minds of the many children who come here. This learning center was opened in 2015 and has been evolving and expanding ever since to meet the needs of today's modern working family.

The mission of this early learning community is to "provide quality care that will enable each child to explore and discover the infinite possibilities available to them through the power of learning. Our environment was created to enhance a child's natural curiosity and desire to learn.

At our center, situations are designed to help children prepare to make the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical adjustments they will need in life. We believe children learn best from their own experiences. In a positive learning environment, we help promote self-awareness, perceptual motor skills through planned activities and give children the hands-on experience they need for total growth and development."

Every space in this center is thoughtfully planned and designed to be developmentally appropriate and intentional. Child-size furniture makes each room look comfortable and adapted to the needs of pint-sized early learners, while shelves are filled with toys and walls are strewn with artwork. Individual



**Its not too late to enroll your child in Johnston's playful and welcoming learning center, Dreamland Learning Center on Hartford Ave. Come check out spaces like this that inspire your child's imagination!**

centers are set up for imaginary play, arts & crafts, building, science, music and story time. The outside playgrounds are the perfect place for youngsters to run off all that childhood energy. The after-school room provides ample space and designated areas for homework time. In fact, the whole facility is Bright Star® rated for excellence.

The curriculum and staff-to-child ratio requirements here meet the strict standards of the state while all staff are licensed and CPR certified. The staff here work as a team with one goal in mind and that is to offer a safe and supportive environment for all the children over whom they have been given this special

trust.

Dreamland Learning Center is now accepting enrollment for children ages 6 weeks through age 12 years of age (enrollment forms can be found online). The center is located at 1253 Hartford Avenue. To answer your questions or concerns, call 401-280-1400 or visit their informative website at [www.dreamlandlearningcenter.com](http://www.dreamlandlearningcenter.com). Hours are 7:00am to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Be sure to check out the other Dreamland Learning Centers in West Warwick (401-828-8200) and Pawtucket (401-655-1000).

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# BACK TO SCHOOL IN JOHNSTON



**OFF TO MIDDLE SCHOOL:** Gianni Blinkhorn 6th grade Ferri (Photo courtesy Adriana Hartley)



**OFF TO SCHOOL:** Alana Smith 10th grade and Nicholas Smith he's in the 9th grade (Photo courtesy Carol Smith)



**A JUNIOR ALREADY?** JHS Junior Ava Mello (Photo courtesy Dawn Lee DaSilva)



**NEW THIRD-GRADER:** Amara Parsons 3rd Grade. Winsor Hill Elementary (Photo courtesy Laurie Mitchell-Brien)



**SIBLING START:** Jillian 7th grade and Margo 4th Grade (Photos courtesy Laura Mason)

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# Sports

## Building blocks



**ON THE RISE:** Johnston's Danielstheliz Ortiz battles for the ball on Tuesday. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

## Young Panthers look to turn things around

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The Johnston girls soccer team is still searching for its first win of the season and fell to host Exeter-West Greenwich 10-1 on Tuesday to drop to 0-8 this season. It has been tough sledding in the early going for the Panthers, who graduated most of their starting lineup from last season while also being elevated to a higher division. The Johnston roster includes only two seniors and three juniors, with underclassmen taking on the remainder of the roles. One of the bright spots for Johnston this season has been the emergence of junior Olivia Iafrate, who scored the team's lone goal on Tuesday.

As the young players continue to grow, coach Toni Scavitti has been pleased with the progress they have made as they approach the midway point of the regular season.

"We have a lot of underclassmen playing big roles and we have some girls that are new to the sport. That being said, don't let the scores fool you, we have seen tremendous improvement and the girls are really starting to pick up how we want to play," said Scavitti, who has credited her small group of upperclassmen for their leadership during this transitional year.

■ PANTHERS - PAGE 20



## Panthers grinding on court

The Johnston girls volleyball team is in the thick of its playoff hunt and took on St. Ray's on Tuesday night in Pawtucket. The host Saints would walk away with the 3-2 win as the Panthers dropped to 1-6 overall. The team's lone win came against Davies in a 4-1 victory (25-17/ 25-16/ 20-25/ 25-13). Johnston will next be in action when it hosts Mt. Pleasant on Thursday. Here are some photos from Tuesday's contest. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)



**PLAYOFF HUNT:** Johnston's Fallon Provoyeur (above) and Vanessa Febus (below) on Tuesday.



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# Guardian Caps a worthwhile idea for our players

Rep. Joseph McNamara (Warwick, Cranston) said in a press release that he intends on introducing legislation that would require Rhode Island high school football players to wear Guardian Caps. This is an important development in a sport that has dealt with concussions for decades.

Guardian Caps have caught on in the NFL. They went from being optional in practice, to being required in certain practice situations, to now being used by some players in games. This is the first season that the NFL has allowed players the option to wear them on game day and a handful have taken the league up on its offer, including New England Patriots safety Jabrill Peppers.

For those who don't know what Guardian Caps are, they are soft-shelled caps that are stretched overtop of the helmet. The NFL's research concluded that these caps reduce head impact by 10 percent and up to 20 percent for head-to-head collisions.

I am totally for this legislation, and I question people that would not be.

I guess I would have to speak to these NFL players that use them, but from an outside perspective, I see absolutely no downside to wearing these caps. They fit over the helmet, they do not reduce visibility or agility, and most importantly, they help reduce the risk and severity of head injuries.

Concussions, especially in football, have grown into one of the most talked about issues in all of sports. For decades, football players shrugged off head injuries, but as science and research capabilities have expanded over the past 10-20 years, we have finally been able to unveil the long term impacts of concussions. We can no longer just chalk it up to a stinger or getting your bell rung. The consequences are often severe and sometimes deadly.

I have a feeling that Guardian Caps will be required for all players at the NFL level. In the span of just three years they went from being introduced to being worn in games. As more players endure head injuries, the more we'll see these caps be used. I have a feeling that five years from now every NFL player will be required to use them.

So why not start as early as possible? If we nip it in the bud and make it a requirement for high schoolers, it could preserve their health while also getting them used to wearing them by the time they play in college.

Again, the reason why I am for this idea is simply because there is no reason I can think of to reject it. Cosmetics would be the only downside, as they do look ... pronounced ... but so do the gaudy helmets and shoulder pads. We just have grown used to them thanks to half a century

## My pitch



by  
ALEX  
SPONSELLER  
SPORTS EDITOR

ALEXS@  
RHODYBEAT.COM

of use.

I'm not an alarmist and I usually roll my eyes at the rule revisions that the NFL implements when it comes to player safety. It's a contact sport and injuries are inevitable. It does bother me when the league initiates new rules that change the complexion of the game. In the past decade, we have already seen some of these revisions add up.

Head injuries are no joke, though. You can recover from a sprained ankle, a broken wrist, a pulled hamstring. You can't recover from concussions, you just can't. In the literal sense, sure, you can get back out on the field and be OK, but I am a firm believer that concussions take something away from a person permanently, even if it takes multiple incidents or years to see the problems arise.

So, good on McNamara for engaging on this topic and looking out for our local high school athletes. If this comes to fruition, I'm confident that other states will take notice and follow suit, as they should. Wearing

Guardian Caps is a much better solution than changing the rules and altering the sport. Perhaps this could also open the door for other high-impact sports, like hockey and lacrosse for example.

Watching Bishop Hendricken beat Cumberland last Friday night was all I needed to see to declare the Hawks the 2024 state champions.

That's not a hot take, the Hawks are almost always the favorite to win it all, but any doubts or concerns that there may have been were put to bed.

Cumberland fought valiantly and even drew first blood in the second

quarter. It was very much a game until late in the third.

Hendricken did what Hendricken does. It relied on its size up front on both offense and defense and let its running backs go to work. Jeremy Seidi is the real deal and has completely filled the void left by Oscar Weah and Ronjai Francis.

Defensively, Hendricken has some athletes in the secondary as well. Offensively, Dylan Lynch has proven that he can lead a passing attack when called on as well. There really are no exploitable holes in this Hendricken lineup. The fact that the Hawks were able to beat one of the state's other elite teams

by simply running the ball was eye opening. Hendricken has four senior linemen on offense, and its experience, size, strength and talent were on full display last week. They ran the Cumberland defense over.

You can't count any team out in sports, but it's hard to picture a team being able to slow down the Hendricken rushing attack. It seems like the way to beat the Hawks will be to put up points early and often - specifically in the passing game - and then in turn hope you can shut down their receivers down the stretch. Hendricken will always win in the trenches.

## Macera earns LEC award again

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Rhode Island College fifth-year Lauren Macera (Cranston, R.I.) and freshman Haylie Peacock (West Gardiner, Maine) were recognized by the Little East for their respective performances in a 3-0 week for the Anchorwomen in women's tennis.

Macera was named the Little East Women's Tennis Player of the Week. It is the second time this season that she has received this award. Macera went 2-0 at No. 1 singles and 3-0 at No. 1 doubles for the week. For the season, she is 7-0 at No. 1 singles and 8-1 at No. 1 doubles.

Peacock was named the Little East Women's Tennis Rookie of the Week. It is the second time this season that she has received this award. Peacock went 3-0 in singles, which included her first career win at second singles, and 3-0 in doubles for the week. For the season, she is 9-0 at primarily No. 4 singles and 8-0 at No. 2 doubles.

Head Coach Adam Spring's team defeated Clark, 7-0, on Sept. 17, Suffolk, 7-0, on Sept. 19 and Southern Maine, 9-0, on Sept. 21. The Anchorwomen are 9-0 overall and 3-0 in the Little East.

### Strain nabs LEC honors

Rhode Island College freshman forward Michael Strain (West Warwick, R.I.) was named the Little East Men's Soccer Rookie of the Week for his performance in a pair of Anchorwomen victories last week.

Strain came off the bench and scored his first collegiate goal as RIC bested Emerson, 3-0, on Sept. 17. He also came in as a reserve and contributed to the club's, 3-2, win over VTSU Castleton in RIC's Little East opener

on Sept. 21.

For the season, he has played in three games. He has one goal for two points on the season.

Head Coach Kyle Froberg's team is 4-1-1 overall and 1-0 in the Little East. The Anchorwomen are unbeaten in their last five games.

### Hatfield named RIC softball coach

Rhode Island College has named Lauren Hatfield as the head softball coach.

"Having spent many years in Rhode Island, I am thrilled to return and join the Rhode Island College community," Hatfield said. "I want to thank Don Tencher, Jo-Ann D'Alessandro and the search committee for this amazing opportunity to lead the softball program. I'm eager to get started and look forward to making a positive impact, while building on the winning tradition at Rhode Island College."

Hatfield has over 25 years of coaching experience at the college and high school level.

Prior to coming to RIC, she spent six seasons as the associate head softball coach at Worcester State. Before joining the staff at Worcester State, Hatfield spent three years at Franklin Pierce University as an assistant and the head softball coach where she led her team to a record number of wins in one season.

Her college playing experience includes playing shortstop and third base at Boston College, where she led her team in batting average her freshman season and as a catcher at Franklin Pierce University where she holds the program record for highest single season batting average (.481).

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# Workshop on West Passage construction project

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

“We don’t like seeing pylons and turbines in our ocean, but it is better than burning coal or other fossil fuels to generate electricity,” said Kristen Smith last Wednesday at the mariner safety workshop held at the Wickford Yacht Club, North Kingstown.

Kristen, her husband Matthew, and about 25 other members of the Wickford Yacht Club, were at the mariner safety workshop conducted by the Better Bay Alliance and wind farm developer Ørsted. Ørsted will be laying cable from their Revolution Wind project offshore up the West Passage of Narragansett Bay, under the Jamestown Bridge to Quonset Point. The purpose of the meeting was to alert mariners about the project, specifically when and where construction activities will be occurring.

Winnie Hagen, Wickford Yacht Club seminar organizer, kicked off the meeting welcoming members and guests, said, “This workshop is part of a continuing series of educational and informative seminars we will be conducting for members.”

She then handed the meeting over to David Lussier, President of the Better Bay Alliance. Lussier said, “We are not for offshore wind, or against offshore wind, but merely here to promote mariner safety on the Bay. And to share our new website software called Live Chart that allows mariners to track all kinds of boating activities on the Bay including construction projects like this one. This is the fourth such session in which we have participated.”

Visit <https://betterbayalliance.org/live-chart-better-bay-alliance/> for Live Chart.

Claire Hobson and Ross Pearsall of Ørsted’s Marine Affairs Division shared highlights of the Revolution Wind project specially the West Passage cable installation project which will take place this fall and winter. For information on Revolution Wind and the West Passage cable installation visit <https://revolution-wind.com/> or email Claire Hobson at [claho@orsted.com](mailto:claho@orsted.com).

**Tautog fishing tips Monday, Sept. 30**

Learn some new proven tautog tips Monday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. from Captains Mike Littlefield (Arch Angel Fishing Charters) and Connor MacLeod (Tall Tailz Charters) at the RI Saltwater



**PRESENTERS:** Ross Pearsall and Claire Hobson of Ørsted Marine Affairs; David Lussier, President of the Better Bay Alliance; and Winnie Hagen of the Wickford Yacht Club talked about mariner safety Wednesday night. *(Submitted photos)*

Anglers Association seminar, West Warwick Elks Lodge, 60 Clyde Street, West Warwick.

Learn some new tips on how to catch more tautog and larger tautog this fall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with food available at the Elks Lodge kitchen from Five-O-Five Catering with the seminar starting at 7 p.m. RISAA members free, non-members are \$10 each.

**Eat more fish to reduce pollution?**

If you want to make a big dent in climate pollution, eat more fish. Believe it or not, eating fish (or poultry) rather than beef could quickly reduce climate pollution.

Substituting fish or poultry for beef can reduce a person’s daily dietary carbon footprint by about half. Beef due to its above ground changes in biomass, deforestation, its below ground change in soil carbon and beef’s methane production from cows, and land conversion for grazing and animal feed means beef has a very high carbon footprint. Beef has a bigger overall planet-heating impact than any other food, according to [www.OurWorldinData.org](http://www.OurWorldinData.org).

However, wild harvest fish has a very low ‘Farm’ emission as it primarily relates to fuel used by fishing vessels. So,

the answer is simple catch and eat more fish.

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**Where’s the bite?**

Freshwater. Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box, Warwick, said, “Anglers are catching largemouth bass with shiners. Gorton Pond in Warwick and Johnston Pond seem to be producing for anglers.” “The largemouth bass are now feeding close to shore in the mid-day period. Spinner baits and big frogs are working for me as we still have vegetation on the edges,” said Jeff Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle.

Striped bass, bluefish, bonito. Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle, Warren, said, “The stiped bass fall run has been on now for a couple of weeks. We have fish being caught in the Bay and out in front of Newport with bluefish mixed in and a good bonito bite too. We have a lot of sea herring and mullet in the water as well as squid.”

Steven Orefice of Watch Hill Outfitters, Westerly, said, “The striped bass bite has been hit or miss from shore

with metal lures (that mimic mullet) and bucktails are working. The bonito bite continues to be very too.”

“School striped bass to slot sized fish (28” to <31”) are being caught by customers trolling umbrella rigs in the Bay and around the bridges,” said Tom Giddings of the Tackle Box.

Oliver Zannini of Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle, North Kingstown, said, “Customers haven’t been getting out much this week with rough seas but those fishing are catching striped bass and bluefish in Narragansett Bay as well as along the coastal shore.”

Fluke (summer flounder), black sea bass, scup and cod. The black sea bass bite is still good however, the summer flounder (fluke) bite is starting. to fade. Orefice of Wach Hill Outfitters, said, “Black sea bass and scup fishing continues to be outstanding along the southern coastal shore. And a big treat this month anglers are catching keeper cod fish on rock piles and wrecks close to shore.”

“We fished at Cox Ledge in the wind-farm area and did well with cod. I caught a 20-pound cod fishing there and in the Block Island Wind Farm area hooked up with mahi,” said Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle.

Tautog. “The tautog bite if very good off Newport now,” said Sullivan of Lucky Bait & Tackle.

Giddings of the Tackle Box, said, “The bite off Newport is good but anglers are catching them in the Bay now, a customer caught a keeper at Rocky Point Fishing Pier along with a lot of shorts.”

Tuna. Tuna fishing continues to be good. “The bite south of Block Island and Montauk is good with anglers hooking up with 60 school bluefin tuna jigging and chucking,” said Orefice of Watch Hill Outfitters. “The recreational tuna bite for school bluefin tuna is insane. You have to negotiate your way through a hundred boats or so. But anglers are hooking up jigging and chunking,” said Sullivan.

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

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# ■ Panthers

(Continued from page 16)

“They’ve stepped up. We don’t have many seniors, so it’s been on some juniors to step up too and they have in many ways. They’ve shown the girls how to play the game the have taught them the way it should be played.”

The Panthers will next be in action on Friday when they host St. Ray’s. Although the Panthers’ schedule will not ease up much, Scavitti is hopeful that the girls can make more improvements along the way and turn things around by season’s end.

“We just need to hopefully continue to improve the way we have. Work on our defense and keep the score lower than we did today and continue to progress,” Scavitti said.



**MIDSEASON GRIND:** Johnston's Fiona Fairbanks (left) and Olivia lafrate (right) battle Exeter-West Greenwich on Tuesday.

# Real Estate Transactions

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE	ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
COVENTRY					WARWICK				
20 Ernest St	Sprague, Greg S	Georgio, Alfred	9/3	\$415,000	1 Granite St	Lafazia William Est and Nelson, Leslie L	Feinstein, Alan D and Lynch, Tracy	9/3	\$550,000
3 Glenview Ct	Nightingale, Susan M	Nightingale, Nathaniel and Nightingale, Hannah	9/3	\$375,000	1 Willow Glen Cir Lot 85	Josette, Alizah	Simmons, Emery A and Simmons, Shirah L	9/4	\$303,000
32 Lane E,	Coyne T and Coyne, John S	Salvas, Raymond	9/6	\$155,000	10 Drumsna Ct	Lopes, Steven P and Lopes, Dawn M	Adams, Holly T	9/3	\$530,000
55 Maude Ave	Mckanna, Michael T and Mckanna, Anna M	Kim, Matthew H and Kim, Therese	9/3	\$406,000	100 Diamond Hill Rd	Braica, Hans E	Paton, Kimberly A	9/6	\$380,000
6 Chloe Ct	Franklin Sales & Mktg LLC	Furtado 3rd, John and Furtado 2nd, John	9/5	\$700,000	113 Potomac Rd	Spagnolo, John J	Hernandez, Carlos J and Hernandez, Angelina	9/6	\$380,000
65 Roundway Dr	McLellan, Eric B	Correa, Carlos A	9/6	\$345,000	132 Windermere Way	French, Gene R and French, Patrice M	Jordan, Benjamin and Marques-Jordan, Alicia	9/6	\$760,000
81 Sherwood Valley Ln	Johnson, David	Tempo Holdings LLC	9/6	\$80,000	136 Circuit Dr	Petrangelo, Judith A	Huetteman, Kristen and Marcotte, Benjamin	9/6	\$415,000
82 Vine St	Paul A Schroeder T and Schroeder, Jude	Reihl, Patrick and Reihl, Miranda	9/3	\$410,000	14 Cooke Pl	Cahoon, Justin	Testa, Elizabeth	9/3	\$335,250
871 Read School House Rd	Blais, Vanessa and Zaccaria, Michael	Alvira, Misael and Soto, Abigail	9/6	\$475,000	15 Corwin Ave	David, Justina M	Sims, Jonathan	9/5	\$280,000
CRANSTON					167 Welfare Ave	Demarco, Paul	Bottom Line Re Solutions	9/4	\$285,000
1231 Cranston St	Montan Hernandez, Jose E	Franco, Franchesco	9/5	\$530,000	167 Welfare Ave Lot 285	Demarco, Paul	Bottom Line Re Solutions	9/4	\$285,000
125 Bluff Ave	Savastano, John and Savastano, Michelle	Monteagudo, Julie and Jaensch, Andrew	9/3	\$875,000	1975 W Shore Rd Lot 10	Sarathy, Sweth	Pereira, Denise	9/4	\$3,550,000
126 Columbia Ave	Santos Kathryn Est and Santos Jr, Gary K	Concord Const LLC	9/3	\$445,000	200 Post Rd Lot 127	Casey Rlty	Twentyeleven LLC	9/3	\$1
200 Cannon St Lot 159	Rowan, Marion E	Immonen, Emilie A	9/3	\$285,000	231 Duxbury Ct Lot 231	Delaire, Janine L and Hanrahan, Sharon M	Gregory, Joanne P	9/6	\$350,000
231 Rockwood Ave	Lippert, Peter G and Lippert, Crystal	Rivas, Jose F and Vargas, Maria E	9/5	\$445,900	26 Maplehurst Ave	Lavoie, Nancy A	Jimenez, Oralee	9/6	\$355,000
33 Peerless St	Anderson, Muriel B and Anderson, Muriel J	Lugo, Gilberto and Lugo, Maria	9/3	\$330,000	27 Keystone Dr	Ponder, Ryan C	Ponder, Mariangie	9/6	\$325,000
34 Rushton Dr	Beshers, George M and Bapties, Cynthia J	Sophia, Jacqueline	9/3	\$440,000	35 Bowen Briggs Ave	Pedro, Antonio C and McKenna, Laurie	Ladino, Brendan and Disano, Felicia	9/6	\$425,000
531 Park Ave	Testa, Elizabeth	Robles, Willian	9/3	\$475,000	42 Bridal Ave	Lra Grp LLC	Galaviz, Juana and Xon, Dilson	9/5	\$588,000
60 Pippin Orchard Rd	Abbruzzese, Carol A	Shariyfah Lupus Fund LLC	9/5	\$412,000	567 Providence St	Shankar, Dewi and Shankar, Dharendra	Rjb Invest LLC	9/6	\$550,000
84 Friendly Rd	Alzate, Monica	Williams, Benjamin A and Talbot, Amanda M	9/4	\$455,000	567 Providence St	Harrington Lois B Est and Harrington, Michael	Shamblen, Randy D and Shamblen, Kerianne F	9/6	\$3,890,000
EAST GREENWICH					70 Turner St Lot B9	Smith, Brenton R	Bernadyn, Trevor D	9/6	\$585,000
100 Signal Ridge Way	Ruff, Jeremy and Ruff, Shannon	Strauss, David	9/4	\$1,100,000	71 Duchess St	Smith, Brenton R	Bernadyn, Trevor D	9/6	\$585,000
333 Kenyon Ave	Barry, Marguerite	Ruff, Jeremy and Ruff, Shannon	9/5	\$850,000	71 Duchess St Lot 105	Smith, Brenton R	Molina, Sebastian V and Roldan, Natalia M	9/3	\$479,000
97 Cindyann Dr	Pardini, Cassandra H and Pardini, Jonathan	Donilon, Kevin C and Steere, Alison L	9/3	\$1,225,000	86 Shendoah Rd	Dern, Dennis L and Dern, Rita S			
EXETER					WEST GREENWICH				
47 Pinoak Dr	Ferrante, John	Clarke, Dean and Clarke, Sarah W	9/5	\$440,000	145 Mishnock Rd	Rapoza, Adam S	Pacesetter Grp LLC	9/3	\$110,000
JOHNSTON					WEST WARWICK				
1 Elmdale Ave	Catherie E Finelli Lt and Finelli, Catherine E	Douglas, Joshua P and Yanke, Brianna J	9/9	\$545,000	W Valley Condo Lot 63	Residences At West Vly In	Tikoian, Deborah	9/9	\$449,650
21 Mulberry Cir	McCloughlin, John J and McCloughlin, Cheryl E	Famiglietti, Christopher	9/4	\$434,625	12 Lily Ln Lot 12	Gilcrest Asso LLC	Smith, Daymon	9/10	\$439,900
26 Simmons St	Griffin, Kimberly V	Faria, Shawn	9/5	\$455,000	16 Grove St	Desimone Gino E Est and Desimone, Alicia A	Garcia, Willy H and Adams, Maritza O	9/6	\$330,000
28 S Bennett Dr	Mjb Properties LLC	Zakkam, Samuel and Comeau, Kate	9/5	\$510,000	2 W Valley Cir Lot 2	Residences At West Vly In	Keodouangdy, Kathy S and Quan, Yu	9/10	\$446,400
39 Merino St	Titelius, Elise N and Jarvis 3rd, Ronald J	Franchetti, Justin and Fernandez, Rosa	9/9	\$385,000	225 Andrews Ave	Salvas, Raymond R	Melucci, Marian	9/6	\$347,000
4 Audrey Dr	Santagata Anthony L Est and Sherry, Kimberly A	Elevator Properties Inc	9/9	\$355,000	27 Cowesett Ave Lot B4	Booth, Brian C	Nerney, Matthew D	9/10	\$220,000
41 Harris Ave	Cativ, Bryan J	Shao, Vianne W	9/5	\$230,000	29 Clyde St	Greene, Maria C	Pacheco, Melinda M and Castaldi, Cheryl A	9/6	\$389,000
46 N Williams St	Sia, Porgech and Sia, David	Lee, Kok H	9/10	\$420,000	306 Providence St	Sfl Investments LLC	Bernardo, Dan	9/5	\$700,000
806 Greenville Ave	Fenereux, Debra S and Kruger, Johan	White, Martin and Dale, Roosevelt L	9/9	\$454,300	46 W Valley Cir Lot 46	Residences At West Vly In	Mani, Ramitha	9/6	\$446,400
					52 Glen Dr	Didomenico, Michael P and Didomenico, Lori A	Cabral, Paulo R and Cabral, Isilda C	9/4	\$430,000
					565 Quaker St Lot 39	G & Nicole H Sisco RET and Sisco, Gregory J	Booth, Brian	9/10	\$285,000
					58 River St Lot 43	Mai Tai Investments Inc	Ruilova, Grace C	9/9	\$155,000
					650 E Greenwich Ave Lot 3-101	Tedeschi Louisa S Est and Tedeschi, Andrew	Reynolds, Trina and Pignolet, Greg	9/4	\$300,000
					84 Maple Ave	Walter King Ent LLC	Bustos, Saydel O	9/6	\$305,000
					84 Maple Ave	Thibedau, Ralph S and Us Bank Na	Walter King Ent LLC	9/5	\$270,000
					86-1/2 Church St	Jutonius LLC	Gosselin, Christopher and Gosselin, Gladys	9/4	\$1
					86-1/2 Church St	Gossin, Gladys N	Musaev, Nasradin and Alkilic, Dusun A	9/4	\$350,000

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# RhodyLife

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## After 70 years, Meadowbrook Lanes still has fun to spare



By HALEY LONG

It was immediately clear the last official Saturday of this summer was no beach day. The morning began with rain and continued into an equally drippy afternoon. Anybody expecting the wet day to dampen the mood inside of Meadowbrook Lanes bowling alley, however, would be mistaken. In fact, rainy days and cooler weather tend to have the opposite effect on the Meadowbrook mood. This past Saturday was no exception, as there was more than one reason for excitement as the lanes lit up and families brought their kids together and away from their phones.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Meadowbrook Lanes, which has been in business since 1954. This coming week, the bowling alley celebrates by holding a weekend-long celebration to mark the milestone. Lanes will be available for a discounted price in the afternoons and evenings between Friday, Sept. 27 and Sunday, Sept. 29; Saturday will also feature appearances by Iggy's Food Truck from 4 to 7 p.m. and by guest speakers from 5 to 6 p.m. All weekend, groups containing up to five people will be able to rent shoes and spend an hour bowling for a special \$19.54 —a salute to the bowling alley's founding year.



# ANIMAL TALK

By Karen Kalunian

Local  Adoptable  Loveable



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

If you have been thinking about adopting, Mochi is hoping that you will consider making her part of your family! She will bring so much love into your life, she is a sweet girl who just longs to be loved! Unfortunately she was found as a stray but never reclaimed so now she dreams of a loving forever home. She is a medium sized mixed breed with a gorgeous brindle coat accented by some splashes of white and is about six years old. Mochi is best suited to be your one and only, after all she wants all of your attention to herself. She will be a loving, loyal companion who will be so grateful to have a happy home with a comfy bed! Please contact the Pawtucket Animal Shelter at 401-722-4243 then go meet Mochi in person to see how lovely she is, bring her some yummy treats too!

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



Photo credit: Karen Kalunian

Nebula will captivate you with her ethereal beauty as indicated by her name! She is a two year old Tabby with a gorgeous striped coat of gray and chocolate brown. Her eyes speak for themselves, they are simply out of this world! Nebula's best home would be an adult home filled with lots of love, time and patience...oh and treats, lots of yummy treats! She does long for attention but at her own pace. You can tell that once she's comfortable she's a very special girl! If you'd like to meet this beautiful star please go to [www.scruffypawsanimalrescue.org](http://www.scruffypawsanimalrescue.org) and fill out an application. Then the rescue will email you with more information about how you can meet Nebula and maybe even make your home her permanent galaxy!

Meadowbrook Lanes has had some esthetic changes through the years, but machinery at the core of the Duckpin bowling establishment has remained the same for decades.



## ■ Bowling

(Continued from page 21)

Even when Meadowbrook Lanes isn't celebrating a major milestone, however, autumn is often an energetic time for the business. On Saturday morning, the youth bowling league returned to the lanes for the beginning of a new league season continuing through May. There are summer leagues as well.

League bowlers have formed an important part of Meadowbrook Lanes' clientele throughout the bowling alley's history. Local churches, businesses and community centers are among the organizations that run the leagues; there are also senior citizen leagues, men's leagues, women's leagues and youth leagues. For many of these Meadowbrook patrons, participation in the leagues is a family affair — and has been that way for generations.

"We have people who remember this place being built, and they're still coming," general manager Robert Farrell said. He explained that it's common for long-time bowlers to bring their families with them: "Their kids, grandkids, great-grandkids... That's what keeps it going."

### Generations of players

Bob Coker is a veteran Meadowbrook Lanes bowler. Coker joined the Warwick Church Bowling League in the early 1950s before Meadowbrook Lanes began business. He first got involved working as a pin boy in Pawtuxet Village, setting up the pins for bowlers and playing in games while he wasn't working. When Meadowbrook Lanes opened, the Warwick Church Bowling League began playing at Meadowbrook, which used machines rather than pin boys. He stopped bowling with the league three years ago, but his son, Dave, continues to play. He joined the league in 1964.

Farrell cites this generational aspect of the bowling alley as one of the highlights of his experience working there. He knows about it firsthand, having joined a youth bowling league himself in 1978 when he was just 7 years old; he's been working there ever since. The Warwick Police Athletic League (PAL) began organizing Meadowbrook's youth league in the early 1970s and continues to partner with the bowling alley to bring young people bowling on Saturday mornings. This past Saturday marked the first week of the 26-week youth bowling league season this year.

Farrell remarked on the inclusivity of bowling as a physical and social activity, noting that the youth leagues are welcoming to children and adults who have special needs. Meadowbrook Lanes hosts a statewide Special Olympics tournament every year as well. According to Farrell, one of the biggest draws of bowling lies in the fact that it is such an enjoyable and inclusive sport.

"Bowling is fun," he said simply. "It literally is for everyone to enjoy."

### Change throughout the years

Farrell said that bowling is a perennial activity during days that are cold or rainy and during months when the days are short. Outside, it may be miserable, but inside, the sight of kids enjoying their birthdays at the lanes is as familiar as it is amusing. This has been true for as long as Meadowbrook Lanes has been around; Coker said that holding birthday parties at the bowling alley became common practice in the late 1950s when it became common for schools to run bowling programs there.

But like any establishment that has stayed in business for seven decades, Meadowbrook Lanes has witnessed a great deal of change. The years-long golden era of the New England Patriots, for example, translated to relatively quiet Sunday afternoons — usually an ideal time for families and friends to head to the lanes — during the fall and winter seasons. Farrell recalled a period of several years when, on afternoons when the Patriots were playing, even those patrons who managed to pri-

oritize a game of bowling over watching football would often wander into the lounge in the middle of a round to watch Patriots games on the television behind the bar.

Coker described changes in the sights that bowlers would see as they entered the bowling alley, as well. There used to be a First National Store and a shopping center next to Meadowbrook Lanes that have since been replaced by newer developments. He also noted that bowling shoes, distinctive in their style, have changed as well — they used to be all black. Today, the rental shoes that bowlers are seen wearing at Meadowbrook Lanes are a range of colors.

Other changes have been more existential. Meadowbrook Lanes was not immune to the problems that the COVID-19 pandemic posed to businesses everywhere, nor has it been immune to the elements. In the fall of 2019, a malfunctioning valve in the restrooms flooded the lanes forcing the alley to close for renovations at the beginning of the bowling league season. The onset of COVID-19 coincided with the end of that same season, once again forcing Meadowbrook to close its doors until August of 2020. Despite the challenges of that period, the bowling alley managed to survive the deeply uncertain months of mid-2020. Farrell credited the reliability of the sport with its enduring success.

Despite the major transformations that Warwick has gone through since 1954, he said, the inside of Meadowbrook Lanes looks much the same as it did when it was built, aside from a few changes to the carpets and the scoring system; the lanes themselves still operate using the same machinery that they used in the 1950s. The grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Meadowbrook Lanes' first bowlers are playing the same game that their relatives were playing seven decades ago.

Other bowling alleys in Rhode Island have not been as lucky as Meadowbrook Lanes. The Warwick bowling alley has inherited bowlers and a staff member from other Duckpin bowling alleys that have gone out of business in recent years. At one point, Farrell counted 12 in the state. Now there are four. Farrell noted that in this aspect too, consistency and simplicity were essential in facilitating continued success for Meadowbrook Lanes: the uniformity of Duckpin bowling meant that entire leagues from bowling alleys that closed were able to transfer to Meadowbrook Lanes and continue playing there.

### Relationships make Meadowbrook Lanes special

Perhaps what has kept Meadowbrook Lanes in business for 70 years is the special way in which people find different aspects of their lives converging there. All of next Saturday's guest speakers — Mayor Frank Picozzi, State Rep. Joe Solomon Jr., Councilman Ed Ladouceur and Sen. Anthony DeLuca — are personally tied to the bowling alley in one way or another, whether it's their preferred venue for holiday parties or their family members were once members of the staff. Meadowbrook Lanes' status as a hometown favorite is clear from the familiarity it holds for so many people in the area. "It is totally Rhode Island," Farrell remarked.

Farrell also shared that no matter where in the country he happens to be, he runs into people who recognize him from Meadowbrook Lanes. "That happens a lot," he said.

Farrell's favorite part of the job is the relationships he has forged with other people throughout the 47 years he has been there. Since the time he was growing up, Meadowbrook Lanes has been a home to him and a vehicle through which to get to know all kinds of people from the community around him. 47 years after he began working there, Farrell still goes into Meadowbrook Lanes every day.

The 70th anniversary will celebrate not only 70 years of business, but also the 70 years' worth of friendships and enjoyment to which it has given life.

**Editor's note:** Haley Long spent her Saturday morning losing to her friend by an unspecified number of points at Meadowbrook Lanes. Her personal assessment: "It was fun."



# Ocean State Oyster Festival returns with a spotlight on a unique aspect of local culture

By ROBERT DUGUAY

Rhode Islanders have a knack for doing a few things well. We have the art of frozen lemonade down and we have numerous companies selling the refreshing beverage with Del's being the most well-known. We also know how to make amazing food while putting on a heck of a party no matter the occasion. An example of the latter is the Ocean State Oyster Festival, which celebrates our state's love for the delicious fare that comes served in a half shell. This year marks the 10th edition of the event and it's going to be taking place at 195 District Park in Providence on Oct. 5. From 1-8 p.m., this extravaganza features 16 local oyster farms, live music, craft beer & wine and food trucks adjacent to the Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Bridge.

Along with being a fun experience for anyone who attends, the festival promotes environmental conservation through its partnership with a local organization and support for another with a similar vision.

"In the fall each year, we get together to celebrate and recognize the oyster as a treasured natural resource in Rhode Island with the largest collection of oyster farms from the Ocean State assembled at one time," the organizers state via oysterfestri.com. "[We] partner with the Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island to rebuild natural habitat reefs and help support the Ocean State Aquaculture Association. Together, let's help sustain this important and lasting legacy by supporting our local oyster



OCEAN STATE OYSTER FESTIVAL

(Submitted photo by Jules Kang Sharpe)

farmers and their ecosystem, Narragansett Bay and its estuaries! The Ocean State Oyster Festival's goal is to

help honor and preserve this legacy."

Through its collaboration with the Nature Conservancy of Rhode Island, the

Ocean State Oyster Festival will reclaim the event's discarded oyster shells to keep them out of the trash, recycle them and use them to rebuild the ocean's reefs. Their support of the Ocean State Agriculture Association helps further the mission of educating and advocating for sustainable farming around Narragansett Bay and its estuaries. The festival also aims to recognize the indigenous roots of oyster farming, its effect on Rhode Island's culinary culture and how it still resonates in the present day. As anyone can tell, this get-together will be a lot more than just a time for people to indulge themselves in a scrumptious delicacy. It will bring awareness to a cause that plays a bigger part in our everyday lives than folks might immediately recognize.

A few of the oyster farms that will be participating in this year's festival include Blue Acres Oyster Farm, Moonstone Oyster Company, Quonset Point Oysters, Rocky Rhode Oyster Company and Thomas Point Oysters. For the live music portion, Newport surf rock shredders The Z-Boys, Providence arena rockers David Tessier All-Star Stars, local reggae act Bud Runner and Providence cosmic rock & roll space cadets Ghost Mojo will be performing. There will be plenty of off-street parking around the area and children & teenagers under the age of 14 are free admission. To get tickets, log onto the website that I mentioned earlier in this article. For more details and future announcements, check out the same website or look up the Ocean State Oyster Festival on either Facebook or Instagram.



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"The Substance" will grab your interest in the clever opening scenes, hold it for the next two hours, and then gross you out for the final half hour.

Four stars for most of it, and then two for the grotesque, bloody, repulsive conclusion.

Demi Moore stars as Elisabeth Sparkle, an aging actress turned TV workout hostess ("Sparkle Your Life") who is reminded by her obnoxious producer (Dennis Quaid) that she is no longer needed at age 50 and will be replaced.

Desperate, Elisabeth turns to a mysterious supplier of a substance that will make her "a younger version of herself."

Administering the substance is a complicated process of "activation, stabilization and switch" that leads to another body literally emerging from her back-bone in a frightful scene that shows two

naked female bodies intertwining among the spewing of blood and guts.

The new version of herself (Margaret Qualley), who is younger and sexier, takes over her aging body, which is left lying in her apartment on feeding tubes.

The movie oozes with satire, as beauty is sought at any cost and the two women end up fighting for the big moment when chosen to highlight a New Year's Eve TV spectacular.

That's when the movie turns grotesque, bloody and totally disgusting, leading to a chaotic conclusion that wraps up the message about fooling with mother nature.

The makeup crew works overtime to make the aging process as hideous as possible.

Camera work is up close and personal, whether it is Elisabeth exploring every inch of her naked body or her boss crunching on a plate of crawfish.

This stylish movie turns into a gross, gory, bloody finale that loses the subtlety of what started out as a clever allegory.



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