

Johnston Mayor-elect Joe Jr.

By RORY SCHULER

The mayor doesn't like to cry in front of a crowd.

Joseph M. Polisea is more likely to drop F-bombs than drip tears on the lectern.

Tuesday evening, General Election night, was different. This election was personal; it was blood; it was family.

As soon as the polls closed, results started trickling into Johnston's Democratic Town Committee headquarters on Atwood Avenue. The room's elder Polisea, Johnston's current mayor, fielded phone calls with election results from each precinct in town.

He rattled off the totals. And with each phone call, his son's lead grew.



THE TALLY: At left, Joe Polisea Jr. stands with supporters as they count up precinct totals from across Johnston. At right, after his victory margin became "mandate" clear, Mayor-elect Polisea Jr. addressed the crowd as his father, Current Mayor Joseph M. Polisea watched on. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

■ MAYOR - PAGE 13



EMPTIED SHELVES: Tyrone "Ty" Smith, Director of Employment and Housing for Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI), surveys the organization's food bank shelves. The group needs help collecting food for the region's veterans. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

'Veteran food pantry is at a critical low'

OSDRI holiday food drive launched to feed those who served

By RORY SCHULER

Most of the shelf space was bare. A few scattered year-old cans of green beans and corn niblets dotted the metal wire shelving.

Tyrone "Ty" Smith walked into the food pantry and surveyed the remaining shelf-stable items. He shook his head. The Director of Employment and Housing for Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI) determined last year's stock of food pantry items was nearly gone. A new inventory was badly needed. The holidays are approaching.

"This is very important this time of year," Smith said, standing inside the pantry at the OSDRI headquarters off Hartford Avenue in Johnston. "This food has to last our veterans through the year. We just had a big veteran assistance event, and we handed out a lot of what we had left."

OSDRI has sounded a call to action to the local community in the days leading up to Veterans Day, on Friday, Nov. 11.

■ PANTRY - PAGE 15

Superintendent on RICAS: 'We went up in most areas'

Cranston, Johnston & Warwick test scores rival RI state averages

By RORY SCHULER

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) released the final results of the 2022 Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) tests Friday.

Following the pandemic, school administrators, politicians and parents have been eager to parse the data.

What is the current status of the Ocean State's public education system? Have students bounced back following nearly two years in altered learning? Have they

adjusted to the classroom following long stretches of at-home remote learning?

"The 2022 RICAS results show that while a lot of work remains ahead to get our students back up to speed, Rhode Island is on its way to recovery," said Rhode Island's Education Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green. "We're encouraged that some districts have returned to their pre-pandemic levels or exceeded them, and that our statewide focus on math instruction and support led to a significant jump in math performance across the state."

Third through eighth grade students took the RICAS assessments in March through May of last school year.

"Statewide figures show that in 2022 compared to 2021, there was a 10% increase in participation in both content areas rising to 98%, a significant increase in math proficiency of approximately 7%, and a slight decline in ELA of approximately 2%," according to a statement released by ride last week.

■ RICAS - PAGE 8

A veteran at honoring veterans

By JOHN HOWELL

A chance encounter at the Baltimore/Washington Airport as George Farrell and his family were on their way home from a spring vacation in 2010 changed his life and the lives of about 800 veterans.

Farrell was at the right time and the right place to witness an Honor Flight pass through the terminal. Those in the terminal paused on their way to make connections to applaud a group of World War II veterans, some in wheelchairs, others walking, wearing jackets and hats distinguishing the branch of the service in which they served. Travelers passing through the terminal were not the only ones recognizing the veterans. Local police and firefighters, units representing different branches of the military, scout troops and civic groups and family and friends were there to greet them on. Some stood ramrod straight, saluting. Others waved flags, applauding and cheering.

At first Farrell didn't know what was happening, but he could see the joy in the faces of the veterans and the sincerity of those applauding them. It was genuine and when he learned more, not only did he want local WWII veterans to have the opportunity to visit the war memorials in the nation's capital, but he believed the Rhode Island Retired Fire Chiefs could pull it off.

Last Thursday marked the tenth anniversary of the first Honor Flight run by the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Association. Since then Farrell and his followers — most of them having been with him from the start — having organized and run 27 flights.

The flights are packed days. Veterans, many in their 80s and 90s and usually one or two 100 year-olds or older, are up by 4 a.m. to rendezvous for a bus to get them to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport by 5:30 where they are given a boisterous sendoff by bagpipers and drummers and hundreds of people. They don't get back until 11 p.m., if not later, after a full day in Washington, arriving to another cheering crowd, albeit smaller.



CHEERING THEM ON: George Farrell leads the way as members of the all women veterans flight held April 6, 2019 enter the terminal at Green Airport.

"It's amazing what that one day does," says Farrell. He makes a point of telling veterans and those who serve as guardians, "It's going to change your life."

Farrell knows what he's talking about. It has changed his life, but more importantly he has seen it change the lives of veterans and their guardians.

Honor Flights have become a passion for Farrell. He laughs relating how his family recruits veterans for the flights and he always has a supply of application forms. The flights are free for the veterans. Farrell's goal is to get the vets safely to Washington and back, for them to see the war memorials and to be honored for the service they have rendered.

Thinking back to that inaugural Rhode Island flight, Farrell confesses, "I didn't know what was going to happen."

He knew one thing from having seen that flight two years earlier in Baltimore.

"It became my personal mission," he said.

What he realized was that firefighters are "particularly well suited for this." He explains that firefight-

ers are trained to respond to critical situations whether it be a call to help someone who may be having a heart attack, an accident or a fire. Firefighters are on the watch for the safety and well being of others and don't hesitate to step in when necessary.

There's more to it than the individuals, Farrell points out. It's the organization, the chain of command and procedures used by firefighters.

"Most of us have fire service command (experience)," he said.

Flight leaders have radios. Buses are named and rosters of those on each bus are checked. The medical needs of each veteran are established well before the flight leaves Rhode Island. (On the flight last month, three of the 42 veterans were on oxygen.) A medic accompanies every flight and wheelchairs are always available even though many veterans insist they don't need them.

"I have confidence of having the best team in Honor Flight," Farrell says without hesitation.

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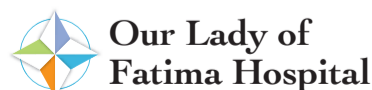
In men over the age of 45, the chances of prostate cancer begin to rise. Unfortunately, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 35,000 men will die from this cancer this year.

Fortunately, a simple blood test called a PSA can help detect prostate cancer early and when treatment options are most effective.

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Roger Williams Medical Center
 Tuesday, November 15TH, 3:00-6:00pm
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'I've seen mock checks before, but this is super special'

Goodfellas Motorcycle Club presents giant \$43,000 check to Hasbro Children's Hospital

By PETE FONTAINE

Almost as soon as Rick DeLuca walked into David Levesque's Brewed Awakenings at 1577 Atwood Ave., in Johnston, the popular coffee and pastry shop was filled with oohs and aahs. That's because DeLuca unrolled a specially made mock check totaling \$43,000 that was especially made by Justin Gontarek's Simplicity Print Studio in Warwick for the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club's extraordinary check presentation to Hasbro Children's Hospital.

"I've seen mock checks before," said Cal Calabro, who organizes the Goodfellas annual motorcycle run. "But this is super special!"

One reason, in particular, was that Gontarek is a member of the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club and utilized his business to further showcase what the Johnston-based bikers have done to help children who are battling cancer.

Moreover, as Goodfellas President Gene Benedetti added: "This (mock check) is more like a banner. We are extremely proud of this year's record-setting donation and are already planning for 2023."

Yet another reason why the Goodfellas raised \$43,000 was through the on-going generosity of Bruno Ramieri, who a year ago made it possible for a then first-ever record of \$41,000. "We cannot thank Bruno enough," said Calabro. "Few people, if any, can or would match his heart-warming generosity."

When Ramieri first learned of the Goodfellas mission a year ago by way of his philanthropic work with Hasbro Children's Hospital, he called Calabro and set up a meeting during which he offered to match dollar-for-dollar up to \$20,000 of whatever the club's bike run took in.

There were 215 bikes a year ago compared to 160-plus this time, yet, those owners and riders took in \$23,000 and including Ramieri's grand gift totaled \$43,000.

"Think about this," suggested Levesque, who is also a staunch supporter of the Goodfellas: "There aren't many groups that have raised that much money in just one day; it's exceptional and extraordinary to say the least!"

To which Michele P. Brannigan, Senior Gifts Officer/Campaign Manager at Hasbro Children's Hospital offered: "Thank you to each and every rider who participated in the 2022 Goodfellas bike run. The club leadership has done an outstanding job engaging the community in their support of the hospital."

Brannigan, who like other club members as well as customers inside Brewed Awakenings went on: "The Goodfellas demonstrate what can happen when caring individuals and thoughtful businesses come together to support a good cause. And, for the past two years, Mr. Bruno Ramieri has matched the Goodfellas fundraising. His support makes a huge impact on the overall achievement."

Thus, speaking with even more sincerity ringing in her voice: "We are so grateful to everyone who makes this event possible. On behalf of the children and families we serve as Hasbro Children's Hospital, thank you to each and every rider and everyone who made this donation possible"

Moreover, the donation was also enhanced by 300 people plus who attended the after party at the Goodfellas Clubhouse in Johnston.

So, as Calabro and Benedetti and other club members wanted it known: "There a lot of Good(fellas) out there and they're not just bikers; we are extremely grateful to our major sponsors who also stepped up to help kids who are battling cancer."

Among those super special sponsors who made the 6th Annual Bike run a smashing success, were: Brewed Awakenings, InterCity Recycling, Gino and Tatiana DiFante, Rosciti Constructors, AGI Construction, RA Cesare Builders, Robert and Jennifer Calabro, Philip Maxwell Auto, Michael Barone Construction, Cotoia Electric Co. LLC, Serenity Transfer & Livery LLC, Buzzy's R & R, D & J Appliance, Little Angel Day Care Inc. and Dan and Gena Calabro.



BRUNO'S BREWED BUDDIES: Bruno Ramieri (fourth left), who for the second time in as many years made it possible for the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club to donate more than \$40,000 to Hasbro Children's Hospital, is joined by Brewed Awakenings Owner David Levesque, Cal Calabro, Michele Brannigan and Gene Benedetti at the recent check presentation.



FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS: Among the people who took part in the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club's check presentation to Hasbro Children's Hospital are: Sherry Saccoccio, Linda Pscatto, Gene Benedetti, Michele Brannigan, Rick DeLuca, Joe Ratte, David Levesque, Anne Banz, Cal Calabro, Jeff Gouche and Bruno Ramieri. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

Johnston Police Log

BENCH WARRANTS

Around 9 a.m., Oct. 5, Warwick Police Officer Aaron L. Steere saw a vehicle exit the UPS facility at 150 Plan Way, without a front registration plate.

He conducted a traffic stop on Jefferson Boulevard, just north of Service Road.

After talking to the occupants, he identified the driver as Christian Duran, 27, of 7 Golini Drive, Johnston. Police allege Duran was driving with a suspended license. Police said Duran had two prior convictions for Driving on Suspended License, making this third offense a misdemeanor.

A passenger in the vehicle, the driver's brother, Henry Duran, 25, of 7 Golini Drive, Apt. 224, Johnston, was found to have two active District Court warrants. According to Warwick Police, one of the warrants was out of Third District Court, and the other out of Sixth, both for Failure to Appear.

Both Christian and Henry Duran were transported to Warwick Police Headquarters. Christian Duran was charged with Driving on Suspended License (third offense) and later released with a Third District Court date of Nov. 1.

Henry Duran was later transported to Third District Court to answer for the two court warrants. Their vehicle was towed from the scene.



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 12

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us at The Bridge at Cherry Hill and start your Christmas shopping. We'll have an assortment of delicious treats from our bake sale that you can taste while you find the perfect gifts!

Call (401) 233-2880 for more information. No RSVP needed.

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WATCH YOUR STEP:

George Farrell assists one of the veterans in the all-women veterans flight hosted by the Federation of Women's Clubs on April 6, 2019 as they enter the terminal and prepare to board the flight for a full day in Washington, DC.



■ Honor

(Continued from page 2)

After being selected for a flight, veterans and their guardians gather for a meet and greet where they learn what will happen in the course of the day. Farrell personally makes a point to meeting each veteran. He assesses if they "feel comfortable" with what they're going to do and gets to hear their stories.

"I want to make sure they can do this safely," he said. He also wants to make sure the veterans feel confident they can make the trip.

"This is a big responsibility," he said of the commitment made by the team. The personal attention is part of the experience for the veterans. While each veteran has a guardian to turn to for assistance, Farrell and the team make a point of connecting with every veteran throughout the day of touring the war memorials and watching the change of the guard at the tomb of the unknown soldier. The senior members of the Honor Flight usually participate in the placing of a wreath at the tomb as part of the ceremony.

Before boarding the return flight to Rhode Island, the group gathers at a hotel for dinner. It's an occasion for newfound friends to gather and for the "mail call" that is a highlight of the day. The Honor Flight team goes to lengths to personalize the letters, photos and mementoes enclosed

in the envelopes as the name of each veteran is called out. Reaching out to family members, friends and former employers they come up with photos from their service and letters of thanks for their service. Entire classes from elementary schools veterans once attended have sent thank you cards.

"There's nothing like this immediate impact," Farrell says of the day-long experience.

What he finds especially rewarding is seeing the emotion of World War II vets in their 90s and now in their 100s who had no expectation of ever visiting the memorials. For some time Honor Flight has included Korean and Vietnam War vets. They also have included vets who have terminal medical conditions.

Farrell, who recently turned 67, shows no sign of slowing down. The team is working on assembling the next flight. It takes scheduling flights, escorts, reserving the hotel, lining up the vets and the guardians and scores of details from designing and making T-shirts to gathering those letters and photos that personalize mail call. It also takes a lot of money too.

A flight averages from \$25,000 to \$30,000 to cover the cost of the vets and the support team. Most guardians pay their own way. Fortunately, there are many generous supporters.

Ocean State Job Lot Charities sponsored three flights. Wayne Moore, one of Farrell's team, has personally sponsored flights and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union

104, Local 42 and Local 2323 have individually or collectively sponsored numerous flights. The list of sponsors or co-sponsors is extensive including National Grid, Centreville Bank, Bob's Red Mill, McShawn's Pub, VFW Post 183, Lepre Physical Therapy and the Cranston Fire Fighters union to name but a few.

"I'm lucky," Farrell said, "not everyone's family is so generous with their time."

His wife, Jane, served as a guardian on the first flight and their daughters have helped with the program since the start. His 94-year old mother was there to greet the most recent flight. Friends have also pitched in. Just this fall a friend who received \$5,000 handed the check over to Farrell. Farrell was stunned. The donor explained he could think of no better use for his windfall.

Rhode Island is a certified National Honor Flight Hub, a distinction it earned for the manner in which it conducts flights.

It's a designation Farrell is proud of and one he believes deserving of the team.

For all his passion to recognize what veterans have done for this country, Farrell did not serve in the military. His father and father-in-law both served during World War II. His number was on the Vietnam draft list when he turned 18, but soon after the draft was dropped.

Now his reward comes from honoring those who did serve, and, most of all, showing appreciation for their sacrifice and what it means to a grateful nation.

Elves for Elders



A program coordinated by Seniors Rule to obtain gifts for seniors in facilities across RI who may not receive a gift for the Holidays

The tree located at customer service has stars with a senior's first name, gift request and size

Pick a star, purchase the gift, and return it to customer service with an appropriately sized gift bag.

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SUN RISE SCOOPS

Sun Rise Staff Reports

REMEMBERING VETERANS

2022 Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kids Run

The ninth annual 2022 Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kids Run, an annual event designed to bring honor and recognition to Veterans Day, will be held at Roger Williams Park on Friday, Nov. 11. Proceeds from the event will benefit programs for the school throughout the year and as a means of giving back to a worthwhile cause, Operation Stand Down RI.

The One Mile Kids Run will take place in the Park on a specially designed course. This race will begin at 8:30 a.m. The race is open to all elementary and middle school students. Cost for this race is \$10 (T-shirts to the first 50 entries for this race).

Start and finish of the 5k race at the Park Avenue entrance to Roger Williams Park across from Park View Middle School. The 5k starts at 9:30 a.m.

T-shirts to the first 500 entries for the 5k race. Post-race food and beverages will be served. Awards are given to the top male and female finisher. Awards to the top men and women in each division: 8th grade and under, high school division, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+.

Packet Pick up will be at the Park View Middle School Gym, Thursday, Nov. 10, from 3-5 p.m. Race day registration and pickup begins at 7 a.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Register online.

OSDRI Holiday Food Drive

Operation Stand Down RI is putting out a call to action to the local community in the days leading up to Veterans Day. On Friday, Oct. 21, OSDRI began seeking support from the local community to help stock the OSDRI food pantry shelves in time for the Holiday Season.

Individuals and organizations looking to contribute are invited to drop off Gift Cards and food items between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

OSDRI is seeking the following food items: canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing mix, boxed dessert, and gift cards to local supermarkets.

OSDRI headquarters is located at 1010 Hartford Ave., Johnston.

Veterans' Day Mass

Mass for Veterans' Day will be celebrated on Friday, Nov. 11 at 12:05 p.m. at Saint Paul Church, One Saint Paul Place, Cranston. The Mass, celebrated by Fr. Thomas Woodhouse, will feature enhanced musical selections played by Music Director Jason Hervieux. Everyone, especially all veterans, are invited and encouraged to attend. Please consider inviting a veteran you know to come to Mass along with you. Come let us give glory to God and thanks to those who served our great country.

Veterans Voices

Trinity Rep announces its second annual Veterans Voices performance showcase, presented as part of the theater's Green Light Ghost Light Project. Veterans Voices features performances, music, and readings from local veterans about their time during and after military service. This special event will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m., just in time for Veterans Day, in Trinity Rep's Chace Theater at 201 Washington St. in Providence.

Veterans Voices is free to attend and open to the public with a post-show reception to follow. To register, call Trinity Rep's Ticket Office at 401-351-4242 or visit trinityrep.com/veterans later in the week.

By combining Trinity Rep's longstanding theatrical traditions with the emotions and experiences of local veterans, Veterans Voices aims to educate the community on veterans' issues — and give veterans a platform to share their stories. Returning performers include West Point graduate and musician Big Lux and the band Guitars for Vets. Trinity Rep will also work with Providence Clemente Veterans' Initiative (PCVI) to coordinate Veteran Voices for the second year in a row. Many of this year's Veterans Voices participants are current or graduated students from PCVI humanities courses.

"Military service isn't very common in the United States today," PCVI Director Dr. Mark Santow said. "Too often, when we do turn toward our veterans, we do so with words and gestures that can feel trite or inadequate. They become symbols, not complex individual human beings, with stories and ideas and emotions that they need to share, and that we need to hear. We need to hear what they have to say not just to share their pride in their accomplishments, but to share at least some of the burden of their pain and loss, too — they carry these things, because we've asked them to. They don't put them down when they come home, as their loved ones can tell you. We shouldn't either."

Veteran Voices is an extension of Trinity Rep's ongoing engagement with Rhode Island's veteran community, The Green Light Ghost Light Project. Created to share veterans' stories, the Green Light Ghost Light Project is a combination of the Greenlight a Vet initiative, in which communities light a green light to show support for veterans, and the Ghost Light Project, in which theaters leave a light on to signal that the theater is a safe space for all.

"This event sees the vision of the Green Light Ghost Light Project that I began here at Trinity Rep come to fruition, where veterans can make the stage their own: for their stories, by them, and I am so honored to have them here to share this moment." Director of Community Engagement Dr. Michelle Cruz said.

Letters From Home

From January through May 2023, Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann will be traveling

the entire country performing one show in each of the United States as the singing and dancing sensation called "Letters From Home."

McVinney Auditorium is going to be the host for the official Rhode Island stop of the tour, which will take place at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023.

"Letters From Home" was founded in 2010, featuring music from the soundtracks of WWII, Vietnam, and beyond. This vaudeville-style singing & tap dancing duo has honored our veterans, active military heroes and their families, by uniting the nation through music.

All 50 venues across the United States have been secured for the tour and tickets are now available. To view the tour route or to purchase tickets in the state nearest you, visit www.LettersFromHomeSingers.com.

Veterans Day Parade

The City of Cranston will once again hold its Veterans Day Parade at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 11. The parade will kick off in front of Legion Bowl on Park Avenue, continue past City Hall up to Heyward Street and past Rolfe Street. A ceremony at the cannon memorial will immediately flood the parade. Any group/organization that wants to march can contact Paul McAuley at pmcauley@crans-tonri.org.

Hearing from a Veteran

Join Cranston Public Library at Central on Nov. 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. as Don Mellor, a 101-year-old Cranston native and World War II Navy veteran, talks about his experiences aboard the U.S.S. Hopewell (DD - 681) in the South Pacific during the height of the war. Don will share stories, answer questions, and show several posters of images from his Navy days.

Don is also the subject of a recently published book, "Committed: Lessons from a 101-Year-Old Tin Can Sailor: the Story of Don Mellor," written by his children. A limited number of copies will be available to give away while supplies last. Register online.

HOLIDAY CHURCH BAZAARS

Phillips Memorial Baptist Church Bazaar
Come together for Phillips Memorial Baptist Church Holiday Bazaar (565 Pontiac Ave Cranston)! November 19th, 9am-1pm. From 9am-10:30am enjoy a cup of coffee and goodie at the Coffee Nook, then start your shopping! Basement bargains and treasures, baked goods, needle works, oldtiques, crafts, jewelry and more!

St. Robert Bellarmine Holiday Bazaar

A fundraising Holiday Bazaar featuring food, a straw game, raffles, a silent auction, and many vendor tables will be held at St. Robert Bellarmine Church Hall, at 1804 Atwood Ave., Johnston, on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit St. Robert's Food Shelf, which provides food to all neighbors

in need, regardless of religious affiliation. Join us for fun and fellowship while helping our neighbors. For general information, contact Sandy at 946-3262 or Terry at 331-7075.

St. Mary's Craft and Vendor Show

St. Mary's Feast Society Ladies' Auxiliary will host its annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 12. There will be vendors, crafters, handmade items, baked goods, raffles, food and more.

Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food Drive

Jingle all the way to the Ocean State Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food drive on Nov. 25 to 27. Down at the Cowesett Corners Shopping Center, 300 Quaker Lane, Warwick. Bring along a canned good or nonperishable item and receive \$1 off the admission fee. Follow the snowman and find the perfect Holiday gifts.

MISCELLANEOUS

Johnston Historical Society Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Johnston Historical Society Museum Barn, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston, and are free and open to the public. Events are subject to change.

November General Meeting: At 7 p.m., Nov. 30, local collector and Smith-Appleby House Museum Curator Sandra Achille will give a presentation on Esmond Mill blankets.

BY APPOINTMENT: Please note Both the Johnston Historical Society museum and the Elijah Angell House are open by appointment. The Johnston Historical Society always welcome visits by interested individuals or groups. Just shoot them an email at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, or leave a message at 401-231-3380 to set one up. To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

Neighborhood Watch

The 2022 season of Johnston's Neighborhood Watch has officially kicked off. This Neighborhood Watch brings together residents who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together with members of the police department. The program pairs residents with Johnston Police officers in an effort to open up communication, meet other neighbors and create partnerships that help build community resiliency.

Consider donating blood

The Rhode Island Blood Center is in need of blood donations. Individuals wishing to donate must book an appointment at the donation center; walk-ins are only accepted if safe distancing allows at the person's time of arrival.

Nearby areas to donate include The Shops at Greenwood, which is located at 615 Greenwich Ave., in Warwick. Sign up by visiting www.ribc.org.

PONTIAC AVENUE BRIDGE INTERCHANGE CLOSURES

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) will implement two weekend closures of Pontiac Avenue at the Pontiac Bridge Interchange in Cranston over two weekends. The two closures will take place on Friday November 11 from 8 p.m. to November 14 at 6 a.m. and Friday November 18 from 8 p.m. to November 21 at 6 a.m. This work is necessary for two bridge slides at the interchange. During the bridgework, traffic will continue to flow on Route 37 using the on and off ramps.

Marked detours will be in place. Please plan to use alternate routes as delays are expected.



Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903
401-222-2450
www.ridot.net

CAREER FAIR

**TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 15**

12-5 pm
South County Hospital Lobby
100 Kenyon Avenue, Wakefield

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 16**

12-5 pm
South County Health
Medical & Wellness Center
120 Centerville Road, Warwick

SOUTH COUNTY HEALTH

HIRING ALL POSITIONS

Nurses	Facilities
Providers	IT Professionals
Home Health	Medical Assistant
Nursing Assistant	Billing Specialist
Food Services	EKG Technician
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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022



AT THE POLLS: Allan Fung and his wife Barbara Ann Fung arrived at the Hope Highlands School Election Day to be greeted by a bevy of reporters. Here they were joined by Mayor Ken Hopkins before entering the school to cast their ballots. (Cranston Herald photo)

Fung falls short

By EMMA BARTLETT and JOHN HOWELL

It was a roller coaster ride Election Night that didn't end well for the man who led Cranston for 12 years and was ready to do even bigger things in Washington.

As the votes started coming in shortly after 8:15 p.m., those who had gathered at the Twin Oakes with hopes of a victory party, were seeing and hearing what they wanted. Radio host John DePetro who was live streaming from the restaurant announced loudly that Allan Fung was ahead of Seth Magaziner by four points in the race for the Second Congressional District. That caused a stir and there was a smattering of cheers. DePetro's information had come from Fox News.

But JR Pagliarini, who has been through many political races not only as a campaign consultant but at one time a candidate, wasn't swayed. Yes, he said it was good that Fung was ahead, however, only a small percentage of the vote was in. Ten minutes later, Fung's lead was shaved down to a two point lead and soon thereafter according to the State Board of Elections tally had them in a dead heat. Might this race come down to the mail ballots and perhaps a recount?

By 9:30 what little steam there had been for a victory celebration evaporated and the room started clearing out. Even some of the news media that had camped in front of the podium bearing Fung's banner drifted away. Fung's mother, who had a front row seat had left. By 11:06 p.m. Tuesday, the State Board of Elections was reporting Fung with 46.9 percent of the votes and Magaziner with 50.3 percent. With 99 percent of the state's polling places reporting, Fung was trailing by 6,568 votes.

Pagliarini was crestfallen not only because Fung, a Republican and a friend, had lost but because the state had missed an opportunity to offset Democratic control.

"It's healthy for our democracy," he said. Had Fung won he said it would have been an historical moment not seen in the state for the past 30 years.

"In Rhode Island when the Democratic Party coalesces it's very difficult to break them," he said. Former Mayor Michael Traficante joined in the conversation. He was appalled that Fung's margin in Cranston was about 500 votes. Pagliarini agreed that was weak and speculated had there been mayoral races in Cranston and Warwick the results might have been otherwise.

Fung's lasting mark on Cranston

Fung, 52, grew up on the south side of Providence and graduated from Classical High School. As the first in his family to graduate from college, Fung earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Rhode Island College and furthered his education at Boston's Suffolk University Law School.

Before his public servant career, Fung worked as a criminal prosecutor in the Narcotics and Organized Crime Unit of the RI Attorney General's Office and later the Government Affairs Counsel for MetLife.

Fung was first elected to Cranston's City Council in 2003 as a citywide candidate and served on the elected body until 2007. In 2008, Fung was elected as mayor - beating Democrat Cynthia Fogarty with 63 percent of the vote. According to Fung's website, he ran in Cranston's mayoral election because he saw his beloved city heading down the wrong path and knew he could help right the ship. He maintained the mayoral position for 12 years until he could not run again due to term limits. Over the course of his time running for mayor, Fung earned a greater percentage of Cranston's vote in each election, up until the 2016 election. In 2010 against Richard Tomlins, Fung earned 76.3 percent of the vote and - when he ran unopposed in 2012 - 97.2 percent of voters favored him. In 2016, Fung faced Michael Sepe and took 68.2 percent of the vote.

In Cranston, Fung led the city to its highest bond rating in over two decades, increased business development by over \$110 million and added over 4700 new jobs during his tenure. He also negotiated pension reforms and worked with the local public schools.

In terms of public safety, Fung started the first police detail program to monitor and protect children at schools and ensured funding for the city's school resource officers. He also worked in Cranston to expand community policing and opening substations in senior manors in Edgewood and Knightsville.

Fung took his ideas to the state level when, in 2014 and 2018, he ran for governor as the Republican nominee; he lost to Democrat Gina Raimondo both times in the General Election. After serving as Cranston's mayor, Fung returned to practicing law. Earlier in the year when Democratic Rep. Jim Langevin announced his retirement, Fung decided to run for the CD2 seat - looking to bring a Republican into the position after the Democratic Party has held the seat for the last three decades.

Magaziner's presence in District 2

Magaziner, 39, is a lifelong Rhode Islander who has served as Rhode Island's General Treasurer since 2015. In this position, he delivered results for the second congressional district by investing in education, job creation and clean energy infrastructure. He also served as the chair of the state's school building task force and led a statewide school construction initiative that created over 28,000 jobs and repaired or replaced over 200 schools like Garden City Elementary School in

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Watch Your MOUTH

by Rochelle Rhodes, D.M.D. and David McFarland, D.D.S.

WHAT IS A GUM STIMULATOR?

A gum stimulator is a dental tool that can be used at home to strengthen the gums by massaging and stimulating them. The tool has a pointed rubber or silicone tip at the top of a curved metal arm, which is designed to reach hard-to-clean spaces. It is used to massage the gums at the gumline in order to increase blood flow to those areas. This can help heal or prevent gum infections and disease by allowing more oxygen to reach the gum tissues. A gum stimulator can also be used to remove plaque and food debris from underneath the gumline. They additionally work well for cleaning around teeth in people who have large gaps between teeth or missing teeth.

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- Thurs. Dec 15- WHITE'S of Westport 12:15
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ENDORSED: In October, Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena and Rhode Island General Treasurer Seth Magaziner joined President of the National Committee to Protect Social Security and Medicare Political Action Committee (NCPSSM PAC) Max Richtman (at the lectern) and Rhode Island Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, to announce the organization's endorsement of Magaziner's candidacy in the state's second Congressional District race against Republican opponent Allan Fung. (*Sun Rise FILE photo*)

CD2

(Continued from page 6)

Cranston and the soon-to-be-completed combined elementary school in Johnston. He also launched innovative clean energy financing programs that have helped cities and towns build out solar, wind and climate resiliency projects, saving taxpayers money and reducing fossil fuel emissions.

Over the last eight years, he helped pass the Reproductive Privacy Act in 2019 that codified the protections of Roe v. Wade into state law, as well as gun measures like banning guns on school grounds and a red flag law to take guns out of the hands of domestic abusers.

Formally endorsed by Langevin for the CD2 seat, Magaziner won the Democratic primary with 54 percent of the vote. The next candidate to follow was David Segal with 16.2 percent of the vote. In the race, Magaziner had five opponents.

Campaign focus points

Fung's platform focused on curbing inflation, lowering the cost of living, fighting for low energy costs, restoring energy independence and modernizing the supply chain. He also advocated for getting to the root of criminal behaviors, such as poverty, mental health issues and dependency.

"We need to address these issues by being active and present in our community and advocating for common-sense bipartisan initiatives," reads Fung's website.

During his campaign, Fung spoke of improving the ability to provide mental and physical support for veterans as well as improving rehab technologies for those who need upgraded prosthetics or burn care from injuries sustained in conflict. For veterans, Fung also sought to increase access to housing vouchers and improved preference in HUD apartment complexes.

Magaziner's platform included building a stronger economy, lowering costs, having public health and pandemic preparedness, making healthcare more affordable, protecting social security and Medicare, defending reproductive rights, ending gun violence, lowering cost of energy and combating climate change, protecting democracy and strengthening America and supporting veterans.

He also advocated for helping Rhode Islanders keep up with the cost of living by protecting Social Security and Medicare, lowering the price of prescription drugs and returning big oil company profits back to consumers. One of the key points in his campaign was that he would stand up for a woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions and pass common-sense gun safety legislation.



ON THE TRAIL: Allan Fung, center, and former U.S. Presidential candidate and ex-Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie, at left, campaigned around the Ocean State through the Columbus Day weekend, appearing on Federal Hill, and met with Rhode Island constituents at the Scituate Arts Festival, shown here. (Photo courtesy Allan Fung's campaign)

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251 Phippen Orchard Road
Thurs. Nov. 10th @ 5:30PM

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945 Reservoir Avenue
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Tues. Nov. 8th @ 1PM
Tues. Nov. 8th @ 5:30PM
Fri. Nov. 11th @ 1PM
Mon. Nov. 14th @ 5:30PM
Tues. Nov. 15th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Nov. 15th @ 2PM
Tues. Nov 15th @ 5:30PM
Fri. Nov. 18th @ 1PM
Sat. Nov. 19th @ 10AM
Mon. Nov. 21st @ 1PM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 10:30AM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 2PM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 5:30PM
Thurs. Dec. 1st @ 10AM
Fri. Dec. 2nd @ 1PM

CRANSTON, RI
Universal Wealth Management
945 Reservoir Avenue
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 2:30PM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 5:30PM

EAST GREENWICH, RI
East Greenwich Public Library
82 Pierce Street
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 10AM

NORTH SCITUATE, RI
North Scituate Public Library
606 West Greenville Road
Wed. Nov. 9th @ 4PM

PROVIDENCE, RI
Chelo's Providence
505 Silver Spring Street
Thurs. Nov. 10th @ 11AM

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2022 RICAS RESULTS



ANALYSIS: Johnston Schools Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr. concedes the school district has a lot of work to do to improve test scores in town. He said test scores in Johnston "went up in most areas with the biggest increase in math with a 9.5% increase in math proficiency." (*Sun Rise FILE photo*)

RICAS

(Continued from page 1)

In short, statewide, year-over-year (pre-pandemic) students improved in the math assessment and many struggled with English Language Arts/Literacy. Overall ELA scores however, were slightly more optimistic than math tallies.

Math

Across Rhode Island (including all grades, schools and student population groups) RIDE says 59,741 public school students took the math RICAS exam (97.8%).

The results indicate 25.8 percent are "Not Meeting Expectations" in mathematics.

The rest: 47.3% scored "Partially Meeting Expectations," 24.4% "Meeting Expectations," and only 2.6% are "Exceeding Expectations."

According to RIDE, the RICAS 2022 results "show that student performance in ELA and math varied across Rhode Island, but there was a considerable increase in math proficiency with a nearly 7% rise compared to 2021, from 20.1% to 26.9%."

"This increase was seen regardless of students' grade level, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, and multilingualism," according to RIDE. "All grade levels demonstrated higher performance in math in comparison to performance in 2021 but are still generally below their 2019 pre-pandemic performance."

The RIDE data portal (available on the agency's website) provides statistics for every school district in the state. The cities of Warwick, Cranston and Johnston all had similar results; with some districts performing better than others in specific areas.

In Cranston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 4,524 students took the math exam (99.3%). Across the district, 24% scored Not Meeting Expectations, 54.3% Partially Meeting Expectations, 20.6% Meeting Expectations, and only 1.1% Exceeding Expectations.

Contacted this week for comment, Cranston Schools Superintendent Jeannine Nota-Masse did not respond by deadline.

In Johnston (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 1,442 students took the math exam (98.6%). Across the district, 19.4% of students scored Not Meeting Expectations, 58.9% Partially Meeting Expectations, 20.7% Meeting Expectations, and only 1% Exceeding Expectations.

"We had good participation on all testing. 95% is required and we either met or exceeded that," said Johnston Schools Superintendent Bernard DiLullo Jr. "We went up in most areas with the biggest increase in math with a 9.5% increase in math proficiency."

In Warwick, (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 3,625 students took the math exam (99.2%). Across the district, 21.1% of students scored Not Meeting Expectations, 50% Partially Meeting Expectations, 27% Meeting Expectations, and only 1.8% Exceeding Expectations.

"Even though we are not at the proficiency levels that the Warwick School District is striving for, many schools made significant progress," said Warwick Schools Superintendent Lynn Dambruch. "Overall the district maintained the ELA scores from last year and increased the math scores by 8%."

RIDE notes that the "largest increases in math proficiency were seen in grades 3, 4, and 6 with increases ranging from approximately 2.3% points in grade 7 to 9.9% points in grade 3."

"This upswing in Rhode Island is counter to the historic decline in math scores seen in the national data

released by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in late October," according to a statement from RIDE. "When comparing Rhode Island to Massachusetts, both states saw similar increases in math. Overall, while there were gains in Rhode Island, about one fourth of students are proficient in math in grades 3 through 8."

ELA

Across Rhode Island, on average, students performed worse in the ELA portion of the exams (English Language Arts/Literacy). Statewide (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 59,399 students took the exam (98.4%).

The results indicate that 24.6% are Not Meeting Expectations in ELA.

The rest of the state's students: 44.3% scored Partially Meeting Expectations, 27.1% Meeting Expectations, and 4% Exceeding Expectations.

In Cranston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 4,488 students took the ELA exam (99.5%). Of those, across the city, the state found that 19.9% are Not Meeting Expectations, 48.2% are Partially Meeting Expectations, 28.9% Meeting Expectations, and 3.1% Exceeding Expectations.

In Johnston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 1,442 students took the ELA exam (98.9%). The state found that 20.2% are Not Meeting Expectations, 47.6% Partially Meeting Expectations, 29% Meeting Expectations, and 3.3% Exceeding Expectations.

2021-22 RICAS RESULTS

English Language Arts/Literacy

Statewide (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
59,399 students took the exam (98.4%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 24.6%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 44.3%
3-Meeting Expectations: 27.1%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 4%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 31.1%
Average Scale Score: 488

Cranston (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
4,488 students took the exam (99.5%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 19.9%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 48.2%
3-Meeting Expectations: 28.9%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 3.1%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 32%
Average Scale Score: 489

Johnston (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
1,442 students took the exam (98.9%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 20.2%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 47.6%
3-Meeting Expectations: 29%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 3.3%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 32.2%
Average Scale Score: 489

Warwick (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
3,625 students took the exam (99.2%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 21.1%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 50%
3-Meeting Expectations: 27%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.8%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 28.9%
Average Scale Score: 487

Math

Statewide (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
59,741 students took the exam (97.8%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 25.8%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 47.3%
3-Meeting Expectations: 24.4%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 2.6%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 26.9%
Average Scale Score: 485

Cranston (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
4,524 students took the exam (99.3%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 24%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 54.3%
3-Meeting Expectations: 20.6%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.1%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 21.7%
Average Scale Score: 484

Johnston (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
1,442 students took the exam (98.6%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 19.4%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 58.9%
3-Meeting Expectations: 20.7%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 1%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 21.7%
Average Scale Score: 486

Warwick (All Grades, Schools, Groups):
3,625 students took the exam (99.2%)

1-Not Meeting Expectations: 21.1%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 50%
3-Meeting Expectations: 27%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.8%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 28.9%
Average Scale Score: 487

"The only area we went down in by 1% is high school ELA based on the SAT," DiLullo said. "The trend is definitely showing recovery from the two COVID years. The pre-pandemic testing result is 2019. As you can see ... we are nearing or exceeding those scores, recovering from a decline in 2021. The disappointing scores still are the subgroups of the differently abled and multilingual students."

In Warwick (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 3,625 students took the exam (99.2%). The results indicate that 21.1% of students are Not Meeting Expectations, 50% Partially Meeting Expectations, 27% Meeting Expectations, and 1.8% Exceeding Expectations.

"We acknowledge that there is more work that needs to be done," Dambruch said. "School-level data is being analyzed by School Improvement Teams and action steps to improve ELA and Math proficiency will be incorporated into School Improvement Plans and the District Strategic Plan."

The state education agency notes Rhode Island's 2022 ELA results "show that proficiency declined across the state by approximately 2% compared to 2021, from 33.2% to 31.1%."

"As expected, Rhode Island saw lower performance in early grades where there were approximate drops of 3.9% points in grade 3 and 6.4% in grade 4," according to a statement from RIDE. "For these younger students, the pandemic was particularly disruptive to reading and comprehension with the transition to remote learning and quarantining during critical years for learning and development."

RIDE compared the Ocean State's results with the Bay State's.

"Rhode Island saw less of a drop in ELA at 2% than Massachusetts which saw a 5% decrease," according to RIDE. "Overall, one third of students are proficient in ELA in grades 3 through 8. Further, performance across all grades is still lower than it was pre-pandemic. This decline in ELA is similar to what was seen in national trends."

The Gameplan

Schools are still making sense of the data, comparing it to past years and looking at breakdowns of student sub-categories.

"The extended day program at the elementary schools will continue this year to accelerate learning," Dambruch explained. "Rigorous new curricula are being implemented at every level. The district also increased the number of math and reading interventionists."

Johnston Schools are also formulating a list of potential strategies. DiLullo provided a six-point plan.

"The district has had a plan in place to continue to address the needs of all students as follows as there is still work to be done to increase proficiency," he explained. "(First) Our teachers are receiving training in research based reading instruction. (Second) We have coaching from Highlander institute working with special education teachers and MLL teachers. (Third) There are interventionists in each building that support student needs. (Fourth) We have purchased high quality curriculum materials in ELA and Math. (Fifth) We have instituted common assessments to ensure teachers stay on pace and students are meeting the standards. (Sixth) We are providing ongoing training to all teachers on effective instructional practice."

Student By Student

The state's trying to better communicate RICAS data by providing new services to parents.

"Recognizing the importance of students and families better understanding RICAS scores and how they may be factored in education decision-making, this year RIDE announced that for the first time it will launch informational videos for families specifically tailored for their student," according to RIDE. "Personalized Individual Student Reports that are expected to be received by districts on Nov. 10 will include a new feature that will allow easy access to individualized, multilingual videos through a QR code. The videos will be available in 10 languages and will provide families greater insight on their child's performance and allow comparisons to school, district, and state performance."

State officials urged taxpayers to pay attention to the dark cloud's silver lining.

"With our collective focus on continued learning acceleration across Rhode Island and the guidance of the Learning, Equity & Accelerated Pathways (LEAP) Task Force's report, we are optimistic that our students will continue to make up ground," Infante-Green said. "Rhode Island schools worked diligently to fully return to in-person learning last year, but we know it was not a typical year because COVID-19 still impacted most aspects of education here and across the nation. RIDE will continue to support school leaders to better serve the needs of students and meet the priorities of their communities to help all students recover."

Editor's Note: School administrators are still interpreting this year's data. As they get a clearer picture of achievement, failure and the path forward, we'll provide future stories. Look for more detailed local breakdowns and RICAS analysis in upcoming editions.

Opinion

EDITORIAL

Ten years of truly serving veterans

In a world where it seems we can hardly agree on anything — and particularly amidst a political season where our worst tribal qualities are on all too apparent display — it is nice to be reminded now and again that sometimes we are able to pull together something meaningful and worthy of celebration.

Honor Flights are such an endeavor, and we are fortunate in this state to have such a dedicated team of volunteers and generous organizations to help pull them off.

It all starts at the top, from the program's originator in Rhode Island, George Farrell. Inspired after seeing one of these flights at the Baltimore/Washington Airport a little 12 years ago, Farrell has turned that inspiration into a sustained movement, resulting in 27 flights in 10 years of operation, ferrying hundreds of service members to Washington to get a chance to see monuments dedicated to their service, and memorials dedicated to their friends and brothers-in-arms who served with them.

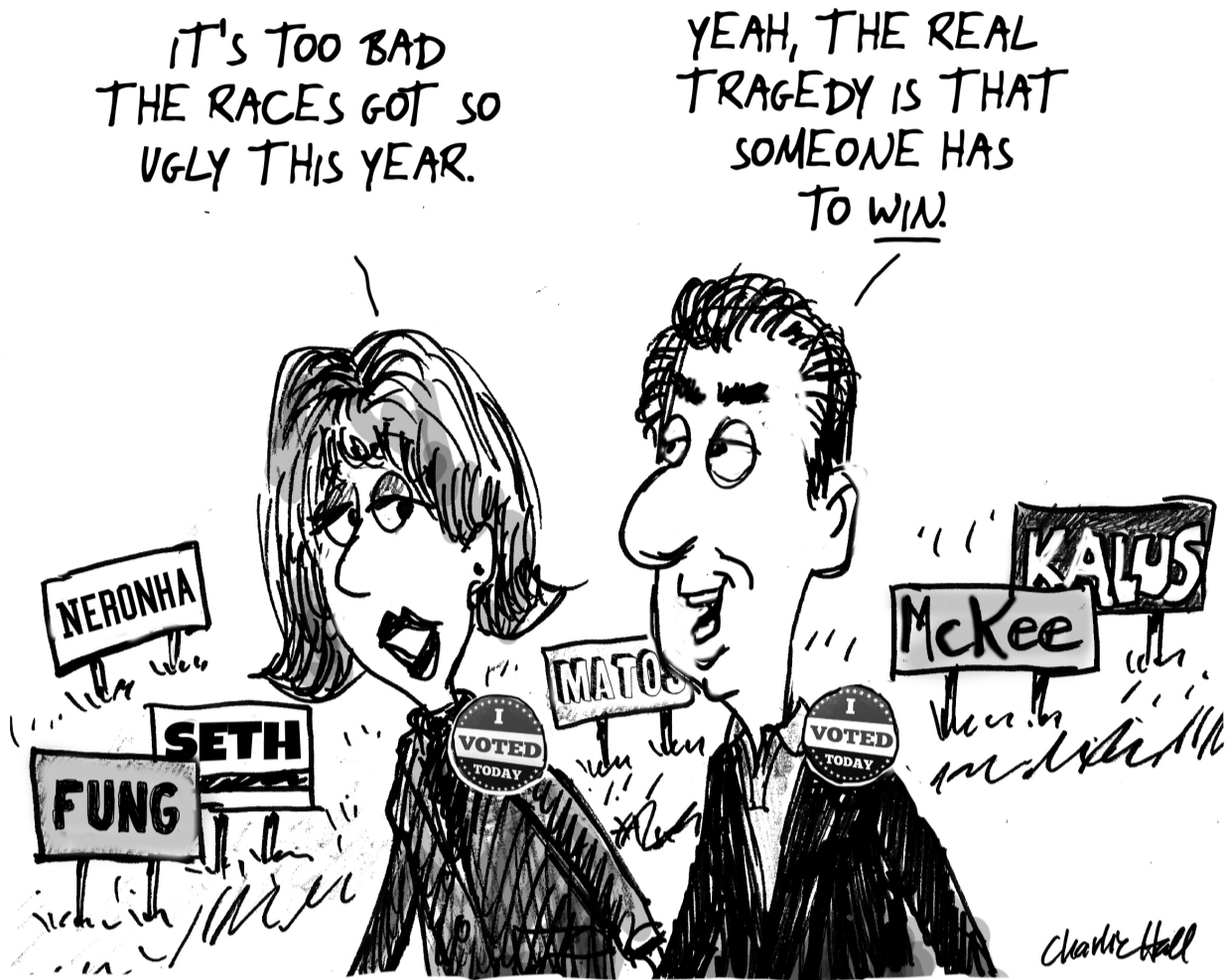
There is no denying that the nation has a lot of healing to do when it comes to how we interact and work with one another. Our very institutions are under threat from agenda-driven groups who seek to undermine or deny the integrity of elections that these veterans fought so bravely to protect. Farrell, and the group of volunteers and donors who help make these amazing flights happen, do the country proud by honoring our best, most important values — respect and admiration for those who sacrificed their own safety and freedom to help ensure we have safety and freedom ourselves.

Some of these veterans are approaching 100 years old, or have eclipsed that number. For some of them, this will be their final, or their only trip to see these memorials and monuments erected in their honor. It is not something done out of any ulterior motive but to provide a chance for meaningful reflection to those men and women, for what was undoubtedly an incredibly important and formative experience in their lives.

Truly, it is difficult to navigate today's world without some inner sense of cynicism. Somebody is always trying to profit, or negotiate power in order to exert influence over others, it seems. But with Honor Flights, we can rest assured that this is a mission of pure heart and intent, and the results on the people who undergo the journey speaks for itself.

With Veterans Day on the horizon, it is worth taking a moment to reflect on this amazing program, and to consider donating time or funds to this wholly American, wholly worthy cause.

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



LETTERS

Deer me, collisions and cheap insurance?

I read your latest article on cars versus the local fauna (DEM reported 91 Warwick deer crashes last year) and I have just a few points to address.

Automobiles and animals will always be in competition for the right of way. It is a sad reality that so many innocent critters are killed on American roads every year. Most are unavoidable, others avoidable, but it happens nonetheless.

Regarding the local deer population, accidents are often avoidable with the right equip-

ment. Enter deer whistles. They are available at auto and hardware stores and online.

They work above 30 mph. A frequency is emitted near that of a dog whistle and it cannot be heard by human ears. There are two different pitches that work together to get their attention.

Here's an anecdotal story. Some years ago I was driving across Jamestown on 138 on a Sunday morning about 8 a.m. toward Newport when I noticed three deer grazing on the right shoulder. When I drove

up towards them, they looked up... and froze! I have never seen that behavior before.

They heard my deer whistles mounted on the front bumper of my car and, thankfully, the four of us continued doing what we were doing without incident.

In my estimation, they do work. Odd that AAA (which referenced the DEM report on deer crashes) didn't mention that alternative. As they used to say, "it's cheap insurance."

Jim Morgan, Warwick



Publisher John I. Howell Jr. - JohnH@rhodybeat.com	Credit Manager Lynne Taylor
General Manager Richard G. Fleischer - RichardF@rhodybeat.com	Bookkeeping Leslie Paz
Advertising Director Donna Zarrella - Donna Z@rhodybeat.com	Production Manager Lisa Bourque Yuettner - LisaB@rhodybeat.com
Editor Rory Schuler - RoryS@rhodybeat.com	Production Staff Monique Rice - MoR@rhodybeat.com
Sports Editor Alex Sponseller - AlexS@rhodybeat.com	Advertising Representative Natalie Payette - NatalieP@rhodybeat.com
Journalists Pete Fontaine	Spotlight Profile Writer Jennifer Coates - JenniferC@rhodybeat.com
Classified Advertising Ashley Medeiros - AshleyM@rhodybeat.com	Tel. 401-732-3100 Fax: 401-732-3110
Circulation Leslie Paz	

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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022 RESULTS

How did Johnston vote?

Editor's Note: The following are unofficial voting tallies for 12 of 12 Johnston polling places. Several of these races were statewide contests. See Rhode Island statewide voting results for final race determinations. Election data courtesy Rhode Island Secretary of State.

Mayor Town of Johnston

Joseph M. Polisena, Jr. (DEM)	7119	68.9%
Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick (Ind)	1697	16.4%
Brenda Lynn Leone (Ind)	1423	13.8%
Write-in	97	0.9%

Town Council Johnston District 1

Linda L. Folcarelli (DEM)	1331	94.7%
Write-in	75	5.3%

Town Council Johnston District 2

Lauren Garzone (DEM)	1508	92.6%
Write-in	121	7.4%

Town Council Johnston District 3

Alfred T. Carnevale (DEM)	1504	94.8%
Write-in	82	5.2%

Town Council Johnston District 4

Robert V. Russo (DEM)	1764	95.6%
Write-in	81	4.4%

Town Council Johnston District 5

Robert J. Civetti (DEM)	1429	59.8%
Jeanette A. Scarcella (Ind)	939	39.3%
Write-in	23	1.0%

School Committee Johnston District 2

Dawn M. Aloisio (DEM)	1477	94.1%
Write-in	92	5.9%

School Committee Johnston District 3

Marysue Andreozzi (DEM)	1459	95.2%
Write-in	74	4.8%

School Committee Johnston District 5

Susan M. Mansolillo (DEM)	1890	94.6%
Write-in	107	5.4%

Representative in Congress District 2

Allan W. Fung (REP)	6217	58.1%
Seth M. Magaziner (DEM)	4218	39.4%
William H. Gilbert (MOD)	249	2.3%
Write-In	9	0.1%

Governor

Ashley Marie Kalus (REP)	5533	51.7%
Daniel J. McKee (DEM)	4885	45.6%
Paul A. Rianna, Jr. (Ind)	115	1.1%
Zachary Baker Hurwitz (Ind)	93	0.9%
Elijah J. Gizzarelli (Lib)	67	0.6%
Write-in	16	0.1%

Lieutenant Governor

Aaron C. Guckian (REP)	5886	55.6%
Sabina Matos (DEM)	4149	39.2%
Ind Ross K. McCurdy (Ind)	538	5.1%
Write-in	13	0.1%

Secretary of State

Pat V. Cortellessa (REP)	5519	52.5%
Gregg Amore (DEM)	4974	47.3%
Write-in	26	0.2%

Attorney General

Peter F. Neronha (DEM)	5369	50.9%
Charles C. Calenda (REP)	5167	48.9%
Write-in	21	0.2%

General Treasurer

James L. Lathrop (REP)	5796	55.1%
James A. Diossa (DEM)	4702	44.7%
Write-in	22	0.2%

Senator in General Assembly District 7

Frank Anthony Ciccone (DEM)	532	92.8%
Write-in	41	7.2%

Senator in General Assembly District 25

Frank Lombardo, III (DEM)	7200	93.3%
Write-in	519	6.7%

Representative in General Assembly District 13

Ramon A. Perez (DEM)	368	54.8%
Ivan J. Montanez (Ind)	290	43.2%
Write-in	14	2.1%

Representative in General Assembly District 42

Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (DEM)	1988	52.9%
Harold K. Borders, Jr. (REP)	1756	46.7%
Write-in	14	0.4%

Representative in General Assembly District 43

Deborah Ann Fellela (DEM)	2596	51.5%
Nicola Antonio Grasso (REP)	2430	48.2%
Write-in	15	0.3%

Representative in General Assembly District 44

Peter Anthony Trementozzi (REP)	469	51.3%
Gregory J. Costantino (DEM)	443	48.5%
Write-in	2	0.2%

REFERENDA

1. URI NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS - \$100,000,000

Approve	5182	51.7%
Reject	4845	48.3%

2. RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDINGS - \$250,000,000

Approve	7400	73.2%
Reject	2709	26.8%

3. GREEN ECONOMY BONDS - \$50,000,000

Approve	5982	59.8%
Reject	4019	40.2%

4. RHODE ISLAND CANNABIS ACT - LOCAL LICENSING

Approve	5443	56.0%
Reject	4278	44.0%

LEGAL NOTICES

JOHNSTON ZONING BOARD MEETING AGENDA Thursday, November 17th, 2022 at 6:30 PM Johnston Senior Center 1291 Hartford Avenue

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Review will hold a meeting on November 17th, 2022 at 6:30 pm, at Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue. All persons interested in the following proposals are requested to be present at this time. The assembly facilities are accessible to the handicapped. Persons requiring special accommodations shall call the Zoning Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting (401) 231-4000 ext. 4117. Persons utilizing TDD equipment may contact the Town through "Relay Rhode Island" at 1-800-745-6675. The agenda for the evening will be as follows, subject to change:

New Business

Petition of Cranston Enameling, Inc., Owner/Applicant for 1309 Plainfield Street, AP 3 Lot 225, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a special use permit for automobile sales within the upper level of an existing building.

Petition of Anthony Caprio, Owner/Applicant for 93 George Waterman Road, AP 35 Lot 70, zoned R-15. The petitioner is seeking to convert an existing commercial building to a

two family structure, each one bedroom and to have two residential structures on the same lot.

Petition of Reservoir Adventures, LLC, Owner and Michael Campagne, Applicant, for 1808 Atwood Avenue AP 53 Lot 239, Zoned R-20. The petitioner is seeking a use variance to subsection 9 Number 13 Storage of the Use Table to store his personal vehicles in a garage and is seeking dimensional variances to triple the size of the existing garage.

Petition of 15 Industrial Lane, LLC, Owner, and Joe Parrillo, Applicant, for 15 Industrial Lane AP 53 Lot 208, Zoned I Industrial. The petitioner is seeking dimensional variances to build a new storage garage and expand an existing storage garage.

NOTE: If a Case has not been called for a hearing by 10:30 p.m., the Board, at its discretion, may continue the Case to a subsequent or a special meeting. The Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town's web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Building Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.

Per order of the Zoning Board of Review
Thomas Lopardo, Chairman
10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17/22



COUNTING THE VOTES: Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena receives updates via cell phone, reads them off, while his Chief of Staff Doug Jeffrey records precinct vote totals on the wall of the Johnston Democratic Town Committee Headquarters. Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. watches on as his lead grows steadily through the night Tuesday. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022 RESULTS

How did Rhode Island vote?

Editor's Note: The following are unofficial voting tallies 412 of 414 polling places reporting (99%).

Election data courtesy Rhode Island Secretary of State.

LOCAL RACES (representation including parts of Johnston)

Senator in General Assembly District 7

Frank Anthony Ciccone (DEM)	3061	95.1%
Write-in	159	4.9%

Representative in General Assembly District 13

Ramon A. Perez (DEM)	1341	62.9%
Ivan J. Montanez (Ind)	754	35.4%
Write-in	37	1.7%

Representative in General Assembly District 42

Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (DEM)	2622	52.2%
Harold K. Borders, Jr. (REP)	2386	47.5%
Write-in	19	0.4%

Representative in General Assembly District 44

Gregory J. Costantino (DEM)	3697	54.0%
Peter Anthony Tremontozzi (REP)	3136	45.8%
Write-in	12	0.2%

STATEWIDE

Representative in Congress District 1

David N. Cicilline (DEM)	98781	63.8%
Allen R. Waters (REP)	55646	36.0%
Write-in	357	0.2%

Representative in Congress District 2

Seth M. Magaziner (DEM)	99438	50.3%
Allan W. Fung (REP)	92870	46.9%
William H. Gilbert (MOD)	5352	2.7%
Write-in	193	0.1%

Governor

Daniel J. McKee (DEM)	203915	57.8%
Ashley Marie Kalus (REP)	137677	39.0%
Zachary Baker Hurwitz (Ind)	4439	1.3%

Paul A. Rianna, Jr. (Ind)	3070	0.9%
Elijah J. Gizzarelli (Lib)	2774	0.8%
Write-in	1040	0.3%

Lieutenant Governor

Sabina Matos (DEM)	178000	51.0%
Aaron C. Guckian (REP)	151010	43.3%
Ross K. McCurdy (Ind)	19217	5.5%
Write-in	601	0.2%

Secretary of State

Gregg Amore (DEM)	205671	59.4%
Pat V. Cortellessa (REP)	140156	40.5%
Write-in	517	0.1%

Attorney General

Peter F. Neronha (DEM)	213665	61.3%
Charles C. Calenda (REP)	134210	38.5%
Write-in	456	0.1%

General Treasurer

James A. Diossa (DEM)	187739	54.2%
James L. Lathrop (REP)	158261	45.7%
Write-in	543	0.2%

REFERENDA

1. URI NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS - \$100,000,000		
Approve	194223	57.5%
Reject	143480	42.5%

2. RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDINGS - \$250,000,000		
Approve	248796	73.2%
Reject	91051	26.8%

3. GREEN ECONOMY BONDS - \$50,000,000		
Approve	224911	66.8%
Reject	112009	33.2%

OBITUARY

Philip Jonathan Mouser



Philip Jonathan Mouser passed into the arms of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on September 19, 2022. While we are devastated that the future we anticipated is not going to happen, we celebrate that we will be reunited with him some day in Heaven.

Philip was pre-deceased by his mother, Tereasa Lynn Mouser, grandparents, Regina Sawyer, William Mouser, Jane Dragland, and Charles Dragland. He was also pre-deceased by his uncle, Aaron Mouser.

Philip is survived by his father James J Mouser and step mother, Debra Mouser. His son's Asher Mouser (Mother Erin Cheschi) and Isaiah Moller, his sister Stephanie Ayers (Clifden), step brother Erin Patrick Dunn, step sisters, Laura Ortega (Mike), Aubree Rebenar, nephews, Ben Ortega, Eli Christensen, Alvin Rebenar, nieces, Ava Christensen, Charlotte Ayers, Bianca Ortega, June Rebenar, and Rose Rebenar. Aunt's Maria T. Darr (Matthew) Dawn Nguyen (Kiet), Uncles, William Mouser, Michael Mouser (Julie), Roy Spencer, Robert Mouser (Stephanie), Patrick Mouser (Kay), Steve Dragland (Debora), and many other family and friends who knew and loved him.

A private family service will be held on November 13, 2022 at a private home in Jeffersonville, Indiana. Part of Philip's ashes have been interred at Highland Memorial Cemetery in Johnston, Rhode Island and will also be interred at the family cemetery in Kentucky.

In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Cub Scout pack 20 of Johnston Rhode Island or Keeping Kids Fishing nonprofit organization of Coventry Rhode Island.

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.

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



MAYOR ELECT: Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. hugs his father, current Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena, after Tuesday night's victory was clear. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



INDEPENDENT STRUGGLE: Brenda Lynn Leone spoke to her campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston.

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RI ELECTION 2022



MAYOR-TO-MAYOR: Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. hugs his father, current Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena, after Tuesday night's victory was clear. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



BURGER & A BEER: Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick, and her husband Tom, await election results while eating a burger and a beer at the Bishop Hill Tavern, 2868 Hartford Ave., in Johnston's west-end.



THE OPPOSITION: Brenda Lynn Leone waited with campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston. Leone, at right, posed for a photo with campaign manager Debbie Spaur, at left.

■ Mayor

(Continued from page 1)

Joe Polisena Jr. stood there, mostly smiling. Nervous at first, but the grin came easier as the numbers broke in his direction. He was about to follow in his father's footsteps; sit in his father's padded mayoral chair.

"Here's the keys," his father joked about halfway through the process. The younger Polisena's lead was swelling as he picked up nearly 7 of every 10 votes cast in town.

Once the win was assured, Mayor Polisena addressed the crowd.

"I think he's going to make a really good mayor," Polisena said. "He's got a lot more patience than I do. He has a different style than I do. Our styles are entirely different. I'm very proud of him ... he is going to do a fantastic job ... With that said, I can't tell you how proud we are. My wife and I are extremely proud ... Let me introduce the next mayor of Johnston."

He turned red, looked away from the crowd and fell into his son's embrace. He almost hid his tears.

Mayor-elect Polisena declared his 68.9 percent vote-share a "mandate."

"This margin is a mandate," Polisena Jr. told the crowd. "It shows when you listen to the voters and focus on the issues that matter the most to voters, you don't lie to them, you tell them the truth. They'll reward you. And that's what they did tonight. A huge thank you to them for putting their faith in me."

Three-way split

With all 10 precincts reporting, Democrat Joseph M. Polisena, Jr. won 68.9% of the vote (7,119 votes); independent challengers Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick and Brenda Lynn Leone won 16.4% (1,697 votes) and 13.8% (1,423 votes) of the vote, respectively, according to Tuesday night's unofficial results.

The ballot was split in three, but Polisena Jr.'s win was decisive.

Chadwick awaited election results with a burger and a beer at the Bishop Hill Tavern, 2868 Hartford Ave., in Johnston's west-end.

"First of all I would like to thank everyone who took the time to cast a ballot yesterday," she said Wednesday morning. "I think it is one of our most important privileges. Thanks to all who supported me in my campaign. It has been quite the adventure. The absolutely best part was having the opportunity to meet so many different people. Even better than that is that I have reconnected with a couple of old friends and will hold them close. I even made a couple of new ones. Not to shabby for a gal who had no idea what she was getting into."

With the race behind her, Chadwick said she walks away with an overall positive impression.

"Everyone around me played nice as the kids say," Chadwick said. "Politics are what the people make of it. I have the most amazing people in my corner. I am very thankful."

Chadwick and Polisena squared off face-to-face at the Johnston Sun Rise Mayoral Forum last week. Following the vigorous discussion of local issues, Chadwick said she was impressed by Polisena Jr.'s grasp of the issues and hopes she found a new friend in the mayor-elect.

"I would like very much to congratulate Joseph Polisena Jr. in his bid for mayor of Johnston," Chadwick said. "He is a very smart, engaging young man and now has the opportunity to make some significant changes. When we met at the Sun Rise we had a great conversation about many different things. During the question and answer period he was cool, calm and collected. My hope is that he does have an open-door policy as many people want to know, want to be involved. Community participation is vitally important. It is up to you all to tell him and his administration what matters to you most. Together, great things can be accomplished. Don't give up."

As for me, this is another chapter in the "You would never believe this" book. Go to meetings, get to know your representatives. Make a connection with them. Only then will they know what your hopes for the town are. Take good care.

A political newcomer, Chadwick doubts she'll run for office again.

The third-place finisher in the race, Brenda Lynn Leone, spoke to campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston.

On Tuesday night, she was optimistic. On Wednesday morning, she had very little to say.

"The voters have spoken," Leone said. "We gave the voters a choice and they're obviously content with what they have."

His first term

Polisena Jr. said he takes after his mother. The crowd gathered in Town Hall Plaza offered laughs and applause in agreement.

"This isn't just about a candidate," he said. "It's not about a last name. It's about a message. I said it from the beginning. It's what I ran on. It's the only thing I focused on: taxes, schools, public safety, town services."

On Wednesday morning, the mayor-elect wanted to drive that point home:

"This election wasn't about one person, or one last name, it was about a consistent message that economic development promotes not only job growth, but helps stabilize residential property taxes and also gives us additional revenue to further improve our town," he said. "I believe people want moderate government. Too extreme to either the progressive left or conservative right has taken a lot of states and municipalities off course, but in Johnston, we've stuck to the issues that impact all of our residents regardless of political affiliation."

While most of Rhode Island stayed reliably blue (all of the statewide of-

ficers remained in Democratic hands), Johnston voters turned out heavily in favor of underdog Republican candidates. Several incumbent state representatives, including Rep. Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (District 42), Rep. Deborah Ann Fellela (District 43) and Rep. Gregory J. Costantino (District 44) narrowly held onto their seats.

"My son, I know he's going to follow in my footsteps as far as he will help people that even didn't vote for him," the elder Polisena said Tuesday to end the evening's victory remarks. "Because he represents everybody in this town, not just the people who supported them. I can tell you that he'll have an open door just like I did. I look forward, before he changes the locks, to come and see him. One thing I'm going to be ... really proud of, is the night of inauguration, when I get to swear in my son as the mayor of Johnston."



ELECTION NIGHT: The view through the glass door at Johnston Democratic Town Committee headquarters in Town Hall Plaza on Atwood Avenue. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)



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- ★ Medical Careers Academy
- ★ Two-Dimensional Art Academy
- ★ Three-Dimensional Art Academy

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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022



THEY VOTED: Johnston voter Mellissa Ritz brought her three children, Grace, 5, Gabriella, 7, and Frank, 9, with her while she voted at the Ferri Middle School on Tuesday. Frank scored a whole bunch of "I VOTED" stickers. "They just gave them to me," he said. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

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FAMILY AFFAIR: Above, the Poliseña family poses for a photo following Johnston Mayor-elect Joe Poliseña Jr.'s General Election night victory. Below, the peaceful transition of power begins, as the outgoing mayor passes the lectern to his son.



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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022

Johnston incumbents barely hold onto seats

By RORY SCHULER

As predicted, it was a tough election for incumbents.

A handful of Johnston incumbents — one Town Council member and at least three local state reps — held onto their seats, but barely.

Incumbent Town Councilman representing Johnston's District 5 Robert J. Civetti, a Democrat, held onto his seat with 59.8% of the vote (1,429 votes). Independent challenger Jeanette A. Scarcella earned 39.3% of the vote (939 votes).

In the race for Representative in General Assembly District 42, incumbent state Rep. Edward T. Cardillo Jr., a Democrat, narrowly beat Republican challenger Harold K. Borders Jr. Cardillo earned just 52.2% of the vote (2,622 votes) and Borders narrowly closed the margin, with 47.5% of the vote (2,386 votes).

Cardillo had a hard-fought primary battle with his nephew, Dennis Cardillo. The incumbent had filed a residency complaint against his nephew, but ultimately dropped it when the younger Cardillo was eliminated from

the race after losing the primary.

Another tight contest defined the race for Representative in General Assembly District 43.

Incumbent state Rep. Deborah Ann Fellela, a Democrat, faced the toughest fight of her political career. She earned just 51.5% of the vote (2,596 votes). Her Republican opponent, Nicola "Nick" Antonio Grasso, earned 48.2% of the vote (2,430 votes).

"Every vote counts," Fellela said on Wednesday morning. "I am thankful for all the voters who came out, the early voters and mail ballots. Those put us over the top. This is the tightest race I've had, so I do have to give credit to Mr. Grasso for the campaign he ran. I thank District 43 for trusting me to serve them in the House once again."

And in the race for Representative in General Assembly District 44, incumbent Democrat state Rep. Gregory J. Costantino earned 54% of the vote (3,697 votes), compared to Republican opponent Peter Anthony Trementozi, who earned 45.8% of the vote (3,136 votes).

Incumbent Democratic state Rep.

Ramon A. Perez also held onto his seat as Representative in General Assembly District 13. He successfully fought off a challenge from independent candidate Ivan J. Montanez. Perez won 62.9% of the votes (1,341 votes), compared to Montanez, who earned just 35.4% (754 votes).



Pot ballot question clears town voters

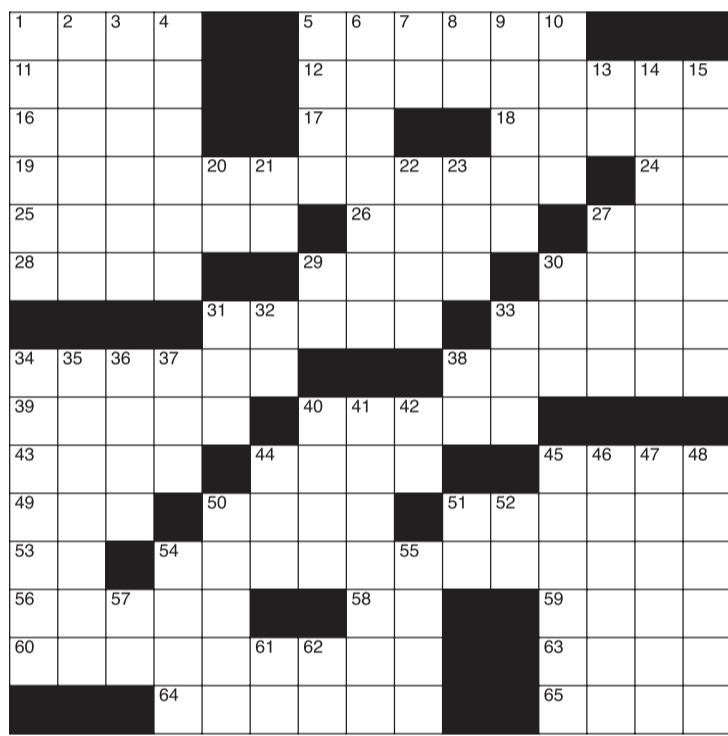
While voters decided a long list of referendum questions, one local question passed by nearly 12 points.

Voters were asked: "Shall new Cannabis related licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use of Cannabis be issued in the Town?"

A resounding 56% (5,443) majority of voters polled in favor of allowing marijuana businesses into town. Only 44% rejected new pot businesses in Johnston (4,278). The town will now have no choice but to consider "adult recreational use of Cannabis" if pitched by prospective proprietors.

— Rory Schuler

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



CLUES ACROSS

1. Clip a small piece
5. Enter forcibly
11. Southwestern Native American tribe
12. Helps you smell better
16. Sun or solar disk
17. Low frequency
18. Former Houston football player
19. Federal crime
24. Home to Boston (abbr.)
25. Approval
26. Those who fight an establishment (abbr.)
27. ___ student, learns healing
28. Indian groomer of horses
29. Line where two pieces meet
30. One might be brief
31. Type of sword
33. Knife for fruits or vegetables
34. Stinkhorns
38. Stroke
39. Industrial process for producing ammonia
40. Sir ___ Newton
43. Wild goat
44. Muslim ruler
45. Scottish ancestor
49. Hat
50. Horse mackerel

CLUES DOWN

1. Sewing needles
2. Functionary
3. Induces vomiting
4. The finger farthest from the thumb
5. Not moving
6. Sports official
7. Water purification process (abbr.)
8. University of Dayton
9. Indo-Malaysian evergreens
10. High schoolers' math course
13. Yankovic is a weird one
14. Adversaries
15. Merchandisers
20. Radioactive metal (abbr.)
21. Atomic #52
22. The back

23. One-time computer giant
27. Female of a horse
29. Football's big game (abbr.)
30. Vehicle
31. Single Lens Reflex
32. It's becoming more prevalent
33. Political action committee
34. Makes lightbulbs
35. Natural home of an animal
36. In bed
37. Superman villain
38. The Golden State
40. One who leads prayers in a mosque
41. They accompany a leader
42. Atomic #18
44. Electronic countermeasures
45. The appearance of something
46. Connecting line on a map
47. Deep red color
48. Secret affairs
50. Drenches
51. Contains music
52. Expression of surprise
54. Intestinal pouches
55. Where birds are born
57. ___ and behold
61. Cools your home
62. The First State

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spotlight ON BUSINESS

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By JENNIFER COATES

If you have never heard of the world-renown brand "FARMASI", you are about to learn about one of the most innovative and revolutionary brands in the world.

FARMASI is a product line that was started over seventy years ago by Dr. Cevdet Tuna, a prominent doctor who established one of the first pharmaceutical factories in Turkey. Far ahead of his time, Dr. Tuna formulated some of Turkey's first medicinal products, including cough syrup, painkillers, burn ointments, and cough lozenges. Dr. Tuna was famous for his unwavering dedication to his work, and for how he personally attended to every step of the development of his products.

In 1950, Dr. Tuna's work expanded into the beauty and health sector when he founded the official brand FARMASI. Today, his formulations are synonymous with the terms innovative, reliable, and sustainable. They are considered "cutting edge" in the health and beauty industry.

All FARMASI products are dermatologically tested, non-GMO (non-genetically modified), and predominantly vegan. Moreover, they are free of heavy metals, parabens, gluten, or the harsh foaming agent Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), and for animal advocates, they are not tested on animals. These products are the answer to those seeking glowing, vibrant, and healthy skin and to those who want to feel beautiful and radiant from the inside out.

Today, FARMASI is run by Dr. Tuna's equally dedicated sons Emre and Sinana Tuna. They continue to represent the integrity and mission of their father's work and are very selective about who they entrust this hard-won reputation to. This is why Wayne and Michael Medeiros of Alluring Visions Wellness Center in Cranston are so special.

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is the "vision-come-to-life" of its co-owners, Wayne and Michael Medeiros. These partners



Meet Wayne (l) & Michael Medeiros (r), the owners of Alluring Visions Wellness Center, the only retail store in the USA which sells the internationally-known FARMASI products. They are seen here flanking the grandson of FARMASI's founder, Emre Tuna.

and business owners opened the very first and only wellness center in the United States and Puerto Rico that is dedicated specifically to selling FARMASI products. Supported and sanctioned by the Tuna brothers, Wayne and Michael opened this modest but completely stocked center in July of 2021.

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is home to shelves and shelves of FARMASI products. Clients will find everything from skin care products to their equally as environmentally-conscious household cleaners here. Whether you need makeup, facial cleansers, makeup removers, toothpaste, soap, haircare and fragrances for men and women, you will find them here.

If you have any questions, Wayne and Michael have been

extensively trained on all FARMASI products and they will guide you through.

As if it could get any better at Alluring Visions, you will also find a full "bar" of custom-made drinks here, all made with FARMASI products. All the drink mixes contain collagen. These include coffee, energizing teas and flavored shakes. What a healthy way to start your day!

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is located at 1563 Cranston Street. Find them at Facebook (Alluring Visions Wellness Center) and Instagram (@AlluringVisions1563). For all your questions, including hours, call 401-942-0150. Open seven days a week.

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Sports



PLAYOFF BATTLE: Johnston's Ava Melo on Monday night. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

Panthers fall in semifinals

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The top-seeded Johnston girls soccer team was upset but Providence Country Day 2-1 on Monday in the Division IV Semifinals. PCD would take an early 1-0 lead in the first half but Johnston's Karen Lastor Rojas would tie the score in the second. However, PCD would score late to wrap up the

win. "I think the girls were very nervous and anxious going into this game, being that it was the first time that many of them saw a playoff game. PCD was one of our rivals this season and we were fortunate to come out with the wins, but they were difficult wins. The girls knew it was going to be a tough game and PCD came out very hard

right off the bat," said Johnston coach Toni Scavitti. Despite the loss, the Panthers had a historic season, taking first place and boasting the division's best defense. "I don't know if the girls see the big picture, but they should be very proud of themselves and hold their heads up high. We had a very

■ PANTHERS - PAGE 19

Keeping tabs on our playoff teams

We're in the thick of the playoffs and a number of our teams are shining. Here is where we stand with our clubs as of Tuesday morning.

This past weekend we got our first state championship when the Bishop Hendricken cross country ran to another title. It was an expected result, to be honest, but the Hawks continue to be New England's best team and one of the best in the nation.

It's impressive, this team just churns out run-

My pitch



by ALEX SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR
ALEXS@RHODYBEAT.COM

ners fall by fall. It doesn't matter if they have an in-

■ PITCH - PAGE 23



JYF making noise in playoffs

Three Johnston Youth Football teams earned playoff wins last weekend and will be playing in this week's state semifinals. For more photos of the action, check out page 20 of the Sun Rise.

Overlooking Narragansett Bay with terrific views and beautiful sunsets.

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UP THE FIELD: Johnston's Yandery Rodriguez.

■ Panthers
(Continued from page 18)

successful season, one that many of these girls had not seen in any sport. To not only have gone 14-1, but to have only given up four goals is a tremendous accomplishment," said Scavitti.

The team will be returning a large group of juniors next fall, so Scavitti hopes the playoff experience will pay dividends in the future.

"It's going to help tremendously. Hopefully they have now gotten those

jitters out of their system and will know what to expect next year. Hopefully they use this loss as fuel because they're going to want more," said Scavitti.

The club will also have to find ways of replacing the production of six seniors that are set to graduate.

"They were a huge component to this team. We're losing three captains, six seniors, and half of them were four-year starters. There's no replacing them, but we have to come close to replacing them. There are going to be some big shoes to fill," Scavitti said.



IN NET: Johnston goalie Ava Waterman.

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BREAKING TACKLES: Cameron D'elia picks up some yards.



UP THE GUT: Jonny Costa gains some yards.



DROPPING BACK: Quarterback Camden Welch looks to pass.



PLAYOFF WIN: Zane Pistacchio runs the ball.

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and you'll be seeing Rocky Point license plates

Thanks to legislation approved this year, the DMV is moving ahead with the production of Rocky Point plates. Pre and new orders will be filled with delivery expected this fall. For new orders visit the Rocky Point Foundation website at rockypointfoundation.org where you will find an order form to be returned to the DMV with payment. At this time, plates are available for passenger registrations only

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Fall Fly Tying Program

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

Stock up on your fly fishing flies by joining the RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM) Division of Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Resource Education's annual Fall Fly Tying Program. Learn how to tie flies from knowledgeable fly tying instructors.

Participants will have a choice of tying saltwater or freshwater flies at either the beginner or intermediate level. You will even have a chance to win a holiday wreath covered with a variety of flies.

The program begins Monday, Nov. 14, 2022 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Cold Spring Community Center, North Kingstown, RI.

The fee is \$5/person/session or pre-register for all five sessions for \$20. For information or to register online visit, <https://dem.ri.gov/events/fall-fly-tying-workshop> or contact Kimberly Sullivan at 401.539.0037 or kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov.

Anglers weigh in on tautog regulations

Last week you might say anglers stood up for tautog, a great eating fish often called black fish that is primarily targeted by anglers in the fall.

Most comments made November 1 were in favor of new proposed 2023 tautog regulations for the State of Massachusetts as anglers expressed their thoughts at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) hearing on the subject. The State of Rhode Island had enacted similar regulations for the 2022 season.

The aim of the "Trophy" fish regulation for tautog is to preserve large female fish that have great spawning potential. Under new regulations, anglers are allowed to take just one fish larger than 21 inches, and their remaining fish in a slot limit of 16 to 21 inches.

Jack Creighton, past president of the Cape Cod Salties fishing association, said, "The Cape Cod Salties supports this proposed more conservation minded tautog regulation. Protecting large fish with great breeding potential makes sense and will help continue to grow this fishery."

Fred DeFinis who lived in Massachusetts much of his life, but now lives across the border in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, said, "Recreational anglers like me have had good success tautog fishing the past couple of years. It is a great fishery and only makes sense to preserve the fishing in Massachusetts and Rhode Island as we are in the same management region

with the aim of making regulations similar."

Four charter captains at the meeting who all fished in Massachusetts and Rhode Island related how the new regulation worked in Rhode Island this year. All said there was no negative impacts on business. And, by allowing anglers to keep fish 16 to 21 inches they are going home with plenty of meat and yet are still allowed a trophy fish for personal best records and tournaments.

DMF will accept written public comment on all proposals covered at the meeting through 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, 2022. Submit written comments to Director Daniel McKiernan by e-mail (marine.fish@mass.gov) or post (251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114); emailing comments is preferred. Full text of the regulations may be found on DMF's website.

Where's the bite?

Striped bass. Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown, said, "So many anglers are fishing for tautog that we are not hearing much about striped bass. I do know there was a decent bite at the North Rip (Block Island)."

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence, said, "The striped bass bite in is still very good with this warm water. Slot fish and larger are still being caught at the Cape Cod beaches, on the Canal as well as in Narragansett Bay and along the southern coastal shore. SP Minnows and soft plastics are working well for anglers. The bass are still here but you have to find them."

"Barrington Beach and places further up Narragansett Bay are still holding bass. Anglers are catching bass from the Kettle Point Dock (East Providence) with soft plastic, white is working well," said John Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle, Riverside.

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "The beaches have been relatively quiet with most schools of bass passing at ease well out of casting distance. However there are still a good amount of bass in the salt ponds and feeding in and around the Breachways at night."

East End Eddie Doherty, expert Canal angler and author, said, "Plenty of baitfish are still swimming in the Canal feeding sustained blitzes for miles. Striped bass were breaking for hours riding the east tide as Anast Terezakis and his son Nick from Connecticut had a good day at Pip's Rip. They had fish up to 42 inches and Anast



NEWPORT TAUTOG: Angler Steve Brustein of North Kingstown with a Newport tautog. Both rigs and jigs are working for tautog anglers. (Submitted photo)

landed a 26-pounder on a white Beachmaster pencil."

Tautog. "Tautog fishing has just been outstanding. The Island Current party boat caught an 18-pound tautog last Friday. Shore anglers on the West Wall are still catching tautog but they have started to move to deeper water with a good bite off Brenton Reef, Newport and off Pt. Judith Light," said Cahill.

Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle said, "Anglers are catching tautog all over the Bay at about a 10 (short) to one (keeper) ratio. Keeper tautog are being caught as far up as the broken bridge at the mouth of the Seekonk River with spotty action (some days good, some days bad) at Conimicut Light, Warwick."

O'Donnell of Breachway Bait, said, "Many boats have been

limiting out on tautog and even grabbing a few black sea bass. The fish are still in both shallow and deep water. Some spots are holding shorter fish then others but when you get on a good bite there's some 8lb + class fish around."

"Cod fishing has been good for customers at the Southeast corner of Cox Ledge where Capt. Louis DeFusco of Hot Reels Sportfishing charters ran into some large cod that made it difficult for them to boat slot sized fish (22" to <28", five fish/person/day)." said Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor. O'Donnell of Breachway Bait, said, "A few boats took advantage of the nice weather last week and ran south of Block Island for cod and did pretty well catching a mix of cod and black sea bass."

Freshwater. "Freshwater fish-

ing for largemouth bass has been very, very good, but not many of my customers are fishing the fresh water with the lively tautog and striped bass bite still alive on saltwater," said Henault of Ocean State. John Littlefield said, "We still have few customers fishing Willet Avenue Pond and Olney Pond, Lincoln Woods for trout but they are far and few between at this time."

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

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Elks Hoop Shoot begins Sunday

By PETE FONTAINE

“Chicago or bust!” That could easily be the theme of the Nationals Elks 2023 Hoop Shoot that will begin locally this Sunday at 12:30 inside the Cranston YMCA.

It’s a terrific tradition of the National Elks Association that providing healthy competition and leads to winners shooting their way into the finals that will be contested on April 22 at Wintrust Arena – home of the WNBA’s Chicago Sky and famed DePaul University Blue Demons.

Steven Lagesse, long-time local director and Past Exalted Ruler at Sunday’s sponsoring Tri-City Elks Lodge at 1915 West Shore Road in Warwick, said the event is open to boys and girls ages 8 to 13 and that “there’s absolutely no entrée fee whatsoever.”

Even when the various local, district and regional

champions are determined the ENF provides travel fees, hotel accommodations and expenses.

“Competition is for boys and girls ages 8 to 13 and their age for the shoot is determined by their ages as of April 1, 2023,” Lagesse explained. “There are three different age divisions for boys and girls ages 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Contestants are offered a warm-up shoot and then will then try to sink as many foul shots as they can from the contest required total of 25 shots. In case there’s a tie, a special shoot off will be held.”

While speaking about the unique competition, Lagesse pointed out “The National (ELKS) Hoop Shoot is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. There’s of excitement from local lodges throughout the state and country because the boys and girls that capture the national division championships will have their names –

well as the post-shoot photo – placed in the Naismith National Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Ma.

Thus, it’s almost tip-off the Sunday’s Tri-City Elks Lodge No. 14 Hoop Shoot with boys and girls having their sights set on moving onto the various district championships as well as a berth in the New England Regionals that will be held in South Portland, Maine on March 11, 2023, with those winners heading to Chicago for the national finals.

Lagesse also announced that the North District Finals will be held Dec. 10 at Smithfield High School with the West District finals set for Dec. 11 at Prout High School in South Kingstown. The East District will be held Dec. 18 at the Florence Gray Center in Newport with the state finals back at the Cranston YMCA on Jan. 22, 2023.

■ Pitch

(Continued from page 18)

dividual state champion, or even someone in the running. Hendricken is just so deep and boasts such strong numbers. It is arguably the best sports team in the state at the moment.

The Toll Gate girls soccer team won a 4-3 thriller over Classical to punch its ticket to the Division III title game this Saturday. The Titans went up 3-0, saw the Purple roar back to tie things, then got the game winner in the final three minutes.

The Titans overcame three big injuries in the pre-season to finish in first place and now reach the finals. Toll Gate will probably be considered the favorite, which is remarkable considering the hit in talent it took. Kara Yelman scored a hat trick on Monday and has been a force for Toll Gate. What an exciting year this must have been for her. She got her opportunity to be a go-to player and she has excelled from start to finish. A championship win would be the ultimate way to cap off the season.

The Cranston West football team beat Woonsocket 21-18 in a great game in the Division II Quarterfinals last week.

Marcus Chung is no longer under the radar ... he is arguably the state’s best player and showed it last Friday by scoring three touchdowns and turning in an electric performance.

When West had a couple of down seasons, he was always a bright spot and a player that always seemed to be on the brink of a massive breakout. We got that this season and he has been the biggest reason why West is on the verge of a Super Bowl appearance.

Portsmouth will be tough, especially on the road. It will take a big-time performance for the Falcons to get this one, but if Chung plays the way he did last week, West will have plenty of opportunities to score points and get the job done. I don’t have a score in mind, but I like West in this one. Chung has too much momentum.

The Hendricken football team has its semifinals matchup against Central. The Knights nearly got the win last fall and had a chance to tie the game in the final minute this regular season.

The Knights are a tough stylistic matchup for the Hawks. Central has a great rushing attack and is fantastic at controlling the clock. The two teams have similar philosophies and it seems

like they’re each other’s toughest foes.

However, the Hawks have the experience and the better defense in my opinion. I expect another close matchup that goes down to the wire, but like the previous meetings, it will be the Hawks that get the job done. La Salle is facing North Kingstown on the other side of the bracket and I like the Rams. I think we’re in for another Hawks-Rams matchup. Surprise, surprise.

The Hendricken boys soccer team played its semifinals match on Wednesday against top-seeded North Kingstown. The Hawks surprisingly have been forgotten it seems in Division I, despite being one of the most competitive teams.

The Hawks lost to the Skippers in a thrilling 5-4 decision earlier this season, and I don’t think an upset would be as shocking as some others believe. Hendricken is in this thing.

The Toll Gate boys also played their semifinal matchup in the Division IV bracket. The Titans were the second overall club, but went unbeaten in league play this regular season. Ties are what prevented the first-place finish, but make no mistake about it, the Titans were the best team in the division when at full strength.

All signs point toward a Toll Gate-Sci-tuate matchup. The teams tied earlier this fall, so this Sunday’s state title game could be another fun one.

We had two notable clubs come up short in girls soccer.

Pilgrim was upset by Chariho in the quarterfinals by a 1-0 score. The Pats will one day break through, they have to, but it was another tough ending to a promising season. The Chargers have all of a sudden shaken up the state as they went on to beat North Kingstown in penalty kicks in the semis. Chariho beat the state’s best two teams, and is now a new force.

The top-seeded Johnston girls fell 2-1 to Providence Country Day on Monday in the Division IV semis. The Panthers were on a roll and beat PCD 3-1 earlier this year, but PCD came out firing and took a quick lead to set the tone the rest of the way.

Finally, we had a few clubs competing in the unified volleyball state tournament. Unified sports have continued to grow in Rhode Island which is great to see. I’m thrilled to see these kids have the opportunity to make friends, have fun and learn a sport while being part of a varsity team. It’s always heartwarming to watch.

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What is an Auction House?



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

an auction house works or what it actually is, which is why I decided to explain it here for you.

Auction houses generally work with sellers on consignment, meaning they take your items to market and sell them on your behalf through auction and in return get paid a small portion of the sale price. Auction houses do not buy your collection outright from you (though we can and will if you twist our arm), but it is always in your best interest to consign. That way the selling process becomes a team effort; When everybody works in each other's best interest you and the auction house make more money. It's win, win!

Now that you know an auction house gains items for auction through consignment, you might wonder how to get your items consigned and up for auction. The initial step is having an appraiser from an auction house take a look at your collection to give you an estimate of potential auction value. At Bruneau and Co., there are three major ways we offer appraisals (other houses might vary, but I don't speak for them!), they are: 1. Via house call where we come to you and look at everything you have. 2. Through email if you send us photos, and 3. By bringing some items in on our Tuesday walk-in appraisal day between 9am and 12pm. If you're unsure which method is best for you, just give us a call - we're here to help!

Finally, if you have never been to an auction as a buyer, it is something you definitely need to do. The energy in an auction is like no other shopping experience. Most importantly, they are free to the public! An admission fee is false belief some people always tend to have about auctions. It's not like a rock concert selling tickets (though sometimes you can find vintage concert tees at auction!); auction houses want you to join the fun and buy from them. If you are into antiques, fine art, jewelry, vintage advertising, toys, comic books, video games - anything cool and collectible - then auctions were made for you. Stop on by and give us a visit at Bruneau and Co. sometime, we would love to have you!



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What is Your Retire-Ready Recipe?



Jeffrey H. Massey
Certified Financial Planner™
Massey and Associates, Inc.

A recipe is like a roadmap that tells us exactly what we need to do to help us get to where we want to go. Of course, if you don't follow the recipe and perhaps leave out one of the more important ingredients-- you know what happens: You taste it and perhaps say or think, gee, this doesn't taste the same as when mom made it. Can you relate?

I am certain each of us has a family recipe that has been passed down or around the family, perhaps for generations. My favorite is my mom's bread stuffing which I make for every Thanksgiving dinner. I can't wait to taste it again!

When it comes to retirement, there is no one way to structure or plan for your retirement. The recipe that is great for you may not work at all for another family member, your best friend, or your neighbors. The goal with retirement planning is to work the "recipe" for your specific situation to achieve the retirement lifestyle that is a good fit for you and your spouse if you are married.

So, what are the main ingredients that I think should really be considered for every retirement plan? Yes, I first said that everyone's recipe is likely to be different, however, there are certain elements that I think should be included

in every retirement plan. The three specific elements are: safety, liquidity and growth for the future. Within those three elements is where the plan can be dramatically different for each person or couple.

Everyone has a different perspective when it comes to their risk tolerance (taking on more risk or preferring to take on less risk.) By properly implementing a plan that contains these three elements, you are designing strategies to help you pursue your particular goals and objectives for a successful retirement. The major difference from one person's plan to another is the amount of money that you put into each of these three asset positions. The challenge with putting money into these three elements is that you cannot achieve all three--safety, liquidity and growth--with a single asset placement. However, you can typically get two out of three of these important elements.

Let's start with this comment: every choice you make as to where you should place your assets will have both pros and cons. It's up to you to weigh each choice with the pros and cons and decide which is most comfortable for you.

In the safety category, your choices are bank or credit union money, backed up by the FDIC or NCUA, and insurance products that are backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of the issuing insurance company. There are insurance-based products that offer the possibility to earn much higher rates of return than the bank, credit

union or government securities. Some of these options may have liquidity as well. There are important details to consider when this type of option is recommended to you, so work with a professional advisor that will help explain all the details.

Another option is US government securities like treasure bills, notes, and bonds that are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. In this category, you will get safety and a certain amount of liquidity, which is the second category, but typically, you may not get much growth. Therefore, although the safety category is important to a retire-ready recipe, you will not have much in the way of growth at the current rates of interest, which have only recently started to go up as the Federal Reserve has raised their interest rates.

In the liquidity category, you should have your emergency money along with money for expected larger expenses such as a roof, new car, etc. There is a cost for liquidity, which is that you will not make much money on your deposit. We refer to this money as your "pillow" money so when your head hits the pillow at night, you will be confident in your plan and enjoy a good night's sleep by not worrying about access to money.

Moving on to category number three - growth. This is a very important element to have in your plan. Typically, these are your investments in the stock market. I will concede that you can also invest in bonds, however, the challenge

with bonds is that their fair market value (the amount you can sell the bond for) will go down as interest rates rise.

As the Fed has started to aggressively raise interest rates, this has a negative effect on the value of your bonds if you were to sell them. The bond aggregate index, according to the Yahoo Finance web site, was down as much as 16% earlier this year, and as of September 22nd, it is down approximately 11%. (https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/18/stocks-and-bonds-both-down-what-to-do-with-your-money.html?__source=sharebar_email&pa_r=sharebar, 2022)

In the growth category, you will also have liquidity as you can sell your investments to get money out of the market, however, you may not have as much protection in this category. Of course, you may also have liquidity in your savings or money market accounts. As I mentioned earlier, you can usually get two elements, but not all three.

So, there you have it! A Retire-Ready Recipe that includes three main ingredients: safety, liquidity and growth. This is how we customize a retire-ready plan for our clients.

I wish you, your family and your friends a wonderful Thanksgiving!

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Her incredible journey



A Paraguay native and Rhode Island author explores lifelong learning

By MARK BERGER

Warwick author Amanda Mottola's new book highlights her emigration from Paraguay to discovering opportunities here in the States.

Try to imagine growing up in a world full of turmoil. You have no idea what each day brings or whether the next moment defines you. Issues within and outside the family can change constantly. Besides fearing the unknown, your home country is living in a seemingly-endless dictatorship.

One woman saw what was happening around her and vowed to make a better future for herself and to help others find their voice.

Amanda Mottola envisioned a place of opportunity and making a difference. She wrote things down in real time hoping to inspire other people to triumph over adversity.

Her new book, "Learning as a Lifelong Journey: Being Your Leader, Overcoming Your Fears, Succeeding in Your Fears," chronicles being adopted as a baby and growing up with her adoptive family in Connecticut before finally landing here in Rhode Island to grow her family and pursue new adventures.

As anyone can imagine, being adopted isn't easy. Learning how to accept who she is and thrive in a new environment while adapting to change drove her to succeed and give back.

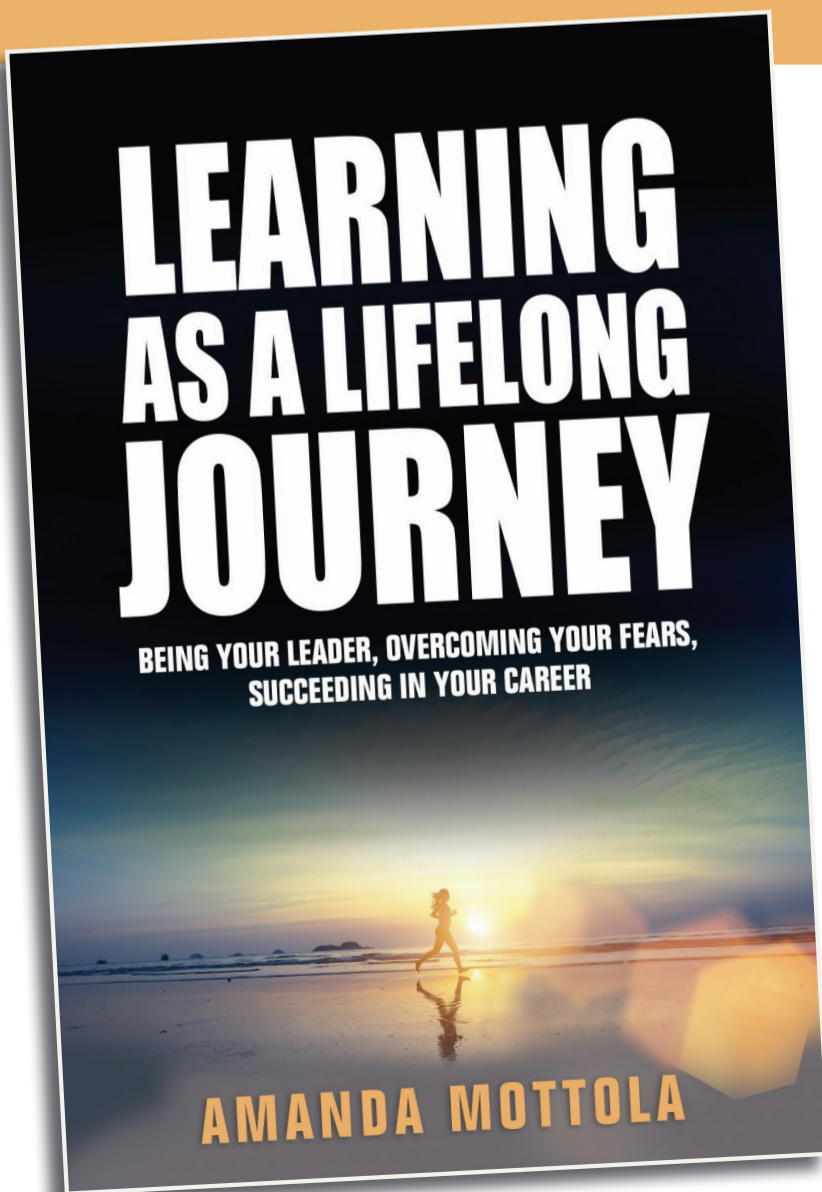
"It was far from a normal childhood from any metric," Mottola said, saying how much stress and uncertainty was around to remind her of such issues. "There wasn't a war; it was a 35-year regime that wasn't always good for the people. It was very corrupt and poor. My biological mother said I was taken from her after she had me. She was only 15 years old, and profiting off of adoption was normal. The country's court and adoption system was riddled with corruption."

Being a child can be challenging, but being a child coming from another world has different parameters. Because her adoptive parents, Daniel and Patricia Doerr, provided Amanda with a backdrop for achieving success, she forged her path toward realizing "The American Dream."

Amanda discussed her feelings growing up during those turbulent but eventually gratifying times. She felt empowered but scared; satisfied yet looking for the answer to the question of, "Why Me?"

All of those feelings were locked inside her needing a release. Something like that can be trying on a person looking for direction.

Fortunately for Amanda, she found that answer on an adventure down to South America to reunite with her biological family.



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**THE BANSHEES OF
INISHERIN**

**** (Joyce) *** 1/2 (Don)
Irish Relationship Tale

Irish movies and plays often contain humor, but always have a bit of sadness and tragedy.

"Banshees" is no exception.

The movie opens on the isolated, lonely isle of Inisherin, where two men, Colin Farrell's Padraic and Brendan Gleeson's Colm sit on an ancient stone wall as they do every day.

But today is different. Colm tells Padraic he doesn't want to be his friend anymore. He finds him boring.

For about half the film we are treated to some funny lines and situations as Padraic tries to discover why his inseparable pal has discarded his friendship.

It is a very small island, so everybody gets involved.

Playwright Martin McDonagh is a master of language, and if you catch half of the dialogue, you are in for a treat.

The year is 1923. War is going on on the mainland. Life is much simpler here, where the only activity happens at the church, the local store and the bar. People know everybody's business, so Colm and Podraic become the big news.

You may interpret what happens next in a variety of ways.

Is McDonagh trying to tell us about the meaninglessness of life, or are we, when it comes right down to it, living in our own loneliness?

See it at the
Movies

with
Joyce & Don
Fowler



Brendan Gleeson stars with Colin Farrell in *The Banshees of Inisherin*.
(Photo courtesy of Searchlight Pictures)

A tragic event occurs. There is death. There is a rational man who does an irrational thing.

Joyce accepted the ending, while I had trouble with it. (My problem. I always try to rewrite endings.)

By all means, see this movie

for its great acting, setting, messages, and especially a donkey you will fall in love with.

One more thing: SUBTITLES!

There should be a law that no Irish dialect movie can be made without subtitles.

NETFLIX

THE GOOD NURSE

Jessica Chastain stars as a very good nurse. She's a single mother with a heart condition

who works nights.

Eddie Redmayne plays a recently hired nurse who joins her on the night shift and helps her both personally and professionally.

When she suspects that he may be responsible for patient deaths, she calls in the police who begin an investigation with her help.

"The Good Nurse" is based on the true story of serial killer Charlie Cullen who lives a double life.

It is also an indictment of the hospital system in New Jersey, where administrators throw roadblocks in front of the investigation, refusing to cooperate because of fear of lawsuits.

Chastain is terrific.

INSIDE MAN

*** 1/2

Stanley Tucci stars as a wife-killer on death row whose amazing abilities help him solve a number of murders.

When a woman disappears, her journalist friend starts her own investigation, becoming deeply involved with the prisoner.

Into the story comes the local vicar who counsels a disturbed man who likes child porn. He thinks it belongs to his son and will do anything to protect him, including hiding a woman captive in his basement.

The unrelated characters slowly become connected and the story becomes complicated and terrifying.

We don't want to tell you more without spoiling the intriguing outcomes.

This one is a bit weird, but stick with it and you will enjoy something quite different.

Author

(Continued from page 26)

"A big part of my success is due to my childhood, upbringing, and values. I was adopted into a strong, loving, moral, and supportive family. However, growing up and figuring out my purpose and where I fit in was an emotional struggle. Physically, I was living the dream, but mentally, I was in a battle against my own mind.

"Over the years, it led me astray. However, through a positive mindset, and despite getting deterred at times, I have kept returning to my destined path," she said.

While living in Connecticut, Amanda got involved in the community. She ran for School Committee despite

A MOM:

Warwick author Amanda Mottola and her son Luca. (Beacon Communications photo)



being a first-time candidate with little name recognition. She made herself available and shared her story. Her efforts resulted in her earning one of the seats. She served one term before stepping down to start a family and a new career.

After graduating from the University of New Haven, Amanda worked in several ad agencies only to find something was missing. In 2019, after being laid off, she founded Otraway, a Warwick-based company specializing in promotional items, corporate gifting and event marketing. The business name means "another way," and she strives to help others by sharing the word through branding and outreach.

She achieved her dream of becoming an owner, as her company continues to flourish in 13 states. Amanda also discovered something fulfilling in 2018: her birth parents. She traveled thousands of miles to find them and reconnect. She recalled the reunion to be understandably emotional and cathartic for having some type of closure on that part of her life. She also got married and has two boys that also changed her perspective on life.

"When I had children, my life changed in a profound way; I actively committed to creating a better life for them, which, in turn, committed me to a better life for myself because if I don't take care of me, then I can't successfully care for them or inspire anyone else," she said.

Amanda loves giving back as a sign of her success. She donates some of her efforts to Dare to Dream Ranch in Foster and Foster Forward in East Providence. The Ranch is a working farm that helps veterans and their families get the help, support and services they need. Foster Forward is a nationally and locally-recognized leader that ensures all children and youth impacted by foster care have safe, healthy, and nurturing families.

Also, November is Adoption Awareness Month. Because of Amanda's story, she wants to give back by sharing her journey and aiding in helping more kids find a new family and home.

Her book is available for purchase on Amazon.com and at Barnes and Noble. She is also doing book signings around the state. Amanda will be scheduling meetings and other events to help share her story and hopes to inspire others to follow their entrepreneurial dreams and life passions.

ANIMAL TALK
By Karen Kalunian
Local Adoptable Loveable



Photo credit: Small Dog Rescue of NE

Jinx

This sweet girl has had a rough start in life but she's hoping that her luck is about to change! Jinx was found left in a bucket but luckily for her she got the help and care she needed. She is a mixed breed, under a year old so very much a puppy with puppy energy. If you have the time, love and patience to give then Jinx is looking for you. Jinx wants to be your one and only princess too so a home with no other pets would be best. Please contact Small Dog Rescue of New England via their website where you can also fill out an application <https://www.smalldogrescue.org/> Jinx needs love and she hopes you have a lot to give to her, she deserves it!

If you have been looking to adopt or know of an animal in need, please contact Karen directly at **animaltalk1920@gmail.com**



For more information about Warwick author Amanda Mottola and where you can book her for speaking engagements, contact her by calling 203-535-5003 or emailing her at Amanda@otraway.com.

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Johnston Mayor-elect Joe Jr.

By RORY SCHULER

The mayor doesn't like to cry in front of a crowd.

Joseph M. Polisena is more likely to drop F-bombs than drip tears on the lectern.

Tuesday evening, General Election night, was different. This election was personal; it was blood; it was family.

As soon as the polls closed, results started trickling into Johnston's Democratic Town Committee headquarters on Atwood Avenue. The room's elder Polisena, Johnston's current mayor, fielded phone calls with election results from each precinct in town.

He rattled off the totals. And with each phone call, his son's lead grew.



THE TALLY: At left, Joe Polisena Jr. stands with supporters as they count up precinct totals from across Johnston. At right, after his victory margin became "mandate" clear, Mayor-elect Polisena Jr. addressed the crowd as his father, Current Mayor Joseph M. Polisena watched on. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)

■ MAYOR - PAGE 13



EMPTIED SHELVES: Tyrone "Ty" Smith, Director of Employment and Housing for Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI), surveys the organization's food bank shelves. The group needs help collecting food for the region's veterans. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

'Veteran food pantry is at a critical low'

OSDRI holiday food drive launched to feed those who served

By RORY SCHULER

Most of the shelf space was bare. A few scattered year-old cans of green beans and corn niblets dotted the metal wire shelving.

Tyrone "Ty" Smith walked into the food pantry and surveyed the remaining shelf-stable items. He shook his head. The Director of Employment and Housing for Operation Stand Down Rhode Island (OSDRI) determined last year's stock of food pantry items was nearly gone. A new inventory was badly needed. The holidays are approaching.

"This is very important this time of year," Smith said, standing inside the pantry at the OSDRI headquarters off Hartford Avenue in Johnston. "This food has to last our veterans through the year. We just had a big veteran assistance event, and we handed out a lot of what we had left."

OSDRI has sounded a call to action to the local community in the days leading up to Veterans Day, on Friday, Nov. 11.

■ PANTRY - PAGE 15

Superintendent on RICAS: 'We went up in most areas'

Cranston, Johnston & Warwick test scores rival RI state averages

By RORY SCHULER

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) released the final results of the 2022 Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) tests Friday.

Following the pandemic, school administrators, politicians and parents have been eager to parse the data.

What is the current status of the Ocean State's public education system? Have students bounced back following nearly two years in altered learning? Have they

adjusted to the classroom following long stretches of at-home remote learning?

"The 2022 RICAS results show that while a lot of work remains ahead to get our students back up to speed, Rhode Island is on its way to recovery," said Rhode Island's Education Commissioner Angélica Infante-Green. "We're encouraged that some districts have returned to their pre-pandemic levels or exceeded them, and that our statewide focus on math instruction and support led to a significant jump in math performance across the state."

Third through eighth grade students took the RICAS assessments in March through May of last school year.

"Statewide figures show that in 2022 compared to 2021, there was a 10% increase in participation in both content areas rising to 98%, a significant increase in math proficiency of approximately 7%, and a slight decline in ELA of approximately 2%," according to a statement released by RIDE last week.

■ RICAS - PAGE 8

A veteran at honoring veterans

By JOHN HOWELL

A chance encounter at the Baltimore/Washington Airport as George Farrell and his family were on their way home from a spring vacation in 2010 changed his life and the lives of about 800 veterans.

Farrell was at the right time and the right place to witness an Honor Flight pass through the terminal. Those in the terminal paused on their way to make connections to applaud a group of World War II veterans, some in wheelchairs, others walking, wearing jackets and hats distinguishing the branch of the service in which they served. Travelers passing through the terminal were not the only ones recognizing the veterans. Local police and firefighters, units representing different branches of the military, scout troops and civic groups and family and friends were there to greet them on. Some stood ramrod straight, saluting. Others waved flags, applauding and cheering.

At first Farrell didn't know what was happening, but he could see the joy in the faces of the veterans and the sincerity of those applauding them. It was genuine and when he learned more, not only did he want local WWII veterans to have the opportunity to visit the war memorials in the nation's capital, but he believed the Rhode Island Retired Fire Chiefs could pull it off.

Last Thursday marked the tenth anniversary of the first Honor Flight run by the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs Association. Since then Farrell and his followers — most of them having been with him from the start — having organized and run 27 flights.

The flights are packed days. Veterans, many in their 80s and 90s and usually one or two 100 year-olds or older, are up by 4 a.m. to rendezvous for a bus to get them to Rhode Island T.F. Green International Airport by 5:30 where they are given a boisterous sendoff by bagpipers and drummers and hundreds of people. They don't get back until 11 p.m., if not later, after a full day in Washington, arriving to another cheering crowd, albeit smaller.



CHEERING THEM ON: George Farrell leads the way as members of the all women veterans flight held April 6, 2019 enter the terminal at Green Airport.

"It's amazing what that one day does," says Farrell. He makes a point of telling veterans and those who serve as guardians, "It's going to change your life."

Farrell knows what he's talking about. It has changed his life, but more importantly he has seen it change the lives of veterans and their guardians.

Honor Flights have become a passion for Farrell. He laughs relating how his family recruits veterans for the flights and he always has a supply of application forms. The flights are free for the veterans. Farrell's goal is to get the vets safely to Washington and back, for them to see the war memorials and to be honored for the service they have rendered.

Thinking back to that inaugural Rhode Island flight, Farrell confesses, "I didn't know what was going to happen."

He knew one thing from having seen that flight two years earlier in Baltimore.

"It became my personal mission," he said.

What he realized was that firefighters are "particularly well suited for this." He explains that firefight-

ers are trained to respond to critical situations whether it be a call to help someone who may be having a heart attack, an accident or a fire. Firefighters are on the watch for the safety and well being of others and don't hesitate to step in when necessary.

There's more to it than the individuals, Farrell points out. It's the organization, the chain of command and procedures used by firefighters.

"Most of us have fire service command (experience)," he said.

Flight leaders have radios. Buses are named and rosters of those on each bus are checked. The medical needs of each veteran are established well before the flight leaves Rhode Island. (On the flight last month, three of the 42 veterans were on oxygen.) A medic accompanies every flight and wheelchairs are always available even though many veterans insist they don't need them.

"I have confidence of having the best team in Honor Flight," Farrell says without hesitation.

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'I've seen mock checks before, but this is super special'

Goodfellas Motorcycle Club presents giant \$43,000 check to Hasbro Children's Hospital

By PETE FONTAINE

Almost as soon as Rick DeLuca walked into David Levesque's Brewed Awakenings at 1577 Atwood Ave., in Johnston, the popular coffee and pastry shop was filled with oohs and aahs. That's because DeLuca unrolled a specially made mock check totaling \$43,000 that was especially made by Justin Gontarek's Simplicity Print Studio in Warwick for the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club's extraordinary check presentation to Hasbro Children's Hospital.

"I've seen mock checks before," said Cal Calabro, who organizes the Goodfellas annual motorcycle run. "But this is super special!"

One reason, in particular, was that Gontarek is a member of the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club and utilized his business to further showcase what the Johnston-based bikers have done to help children who are battling cancer.

Moreover, as Goodfellas President Gene Benedetti added: "This (mock check) is more like a banner. We are extremely proud of this year's record-setting donation and are already planning for 2023."

Yet another reason why the Goodfellas raised \$43,000 was through the on-going generosity of Bruno Ramieri, who a year ago made it possible for a then first-ever record of \$41,000. "We cannot thank Bruno enough," said Calabro. "Few people, if any, can or would match his heart-warming generosity."

When Ramieri first learned of the Goodfellas mission a year ago by way of his philanthropic work with Hasbro Children's Hospital, he called Calabro and set up a meeting during which he offered to match dollar-for-dollar up to \$20,000 of whatever the club's bike run took in.

There were 215 bikes a year ago compared to 160-plus this time, yet, those owners and riders took in \$23,000 and including Ramieri's grand gift totaled \$43,000.

"Think about this," suggested Levesque, who is also a staunch supporter of the Goodfellas: "There aren't many groups that have raised that much money in just one day; it's exceptional and extraordinary to say the least!"

To which Michele P. Brannigan, Senior Gifts Officer/Campaign Manager at Hasbro Children's Hospital offered: "Thank you to each and every rider who participated in the 2022 Goodfellas bike run. The club leadership has done an outstanding job engaging the community in their support of the hospital."

Brannigan, who like other club members as well as customers inside Brewed Awakenings went on: "The Goodfellas demonstrate what can happen when caring individuals and thoughtful businesses come together to support a good cause. And, for the past two years, Mr. Bruno Ramieri has matched the Goodfellas fundraising. His support makes a huge impact on the overall achievement."

Thus, speaking with even more sincerity ringing in her voice: "We are so grateful to everyone who makes this event possible. On behalf of the children and families we serve as Hasbro Children's Hospital, thank you to each and every rider and everyone who made this donation possible"

Moreover, the donation was also enhanced by 300 people plus who attended the after party at the Goodfellas Clubhouse in Johnston.

So, as Calabro and Benedetti and other club members wanted it known: "There a lot of Good(fellas) out there and they're not just bikers; we are extremely grateful to our major sponsors who also stepped up to help kids who are battling cancer."

Among those super special sponsors who made the 6th Annual Bike run a smashing success, were: Brewed Awakenings, InterCity Recycling, Gino and Tatiana DiFante, Rosciti Constructors, AGI Construction, RA Cesare Builders, Robert and Jennifer Calabro, Philip Maxwell Auto, Michael Barone Construction, Cotoia Electric Co. LLC, Serenity Transfer & Livery LLC, Buzzy's R & R, D & J Appliance, Little Angel Day Care Inc. and Dan and Gena Calabro.



BRUNO'S BREWED BUDDIES: Bruno Ramieri (fourth left), who for the second time in as many years made it possible for the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club to donate more than \$40,000 to Hasbro Children's Hospital, is joined by Brewed Awakenings Owner David Levesque, Cal Calabro, Michele Brannigan and Gene Benedetti at the recent check presentation.



FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS: Among the people who took part in the Goodfellas Motorcycle Club's check presentation to Hasbro Children's Hospital are: Sherry Saccoccio, Linda Pscatto, Gene Benedetti, Michele Brannigan, Rick DeLuca, Joe Ratte, David Levesque, Anne Banz, Cal Calabro, Jeff Gouche and Bruno Ramieri. (Sun Rise photos by Pete Fontaine)

Johnston Police Log

BENCH WARRANTS

Around 9 a.m., Oct. 5, Warwick Police Officer Aaron L. Steere saw a vehicle exit the UPS facility at 150 Plan Way, without a front registration plate.

He conducted a traffic stop on Jefferson Boulevard, just north of Service Road.

After talking to the occupants, he identified the driver as Christian Duran, 27, of 7 Golini Drive, Johnston. Police allege Duran was driving with a suspended license. Police said Duran had two prior convictions for Driving on Suspended License, making this third offense a misdemeanor.

A passenger in the vehicle, the driver's brother, Henry Duran, 25, of 7 Golini Drive, Apt. 224, Johnston, was found to have two active District Court warrants. According to Warwick Police, one of the warrants was out of Third District Court, and the other out of Sixth, both for Failure to Appear.

Both Christian and Henry Duran were transported to Warwick Police Headquarters. Christian Duran was charged with Driving on Suspended License (third offense) and later released with a Third District Court date of Nov. 1.

Henry Duran was later transported to Third District Court to answer for the two court warrants. Their vehicle was towed from the scene.



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 12

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us at The Bridge at Cherry Hill and start your Christmas shopping. We'll have an assortment of delicious treats from our bake sale that you can taste while you find the perfect gifts!

Call (401) 233-2880 for more information. No RSVP needed.

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WATCH YOUR STEP:

George Farrell assists one of the veterans in the all-women veterans flight hosted by the Federation of Women's Clubs on April 6, 2019 as they enter the terminal and prepare to board the flight for a full day in Washington, DC.



■ Honor

(Continued from page 2)

After being selected for a flight, veterans and their guardians gather for a meet and greet where they learn what will happen in the course of the day. Farrell personally makes a point to meeting each veteran. He assesses if they "feel comfortable" with what they're going to do and gets to hear their stories.

"I want to make sure they can do this safely," he said. He also wants to make sure the veterans feel confident they can make the trip.

"This is a big responsibility," he said of the commitment made by the team. The personal attention is part of the experience for the veterans. While each veteran has a guardian to turn to for assistance, Farrell and the team make a point of connecting with every veteran throughout the day of touring the war memorials and watching the change of the guard at the tomb of the unknown soldier. The senior members of the Honor Flight usually participate in the placing of a wreath at the tomb as part of the ceremony.

Before boarding the return flight to Rhode Island, the group gathers at a hotel for dinner. It's an occasion for newfound friends to gather and for the "mail call" that is a highlight of the day. The Honor Flight team goes to lengths to personalize the letters, photos and mementoes enclosed

in the envelopes as the name of each veteran is called out. Reaching out to family members, friends and former employers they come up with photos from their service and letters of thanks for their service. Entire classes from elementary schools veterans once attended have sent thank you cards.

"There's nothing like this immediate impact," Farrell says of the day-long experience.

What he finds especially rewarding is seeing the emotion of World War II vets in their 90s and now in their 100s who had no expectation of ever visiting the memorials. For some time Honor Flight has included Korean and Vietnam War vets. They also have included vets who have terminal medical conditions.

Farrell, who recently turned 67, shows no sign of slowing down. The team is working on assembling the next flight. It takes scheduling flights, escorts, reserving the hotel, lining up the vets and the guardians and scores of details from designing and making T-shirts to gathering those letters and photos that personalize mail call. It also takes a lot of money too.

A flight averages from \$25,000 to \$30,000 to cover the cost of the vets and the support team. Most guardians pay their own way. Fortunately, there are many generous supporters.

Ocean State Job Lot Charities sponsored three flights. Wayne Moore, one of Farrell's team, has personally sponsored flights and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union

104, Local 42 and Local 2323 have individually or collectively sponsored numerous flights. The list of sponsors or co-sponsors is extensive including National Grid, Centreville Bank, Bob's Red Mill, McShawn's Pub, VFW Post 183, Lepre Physical Therapy and the Cranston Fire Fighters union to name but a few.

"I'm lucky," Farrell said, "not everyone's family is so generous with their time."

His wife, Jane, served as a guardian on the first flight and their daughters have helped with the program since the start. His 94-year old mother was there to greet the most recent flight. Friends have also pitched in. Just this fall a friend who received \$5,000 handed the check over to Farrell. Farrell was stunned. The donor explained he could think of no better use for his windfall.

Rhode Island is a certified National Honor Flight Hub, a distinction it earned for the manner in which it conducts flights.

It's a designation Farrell is proud of and one he believes deserving of the team.

For all his passion to recognize what veterans have done for this country, Farrell did not serve in the military. His father and father-in-law both served during World War II. His number was on the Vietnam draft list when he turned 18, but soon after the draft was dropped.

Now his reward comes from honoring those who did serve, and, most of all, showing appreciation for their sacrifice and what it means to a grateful nation.

Elves for Elders



A program coordinated by Seniors Rule to obtain gifts for seniors in facilities across RI who may not receive a gift for the Holidays

The tree located at customer service has stars with a senior's first name, gift request and size

Pick a star, purchase the gift, and return it to customer service with an appropriately sized gift bag.

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SUN RISE SCOOPS

Sun Rise Staff Reports

REMEMBERING VETERANS

2022 Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kids Run

The ninth annual 2022 Park View Veterans Day 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kids Run, an annual event designed to bring honor and recognition to Veterans Day, will be held at Roger Williams Park on Friday, Nov. 11. Proceeds from the event will benefit programs for the school throughout the year and as a means of giving back to a worthwhile cause, Operation Stand Down RI.

The One Mile Kids Run will take place in the Park on a specially designed course. This race will begin at 8:30 a.m. The race is open to all elementary and middle school students. Cost for this race is \$10 (T-shirts to the first 50 entries for this race).

Start and finish of the 5k race at the Park Avenue entrance to Roger Williams Park across from Park View Middle School. The 5k starts at 9:30 a.m.

T-shirts to the first 500 entries for the 5k race. Post-race food and beverages will be served. Awards are given to the top male and female finisher. Awards to the top men and women in each division: 8th grade and under, high school division, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+.

Packet Pick up will be at the Park View Middle School Gym, Thursday, Nov. 10, from 3-5 p.m. Race day registration and pickup begins at 7 a.m.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Register online.

OSDRI Holiday Food Drive

Operation Stand Down RI is putting out a call to action to the local community in the days leading up to Veterans Day. On Friday, Oct. 21, OSDRI began seeking support from the local community to help stock the OSDRI food pantry shelves in time for the Holiday Season.

Individuals and organizations looking to contribute are invited to drop off Gift Cards and food items between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

OSDRI is seeking the following food items: canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing mix, boxed dessert, and gift cards to local supermarkets.

OSDRI headquarters is located at 1010 Hartford Ave., Johnston.

Veterans' Day Mass

Mass for Veterans' Day will be celebrated on Friday, Nov. 11 at 12:05 p.m. at Saint Paul Church, One Saint Paul Place, Cranston. The Mass, celebrated by Fr. Thomas Woodhouse, will feature enhanced musical selections played by Music Director Jason Hervieux. Everyone, especially all veterans, are invited and encouraged to attend. Please consider inviting a veteran you know to come to Mass along with you. Come let us give glory to God and thanks to those who served our great country.

Veterans Voices

Trinity Rep announces its second annual Veterans Voices performance showcase, presented as part of the theater's Green Light Ghost Light Project. Veterans Voices features performances, music, and readings from local veterans about their time during and after military service. This special event will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m., just in time for Veterans Day, in Trinity Rep's Chace Theater at 201 Washington St. in Providence.

Veterans Voices is free to attend and open to the public with a post-show reception to follow. To register, call Trinity Rep's Ticket Office at 401-351-4242 or visit trinityrep.com/veterans later in the week.

By combining Trinity Rep's longstanding theatrical traditions with the emotions and experiences of local veterans, Veterans Voices aims to educate the community on veterans' issues — and give veterans a platform to share their stories. Returning performers include West Point graduate and musician Big Lux and the band Guitars for Vets. Trinity Rep will also work with Providence Clemente Veterans' Initiative (PCVI) to coordinate Veteran Voices for the second year in a row. Many of this year's Veterans Voices participants are current or graduated students from PCVI humanities courses.

"Military service isn't very common in the United States today," PCVI Director Dr. Mark Santow said. "Too often, when we do turn toward our veterans, we do so with words and gestures that can feel trite or inadequate. They become symbols, not complex individual human beings, with stories and ideas and emotions that they need to share, and that we need to hear. We need to hear what they have to say not just to share their pride in their accomplishments, but to share at least some of the burden of their pain and loss, too — they carry these things, because we've asked them to. They don't put them down when they come home, as their loved ones can tell you. We shouldn't either."

Veteran Voices is an extension of Trinity Rep's ongoing engagement with Rhode Island's veteran community, The Green Light Ghost Light Project. Created to share veterans' stories, the Green Light Ghost Light Project is a combination of the Greenlight a Vet initiative, in which communities light a green light to show support for veterans, and the Ghost Light Project, in which theaters leave a light on to signal that the theater is a safe space for all.

"This event sees the vision of the Green Light Ghost Light Project that I began here at Trinity Rep come to fruition, where veterans can make the stage their own: for their stories, by them, and I am so honored to have them here to share this moment." Director of Community Engagement Dr. Michelle Cruz said.

Letters From Home

From January through May 2023, Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann will be traveling

the entire country performing one show in each of the United States as the singing and dancing sensation called "Letters From Home."

McVinney Auditorium is going to be the host for the official Rhode Island stop of the tour, which will take place at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023.

"Letters From Home" was founded in 2010, featuring music from the soundtracks of WWII, Vietnam, and beyond. This vaudeville-style singing & tap dancing duo has honored our veterans, active military heroes and their families, by uniting the nation through music.

All 50 venues across the United States have been secured for the tour and tickets are now available. To view the tour route or to purchase tickets in the state nearest you, visit www.LettersFromHomeSingers.com.

Veterans Day Parade

The City of Cranston will once again hold its Veterans Day Parade at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 11. The parade will kick off in front of Legion Bowl on Park Avenue, continue past City Hall up to Heyward Street and past Rolfe Street. A ceremony at the cannon memorial will immediately flood the parade. Any group/organization that wants to march can contact Paul McAuley at pmcauley@cranstonri.org.

Hearing from a Veteran

Join Cranston Public Library at Central on Nov. 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. as Don Mellor, a 101-year-old Cranston native and World War II Navy veteran, talks about his experiences aboard the U.S.S. Hopewell (DD - 681) in the South Pacific during the height of the war. Don will share stories, answer questions, and show several posters of images from his Navy days.

Don is also the subject of a recently published book, "Committed: Lessons from a 101-Year-Old Tin Can Sailor: the Story of Don Mellor," written by his children. A limited number of copies will be available to give away while supplies last. Register online.

HOLIDAY CHURCH BAZAARS

Phillips Memorial Baptist Church Bazaar
Come together for Phillips Memorial Baptist Church Holiday Bazaar (565 Pontiac Ave Cranston)! November 19th, 9am-1pm. From 9am-10:30am enjoy a cup of coffee and goodie at the Coffee Nook, then start your shopping! Basement bargains and treasures, baked goods, needle works, oldtiques, crafts, jewelry and more!

St. Robert Bellarmine Holiday Bazaar

A fundraising Holiday Bazaar featuring food, a straw game, raffles, a silent auction, and many vendor tables will be held at St. Robert Bellarmine Church Hall, at 1804 Atwood Ave., Johnston, on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Proceeds benefit St. Robert's Food Shelf, which provides food to all neighbors

in need, regardless of religious affiliation. Join us for fun and fellowship while helping our neighbors. For general information, contact Sandy at 946-3262 or Terry at 331-7075.

St. Mary's Craft and Vendor Show

St. Mary's Feast Society Ladies' Auxiliary will host its annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 12. There will be vendors, crafters, handmade items, baked goods, raffles, food and more.

Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food Drive

Jingle all the way to the Ocean State Artisans Holiday Craft Show Food drive on Nov. 25 to 27. Down at the Cowesett Corners Shopping Center, 300 Quaker Lane, Warwick. Bring along a canned good or non-perishable item and receive \$1 off the admission fee. Follow the snowman and find the perfect Holiday gifts.

MISCELLANEOUS

Johnston Historical Society Events

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Johnston Historical Society Museum Barn, 101 Putnam Pike, Johnston, and are free and open to the public. Events are subject to change.

November General Meeting: At 7 p.m., Nov. 30, local collector and Smith-Appleby House Museum Curator Sandra Achille will give a presentation on Esmond Mill blankets.

BY APPOINTMENT: Please note Both the Johnston Historical Society museum and the Elijah Angell House are open by appointment. The Johnston Historical Society always welcome visits by interested individuals or groups. Just shoot them an email at johnstonhistorical1825@gmail.com, or leave a message at 401-231-3380 to set one up. To see photos of past events, visit the Johnston Historical Society Facebook page at www.facebook.com/johnstonhistorical.

Neighborhood Watch

The 2022 season of Johnston's Neighborhood Watch has officially kicked off. This Neighborhood Watch brings together residents who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together with members of the police department. The program pairs residents with Johnston Police officers in an effort to open up communication, meet other neighbors and create partnerships that help build community resiliency.

Consider donating blood

The Rhode Island Blood Center is in need of blood donations. Individuals wishing to donate must book an appointment at the donation center; walk-ins are only accepted if safe distancing allows at the person's time of arrival.

Nearby areas to donate include The Shops at Greenwood, which is located at 615 Greenwich Ave., in Warwick. Sign up by visiting www.ribc.org.

PONTIAC AVENUE BRIDGE INTERCHANGE CLOSURES

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) will implement two weekend closures of Pontiac Avenue at the Pontiac Bridge Interchange in Cranston over two weekends. The two closures will take place on Friday November 11 from 8 p.m. to November 14 at 6 a.m. and Friday November 18 from 8 p.m. to November 21 at 6 a.m. This work is necessary for two bridge slides at the interchange. During the bridgework, traffic will continue to flow on Route 37 using the on and off ramps.

Marked detours will be in place. Please plan to use alternate routes as delays are expected.



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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022



AT THE POLLS: Allan Fung and his wife Barbara Ann Fenton Fung arrived at the Hope Highlands School Election Day to be greeted by a bevy of reporters. Here they were joined by Mayor Ken Hopkins before entering the school to cast their ballots. (Cranston Herald photo)

Fung falls short

By EMMA BARTLETT and JOHN HOWELL

It was a roller coaster ride Election Night that didn't end well for the man who led Cranston for 12 years and was ready to do even bigger things in Washington.

As the votes started coming in shortly after 8:15 p.m., those who had gathered at the Twin Oakes with hopes of a victory party, were seeing and hearing what they wanted. Radio host John DePetro who was live streaming from the restaurant announced loudly that Allan Fung was ahead of Seth Magaziner by four points in the race for the Second Congressional District. That caused a stir and there was a smattering of cheers. DePetro's information had come from Fox News.

But JR Pagliarini, who has been through many political races not only as a campaign consultant but at one time a candidate, wasn't swayed. Yes, he said it was good that Fung was ahead, however, only a small percentage of the vote was in. Ten minutes later, Fung's lead was shaved down to a two point lead and soon thereafter according to the State Board of Elections tally had them in a dead heat. Might this race come down to the mail ballots and perhaps a recount?

By 9:30 what little steam there had been for a victory celebration evaporated and the room started clearing out. Even some of the news media that had camped in front of the podium bearing Fung's banner drifted away. Fung's mother, who had a front row seat had left. By 11:06 p.m. Tuesday, the State Board of Elections was reporting Fung with 46.9 percent of the votes and Magaziner with 50.3 percent. With 99 percent of the state's polling places reporting, Fung was trailing by 6,568 votes.

Pagliarini was crestfallen not only because Fung, a Republican and a friend, had lost but because the state had missed an opportunity to offset Democratic control.

"It's healthy for our democracy," he said. Had Fung won he said it would have been an historical moment not seen in the state for the past 30 years.

"In Rhode Island when the Democratic Party coalesces it's very difficult to break them," he said. Former Mayor Michael Traficante joined in the conversation. He was appalled that Fung's margin in Cranston was about 500 votes. Pagliarini agreed that was weak and speculated had there been mayoral races in Cranston and Warwick the results might have been otherwise.

Fung's lasting mark on Cranston

Fung, 52, grew up on the south side of Providence and graduated from Classical High School. As the first in his family to graduate from college, Fung earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Rhode Island College and furthered his education at Boston's Suffolk University Law School.

Before his public servant career, Fung worked as a criminal prosecutor in the Narcotics and Organized Crime Unit of the RI Attorney General's Office and later the Government Affairs Counsel for MetLife.

Fung was first elected to Cranston's City Council in 2003 as a citywide candidate and served on the elected body until 2007. In 2008, Fung was elected as mayor - beating Democrat Cynthia Fogarty with 63 percent of the vote. According to Fung's website, he ran in Cranston's mayoral election because he saw his beloved city heading down the wrong path and knew he could help right the ship. He maintained the mayoral position for 12 years until he could not run again due to term limits. Over the course of his time running for mayor, Fung earned a greater percentage of Cranston's vote in each election, up until the 2016 election. In 2010 against Richard Tomlins, Fung earned 76.3 percent of the vote and - when he ran unopposed in 2012 - 97.2 percent of voters favored him. In 2016, Fung faced Michael Sepe and took 68.2 percent of the vote.

In Cranston, Fung led the city to its highest bond rating in over two decades, increased business development by over \$110 million and added over 4700 new jobs during his tenure. He also negotiated pension reforms and worked with the local public schools.

In terms of public safety, Fung started the first police detail program to monitor and protect children at schools and ensured funding for the city's school resource officers. He also worked in Cranston to expand community policing and opening substations in senior manors in Edgewood and Knightsville.

Fung took his ideas to the state level when, in 2014 and 2018, he ran for governor as the Republican nominee; he lost to Democrat Gina Raimondo both times in the General Election. After serving as Cranston's mayor, Fung returned to practicing law. Earlier in the year when Democratic Rep. Jim Langevin announced his retirement, Fung decided to run for the CD2 seat - looking to bring a Republican into the position after the Democratic Party has held the seat for the last three decades.

Magaziner's presence in District 2

Magaziner, 39, is a lifelong Rhode Islander who has served as Rhode Island's General Treasurer since 2015. In this position, he delivered results for the second congressional district by investing in education, job creation and clean energy infrastructure. He also served as the chair of the state's school building task force and led a statewide school construction initiative that created over 28,000 jobs and repaired or replaced over 200 schools like Garden City Elementary School in

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Watch Your MOUTH

by Rochelle Rhodes, D.M.D. and David McFarland, D.D.S.

WHAT IS A GUM STIMULATOR?

A gum stimulator is a dental tool that can be used at home to strengthen the gums by massaging and stimulating them. The tool has a pointed rubber or silicone tip at the top of a curved metal arm, which is designed to reach hard-to-clean spaces. It is used to massage the gums at the gumline in order to increase blood flow to those areas. This can help heal or prevent gum infections and disease by allowing more oxygen to reach the gum tissues. A gum stimulator can also be used to remove plaque and food debris from underneath the gumline. They additionally work well for cleaning around teeth in people who have large gaps between teeth or missing teeth.

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- Thurs. Dec. 8- CHAN'S, Woonsocket 7pm
- Sun. Dec 11- BELLA, Burrillville 12:30
- Thurs. Dec 15- WHITE'S of Westport 12:15
- Fri. Dec.16- COURTHOUSE CENTER, Kingston

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ENDORSED: In October, Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena and Rhode Island General Treasurer Seth Magaziner joined President of the National Committee to Protect Social Security and Medicare Political Action Committee (NCPSSM PAC) Max Richtman (at the lectern) and Rhode Island Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, to announce the organization's endorsement of Magaziner's candidacy in the state's second Congressional District race against Republican opponent Allan Fung. (*Sun Rise FILE photo*)

CD2

(Continued from page 6)

Cranston and the soon-to-be-completed combined elementary school in Johnston. He also launched innovative clean energy financing programs that have helped cities and towns build out solar, wind and climate resiliency projects, saving taxpayers money and reducing fossil fuel emissions.

Over the last eight years, he helped pass the Reproductive Privacy Act in 2019 that codified the protections of Roe v. Wade into state law, as well as gun measures like banning guns on school grounds and a red flag law to take guns out of the hands of domestic abusers.

Formally endorsed by Langevin for the CD2 seat, Magaziner won the Democratic primary with 54 percent of the vote. The next candidate to follow was David Segal with 16.2 percent of the vote. In the race, Magaziner had five opponents.

Campaign focus points

Fung's platform focused on curbing inflation, lowering the cost of living, fighting for low energy costs, restoring energy independence and modernizing the supply chain. He also advocated for getting to the root of criminal behaviors, such as poverty, mental health issues and dependency.

"We need to address these issues by being active and present in our community and advocating for common-sense bipartisan initiatives," reads Fung's website.

During his campaign, Fung spoke of improving the ability to provide mental and physical support for veterans as well as improving rehab technologies for those who need upgraded prosthetics or burn care from injuries sustained in conflict. For veterans, Fung also sought to increase access to housing vouchers and improved preference in HUD apartment complexes.

Magaziner's platform included building a stronger economy, lowering costs, having public health and pandemic preparedness, making healthcare more affordable, protecting social security and Medicare, defending reproductive rights, ending gun violence, lowering cost of energy and combating climate change, protecting democracy and strengthening America and supporting veterans.

He also advocated for helping Rhode Islanders keep up with the cost of living by protecting Social Security and Medicare, lowering the price of prescription drugs and returning big oil company profits back to consumers. One of the key points in his campaign was that he would stand up for a woman's right to make her own healthcare decisions and pass common-sense gun safety legislation.



ON THE TRAIL: Allan Fung, center, and former U.S. Presidential candidate and ex-Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie, at left, campaigned around the Ocean State through the Columbus Day weekend, appearing on Federal Hill, and met with Rhode Island constituents at the Scituate Arts Festival, shown here. (Photo courtesy Allan Fung's campaign)

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251 Phippen Orchard Road
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Universal Wealth Management
945 Reservoir Avenue
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 2:30PM
Tues. Dec. 6th @ 5:30PM

CRANSTON, RI
Universal Wealth Management
945 Reservoir Avenue
Tues. Nov. 8th @ 10AM
Tues. Nov. 8th @ 1PM
Tues. Nov. 8th @ 5:30PM
Fri. Nov. 11th @ 1PM
Mon. Nov. 14th @ 5:30PM
Tues. Nov. 15th @ 10:30AM
Tues. Nov. 15th @ 2PM
Tues. Nov 15th @ 5:30PM
Fri. Nov. 18th @ 1PM
Sat. Nov. 19th @ 10AM
Mon. Nov. 21st @ 1PM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 10:30AM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 2PM
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 5:30PM
Thurs. Dec. 1st @ 10AM
Fri. Dec. 2nd @ 1PM

EAST GREENWICH, RI
East Greenwich Public Library
82 Pierce Street
Tues. Nov. 22nd @ 10AM

NORTH SCITUATE, RI
North Scituate Public Library
606 West Greenville Road
Wed. Nov. 9th @ 4PM

PROVIDENCE, RI
Chelo's Providence
505 Silver Spring Street
Thurs. Nov. 10th @ 11AM

WARWICK, RI
Warwick Public Library
600 Sandy Lane, Room 113
Fri. Nov. 18th @ 10AM

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2022 RICAS RESULTS



ANALYSIS: Johnston Schools Superintendent Dr. Bernard DiLullo Jr. concedes the school district has a lot of work to do to improve test scores in town. He said test scores in Johnston “went up in most areas with the biggest increase in math with a 9.5% increase in math proficiency.” (Sun Rise FILE photo)

RICAS

(Continued from page 1)

In short, statewide, year-over-year (pre-pandemic) students improved in the math assessment and many struggled with English Language Arts/Literacy. Overall ELA scores however, were slightly more optimistic than math tallies.

Math

Across Rhode Island (including all grades, schools and student population groups) RIDE says 59,741 public school students took the math RICAS exam (97.8%).

The results indicate 25.8 percent are “Not Meeting Expectations” in mathematics.

The rest: 47.3% scored “Partially Meeting Expectations,” 24.4% “Meeting Expectations,” and only 2.6% are “Exceeding Expectations.”

According to RIDE, the RICAS 2022 results “show that student performance in ELA and math varied across Rhode Island, but there was a considerable increase in math proficiency with a nearly 7% rise compared to 2021, from 20.1% to 26.9%.”

“This increase was seen regardless of students’ grade level, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, and multilingualism,” according to RIDE. “All grade levels demonstrated higher performance in math in comparison to performance in 2021 but are still generally below their 2019 pre-pandemic performance.”

The RIDE data portal (available on the agency’s website) provides statistics for every school district in the state. The cities of Warwick, Cranston and Johnston all had similar results; with some districts performing better than others in specific areas.

In Cranston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 4,524 students took the math exam (99.3%). Across the district, 24% scored Not Meeting Expectations, 54.3% Partially Meeting Expectations, 20.6% Meeting Expectations, and only 1.1% Exceeding Expectations.

Contacted this week for comment, Cranston Schools Superintendent Jeannine Nota-Masse did not respond by deadline.

In Johnston (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 1,442 students took the math exam (98.6%). Across the district, 19.4% of students scored Not Meeting Expectations, 58.9% Partially Meeting Expectations, 20.7% Meeting Expectations, and only 1% Exceeding Expectations.

“We had good participation on all testing. 95% is required and we either met or exceeded that,” said Johnston Schools Superintendent Bernard DiLullo Jr. “We went up in most areas with the biggest increase in math with a 9.5% increase in math proficiency.”

In Warwick, (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 3,625 students took the math exam (99.2%). Across the district, 21.1% of students scored Not Meeting Expectations, 50% Partially Meeting Expectations, 27% Meeting Expectations, and only 1.8% Exceeding Expectations.

“Even though we are not at the proficiency levels that the Warwick School District is striving for, many schools made significant progress,” said Warwick Schools Superintendent Lynn Dambruch. “Overall the district maintained the ELA scores from last year and increased the math scores by 8%.”

RIDE notes that the “largest increases in math proficiency were seen in grades 3, 4, and 6 with increases ranging from approximately 2.3% points in grade 7 to 9.9% points in grade 3.”

“This upswing in Rhode Island is counter to the historic decline in math scores seen in the national data

released by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in late October,” according to a statement from RIDE. “When comparing Rhode Island to Massachusetts, both states saw similar increases in math. Overall, while there were gains in Rhode Island, about one fourth of students are proficient in math in grades 3 through 8.”

ELA

Across Rhode Island, on average, students performed worse in the ELA portion of the exams (English Language Arts/Literacy). Statewide (including all grades, schools and student population groups), 59,399 students took the exam (98.4%).

The results indicate that 24.6% are Not Meeting Expectations in ELA.

The rest of the state’s students: 44.3% scored Partially Meeting Expectations, 27.1% Meeting Expectations, and 4% Exceeding Expectations.

In Cranston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 4,488 students took the ELA exam (99.5%). Of those, across the city, the state found that 19.9% are Not Meeting Expectations, 48.2% are Partially Meeting Expectations, 28.9% Meeting Expectations, and 3.1% Exceeding Expectations.

In Johnston (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 1,442 students took the ELA exam (98.9%). The state found that 20.2% are Not Meeting Expectations, 47.6% Partially Meeting Expectations, 29% Meeting Expectations, and 3.3% Exceeding Expectations.

2021-22 RICAS RESULTS

English Language Arts/Literacy	Math
Statewide (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 59,399 students took the exam (98.4%)	Statewide (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 59,741 students took the exam (97.8%)
1-Not Meeting Expectations: 24.6%	1-Not Meeting Expectations: 25.8%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 44.3%	2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 47.3%
3-Meeting Expectations: 27.1%	3-Meeting Expectations: 24.4%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 4%	4-Exceeding Expectations: 2.6%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 31.1%	Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 26.9%
Average Scale Score: 488	Average Scale Score: 485
Cranston (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 4,488 students took the exam (99.5%)	Cranston (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 4,524 students took the exam (99.3%)
1-Not Meeting Expectations: 19.9%	1-Not Meeting Expectations: 24%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 48.2%	2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 54.3%
3-Meeting Expectations: 28.9%	3-Meeting Expectations: 20.6%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 3.1%	4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.1%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 32%	Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 21.7%
Average Scale Score: 489	Average Scale Score: 484
Johnston (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 1,442 students took the exam (98.9%)	Johnston (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 1,442 students took the exam (98.6%)
1-Not Meeting Expectations: 20.2%	1-Not Meeting Expectations: 19.4%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 47.6%	2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 58.9%
3-Meeting Expectations: 29%	3-Meeting Expectations: 20.7%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 3.3%	4-Exceeding Expectations: 1%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 32.2%	Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 21.7%
Average Scale Score: 489	Average Scale Score: 486
Warwick (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 3,625 students took the exam (99.2%)	Warwick (All Grades, Schools, Groups): 3,625 students took the exam (99.2%)
1-Not Meeting Expectations: 21.1%	1-Not Meeting Expectations: 21.1%
2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 50%	2-Partially Meeting Expectations: 50%
3-Meeting Expectations: 27%	3-Meeting Expectations: 27%
4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.8%	4-Exceeding Expectations: 1.8%
Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 28.9%	Meeting or Exceeding Expectations: 28.9%
Average Scale Score: 487	Average Scale Score: 487

“The only area we went down in by 1% is high school ELA based on the SAT,” DiLullo said. “The trend is definitely showing recovery from the two COVID years. The pre-pandemic testing result is 2019. As you can see ... we are nearing or exceeding those scores, recovering from a decline in 2021. The disappointing scores still are the subgroups of the differently abled and multilingual students.”

In Warwick (including all grades, schools and student population groups) 3,625 students took the exam (99.2%). The results indicate that 21.1% of students are Not Meeting Expectations, 50% Partially Meeting Expectations, 27% Meeting Expectations, and 1.8% Exceeding Expectations.

“We acknowledge that there is more work that needs to be done,” Dambruch said. “School-level data is being analyzed by School Improvement Teams and action steps to improve ELA and Math proficiency will be incorporated into School Improvement Plans and the District Strategic Plan.”

The state education agency notes Rhode Island’s 2022 ELA results “show that proficiency declined across the state by approximately 2% compared to 2021, from 33.2% to 31.1%.”

“As expected, Rhode Island saw lower performance in early grades where there were approximate drops of 3.9% points in grade 3 and 6.4% in grade 4,” according to a statement from RIDE. “For these younger students, the pandemic was particularly disruptive to reading and comprehension with the transition to remote learning and quarantining during critical years for learning and development.”

RIDE compared the Ocean State’s results with the Bay State’s.

“Rhode Island saw less of a drop in ELA at 2% than Massachusetts which saw a 5% decrease,” according to RIDE. “Overall, one third of students are proficient in ELA in grades 3 through 8. Further, performance across all grades is still lower than it was pre-pandemic. This decline in ELA is similar to what was seen in national trends.”

The Gameplan

Schools are still making sense of the data, comparing it to past years and looking at breakdowns of student sub-categories.

“The extended day program at the elementary schools will continue this year to accelerate learning,” Dambruch explained. “Rigorous new curricula are being implemented at every level. The district also increased the number of math and reading interventionists.”

Johnston Schools are also formulating a list of potential strategies. DiLullo provided a six-point plan.

“The district has had a plan in place to continue to address the needs of all students as follows as there is still work to be done to increase proficiency,” he explained. “(First) Our teachers are receiving training in research based reading instruction. (Second) We have coaching from Highlander institute working with special education teachers and MLL teachers. (Third) There are interventionists in each building that support student needs. (Fourth) We have purchased high quality curriculum materials in ELA and Math. (Fifth) We have instituted common assessments to ensure teachers stay on pace and students are meeting the standards. (Sixth) We are providing ongoing training to all teachers on effective instructional practice.”

Student By Student

The state’s trying to better communicate RICAS data by providing new services to parents.

“Recognizing the importance of students and families better understanding RICAS scores and how they may be factored in education decision-making, this year RIDE announced that for the first time it will launch informational videos for families specifically tailored for their student,” according to RIDE. “Personalized Individual Student Reports that are expected to be received by districts on Nov. 10 will include a new feature that will allow easy access to individualized, multilingual videos through a QR code. The videos will be available in 10 languages and will provide families greater insight on their child’s performance and allow comparisons to school, district, and state performance.”

State officials urged taxpayers to pay attention to the dark cloud’s silver lining.

“With our collective focus on continued learning acceleration across Rhode Island and the guidance of the Learning, Equity & Accelerated Pathways (LEAP) Task Force’s report, we are optimistic that our students will continue to make up ground,” Infante-Green said. “Rhode Island schools worked diligently to fully return to in-person learning last year, but we know it was not a typical year because COVID-19 still impacted most aspects of education here and across the nation. RIDE will continue to support school leaders to better serve the needs of students and meet the priorities of their communities to help all students recover.”

Editor’s Note: School administrators are still interpreting this year’s data. As they get a clearer picture of achievement, failure and the path forward, we’ll provide future stories. Look for more detailed local breakdowns and RICAS analysis in upcoming editions.

Opinion

EDITORIAL

Ten years of truly serving veterans

In a world where it seems we can hardly agree on anything — and particularly amidst a political season where our worst tribal qualities are on all too apparent display — it is nice to be reminded now and again that sometimes we are able to pull together something meaningful and worthy of celebration.

Honor Flights are such an endeavor, and we are fortunate in this state to have such a dedicated team of volunteers and generous organizations to help pull them off.

It all starts at the top, from the program's originator in Rhode Island, George Farrell. Inspired after seeing one of these flights at the Baltimore/

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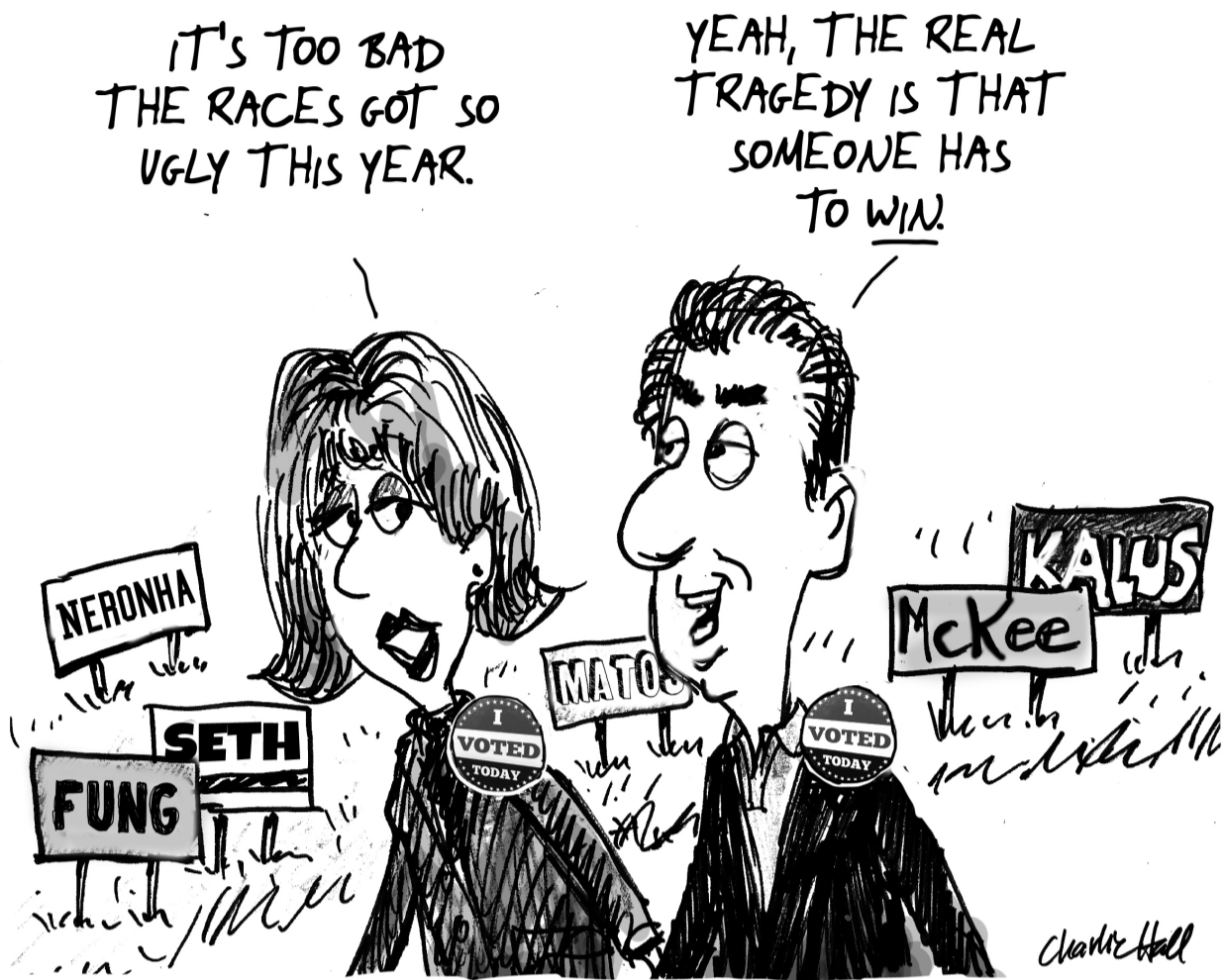
Washington Airport a little 12 years ago, Farrell has turned that inspiration into a sustained movement, resulting in 27 flights in 10 years of operation, ferrying hundreds of service members to Washington to get a chance to see monuments dedicated to their service, and memorials dedicated to their friends and brothers-in-arms who served with them.

There is no denying that the nation has a lot of healing to do when it comes to how we interact and work with one another. Our very institutions are under threat from agenda-driven groups who seek to undermine or deny the integrity of elections that these veterans fought so bravely to protect. Farrell, and the group of volunteers and donors who help make these amazing flights happen, do the country proud by honoring our best, most important values — respect and admiration for those who sacrificed their own safety and freedom to help ensure we have safety and freedom ourselves.

Some of these veterans are approaching 100 years old, or have eclipsed that number. For some of them, this will be their final, or their only trip to see these memorials and monuments erected in their honor. It is not something done out of any ulterior motive but to provide a chance for meaningful reflection to those men and women, for what was undoubtedly an incredibly important and formative experience in their lives.

Truly, it is difficult to navigate today's world without some inner sense of cynicism. Somebody is always trying to profit, or negotiate power in order to exert influence over others, it seems. But with Honor Flights, we can rest assured that this is a mission of pure heart and intent, and the results on the people who undergo the journey speaks for itself.

With Veterans Day on the horizon, it is worth taking a moment to reflect on this amazing program, and to consider donating time or funds to this wholly American, wholly worthy cause.



LETTERS

Deer me, collisions and cheap insurance?

I read your latest article on cars versus the local fauna (DEM reported 91 Warwick deer crashes last year) and I have just a few points to address.

Automobiles and animals will always be in competition for the right of way. It is a sad reality that so many innocent critters are killed on American roads every year. Most are unavoidable, others avoidable, but it happens nonetheless.

Regarding the local deer population, accidents are often avoidable with the right equip-

ment. Enter deer whistles. They are available at auto and hardware stores and online.

They work above 30 mph. A frequency is emitted near that of a dog whistle and it cannot be heard by human ears. There are two different pitches that work together to get their attention.

Here's an anecdotal story. Some years ago I was driving across Jamestown on 138 on a Sunday morning about 8 a.m. toward Newport when I noticed three deer grazing on the right shoulder. When I drove

up towards them, they looked up... and froze! I have never seen that behavior before.

They heard my deer whistles mounted on the front bumper of my car and, thankfully, the four of us continued doing what we were doing without incident.

In my estimation, they do work. Odd that AAA (which referenced the DEM report on deer crashes) didn't mention that alternative. As they used to say, "it's cheap insurance."

Jim Morgan, Warwick



Publisher John I. Howell Jr. - JohnH@rhodybeat.com	Credit Manager Lynne Taylor
General Manager Richard G. Fleischer - RichardF@rhodybeat.com	Bookkeeping Leslie Paz
Advertising Director Donna Zarrella - Donna Z@rhodybeat.com	Production Manager Lisa Bourque Yuettner - LisaB@rhodybeat.com
Editor Rory Schuler - RoryS@rhodybeat.com	Production Staff Monique Rice - MoR@rhodybeat.com
Sports Editor Alex Sponseller - AlexS@rhodybeat.com	Advertising Representative Natalie Payette - NatalieP@rhodybeat.com
Journalists Pete Fontaine	Spotlight Profile Writer Jennifer Coates - JenniferC@rhodybeat.com
Classified Advertising Ashley Medeiros - AshleyM@rhodybeat.com	Tel. 401-732-3100 Fax: 401-732-3110
Circulation Leslie Paz	

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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022 RESULTS

How did Johnston vote?

Editor's Note: The following are unofficial voting tallies for 12 of 12 Johnston polling places. Several of these races were statewide contests. See Rhode Island statewide voting results for final race determinations. Election data courtesy Rhode Island Secretary of State.

Mayor Town of Johnston

Joseph M. Polisena, Jr. (DEM)	7119	68.9%
Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick (Ind)	1697	16.4%
Brenda Lynn Leone (Ind)	1423	13.8%
Write-in	97	0.9%

Town Council Johnston District 1

Linda L. Folcarelli (DEM)	1331	94.7%
Write-in	75	5.3%

Town Council Johnston District 2

Lauren Garzone (DEM)	1508	92.6%
Write-in	121	7.4%

Town Council Johnston District 3

Alfred T. Carnevale (DEM)	1504	94.8%
Write-in	82	5.2%

Town Council Johnston District 4

Robert V. Russo (DEM)	1764	95.6%
Write-in	81	4.4%

Town Council Johnston District 5

Robert J. Civetti (DEM)	1429	59.8%
Jeanette A. Scarcella (Ind)	939	39.3%
Write-in	23	1.0%

School Committee Johnston District 2

Dawn M. Aloisio (DEM)	1477	94.1%
Write-in	92	5.9%

School Committee Johnston District 3

Marysue Andreozzi (DEM)	1459	95.2%
Write-in	74	4.8%

School Committee Johnston District 5

Susan M. Mansolillo (DEM)	1890	94.6%
Write-in	107	5.4%

Representative in Congress District 2

Allan W. Fung (REP)	6217	58.1%
Seth M. Magaziner (DEM)	4218	39.4%
William H. Gilbert (MOD)	249	2.3%
Write-In	9	0.1%

Governor

Ashley Marie Kalus (REP)	5533	51.7%
Daniel J. McKee (DEM)	4885	45.6%
Paul A. Rianna, Jr. (Ind)	115	1.1%
Zachary Baker Hurwitz (Ind)	93	0.9%
Elijah J. Gizzarelli (Lib)	67	0.6%
Write-in	16	0.1%

Lieutenant Governor

Aaron C. Guckian (REP)	5886	55.6%
Sabina Matos (DEM)	4149	39.2%
Ind Ross K. McCurdy (Ind)	538	5.1%
Write-in	13	0.1%

Secretary of State

Pat V. Cortellessa (REP)	5519	52.5%
Gregg Amore (DEM)	4974	47.3%
Write-in	26	0.2%

Attorney General

Peter F. Neronha (DEM)	5369	50.9%
Charles C. Calenda (REP)	5167	48.9%
Write-in	21	0.2%

General Treasurer

James L. Lathrop (REP)	5796	55.1%
James A. Diossa (DEM)	4702	44.7%
Write-in	22	0.2%

Senator in General Assembly District 7

Frank Anthony Ciccone (DEM)	532	92.8%
Write-in	41	7.2%

Senator in General Assembly District 25

Frank Lombardo, III (DEM)	7200	93.3%
Write-in	519	6.7%

Representative in General Assembly District 13

Ramon A. Perez (DEM)	368	54.8%
Ivan J. Montanez (Ind)	290	43.2%
Write-in	14	2.1%

Representative in General Assembly District 42

Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (DEM)	1988	52.9%
Harold K. Borders, Jr. (REP)	1756	46.7%
Write-in	14	0.4%

Representative in General Assembly District 43

Deborah Ann Fellela (DEM)	2596	51.5%
Nicola Antonio Grasso (REP)	2430	48.2%
Write-in	15	0.3%

Representative in General Assembly District 44

Peter Anthony Trementozzi (REP)	469	51.3%
Gregory J. Costantino (DEM)	443	48.5%
Write-in	2	0.2%

REFERENDA

1. URI NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS - \$100,000,000

Approve	5182	51.7%
Reject	4845	48.3%

2. RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDINGS - \$250,000,000

Approve	7400	73.2%
Reject	2709	26.8%

3. GREEN ECONOMY BONDS - \$50,000,000

Approve	5982	59.8%
Reject	4019	40.2%

4. RHODE ISLAND CANNABIS ACT - LOCAL LICENSING

Approve	5443	56.0%
Reject	4278	44.0%

LEGAL NOTICES

JOHNSTON ZONING BOARD MEETING AGENDA Thursday, November 17th, 2022 at 6:30 PM Johnston Senior Center 1291 Hartford Avenue

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Review will hold a meeting on November 17th, 2022 at 6:30 pm, at Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue. All persons interested in the following proposals are requested to be present at this time. The assembly facilities are accessible to the handicapped. Persons requiring special accommodations shall call the Zoning Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting (401) 231-4000 ext. 4117. Persons utilizing TDD equipment may contact the Town through "Relay Rhode Island" at 1-800-745-6675. The agenda for the evening will be as follows, subject to change:

New Business

Petition of Cranston Enameling, Inc., Owner/Applicant for 1309 Plainfield Street, AP 3 Lot 225, zoned B-2. The petitioner is seeking a special use permit for automobile sales within the upper level of an existing building.

Petition of Anthony Caprio, Owner/Applicant for 93 George Waterman Road, AP 35 Lot 70, zoned R-15. The petitioner is seeking to convert an existing commercial building to a

two family structure, each one bedroom and to have two residential structures on the same lot.

Petition of Reservoir Adventures, LLC, Owner and Michael Campagne, Applicant, for 1808 Atwood Avenue AP 53 Lot 239, Zoned R-20. The petitioner is seeking a use variance to subsection 9 Number 13 Storage of the Use Table to store his personal vehicles in a garage and is seeking dimensional variances to triple the size of the existing garage.

Petition of 15 Industrial Lane, LLC, Owner, and Joe Parrillo, Applicant, for 15 Industrial Lane AP 53 Lot 208, Zoned I Industrial. The petitioner is seeking dimensional variances to build a new storage garage and expand an existing storage garage.

NOTE: If a Case has not been called for a hearing by 10:30 p.m., the Board, at its discretion, may continue the Case to a subsequent or a special meeting. The Agenda and Minutes are available for review at ClerkBase on the Town's web page or Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Building Office, 100 Irons Avenue, Johnston.

Per order of the Zoning Board of Review
Thomas Lopardo, Chairman
10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17/22



COUNTING THE VOTES: Johnston Mayor Joseph M. Polisena receives updates via cell phone, reads them off, while his Chief of Staff Doug Jeffrey records precinct vote totals on the wall of the Johnston Democratic Town Committee Headquarters. Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. watches on as his lead grows steadily through the night Tuesday. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022 RESULTS

How did Rhode Island vote?

Editor's Note: The following are unofficial voting tallies 412 of 414 polling places reporting (99%).
Election data courtesy Rhode Island Secretary of State.

LOCAL RACES (representation including parts of Johnston)

Senator in General Assembly District 7		
Frank Anthony Ciccone (DEM)	3061	95.1%
Write-in	159	4.9%

Representative in General Assembly District 13		
Ramon A. Perez (DEM)	1341	62.9%
Ivan J. Montanez (Ind)	754	35.4%
Write-in	37	1.7%

Representative in General Assembly District 42		
Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (DEM)	2622	52.2%
Harold K. Borders, Jr. (REP)	2386	47.5%
Write-in	19	0.4%

Representative in General Assembly District 44		
Gregory J. Costantino (DEM)	3697	54.0%
Peter Anthony Tremontozzi (REP)	3136	45.8%
Write-in	12	0.2%

STATEWIDE		
Representative in Congress District 1		
David N. Cicilline (DEM)	98781	63.8%
Allen R. Waters (REP)	55646	36.0%
Write-in	357	0.2%

Representative in Congress District 2		
Seth M. Magaziner (DEM)	99438	50.3%
Allan W. Fung (REP)	92870	46.9%
William H. Gilbert (MOD)	5352	2.7%
Write-in	193	0.1%

Governor		
Daniel J. McKee (DEM)	203915	57.8%
Ashley Marie Kalus (REP)	137677	39.0%
Zachary Baker Hurwitz (Ind)	4439	1.3%

Paul A. Rianna, Jr. (Ind)	3070	0.9%
Elijah J. Gizzarelli (Lib)	2774	0.8%
Write-in	1040	0.3%

Lieutenant Governor		
Sabina Matos (DEM)	178000	51.0%
Aaron C. Guckian (REP)	151010	43.3%
Ross K. McCurdy (Ind)	19217	5.5%
Write-in	601	0.2%

Secretary of State		
Gregg Amore (DEM)	205671	59.4%
Pat V. Cortellesa (REP)	140156	40.5%
Write-in	517	0.1%

Attorney General		
Peter F. Neronha (DEM)	213665	61.3%
Charles C. Calenda (REP)	134210	38.5%
Write-in	456	0.1%

General Treasurer		
James A. Diossa (DEM)	187739	54.2%
James L. Lathrop (REP)	158261	45.7%
Write-in	543	0.2%

REFERENDA		
1. URI NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS - \$100,000,000		
Approve	194223	57.5%
Reject	143480	42.5%
2. RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDINGS - \$250,000,000		
Approve	248796	73.2%
Reject	91051	26.8%
3. GREEN ECONOMY BONDS - \$50,000,000		
Approve	224911	66.8%
Reject	112009	33.2%

OBITUARY

Philip Jonathan Mouser



Philip Jonathan Mouser passed into the arms of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on September 19, 2022. While we are devastated that the future we anticipated is not going to happen, we celebrate that we will be reunited with him some day in Heaven.

Philip was pre-deceased by his mother, Tereasa Lynn Mouser, grandparents, Regina Sawyer, William Mouser, Jane Dragland, and Charles Dragland. He was also pre-deceased by his uncle, Aaron Mouser.

Philip is survived by his father James J Mouser and step mother, Debra Mouser. His son's Asher Mouser (Mother Erin Cheschi) and Isaiah Moller, his sister Stephanie Ayers (Clifden), step brother Erin Patrick Dunn, step sisters, Laura Ortega (Mike), Aubree Rebenar, nephews, Ben Ortega, Eli Christensen, Alvin Rebenar, nieces, Ava Christensen, Charlotte Ayers, Bianca Ortega, June Rebenar, and Rose Rebenar. Aunt's Maria T. Darr (Matthew) Dawn Nguyen (Kiet), Uncles, William Mouser, Michael Mouser (Julie), Roy Spencer, Robert Mouser (Stephanie), Patrick Mouser (Kay), Steve Dragland (Debora), and many other family and friends who knew and loved him.

A private family service will be held on November 13, 2022 at a private home in Jeffersonville, Indiana. Part of Philip's ashes have been interred at Highland Memorial Cemetery in Johnston, Rhode Island and will also be interred at the family cemetery in Kentucky.

In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Cub Scout pack 20 of Johnston Rhode Island or Keeping Kids Fishing nonprofit organization of Coventry Rhode Island.

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.

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



MAYOR ELECT: Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. hugs his father, current Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena, after Tuesday night's victory was clear. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



INDEPENDENT STRUGGLE: Brenda Lynn Leone spoke to her campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston.

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RI ELECTION 2022



MAYOR-TO-MAYOR: Mayor-elect Joe Polisena Jr. hugs his father, current Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena, after Tuesday night's victory was clear. (Sun Rise photos by Rory Schuler)



BURGER & A BEER: Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick, and her husband Tom, await election results while eating a burger and a beer at the Bishop Hill Tavern, 2868 Hartford Ave., in Johnston's west-end.



THE OPPOSITION: Brenda Lynn Leone waited with campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston. Leone, at right, posed for a photo with campaign manager Debbie Spaur, at left.

■ Mayor

(Continued from page 1)

Joe Polisena Jr. stood there, mostly smiling. Nervous at first, but the grin came easier as the numbers broke in his direction. He was about to follow in his father's footsteps; sit in his father's padded mayoral chair.

"Here's the keys," his father joked about halfway through the process. The younger Polisena's lead was swelling as he picked up nearly 7 of every 10 votes cast in town.

Once the win was assured, Mayor Polisena addressed the crowd.

"I think he's going to make a really good mayor," Polisena said. "He's got a lot more patience than I do. He has a different style than I do. Our styles are entirely different. I'm very proud of him ... he is going to do a fantastic job ... With that said, I can't tell you how proud we are. My wife and I are extremely proud ... Let me introduce the next mayor of Johnston."

He turned red, looked away from the crowd and fell into his son's embrace. He almost hid his tears.

Mayor-elect Polisena declared his 68.9 percent vote-share a "mandate."

"This margin is a mandate," Polisena Jr. told the crowd. "It shows when you listen to the voters and focus on the issues that matter the most to voters, you don't lie to them, you tell them the truth. They'll reward you. And that's what they did tonight. A huge thank you to them for putting their faith in me."

Three-way split

With all 10 precincts reporting, Democrat Joseph M. Polisena, Jr. won 68.9% of the vote (7,119 votes); independent challengers Karen E. Cappelli Chadwick and Brenda Lynn Leone won 16.4% (1,697 votes) and 13.8% (1,423 votes) of the vote, respectively, according to Tuesday night's unofficial results.

The ballot was split in three, but Polisena Jr.'s win was decisive.

Chadwick awaited election results with a burger and a beer at the Bishop Hill Tavern, 2868 Hartford Ave., in Johnston's west-end.

"First of all I would like to thank everyone who took the time to cast a ballot yesterday," she said Wednesday morning. "I think it is one of our most important privileges. Thanks to all who supported me in my campaign. It has been quite the adventure. The absolutely best part was having the opportunity to meet so many different people. Even better than that is that I have reconnected with a couple of old friends and will hold them close. I even made a couple of new ones. Not to shabby for a gal who had no idea what she was getting into."

With the race behind her, Chadwick said she walks away with an overall positive impression.

"Everyone around me played nice as the kids say," Chadwick said. "Politics are what the people make of it. I have the most amazing people in my corner. I am very thankful."

Chadwick and Polisena squared off face-to-face at the Johnston Sun Rise Mayoral Forum last week. Following the vigorous discussion of local issues, Chadwick said she was impressed by Polisena Jr.'s grasp of the issues and hopes she found a new friend in the mayor-elect.

"I would like very much to congratulate Joseph Polisena Jr. in his bid for mayor of Johnston," Chadwick said. "He is a very smart, engaging young man and now has the opportunity to make some significant changes. When we met at the Sun Rise we had a great conversation about many different things. During the question and answer period he was cool, calm and collected. My hope is that he does have an open-door policy as many people want to know, want to be involved. Community participation is vitally important. It is up to you all to tell him and his administration what matters to you most. Together, great things can be accomplished. Don't give up."

As for me, this is another chapter in the "You would never believe this" book. Go to meetings, get to know your representatives. Make a connection with them. Only then will they know what your hopes for the town are. Take good care.

A political newcomer, Chadwick doubts she'll run for office again.

The third-place finisher in the race, Brenda Lynn Leone, spoke to campaign supporters at her General Election headquarters in the Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate Office at 1251 Atwood Ave., Johnston.

On Tuesday night, she was optimistic. On Wednesday morning, she had very little to say.

"The voters have spoken," Leone said. "We gave the voters a choice and they're obviously content with what they have."

His first term

Polisena Jr. said he takes after his mother. The crowd gathered in Town Hall Plaza offered laughs and applause in agreement.

"This isn't just about a candidate," he said. "It's not about a last name. It's about a message. I said it from the beginning. It's what I ran on. It's the only thing I focused on: taxes, schools, public safety, town services."

On Wednesday morning, the mayor-elect wanted to drive that point home:

"This election wasn't about one person, or one last name, it was about a consistent message that economic development promotes not only job growth, but helps stabilize residential property taxes and also gives us additional revenue to further improve our town," he said. "I believe people want moderate government. Too extreme to either the progressive left or conservative right has taken a lot of states and municipalities off course, but in Johnston, we've stuck to the issues that impact all of our residents regardless of political affiliation."

While most of Rhode Island stayed reliably blue (all of the statewide of-

ficers remained in Democratic hands), Johnston voters turned out heavily in favor of underdog Republican candidates. Several incumbent state representatives, including Rep. Edward T. Cardillo, Jr. (District 42), Rep. Deborah Ann Fellela (District 43) and Rep. Gregory J. Costantino (District 44) narrowly held onto their seats.

"My son, I know he's going to follow in my footsteps as far as he will help people that even didn't vote for him," the elder Polisena said Tuesday to end the evening's victory remarks. "Because he represents everybody in this town, not just the people who supported them. I can tell you that he'll have an open door just like I did. I look forward, before he changes the locks, to come and see him. One thing I'm going to be ... really proud of, is the night of inauguration, when I get to swear in my son as the mayor of Johnston."



ELECTION NIGHT: The view through the glass door at Johnston Democratic Town Committee headquarters in Town Hall Plaza on Atwood Avenue. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)



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- ★ The Vocal/Instrumental/Performance Music Education Academy
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- ★ Medical Careers Academy
- ★ Two-Dimensional Art Academy
- ★ Three-Dimensional Art Academy

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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022



THEY VOTED: Johnston voter Mellissa Ritz brought her three children, Grace, 5, Gabriella, 7, and Frank, 9, with her while she voted at the Ferri Middle School on Tuesday. Frank scored a whole bunch of "I VOTED" stickers. "They just gave them to me," he said. (Sun Rise photo by Rory Schuler)

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FAMILY AFFAIR: Above, the Poliseña family poses for a photo following Johnston Mayor-elect Joe Poliseña Jr.'s General Election night victory. Below, the peaceful transition of power begins, as the outgoing mayor passes the lectern to his son.



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RI GENERAL ELECTION 2022

Johnston incumbents barely hold onto seats

By RORY SCHULER

As predicted, it was a tough election for incumbents.

A handful of Johnston incumbents — one Town Council member and at least three local state reps — held onto their seats, but barely.

Incumbent Town Councilman representing Johnston's District 5 Robert J. Civetti, a Democrat, held onto his seat with 59.8% of the vote (1,429 votes). Independent challenger Jeanette A. Scarcella earned 39.3% of the vote (939 votes).

In the race for Representative in General Assembly District 42, incumbent state Rep. Edward T. Cardillo Jr., a Democrat, narrowly beat Republican challenger Harold K. Borders Jr. Cardillo earned just 52.2% of the vote (2,622 votes) and Borders narrowly closed the margin, with 47.5% of the vote (2,386 votes).

Cardillo had a hard-fought primary battle with his nephew, Dennis Cardillo. The incumbent had filed a residency complaint against his nephew, but ultimately dropped it when the younger Cardillo was eliminated from

the race after losing the primary.

Another tight contest defined the race for Representative in General Assembly District 43.

Incumbent state Rep. Deborah Ann Fellela, a Democrat, faced the toughest fight of her political career. She earned just 51.5% of the vote (2,596 votes). Her Republican opponent, Nicola "Nick" Antonio Grasso, earned 48.2% of the vote (2,430 votes).

"Every vote counts," Fellela said on Wednesday morning. "I am thankful for all the voters who came out, the early voters and mail ballots. Those put us over the top. This is the tightest race I've had, so I do have to give credit to Mr. Grasso for the campaign he ran. I thank District 43 for trusting me to serve them in the House once again."

And in the race for Representative in General Assembly District 44, incumbent Democrat state Rep. Gregory J. Costantino earned 54% of the vote (3,697 votes), compared to Republican opponent Peter Anthony Trementozi, who earned 45.8% of the vote (3,136 votes).

Incumbent Democratic state Rep.

Ramon A. Perez also held onto his seat as Representative in General Assembly District 13. He successfully fought off a challenge from independent candidate Ivan J. Montanez. Perez won 62.9% of the votes (1,341 votes), compared to Montanez, who earned just 35.4% (754 votes).



Pot ballot question clears town voters

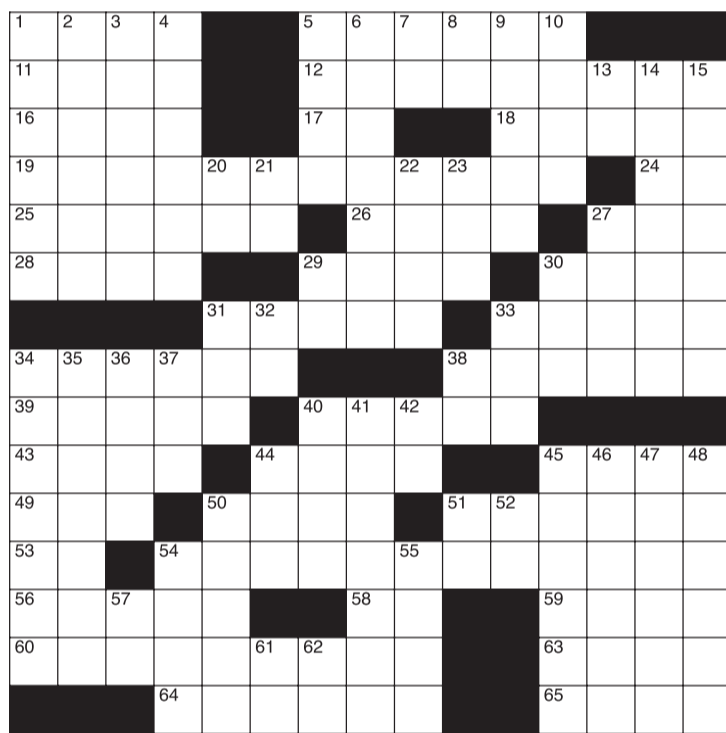
While voters decided a long list of referendum questions, one local question passed by nearly 12 points.

Voters were asked: "Shall new Cannabis related licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use of Cannabis be issued in the Town?"

A resounding 56% (5,443) majority of voters polled in favor of allowing marijuana businesses into town. Only 44% rejected new pot businesses in Johnston (4,278). The town will now have no choice but to consider "adult recreational use of Cannabis" if pitched by prospective proprietors.

— Rory Schuler

CROSSWORD PUZZLE CORNER



CLUES ACROSS

1. Clip a small piece
5. Enter forcibly
11. Southwestern Native American tribe
12. Helps you smell better
16. Sun or solar disk
17. Low frequency
18. Former Houston football player
19. Federal crime
24. Home to Boston (abbr.)
25. Approval
26. Those who fight an establishment (abbr.)
27. ___ student, learns healing
28. Indian groomer of horses
29. Line where two pieces meet
30. One might be brief
31. Type of sword
33. Knife for fruits or vegetables
34. Stinkhorns
38. Stroke
39. Industrial process for producing ammonia
40. Sir ___ Newton
43. Wild goat
44. Muslim ruler
45. Scottish ancestor
49. Hat
50. Horse mackerel

CLUES DOWN

1. Sewing needles
2. Functionary
3. Induces vomiting
4. The finger farthest from the thumb
5. Not moving
6. Sports official
7. Water purification process (abbr.)
8. University of Dayton
9. Indo-Malaysian evergreens
10. High schoolers' math course
13. Yankovic is a weird one
14. Adversaries
15. Merchandisers
20. Radioactive metal (abbr.)
21. Atomic #52
22. The back

23. One-time computer giant
27. Female of a horse
29. Football's big game (abbr.)
30. Vehicle
31. Single Lens Reflex
32. It's becoming more prevalent
33. Political action committee
34. Makes lightbulbs
35. Natural home of an animal
36. In bed
37. Superman villain
38. The Golden State
40. One who leads prayers in a mosque
41. They accompany a leader
42. Atomic #18
44. Electronic countermeasures
45. The appearance of something
46. Connecting line on a map
47. Deep red color
48. Secret affairs
50. Drenches
51. Contains music
52. Expression of surprise
54. Intestinal pouches
55. Where birds are born
57. ___ and behold
61. Cools your home
62. The First State

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Providence, RI 02904
Thursday, Nov. 10th, 2022 @ 3:30PM

Universal Healthcare
Universal Wealth Management
945 Reservoir Ave
Cranston, RI 02910

Wed., Nov. 9th, 2022 @ 10:30AM & 1PM & 6PM
Thursday, Nov. 10th, 2022 @ 9AM
Monday, Nov. 14th, 2022 @ 10AM
Wednesday, Nov. 16th, 2022 @ 4PM
Monday, Nov. 21st, 2022 @ 10AM
Monday, Nov. 28th, 2022 @ 10AM
Tuesday, Nov. 29th, 2022 @ 4PM
Wed., Nov. 30th, 2022 @ 10:30AM & 2PM & 5:30PM
Monday, Dec. 5th, 2022 @ 10AM & 3PM
Wed., Dec. 7th, 2022 @ 10:30AM & 2PM & 5:30PM

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By JENNIFER COATES

If you have never heard of the world-renown brand "FARMASI", you are about to learn about one of the most innovative and revolutionary brands in the world.

FARMASI is a product line that was started over seventy years ago by Dr. Cevdet Tuna, a prominent doctor who established one of the first pharmaceutical factories in Turkey. Far ahead of his time, Dr. Tuna formulated some of Turkey's first medicinal products, including cough syrup, painkillers, burn ointments, and cough lozenges. Dr. Tuna was famous for his unwavering dedication to his work, and for how he personally attended to every step of the development of his products.

In 1950, Dr. Tuna's work expanded into the beauty and health sector when he founded the official brand FARMASI. Today, his formulations are synonymous with the terms innovative, reliable, and sustainable. They are considered "cutting edge" in the health and beauty industry.

All FARMASI products are dermatologically tested, non-GMO (non-genetically modified), and predominantly vegan. Moreover, they are free of heavy metals, parabens, gluten, or the harsh foaming agent Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), and for animal advocates, they are not tested on animals. These products are the answer to those seeking glowing, vibrant, and healthy skin and to those who want to feel beautiful and radiant from the inside out.

Today, FARMASI is run by Dr. Tuna's equally dedicated sons Emre and Sinana Tuna. They continue to represent the integrity and mission of their father's work and are very selective about who they entrust this hard-won reputation to. This is why Wayne and Michael Medeiros of Alluring Visions Wellness Center in Cranston are so special.

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is the "vision-come-to-life" of its co-owners, Wayne and Michael Medeiros. These partners



Meet Wayne (l) & Michael Medeiros (r), the owners of Alluring Visions Wellness Center, the only retail store in the USA which sells the internationally-known FARMASI products. They are seen here flanking the grandson of FARMASI's founder, Emre Tuna.

and business owners opened the very first and only wellness center in the United States and Puerto Rico that is dedicated specifically to selling FARMASI products. Supported and sanctioned by the Tuna brothers, Wayne and Michael opened this modest but completely stocked center in July of 2021.

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is home to shelves and shelves of FARMASI products. Clients will find everything from skin care products to their equally as environmentally-conscious household cleaners here. Whether you need makeup, facial cleansers, makeup removers, toothpaste, soap, haircare and fragrances for men and women, you will find them here.

If you have any questions, Wayne and Michael have been

extensively trained on all FARMASI products and they will guide you through.

As if it could get any better at Alluring Visions, you will also find a full "bar" of custom-made drinks here, all made with FARMASI products. All the drink mixes contain collagen. These include coffee, energizing teas and flavored shakes. What a healthy way to start your day!

Alluring Visions Wellness Center is located at 1563 Cranston Street. Find them at Facebook (Alluring Visions Wellness Center) and Instagram (@AlluringVisions1563). For all your questions, including hours, call 401-942-0150. Open seven days a week.

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Sports



PLAYOFF BATTLE: Johnston's Ava Melo on Monday night. (Photos by Alex Sponseller)

Panthers fall in semifinals

By ALEX SPONSELLER

The top-seeded Johnston girls soccer team was upset but Providence Country Day 2-1 on Monday in the Division IV Semifinals. PCD would take an early 1-0 lead in the first half but Johnston's Karen Lastor Rojas would tie the score in the second. However, PCD would score late to wrap up the

win. "I think the girls were very nervous and anxious going into this game, being that it was the first time that many of them saw a playoff game. PCD was one of our rivals this season and we were fortunate to come out with the wins, but they were difficult wins. The girls knew it was going to be a tough game and PCD came out very hard

right off the bat," said Johnston coach Toni Scavitti. Despite the loss, the Panthers had a historic season, taking first place and boasting the division's best defense. "I don't know if the girls see the big picture, but they should be very proud of themselves and hold their heads up high. We had a very

■ PANTHERS - PAGE 19

Keeping tabs on our playoff teams

We're in the thick of the playoffs and a number of our teams are shining. Here is where we stand with our clubs as of Tuesday morning.

This past weekend we got our first state championship when the Bishop Hendricken cross country ran to another title. It was an expected result, to be honest, but the Hawks continue to be New England's best team and one of the best in the nation.

It's impressive, this team just churns out run-

My pitch



by ALEX SPONSELLER
SPORTS EDITOR
ALEXS@RHODYBEAT.COM

ners fall by fall. It doesn't matter if they have an in-

■ PITCH - PAGE 23



JYF making noise in playoffs

Three Johnston Youth Football teams earned playoff wins last weekend and will be playing in this week's state semifinals. For more photos of the action, check out page 20 of the Sun Rise.

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UP THE FIELD: Johnston's Yandery Rodriguez.

■ Panthers
(Continued from page 18)

successful season, one that many of these girls had not seen in any sport. To not only have gone 14-1, but to have only given up four goals is a tremendous accomplishment," said Scavitti.

The team will be returning a large group of juniors next fall, so Scavitti hopes the playoff experience will pay dividends in the future.

"It's going to help tremendously. Hopefully they have now gotten those

jitters out of their system and will know what to expect next year. Hopefully they use this loss as fuel because they're going to want more," said Scavitti.

The club will also have to find ways of replacing the production of six seniors that are set to graduate.

"They were a huge component to this team. We're losing three captains, six seniors, and half of them were four-year starters. There's no replacing them, but we have to come close to replacing them. There are going to be some big shoes to fill," Scavitti said.



IN NET: Johnston goalie Ava Waterman.

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DROPPING BACK: Quarterback Camden Welch looks to pass.



PLAYOFF WIN: Zane Pistacchio runs the ball.

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and you'll be seeing Rocky Point license plates

Thanks to legislation approved this year, the DMV is moving ahead with the production of Rocky Point plates. Pre and new orders will be filled with delivery expected this fall. For new orders visit the Rocky Point Foundation website at rockypointfoundation.org where you will find an order form to be returned to the DMV with payment. At this time, plates are available for passenger registrations only

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Fall Fly Tying Program

By CAPT. DAVE MONTI

Stock up on your fly fishing flies by joining the RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM) Division of Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Resource Education's annual Fall Fly Tying Program. Learn how to tie flies from knowledgeable fly tying instructors.

Participants will have a choice of tying saltwater or freshwater flies at either the beginner or intermediate level. You will even have a chance to win a holiday wreath covered with a variety of flies.

The program begins Monday, Nov. 14, 2022 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Cold Spring Community Center, North Kingstown, RI.

The fee is \$5/person/session or pre-register for all five sessions for \$20. For information or to register online visit, <https://dem.ri.gov/events/fall-fly-tying-workshop> or contact Kimberly Sullivan at 401.539.0037 or kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov.

Anglers weigh in on tautog regulations

Last week you might say anglers stood up for tautog, a great eating fish often called black fish that is primarily targeted by anglers in the fall.

Most comments made November 1 were in favor of new proposed 2023 tautog regulations for the State of Massachusetts as anglers expressed their thoughts at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) hearing on the subject. The State of Rhode Island had enacted similar regulations for the 2022 season.

The aim of the "Trophy" fish regulation for tautog is to preserve large female fish that have great spawning potential. Under new regulations, anglers are allowed to take just one fish larger than 21 inches, and their remaining fish in a slot limit of 16 to 21 inches.

Jack Creighton, past president of the Cape Cod Salties fishing association, said, "The Cape Cod Salties supports this proposed more conservation minded tautog regulation. Protecting large fish with great breeding potential makes sense and will help continue to grow this fishery."

Fred DeFinis who lived in Massachusetts much of his life, but now lives across the border in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, said, "Recreational anglers like me have had good success tautog fishing the past couple of years. It is a great fishery and only makes sense to preserve the fishing in Massachusetts and Rhode Island as we are in the same management region

with the aim of making regulations similar."

Four charter captains at the meeting who all fished in Massachusetts and Rhode Island related how the new regulation worked in Rhode Island this year. All said there was no negative impacts on business. And, by allowing anglers to keep fish 16 to 21 inches they are going home with plenty of meat and yet are still allowed a trophy fish for personal best records and tournaments.

DMF will accept written public comment on all proposals covered at the meeting through 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, 2022. Submit written comments to Director Daniel McKiernan by e-mail (marine.fish@mass.gov) or post (251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114); emailing comments is preferred. Full text of the regulations may be found on DMF's website.

Where's the bite?

Striped bass. Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor Marina, South Kingstown, said, "So many anglers are fishing for tautog that we are not hearing much about striped bass. I do know there was a decent bite at the North Rip (Block Island)."

Dave Henault of Ocean State Tackle, Providence, said, "The striped bass bite in is still very good with this warm water. Slot fish and larger are still being caught at the Cape Cod beaches, on the Canal as well as in Narragansett Bay and along the southern coastal shore. SP Minnows and soft plastics are working well for anglers. The bass are still here but you have to find them."

"Barrington Beach and places further up Narragansett Bay are still holding bass. Anglers are catching bass from the Kettle Point Dock (East Providence) with soft plastic, white is working well," said John Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle, Riverside.

Declan O'Donnell of Breachway Bait & Tackle, Charlestown, said, "The beaches have been relatively quiet with most schools of bass passing at ease well out of casting distance. However there are still a good amount of bass in the salt ponds and feeding in and around the Breachways at night."

East End Eddie Doherty, expert Canal angler and author, said, "Plenty of baitfish are still swimming in the Canal feeding sustained blitzes for miles. Striped bass were breaking for hours riding the east tide as Anast Terezakis and his son Nick from Connecticut had a good day at Pip's Rip. They had fish up to 42 inches and Anast



NEWPORT TAUTOG: Angler Steve Brustein of North Kingstown with a Newport tautog. Both rigs and jigs are working for tautog anglers. (Submitted photo)

landed a 26-pounder on a white Beachmaster pencil."

Tautog. "Tautog fishing has just been outstanding. The Island Current party boat caught an 18-pound tautog last Friday. Shore anglers on the West Wall are still catching tautog but they have started to move to deeper water with a good bite off Brenton Reef, Newport and off Pt. Judith Light," said Cahill.

Littlefield of Archie's Bait & Tackle said, "Anglers are catching tautog all over the Bay at about a 10 (short) to one (keeper) ratio. Keeper tautog are being caught as far up as the broken bridge at the mouth of the Seekonk River with spotty action (some days good, some days bad) at Conimicut Light, Warwick."

O'Donnell of Breachway Bait, said, "Many boats have been

limiting out on tautog and even grabbing a few black sea bass. The fish are still in both shallow and deep water. Some spots are holding shorter fish then others but when you get on a good bite there's some 8lb + class fish around."

"Cod fishing has been good for customers at the Southeast corner of Cox Ledge where Capt. Louis DeFusco of Hot Reels Sportfishing charters ran into some large cod that made it difficult for them to boat slot sized fish (22" to <28", five fish/person/day)." said Elisa Cahill of Snug Harbor. O'Donnell of Breachway Bait, said, "A few boats took advantage of the nice weather last week and ran south of Block Island for cod and did pretty well catching a mix of cod and black sea bass."

Freshwater. "Freshwater fish-

ing for largemouth bass has been very, very good, but not many of my customers are fishing the fresh water with the lively tautog and striped bass bite still alive on saltwater." said Henault of Ocean State. John Littlefield said, "We still have few customers fishing Willet Avenue Pond and Olney Pond, Lincoln Woods for trout but they are far and few between at this time."

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

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Elks Hoop Shoot begins Sunday

By PETE FONTAINE

“Chicago or bust!” That could easily be the theme of the Nationals Elks 2023 Hoop Shoot that will begin locally this Sunday at 12:30 inside the Cranston YMCA.

It’s a terrific tradition of the National Elks Association that providing healthy competition and leads to winners shooting their way into the finals that will be contested on April 22 at Wintrust Arena – home of the WNBA’s Chicago Sky and famed DePaul University Blue Demons.

Steven Lagesse, long-time local director and Past Exalted Ruler at Sunday’s sponsoring Tri-City Elks Lodge at 1915 West Shore Road in Warwick, said the event is open to boys and girls ages 8 to 13 and that “there’s absolutely no entrée fee whatsoever.”

Even when the various local, district and regional

champions are determined the ENF provides travel fees, hotel accommodations and expenses.

“Competition is for boys and girls ages 8 to 13 and their age for the shoot is determined by their ages as of April 1, 2023,” Lagesse explained. “There are three different age divisions for boys and girls ages 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Contestants are offered a warm-up shoot and then will then try to sink as many foul shots as they can from the contest required total of 25 shots. In case there’s a tie, a special shoot off will be held.”

While speaking about the unique competition, Lagesse pointed out “The National (ELKS) Hoop Shoot is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. There’s of excitement from local lodges throughout the state and country because the boys and girls that capture the national division championships will have their names –

well as the post-shoot photo – placed in the Naismith National Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Ma.

Thus, it’s almost tip-off the Sunday’s Tri-City Elks Lodge No. 14 Hoop Shoot with boys and girls having their sights set on moving onto the various district championships as well as a berth in the New England Regionals that will be held in South Portland, Maine on March 11, 2023, with those winners heading to Chicago for the national finals.

Lagesse also announced that the North District Finals will be held Dec. 10 at Smithfield High School with the West District finals set for Dec. 11 at Prout High School in South Kingstown. The East District will be held Dec. 18 at the Florence Gray Center in Newport with the state finals back at the Cranston YMCA on Jan. 22, 2023.

■ Pitch

(Continued from page 18)

dividual state champion, or even someone in the running. Hendricken is just so deep and boasts such strong numbers. It is arguably the best sports team in the state at the moment.

The Toll Gate girls soccer team won a 4-3 thriller over Classical to punch its ticket to the Division III title game this Saturday. The Titans went up 3-0, saw the Purple roar back to tie things, then got the game winner in the final three minutes.

The Titans overcame three big injuries in the pre-season to finish in first place and now reach the finals. Toll Gate will probably be considered the favorite, which is remarkable considering the hit in talent it took. Kara Yelman scored a hat trick on Monday and has been a force for Toll Gate. What an exciting year this must have been for her. She got her opportunity to be a go-to player and she has excelled from start to finish. A championship win would be the ultimate way to cap off the season.

The Cranston West football team beat Woonsocket 21-18 in a great game in the Division II Quarterfinals last week.

Marcus Chung is no longer under the radar ... he is arguably the state’s best player and showed it last Friday by scoring three touchdowns and turning in an electric performance.

When West had a couple of down seasons, he was always a bright spot and a player that always seemed to be on the brink of a massive breakout. We got that this season and he has been the biggest reason why West is on the verge of a Super Bowl appearance.

Portsmouth will be tough, especially on the road. It will take a big-time performance for the Falcons to get this one, but if Chung plays the way he did last week, West will have plenty of opportunities to score points and get the job done. I don’t have a score in mind, but I like West in this one. Chung has too much momentum.

The Hendricken football team has its semifinals matchup against Central. The Knights nearly got the win last fall and had a chance to tie the game in the final minute this regular season.

The Knights are a tough stylistic matchup for the Hawks. Central has a great rushing attack and is fantastic at controlling the clock. The two teams have similar philosophies and it seems

like they’re each other’s toughest foes.

However, the Hawks have the experience and the better defense in my opinion. I expect another close matchup that goes down to the wire, but like the previous meetings, it will be the Hawks that get the job done. La Salle is facing North Kingstown on the other side of the bracket and I like the Rams. I think we’re in for another Hawks-Rams matchup. Surprise, surprise.

The Hendricken boys soccer team played its semifinals match on Wednesday against top-seeded North Kingstown. The Hawks surprisingly have been forgotten it seems in Division I, despite being one of the most competitive teams.

The Hawks lost to the Skippers in a thrilling 5-4 decision earlier this season, and I don’t think an upset would be as shocking as some others believe. Hendricken is in this thing.

The Toll Gate boys also played their semifinal matchup in the Division IV bracket. The Titans were the second overall club, but went unbeaten in league play this regular season. Ties are what prevented the first-place finish, but make no mistake about it, the Titans were the best team in the division when at full strength.

All signs point toward a Toll Gate-Sci-tuate matchup. The teams tied earlier this fall, so this Sunday’s state title game could be another fun one.

We had two notable clubs come up short in girls soccer.

Pilgrim was upset by Chariho in the quarterfinals by a 1-0 score. The Pats will one day break through, they have to, but it was another tough ending to a promising season. The Chargers have all of a sudden shaken up the state as they went on to beat North Kingstown in penalty kicks in the semis. Chariho beat the state’s best two teams, and is now a new force.

The top-seeded Johnston girls fell 2-1 to Providence Country Day on Monday in the Division IV semis. The Panthers were on a roll and beat PCD 3-1 earlier this year, but PCD came out firing and took a quick lead to set the tone the rest of the way.

Finally, we had a few clubs competing in the unified volleyball state tournament. Unified sports have continued to grow in Rhode Island which is great to see. I’m thrilled to see these kids have the opportunity to make friends, have fun and learn a sport while being part of a varsity team. It’s always heartwarming to watch.

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By Travis Landry
Auctioneer & Specialist
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an auction house works or what it actually is, which is why I decided to explain it here for you.

Auction houses generally work with sellers on consignment, meaning they take your items to market and sell them on your behalf through auction and in return get paid a small portion of the sale price. Auction houses do not buy your collection outright from you (though we can and will if you twist our arm), but it is always in your best interest to consign. That way the selling process becomes a team effort; When everybody works in each other's best interest you and the auction house make more money. It's win, win!

Now that you know an auction house gains items for auction through consignment, you might wonder how to get your items consigned and up for auction. The initial step is having an appraiser from an auction house take a look at your collection to give you an estimate of potential auction value. At Bruneau and Co., there are three major ways we offer appraisals (other houses might vary, but I don't speak for them!), they are: 1. Via house call where we come to you and look at everything you have. 2. Through email if you send us photos, and 3. By bringing some items in on our Tuesday walk-in appraisal day between 9am and 12pm. If you're unsure which method is best for you, just give us a call - we're here to help!

Finally, if you have never been to an auction as a buyer, it is something you definitely need to do. The energy in an auction is like no other shopping experience. Most importantly, they are free to the public! An admission fee is false belief some people always tend to have about auctions. It's not like a rock concert selling tickets (though sometimes you can find vintage concert tees at auction!); auction houses want you to join the fun and buy from them. If you are into antiques, fine art, jewelry, vintage advertising, toys, comic books, video games - anything cool and collectible - then auctions were made for you. Stop on by and give us a visit at Bruneau and Co. sometime, we would love to have you!



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What is Your Retire-Ready Recipe?



Jeffrey H. Massey
Certified Financial Planner™
Massey and Associates, Inc.

A recipe is like a roadmap that tells us exactly what we need to do to help us get to where we want to go. Of course, if you don't follow the recipe and perhaps leave out one of the more important ingredients-- you know what happens: You taste it and perhaps say or think, gee, this doesn't taste the same as when mom made it. Can you relate?

I am certain each of us has a family recipe that has been passed down or around the family, perhaps for generations. My favorite is my mom's bread stuffing which I make for every Thanksgiving dinner. I can't wait to taste it again!

When it comes to retirement, there is no one way to structure or plan for your retirement. The recipe that is great for you may not work at all for another family member, your best friend, or your neighbors. The goal with retirement planning is to work the "recipe" for your specific situation to achieve the retirement lifestyle that is a good fit for you and your spouse if you are married.

So, what are the main ingredients that I think should really be considered for every retirement plan? Yes, I first said that everyone's recipe is likely to be different, however, there are certain elements that I think should be included

in every retirement plan. The three specific elements are: safety, liquidity and growth for the future. Within those three elements is where the plan can be dramatically different for each person or couple.

Everyone has a different perspective when it comes to their risk tolerance (taking on more risk or preferring to take on less risk.) By properly implementing a plan that contains these three elements, you are designing strategies to help you pursue your particular goals and objectives for a successful retirement. The major difference from one person's plan to another is the amount of money that you put into each of these three asset positions. The challenge with putting money into these three elements is that you cannot achieve all three--safety, liquidity and growth--with a single asset placement. However, you can typically get two out of three of these important elements.

Let's start with this comment: every choice you make as to where you should place your assets will have both pros and cons. It's up to you to weigh each choice with the pros and cons and decide which is most comfortable for you.

In the safety category, your choices are bank or credit union money, backed up by the FDIC or NCUA, and insurance products that are backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of the issuing insurance company. There are insurance-based products that offer the possibility to earn much higher rates of return than the bank, credit

union or government securities. Some of these options may have liquidity as well. There are important details to consider when this type of option is recommended to you, so work with a professional advisor that will help explain all the details.

Another option is US government securities like treasure bills, notes, and bonds that are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. In this category, you will get safety and a certain amount of liquidity, which is the second category, but typically, you may not get much growth. Therefore, although the safety category is important to a retire-ready recipe, you will not have much in the way of growth at the current rates of interest, which have only recently started to go up as the Federal Reserve has raised their interest rates.

In the liquidity category, you should have your emergency money along with money for expected larger expenses such as a roof, new car, etc. There is a cost for liquidity, which is that you will not make much money on your deposit. We refer to this money as your "pillow" money so when your head hits the pillow at night, you will be confident in your plan and enjoy a good night's sleep by not worrying about access to money.

Moving on to category number three - growth. This is a very important element to have in your plan. Typically, these are your investments in the stock market. I will concede that you can also invest in bonds, however, the challenge

with bonds is that their fair market value (the amount you can sell the bond for) will go down as interest rates rise.

As the Fed has started to aggressively raise interest rates, this has a negative effect on the value of your bonds if you were to sell them. The bond aggregate index, according to the Yahoo Finance web site, was down as much as 16% earlier this year, and as of September 22nd, it is down approximately 11%. (https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/18/stocks-and-bonds-both-down-what-to-do-with-your-money.html?__source=sharebar_email&pa_r=sharebar, 2022)

In the growth category, you will also have liquidity as you can sell your investments to get money out of the market, however, you may not have as much protection in this category. Of course, you may also have liquidity in your savings or money market accounts. As I mentioned earlier, you can usually get two elements, but not all three.

So, there you have it! A Retire-Ready Recipe that includes three main ingredients: safety, liquidity and growth. This is how we customize a retire-ready plan for our clients.

I wish you, your family and your friends a wonderful Thanksgiving!

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Her incredible journey



A Paraguay native and Rhode Island author explores lifelong learning

By MARK BERGER

Warwick author Amanda Mottola's new book highlights her emigration from Paraguay to discovering opportunities here in the States. Try to imagine growing up in a world full of turmoil. You have no idea what each day brings or whether the next moment defines you. Issues within and outside the family can change constantly. Besides fearing the unknown, your home country is living in a seemingly-endless dictatorship.

One woman saw what was happening around her and vowed to make a better future for herself and to help others find their voice.

Amanda Mottola envisioned a place of opportunity and making a difference. She wrote things down in real time hoping to inspire other people to triumph over adversity.

Her new book, "Learning as a Lifelong Journey: Being Your Leader, Overcoming Your Fears, Succeeding in Your Fears," chronicles being adopted as a baby and growing up with her adoptive family in Connecticut before finally landing here in Rhode Island to grow her family and pursue new adventures.

As anyone can imagine, being adopted isn't easy. Learning how to accept who she is and thrive in a new environment while adapting to change drove her to succeed and give back.

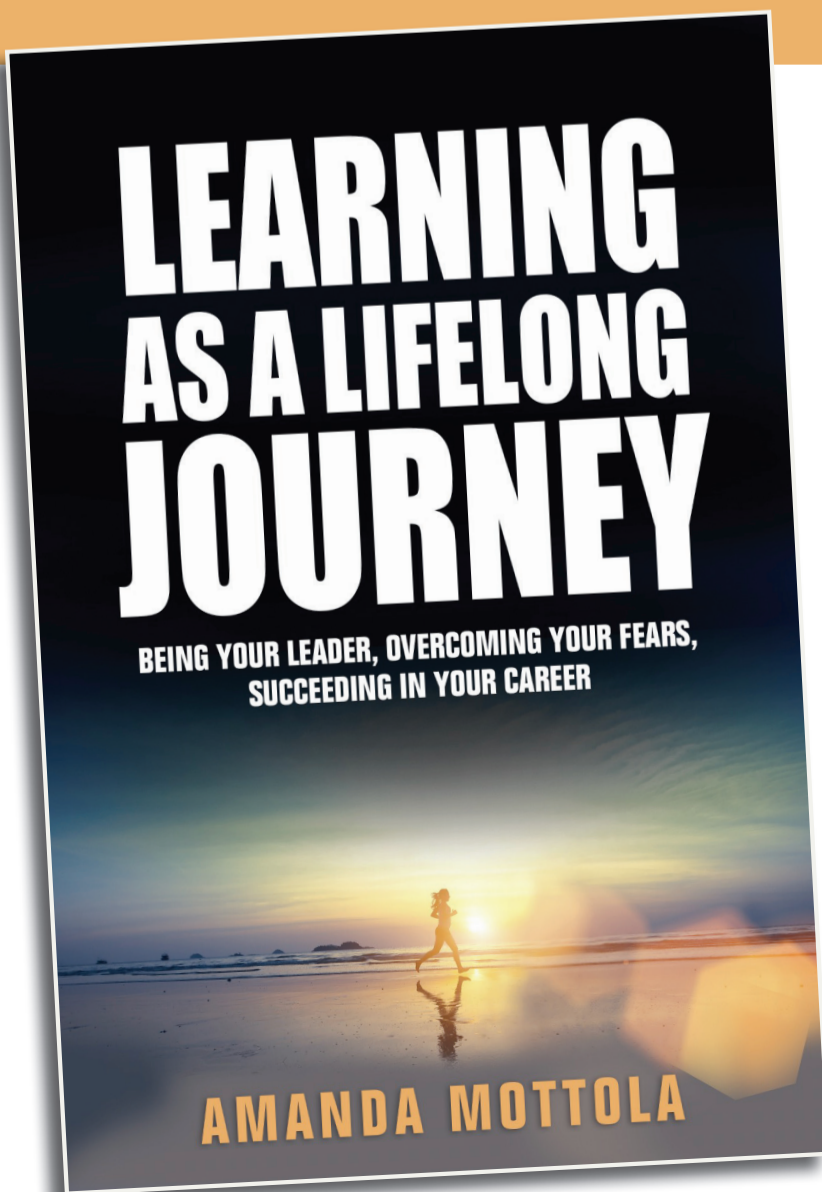
"It was far from a normal childhood from any metric," Mottola said, saying how much stress and uncertainty was around to remind her of such issues. "There wasn't a war; it was a 35-year regime that wasn't always good for the people. It was very corrupt and poor. My biological mother said I was taken from her after she had me. She was only 15 years old, and profiting off of adoption was normal. The country's court and adoption system was riddled with corruption."

Being a child can be challenging, but being a child coming from another world has different parameters. Because her adoptive parents, Daniel and Patricia Doerr, provided Amanda with a backdrop for achieving success, she forged her path toward realizing "The American Dream."

Amanda discussed her feelings growing up during those turbulent but eventually gratifying times. She felt empowered but scared; satisfied yet looking for the answer to the question of, "Why Me?"

All of those feelings were locked inside her needing a release. Something like that can be trying on a person looking for direction.

Fortunately for Amanda, she found that answer on an adventure down to South America to reunite with her biological family.



**WARWICK SHOWCASE/
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**THE BANSHEES OF
INISHERIN**

**** (Joyce) *** 1/2 (Don)
Irish Relationship Tale

Irish movies and plays often contain humor, but always have a bit of sadness and tragedy.

"Banshees" is no exception.

The movie opens on the isolated, lonely isle of Inisherin, where two men, Colin Farrell's Padraic and Brendan Gleeson's Colm sit on an ancient stone wall as they do every day.

But today is different. Colm tells Padraic he doesn't want to be his friend anymore. He finds him boring.

For about half the film we are treated to some funny lines and situations as Padraic tries to discover why his inseparable pal has discarded his friendship.

It is a very small island, so everybody gets involved.

Playwright Martin McDonagh is a master of language, and if you catch half of the dialogue, you are in for a treat.

The year is 1923. War is going on on the mainland. Life is much simpler here, where the only activity happens at the church, the local store and the bar. People know everybody's business, so Colm and Podraic become the big news.

You may interpret what happens next in a variety of ways.

Is McDonagh trying to tell us about the meaninglessness of life, or are we, when it comes right down to it, living in our own loneliness?

See it at the
Movies

with
Joyce & Don
Fowler



Brendan Gleeson stars with Colin Farrell in *The Banshees of Inisherin*.
(Photo courtesy of Searchlight Pictures)

A tragic event occurs. There is death. There is a rational man who does an irrational thing.

Joyce accepted the ending, while I had trouble with it. (My problem. I always try to rewrite endings.)

By all means, see this movie

for its great acting, setting, messages, and especially a donkey you will fall in love with.

One more thing: SUBTITLES!

There should be a law that no Irish dialect movie can be made without subtitles.

NETFLIX

THE GOOD NURSE

Jessica Chastain stars as a very good nurse. She's a single mother with a heart condition

who works nights.

Eddie Redmayne plays a recently hired nurse who joins her on the night shift and helps her both personally and professionally.

When she suspects that he may be responsible for patient deaths, she calls in the police who begin an investigation with her help.

"The Good Nurse" is based on the true story of serial killer Charlie Cullen who lives a double life.

It is also an indictment of the hospital system in New Jersey, where administrators throw roadblocks in front of the investigation, refusing to cooperate because of fear of lawsuits.

Chastain is terrific.

INSIDE MAN

*** 1/2

Stanley Tucci stars as a wife-killer on death row whose amazing abilities help him solve a number of murders.

When a woman disappears, her journalist friend starts her own investigation, becoming deeply involved with the prisoner.

Into the story comes the local vicar who counsels a disturbed man who likes child porn. He thinks it belongs to his son and will do anything to protect him, including hiding a woman captive in his basement.

The unrelated characters slowly become connected and the story becomes complicated and terrifying.

We don't want to tell you more without spoiling the intriguing outcomes.

This one is a bit weird, but stick with it and you will enjoy something quite different.

Author

(Continued from page 26)

"A big part of my success is due to my childhood, upbringing, and values. I was adopted into a strong, loving, moral, and supportive family. However, growing up and figuring out my purpose and where I fit in was an emotional struggle. Physically, I was living the dream, but mentally, I was in a battle against my own mind.

"Over the years, it led me astray. However, through a positive mindset, and despite getting deterred at times, I have kept returning to my destined path," she said.

While living in Connecticut, Amanda got involved in the community. She ran for School Committee despite

A MOM:

Warwick author Amanda Mottola and her son Luca. (Beacon Communications photo)



being a first-time candidate with little name recognition. She made herself available and shared her story. Her efforts resulted in her earning one of the seats. She served one term before stepping down to start a family and a new career.

After graduating from the University of New Haven, Amanda worked in several ad agencies only to find something was missing. In 2019, after being laid off, she founded Otraway, a Warwick-based company specializing in promotional items, corporate gifting and event marketing. The business name means "another way," and she strives to help others by sharing the word through branding and outreach.

She achieved her dream of becoming an owner, as her company continues to flourish in 13 states. Amanda also discovered something fulfilling in 2018: her birth parents. She traveled thousands of miles to find them and reconnect. She recalled the reunion to be understandably emotional and cathartic for having some type of closure on that part of her life. She also got married and has two boys that also changed her perspective on life.

"When I had children, my life changed in a profound way; I actively committed to creating a better life for them, which, in turn, committed me to a better life for myself because if I don't take care of me, then I can't successfully care for them or inspire anyone else," she said.

Amanda loves giving back as a sign of her success. She donates some of her efforts to Dare to Dream Ranch in Foster and Foster Forward in East Providence. The Ranch is a working farm that helps veterans and their families get the help, support and services they need. Foster Forward is a nationally and locally-recognized leader that ensures all children and youth impacted by foster care have safe, healthy, and nurturing families.

Also, November is Adoption Awareness Month. Because of Amanda's story, she wants to give back by sharing her journey and aiding in helping more kids find a new family and home.

Her book is available for purchase on Amazon.com and at Barnes and Noble. She is also doing book signings around the state. Amanda will be scheduling meetings and other events to help share her story and hopes to inspire others to follow their entrepreneurial dreams and life passions.

ANIMAL TALK
By Karen Kalunian
Local Adoptable Loveable



Photo credit: Small Dog Rescue of NE

Jinx

This sweet girl has had a rough start in life but she's hoping that her luck is about to change! Jinx was found left in a bucket but luckily for her she got the help and care she needed. She is a mixed breed, under a year old so very much a puppy with puppy energy. If you have the time, love and patience to give then Jinx is looking for you. Jinx wants to be your one and only princess too so a home with no other pets would be best. Please contact Small Dog Rescue of New England via their website where you can also fill out an application <https://www.smalldogrescue.org/> Jinx needs love and she hopes you have a lot to give to her, she deserves it!

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



For more information about Warwick author Amanda Mottola and where you can book her for speaking engagements, contact her by calling 203-535-5003 or emailing her at Amanda@otraway.com.

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