

COMPLIMENTARY

NOVEMBER 2021

# The Smithfield *Times*



smithfieldtimesri.net

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thanksgiving

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It is part of my regular practice to prepare living Trusts to both avoid probate of a client's estate and protect their assets from nursing home costs during their lifetime. I also review and update those Trusts, and similar Trusts prepared by other attorneys upon request.

If you are concerned about possible long term care expenses and would like to discuss your concerns with me, please call my office for an appointment. There is no fee for the initial consultation.

– George M. Prescott

Courtesy of:

# George M. Prescott

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## *In Our* **Community**



Congratulations to the members of the Smithfield High School's National Honors Society. Tommy and Becky Winfield hosted the annual "Cord Night" on September 30. An evening to receive the cords that they wear at graduation denoting they graduated with honors.



Members of the Smithfield Anti-Hate Coalition (SAHC) and members of the Smithfield Community held a Walk for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion on



Monday, October 11, 2021. The Extraordinary Rendition Band accompanied the group who were gathered at Deerfield Park and walked along Pleasant View Avenue to Smithfield High School.



# Smithfield's *All Lit Up Christmas Parade* will return to the streets on December 4

By Ron Scopelliti

After missing a year due to COVID-19 concerns, plans are moving forward for the return of the "Smithfield's All Lit Up Christmas Parade," set to start on Saturday, December 4 at 4 p.m. Planning Committee leaders Kate McAdam-Prickett and Tom Winfield, along with a core-group of volunteers are already accepting applications from participants eager to return to the annual celebration, after last year's parade was relegated to being a "virtual event."

"People want the real thing," Winfield says. "People are 'virtualled' out. They want to get out from behind the computer screens and they want the real thing."

The real thing will be a route starting at Smithfield High School and meandering through the local side streets, where residents have been known to stage their own private parties to coincide with the parade. The participants eventually make their way to Greenville Common for the annual tree-lighting ceremony. In the past, performers have included vocalist and Smithfield High alum Diedre David, and students from Rudy D'Agostino's Music Complex playing holiday classics on ukulele.

As *The Smithfield Times* went to press, applications to participate in the parade were available online at [www.smithfieldri.com](http://www.smithfieldri.com), and on the Smithfield's All Lit Up Christmas Parade Facebook page. Spots in the parade will be given out on a first-come/first-serve basis to a maximum of 60 groups.

"The parade is open to anyone and everyone," says McAdam-Prickett.

"Businesses, families, schools ... We had a family just decorate their car to be in the parade; we've had big companies with huge floats, and everything in between."

"We do have to limit it because of space," she notes. "If we could have everyone, we would."

The organizers say that planning for the fifth annual parade has been an ongoing effort that has taken place pretty much continuously since the first event.

"We are always planning," Winfield says, "because, once we've had the parade, we meet and we say 'What has gone well, and what didn't go so well?'" From there, he says, they set about adding to the things that did go well and fixing the things that didn't.

As in past years, the buildup to the event will include this month's Snowball Drop fundraising raffle. Taking place on November 20, 4 p.m. at the Smithfield Senior Center, the raffle procedure involves up to 500 "snow balls" (golf balls) being dropped from the Smithfield Fire Department's ladder truck, to hit a target painted on the ground.

"A lot of local businesses will donate gift certificates," McAdam-Prickett says. "We had golf paraphernalia one year, and there are miscellaneous items that people can win besides the cash prizes."

Raffle tickets are available at Anderson-Winfield Funeral Home, the Senior Center, Town Hall, the DPW, the libraries, and The Smithfield Times. There are also plans for pop-up sites to sell tickets.

"If someone wants, we can come to their house and drop a couple off," Winfield adds.

This year's parade will be unique because instead of a single grand marshal, the parade will have a group of grand marshals – the volunteers who conducted the town's COVID-19 vaccination clinics, led by Smithfield Emergency Management Agency director Todd Manni.

"That (volunteer effort) got us back on our feet, and that got us back having a parade," Winfield says.

"One thing I like to tell everybody is that for a short period of time, in Smithfield we have a 'Hallmark moment,'" he says. "Those Hallmark Christmas movies – we have that right here in town. It kind of sets the stage for the season."

"We can't wait to put this on," he adds. "We can't wait for the people to come back and say, 'Hey – this is Smithfield! This is Christmastime!'"

## Snowball Drop Raffle

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Proceeds to benefit the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
*Christmas Parade*

Parade will be on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 4 p.m.  
For details visit our Facebook page at  
Smithfield's All Lit Up Christmas Parade

# Local Non-profit Works With Local Restaurant to Provide Meals To Community

By Paul Lonardo

Plates with Purpose is a 501(c)3 organization that works with participating restaurants and their patrons to provide meals for those in need. Charitable donations pay for the meals, which are prepared by the participating restaurant and distributed throughout the community.

“The whole premise of Plates with Purpose is to link the independent restaurants/owners with their community,” says Jennifer Capracotta, a co-founder of the program. “Both are struggling in their own respect, and we want to try to bridge the gap.”

The idea for the program was born last December, when the co-founders reached out to a friend who owns a restaurant in North Providence to gauge his interest in helping them prepare and deliver meals to local individuals and families that were experiencing tough times. At that time, there was never a plan to form a non-profit or formalize a program. It was a mere Christmas gesture to bring some joy at a much-needed time. However, as they researched the harsh realities of food insecurity across the state, while at the same time observing hundreds of local restaurants lay off workers, reduce operating hours, and even permanently close their doors, it became clear that there was a way to help both groups at the same time. The table was set for Plates with Purpose.

Together, two local women, Jennifer Capracotta and Jennifer Fantozzi made



PLATES WITH PURPOSE



**Chef Angie and Jeannine Iannucci from Blackie's Restaurant in Smithfield assist Steve Beaulieu from the Smithfield Sr. Center to deliver Plates with a Purpose to Seniors in need.**

a personal and financial commitment to help other restaurants across multiple communities, while continuing this pay-it-forward philosophy.

“What we ended up doing was creating a two-way value exchange that empowers restaurants to contribute to their communities by providing meals to households that are struggling to meet their basic food needs,” Jennifer says, “while at the same time driving direct revenue to the restaurant.”

Plates with Purpose acts as a facilitator by

seeding the initial investment to the restaurant, which puts out the first round of meals, anywhere between 150-200 meals. From there Plates with Purpose, along with the partnering restaurant, run a two-week fundraiser via social media and in-person donations at the restaurant to continue to support the community with additional meals for weeks to come.

Smithfield has recently become the fifth community that Plates with Purpose is working with, and Blackie's is the local restaurant they are partnering with to distribute meals throughout the town. The founders of the program have been patrons of Blackies for a number of years and have gotten to know the owners over that time. As soon as Smithfield was determined to be the next community where the program would run, they immediately approached the owners, Jeanine Iannucci and Chef Angie, with their idea and they were on board 100%.

“Blackie's isn't new to the world of charitable giving,” says Jennifer. “They have a strong presence on their own in the town of Smithfield. The owners are very giving, so it was a nice fit for Blackies and Plates with Purpose. It just felt right.”

Plates with Purpose recently teamed up with Operation Stand Down Rhode Island, a non-profit resource for homeless and

*See Local Non-Profit, page 7*



at-risk veterans, sponsoring meals for the veterans.

Jennifer says, “Working with organizations like Operation Stand Down, we are able to see firsthand how appreciative these men and women are to receive such a wonderful meal. That’s kind of what keeps you going, when you’re able to be part of the distribution and to have an opportunity to talk to these men and women who are receiving the meals and hear what their struggles are or how far they’ve come. That’s the reward.”

In Kate McAdam-Prickett, the Activity Director at the Smithfield Senior Center, Jennifer found a like-minded and focused ally, and they are now working together to assist with meals for seniors. Kate and her team plan to distribute 150 Grab-N-Go meals over a six-week period thanks to the partnership with Blackies.

“We try to meet different demographics of people,” Jennifer says, “whether it is our veterans, or daycare facilities, or individuals and families. And the seniors do have a soft spot in the hearts of the co-founders. It’s a nice way to pay back the men and women who made the community what it is. We feel this is a wonderful way to give something back to them.”

Plates with Purpose also works with local schools and principals, asking for them to nominate the families that they know who could use a little extra help. The restaurant-prepared meals are set up as anonymous to-go orders, and not hand-outs.

It was an eye-opener for the women to see just how much need there really is out there. Everyone knows that there is food insecurity exists, but often it’s not something you see.

“I think most people would be surprised to learn that food insecurity is all around,” Jennifer says. “It’s nearby, in your neighborhood, and you can do something about it.”

The ultimate goal is to grow the program and to be present in all 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island. As Plates with Purpose reaches out to restaurants in other towns, the one obstacle right now is that some of the restaurants are struggling to staff their business. Plates with Purpose is sensitive to this problem and hopeful that it is temporary. The women plan to push forward and continue to make an impact in every RI city and town.

Plates with Purpose is funded 100% by private donations from people who want to help their neighbors and communities, and just a \$10 donation provides one meal. To date, the organization has raised over \$20,000 and sponsored over 2,000 meals. Donations can be made online through the [Plateswithpurpose.org](http://Plateswithpurpose.org) website, or in person at the participating restaurant, which in Smithfield would be Blackie’s, where you may just add the donated meal to your bill at checkout.

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# Smithfield Safe Stations Will Offer 24/7 Help for Substance Abuse and Addiction

By Ron Scopelliti

Starting this month, the Town of Smithfield will have a new tool to cope with the dangers of substance abuse and addiction. The Smithfield Fire Department, in partnership with Gateway Healthcare, will introduce its Safe Stations program.

According to Town Manager Randy Rossi, the Safe Stations program will make all three of the town's fire stations safe places for members of the community seeking assistance with substance abuse problems. Following a brief medical evaluation by Fire Department staff, people visiting the stations will be connected with a professional from Gateway, who can assist them in beginning their recovery. Newport and Providence already have similar Safe Stations programs.

"If somebody shows up at the station, anytime of the day or night, we'll get them the treatment they need with Gateway," said Jonathan Polak, the Smithfield Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services Deputy Chief. "It could be anything. It could be alcohol dependency. It could be any sort of a drug dependency. But opioids are the biggest concern right now."

He said that the Fire Department will do a medical evaluation first, to make sure the visitor is medically stable, and then a Gateway specialist will come in to find a treatment for them. "Whether it's AdCare, Phoenix House, Anchor Recovery, whatever it might be, they'll find the facility to get that done."

"If they're medically stable, we're not even doing the transport," Polak said. "If they're unstable, the rescue will transport them to the hospital." Otherwise, he said, Gateway will coordinate with the selected



treatment facility to arrange transport.

"Anything we do is strictly confidential," Polak noted, "because of HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) and PHI (Protected Health Information)."

"They don't have to be a resident of Smithfield," he added. "Nobody's going to get turned away."

The Gateway program is funded through a state grant, and the state Department of Health provides the stations with NARCAN kits to treat overdoses. The fire department will use personnel who are already staffing the stations day and night, all of whom already have Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training.

"Everybody on the Fire Department is, at bare minimum, an EMT Cardiac, an advanced level; or an EMT Paramedic, which is the highest level they can be," Polak said.

"There's really very little cost to it," Rossi noted. "The forms and the signs are really the main cost to us."

Both men credit the efforts of retired State Senator John J. Tassoni Jr. for assisting with the program. Tassoni is now Vice President of Operations, Community and Government Relations for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI, and host of the "Recovery TV" television show.

"The discussion started right at the start of COVID," Rossi said. "John Tassoni has been a huge advocate for it, and is really helping us through the process."

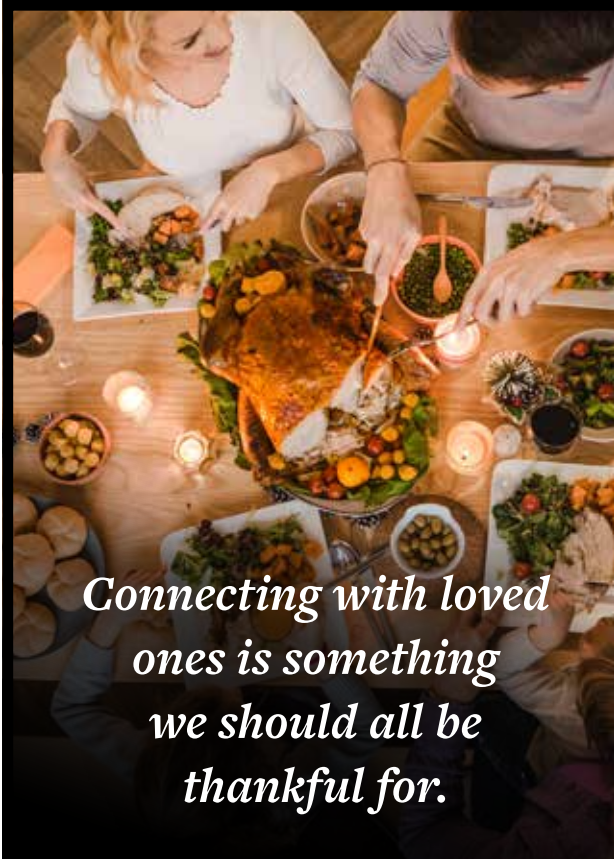
"I'm very excited about the program and I can't wait to roll it out," he said. "I'm just so pleased with the hard work that John and the others have put into this to make it all happen."

The locations of Smithfield's three fire stations are:

- ▶ **Station 1, at 607 Putnam Pike;**
- ▶ **Station 2, at 66 Farnum Pike; and**
- ▶ **Station 3, at 15 Log Road.**

For those unable to visit one of the fire stations, help is available by calling the Fire Department at **401-949-1233**. If you see someone who is not breathing, or you think may be overdosing, immediately call **9-1-1**.





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# SHS Scoop

## Biology Business

by Ellorie Corcoran



Ms. Barletta, Smithfield High School's newest science teacher, reached out recently to share information about a new project the biology classes have



**Ms. Barletta**

been working on since her visit to the TOTE workshop a few weekends ago on Prudence Island. TOTE stands for "Teachers of the Estuary" and is a program where teachers visit Prudence Island for a weekend and complete field experiments with coastal professionals. According to the TOTE website, this workshop gives teachers an opportunity to "Explore coastal habitats and conduct field investigations; Interact with local scientists and experienced coastal educators; Integrate local and national monitoring data into the classroom; and Learn hands-on field activities."

Barletta conducted two field experiments during the workshop, "One where we

used beach seines, which are nets that are dragged in the water to collect organisms to see which kind of organisms are using the area as a habitat (their home). This can tell scientists if that particular ecosystem is affected by changes in global systems and cycles such as climate and weather cycles." The second experiment involved capturing and tagging monarch butterflies so that they can be tracked via monarchwatch.org to see where the butterflies have ended up. "They are usually found in Mexico." Says Barletta.

As a participant of TOTE, Barletta received a \$500 stipend to use in her classroom. Currently, she and the biology students at Smithfield High School are writing a proposal to the principal, Mr. Kelley to install a pollinator garden. A pollinator garden is a garden with only nectar and pollen producing plants, which attracts insects that pollinate. The students will plant and maintain the garden, and eventually observe the organisms inhabiting it. This is creating more opportunities for the students of Smithfield High School to experience hands-on environmental learning. "We are also going to raise monarch butterflies to release in the garden in May and September. The butterflies in

September will be tagged and tracked." Barletta says, hoping to replicate her own experience while in the TOTE program.

With the remaining funds, Barletta's classes will vote on what they would like to do. At the moment, it seems a field trip to Prudence Island or another estuary is the most popular among the students. Smithfield has not done a science related field trip in over two years, yet they can be a great hands-on experiential opportunity for students, while also helping them become more aware of the world around them. Recent reports on climate change have reinforced how important it is for students to learn about the environment. Ms. Barletta's passion for science will help bring these important concepts to life for many of Smithfield's students!



**Using beach seines, which are nets that are dragged in the water to collect organisms.**



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# Birth Announcement!

Alpaca Update: To everyone's surprise, Grace gave birth to a beautiful baby girl in September. Her name is Dory! Mother and baby are doing fine.



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# Ask an Expert

My name is Tom Lopatosky. I'm the President of LOPCO Contracting ([www.LopcoContracting.com](http://www.LopcoContracting.com)) and I'm honored to have the opportunity to talk to you about home improvement on a monthly basis.

I love answering your questions! Please send them to [tom@LopcoContracting.com](mailto:tom@LopcoContracting.com) or call 401-270-2664. Thanks in advance for taking the time to read this column!



## Unintentional Damage by the Well-intentioned

Recently I had a situation with a client that was truly heartbreaking to work through.

The client had lost her husband within the past year and is currently fighting health challenges of her own.

Since her husband had passed, a mysterious leak had developed within her home.

The leak did not happen all the time, but seemed to line up with rainstorms of a certain nature.

Not too long ago, we had a significant storm that was brewing.

As you can imagine, the client was extremely nervous due to the direction the storm appeared to be coming from.

Right before the storm hit, the family's longtime handyman unexpectedly showed up on the doorstep with a tarp that he wanted to put on the roof, over a skylight in the area that he was convinced the leak was coming from.

No water appeared to come through in the storm.

The degree of relief the client felt at that point was beyond measurable and she was extraordinarily grateful at this kind soul for stopping by out of the goodness of his heart and tacking the tarp down prior to the storm.

Several days later, I came over for a meeting that had previously been scheduled for some time in advance to review the leak predicament.

After looking over things and hearing what had happened, my heart fell ill.

Shouldn't my heart have felt "full" instead of "ill"?

Well, you see in this situation, not quite so.

Upon investigating things, it was clear to me that the leak had absolutely zero to do with the skylight.

Instead, the leak was stemming from where one of the three sewer venting pipes in the vicinity were penetrating through the roof.

We have a flashing correction system that we install for these types of leaks and all three of the sewer venting pipes could have used it.

Although there seem to be few that know how to detect this, once someone knows what to look for, these are relatively simple leaks to diagnose.

Now I was faced with the task of relaying this to the client as well as the unsettling fact that while the handyman was extraordinarily well-intentioned with what he did at the last second before the storm, there is now a good amount of additional damage to correct as a result of all the areas where the tarp was nailed into the roof.

*See Ask an Expert, page 15*

### About Tom Lopatosky

Tom Lopatosky has run his own RI-based carpentry and painting business since 1995; LOPCO Contracting - the "Personable, Particular Professionals" - specializes in carpentry and exterior & interior painting. Recently LOPCO Contracting was named 'RI's Finest Painting Contracting Company' by ShopInRI Magazine. In 2013, Tom was named "Humanitarian of the Year" by the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America (PDCA) and a "40 Under 40" award winner by Providence Business News. He is a member of both PCA (Painting Contractors Association) and RIBA (Rhode Island Builders Association). Tom has often had weekly 'Home Improvement Tips' that have aired on the radio on 630 WPRO AM and on television on WPRI 12.



Not a good scene.

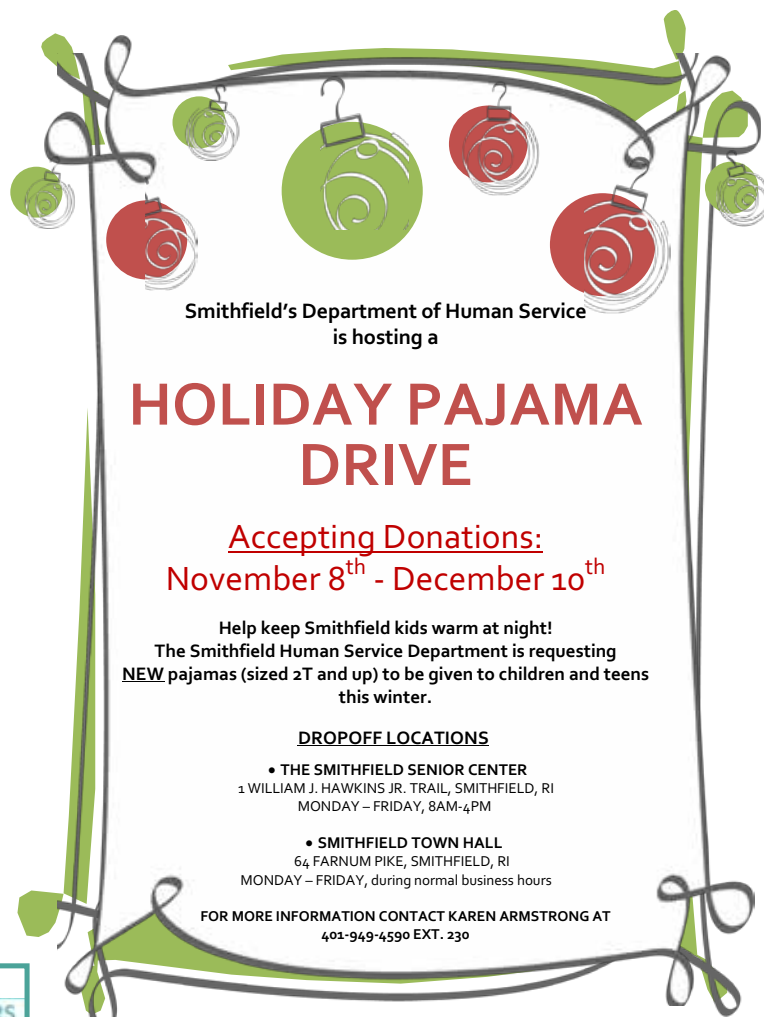
After running through all of this with the client, she seemed receptive to what I had said, but also said that she thought she might look to seek another opinion.

I thanked her for allowing me to come out, sent her a blog I had written a while back about this specific type of leak, and encouraged her to get as much feedback from people as made her comfortable ... but I also asked her to please not to give whomever comes out the "answers to the test".

I have no idea if this particular client will end up hiring us in the end to fix these issues.

While we would welcome the work, if she does not end up hiring us, my only hope is that she hires someone who is very well-versed with these types of leaks.

This is definitely a challenging circumstance for all involved, however the lesson learned by the unintentional damage incurred by an extremely well-intentioned individual should not be lost on any of us.



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# Health Awareness

by Diane L. Marolla, LICSW

## It's A Family Affair

Recently, I sat down with Dr. Michael Gershon and his son Dr. Jonathan Gershon as I wanted to know their history of building their successful practice here in RI. They are a father and son team. Both are Psychologists. Gershon is a well-respected, family-owned practice that been serving Rhode Islanders for years.

*Diane: Why did you start Gershon Psychological Associates?*

Dr. Michael Gershon: I went to graduate school here in Rhode Island. I am originally from New York. I married someone from Cranston, and when Rhode Island gets a hold of you, you can't get away. We opened in 2007. Rhode Islander's don't travel, so we opened multiple offices. We have tried to cover the state with multiple locations to ensure access. (Gershon has two other locations currently in RI in addition to their Smithfield office. They have offices in Warwick and Providence.)

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: Originally, we thought it would be the two of us. It ended up being bigger than we thought. We received a request from a primary care group of doctors to open an office in Smithfield.

*Diane: How did you come up with the practice model that you have?*

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: We have a belief to get people in as quickly as possible. We use a triage model, evaluate the need, provide services, or refer them outside of the practice. We treat children from ages three to senior citizens. Referrals come from pediatricians, primary care physicians, neurologists, and DCYF. We also get a

lot of self-referrals.

*Diane: What challenges have you seen over the years?*

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: There have been plenty of challenges over the years. Recently, the pandemic has been collective trauma for everyone causing significant stress. People who never sought services before, are now seeking services. The downfall to this is getting access to care is more difficult. The bigger obstacles are more systematic and are primarily related to insurance because people have high deductibles. There is sometimes "sticker shock" when a client has a high deductible health plan.

*Diane: I thought parity was supposed to put mental health on equal playing field with physical health? Why are deductibles applying to mental health services?*

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: Policies vary, but psychological testing is paid for by some plans the same way an MRI is paid for; therefore, the deductible applies.

*Diane: We saw the insurance companies waive co-pays and deductibles for mental health services waived during the pandemic, but now they are back. I have seen clients stop services because of co-pays and deductibles. Ideally mental health services should be preventative. We prevent people from going to higher levels of care.*

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: Deductibles and co-pays are a barrier to care. Mental health services should be considered preventative like your annual physical.



**Dr. Michael Gershon and his son Dr. Jonathan Gershon**

*Diane: Providing mental health services through telehealth is now normal. Is this something your practice did before the pandemic?*

Dr. Jonathan Gershon: We had investigated it, but there wasn't much of an interest.

*Diane: Before the pandemic I was not a fan of telehealth, but now I am a fan. It creates access for people. I am able to see clients when they want to be seen. Sometimes it is early morning, so that they can get to work. Sometimes it is later in the evening, and I can see them after work. I also see clients on their lunch hour. I am able to flex my schedule according to the client. Most of our clients, do not work 9-5 or live 9-5 lives.*

Dr. Michael Gershon: All my training was community mental health. I came from a crisis management world. We would do home visits. Telehealth provides us to be back in the home. We see the environment that a client lives in. Knowing what type of environment somebody is living in is important.

*See Health Awareness, page 17*



*Diane: We have seen practices close during the pandemic. What do you think contributes to the success of Gershon?*

Dr. Michael Gershon: I love community health and blended community mental health and private practice. We have a multiplicity of people and philosophies.

Dr. Jon Gershon: Our clinicians who work here have their own private practice within our group. Our clinicians work the schedules that are best for them and their lives. We have a partnership with our clinicians, and it is helpful to our clients. There are so many things that go into making and sustaining a successful practice.

If you need mental health services, please contact your insurance company for a list of providers who are on their panel. For more information on the services Gershon provides: 401-349-3131 | [info@gershonpsych.com](mailto:info@gershonpsych.com)



**Damon Giustini** carved this sculpture for a member of the North Smithfield Fire Fighters.

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## IMHO | by Ron Scopelliti

### Back to the Dark Ages

So I sat there asking myself, “Why am I doing this? On the one hand there are times when it’s been torturous, but on the other hand, I’ve been enjoying it too much to stop.” What was this peculiar brand of self-flagellation? Every day at breakfast for the last few weeks I’ve been watching reruns of the original “Dark Shadows” TV series.

For those of you too young to remember, decades before the Tim Burton/Johnny Depp



movie or the nineties prime-time series, “Dark Shadows” was a half-hour daytime soap opera that ran from 1966 to 1971, and covered just about every supernatural theme you can imagine, while also taking the opportunity to dabble in time travel and a parallel universe. There were vampires, werewolves, ghosts, zombies, voodoo, and witches. There was even a witch who died, became a ghost, came back to life as a witch, got killed again, came back and got turned into a vampire, went back in time again and became a witch again, then came forward in time and retired from all things supernatural.

As a kid I was obsessed with the show, so now that it's available on IMDb TV I couldn't resist going back to see if my obsession was justified. My conclusions have been mixed.

For instance, I always knew that the show's production values were pretty shaky, but as a kid I tended to overlook them. These days, it's hard to dismiss the number of times the

boom microphone appears on camera, the frequently flubbed lines of dialog, the cheesiest-ever fake vampire bat, and the way the walls of the sets shake when a cast or crew member bumps against them. And then there's a classic incident where the show's most iconic character is seen picking his nose because the actor thought he was off-camera.

On top of that there are convoluted plotlines, lapses in logic and continuity, and stilted dialogue that's typified by the characters' overuse of the word “perhaps.” In fact, I'd be willing to bet a sizable sum that “Dark Shadows” used the word “perhaps” more than any other TV show. I suppose the writers felt that it sounded better than the more mundane “maybe” in the characters' snooty Mid-Atlantic accents. If you go through the entire run of “The Sopranos,” I'd be surprised if they used the word once, and I'm absolutely positive they used it less than “gabagool.”

I'd like to see if anyone's ever counted the number of times the word was used, but the near-impossibility of that task highlights one of the staggering facts about the series: even though it ran for just under five years, its schedule as a daily soap opera resulted in 1,225 episodes of “Dark Shadows” being produced.

That outrageous number typifies the things that I like about the series. The fact that they could produce five episodes a week and have them come out as entertaining as they were was an achievement. Given the low budget, the technology of the era, and the ridiculously tight production schedule

that the show ran on, its numerous flaws would have been hard to avoid. Besides, the show was shot in an era audiences were so forgiving that they embraced shows based on a talking horse and a flying nun. When you add in the fact that they managed to appeal to a mass audience with a cast of predominantly unlikeable characters committing horrific deeds, at a time when there was very little violence allowed to actually be shown, it's absolutely insane.

And despite its cheesiness, there were brilliant bits that made it worthwhile. The writers and actors created a genuinely gothic atmosphere in a somewhat-relatable New England setting. They introduced an audience more accustomed to “General Hospital” to concepts like the I-Ching, astral projection, and the multiverse. They even hinted at quantum entanglement, or as Einstein disparagingly referred to it, “spooky action at a distance.”

During my latest research into the show I also discovered some RI connections for trivia buffs. A building now owned by Salve Regina served as the exterior for the Collinwood mansion, and the actress who played the show's original heroine/ingénue went on to become Claus von Bülow's mistress and testified at both of his trials.

So far I'm about halfway through the show's run, having judiciously skipped over most of the first two seasons and any of the episodes that seemed more focused on melodrama than horror. Will I continue watching all the way to the last episode? Perhaps ...



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# Bracelets Handmade With Love by Smithfield Boy



**By Brittni Henderson**

A kind-hearted, loving, and sincere Smithfield boy dedicated his summer to making bracelets to raise money to support Metastatic Breast Cancer research in honor of his mother who is a survivor.

Ten-year-old Lucas Brady took a liking to making Rainbow Loom bracelets over summer vacation and his mother, Marlena, suggested that he try selling them at a craft fair they'd be attending. Lucas was so excited by the idea but wanted to put the proceeds towards something that was very near and dear to his family.

Marlena was diagnosed with stage 4 terminal cancer in 2017 when she was pregnant with her daughter Alana. At this point, the cancer had already spread to her liver and spine. In honor of his mother's battle with Metastatic Breast Cancer, Lucas wanted to raise money to bring awareness to the lesser-known disease and to support research projects that helped other people just like his mom.

METAvivor is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing awareness of advanced breast cancer. Lucas chose to donate 100% of the proceeds from his bracelet making endeavor to METAvivor.

Lucas made over 100 bracelets and sold them both on social media and at the craft fair.

"He raised \$700.00," his mother Marlena says. "His next goal is a bake sale in November to see if he can match his previous amount. He is very humbled by the support he received from everyone."

According to Marlena, Lucas is a very kindhearted, sincere, and passionate young man who has a heart of gold. We are so proud of him and everything he does. Last year he wrote to Santa and in his letter was a wish for him to make me better. He also wished that his friend would get more than one toy, which was granted by the Town of Smithfield surprising him with toys and a visit from Santa.

"We are so proud of Lucas and everything he does," Marlena says, adding, "We are so blessed to live in such an amazing community in Smithfield!"

According to METAvivor.org, "Each year, 200,000 Americans are diagnosed with breast cancer. Six to ten percent of these diagnoses are metastatic, or stage 4. Another 30% progress from stages 0, 1, 2 and 3 to develop stage 4— maybe immediately or maybe 30 years down the line. Science has very few answers to the reason why cancer metastasizes and we don't yet have an effective treatment to arrest metastatic growth.

What we do know is that a diagnosis of Stage 4 breast cancer is not considered survivable and that almost 40,000 men and women die of it each year. This is what METAvivor is fighting to change."

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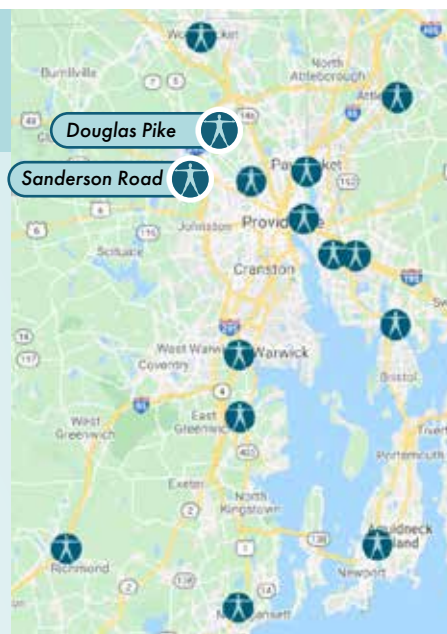
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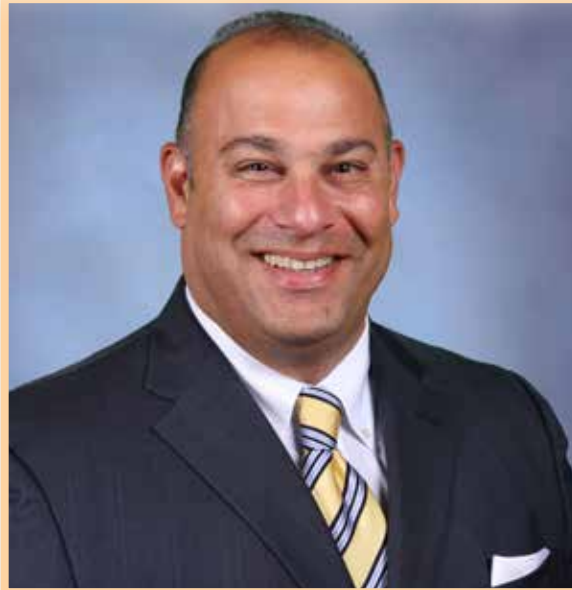
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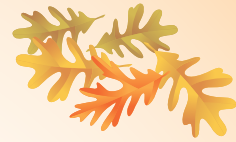
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# Joe Passaretti's 'Journey'

By Joe Siegel

Smithfield resident Joe Passaretti is a cancer survivor. He shares his experiences dealing with the disease in his book, "My Journey."

In January 2017, Passaretti went to Brigham and Women's Hospital for a routine check-up. After conducting some lab tests, Dr. Emily Robinson, a nephrologist, informed Passaretti he might have two types of cancer – multiple myeloma and amyloidosis, a rare form of cancer that impacts the organs due to proteins attaching to the organ and killing it. A biopsy of Passaretti's kidney was conducted and the results confirmed Robinson's diagnosis. Symptoms of amyloidosis may include fatigue, weight loss, shortness of breath, dizziness, and kidney issues.

Passaretti was treated by Dr. Jacob Laubach at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. Laubach attended Duke University School of Medicine. In 2008, he joined the staff of Dana-Farber and Brigham and Women's Hospital, where is a medical oncologist and clinical investigator in the Hematologic Malignancies Center, focusing on multiple myeloma as an area of expertise.

After learning the cancer had infiltrated his heart, Passaretti was referred to Dr. Rodney Falk, the director of the Cardiac Amyloidosis Program and a cardiovascular medicine specialist at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Falk is also an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

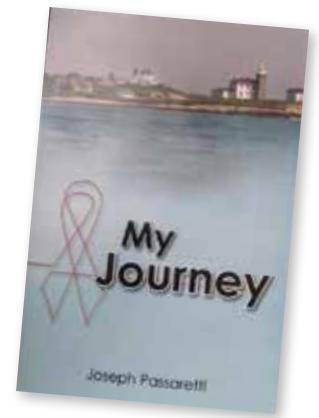
Passaretti did not experience nausea, vomiting, or major hair loss from his

treatments. "The major side effect of my chemo came in the form of sudden exhaustion," Passaretti wrote. "I would be perfectly fine and energetic, and without notice or any eventuality, I would suddenly be unable to function." In 2019, Passaretti was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He underwent a series of radiation treatments administered by Dr. Anthony D'Amico, an oncologist at Dana-Farber. D'Amico is the Eleanor Theresa Walters distinguished Chair, Chief of Genitourinary Radiation Oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

D'Amico is also an "internationally known expert in the treatment of prostate cancer and has defined

veins more susceptible to damage should the radiation be too strong," Passaretti explained. "Therefore, Dr. D'Amico decided to administer the "dosage" of each treatment at a lower level than normal but over an extended period of time."

During his treatments, Passaretti felt compelled to continue working. He has his own accounting firm in Smithfield. He was supported in his struggle by his staff and his clients. "They stuck by me," Passaretti recalled. "It was the most humbling experience of my life."



Joe and Linda Passaretti

Passaretti credits his wife Linda for her unwavering support during the most difficult parts of his treatment.

"Her very existence gives me a reason to always move forward," he wrote. "Linda is the most important and loved person in my life, and that also inspires me to always move forward."

Passaretti said his cancers are now in remission, although he still goes for regular medical examinations.

combined modality staging, which is used to select patients with localized prostate cancer for specific surgical or radiotherapeutic treatment options," Passaretti wrote.

Passaretti ended up driving to Boston for the treatments a total of 44 times over a period of 62 days. "Having been on chemo for the last three and a half years makes my internal organs and

Even after everything he's been through, Passaretti considers himself a lucky man. "I was fortunate," Passaretti said of his cancer. "the doctors caught it early."

Passaretti hopes sharing his story will inspire others who are facing their own health problems: "It's not the end. Get up and do what you normally do. Fight it."





# The Nature of Things

by James Gass

## Remembering Ken Weber: Author, Mentor, Friend

By James Gass

I'm not sure why, but I've been thinking about Ken Weber a lot lately. Maybe it's because every time I write an article I can still hear him giving me advice. Ken was Rhode Island's leading conservationist and nature writer for over 30 years, and also my good friend and writing mentor. He died unexpectedly on August 2, 2007 at the age of 63, just as he and his wife Bettie were preparing to fully retire and do some traveling. He would have turned 78 this month.

Ken had an almost childlike sense of wonder about nature more than anybody I have ever met. For him, the natural world was full of amazing things to discover. Almost every walk in the woods or paddle down a stream would reveal something new and magical to him; and this wonderful sentiment was reflected in his writing.

I first crossed paths with Ken in 2000 when I was hired as Refuge Manager at the Audubon Society of Rhode Island's Powder Mill Ledges Wildlife Refuge in Smithfield. ASRI's main office was there, and Ken was the editor of the Society's monthly newsletter. He had recently retired from being a section editor at the *Providence Journal*, but still had a weekly nature column in the Sunday edition that was read by thousands of Rhode Islanders. He was also the author of eight popular outdoor books, including *Weekend Walks in Rhode Island* and *Canoeing Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut*. I was an aspiring nature writer at the time and hoped to meet him. Maybe he could give me some tips.

I remember the day Larry Taft, ASRI's Executive Director, introduced me to Ken. I was more than a little intimidated by him. He was a self-made man who had been a professional journalist since he was a teenager. Without a college degree, he started writing copy at the *Providence Journal* in 1971 and made it all the way to Sports Editor before retiring in 1996. He was also widely regarded as the state's premier naturalist and outdoors author.

When we met, Ken was courteous, but somewhat abrupt. Maybe he was suspicious that this young whippersnapper was trying to move in on his territory (he also wrote nature articles for the newsletter). Maybe he was just too busy. In any case, Ken was a proud man, but never rude or unkind. He encouraged me to contribute. Under his guidance, I started writing stories for *Puddingstone*, the Society's periodical for volunteers, and eventually for the monthly newsletter.

Besides writing for ASRI, I also began submitting regular articles to *The River Valley Current*, a monthly publication out of Douglas, Mass. I was determined to produce quality work, so I asked Ken if he would mind looking the pieces over before I turned them in. He seemed genuinely flattered by this and agreed. It started a lasting friendship between us, with Ken generously (and patiently) mentoring me as a budding nature writer.

Ken was truly an excellent editor. He would make suggestions that never altered my ideas, only offering advice on grammar or usage. He told me I

should write how I speak, don't use a lot of flowery language, and if I have to break some grammatical rules here or there to make a sentence flow better, do it. Sometimes I'd bring him an article and he would say, "It's a little thin. Needs to be beefed up a bit in these sections," and it was back to the drawing board.

We would often go on walks, sometimes to one of Ken's secret spots, which he would then write about. Even though he told me not to tell anyone where these places were (I never did), he deliberately made getting to them so confusing that there was no way I would ever find them again, even though some were only a few hundred feet off a main road. His readers were always asking him where these spots were, but he wouldn't say. He told me that the whole point of his articles was to get people to go out and discover these places for themselves.

The best advice Ken ever gave me as an author was not to write about nature as though I was going to submit it to a scientific journal. Anyone can do that, he said. He told me to write about how it made me feel, because nobody can do that.

One day, after years of writing articles for ASRI and *The River Valley Current*, I handed Ken a piece to edit, as usual. After carefully reading it, he handed it back to me without making any changes and said, "I have no major problems with it." I knew I had finally arrived as a writer. Thanks for everything, Ken. You are definitely missed.

# 50 years Ago – November, 1971

by Jim Ignasher

On November 1st the U.S. Mint released the first Eisenhower Dollars, but the large coins never really gained popularity except among coin collectors.

The Smithfield Town Council appointed eleven new town employees to positions created by the federally funded Emergency Employment Act of 1971.

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- Victor Tosoni to Highway Department Equipment Operator.
- Anthony V. Caito and Norman R. Robitaille to Highway Department Drivers.

The town received a federal grant of \$27,400 to purchase and develop what is now known as Willow Field in Greenville.

A local carpet dealer was advertising “high-density “shag” carpeting for

\$5.99 a square yard. For those too young to remember, “shag” was thick strands of carpet that gave a room the appearance of a lawn, and tended to be tough on vacuum cleaners.

Route 295 was still under construction, and nearing what is today the Farnum Pike overpass, which was initially supposed to contain a clover leaf.

A public hearing was scheduled to consider whether or not to build an ice rink somewhere in Smithfield. The proposal was submitted by the Smithfield Junior Hockey Association, and history shows that the rink was built.

A local car dealer was offering snow tires from \$21 to \$25. Studs could be added to each tire for an extra fee.

On November 13th, the United States space probe “Mariner 9” became the first object from earth to successfully enter orbit around the planet Mars.

On November 15th, INTEL introduced the INTEL 4004, the world’s first microprocessor.

Ronald Patterson of the Georgiaville

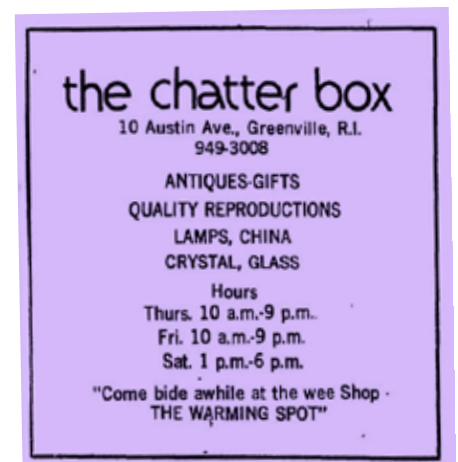
Fire Department instructed an industrial and standard first aid course which was attended by fellow firemen, school teachers, and employees of Mine Safety.

If one went to the Apple Valley Cinema in November of 1971, they might have seen *Carry on Camping*, a British comedy film; *T. R. Baskin*, a drama about a woman who moves to Chicago seeking romance and a career; *Dr. Zhivago*, a romance set in Russia, or *Summer of ‘42*, a coming of age film set in WWII.

A fictional story appeared in an October issue of the Bryant College newspaper, *The Archway*, relating to a cemetery location on the campus. The details are unknown, but apparently names taken from the tombstones were used in the story which involved ghosts. Descendants of those buried there weren’t happy, and the story created a brief stir. In November, about twenty Bryant students took on the task of cleaning up the cemetery by removing thick brush and trees as well as up-righting fallen markers.

An attempt was made by this author to discover what the story was about, but apparently the Archway issues from

*See 50 Years Ago, page 29*





June to November of 1971 are missing from the university archives. If anyone knows, please contact the magazine.

Apparently bomb threats had been a problem at the Smithfield High School. It was reported that since the opening of school in September, twenty-five threats had been called in. Detective Saverio Serapiglia of the Smithfield Police investigated, and arranged for the phone company to place a "trap" on the school phone line, which resulted in three arrests.

On November 24th, a man identifying himself as D. B. Cooper jumped from Northwest Orient Flight 305 which he'd hijacked, holding a duffle bag full of cash. He has never been caught and today the folklore and mystery surrounding the event endures.

On November 28th a piano recital was held at the Greenville Public Library featuring students taught by Mrs. Helen Taubman. Those participating included Lynda and Sandy Wilkund, Julia Crory, Joseph Pilkington, Susan Lantoro, Debbie Robertson, Joanne Beaudry, Carolyn Chrzan, Lynda Buckley, Patti Monahan, Susan Waradzin, and Lisa Clemence.

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# Local Landmark Coach's Pub Reopens with Food and Live Entertainment



By James Gass

Coach's Pub, a longtime Esmond landmark, has reopened under new ownership and is now featuring home cooked pub-style food and live entertainment every weekend. The grand opening was April 16, 2021. Coach's is open seven days a week starting at around noon.

Coach's is a family affair and is owned and operated by John Rossi, his girlfriend Renee Lait and her son Glenn Davenport. "We sold the farm to do this, it has to work" Rossi joked. Before purchasing the club, Rossi was not a farmer but was a CDL trucker for over thirty years. Besides her duties at the pub, Lait is also an accountant. Davenport has been a professional bartender for 22 years. "I told Renee there was no way we were going to do this without Glenn, he has the experience" Rossi said.

Located on Farnum Pike across the street from the old Benny's warehouse, the building has been a neighborhood

watering hole in one form or another for over 40 years. Originally opened as The Wayside Inn in the 1970's, the club changed hands over the years, eventually becoming McGuire's Tavern, Joseph's, and then Coach's Pub for 8 years before the current owners took over. They decided to keep the name.

The place has a colorful history. The Wayside Inn was apparently owned by a member of the Mafia, whose associates would also frequent the club. "They'd come in during the afternoon, check their guns at the bar and then play cards on a table in the back room until 5 in the morning," Rossi told me. Benny's employees, who worked across the street, were not permitted to drive directly from the warehouse to the club at the end of the day. They were instructed to drive around the block first, so as not to be seen by the public. They were also eventually banned from going there for lunch, because it was usually of the liquid variety.

Before reopening Coach's, Rossi and Davenport spent three months completely renovating the interior of the building including the floors and restrooms. The pub now features an outdoor patio, a full-size pool table, a digital jukebox and Keno. Coach's also regularly hosts card leagues, pool leagues and WRIK Entertainment's Trivia Night every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m.

What is new about Coach's (besides the interior) is the addition of home cooked pub fare and regular live entertainment, which has been missing in previous years. There is now Karaoke every Friday night from 8 pm-12 am and live music every Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. The bands playing Saturday are cover or original bands, and the entertainment on Sunday is the Hangover House Band from 1-4 pm featuring Rachel Johnson and Mark Gentile. The house band features a rotating cast of talented local musicians every week. There is no cover

*See Coach's Pub Reopens, page 31*



charge for music, unless it is a charity event.

The pub-style menu at Coach's includes appetizers such as mozzarella sticks, onion rings, French fries, nachos, chicken tenders and chicken wings. You can build your own burger, have a shaved steak or meatball sub, or a large dinner salad. Fish and chips are offered every Friday. Hot wieners are coming soon.

There are always weekly drink specials.

Rossi stresses that Coach's is a neighborhood pub, a family pub. "We're family owned, we're family friendly, we're motorcycle friendly, and we're dog friendly. Bring your dog to the pub," he says. Rossi also sponsors charity fundraisers for organizations such as The Wounded Warrior Project, the 9-11 Tunnel of Towers and the ALS Association, whose mission is to discover treatments and a cure for ALS, otherwise known as Lou Gehrig's disease. These events feature live bands, drinks, food and raffles. "I want to do a lot more fundraisers in the future," he told me. Thanks to the Rhode Island Fruit and Syrup Company, who allows patrons of Coach's to park in their lot next door, there is always plenty of parking for these and other events.

To learn more about upcoming events at Coach's, check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Coachs-Pub-and-Deli>.

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# He Heeded the Trail's Mantra: "Hike Your Own Hike"

By Harry Anderson

Bearded, brown-eyed, 31-year-old Kevin O'Brien is twenty pounds lighter than he was last April 12th when atop Georgia's Springer Mountain he, alone, took his first step northward on the Appalachian Trail – a 2,193.2 mile pathway coursing through fourteen states all the way to Maine's Mount Kathadin, its northern terminus. On trees and boulders 2"x5" white blazes painted on trees and boulders through forests and above timberline guide those with the gumption to be a thru-hiker. Four months and two weeks later – on August 31st to be exact – Kevin took his final step on the trail.

His parents, Johnston residents, thought their son was crazy when, after getting an AB degree from Brown in 2013 (majoring in public policy and economics) and working in a Boston law office as a paralegal for two years, he quit. "Law doesn't make things happen," he reasoned. "I'm going to Washington where things happen." Without a plan or connections, off he went and soon landed a desk job with the League of Conservation Voters, a non-profit that supports candidates who support climate change.

At one point in his tenure with LCV he was sent to Missoula, Montana, to a work conference. Before returning to Washington, he visited Glacier National Park, walking its trails and camping amidst its beauty. On the second night, alone in his tent, he thought back to his years with the Boy Scouts as he advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout. His visit to Glacier had reignited his love for the outdoors.

"Soon after getting back to D.C., COVID hit and I had to work from my apartment. This huge disconnect from nature really bothered me. Office work was not for me, nor was grad school, which I had been considering. From now on, nature would be my classroom, and that's

when I decided to do the Appalachian Trail."

Back home he came to prepare, and again his parents thought him crazy. When spring had settled in, Kevin flew to Atlanta and hired a taxi to drive him to Springer Mountain; and on the morning of April 12 with a 32 pound knapsack, a pup tent he dubbed "Juliet", and two trekking poles he began to walk, averaging sixteen miles a day or about 56,000 steps according to his pedometer.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy estimates that only 19% of wannabe thru-hikers succeed. Kevin soon learned why: "You are constantly beaten down by weather, pain, exhaustion, and your own limitations. It's most humbling."

Alone on the trail, day after day after day with utter silence as his only companion, he did a lot of introspecting and concluded that 90% of success is mental. He had packed no cell phone, no computer, nothing that connected him with society, wanting to be at it in the raw. He saw that working to solve environmental concerns from an office is disturbingly abstract and that taking on the trail is simple when contrasted to the tribulations that come with getting along with people.

Humbled as he became notwithstanding, Kevin convinced himself capable of doing big things. And onward he walked, hiking his own hike. He wore out four pairs of boots.

Thru-hikers call time off the trail a "zero day". In his four-and-a-half-month journey he allowed himself fourteen of them, going into a village to replenish supplies, use a laundromat, take a shower.



Occasionally "Trail Magic" would refresh him. That's what hikers call the drinking water and home-baked goodies placed on tables where the trail descends a mountain and intersects with a road. They call their benefactors "Trail Angels".

Kevin's trek triggered a gamut of emotions. Awe at times when, for example, at the summit of Clingman's Dome (it straddles the boundary of Tennessee and North Carolina) he saw in all directions the peaks of the Smokey Mountains. Fear at other times such as when he edged along the rim of Mount Washington's Tuckerman Ravine. Bliss even seized him as he made his way through acres of mellifluous smelling wild flowers of the Shenandoah Valley.

"When it hit me that the trail is a constant and you can't conquer it and the most you can accomplish is to endure, I came to see it as a metaphor. By doing that, I saw myself to be on a pilgrimage. If what I was doing had any meaning, it could be found in the act of getting there."

Kevin has returned to Washington, taking with him a philosophical frame of mind and hoping to avoid what veteran thru-hikers call "Post Trail Depression."

"To be sure," he says, "I've learned much about myself and about life. Yes, I've learned that you have to hike your own hike, knowing precisely what that means, or else you won't endure the Trail."



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# Inside The Brown Bag

By Peg Brown

## The Last “Lick” of Summer ...

It wasn't the last good beach day, nor the lengthening shadows of earlier sunsets that marked the end of my summer. It was the cotton candy pink shutters nailed over the windows of my favorite ice cream stand. Full confession: I am an ice cream junky ... in fact, so is my whole family. Our habit was certainly exacerbated by my Grandmother's purchase of one of the first 300 lb. chest freezers, housed in her garage. There was nothing that couldn't be cured by eating ice cream at grandma's kitchen table from an old-fashioned cereal bowl. For years, we completely disregarded my father's warning that “someday you'll regret this!”

If I was looking for someone to blame for the life-long lure of the Siren pulling me to the freezer, I again am forced to look to the ancient world. This whole ice cream obsession, which now is quite global, all began when the Romans, Persians and Mongols used snow to mix with honey and wine and other flavorings to make an early facsimile of the frozen treat. Reportedly transported by Marco Polo from China to Italy, flavored ices as a delicacy quickly spread among the courts of those such as Catherine de' Medici, Henry II of France, and King Charles I of England. While much of this might be legend, we do know that the first recipe for such flavored ices first appeared in a French cookbook as early as 1674.

It is reported that America got its first taste of ice cream as Quakers arrived with their own recipes for the confection. There are historical records that our founding fathers were some of the first aficionados of the delicacy, including a report that George Washington spent \$200 on ice cream in the summer of 1790 and Dolley Madison served ice cream at her husband's Inaugural Ball in 1813.

Mass production of ice cream products began in the late 19th century, first documented in England, New Zealand and Australia. However, by the turn of the 20th century, ice cream production and consumption exploded in America.

Myths, legends and multiple claims surround how certain ice cream products were first invented. The vast majority believe the story that the ice cream cone was invented by chance at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, when an ice cream vendor ran out of paper cups and an adjacent vendor making waffles rolled them into a cone to use in their place. But there were also several prominent Italian families that claimed filing patent requests for cone making machines prior to the Fair.

Many of our favorite ice cream treats have similar debatable histories. Multiple states claim to have been the home of the first ice cream sundae, supposedly created to circumvent Blue Laws that prohibited the sale of sodas on Sundays. The ice cream float is said to be the result of a soda-shop owner who was forced to substitute ice cream for regular cream in a classic cream soda. And the banana split – credited to a Pennsylvanian who used the banana, a relatively new import to the US, as a base for a willing customer in 1904.

The advances by technology in processing, freezing and the production of electric home appliances led to fast advances in production, distribution and consumption. Although, and this too is legend, some suggest that during the era of prohibition, saloons and bars served as prototypes of our first commercial soda fountains.

However, it was those chest and home freezers that now held rectangle cardboard containers with full half-gallons (remember – 64 oz, not 48!) that sealed our ice cream fate. I did have one objection to those cardboard containers. We were a large family and Grandma insisted on opening the carton and evenly slicing the ice cream into single flat servings. Then again, I was always disappointed when she cut birthday cakes down the middle, and then made thin slices from each half. I wanted a wedge with the most frosting and the big rose.

A highlight of my high school years was the opening of the first Dairy Queen in our small town within walking of my home.

Soft vanilla –still first in my heart. And while I'm making confessions, there were days I referred to those half-gallons as “single servings.” In my waning years, that label now belongs to pints!



### Author's notes:

- The average American consumes 23 lbs. of ice cream and frozen dessert annually.
- Favorite flavor: vanilla, followed closely by chocolate. Least favorite: Neapolitan.
- In 2019 6.4 billion gallons of ice cream were produced worldwide.
- And, in case you're interested, in 2020, Rhode Island ranked 9th among the 50 states in amount of ice cream consumed per capita. Of course – I live here in the summer!



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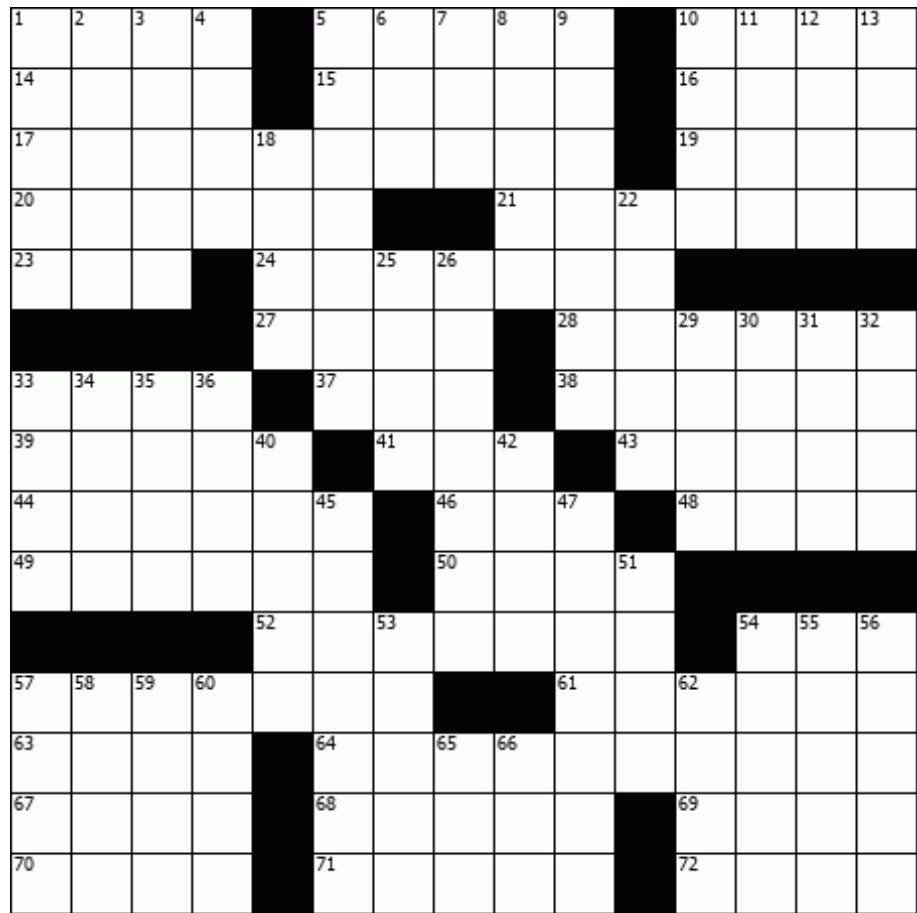
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# Crossword Puzzle

## Across

1. Gifts to charity
5. Delhi's country
10. A Baldwin brother
14. Benefit
15. Intended
16. Recline lazily
17. Illogical
19. Norwegian capital
20. Dictator
21. Identifying label (2 wds.)
23. Compass dir.
24. Toy dog breed
27. Mix
28. Censored
33. \_\_\_\_ Moore of "A Few Good Men"
37. New Year's \_\_\_\_
38. Sarcastic writing
39. In the know
41. Take food
43. Citrus fruit
44. Renter
46. Command to Fido
48. Untidy condition
49. Amphitheatres
50. Exam type
52. Mandarin or Cantonese
54. Health resort
57. Molded dessert
61. Sailor
63. Stratford-upon-\_\_\_\_
64. Misleading clue (2 wds.)
67. Remaining
68. Courtroom event
69. Take flight
70. Skills
71. Plant stalks
72. Peddle



## Down

1. Remain
2. Sophia \_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_ code
4. Ginger cookie
5. Copy
6. Agent Smith's nemesis
7. Actor \_\_\_\_ Aykroyd
8. Ridiculous
9. Books of maps
10. Lotion ingredient
11. Missing
12. Jazz singer \_\_\_\_ Fitzgerald
13. Drain obstruction
18. Cruise and Hanks
22. Military award
25. In person
26. Traitor's crime
29. List entry
30. Clock info
31. Greek god of love
32. Hideaways
33. Computer output
34. Washstand item
35. Horse's hair
36. Mideast country
40. Make into law
42. Grow weary
45. Casual tops (hyph.)
47. Loafer ornaments
51. Ogle
53. Sluggish
54. Look happy
55. Wall board
56. Heavenly being
57. Festive occasion
58. Continually
59. Hay place
60. Picnic crashers
62. Pound sounds
65. Stamping tool
66. Deli meat

Answers to puzzle on page 42



# A View From the Cheap Seats

## 43 Years Later, The Revenge Was Oh So Sweet!

Dan Pieroni

By Dan Pieroni

I'm sure some of you reading this column remember October 2, 1978. If you don't, and you're appreciative of Red Sox history, two words are sure to jog your memory: Bucky Dent.

Bucky Dent, the diminutive Yankee shortstop who drove a wrench through the hearts of Red Sox Nation with his wind-aided seventh inning home run off Mike Torrez that put the Yankees ahead for good that day and became a divisive figure in Red Sox lore forever and always.

My father and uncle were there that day, and when Dent's fly ball went over the wall, my uncle later told me that it felt like the air had been sucked out of Fenway Park.

On the other hand, my father was so angry over the fact that the Red Sox blew both a 14-game division lead and a do or die playoff game in their own ballpark that he didn't set foot in Fenway for another 38 years.

There were other moments in this hollowed Yankee/Red Sox rivalry that meant more and helped to lessen the pain of Dent's homerun. Nothing may ever top the Red Sox erasing a 3-0 deficit to beat the Yankees in the 2004 ALCS on the way to the World Series.

Sure entering the one-game wild card playoff game on October 5 the Red Sox were 8-1 against the Yankees in the postseason since game 4 of the 2004 ALCS, but those games weren't do or die one game playoffs.

Yes, Bucky Dent will always be a sour footnote in Red Sox history, despite what has happened.

Yes, the Red Sox have won four World Series titles to the Yankees one in the last seventeen years.

Yes. It's ok if you have found room in your heart to forgive Bucky Dent, that was so long ago and plenty of things have changed for the better for you the Red Sox loyalist.

I ask you though, what about the stigma of the one-game playoff?

What about the fear that occurs when you realize that anything can happen, and anyone can be a hero for one night on a big stage?

Or what about the fear and anger you may feel when you realize that after winning 92 games, your season has come down to a win or go home game against your hated and bitter rival?

Everything you accomplished over the season could be over and done with in the blink of an eye. The Red Sox had never beaten the Yankees in a one-game playoff before.

As long as the bad taste that Bucky Dent's heroics left in their mouth lingers, it was the one part of the resume that had remained unfulfilled.

Winning one game meant sending the Yankees home with a sense of unfulfilled promise and the same amount of shame that the Red Sox felt in 1978.

So when you saw Nathan Eovaldi rear back and fire a pitch to Giancarlo Stanton that everyone in the ballpark assumed was gone at first glance, you can be forgiven if you had feelings of déjà vu all over again.

But the ball didn't leave the yard, and Eovaldi pitched his way around the single. Then you saw Kyle Schwarber and Xander Bogaerts come to Eovaldi's rescue with dingers of their own.

Before you knew it, two Yankee castoffs in Eovaldi and Garrett Whitlock had kept the Bronx Bombers at bay.

However, we would be remiss not to single out and thank Yankee third base coach Phil Nevin whose egregious error in sending Aaron Judge home when it was clear to anyone else he was out by a country mile.

The 6-2 Red Sox win meant two things: first, no Yankee fan could ever take joy in the fact that the Red Sox could not beat the Yankees in a one-game playoff again, and the bitter pill that Bucky Dent made them swallow all those years ago tastes a little less bitter.

Come to think of it, many of the things' Yankees fans used to hold over Red Sox fan's heads are no longer valid.

They won their championship, they beat the Yankees in the playoffs on the way to it, and now they have beaten them in a winner take all one-game playoff.

I know the 27 rings excuse is still valid to express Yankee superiority, but in all honesty, it's gotten old and tiresome as an insult.

What this win means to the Red Sox fan can best be said by this simple directive.

It's ok to go back to Fenway on a regular basis Dad!





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# Payne's Picks

By Sarah Payne

November 2021

## Movie Releases

### The Power of the Dog – November 17

According to Esther Zuckerman from *Thrillist*, *The Power of the Dog* could be the first Netflix Film to win a Best Picture Oscar. Written and directed by Jane Campion, the film is set in 1925 Montana and stars Benedict Cumberbatch, Kirsten Dunst, and Jesse Plemons. Zuckerman writes: “It’s an epic about the way the male id can crush everyone it touches, anchored by a brilliant masquerade of a performance by Cumberbatch, his best yet.” She stops short of giving away the twist, but hints at a tense build up to a shocking reveal.

### House of Gucci – November 24

Lady Gaga plays Patrizia Reggiani, who was tried and convicted of planning the assassination of her ex-husband Maruizio Gucci in 1995. She told *The Wall Street Journal*: “I wanted to make a real person out of Patrizia, not a caricature.” She spent six months perfecting her Italian accent and another six months speaking only in the accent – which just seems so Lady Gaga of her. She said: “I felt the best way to honor Maurizio and Italians was for my performance to be authentic, from the perspective of a woman.” Ironically (and comically), Patrizia, who is now out of prison, told Italian news that she is “rather annoyed” at Lady Gaga for never meeting her in person. The film is directed by Ridley Scott, whose films are as diverse as *Alien*, *Gladiator*, *Black Hawk Down*, and *The Martian*.

## Movie Review

### The Guilty (Netflix)

This might not come as a surprise, but watching Jake Gyllenhaal take 911 calls for an hour and half gets old pretty quickly. The initial suspense that’s built as Gyllenhaal’s character discovers one of his callers is in the process of being kidnapped slowly fizzles and eventually turns comical. The audience must rely solely on Gyllenhaal and voice acting from various callers to

follow the storyline. I couldn’t help wondering why so many of these callers continue to talk on the phone while in life-or-death situations? The plot device collapses under itself. I give *The Guilty* a C minus at best.

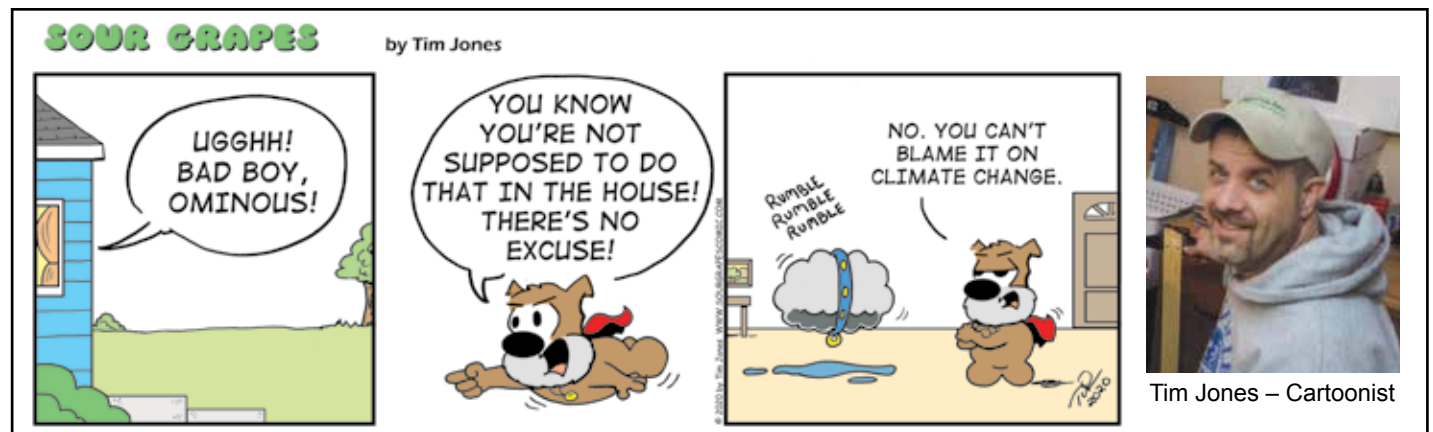
## TV Review

### Scenes from a Marriage (HBO Max)

My husband always teases me for gravitating toward depressing melodramas – and *Scenes from a Marriage* certainly falls into that category. There’s nothing light or humorous about this series. Like *Marriage Story*, which is really more about divorce than marriage, *Scenes from a Marriage* stars Jessica Chastain and Oscar Isaac as a couple in a downward spiral, each episode representing a different stage of their downfall. The content is heavy and highlights the dysfunction and miscommunication that can shake the foundation of even the most solid relationship. The series feels more like a stage for Chastain and Isaac to feature their acting chops (each episode opens with behind-the-scenes footage as the actors enter the set). If you’re looking for pure escapism, I’d say pass on this one.

### Maid (Netflix)

Based on a memoir by the same name, *Maid* stars mother and daughter duo Andie MacDowell and Margaret Qualley. A young mother manages to escape an abusive relationship and starts working as a maid to make a better life for her and her daughter. The show is difficult to watch at times, as Qualley, playing the young mother, navigates homelessness and the bureaucracy of the welfare system. Writer and executive producer Molly Smith Metzler told *The Wall Street Journal*: “To me, the key was to create this character at the center and never leave her point of view. She had to be funny, her view of the world had to have levity and joy.” Despite those efforts, I can’t recall much levity in the series, though there are many tender mother/daughter moments.





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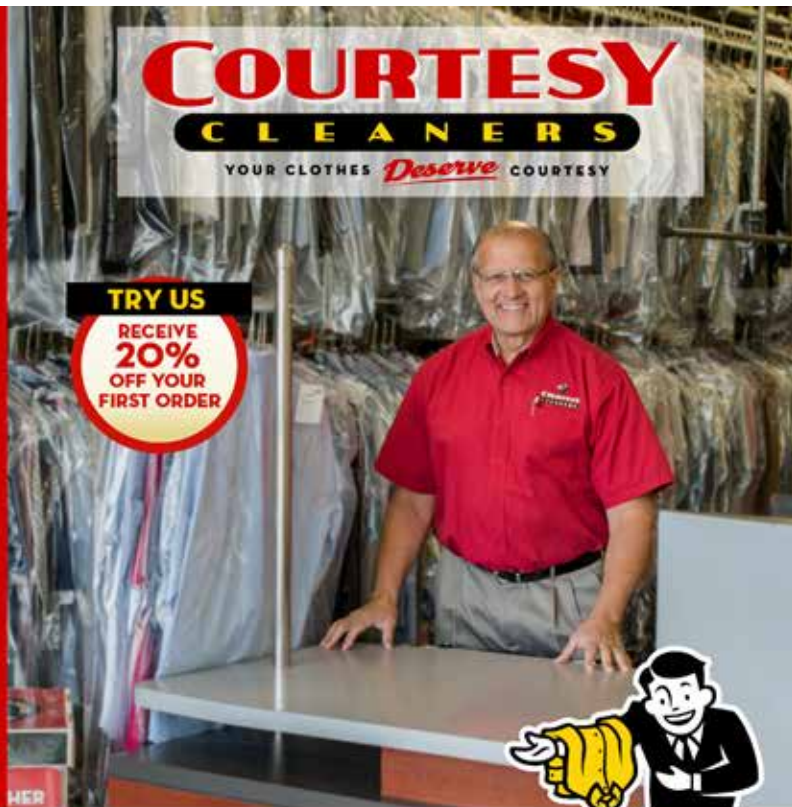
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[www.andersonwinfield.net](http://www.andersonwinfield.net)



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[www.marianiandson.com](http://www.marianiandson.com)



**Margaret A. (Lally) Capraro**  
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[www.robbsfuneralhome.com](http://www.robbsfuneralhome.com)



**James E. Fallon**  
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## Answers to Crossword Puzzle from page 37.

A	L	M	S		I	N	D	I	A		A	L	E	C
B	O	O	N		M	E	A	N	T		L	O	L	L
I	R	R	A	T	I	O	N	A	L		O	S	L	O
D	E	S	P	O	T			N	A	M	E	T	A	G
E	N	E		M	A	L	T	E	S	E				
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A	W	A	R	E		E	A	T		L	E	M	O	N
T	E	N	A	N	T		S	I	T		M	E	S	S
A	R	E	N	A	S		O	R	A	L				
				C	H	I	N	E	S	E		S	P	A
G	E	L	A	T	I	N			S	E	A	M	A	N
A	V	O	N			R	E	D	H	E	R	R	I	N
L	E	F	T			T	R	I	A	L		F	L	E
A	R	T	S			S	T	E	M	S		S	E	L

# The Smithfield Times

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A woman with brown hair, wearing a blue beanie, a red long-sleeved shirt, and brown work overalls, stands in a workshop. A respirator mask is hanging from her neck. The background shows a grey wall and a dark, possibly painted, surface on the left. The entire image is framed by a thick orange border.

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