

The Smithfield Times


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Abby Mansolillo, Miss Rhode Island.
Story on pages 4-5.

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George M. Prescott

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Smithfield Woman Crowned Miss Rhode Island Exudes Humility, Compassion, and Grace

By Brittni Henderson

Since the 1980's, the Miss America competition has focused intensely on social impact and the ways women can make the world a better place. The judging of physical appearance was completely removed in 2018, creating an environment that focuses more on women's stories, skills, talents, and achievements. The competition proudly awards robust scholarships to its winners to enable them to pursue their dreams, even after their year of service is complete.

Recently crowned Miss Rhode Island Abby Mansolillo, 23, of Smithfield, personifies the expectations of a Miss America candidate and brings her winning energy with her beyond the stage. Abby has an effervescent personality and is selfless in her relationships with others. Abby graduated Cum Laude from Providence College and completed her first year at the Roger Williams University School of Law in May 2022. She is currently interning in the Narcotics Unit at the Department of the Attorney General.

Abby was crowned at the Miss Rhode Island competition on May 1 at Bishop McVinney Auditorium in Providence surrounded by her loved ones.

"It was the most surreal experience," Abby says. "It was so rewarding and if nothing else, humbling. I competed with an intense group of women who were all so great."

She explains that the competition is a weekend-long event, starting with interviews on Friday, rehearsal on Saturday, and the competition on Sunday. On competition day, contestants are required to display a talent, present

their evening wear, and discuss their social impact project. Abby's talent was a rendition of a monologue from the biopic "On the Basis of Sex" about the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg.

Her evening gown held a special place in her heart. Years earlier, Abby saw the gown in a store and instantly knew she would wear it one day. At the time, she was too young for it, but when she saw that it was still in stock while she was shopping for this year's competition, she knew it was the dress she would wear to win.

Abby's social impact project focuses on the empowerment women have in a medical setting. The project, titled "Trust Your Gut: Be Your Own Health Advocate," was inspired by her mother's personal health journey. Her mother always took her health seriously, but especially so after a large tumor was found in her small intestine. Her mother took charge of her health and made sure that she was properly cared for. "The hope is that women can speak openly with their healthcare providers and ensure their health is at the forefront of every appointment,"

Abby says. "If I can encourage one young woman to speak up, I'll feel successful."



Abby is working closely with the Dana Farber Cancer Institute to help patients and their families. At press time, she raised over \$600 for her cause. One fundraiser was held at Power Yoga Plus in Smithfield, and she hopes to host many more over the next year.

Abby attributes much of her success to the town of Smithfield and many of her supporters. Despite not attending Smithfield schools, she still feels fully immersed in the community and believes it is truly a special place. Soon after her coronation, Abby was invited to a town council meeting where she was awarded The Key to the Town by Town Councilman David Tikoian.

See Miss Rhode Island, page 5

“The key is so big I needed two hands to pick it up!” Abby jokes. “I really love, love this town.”

Over the next year Abby will be quite busy but is excited for what’s to come. In addition to working on her social impact project, she will soon crown Miss Rhode Island Outstanding Teen. She will also make appearances around the state. Most importantly, she will prepare for the Miss America competition in December. She is beyond grateful for the experiences she’s gained. She believes that the Miss America competition helps women become multifaceted in their lives and careers. For Abby, she’s able to attend law school and obtain a master’s degree at any point in her life thanks to the scholarship she received.



As the motto states, Miss America prepares the world for great women and prepares great women for the world!

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In Our **Community**



Smithfield's PRIDE community members joined at the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 28.



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Is it mandatory to go on Medicare when you turn 65?

No, but there are significant penalties for late enrollment unless you have other creditable medical coverage, such as from a large employer.

How do I get Medicare?

Social Security offers you a quick online application for Medicare that can be completed in fewer than ten minutes. You do not have to be receiving income benefits to get Medicare. Just visit ssa.gov and follow the links about applying for Medicare. (We can help you with this process.)

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Local Businessmen Honor Our Vets Over Fourth of July Weekend

By Paul Lonardo

Our veterans are rightly revered for their service and sacrifice. For some people, the days of observance to honor them are not enough, and they want to do more. Robert Skeffington, Rich Santilli and Bill Hogan are three such people.

Over the past Fourth of July weekend, a time when the nation paused to celebrate the anniversary of our nation's birth, while many Americans flocked to beaches and other vacation destinies or enjoyed time at home with family and friends at cookouts, these three friends got together and came up with idea to give back to our veterans.

On Friday, July 1 the trio sponsored a gasoline giveaway for veterans and active military at the Pleasant View Avenue Sunoco station. The tanks of the first two hundred vehicles to arrive that day were filled with up to ten gallons of gas at no charge courtesy of Skeffington, Santilli and Hogan.

The three men, who had once been college roommates when they attended Salve Regina University in Newport, though they declined to say how long ago that was, came up with the idea while discussing what they were planning for the upcoming Fourth of July weekend.

"We're three life-long friends who talk about just about everything under the sun," Skeffington says. "One day, we happened to be talking about how tough things are, especially now, in this time of inflation and soaring gas prices, so we wanted to see if we could do something for Independence Day."

At first, the men weren't sure exactly what to do, but something they always believed in was supporting our troops.

They have been actively involved in other charitable events, including many years cooking for all the active military out at Quonset around Veterans Day. So it didn't take long for them to decide on doing something for our veteran's on Independence Day, and a gasoline giveaway was agreed on by the three former college roommates.

"It just seemed like the right thing to do at the right time," Skeffington says. "None of us would have an Independence Day if it wasn't for our veterans."

It took some leg work before they settled on the Sunoco adjacent to Anna McCabe Elementary and Smithfield High School on Pleasant View Avenue.

"Sean, the owner of that Sunoco, was fantastic," Skeffington says. "His support of us and the mission that we had for the day was integral to the success of the event. Without that Smithfield connection, none of it could have happened."

The three friends also want to acknowledge the vital assistance they received from the Smithfield Police, particularly, Sgt. Orlando Braxton of the Traffic Enforcement Unit.

"He liked the idea and got behind us and what we were doing," Skeffington says of Sgt. Braxton. "He helped us out to a great extent with the traffic, but the whole department was fantastic. They were several officers on scene and the police chief was there. It wouldn't have gone nearly as smoothly if it wasn't for them."



Robert Skeffington, Rich Santilli and Bill Hogan

The event ended up being bigger than anticipated. The first time doing something like this, it was not surprising. The original plan was to fill the tanks of 200 cars in the two hours of the event, from 10 a.m. to noon. When they saw a line beginning to form around 8:30, they go the pumps started early, around 9:15, and they kept the gas flowing until just beyond midday. When all was said and done. Some 256 vehicles received free gas.

Skeffington, Santilli and Hogan went from car to car, greeting and thanking the veterans for their service.

"The veterans were fantastic," Skeffington says. "When I apologized to them for the long wait, they were all completely understanding and patient. I

See Honor Our Vets, page 11

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Honor Our Vets, from page 10

remember the look one of them gave me before he told me, 'We're all veterans. We know. You get in line and you wait.'"

For Robert Skeffington, Rich Santilli and Bill Hogan, it was a wonderful experience to be a part of.

"It felt good to do something, even a small gesture like this," Skeffington says. "Every single person who came and waited in line was unbelievably appreciative, whether they were twenty-year-old active service members or veterans in their eighties and nineties."

One older female veteran told Skeffington that her tank was on E and that she needed this gas as that long holiday weekend was beginning.

"Hearing things like that is why we did this," Skeffington says. "It makes it all worthwhile."



Zeshan Abid (owner of Sunoco)



Wayne Martini and John Cianci



Those Were the Days in Smithfield!



Military Hat Holds Special Meaning For Local Veteran

By Paul Lonardo



Adorindo (Ad) Gloria, Jr.

A boonie hat may not be the most attractive hat, but it has a rich history of functionality that has made it perfect for military use. If you're not associated with the military, you may not necessarily recognize the name, but you've almost certainly seen the hat.

Boonie hats became standard military issue during the Vietnam War, and they were instantly embraced by our soldiers because the design was perfect for their needs and the climate in Southeast Asia. They are particularly useful in tropical environments because they're breathable and don't trap heat, keeping the wearer as cool as possible. They are also water-resistant, which was important

considering the amount of rainfall in Vietnam. The wide brim protected the soldiers not only from the sun and rain, but from ants and other insects and bugs that would fall from the trees. The military issue boonie came with mosquito netting, which most of the men removed. There was a chin strap to secure the hat to the head during stormy weather, and there were looped straps all around the hat which could be used to secure leaves and twigs as a means of camouflage.

Smithfield resident and military veteran Adorindo Gloria, Jr., received just such a hat as a gift on his 80th birthday this year, which his family celebrated on the 4th of July. The boonie came as complete surprise to Adorindo, known as Ad to his friends and family, and when he saw it, it brought an instant smile to his face and flood of memories. It was exactly like the boonie he remembered wearing, only this one was emblazoned with the lettering, "Vietnam Veteran."

It may have been nearly sixty years since Adorindo last wore a boonie hat, but he wore it with pride this past Independence Day, and he plans to have it with him wherever he goes out.

Adorindo served in the U.S. Army from 1960 – 1963, including a tour in Vietnam. Adorindo and wife, Linda, both native Rhode Islanders, have called Smithfield home for the last thirty-eight years. They have three children,

Lindsay, and twins, Christopher and Brittany, and eight grandchildren, Evelyn, Zoey, Sydney, Charlotte, Zachary, Annabelle, Cameron, and Elenore.

The term "boonie" is short for boondock. Stationed in such a remote part of the world, soldiers like Adorindo felt like they were out in the boondocks (or "boonies"), so the hat was aptly named. But you don't have to enlist in the military or live in the boonies to own one. Although initially designed for military survival, a boonie hat can serve the wearer well in everyday life, particularly if you enjoy the outdoors. The boonie is great for fishing, gardening, watching outdoor sports, and any activity that involves exposure to sun, and all weather elements. It will effectively keep your head dry if you get caught in the rain and shield your face and neck from the sun. The boonie hat, because of its wider and stiffer brim, is preferable to a bucket hat for skin protection because it provides more shade. You may not look like a fashionista, but you will likely be the only one in your group whose head will be dry and whose face won't get sunburnt.

The boonie hat originally came olive drab, but today you can get them in an assortment of camouflage designs, patterns and colors for everyday use.



Adorindo (Ad) and his wife, Linda, with their eight grandchildren.

The advertisement features a blue and white stylized wave logo in the top left corner. To its right is the text "LIGHTING & Design By J&K ELECTRIC" in a mix of blue and green fonts. Below the logo is a photograph of a Casablanca Stealth DC ceiling fan with five dark wood blades and a brushed nickel finish. To the right of the fan, the text "Casablanca Stealth DC with LED Light 54 inch" and "Brushed Nickel-Walnut # 59164" is displayed. At the bottom, the business hours "Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.", the address "1253 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919", the phone number "(401) 453-0002", and the website "www.jkelectric.com" are listed, accompanied by Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest social media icons.

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Quiet Time Is Good For You

By Diane L. Marolla, LICSW, CFRC

I am going on year thirty-five of working in some capacity in healthcare. I've learned our healthcare system, from the top down is broken. Western medicine, although good, has always focused, and continues to focus on keeping people sick. Why do I say this? Because our system focuses on medication and surgery as being the "solutions" for helping someone. Large hospital systems dominate all areas of our healthcare, leaving little to no choice for the consumer. There is little to no coordination of care, therefore, illnesses are treated in silos. Outpatient visits with a patient are "timed" therefore, there is little to no conversations about alternatives to medication and surgery occur.

When I slipped and fell on ice many years ago, and tore my rotator cuff, I was in excruciating pain. Yes, I saw a talented orthopedic doctor, but he was only able to offer, medication and surgery as a solution. Yes, I did go to physical therapy, but I was only able to go once a week because my deductible was too high. I would try doing the exercises on my own, but I was doing them wrong. Yes, I had cortisone shots too, which I always thought I would never do, but I was desperate. Finally, what helped the pain was acupuncture. It was something that I researched on my own. My arm today, is pain free and fully functional.

Am I saying our system is bad? No, but there are problems with it, and big ones. When I work with clients, I always discuss with them that there "is no magic dust" and there "is no magic pill" to make them feel better. Yes, medication and surgery at times is necessary, and helps, but for someone to truly feel better physically, mentally, and spiritually every day, changes in behaviors, environments, and relationships also need to occur. If that change process doesn't occur, then I

tell my clients they will never feel better.

Recently, I sat down with Tijen Dyson, LCSW. She is also the co-founder of Healed, Loved, Fed (healedlovedfed.com), a Transformational Coach, and a Kundalini yoga instructor. Born in rural Illinois, Tijen now lives in Chicago. I reached out to Tijen because she believes in the health benefits of meditation and was the person who educated me about it. When I worked with Tijen, she was always calm, cool, and collected. Me, on the other hand, was intense, always feeling like I was hanging off a side of a building by my fingernails. That is how I felt every day when I worked in corporate America. What I learned from Tijen during our conversation about meditation was that she found it for herself as a solution many years ago when she was working with court ordered families, children in crisis, and incarcerated women. "I was feeling heartbroken and disliking people. I was feeling depressed. Emotionally and mentally, I was breaking down. I was frozen, depleted, stuck, and burned out. I talked with a mentor at work (a Psychiatrist). He told me if I were to have any longevity in the mental health field, you must find something to take care of you." Tijen ended up googling meditation and discovered John Kabat Zinn, who is founder of the Stress Reduction Clinic and the Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, HealthCare, and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and took a six-week course. Tijen also discovered yoga at this time as well. "We would have to wait outside the class I was taking. These women were smiling, and I said, I want that."

What is meditation?

Simply stated, meditation are practices and techniques that train your brain to be clear and calm. There are all different types of meditation.

How old is meditation?

Thousands of years old. Meditation is linked to ancient India, China, and Japan.

What are the benefits of doing meditation?

Meditation has mental, physical, and spiritual benefits. Mentally, it helps in calming your brain. Because all chronic conditions are related to stress, meditation can help with heart disease, high blood pressure, chronic pain, and digestive issues. I encourage my clients to combine meditation with exercise by doing walking meditation whereby you are walking (outside) and connecting with nature. We live in a beautiful state, with spots in every community to have a peaceful walk.

Are there any side effects to doing meditation?

No.

I have tried meditation, and I don't feel it works. I always recommend going on YouTube and researching meditation and trying guided meditation first. Personally, I like the guided meditations of Dr. Ramdesh and Davidji. I also like guided meditations by Dr. Deepak Chopra. I also encourage you to go to healedlovedfed.com for their free resources and newsletter. You can also join Tijen's online sessions.

How do I get started?

Start with setting aside 10 minutes a day with a guided meditation. Find a spot in your home where you can be quiet. If you can't do it at home, find a place to walk safely. You can do this before work in the morning, at lunch time while working, at night before bed. I do it first thing in the morning, as the sun is rising. If I don't start my day with meditation and prayer, my day goes badly within 2-3 hours of starting it.



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Community Built on Creativity

By Gabrielle Libutti

The Art Place. A quaint studio and supply store nestled into the back of 595 Putnam Pike in Smithfield. Where creativity is nurtured and encouraged, and community fostered. Owner, Julie Trikoulis grew up in the historic mill village of Esmond. Art was always part of her life, and when she graduated from Smithfield High School, decided to pursue her love for art with a Bachelor's degree from Rhode Island College in Graphic Design.

She began her successful 17 year career as a graphic designer shortly thereafter, working for an array of companies, and perfecting her craft. Julie loved this line of work, but her family began to grow and she quickly realized the need to find work where she could be with her 4 wonderful children more. Julie discovered her passion for teaching, which followed her right up to the founding of The Art Place.

Sometimes the best things in life show up when you least expect it. March was coming to a close, and Julie was alerted by a friend to a real estate opportunity in Smithfield. She instantly fell in love with the cozy atmosphere both indoors and outdoors. Julie knew she had to



act fast. Driven by a dream to share with the community, as well as the idea that sparked it all, a camp that would allow her to spend the summer with her kids, the planning began.

While Summer camp is the main focus for The Art Place, Julie offers plenty of affordable classes that are open to the public. Including, paint nights for adults in the evenings and charcoal classes targeted for children ages 10-15. Julie encourages kids to explore their own creativity, but she also takes the opportunity to share her own knowledge through water color and color theory classes, where children ages 6-10 are taught the basic fundamentals of the color wheel and the different ways to use watercolor, and then create a set of art from that. She even offers story time for children 2-6, where the little ones listen to a story that is followed by a craft. Julie also discussed her plans for a consistent schedule and new classes beginning in the Fall. Ranging from open studio sessions to inviting local artists to hold classes and share their talents. Most importantly, Julie wants to hear what the community would like to see from her studio.

No need to worry if you're interested in a class but don't have the supplies! All supplies are provided for the class, and are available for purchase if you're interested in creating more. Julie opened the studio with the hope of creating a welcoming place for the community. She said she hoped people could gather and "share all kinds of projects and unique ways to make art." Julie teaches her classes with an array of mediums, including, acrylic paints, charcoal,



watercolor, digital art, pastels, oils, and much more. You don't have to be an expert in any of these mediums to join, she welcomes everyone and hopes you'll leave with knowledge and maybe a new favorite way to create.

There's plenty of time to join in the fun for the remainder of August. This month rings in four new weeks of summer camp, each with their own unique theme, and opportunity to meet other creative kids within the community. Julie offers 4 and 5 day weeks, as well as the option to drop in for a day here or there. Campers will go on a wet and wild adventure "Under the Sea", dive into the magical world of "Alice in Wonderland", have a roaring good time at "Jurassic Park", and they'll seed you later after their time in the enchanting "Secret Garden". Certainly a perfect way to end the summer!

If you have any ideas for classes or for more information on The Art Place, or to inquire about the remaining weeks of summer camp, you may contact Julie through Facebook, email, or telephone. She'd love to hear your ideas and do her best to create a class to match your interests. She also offers private classes as well as opportunities for groups.
<https://www.facebook.com/the.art.place.smithfield.ri/>



SHS Students in Summertime

While students are on summer break, Smithfield High School's student-athletes participate in summer leagues and team-events designed to keep their skills sharp during the offseason. Coaches and athletes find that summer leagues are a great way to help teams improve their skills, bond as teammates, and avoid off-season skill loss.

A stroll or drive through Deerfield Park this summer may put you in the middle of the athletic action where you may be lucky enough to catch a SHS's boys or girls soccer team on the pitch, defending Smithfield's reputation as a strong soccer community. You may also see the boys or girls basketball team's slick defensive maneuvers over on the basketball courts as they go head-to-head with other school rivals throughout the summer. Give them a cheer, they're working hard in the hot sun!

Meanwhile, across the street in the refreshing ice rink, SHS's boys hockey team keep their blades sharp as they face off against teams from other high school summer leagues. After last year's strong season, they are more determined than ever to use this summer to practice drills, speed, and agility. The team is coached by our very own guidance counselor Robert Jackson.

Girl's field hockey also takes advantage of summer downtime. The team has already started clinics and team building practices in preparation for their season, which starts soon

after the first day of school. Rebecca Lahousse, a member of the team, says that summer practices are open to middle and high school students and helpful for introducing new athletes to the sport "It's a great way to get to know the team and the sport before committing to an entire season," says Lahousse.

As you sip your morning coffee, you may see the Sentinel Striders, a group of cross country high school runners looking to continue practicing over the summer. Rising senior Elijah Saddlemire, says, "I think that there are many benefits of the summer training for the performance of my teammates but the most advantageous effect of the summer practices is the team bonding it creates. Everyone there is ready to work and they are all locked into the team mindset."

Smithfield's football team uses the entire summer to gear up for their fall season. Games start in September so this is an important time for the team. They practice on the high school football field and use the summer to run plays, stay in shape, and get to know the incoming freshman players.

And speaking of fall football, school spirit, and pep rallies, the Smithfield cheer team held tryouts in July, and practice starts in August. The team will spend August working on routines, learning new cheers, and teambuilding. They help to officially kick off football season with a pep rally in early September. With all of the summer training being done by our student-athletes, there should be a lot to cheer about this school year!



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Ask an Expert

My name is Tom Lopatosky. I'm the President of LOPCO Contracting (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 or call 401-270-2664. Thanks in advance for taking the time to read this column!



What Causes Pressure Treated Wood to Rot Out?

One of the main reasons why pressure treated wood is used in areas of construction that may be more susceptible to moisture exposure than others, is that it is much more resistant to rot than other wood used to build things, whether on the framing side or the finish side.

Even this being the case, we field calls from perplexed homeowners here and there where someone has had pressure treated wood rot out on them and they do not have the foggiest idea as to why. Their confusion is certainly well-founded.

After all, if pressure treated wood is viewed as a rot resistant building material, then how the heck can it rot out? Great question!

Pressure treated wood is a type of wood that has gone through a process where high pressure has been used to inject a preservative into the cell structure of the wood. These preservatives can vary (some even make the wood fire retardant!) but their whole intention is to disallow decay, insect damage, mold, and water damage as best as possible.

All wood is subject to rot when certain types of fungi are able to penetrate the wood and feast on it over time, as the fungi enjoy their meal, the wood gradually breaks down, softens, and rots over time.

So, the question remains, if pressure treated wood is made the way that it is with the intention of preventing this type of thing from happening, then why does it happen? The simple answer is that not all pressure treated wood is created the equal.

There are different grades of pressure treated wood.

Pressure treated wood is marketed with the lumber grades Premium, Select, Number 1, Number 2, and Number 3.

The higher the grade, the less challenges – including potential rot – you are likely to have down the line.

Lumber is tagged or stamped to provide a variety of info, including its grade.

Though these markings can seem like a foreign language, the information will be readily available as to what grade of pressure treated wood one is purchasing.

If you have a project which is requiring lumber to have some type of ground contact or will have long term exposure to moisture (such as the flooring on a deck), the commonsense thing to do would be to utilize as high a premium grade as possible whose rating is such which notes that it should be the type of wood utilized in such a situation.

One of the biggest challenges is that the more highly rated types of pressure treated wood may not be available at every place one shops for wood and

See Ask An Expert, page 19

About Tom Lopatosky

Tom Lopatosky has run his own RI-based painting and repair business since 1995; LOPCO Contracting - the "Personable, Particular Professionals" - specializes in exterior & interior painting and carpentry. 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. You can catch Tom LIVE on the radio EVERY Saturday, 2pm-3pm, on 630 WPRO AM (99.7 FM) during his weekly ProTalk Home Improvement Radio Show!

that most folks are unaware that there are varying grades of pressure treated wood to begin with.

I often find local lumberyards to be a tremendous source of knowledge and supply for these very types of situations.

If you ever have a question of whether a piece of pressure treated wood was a high enough grade of wood and rated for ground contact, the reality of the situation is your chances of coming across a knowledgeable professional who can honestly help you out are much higher at the local lumberyard than at one of the box stores.

No matter where you purchase your pressure treated wood, the secret is in the grade of the wood.

Although you may certainly find pressure treated wood that seems “good”, choosing the wrong type may actually lead to an unpleasant discovery somewhere down the road and finding yourself on the phone sounding baffled as can be, fumbling through a conversation, and trying to figure out how in the world your pressure treated framing rotted out on you.



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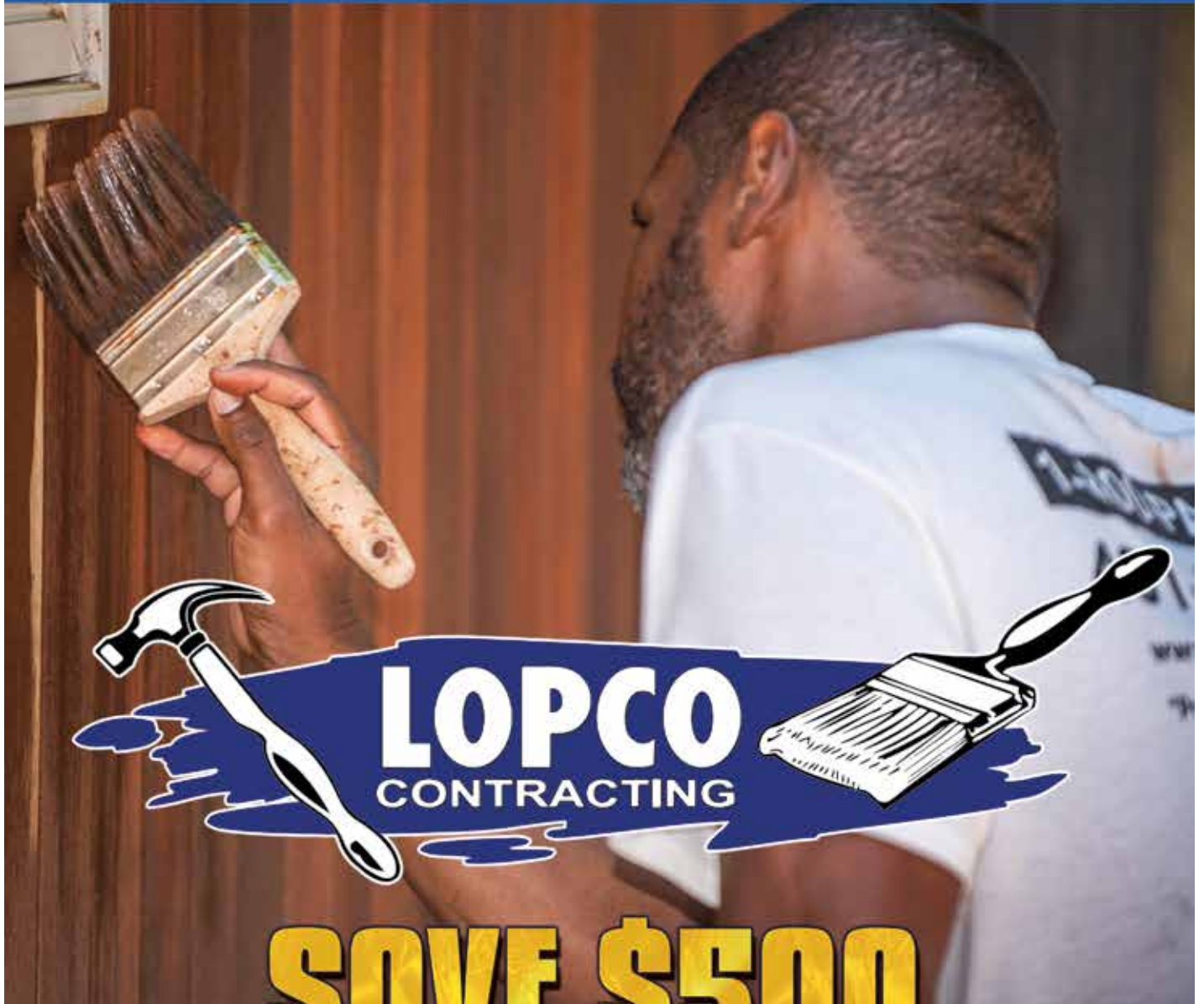


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Ray's Hockey and Custom Apparel Celebrates Quarter Century in Smithfield

By Paul Lonardo

This past June marked the 25th year that Ray's Hockey and Custom Apparel has been in business in Smithfield. Although owner Ray Reniere grew up in Warren, he always felt more at home in Smithfield, which is why he has since moved to the community. The town, which has so much offer, has one thing Ray has always appreciated, and that is an abiding passion for the game of hockey.

"Smithfield is definitely a hockey town," Ray says. "We have a strong high school program. The Vikings, the youth hockey league is very good. And the Ocean State Future Stars is great for beginners and kids just learning to play."

Ray, who started playing hockey when he was only three, came from a hockey family that has a very interesting local history with regard to the sport.

His grandmother lived one street over from the old Rhode Island Auditorium in Providence, which used to be the home of the Rhode Island Reds, a professional hockey team that played in the AHL.

"My father grew up in a house with six brothers and a sister," Ray explains. "He was the youngest and he was still in high school when his siblings were all out of the house. At that time, my grandmother started renting rooms to some of the Reds players."

The players were Canadiens, mostly from Quebec, and they would return every hockey season to rent rooms. The long-term result of Ray's grandmother's hospitality was that Ray's father developed a love of hockey, becoming a goalie for the Hope High School hockey team. His father's passion for the game is almost certainly what got Ray interested in the sport, and ultimately into the hockey-related business he has been

running all these years.

The shop certainly has seen growth, and business has been steady through the years, though Ray has resisted the temptation to expand and open stores in other locations. "I never wanted to get too big," Ray says. "I've just wanted to be able to put out a good product and keep my eyes on everything."

Raising a family, he also didn't want to miss out on the important things, including his daughter's softball games. For his patrons, the shop is more than big enough.

"We sell everything from beginner-level to pro-level equipment," Ray says. "We do a lot of embroidery and screen printing for all kinds of uniforms, from practice jerseys for men's league players to pro-level jerseys worn by players on high school teams across the state as well as by players at regional colleges and universities. And we do it all here in-shop."

It's never easy competing with the conglomerates and major sporting goods franchises, but Ray has gotten by on word of mouth and the reputation he has built for the quality services and goods he provides his customers, which is the best advertisement of all.

Hockey has become a very expensive sport, and it can be difficult for a lot of people to equip themselves or their young players with what they need. Ray is aware of the financial burden, and he tries to be fair.

"You don't need to buy the most expensive things," Ray says. "It's not going to make you a better player to have the most expensive skates or sticks. Some people may want that, but I don't push it on



Ray Reniere

them. I've never been one to push things on people that they don't really need."

Ray wants to thank everyone in Smithfield who has supported him, particularly now, as he looks back on a quarter century of business.

"I'm glad for what I've have, and I'm very thankful for it," Ray says. "I look forward to continuing doing what we do here. I've gotten to know a lot of great people, customers that have become great friends."

He likens his store to a barber shop, where people come in for something they need and stick around to talk to him and one another.

Ray intends to be around for a long time, so if you have young ones that are trying hockey for the first time or if you're an older player who refuses to hang up your skates yet, or if you just want to talk hockey, or anything else, visit Ray's Hockey and Custom Apparel at 105 Pleasant View Avenue in Smithfield. If you have any questions, call Ray at 401-231-1995.



Inside The Brown Bag

By Peg Brown

The Over Use of the Underwhelming “LUV U”!

Those of a certain age might already have filed this column in their cynic’s circular file. Others perhaps more “senior” might think I could be on to something. In any case, I invite you to explore how social media and generational change have brought us to our current lovefest, where almost every piece of correspondence, digital or otherwise, ends with numerous heart emojis or “LUV U!”

I am no expert on the topic of love and romance, so I undertook a little research before I began to share my thoughts and experiences. A review of literature suggests that romantic love was the great new emotion of the late 12th century when writers began to explore love beyond arranged marriages with appropriate partners and introduced us to the Romeos and Lancelots who became the stuff of our fairy tale beliefs. Those stories, coupled with the shining princes of our days believing in Cinderella and Snow White persisted in perpetuating our perception of what true love should be – passionate, emotional, and maybe even star crossed and forbidden.

I was raised on a diet of traditional tales. I was also raised by parents, children of the Depression and WW II, all second-generation immigrants from both England and Scotland. I don’t ever remember the words “I love you” spoken aloud in any of our homes – my own, my grandparents, or those of my numerous aunts and uncles. That emotion was demonstrated, never verbally expressed.

There was always a sense of unconditional support (and appropriate discipline) when we inevitably made poor choices, bad decisions and

sometimes serious transgressions, but there was never a time that I heard the words “I love you” in those instances. Perhaps part of that can be attributed to the albeit stereotypical, but generally true belief, that our upbringing was focused on moving on, pulling up our big girl pants, and – in general– get over it – and, well, carry on!

The same is true of tears. In times of great joy and devastating sadness, I don’t remember tears being shed and emotions *publicly* shared (excluding toddler tantrums of course). In other words, there was no gushing. And even though I came of age in the 1960s, a time of love-ins and love beads, little changed in my family’s overt emotional expressions.

When graduate school brought me to Rhode Island in the late 1960s, I was due not only for a culinary shock, but a cultural sea change, as kisses on cheeks and hugs from mere acquaintances became “de rigeur.” I “loved” the warm embrace of those family meals I was invited to attend, the open discussions, that took place around those tables, and openness of overtly expressed emotions. I was stunned, and it took me a while to adapt – like the last 50 years. Yet, I still pause when I am closing a letter or sending a card. I not comfortable using the “L” word – warmest wishes are about as close as I can get, and maybe if I am feeling daring, a “Fondly Yours” – which is another good reason I avoid social media sites. I could never sincerely click on a heart emoji – it’s just not in my genes.

And is all this current effusiveness a measure of a more loving society? Clearly that would be a very hot debate that I am not willing to weigh

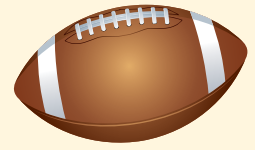
in on. But, it’s a good question. One that Caitlin Macy, author of the just published “A Blind Corner” raises in her recent front page *Wall Street Journal Review* (June 11-12, 2022). I think one of my favorite paragraphs in her article references Tevye’s question to his wife Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, “Do you love me? Her reply: “For 25 years I’ve washed your clothes, cooked your meals, cleaned your house ... if that isn’t love, what is?”

In my early professional career, I taught American Literature in an all-girls Catholic School here in Rhode Island. Ever the frustrated actress I was giving my best dramatic reading of Emily Dickinson’s poems on life, death and love to a class of somewhat apathetic seniors. As a way to reinforce the discussion, I asked for volunteers to share their ideas of what love was. Their feelings largely reflected the ever-present expectation of various romantic scenarios where no one has to give any thought to who buys the toothpaste. One of my students turned the tables and asked me what I thought love was. My answer: “The willingness to put the needs of others before yourself.” I, with Golde, stand by that answer. No heart emojis needed.

Author’s Notes:

- One last Caitlin Macy quotation: “Today’s emotional exhibitionism makes one long for a more restrained time when love came up in conversation once every 25 years or so.”

Smithfield Raiders Remembered ...



By Peg Brown and Sandra Achille

Last month's Smithfield Times featured an article that caused many a male dominated diner coffee klatsch to share great stories and memories of a decade of dedication on the part of Buddy Balfour, his coaches, and the many volunteers who put significant time and energy into a focus on Smithfield youth sports. While they may not be able to still fit into their jackets or pep squad uniforms, the memories of those nights under the lights at Burgess Field still fit.

Many former Raiders have contacted Buddy to share a memory or to give him an update on where their lives have gone. One former Raider is now Mayor of Cranston and another, whom Buddy

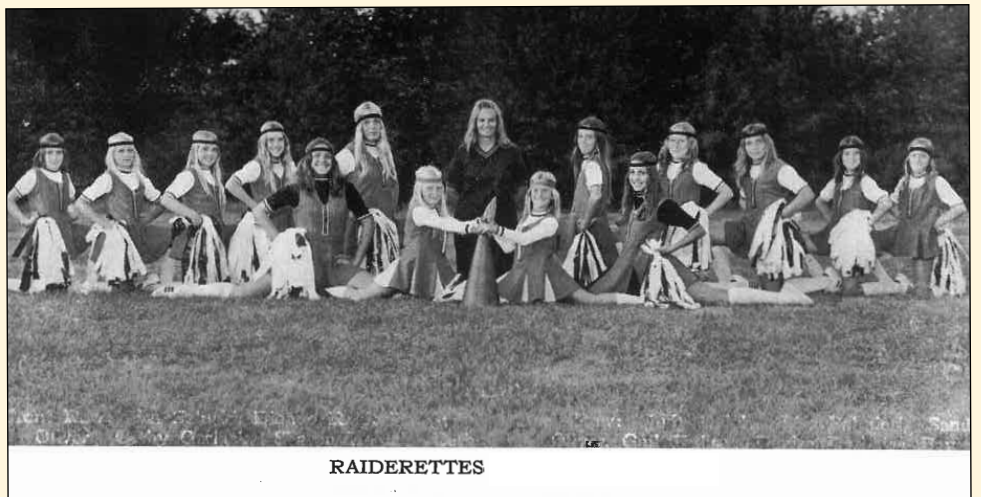
recruited and mentored from St. Aloysius home, when on to become a district attorney in Washington. Other former members of the Raider family have shared anecdotally with *Smithfield Times* staff about those opportunities they had to play a sport in which they would never go pro.

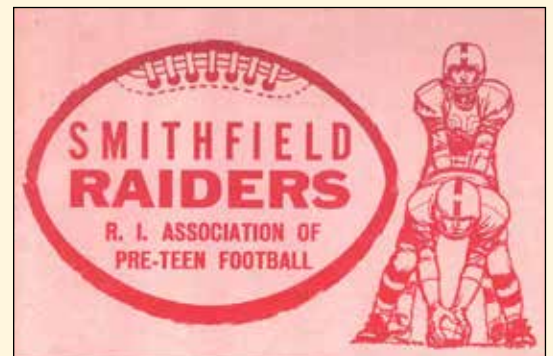
A former coach and long-time athletic director at Smithfield High, Anthony Terregrossa, currently vice-chair of the Smithfield School Committee, recalls that when the Raiders program faded, he had many more fundamentals to teach to aspiring junior varsity and varsity hopefuls. He also mentioned that he was frequently asked, by both parents and

students, why the equipment at the school was not as updated as the Raiders'. He tried to explain that in those early days, equipment was passed down from team to team – and in addition, there was that other little factor of budget! (Referring to the Raiders' successful fundraising efforts.)

The *Smithfield Times* staff have included more Raiders' pictures in this addition and on the *Smithfield Times* website to add to your memories. We hope you enjoyed this journey into your past that highlights what the efforts of a few dedicated individuals motivating an entire community can accomplish.

Can you identify any of these Raiders, Raiderettes and Cheerleaders in these pics? If so, send us an email with two or three names, and you will receive a "Smithfield Times" bumper sticker (limited edition)! Be sure to include your name and address.







Ask Our Attorney

Terrance N. Turner, Esq.



Where will your assets go after you go?

“Some of the most common questions clients ask attorneys are about wills. There’s much misinformation and confusion about wills. A will is one of the most important legal documents anyone can have because what it does, as the old saying goes, is allow us to ‘control property from the grave.’

Everyone upon reaching adulthood (18 years of age) should have a will prepared by an attorney. It’s a great opportunity for a young person to begin building a relationship with a lawyer for the future. Wills can be pretty basic and quite inexpensive; yet, their importance cannot be overstated.

A will is ‘testamentary’, meaning it doesn’t really become effective, stating the obvious, until the person passes away. The beauty of this is the flexibility of a will, which can be amended (assuming the person is legally competent) any number of times throughout your life. When would that be advisable? Whenever ‘life events’, as I call them,

take place. Think: major changes in tax and investment laws; deaths, births or adoptions in the person’s family; failing physical or mental health; the loss of a job; inheriting assets from someone; acquiring a significant amount of wealth (think lottery); marriages and divorces; leaving the state or the country; going into the military; and so on. Barring these, I suggest a five-year review of your will.

There are various legal formalities required to assure that the drafted document is in fact a valid legal disposition of your property under the law. Two that come to mind immediately are the need for signatures and witnesses. If drafted properly, your will should accomplish for you two primary goals: naming someone to be in charge of your estate and deciding to whom you will distribute the earthly wealth you are leaving behind. There is bit of a comical aspect to this, as I’ve seen clients often pleasantly surprised to learn that they’re not obligated to leave

their earthly treasures to anyone in particular. I’ve seen wills specifically disinherit someone that the person didn’t like; wills to erect memorials in the name of the deceased person himself, wills leaving huge sums of money to their cats, wills to establish charities, create public hiking trails, the list goes on.

A bit more on the serious side, you and your attorney would discuss who’s going to have possession of your original will and who is to receive copies, i.e., your pastor, physician, children, financial advisor and so on.

It is beyond the scope of this article to engage in the related discussions about probate of wills and other legal documents which comprise ‘estate planning’. I will address those in later articles.

➡ **Terrance N. Turner, Esq.**
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Payne's Picks

By Sarah Payne

August 2022



TV Reviews

Bridgerton (Netflix) – Season 2

I've inadvertently organized this month's column around one central theme: period pieces. So if you love shows that transport you to another time, keep reading. I'll admit I was a bit of a *Bridgerton* skeptic when season one released in late 2020. The show, created by Chris Van Dusen and based on Julia Quinn novels, was so popular that it became Netflix's most-viewed series up until that point – with 82 million households watching. And while *Bridgerton* could perhaps best be described as a comical 19th-century soap opera, it is addictive. Who doesn't love to watch the internal and external conflict bubble up when duty and responsibility must take precedence over matters of the heart? It's the type of conflict we don't need to worry so much about in 2022, thankfully. Similar to the love story between Daphne and Simon in season one, the second season focuses on the love story between Daphne's brother Anthony and Kate Sharma. I couldn't help but binge this season in just a few sittings because the progression of their romance is almost painstakingly slow. It takes them nearly the entire season to get together! But that is the magic of *Bridgerton*, and why the show has been renewed for another season and a prequel.

Stranger Things (Netflix) – Season 4, Volume 2

Shawn Levy, one of the executive producers of *Stranger Things*, told Entertainment Weekly: "There's no question that season four is built as a prelude to and springboard for the fifth and final season. When you watch Volume II, you'll know what I'm talking about ... It's important to the (Duffer) brothers, and all of us who make the show with them, that we finish strong, stick the landing, and not tell one fragment of story more than has purpose." The Duffer brothers have put together a truly cinematic experience for season four, volume two (and yes, I count this as a period piece – it's pure 1980s nostalgia). It contains only two episodes, but they clock in at one hour and twenty-five minutes and two hours and thirty minutes, respectively. Most of that time is taken up telling the story of the Hawkins friends all separately fighting evil forces in the upside down, but in different time zones. So there's a technical reason for the length. I still prefer the first part of the season before the mystery of Vecna is revealed. It feels much more like a horror story – whereas volume two brings

back another epic battle with Eleven in the upside down that we've seen play out in previous seasons.

Outlander (Netflix)

I'm going a bit off script this month to write about an older show which premiered on Starz in 2014, and now you can find the first five seasons on Netflix. *Outlander* is a historical drama based on books by Diana Gabaldon. Caitríona Balfe plays Claire Randall, a former World War II nurse who is mysteriously transported to 1743 Scotland. If you're able to suspend disbelief a bit (or maybe you're already super into time travel), the series has been lauded for its strong female lead and feminist undertones. Over the years *Outlander* has been nominated for and won various critics' and people's choice awards and has been renewed for a 16-episode seventh season. So if you're just starting out like me, there's plenty of material to binge and Scottish countryside to fall in love with.

ALL ABOARD FOR SOME SUMMER FUN IN THE SUN WITH BUDDY, TEDDY AND NICKY!



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50-years Ago – August 1972

by Jim Ignasher

Chief Warrant Officer Louis G. Theroux of Esmond retired from the Rhode Island National Guard after many years of service.

Navy Petty Officer 3/c David R. Young Sr. of Greenville was serving aboard the aircraft carrier *U.S.S. Intrepid*.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 14 of Greenville returned from a week of camping at Yawgoo Valley. Members earned various merit badges, and David Vianni and Steven Landi were accepted into the Order of the Arrow.

On August 5, the annual Bluegill Derby was held at Slacks Reservoir, sponsored by the Slacks Reservoir Improvement Association. The Bluegill is a relatively small fish that feeds on smaller fish and insects, and in large numbers can upset the balance of the lakes ecosystem. The annual derby was held to control the Bluegill population in the reservoir. 12-year-old Charles Miller of Greenville caught the largest number of fish weighing in at 23.5 pounds.

Joanne Paquette, age 5, of Greenville, was crowned “Little Miss Bluegill”.

On August 10, a large meteor passed within 36 miles of the Earth’s surface creating a spectacular sight over the western United States and Canada for one minute and forty seconds as it skipped off the atmosphere and went off into space. The event became known as “The Great Daylight Fireball”.

If one went to the Apple Valley Cinema in August of 1972, they would have seen “What’s Up Doc?”, a romantic comedy starring Ryan O’Neal and Barbara Streisand; “Play It Again Sam” starring Woody Allen; “Nicholas and Alexandra”, an historical drama set in early 20th century Russia; and “The Godfather”, a crime drama with an all star cast.

The William Winsor and Dorothy Dame elementary schools held “crazy hat” contests. Winners included Kerry Kerwin,

Kathy Puleo, Robert Boyes, Susan Peloquin, and Lisa Sailiene.

The Roger Williams Park Museum exhibited a life sized replica of the Apollo 15 Lunar Rover, courtesy of NASA.

The early 1970s was a time when it seemed everyone was riding a bicycle. It was estimated (in 1972) that there were 73 million cyclists in America, and by 1980 the number would top 100 million. As such, the idea of turning defunct railroad track ways into bike paths became popular. Such an idea was once proposed in Smithfield, but it never came to be.

10-year-old Kathleen Labree of Georgiaville was first runner up in the Little Miss Rhode Island Pageant held in Coventry.

Eileen Provonsil, 16, of Greenville, was the first runner up in the Miss Teen Rhode Island Pageant.

The Smithfield Municipal Ice Rink Committee met to discuss the recent submission of bids for bleachers and a score board.

After a short delay with materials, work was continuing on Smithfield’s new police station.

A group of Georgiaville youths held a back yard carnival to raise funds for muscular dystrophy. They were: Linda Turgeon, Mark Turgeon, Steven Bagenski, Phillip Butterworth, Diane Davis, Peter Davis, Nancy Fiske, Ann Marie Davis, Nancy Campbell, Brian LeBeau, and Richard Kanarian.

There was a time when televisions resembled a piece of furniture. An appliance store located on Putnam Pike was advertising Zenith solid-state “Chromacolor” 25-inch televisions, set in oil finished walnut consoles, for \$649.95.



Construction of the new Apple Valley Apartments, located behind the Apple Valley Mall, was vigorously underway with an anticipated completion date set for October. It was advertised that rental units would start as low as \$185 per month – no utilities.



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PRESS RELEASES



Former State Senator John J. Tassoni Jr. Announces Candidacy for Smithfield Town Council.

John Tassoni, Jr., president and owner of *The Sentinel Group*, and president and CEO of *The Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council of RI* (SUMHLC) has announced his intention to run for Smithfield Town Council.

For More Information Contact: John Tassoni at (401) 451-1305



Council Vice President Sean Kilduff has announced that he will be seeking re-election to the Smithfield Town Council.

It is essential that Smithfield remain affordable for all of our residents. As a long-time resident of Smithfield it is abundantly clear that quality of life, preservation of our cultural heritage and open space are extremely important to all of our residents. During the past year, the council worked closely with its grant writer and Historical Preservation Commission to obtain over \$500,000 in grant funding to renovate and reopen the East Smithfield Neighborhood Center. As the Council's former liaison to the Smithfield Land Trust I have worked closely with our Land Trust members to maintain and preserve the beautiful trails that our residents enjoy.



Council Member Michael Lawton has announced that he will seek re-election to the Smithfield Town Council.

Lawton stated it has been a great honor to serve the residents of Smithfield over the last six years. As a member of a family who owns a small business, it is has been a priority of mine to enact budgets that are fiscally responsible and which provide our residents with the level of service that they are accustomed to receiving.

See the full Press Release on our website: smithfieldtimesri.net



POLL WORKERS NEEDED FOR THE FUTURE ELECTIONS



The Smithfield Board of Canvassers is seeking Poll Workers for the September 13, 2022 Primary Election and the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Polling places are open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. If you are available to work and are currently a registered voter in the State of Rhode Island, please call the Board of Canvassers at 401-233-1000.

You can register to vote in the Town of Smithfield through the Town of Smithfield website www.smithfieldri.com by downloading a voter registration form and mailing it to the Smithfield Board of Canvasser's Office, 64 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, R.I. 02917.

You can also register to vote online through the Secretary of State's website at <https://vote.sos.ri.gov> or visit the Town Clerk's Office during our regular business hours of 8:30 – 4:30 Monday through Friday and register to vote at that time.

STUDENTS AND RETIREES ARE WELCOME TO WORK ON ELECTION DAY AND PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION PROCESS.

Lyn Antonuccio, MPA, CMC – Acting Town Clerk



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

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www.wrwc.org

July 20, 2022

Contact: Clare Brown
cbrown@wrwc.org
PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

For immediate release 07/20/22

The WRWC is Working to Connect the Entire Watershed

SMITHFIELD—Call for volunteers to support environmental education!

The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) will be hosting a community cleanup at the Smithfield Conservation Center (SCC) building on Saturday, August 13th from 9am-1pm. In collaboration with the SCC and thanks to a grant from the Annenberg Foundation, the watershed council will create an Environmental Education Center at the site, with indoor and outdoor classrooms, picnic tables, a native garden and more. Smithfield makes up the largest land mass in the Woonasquatucket River Watershed, and activating this beautiful site along the water will help students understand and appreciate the connectedness of our watershed and to become stewards of our river. Smithfield has already committed to have the WRWC work with all three elementary schools in the town, running field trips to the center next spring.

This event will be a very important initial cleanup of the building and site. The changes to come are made possible by the generous support of LOPCO Contracting, and former WRWC board member and contractor, Lou La Riviere. Shop-Vacs and/or rubber gloves from volunteers are greatly appreciated (not required). The WRWC looks forward to creating this learning space with your help!

Who: Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council

What: Community Cleanup

When: Saturday, August 13th, 9am-1pm

Where: Smithfield Conservation Center - 5 Waterview Drive, Smithfield, RI 02917

More information and registration at wrwc.org/events





Community Cat Center



The *Smithfield Times Magazine* and the Community Cat Center are working together to find loving homes for kitties that are currently living in their shelter. Here are their stories:

Say hello to Kermit! This handsome brown tiger is 3 1/2 years old and has an outgoing personality! Kermit greets guests with a loud meow and likes to jump in their lap. He loves attention and announces his presence with his charming meow which often means he's hungry! Kermit is super playful, and he enjoys lots of kitty toys which keep him entertained. He is fond of the heat and likes to lay in the sun. Kermit also loves to cuddle and sleep with you. Kermit is diagnosed with urinary crystals, and he is on a restricted diet. Due to his active appetite, Kermit usually eats about 4x a day.



Meet Rodgers! Rodgers is an amazing 3-year-old ginger male. He is sweet, friendly, calm and affectionate. He has a silky orange tabby coat and enjoys being petted. Rodgers will greet you with headbutts to seek your attention. Rodgers has a mellow and laidback demeanor that makes him an ideal companion pet. He takes pride in his appearance, and you will often times catch him grooming himself. Rodgers is positive for both FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus) and FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus). He would do best as the only cat in the household, or in a home with other FeLV positive cats. This gentle fellow is eager to find his forever home where he can have a family to call his own.

Meet Tripod Jaidee who is a stunning one year old female brown tiger with golden eyes. She and her siblings were in rough shape after surviving life in a junkyard. Jaidee was unable to move on with her siblings due to an injured leg. Later it was determined that she did not have a tendon connecting her ankle to her knee, so the leg was amputated. Jaidee has made amazing strides (both figuratively and literally) during her rehabilitation and recovery period. She now accepts pets and has become playful with volunteers and her fellow resident kitty-mates housed at the CCC.



All cats adopted from the Community Cat Center have been spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.

If you are interested in adopting any of the cats featured in this article, please submit an application today which can be found in the link below. The CCC will only be accepting pre-approved applicants for meet and greet appointments once the completed application has been received.

<https://www.communitycatcenter.com/adoptions.html>

A no-kill shelter is an animal shelter that does not kill healthy or treatable animals even when the shelter is full, reserving euthanasia for terminally ill animals or those considered dangerous to public safety.



Summer Pasta With Zucchini, Ricotta and Basil

By David Tanis

INGREDIENTS

- Extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely diced
- 2 pounds zucchini, sliced into 1/4-inch-thick pieces (for larger zucchini, cut in half lengthwise before slicing)
- Salt and pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, minced, or 2 tablespoons chopped green garlic
- 1 ounce basil, about 2 cups loose leaves
- 1 pound ziti or other dry pasta
- 8 ounces ricotta, about 1 cup (see recipe)
- Pinch of crushed red pepper
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 2 ounces grated Parmesan, pecorino or a mixture, about 1 cup, plus more for serving



PREPARATION

1. Put a pot of water on to boil. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, cook the onions in 3 tablespoons olive oil until softened, 5 to 8 minutes. Reduce heat as necessary to keep onions from browning. Add zucchini, season generously with salt and pepper, and continue cooking, stirring occasionally until rather soft, about 10 minutes. Turn off heat.
2. Meanwhile, use a mortar and pestle to pound garlic, basil and a little salt into a rough paste (or use a mini food processor). Stir in 3 tablespoons olive oil.
3. Salt the pasta water well and put in the pasta, stirring. Boil per package instructions but make sure to keep pasta quite al dente. Drain pasta, reserving 1 cup of cooking water.
4. Add cooked pasta to zucchini in skillet and turn heat to medium-high. Add 1/2 cup cooking water, then the ricotta, crushed red pepper and lemon zest, stirring to distribute. Check seasoning and adjust. Cook for 1 minute more. Mixture should look creamy. Add a little more pasta water if necessary. Add the basil paste and half the grated cheese and quickly stir to incorporate. Spoon pasta into warm soup plates and sprinkle with additional cheese. Serve immediately.



A View From the Cheap Seats

Dan Pieroni

To Liv Or Die By The PGA Sword Is Really A Question of Values

To Liv or not to Liv? That is the question facing many PGA Tour professionals these days.

Liv Golf represents the first serious challenge to the PGA Tour's almost monopolistic stranglehold on professional golf in years. This challenge is not a new development in professional sports, for lots of upstart leagues have threatened to challenge the established dominance of the one true professional sports league in each sport.

For the NBA there was the ABA, and for the NHL there was the WHA.

While these upstart leagues ultimately failed because they lacked the solid financial footing to survive, few would question the individual player's motives to jump to the newer league if said league offered more money and a better benefits package from what they are currently receiving. Proponents of the Liv Tour would likely point to the aforementioned argument and say that the individual players are not obligated to live a life of indentured servitude the PGA Tour. In other words, it is their lives, and they have the right to control them any way they wish.

However, what makes the LIV Tour more polarizing than the other upstart sports leagues is that is funded by the Public Investment Fund which represents the sovereign wealth fund of the country of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is a country that has a rather atrocious record of human rights violations because of its strict mandates regarding both absolute adherence to the tenets of Islamic law and rule under the House of Saud.

In most cases, these human rights violations take the form of judicial corporal punishment through the use of amputation, flogging and even death on some occasions. It begs the question how could anyone join an organization that is financed by a country that withholds basic human rights to people and is especially cruel towards women?

For established PGA veterans like Dustin Johnson, that does not seem to matter as Johnson has willingly resigned as a member of the PGA Tour to accept a \$150 million dollar payout from the Liv Tour despite the threat of disciplinary action and lawsuits from the PGA Tour. Johnson told the United Kingdom's *Sky Sports* that it was his choice to do what is best for his family by joining the LIV Tour.

Likewise, fellow PGA Tour veteran Kevin Na resigned from the tour on June 4th and told ESPN.com that he chose to exercise his right to choose where and when he plays, and no disciplinary actions or legal threats would stop him.

Perhaps the biggest coup for the LIV Tour occurred on June 6th, when Phil Mickelson who is likely the most visible and decorated member of the PGA Tour save for Tiger Woods, signed a \$200 million dollar contract to join LIV. At a press conference two days later, Mickelson was taken to task by several journalists who cited his hypocrisy over comments he made just this past February when he referred to the Saudis as "scary mother-----s to deal with" and personally questioned Saudi Arabia's human rights record.

Now Mickelson was agreeing to play in a league financed the very same country he criticized in print?

In response to accusations of hypocrisy, Mickelson offered an apology and reiterated that he does not condone human rights violations, but he believed that LIV had the opportunity to go a lot of good for the game of golf and the world.

There is a term of recent vintage known as "sportswashing" which is the use of sports by a country to improve their tarnished reputation in areas such as human rights. It is highly relevant to this article.

In choosing to join the Liv Tour, Johnson, Mickelson, and Na have chosen financial security for themselves over the moral obligation for common human decency and thus have proved stooges for sportswashing,

It is their right to choose such a path, but it is disappointing to see they are choosing to prioritize money over the preciousness of human life.

I admit that this is an easy perspective for me to take. If I was good enough to join the PGA Tour, it would provide me with more financial security I'm likely to see in my lifetime. However, the choice of greed over respect for human life can hardly be called moral.

In making such a choice these men explicitly stated where their values lie.

For their sakes, I hope they can "liv" with themselves.

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1/8 inch leak can waste 1,183,992 gallons of water @60psi

Planting a new lawn?

Want to save big bucks on your future water bill? Layer at least 5" of organic material as a base for your new lawn. This will decrease your future water bills substantially. The price you pay for the organic material will pay for itself in savings in less than two water bills.

How does this help the water utility?

It helps the water utility manage peak demand more efficiently. When everyone is using water at the same time, system resources such as pumping and storage can be strained, resulting in increased cost of delivery. Doing your part ensures even distribution of water in summer months when usage is at its highest.

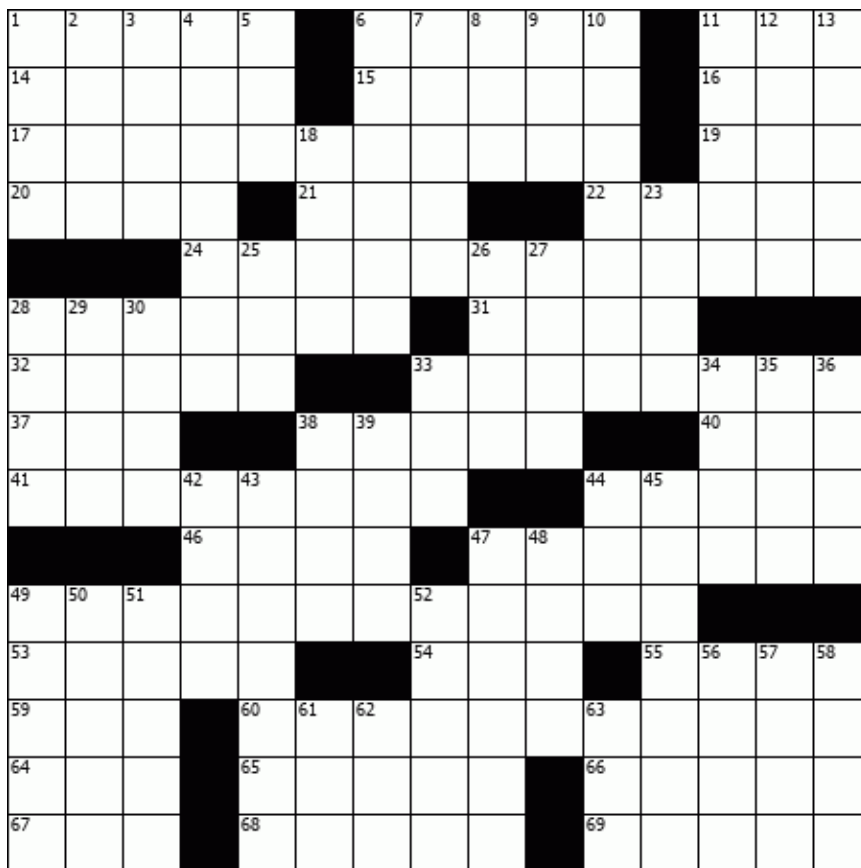
How can my toilet be leaking, I see no water?

Leaking toilets are usually transparent to the homeowner. The leak takes place in the back portion or closet of the toilet, some leaks can be heard and some cannot be heard. Routine annual inspections of the closet are recommended. Usually a small adjustment or \$10 repair kit is all that is necessary to repair the toilet.

Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. Response to "Are not!"
6. Pipsqueak
11. Nickname for Margaret
14. Hollandaise, e.g.
15. "PG-13" giver, say
16. Swiss river
17. Privileged group
19. Bathing suit top
20. Skating jump
21. From __ Z
22. Boston hoopsters, for short
24. Excluded from a 17-Across
28. Cowboy hat
31. Southwestern Indian
32. Like yesterday's fashions
33. "One moment"
37. Part of a play
38. Sudden increase in power
40. Altar words
41. Drivers who won't let you pass
44. Marseilles morning
46. Not imaginary
47. Formal act
49. It gets the grease
53. God with a bow and arrow
54. __ Lingus: Irish carrier
55. "Ah, me"
59. Doofus
60. Altar offering
64. Bout ender, briefly
65. "Eight Days __"
66. Sales rep
67. Sun. talk
68. Months and months
69. Grinch creator



Down

1. Largest continent
2. Tailless cat
3. Melody
4. Leopardlike cats
5. Not 'neath
6. Son of Poseidon
7. "The __ the Worlds"
8. List ender: Abbr.
9. Fam. reunion attendee
10. Moral principle
11. Artist Picasso
12. Keep one's __ the ground
13. Clutch
18. "The Censor" of Rome
23. Charles Lamb's pen name
25. Put into action
26. Ruffian
27. Stockings
28. Warm up in the ring
29. Mexican food staple
30. "C󭯠__usted?"
33. PSAT takers
34. In __: as originally placed
35. Revise text
36. Ice cream holder
38. Drench
39. Like the storied duckling
42. Eins, zwei, __
43. Progress
44. West of "My Little Chickadee"
45. Like a zoo escapee
47. Arab chieftains
48. Shore bird
49. Glasgow residents
50. Earth tremor
51. Excited about
52. Toddler in a pool, e.g.
56. Stead
57. Landers and Sothern
58. Some NCOs
61. Lamb's mom
62. Narc's org.
63. Neon or freon

Answers to puzzle on page 42



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Precious Blood Cemetery

By Thomas D'Agostino

www.tomdagostino.com

Precious Blood Cemetery, located at the intersection of Diamond Hill Road and Rathbun Street truly deserves mention as one of the eeriest places to visit. Once inside the main entrance on the Rhode Island side, the cemetery looks ornate and magnificent, but the bulk of the graveyard that rests in Blackstone, Massachusetts, takes on a more ominous tone. Various paranormal groups have investigated the burial ground due to the massive amount of paranormal activity that occurs within its confines.

Even during the brightest days, the burial ground's hue is dark and overcast. The grounds were officially closed to new burials as of May 31, 1955. However, people continued to inter their loved ones long after. Makeshift wooden crosses with handwritten names and epitaphs adorn the landscape alongside the marble and granite markers.

Neighbors and visitors have witnessed shadowy figures wandering about the monuments. Paranormal investigators have photographed orbs floating over gravestones and claim to have recorded the voices of those buried among the silent and long resting of the graveyard.

Buried within the cemetery is Marie Rose Ferron, the only known case of stigmata in New England history. Stigmata is the appearance of marks on the body resembling those of Christ at the time he was crucified. The marks strangely appear and disappear without explanation or warning.

Marie Rose was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1902. Her family migrated to Woonsocket, RI in 1924.

Although she was born with a rare,

crippling form of arthritis, the infliction did not seem to diminish her spirit for helping others. She was known to have extraordinary healing powers and used them on all who came to the parish for salvation and help. Her followers petitioned her for sainthood, but the Vatican refused to grant it.

Marie Rose Ferron died in 1936 at the age of thirty-three, the same age as Christ when he was crucified. She was buried in Precious Blood Cemetery. Her grave is about two hundred feet along the right-hand road at the first intersection. After her death, she was exhumed for further proof of stigmata. She was reburied and, to this day it is said that she still heals from the grave. Scores of religious pilgrims flock to her simple stone to absorb the healing energy said to radiate from her burial plot. Investigators have claimed to hear her voice speaking to them when they are near the grave site.

Another reason why there is so much activity at Precious Blood might be due to the catastrophe that fell upon it during the flood of August 1955. Between August thirteen and fourteenth, 1955, Hurricane Connie dropped nine inches of water on the city of Woonsocket. One week later, Hurricane Diane swept through the region, bringing more rain to the already tasked rivers and ponds. The heavy rains collapsed the horseshoe dam of Harris Pond. Houses and businesses were swept away by the raging waters of the mighty Blackstone River. The pond spilled out into a corner of the cemetery, sweeping it away. Some claim the rushing wave of water reached up to twenty feet in height when it hit the cemetery's retaining wall.

More than fifty caskets were splintered, dispersing their remains into the floodwaters. Some floated out into the middle of the streets while others were washed away never to be found again. Pieces of caskets and human remains dotted the areas of Social Street and the adjoining roads. Backyards became gathering points for the unearthed remains.

After the flood, many of the disinterred were recovered and brought to the mausoleum at Precious Blood. Some needed new coffins, while others still in their caskets were retrieved from the bottom of the river and ocean floor. It was a gruesome task that many believe left an indelible mark on the atmosphere of the cemetery. The orbs, voices, and spirits roaming among the sixteen thousand graves could be the ghosts of those who were lost or lost their loved ones they were buried next to when the flood of 1955 dragged them away.

An amazing story about the tragedy is still told to this day. A husband and wife lived across from the cemetery. The wife was very ill, and in her last days, she swore to her husband that she would return to haunt him if he married before the mourning period passed. When she passed away, she was buried in the cemetery, and her husband, against her wishes, quickly remarried. The hurricanes arrived soon after, and her casket washed down Social Street and came rest across from his home. The man looked out his door and saw her nameplate on the half-open lid and her hair and arm hanging outside the casket. He immediately suffered a stroke and went mad. They are both buried at the cemetery where she can now and forever keep watch over him.



The Nature of Things

by James Gass

The Magic of Fireflies

Where I grew up, the passing of the seasons was not measured by what month it was or what holiday was coming, but by what kind of wildlife was in our

yard. We knew spring was just around the corner when red-winged blackbirds appeared in the swamp behind our house singing “conk-a-ree!” A deafening chorus of peepers meant that spring had finally sprung. We knew it was officially summer when cicadas buzzed from the treetops and large dragonflies lazily patrolled the swamp’s edge. But there was always something special about a summer evening when the yard was filled with fireflies. It just seemed – magical.

When we were young, we wondered what these strange little lights flitting about our property were. My mother told us they were fairies, like Tinker Bell from Peter Pan. When there were a lot of them around, the entire yard sparkled with a luminescent green. We would run barefoot through the wet grass trying to catch them (not easy), and if we got lucky enough and caught a few, we’d keep them in a jar near the bedroom window that night. They would signal back and forth to the fireflies outside. My mother made sure we released them first thing in the morning.

Fireflies are not flies but are in fact beetles, all belonging to the same family (*Lampyridae*). They are also sometimes



Original artwork by Natalie Tessicini, a Massachusetts artist

called lightning bugs, and the larvae are known as glow worms. There are over 150 species of fireflies in North America but they are difficult to tell apart, and entomologists are not exactly sure how many species actually exist in New England. There are three main genera of fireflies, *Photinus*, *Pyrractomena*, and *Photuris*. The one that you will most likely see in your back yard at night is the common eastern firefly, *Photinus pyralis*. They tend to be small, are about one half inch in length, and produce a yellow-green flash.

The light that fireflies create is due to a chemical process called bioluminescence that occurs in their lower abdomen. However, it is thought that bioluminescence in fireflies may not have originally been used for communication between the sexes, as it is now. These insects release toxic chemicals when attacked by a predator, and their light may have first served as a warning sign to “stay away.” All firefly larvae glow, which may also serve as a warning to potential predators.

Through evolution, fireflies eventually became adapted to emit light for communication to find a mate. Some make quick flashes, others have long glows. Some fireflies don’t light up at all but use invisible chemical cues to communicate. In our area, male fireflies attract females by flashing as they fly. When a female resting on nearby vegetation detects the male’s flash, she flashes back to him. Mating occurs, and in several days the female lays eggs on or just below the surface of the ground. The eggs hatch in about a month, and after feeding for the rest of the summer, the larvae over-winter by either burrowing into the ground or hiding behind tree bark.

The diet of adult fireflies varies between species. Some are predatory, others feed on pollen or nectar. The larvae of most fireflies are predators and feed on other larvae, snails, or slugs. Fireflies sometimes even feed on their own species or other species of fireflies. For instance, females of the genus *Photuris* imitate the flash pattern of female *Photinus* fireflies. They lure male *Photinus* in and then eat them. Common eastern fireflies, the ones you are most likely to see, are carnivorous and feed on insects, earthworms, or snails.

Fireflies have appeared in human art and culture for hundreds of years. They are highly regarded in Japan and there are several parks set aside specifically to view fireflies during midsummer, including the Masubuchi area, designated as a natural monument to Genji fireflies. Known as hotaru in Japan, fireflies are thought to be the souls of the dead or spirits of warriors who fell in battle.

In her article called *The Magic and Folklore of Fireflies*, Patti Wigington relates this Apache firefly legend: “The trickster Fox tries to steal fire from the firefly village. To accomplish this, he fools them and manages to set his own tail on fire with a piece of burning bark. As he escapes the firefly village, he gives the bark to Hawk, who flies off, scattering embers around the world, which is how fire came to the Apache people. As punishment for his deception, the fireflies told Fox that he would never be able to use fire himself.”

Unfortunately, according to researchers, firefly populations are declining worldwide. Protecting and enhancing firefly habitat will help conserve their populations, and keep summer evenings magical for generations of children to come.



East Smithfield Public Library

50 Esmond Street, Smithfield, R.I. 02917
Contact: Frank Floor – 401-231-5150 x5;
Bethany Mott – 401-231-5150 x2



Children's Programming:

Audubon Programs: Life Cycles

Tuesday, August 2nd from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tiny-Tots Story Time (children 1 to 2 ½ years old)

Tuesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Preschool Story Time (children ages 2 ½ to 5 years old)

Wednesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

All About Animals

Wednesday, August 3rd from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ecosystems and Biodiversity

Thursday, August 4th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tree Pop-Up Museum

Tuesday, August 9th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Space War Robotics

Wednesday, August 10th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

End of Summer Reading Celebration

Thursday, August 11th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Young Adult Programming:

Bestie Vibes Only – Monday, August 1st @ 3:00 p.m.

High School Book Club

Monday, August 1st, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Reader's Cafe

Wednesday, August 3rd from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Turtle Tote

Friday, August 5th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Put It in Writing

Wednesday, August 10th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Summer Reading Celebration

Thursday, August 11th @ 6:00 p.m.

Anime Club

Friday, August 26th from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Adult Programming:

Card Club

Thursday, August 4th @ 5:30 p.m.

Book Talk – Ted Blickwedel's Broken Promises

Tuesday, August 9th @ 6:00 p.m.

Maker Space: Introduction to Crafting with the Circuit Makes 3

Thursday, August 11th, 18th, and 25th, @ 5:00 p.m.

Adult Craft: Tie Dye! – Monday, August 15th @ 5:30 p.m.

Tabletop Game Night – Thursday, August 18th @ 6:00 p.m.

Display Case – Display case features garden gnomes, mushrooms, and other garden fairies.

Individual Technology Help Sessions

Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Introduction to 3-D Printing

Monday, August 1st and Tuesday, August 9th @ 6:00 p.m.

Lego Brick Films – Monday, August 15th @ 6:00 p.m.

Ancestry for Beginners – Monday, August 22nd @ 6:30 p.m.

Thursday Night Book Club – Thursday, August 25th, @ 6:00 p.m.

Foster Care of Providence – Tuesday, August 30th, @ 6:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Events:

Coffee, Cake & Conversation Book Group

Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

Do You Knit or Crochet? – Looking for volunteers to make items for FOL Holiday Bazaar.

Little Free Food Pantry – FOL will set up during library hours in August.

Summer Reading Programs – FOL supporting "Life Cycles" Audubon Program and prize bas-kets and bags for children completing Summer Reading Program.

SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



Tim Jones – Cartoonist



Greenville Public Library

Cassie Patterson
greenvilleasstdirector@gmail.com
401-949-3630 ext.117



Children's Events:

Registration is required for all programs. Please call 401-949-3630 to register or visit the children's room.

Summer Fun for Young Ones – Monday, August 1 at 10:30 am

Wrap up Summer at the Library – Thursday, August 4 at 3:00 pm

Mystery Crafts – Thursday, August 11 at 3:00 pm. Ages 5-10

LEGO Build – Thursday, August 18 at 11:00 am. Grades K- 3

Summer Memory Picture Frames – Tuesday, August 23 at 10:30 am

Teen Events

Please register for young adult programs on our event calendar at: greenvillelibraryri.org

Young Writers Workshop (Grades 6-12) – In Person/Virtual
– Saturday, August 13, from 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Nacho Average Book Group (Grades 6-12)

Monday, August 15, 6:00-7:00 pm

Percy Jackson Take & Make Activity Kit

Kits Available on Thursday, August 18

Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 6-12) – In Person/Virtual:
Saturday, August 20, from 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Crafty Movie Night (Grades 6-12)

Monday, August 22, from 5:30-8:00 pm

Virtual Community Service Hours (Grades 6-12)

Adult Events

Mystery Book Club, Tuesday, August 2 at 1:30 pm

Picnic Table Reads Book Club, Thursday, August 18 at 1:00 pm

Shipman. Copies of the book are available at the library.

Virtual Book Chat – Thursday, August 18 at 6:00 pm

Coffee & Books – Wednesday, August 10 at 10:30 am

Home Sweet Home Book Club – Monday, August 29 at 6:30 pm

Monday Matinee – Monday, August 15 at 2:00 pm

Community Cat Center Success Stories



Cassia was adopted by a vet who already owns another cat that had a previous pelvic fracture just like Cassia. See picture of Cassia with her good friend in her new home.

So far, both **Larry** (the three legged cat) and **Cassia** have since been adopted.

Larry was adopted by a lovely couple (Emily and Gabby) who just fell in love with him. This is a picture of Larry and owner Emily.



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Obituaries



Robert E. "Bob" Paquette

6/23/22

Anderson-Winfield



Sharon Ann (Reall) Simons

7/9/22

Boise, Idaho

cremationsociety-idaho.com

A celebration of life will be held in August.
Additional information to follow.



Answers to Crossword Puzzle from page 36.

A	M	T	O	O		T	W	E	R	P		P	E	G
S	A	U	C	E		R	A	T	E	R		A	A	R
I	N	N	E	R	C	I	R	C	L	E		B	R	A
A	X	E	L		A	T	O			C	E	L	T	S
				O	U	T	O	F	T	H	E	L	O	O
S	T	E	T	S	O	N		H	O	P	I			
P	A	S	S	E			J	U	S	T	A	S	E	C
A	C	T			S	U	R	G	E			I	D	O
R	O	A	D	H	O	G	S			M	A	T	I	N
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S	Q	U	E	A	K	Y	W	H	E	E	L			
C	U	P	I	D			A	E	R		A	L	A	S
O	A	F			W	E	D	D	I	N	G	R	I	N
T	K	O			A	W	E	E	K		A	G	E	N
S	E	R			Y	E	A	R	S		S	E	U	S

The Smithfield Times

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